



## **Managing Director's Guidance Memo Standard 305 (August 2024)**

### **Standard 305. Other Academic Study**

- (a) A law school may grant credit toward the J.D. degree for courses that involve student participation in studies or activities in a format that does not involve attendance at regularly scheduled class sessions, including, but not limited to, moot court, law review, and directed research.
- (b) Credit granted for such a course shall be commensurate with the time and effort required and the anticipated quality of the educational experience of the student.
- (c) Each student's educational achievement in such a course shall be evaluated by a faculty member.

### **Interpretation 305-1**

To qualify as a writing experience under Standard 303, other academic study must also comply with the requirement set out in Standard 303(a)(2). To qualify as an experiential course under Standard 303, other academic study must also comply with the requirements set out in Standard 304.

### **Standard 305. Other Academic Study**

This guidance memorandum provides guidance on when credit can be granted for law review (or law journal).

### **Activities for Which Credit Can be Earned**

Credit may be granted for work related to the production of a law review where the work has an educational component, which may include:

1. Selecting articles for law review publication
2. Editing articles or essays
3. Substantive correspondence with authors about articles
4. Editing student articles and working with other students who are preparing articles
5. Cite checking
6. Management of the law review by the editorial board
7. Organizing and putting on symposia
8. Writing a student note or comment

## **Educational Achievement Evaluated by a Faculty Member**

Each student's educational achievement must be evaluated by a faculty member as provided in Standard 305(c). This evaluation may include faculty review of tasks performed by students and conversations with students about their experiences. The evaluation should go beyond relying on an editor's verification of time spent on work or a general description of a student's contribution. There shall be a written record of the faculty member's review of the contribution and/or conversation with the student.

Faculty evaluation of a student's work does not require faculty oversight, management, or interference with student control of the law review.

In addition, law review (or journal) work, other than authoring a student note or comment that is faculty supervised, does not count as a student's additional writing experience under Standard 303(a)(2).

**The Managing Director's Office will issue Guidance memoranda from time-to-time when new Standards or Interpretations have been adopted or when, in the course of the Office's dealings with schools about compliance with the Standards, a number of schools are asking for clarification or direction regarding a particular Standard, Interpretation, or reporting requirement. The Office does its best to provide helpful guidance, but we remind schools that we do not have the authority to bind the Council. That said, the Council understands the necessity of providing guidance and will take that guidance into account in any determination about a school's operating in compliance with the Standards.**