

Learning Outcomes

Adopted by the Roger Williams University School of Law Faculty

Roger Williams University School of Law's learning outcomes identify the knowledge, skills, and professional values students are expected to develop upon graduation. These outcomes are shaped by the School of Law's mission and reflect a deep institutional commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as the responsibility of lawyers to advance access to justice in a diverse society.

1) Doctrinal and Substantive Knowledge

- a. Define and explain the rule of law and the role of legal institutions and the structure of the legal system in the United States
- b. Identify, explain and apply basic concepts, procedures and rules of law in core legal areas and in chosen areas of interest
- c. Prepare themselves to succeed on the licensing exams required to practice law

2. Legal Analysis Skills

- a) Analyze and form sound judgments on a range of legal issues
- b) Draw and synthesize governing legal principles from a variety of sources
- c) Identify the issues inherent in a given legal or client problem
- d) Identify the legal rules and facts necessary to competently analyze a legal or client problem
- e) Assess the strengths and weaknesses of potential legal arguments and counter-arguments
- f) Differentiate the types and relevance of legal authorities

3. Research Skills

Graduates shall be able to develop legal research strategies to research independently legal and, where appropriate, non-legal sources.

4. Writing Skills

Graduates shall be able to effectively communicate in writing cohesive legal analysis and arguments.

5. Oral Communication Skills

Graduates shall be able to communicate orally in an effective manner.

6. Client Representation

- a. Understand the importance of assessing a client's goals within the context of a client's life
- b. Define and evaluate a client's legal problems
- c. Strategize and exercise appropriate judgment to solve client problems
- d. Explain to a client the legal options and advise the client as to how best to effectuate the client's goals
- e. Articulate the skills and concepts involved in effective interviewing
- f. Articulate the skills and concepts involved in effective negotiation

7. Professionalism

- a. Demonstrate knowledge of the professional rules needed to effectively and ethically participate in a variety of legal practice settings
- b. Identify and appropriately resolve ethical dilemmas that arise in law practice
- c. Understand the importance of collaborating effectively with colleagues
- d. Deal with adversaries, officials, and others in a professional manner while advancing a client's interests

8. Public Service

- a. Understand the responsibility of lawyers to improve access to the legal system
- b. Understand the professional responsibility to provide pro bono legal service in law practice