

What is the Texas Tech University Pre-Law Academy?

The TTU Pre-Law Academy is an intense summer program for selected undergraduate students who are interested in attending law school and pursuing a career in the legal field. The mission of the Pre-Law Academy is to prepare students for the competitive law school admissions process and the demands of law school, while also helping students create a vision for themselves as law students and lawyers.

What are the dates for the 2021 Pre-Law Academy?

Summer I classes will begin on Wednesday, June 2nd and end on Thursday, July 1st.

Will the 2021 Pre-Law Academy be in person or online?

The instructional modality of the Pre-Law Academy courses will depend on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic. We hope to hold the courses in person, but your health and safety may necessitate holding part (or all) of the courses online. All in-person classes will be held at the School of Law.

How do I apply for the Pre-Law Academy?

To apply, simply complete the application that is located on the Pre-Law Academy webpage and email it to Associate Dean Wendy-Adele Humphrey (wendy-humphrey@ttu.edu), along with a resume and one letter of recommendation. The letter of recommendation should be from a professor or an employer, not from a family member or close family friend. The letter of recommendation may be included with the application or submitted by the recommender directly to Associate Dean Humphrey.

When will I have an interview?

After you submit your application materials, you will be contacted for a virtual interview. The interview is typically 15-20 minutes.

When will I find out if I am accepted into the program?

If you apply before December 4th, you will be notified of the decision before December 18th. If there are remaining spots in the program, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until April 2, 2021.

Do I need a certain g.p.a. to get accepted?

We prefer students who have completed at least 45 credit hours and who have a minimum of a 3.0 cumulative g.p.a., but we will consider applicants with fewer hours and a lower g.p.a. We want all PLA students to succeed!

What is the cost for tuition?

Texas Tech students will be charged standard undergraduate tuition, and students may apply for summer school financial aid.

If accepted, will I register myself for the courses?

Yes, but because the three Pre-Law Academy courses are "by permission" only, you will receive information about how to register. The registration process typically does not occur until April.

What classes will I be required to take if I get accepted into the Pre-Law Academy?

You will be required to take all three Pre-Law Academy courses: (1) PLAW 4301 Lawyering Skills: Legal Analysis & Advocacy, (2) PLAW 3101 Seminar in the Legal Profession, and (3) COMS 3314 Argumentation and Debate. By successfully completing these required courses, you will earn seven credit hours. The courses may count towards a minor in Legal Studies. In addition, if you are an Honors student, you may contract PLAW 4301 to receive three hours of general Honors course credit. (NOTE: The courses required to complete the program may be modified.)

What can I do if I've already taken Argumentation and Debate?

You may take the course as an Independent Study. Please let Dr. Langford know if you need to take the course as an Independent Study.

What days of the week will I be in class?

Due to the nature of this rigorous program, the schedule varies slightly each week. You will be provided with a detailed schedule before the start of the Pre-Law Academy.

How can I participate in an internship during the second summer session?

If you successfully complete the three required courses, during the second summer session you may have the opportunity to participate in an internship in the legal profession. The internship may be for one, two, or three credit hours and will be pass/fail. The internship may be in Lubbock or outside of Lubbock. Your participation is at the discretion of the Director of the Pre-Law Academy. (NOTE: Whether internships are available will also depend on the state of the COVID-19 pandemic).

Can I work when participating in the Pre-Law Academy?

You are strongly encouraged to focus on the Pre-Law Academy courses and not to work during the program.

Will I be required to take the practice LSAT if I've already taken a practice exam?

The practice LSAT is a required part of the seminar course, so you must take it even if you have taken it before. Also, we will not have class on the date of the actual LSAT in June so that students who sign up to take the exam will not miss any class.

Will there be books for all of the courses?

The course materials will be provided either online or in a reading packet. Therefore, you will not need to purchase any textbooks.

What is the attire for the Pre-Law Academy?

The attire is casual during regular class.

If I complete the Pre-Law Academy, will I automatically get into the Texas Tech University School of Law?

No, you will not automatically get accepted into law school. While the Pre-Law Academy may illustrate your potential in law school, you must meet other admission requirements.