



## Robert D. Clark Honors College & UO School of Law: 3+3 Accelerated Degree Program

### What Is It?

The 3+3 Program will enable highly talented and motivated CHC students interested in a legal career to complete both a Bachelor's degree and Juris Doctor at the University of Oregon in six years, rather than the usual seven.

No application form or prior commitment is required for CHC students to participate in the Program. If a CHC student decides partway through their undergraduate studies that the Program is no longer right for them, they may simply continue on with undergraduate coursework and graduate in four years with a Bachelor's degree.

### Benefits of the 3+3 Program:

- Save a year's tuition and living expenses associated with undergraduate education
- Get a jump on starting a professional career
- Avoid the time, effort, and expense of applying to multiple law schools

### How Does It Work?

#### **3 Years to a Bachelor's Degree:**

Students participating in the Program will spend their first three years enrolled in undergraduate courses fulfilling their Clark Honors College general education requirements as well as the requirements of their chosen major(s) and minor(s). Participating students will complete all CHC requirements and all major requirements by the end of their junior year, *except for* one elective colloquium and their thesis defense.

Although students with any major or combination of majors are allowed to participate in the 3+3 Program, some undergraduate majors require coursework that cannot be completed in three years of study and are, therefore, incompatible with the Program. Students interested in pursuing the 3+3 Program are strongly encouraged to discuss their academic plans with their CHC academic advisor as early as possible to ensure that they will be able to complete the required coursework for their chosen major in three years.

#### **Apply to Law School:**

Students must take the LSAT and apply for admission to the Law School during their junior year. The Law School will waive application fees for students applying for admission through the 3+3 Program. All CHC students who meet the following criteria will be guaranteed admission to the Law School:

- The student has achieved an LSAT score that is at least one point above the median LSAT score for the prior year's entering class at the Law School
- At the time of application, the student has a cumulative undergraduate GPA of at least 3.5, and maintains that minimum prior to beginning Law School courses
- The student has completed a minimum of 136.5 undergraduate credits at the time of matriculation into Law School
- The student has no criminal arrests or convictions that would make them otherwise ineligible for admission to the Bar upon graduation from the Law School.

#### **Year 4 – Dual Enrollment:**

In the fourth year, participating students will be admitted as Law School students and will begin Law School courses. Some students may also complete their CHC thesis during the first year of Law School. This timing will give the student an entire calendar year, including the summer after their junior year, to write the thesis. If, due to the rigorous nature of the first-year Law curriculum, a student does not complete their Clark Honors College thesis in the fourth year, they will have until winter (undergraduate) term of the sixth year of the Program to successfully complete and defend their thesis. The thesis will also be used to fulfill the Law School's writing requirement. The student's Primary Thesis Advisor will be a professor in his/her undergraduate major, and a Law School faculty member will serve as the student's second reader. The student will also need a CHC representative on the thesis committee.

Up to 48 quarter credits of coursework completed during the first year of Law School can be transferred back to count toward the Bachelor's degree as elective credits, which, when combined with previously completed undergraduate coursework, will fulfill all requirements for completion of a Bachelor's degree. Upon successful defense of the thesis, the student will be awarded their Bachelor's degree and will be eligible to participate in CHC graduation ceremonies.

#### **Years 5 and 6 – Law Student:**

Participating students complete the degree requirements necessary to graduate with a Juris Doctor.

#### **Tuition, Scholarships and Financial Aid**

Participating students will pay University undergraduate tuition and fees while enrolled in undergraduate courses, and Law School tuition and fees while enrolled in Law School courses. Internal University of Oregon merit-based scholarships that a CHC student may have received for their undergraduate studies (including, for instance, Summit, Presidential, Apex, and Diversity Excellence Scholarships) may (pending approval from the Financial Aid Office) be extended through the student's fourth year of study when they will be enrolled as a law student but also finishing requirements for their undergraduate degree.

In any case, internal UO scholarships for undergraduate students will not be extended beyond the fourth year of the 3+3 Program, even if a student takes more than four years to complete the Bachelor's degree. Any federal or state financial aid that a CHC student may have received for undergraduate studies will not be transferred to the Law School. Prior to starting courses at the Law School, a participating student may apply and will be considered for scholarships and financial aid by the Law School.