Discussion of University of Pennsylvania Law School
Grading System

University of Pennsylvania Law School students, both JD and LLM, are selected from the most competitive law school applicants around the world. Their academic excellence should be kept in mind when considering their grades, in comparison both with their classmates and with their peers at other law schools.

In the fall of 1995 the Law School adopted a grading system of A, B+, B, B-, C and F grades, with a rare A+ awarded for distinguished performance. In the fall of 2002, the Law School additionally adopted the grade of A-. In any given semester, only a handful of students will achieve more than two As while, due to the mandatory nature of our grading curve, students will receive B- and C grades.

University of Pennsylvania Law School students are not ranked in class. Employers should take care in comparing our system with those of other schools – our students are admitted under very competitive standards, yet our mandatory curve requires that some students fall into all grade categories.

Additionally, our Legal Writing Course is graded on a pass/fail basis. Students who perform exceptionally well in this course receive the grade of Honors.

This grading policy applies to both JD and LLM students.

If you have any additional questions, please call the Career Planning and Placement Office at (215) 898-7493.