

# PUBLIC GOOD DISTINCTION

## DECEMBER 2023 / MAY 2024 GRADUATES INFORMATION

To earn the Distinction, students must:

1. [Register](#) for the Distinction **by September 5, 2023** if you are graduating in December 2023 or May 2024.
2. Complete **16 credits of public good courses (4 experiential)** before graduation. Core requirements cannot satisfy the credits. Submit your credits via the [Course Submission Form](#). May 2024 graduates must submit courses by **January 24, 2024** (the day after add/drop at 100% though earlier submission encouraged). December 2022 graduates must submit courses by **September 22, 2023**. Students are encouraged to participate in academic advising in advance of these dates to aid with course selection and to ensure courses meet the requirement. Student Law Office (clinic) credits are limited to 5 and externship credits are limited to 5 credits, i.e. no more than 10 credits can come from externships and clinics. No minimum GPA required, but you must be in good standing to earn the Distinction.
3. Enroll and participate in the 0-Credit **Public Interest Capstone** during their graduating year, which requires attendance at two workshops. You cannot enroll via Banner. Please note enrollment in the capstone is required to receive the distinction.
  - a. **Students must attend at least two sessions (though students are welcome to attend all).** Zooms for each session will be sent electronically once students are registered for the capstone closer to the date of the events:
    - i. ***Surviving on a Public Good Salary: In Depth Financial Planning***, Nov. 10, 12-1pm
    - ii. ***Self-Care for Service Professionals***: Spring date TBA
    - iii. ***Speed Career Planning***: January/February 2023
      - Students will meet in short blocks with Prof. Freeman and/or CDO counselors. December grads interested in this session or students interested in meeting before January should email Prof. Freeman for individual scheduling.
4. Complete a **culminating reflection essay**. For May 2024 graduates, this essay should be submitted to [afreeman@law.du.edu](mailto:afreeman@law.du.edu) no later than **April 26, 2024**. December 2023 graduates must submit by **November 28, 2023**. There is no set length requirement for the essay, but we imagine that most essays will be at least 3 pages. The prompt for the reflection essay is:

*This culminating essay provides you with an opportunity to reflect on your legal education and be mindful of your future professional path. Consider both your pre-law school ideals and the many new experiences presented as a law student, and share how and why you've landed where you are at this point. When you consider your "public good path," what stands out as the most formative experience during your time at Denver Law? What are your expectations for yourself in practice in terms of what you hope to be doing, but also how you intend to continue to pursue the public good and maintain a professional identity that will always resonate with those values that brought you to Denver Law in the first place?*

Questions: Visit the [Public Good Distinction](#) website for more information or contact Prof. Alexi Freeman via 303.871.6788 or [afreeman@law.du.edu](mailto:afreeman@law.du.edu).