

**Special Research & Writing/Directed Research Petition  
Graduate Legal Studies  
University of Houston Law Center**

The Law Center permits LL.M. students to earn academic credit for writing an independent research paper or serving as a research assistant for a law professor. Both Special Research & Writing and Directed Research must be under the supervision of a tenured or tenure-track faculty member. **Adjunct professors may not** supervise Special Research & Writing or Directed Research without special permission from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

LL.M. students can earn an aggregate of 4 semester hours of Special Research & Writing, Directed Research or Clinic credit, with no more than 3 hours in either class. Special Research & Writing or Directed Research cannot be used to satisfy the Masters writing requirement.

**I. Special Research & Writing**

You must receive a minimum grade of "C" to receive credit. *Papers must be completed and submitted to the professor during the semester in which you registered for the course. Students whose papers are not submitted within this time frame may be administratively withdrawn from the course: Incompletes ("I") are not given.* The paper must 15 pages plus footnotes for one credit, 25 pages plus footnotes for two credits, or 40 pages plus footnotes for three credits.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ PS/ID \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Course No. \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Semester/Year \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Credits \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Advisor Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervising Professor (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

**II. Directed Research**

Credit for Directed Research is pass/fail. Sixty hours of research for a faculty member equals one hour of academic credit. Faculty may withdraw students from the course for unsatisfactory performance. Students cannot receive credit and pay for performing the same research or doing the same work.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ PS/ID \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Course No. \_\_\_\_\_ Section \_\_\_\_\_ Semester/Year \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Credits \_\_\_\_\_ (60 hours of research per credit hour)

Faculty Advisor Approval \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervising Professor (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) \_\_\_\_\_

**Procedure:** Student will be registered for SRW or DR upon submission of completed form to Graduate Legal Studies Office. Students *cannot* register online for either course.

