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THE 2013  
BCG ATTORNEY SEARCH  
**GUIDE TO  
AMERICA'S  
TOP 50 LAW  
SCHOOLS**



Yale Law School Harvard Law School Stanford Law School Columbia Law School University of Chicago Law School New York University School of Law University of Pennsylvania Law School University of Virginia School of Law University of California-Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law University of Michigan Law School Duke University School of Law Northwestern University School of Law Cornell University Law School Georgetown University Law Center University of Texas School of Law Vanderbilt University Law School University of California-Los Angeles School of Law University of Southern California Gould School of Law University of Minnesota Law School Washington University School of Law-St. Louis The George Washington University Law School University of Alabama School of Law Emory Law School University of Notre Dame Law School Indiana University Maurer School of Law-Bloomington University of Iowa College of Law Washington and Lee University School of Law University of Washington School of Law Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law Boston University School of Law Boston College Law School University of North Carolina School of Law The College of William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law University of Georgia School of Law University of Wisconsin-Madison Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law Wake Forest University School of Law Fordham Law School University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law University of California-Davis School of Law George Mason University School of Law University of Maryland School of Law S.J. Quinney College of Law Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School University of Colorado School of Law University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law University of Illinois College of Law Florida State University College of Law Southern Methodist University (Dedman) Tulane University Law School



# The 2013 BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's Top 50 Law Schools

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## CONTENTS

- 7 Introduction
- 8 Decoding Law School Rankings
- 14 Decoding Class Rankings—What Should the Recruiter Look For?
- 17 Law Review Participation
- 24 Yale Law School
- 33 Harvard Law School
- 44 Stanford Law School
- 55 Columbia Law School
- 68 University of Chicago Law School
- 77 New York University School of Law
- 88 University of Pennsylvania Law School
- 101 University of Virginia School of Law
- 112 University of California–Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law
- 122 University of Michigan Law School
- 134 Duke University School of Law
- 143 Northwestern University School of Law
- 152 Cornell University Law School
- 161 Georgetown University Law Center
- 173 University of Texas School of Law
- 182 Vanderbilt University Law School
- 192 University of California–Los Angeles School of Law
- 202 University of Southern California Gould School of Law
- 209 University of Minnesota Law School
- 218 Washington University School of Law–St. Louis
- 229 The George Washington University Law School
- 240 University of Alabama School of Law
- 249 Emory Law School
- 257 University of Notre Dame Law School
- 266 Indiana University Maurer School of Law–Bloomington
- 273 University of Iowa College of Law
- 281 Washington and Lee University School of Law
- 289 University of Washington School of Law
- 297 Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
- 306 Boston University School of Law
- 316 Boston College Law School

- 325 University of North Carolina School of Law
- 334 The College of William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law
- 345 University of Georgia School of Law
- 354 University of Wisconsin--Madison
- 362 Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law
- 370 Wake Forest University School of Law
- 378 Fordham Law School
- 387 University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law
- 397 University of California–Davis School of Law
- 405 George Mason University School of Law
- 413 University of Maryland School of Law
- 422 S.J.Quinney College of Law
- 432 Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School
- 440 University of Colorado School of Law
- 449 University of Florida Fredric G.Levin College of Law
- 457 University of Illinois College of Law
- 465 Florida State University College of Law
- 472 Southern Methodist University (Dedman)
- 480 Tulane University Law School

# INTRODUCTION

The *2013 BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's Top 50 Law Schools* is a comprehensive overview of America's top 50 law schools as identified by the *2014 U.S. News & World Report*.

The purpose of this guide is to provide readers with updated and current information that is useful and easily accessible. This meticulously compiled guide is a product of BCG Attorney Search, the leading search and recruitment company for attorneys. BCG Attorney Search is owned and operated by Employment Research Institute, the largest conglomerate of organizations in the world dedicated to helping attorneys find jobs and enhance their careers.

In our guide, we aim to provide law firms with objective information about the best law schools. Our hope is that this information will prove useful in understanding the grading systems of top law schools and the various academic programs and journals in which students at these schools participate. Whether you are a recruiter, recruiting coordinator, hiring partner, or prospective law student, deciphering the grading and ranking systems of various schools can pose a challenge. This publication attempts to demystify these classifications and to provide the reader with objective information and a greater understanding of how to interpret resumes, transcripts, and cover letters.

In short, the *2013 BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's Top 50 Law Schools* provides:

- A comparative reference to the top U.S. law schools.
- An explanation of the grading systems used by America's top 50 law schools.
- Information about each school's publications.
- Information to help guide potential employers in making informed hiring choices.
- Information regarding each school's faculty, class size, academic honors and awards, moot court and clinical programs, entering-class GPA and LSAT scores, and post-law school employment statistics, as well as a few facts that convey the overall atmosphere at each school.

In our endeavor to bring to our readers the best and most current information, we have gathered and analyzed data from the website of each law school, *The U.S. News & World Report*, and the *NALP Directory*.

We hope you find this guide useful. We have done our best to provide you with consistent information about each of the top 50 law schools. Your comments and suggestions, as well as updated information, are always welcome.

# DECODING LAW SCHOOL RANKINGS

Why does the *U.S. News* rank law schools? A controversial question. But the answer is very simple. Law school rankings help you make educated decisions on vital issues supported by reliable comparison data. According to the *U.S. News*, it ranks colleges not just for quality but also for best value.

The BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's top 50 Law Schools relies on the time-tested metrics and rankings of law schools made by *U.S. News & World Report*. Backed with our own knowledge bases and research inputs we created a dependable study which starts off with the published law school rankings as a base and then provides supplementary information vital to decision making. For potential law students, this information will help you make the most informed choice about which law schools to apply to and perhaps attend. For recruiters, we have compiled this information to help you hire the best attorneys who fit the needs of your business.

The rankings of law schools by *U.S. News & World Report* are based on a weighted average of 12 measures of quality indicators. These indicators are quality assessment (weighted by .40), selectivity (weighted by .25), placement success (weighted by .20), and faculty resources (weighted by .15). Specialty rankings are based on nomination by legal educators at peer institutions. These rankings are based on two types of data: expert opinion about program quality and statistical indicators that measure the quality of a school's faculty, research, and students. Statistical indicators fall into two categories: inputs, or measures of the qualities that students and faculty bring to the educational experience, and outputs, or measures of graduates' achievements linked to their degrees. Different output measures are available for different fields. In law, the measures include the time taken for new grads to get jobs and the state bar exam passage rates.

The 2014 *U.S. News & World Report* has continued the same main law school rankings methodology that was used in the 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013 editions for admissions data. They used the combined 2012 class admissions data for both full-time and part-time entering students for the median LSAT scores, median undergraduate grade-point averages, and the acceptance rate in calculating the school's overall ranking.

A school's rank reflects the number of schools that sit above it; if three schools are tied at 1, the next school will be ranked 4, not 2. Tied schools are listed alphabetically.

## Identifying Talent

So how does one identify the "best" talent from the pool of law school graduates? The 2013 BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's Top 50 Law Schools aims to answer this question. You'll have at your disposal the key markers that tell you how well a student has performed relative to his or her peers at other top law schools.

One way to decipher comparative achievement is to look at the honors distinctions an attorney may have earned, namely summa cum laude, magna cum laude, cum laude, or honors. We'll tell you what these designations really mean, because they differ from law school to law school. You might also check to see if your candidate was a member of any honor societies, such as the Order of the Coif or the Law Review. But a caution is in order here. Unlike those for attaining graduation honors, qualifications for making law review differ depending on the law school, so consult our guide to determine what these honors signify.

Other important factors in identifying top law schools and top graduates include the average median undergraduate GPA of a law school's entering class, the average median LSAT of the entering class, and the acceptance rate of the entering class.

Identifying the best law schools is made possible by isolating a number of objective and subjective factors. Validity studies conducted over the years demonstrate that an applicant's LSAT score contributes significantly to the prediction of his or her grades in law school and thus affects the admissions decision. These studies show that a student's LSAT score and undergraduate grade point average are the two best quantitative predictors of law school success and that they are even more accurate when assessed together. College grades represent both academic competence and achievement, while LSAT scores largely indicate analytic ability, which is relevant to the study of law.

The quality of a student body is often measured by its level of performance at the undergraduate level. The conventional wisdom is that students with higher undergraduate grade point averages will do better in law school than those with lower grades.

Law schools set their own minimum undergraduate GPA criteria, on the basis of which prospective candidates apply. The students with the best college grades and LSAT scores become eligible for entrance into the best law schools. Once he or she is in law school, a law student's GPA determines his or her class ranking. A high class ranking makes the law student an attractive candidate for consideration by the highest paying, most prestigious national and international law firms.

LSAT scores provide another important means for classifying law students. *U.S. News & World Report* slightly changed its method of ranking law schools based on LSAT scores in 2006. No longer is a school's median LSAT score a criterion for ranking; rather, the range of LSAT scores from the 25th to the 75th percentile is reported and used to rank the school.

Unlike a grade point average, an LSAT score measures a candidate's ability to perform on a uniform, timed examination. Since the minimum LSAT cutoff of each school affects the school's ranking, highly ranked schools have accepted students with, on average, higher LSAT scores. From a recruiter's perspective, if one accepts the LSAT as a strong predictor of performance as an attorney, one might wish to pay closer attention to graduates of law schools with higher LSAT requirements.

Nonetheless, one might argue that there is little difference between a 160 and a 165 on the LSAT. Such a difference could be due to the fact that the test taker simply had a good or a bad day. Yet small differences in scores are significant when applying to law schools. Law schools hesitate to admit too many students with slightly lower LSAT scores because they do not want to jeopardize their positions in the upcoming year's *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. Indeed, as one scholar has noted, a law school that desires to move up in the rankings could heighten its LSAT admission requirements. However, this move may come at the expense of building a diverse class that includes students with unique experiences and backgrounds, albeit with slightly lower LSAT scores.

There is one more important evaluative parameter: how many students applied versus how many applications were approved for admission (the "acceptance rate"). In general, the lower the ratio between a school's number of applications and its admission rate, the more exclusive the school.

The table below shows how these criteria affect the rankings of the top 10 schools. Please note that for undergraduate GPA and LSAT scores, the schools have been sorted by median value; for acceptance rates, the schools have been listed in ascending order, with a lower rate implying a better school.

#### Top 10 Schools by GPA, LSAT Score, and Acceptance Rate

LSAT	GPA	Acceptance Rate
<b>1</b> <i>Yale University (173)</i>	<b>1</b> <i>Yale University (3.90)</i>	<b>1</b> <i>Yale University (8.3%)</i>
<b>2</b> <i>Harvard University (173)</i>	<b>4</b> <i>University of Chicago (3.90)</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Stanford University (9.7%)</i>
<b>4</b> Columbia University (172)	<b>2</b> <i>Harvard University (3.88)</i>	<b>9</b> University of California--Berkeley (11.6%)
<b>4</b> <i>University of Chicago (171)</i>	<b>7</b> <i>University of Pennsylvania (3.87)</i>	<b>7</b> <i>University of Virginia (15.2%)</i>
<b>6</b> New York University (171)	<b>7</b> <i>University of Virginia (3.87)</i>	<b>7</b> <i>University of Pennsylvania (15.5%)</i>
<b>2</b> <i>Stanford University (170)</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Stanford University (3.86)</i>	<b>2</b> <i>Harvard University (16.1%)</i>
<b>7</b> <i>University of Pennsylvania (170)</i>	<b>21</b> University of Alabama (3.83)	<b>0</b> George Washington University (17.9%)
<b>7</b> <i>University of Virginia (170)</i>	<b>9</b> University of California--Berkeley (3.81)	<b>4</b> Columbia University (18.4%)
<b>12</b> Northwestern University (170)	<b>19</b> University of Minnesota--Twin Cities (3.8)	<b>11</b> Duke University (19.1%)
<b>9</b> University of Michigan--Ann Arbor (169)	<b>25</b> Indiana University--Bloomington (Maurer) (3.80)	<b>4</b> <i>University of Chicago (20.1%)</i>
<b>11</b> Duke University (169)		
<b>14</b> Georgetown University (169)		
<b>15</b> Vanderbilt University (169)		

The schools shown in bold italics are those that appear among the top 10 across all three criteria.

Several interesting conclusions can be drawn from this table, given that only six schools out of the top schools, as reported by U.S. News have been listed in all three columns.

Columbia has high LSAT cutoffs but does not give equal importance to undergraduate GPA. University of Alabama (3.83), Indiana University--Bloomington (Maurer) (3.8), and University of Minnesota--Twin Cities (3.80) have high GPA cutoffs compared to their overall rankings of 21, 25, and 19 respectively.

University of Pennsylvania, though ranked seventh with respect to LSAT scores, has the fourth-highest GPA cutoff.

Yale and Stanford are the only schools with acceptance rates under 10%. Columbia's acceptance rate is 18.4%, while the University of Chicago's is 20.1%. Although these figures might suggest that the pool of applicants for Columbia or the University of Chicago is smaller than it is for Yale or Stanford, the total student intake numbers of Yale and Stanford are less than that of Columbia. This indicates that apart from acceptance rate, the actual number of applicants and the total intake for each school are also important.

## Name Counts

Let's say you are a recruiter for a law firm so prestigious that it has its choice of hiring any law graduate from any law school. By now, you, have a good feel for the pecking order among law schools. But how do you separate one candidate from his or her classmates who on paper, with minor variations, appear equally desirable?

Given the fact that the average law firm would love to hire almost any attorney with a Harvard or Yale law degree, the most prestigious law firms can be even pickier. The rule of thumb used by such firms is that if you have your choice, you don't want to hire any attorney who can't outperform at least 70% of his or her class. Some international New York law firms go even further and routinely select only from the top 10% of the graduates from the top 10 law schools. That way, these firms argue, they hire the best of the very best.

The problem with selecting only the top-ranked graduates is that law schools are not always forthcoming about their methodology used to rank students. This secrecy is generally based upon an attempt to give every graduate a shot at the top jobs. However, there are ways to gain a better understanding of the ranking methods used by various schools.

## Caution

"Reputation ratings are not the final authority on the attributes of schools or graduates," state Stephen P. Klein, Ph.D., and Laura Hamilton, Ph.D., in their report "The Validity of the U.S. News & World Report Ranking of ABA Law Schools." Further, Indiana University School of Law Professor Jeffrey Stake observes (in his article, "The Interplay Between Ranking Criteria and Effects: Toward Responsible Rankings"), while attending a brand name law school may mean that graduates will have an easier time landing their first jobs, it doesn't necessarily mean that graduates of lesser-known law schools receive inferior legal educations." observes Professor Jeffrey Stake of the Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington in his article, "The Interplay Between Ranking Criteria and Effects: Toward Responsible Rankings." Some schools that were at their peak years ago are still riding the wave of that success, while others have greatly improved their programs and have recruited talented faculty.

Like the monetary value of "goodwill" in the business world, law schools build up "goodwill" of their own regarding reputation. This allows them to gain "mind share," and their perception as being premier institutions is likely to remain. Thus, Harvard and Yale will always be rated highly, even if objective criteria do not rate them as highly as public perception does. Indeed, Professor Brian Leiter of the University Of Texas School Of Law has conducted a study which "aims to assess which of the top schools have the most 'national' placement, as measured by hiring by elite law firms around the country." The study examines what he terms the "usual suspects for top law schools," as well as a few others, as a check on the results to see which schools had the most placements at the nation's elite law firms. He found that in rank order, Harvard, Chicago,

Yale, Virginia, Michigan, Stanford, Columbia, Georgetown, Duke, and Penn were the top 10 schools within this analysis.

Thus, it may be that in spite of the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings, law firms are indeed following a bit of their own bias, given that Harvard (ranked number two) and Chicago (ranked number four) come out ahead of Yale (ranked number one). Then again, as Professor Leiter notes, one must consider that students' selection of which school to attend and a given school's class size, in addition to a firm's bias based on established reputations, affect whether a school feeds top firms.

## Matters That Matter

**Law reviews and journals:** Law review articles serve an important purpose in that they express the ideas of legal experts with regard to the direction the law should take in certain areas. Such writings have proven influential in the development of the law and have frequently been cited as persuasive authority by the United States Supreme Court and other courts throughout the United States. Many law reviews publish shorter articles written by law students, normally called "notes" or "comments." Almost every American law school publishes at least one law review, and most law schools have journals as well. Generally, the law review publishes articles dealing with all areas of law. Membership on a school's law review is often a distinction, indicating rank at or near the top of the class and/or success in a writing competition. Law review membership is seen as a rite of passage by many firms that hire graduating law students. Membership on a law review or journal is significant because it enables students to gain legal scholarship and editing experience and often requires that students publish a significant piece of legal scholarship.

**Judicial clerkships:** Law clerks provide assistance to judges by researching issues before the court and writing opinions. Clerkships are considered some of the most prestigious and highly coveted jobs in the legal profession. Tenure as a law clerk suggests that a law school graduate possesses the competence and intelligence to earn a judge's trust and even the ability to influence a judge's decisions. Working as a judicial law clerk at any level of government generally opens up vast career opportunities.

**Moot court programs:** Moot court, an extracurricular activity in many law schools, lets student participants take part in simulated court proceedings which usually include drafting briefs and participating in oral argument. Moot court competitions hone students' brief writing and oral advocacy skills. Many intramural, national, and international mock trials are held each year, and the best among aspiring lawyers display their talents before senior lawyers and judges.

**Clinics, externships, and internships:** Participation in clinics, externships, and internships also adds to students' knowledge of and experience in specific areas of the law. In addition, the typically low student-faculty ratios of these programs assist faculty to significant time in helping students become better attorneys.

## Final Thoughts

You now have a macro view of the top 50 US law schools and the ways in which the information about these schools can be used to evaluate both the schools and their graduates. The rest of the material in this book provides a micro perspective on each law school. The following chapters provide information about grading and ranking classifications, entrance requirements, law review and journal membership, various academic and clinical programs, and more.

We reiterate year after year that many of the law schools overviewed in this book are reticent to provide detailed information about their grading systems, class rank, and how they determine who falls within the top fifth, third, or half of the class. Our goal is to provide all of the information we have acquired to help you decode the transcripts and resumes you receive from graduates of various law schools so that you may better assess how students stack up against their peers. The references below will allow you to access our sources so that you may take a closer look at any information that is of particular interest to you.

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# DECODING CLASS RANKINGS—WHAT SHOULD THE RECRUITER LOOK FOR?

Summer associates, and later associate attorneys, are generally hired by law firms on the basis of how well they performed in law school. Class rank, scholastic honors, and GPA are three common indicators of how well a student performed in law school. For recruiters, therefore, it becomes important to understand the grading, ranking, and award systems of law schools so that they have a better understanding of how to select and assess candidates whom they will seek to place in law firms.

Grading systems vary from one law school to another. Because of this, not all grade point averages are created equally. A recruiter may be left to ask, "What does it mean for a candidate to be in the top 25% of a graduating class?"

The following notes will attempt to throw some light on these issues. While more in-depth information on the student evaluation procedures for individual schools has been provided in the individual school profiles that follow, this overview provides a synopsis of the various grading and ranking systems.

## The Grading Process

At the most basic level, letter grades are an attempt to provide an objective evaluation of a student's performance in a course, especially relative to the performance of other students in the class. The grade assigned to a student may take into account assessment parameters such as class participation, verbal and writing skills, analytic ability, etc.

However, in many law school classes, the final examination is the sole criterion for student evaluation. In this case, factors that may otherwise enhance the composite grade, such as class participation, are generally not taken into consideration by professors. This means that the grade will be based solely on the student's ability to perform well on a traditional essay exam comprised of one or more hypothetical fact patterns that students must analyze and discuss as the facts relate to the governing body of law.

Once grades have been assigned in individual classes, most schools follow a grading system ranging from 0.0 to 4.0, termed the 4.0 grade point average model, to arrive at a student's performance in all coursework. The GPA is a snapshot of a student's overall academic performance. However, as competition for higher grades and increased class ranks has heightened, some law schools have begun to seek alternative methods to evaluate students. The following analyzes some of these changes:

**Change from a 4.0 to a 4.3 GPA model:** This model, adopted by some schools, grades students on a 4.3 scale instead of a 4.0 one. Schools using this model include Michigan, Duke, Virginia, UCLA, Texas, Vanderbilt, Boston University School of Law, Emory, UNC, Fordham, and Georgia. The University of Southern California also awards numerical grades above 4.0, but it is different in that it allows for a higher GPA of 4.4.

In essence, this system adds a further letter grade to the evaluation process that allows evaluators to award an A+ grade in cases of exceptional performance. The effect is that it increases the overall class performance, though not to a substantial extent, and hence the final rankings of the students. The reason is fairly clear;

with the evaluators having an option of giving an A+, only the exceptional student would get an A+ in the 4.3 model.

However, very few 4.3 or higher grades are ever awarded, with not more than one or two students in a class ever getting one. There is only a marginal shift in the overall class performance toward the higher side. For a fair comparison of prospective candidates' grades, the recruiter should therefore keep in mind the mean values of the normal curve set by the school.

**Increased gradation:** Apart from increasing the uppermost acceptable limit, schools also follow an increased gradation that tries to discern students' performances. To do so, instead of following a simple A, B, C, D grade system, schools award grades like A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, and so on and so forth. This further segregates students' performance and therefore, considering criteria for evaluation, will reflect fairer class rankings when calculated based on GPA.

**Variants of a 4.0 GPA model:** Some schools follow a number system where evaluators award a numeric grade (out of 100), which is later converted into a letter grade. Largely, since the system is a variant of the 4.0 GPA model, the final conversions are in line with the original model. There is some variation, however. For instance, in the case of Ohio State University, a grade of 93% or above is an A grade, which if translated to a 4.0 GPA model would mean anything above 3.72.

**The normal curve:** In this system, students compete with each other for a limited number of grades. Their grades reflect their relative positions in class. Student performance usually follows a normal distribution referred to as the bell curve. The rationale behind this system is (1) to identify students who perform better compared to their peers and (2) to correct for anomalies (tests that are too difficult or too easy, poor teaching, or poor presence due to a natural disaster) as the scale automatically shifts up or down.

The shape of the normal curve (i.e., the distribution of students in various grades) is based on an earlier discovery, according to which IQ test scores over large populations fall in a certain pattern. It is for this reason that all the law schools that follow the bell curve evaluation system apply it to each class.

However, a rigid normal distribution based on the above-mentioned discovery is rarely followed, as giving a fixed percentage of As, Bs, etc., is de-motivating to a class. Schools usually skew the normal curve such that the distribution is shifted slightly upward, resulting in fewer grades below C and more in the B category. Outliers (very high or very low) may be awarded as deemed fit. This tilt is not based on statistics but more on tradition. Therefore, for the recruiter, it is difficult to ascertain whether a B or a C that a student has received is a reflection of a difference in actual performance or simply because of the distribution curve.

The registrar's office usually instructs the evaluators on the grading pattern for the year and informs them of the percentage distribution of students across expected letter grades. The normal curve instruction also comes along with the minimum number of students required to participate in a course for the curve to take effect. While some schools indicate this minimum number to be between 25 and 27, for some other schools it can be more than 40.

In the 4.0 GPA model, the median of the curve usually varies from 2.7 to 3.1. Schools adopting a 2.7 median for the normal curve have a lower cutoff point for the top half of a class than those with a 3.1 curve. Students of such schools generally have lower GPAs than students of schools that have higher curves.

For example, the University of California–Davis uses a B median, which means a majority of the students receive an average GPA of 3.0, whereas the S.J. Quinney College of Law sets the mean grade between 3.10 and 3.30 (inclusive). Hence, the normal curve values of the University of California–Davis place its students at a disadvantage compared to students of the S.J. Quinney College of Law. The grades of students from schools with higher mean normal values will appear more impressive than those from schools with lower values. To compare such students fairly, the median value of the normal curve should be kept in mind.

**No letter grades:** Some schools have completely given up the letter grading system and award only Honors, Pass, or Fail to their students when evaluating performance. In the list of the top 50 law schools, Berkeley and Yale do not award grades and only evaluate students on whether they pass or fail a certain course, with better-performing students being awarded Honors. Harvard law school has also started to award grades as Honors, Pass, Low Pass, or Fail (H, P, LP, or F). Stanford Law School has also adopted the “Honors”, “Pass”, and “Mandatory Pass” grading system for all courses.

## Implications of Class Rankings

At the end of each semester, or sometimes at the end of the school year, law schools generally release the rankings for each class. Class rankings are a distribution of the entire class based on each student's overall GPA. A school may choose to release ranks as “top 10%,” “next 20%,” and so on. Since ranks are related to GPAs, the implications that can be drawn from GPAs are applicable to class rankings as well. However, two points are worth noting:

1. The most important factor impacting class rankings is the normal curve. Some schools tend to skew the curve, while others allow for mild deviations by the evaluators implementing it. Discrepancies such as these can have a slight impact on student GPAs and thus on class rankings. For a recruiter, it is important to understand the composition of the curve and the rankings for each school. Information on grading curves, whenever available, has been presented along with the school profiles.
2. Variations in the 4.0 GPA model, as stated earlier, affect class rankings. For instance, at Washington University School of Law a 92.13 GPA is the minimum requirement to be in the top 10% of the class, which corresponds to an A-. The school's corresponding letter grades seem a bit higher than its number grades since no other school has a 3.8 (the traditional A- grade in the 4.0 scale) as its top 10% cutoff grade. From a recruiter's perspective, although the difference is not very large, care needs to be taken to understand the grading system and the variations that the system has from the traditional grading methodology.

## LAW REVIEW PARTICIPATION

A law school's law review and journals offer student participants valuable experience in researching, editing, and drafting scholarly articles on a wide range of legal issues. Articles that appear in these publications are generally contributed by professors, students, and sometimes judges or other legal practitioners. These articles, especially when written by renowned legal scholars, have been known to influence the course of development of law and have even been cited by numerous respected judicial authorities, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

The history of the law review began when a group of students under the guidance of Professor James Barr Ames founded the *Harvard Law Review* in 1887. In its original form, the publication included articles contributed not only by students but also by Harvard law professors. The phenomenal success of the review spawned law reviews at other schools, and it became a matter of prestige for a law school to publish its own law review. The early editions of the Harvard Law Review were edited by law students, and this tradition continues today.

The fact that law reviews are student-edited journals offers students on their editorial boards many advantages. By editing articles, student editors acquire the ability to evaluate and refine legal and scholarly writing, which sharpens their research, writing, and editing skills. Additionally, law review membership also serves as an important tool in bringing students into contact with leading scholars and members of the practicing bar.

Almost all law schools publish at least one law review, with many schools also publishing several journals that examine various topics within the law. A school's main law review usually contains articles that deal with all areas of the law. Law school journals are generally devoted to subjects such as intellectual property, religion, national security, the environment, or gender issues.

Law review membership is highly coveted, as the editorial positions are awarded to students on the basis of outstanding academic success or writing skills. Furthermore, the few spots available further distinguish the top students in each law school. Most law schools select law review candidates on the basis of first-year grades, also known as a "grade-on" competition. The grade-on process can be supplemented by a "write-on" competition in which students are invited to enter an original piece of writing that is then judged by current law review staff. The students who draft the best submissions are invited to become members of the law review editorial board.

Members of a law review typically fall into one of two categories: staff members or editors. The second-year members are staff members, and the third-year members usually serve as editors. Third-year members hold editorial positions such as editor-in-chief, senior managing editor, senior note and comment editor, and senior articles editor.

Staff members normally write a note or a comment for publication within the law review or journal. Staff members also edit and cite-check articles submitted by outside authors that are slated for publication. The editorial board selects the articles that are to be published and is responsible for the entire editing process. Some schools award academic credit to students for their membership on a law review or journal, while at other schools such membership is considered a purely extracurricular activity.

Large law firms and judges like to hire students who were part of their school's law review. Student-editors, like dependable attorneys and law clerks, write meticulous articles that they have researched exhaustively. A prospective job candidate that has law review experience on their resume has a strong work ethic and proven writing skills, making them more attractive to potential employers.

## Rating Law Reviews and Journals

According to Alfred L. Brophy, Professor of Law, University of Alabama, there is a close connection between the citation rankings of law reviews and the ranking of their law schools. He has observed the changes in both the *U.S. News* rankings and law journal rankings over the past few years. His findings support a hypothesis that as law schools improve (or decline), there is a corresponding change in the quality of their main law journals (as measured by citations in other journals). Thus, he suggests that "if one wants to know where a law school is heading, in addition to the glossy material that the school sends out to announce new hires, student successes, faculty publications, and talks sponsored by the school, one should spend some time studying the scholarship its primary law review publishes."

### Impact-Factor

Impact-factor is the median number of citations per published article a journal receives from year to year. A citation is a reference to a book, article, webpage, or other published item with sufficient details to uniquely identify the item. The more frequently an article is cited, the greater the interest in its content and thus the higher its prestige within the legal community.

Impact-factor shows the average number of annual citations to articles in each journal (rounded to two decimal places). The impact factor is one of the tools to rank, evaluate, categorize, and compare journals.

The impact-factor of law reviews range from 3.39 (*Columbia Law Review*) for the fourth-ranked law school to 0.52 (*SMU Law Review*) for the 48th law school. This would indicate that the frequency of citations to articles in the *Columbia Law Review* is higher than the frequency of citations of other law reviews.

Although the implication of establishing impact-factor as a measure of repute of a journal across all fields of science and literature is debated, it is generally accepted that within a field, impact-factor provides a good measure of the status of a journal. It is for this reason that students contributing to law reviews with high impact factors are successful in establishing their academic prowess and are noticed not only by recruiters, but by all.

### Circulation

Another yardstick for measuring the influence of a law review is the circulation figure it enjoys.

Students and authors who contribute to law reviews that have higher circulations, and thus greater readership, reach larger audiences. It is therefore more prestigious for students to have contributed to one of these reviews.

The flagship law reviews of the top 50 law schools have been profiled below with their impact factors and year of publications.

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Top US Law School</b>	<b>Law Review</b>	<b>Year of Publication</b>	<b>Impact Factor (2005-2012)</b>
1	1	Yale University	<i>Yale Law Journal</i>	1891	2.98
2	2	Harvard University	<i>Harvard Law Review</i>	1887	2.11
3	2	Stanford University	<i>Stanford Law Review</i>	1948	3.16
4	4	Columbia University	<i>Columbia Law Review</i>	1901	3.39
5	5	University of Chicago	<i>University of Chicago Law Review</i>	1933	1.35
6	6	New York University	<i>New York University Law Review</i>	1924	2.15
7	7	University of Pennsylvania	<i>University of Pennsylvania Law Review</i>	1842	2.64
8	7	University of Virginia	<i>Virginia Law Review</i>	1913	2.38
9	9	University of California--Berkeley	<i>California Law Review</i>	1912	2.32
10	9	University of Michigan--Ann Arbor	<i>Michigan Law Review</i>	1902	2.1
11	11	Duke University	<i>Duke Law Journal</i>	1951	2.04
12	12	Northwestern University	<i>Northwestern University Law Review</i>	1906	1.95
13	13	Cornell University	<i>Cornell Law Review</i>	1915	2.46
14	14	Georgetown University	<i>Georgetown Law Journal</i>	1906	2.48
15	15	University of Texas--Austin	<i>Texas Law Review</i>	1922	2.24
16	15	Vanderbilt University	<i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i>	1947	2.06
17	17	University of California--Los Angeles	<i>UCLA Law Review</i>	1915	2.96
18	18	University of Southern California (Gould)	<i>Southern California Law Review</i>	1927	1.85
19	19	University of Minnesota--Twin Cities	<i>Minnesota Law Review</i>	1917	1.93
20	19	Washington University in St. Louis	<i>Washington University Law Review</i>	1915	1.68
21	21	George Washington University	<i>The George Washington Law Review</i>	1932	1.54
22	21	University of Alabama	<i>Alabama Law Review</i>	1948	0.99
23	23	Emory University	<i>Emory Law Journal</i>	1952	1.54
24	23	University of Notre Dame	<i>Notre Dame Law Review</i>	1925	2.21
25	25	Indiana University--Bloomington (Maurer)	<i>Indiana Law Journal</i>	1926	1.25

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Rank</b>	<b>Top US Law School</b>	<b>Law Review</b>	<b>Year of Publication</b>	<b>Impact Factor (2005-2012)</b>
26	26	University of Iowa	<i>Iowa Law Review</i>	1915	2.06
27	26	Washington and Lee University	<i>Washington and Lee Law Review</i>	1939	1.05
28	28	University of Washington	<i>Washington Law Review</i>	1925	1.78
29	29	Arizona State University (O'Connor)	<i>Arizona State Law Journal</i>	1969	0.85
30	29	Boston University	<i>Boston University Law Review</i>	1959	2.07
31	31	Boston College	<i>Boston College Law Review</i>	1959	2.07
32	31	University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill	<i>North Carolina Law Review</i>	1922	1.5
33	33	College of William and Mary (Marshall-Wythe)	<i>William &amp; Mary Law Review</i>	1948	2.01
34	33	University of Georgia	<i>Georgia Law Review</i>	1966	1.07
35	33	University of Wisconsin--Madison	<i>Wisconsin Law Review</i>	1920	1.81
36	36	Ohio State University (Moritz)	<i>Ohio State Law Journal</i>	1935	1.25
37	36	Wake Forest University	<i>Wake Forest Law Review</i>	1965	1.41
38	38	Fordham University	<i>Fordham Law Review</i>	1914	1.51
39	38	University of Arizona (Rogers)	<i>Arizona Law Review</i>	1959	1.11
40	38	University of California--Davis	<i>UC Davis Law Review</i>	1978	1.63
41	41	George Mason University	<i>George Mason Law Review</i>	1976	1.12
42	41	University of Maryland (Carey)	<i>Maryland Law Review</i>	1936	0.7
43	41	University of Utah (Quinney)	<i>Utah Law Review</i>	1948	0.78
44	44	Brigham Young University (Clark)	<i>Brigham Young University Law Review</i>	1975	0.78
45	44	University of Colorado--Boulder	<i>University of Colorado Law Review</i>	1929	1.37
46	46	University of Florida (Levin)	<i>Florida Law Review</i>	1948	1.49
47	47	University of Illinois--Urbana-Champaign	<i>University of Illinois Law Review</i>	1949	1.7
48	48	Florida State University	<i>Florida State University Law Review</i>	NA	0.99
49	48	Southern Methodist University (Dedman)	<i>SMU Law Review</i>	NA	0.52
50	48	Tulane University	<i>Tulane Law Review</i>	1916	0.8

## **References**

1. <http://lawlib.wlu.edu/LJ/index.aspx>
2. [http://thomsonreuters.com/products\\_services/science/free/essays/impact\\_factor/](http://thomsonreuters.com/products_services/science/free/essays/impact_factor/)
3. <http://lawlib.wlu.edu/LJ/methodchange2007.asp>
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## 2014 BEST LAW SCHOOLS (AS RANKED BY U.S. NEWS)

Rank	School Name
1	Yale University
2	Stanford University
2	Harvard University
4	Columbia University
4	University of Chicago
6	New York University
7	University of Virginia
7	University of Pennsylvania
9	University of California--Berkeley
9	University of Michigan--Ann Arbor
11	Duke University
12	Northwestern University
13	Cornell University
14	Georgetown University
15	University of Texas--Austin
15	Vanderbilt University
17	University of California--Los Angeles
18	University of Southern California (Gould)
19	University of Minnesota--Twin Cities
19	Washington University in St. Louis
21	George Washington University
21	University of Alabama
23	University of Notre Dame
23	Emory University
25	Indiana University--Bloomington (Maurer)
26	Washington and Lee University
26	University of Iowa
28	University of Washington
29	Boston University
29	Arizona State University (O'Connor)
31	University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill
31	Boston College
29	University of Georgia
34	College of William and Mary (Marshall-Wythe)
35	University of Wisconsin--Madison
36	Wake Forest University
36	Ohio State University (Moritz)

<b>Rank</b>	<b>School Name</b>
38	Fordham University
38	University of California--Davis
38	University of Arizona (Rogers)
41	University of Maryland (Carey)
41	George Mason University
41	University of Utah (Quinney)
44	Brigham Young University (Clark)
44	University of Colorado--Boulder
46	University of Florida (Levin)
47	University of Illinois--Urbana-Champaign
48	Florida State University
48	Southern Methodist University (Dedman)
48	Tulane University

## **Major Highlights**

	Yale University retained its top position in the 2014 best law school rankings.
	Harvard Law School regained ground lost last year, moving up one slot to tie Stanford for second place.
	University of Washington fell from 20th to 28th position.
	Washington University in St. Louis improved its rank from 23 to a tie at 19.
	The Pepperdine University School of Law and American University (Washington) which had tied at the 49th position last year failed to crack the top 50 this year.
	Tulane University, Florida State University and Southern Methodist University (Dedman) which failed to make it to the top 50 last year, tied for the 48th position in the 2014 rankings.
	University of California--Davis fell from the 29th to the 38th place in this year's rankings.

RANK

1

# YALE LAW SCHOOL

## MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

P.O. Box 208215  
New Haven, CT 06520-8215

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

203-432-1678

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

203-432-4995

## MAIN PHONE

203-432-4992

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

203-432-1676

## WEBSITE

[www.law.yale.edu](http://www.law.yale.edu)



## Overview<sup>2,3</sup>

Located in New Haven, Connecticut, Yale Law School is one of the world's premier law schools. It offers an environment of excellence and educational intimacy in the form of a world-renowned faculty, small classes, limitless opportunities for clinical training, and strong encouragement of public service. Small by design, the law school's impact on the world is measured by its accomplished graduates and its ongoing scholarship and outreach through numerous centers and projects.

For students, the experience is unparalleled. The faculty-student ratio supports a vast array of courses and opportunities for independent research and student-organized seminars. Students get practical training by representing real clients in clinics starting in their first year.

Throughout, a spirit of collaboration reigns. All first-term courses are ungraded and subsequent classes are graded Honors/Pass/Low Pass. Among the school's graduates are U.S. presidents and Supreme Court justices, and among its far-reaching projects are the Information Society Project and the China Law Center.

The Lillian Goldman Library of Yale Law School has one of the finest collections of printed legal materials. The collections are complemented by access to a growing array of online sources, as well as the strong interdisciplinary collections housed nearby at more than twenty-five other campus libraries, including the Sterling Memorial Library and the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. The extremely well-equipped law school library is designed to support the needs of twenty-first-century legal researchers by integrating access to print and online sources throughout the library.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>4</sup>

7.9:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>5</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	170-176	3.84-3.98
Median*	173	3.90

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>6</sup>

Approximate number of applications 2,943

Number accepted 245

Percentage accepted 8.3%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7</sup>

All first-term courses are ungraded, and subsequent classes are graded honors/pass/low pass with the option to take classes credit/fail. Individual class rank is not computed.

Grades for all degree students are:

Honors	Work done in the course is significantly superior to the average level of performance in the School.
Pass	Successful performance of the work in the course.
Low Pass	Work done in the course is below the level of performance expected for the award of a degree.
Credit	The course has been completed satisfactorily; no particular level of performance is specified.
Failure	No credit is given for the course.
Requirement Completed	Indicates JD pre-participation in Moot Court or Barristers' Union

## Grade Normalization (Curve)

There is no required "curve" for grades in the law school classes. Individual class rank is not computed.

## Awards<sup>8</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Neale M. Albert Fund	The best student paper on the subject of art law, as determined by the law school faculty.
Charles G. Albom Prize	Excellence in the area of judicial and/or administrative appellate advocacy in connection with a law school clinical program.

Thurman Arnold Appellate Competition Prize	The best student argument in advanced moot court Competition.
Burton H. Brody Prize in Constitutional Law	The best paper on a subject to be selected by the dean on the extent of the protection of privacy afforded by the US Constitution.
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition Prize	The best paper(s) on the subject of copyright law.
Benjamin N. Cardozo Prize	The best brief submitted by a student in moot court Competition.
John Fletcher Caskey Prize	The best presentation of a case on final trial in the Thomas Swan Barristers' Union.
Joseph A. Chubb Competition Prize	Two prizes to individual students or two-person teams for legal draftsmanship.
Barry S. Cohen, JD 1950, Prize	Meritorious writing on a subject related to literature and the law, reflecting either upon the law in literature, the law as literature, the law of literature, or literature in the law.
Felix S. Cohen Prize	The best essay on some subject relating to legal philosophy with special reference to Mr. Cohen's main fields of professional work: human rights, jurisprudence, protection of the rights of Indians and aliens, and comparative ethical systems and legal ideals.
Edgar M. Cullen Prize	An outstanding paper written by a member of the first-year class.
Michael Egger Prize	The best student note or comment on current social problems in the <i>Yale Law Journal</i> .
Thomas I. Emerson Prize	A distinguished paper or project on a subject related to legislation.
John Currier Gallagher Prize	Proficiency in the presentation of a case on final trial in the Thomas Swan Barristers' Union.
Ambrose Gherini Prize	The best paper on a subject of international law, either public or private.
Margaret Gruter Prize	The best paper on how ethology, biology, and related behavioral sciences may deepen understanding of law.
Jerome Sayles Hess Prize for International Law	Excellence in the area of international law.
Jewell Prize	Outstanding contribution to a law school journal other than the <i>Yale Law Journal</i> .
Florence M. Kelley '37 Family Law Prize	Exceptional interest or achievement in the area of family law.
Khosla Memorial Fund for Human Dignity	Active engagement in advancing the values of human dignity in the international arena.
Raphael Lemkin Prize	Outstanding student papers on international human rights.
Stephen J. Massey Prize	The student who best exemplifies, in work on behalf of clients and in other community service, the values of the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization at Yale Law School.

Judge William E. Miller Prize	The best paper on the Bill of Rights.
C. LaRue Munson Prize	Excellence in the investigation, preparation, and (where permitted under the Legal Internship Rule) presentation of civil, criminal, or administrative law cases, under a law school clinical program.
Joseph Parker Prize	The best paper on a subject connected with legal history or Roman law.
Israel H. Peres Prize	The best student contribution to the Yale Law Journal; if no award is made; income of fund is used to purchase books for the law library.
Clifford L. Porter Prize	Outstanding student performance in taxation.
Edward D. Robbins Memorial Prize	Outstanding contribution of a third-year student to a law school journal other than the Yale Law Journal.
Benjamin Scharps Prize	A meritorious essay or research in one course on some legal subject.
Potter Stewart Prize	The best overall argument in the moot court trial argument by a student team.
Harlan Fiske Stone Prize	The best oral argument by a student in moot court.
Colby Townsend Memorial Prize	The best individual research done by a member of the second-year class for academic credit, if such work is of sufficiently high quality to justify the award.
William K.S. Wang Prize	Superior performance in the introductory course in corporate law.
Francis Wayland Prize	Demonstrating the greatest proficiency in preparing and presenting a case in negotiation, arbitration, and litigation.
Quintin Johnstone Prize in Real Property Law	A second- or third-year student for excellence in the area of real property law.
William T. Ketcham, Jr. Prize	Student scholarship in the field of private international law (to be determined at the sole discretion of the dean).

## Journals<sup>9</sup>

The ***Yale Law Journal*** is one of the nation's leading legal periodicals. The journal publishes articles, essays, and book reviews by professional authors, as well as student notes and comments. A board of student editors manages and produces eight issues of the journal per year. The *YLJ Online* features original essays on timely and novel legal developments as well as responses to articles from the print journal. *YLJ Online* replaces the journal's previous online forum, The Pocket Part, and advances the journal's mission of making substantive legal scholarship readily accessible online. The journal is edited by second- and third-year law students who attain journal membership in a competitive selection process.

The ***Yale Law & Policy Review*** publishes pieces on a wide range of issues at the intersection of law and policy, including affirmative action, campaign finance reform, urban policing, education policy, and the war on terrorism.

The ***Yale Journal of Law & Feminism*** is committed to publishing pieces about women's experiences, especially as they have been structured, affected, controlled, discussed, or ignored by the law. The biannual journal presents differing feminist perspectives on a wide variety of topics such as reproductive freedom, the concerns of women of color, judicial prosecution of prostitutes, criticism of judicial deference to the military, and the feminization of poverty. It encourages submissions of articles, essays, and reviews on any subject bearing upon the intersection of law and feminism.

The ***Yale Journal of Law & the Humanities*** explores the intersections among law, the humanities, and the humanistic social sciences. It is a biannual publication edited by students from the law school and several graduate departments in the university and advised by a board of distinguished scholars.

The ***Yale Journal of International Law*** is one of the world's preeminent international law journals. *The Yale Journal of International Law* contains articles and comments written by scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and students on a wide range of topics in public and private international law. Published twice a year, the journal is a primary forum for the discussion and analysis of contemporary international legal problems.

The ***Yale Journal on Regulation*** is a legal journal that publishes scholarly articles twice a year in fields including telecommunications, bankruptcy, information technology, antitrust, healthcare, environmental law, utilities, energy, tax, and corporate/securities regulation. The *Yale Journal on Regulation* is a national forum for legal, political, and economic analysis of current issues in regulatory policy.

The ***Yale Human Rights & Development Law Journal*** provides a broad range of perspectives on issues at the intersection of human rights and development. The journal is edited by students who are advised by members of the law school faculty. The journal aims to explore the tension and congruence between human rights and development. It encourages writings that draw upon various academic disciplines, such as political science, public policy, economics, health, and sociology. The journal represents the broadest possible range of perspectives, welcoming pieces that focus on different fields within the law, such as constitutional law, economic regulation, international law, and institutional reform, as well as pieces dealing with issues that arise in national, regional, and international contexts in both the "industrialized" and the "developing" world.

The ***Yale Journal of Health Policy, Law, and Ethics*** is a biannual publication of the Yale schools of law, medicine, epidemiology and public health, and nursing. The journal strives to provide a forum for interdisciplinary discussion on topics in health policy, health law, and biomedical ethics. It targets a broad and diverse readership of academicians, professionals, and students in medicine, law, and public health, as well as policymakers and legislators in healthcare.

The ***Yale Journal of Law & Technology*** offers its readers a dynamic environment in which to acquire and produce knowledge about the interface between law and technology. The journal publishes scholarly articles, incisive think pieces, and lectures and written pieces by guests of the Law and Technology Society as well as other scholars and professionals.

## Moot Court<sup>10</sup>

The Morris Tyler Moot Court competition takes place each semester at Yale Law School, culminating in the Harlan Fiske Stone Prize Finals in the fall and the Thurman Arnold Prize Finals in the spring. All second- and third-year law students are eligible and encouraged to participate.

The moot court organization also oversees a “pre-part” program in which first-year students may participate during the spring semester. It encourages first-year students to hone their skills in brief writing and oral argument by drafting a brief and participating in oral arguments. Students are paired with one or more advisors from the Moot Court Board of Directors. Participants are also invited to attend workshops led by faculty members, practitioners, judges, and/or Moot Court Board members.

## Clinical Programs<sup>11</sup>

Yale Law School's robust clinical program allows students to begin taking clinics and appearing in court during the spring of their first year. Clinic students represent real clients with real legal problems (not in simulations or role-playing exercises), and are supervised by senior faculty members. About 80% of students take advantage of this opportunity to combine theory with practice, taking more than one clinic. Some of the clinics at Yale Law School include:

The **Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization (LSO)** provides legal representation to individuals and organizations in need of legal help but unable to afford private attorneys.

The **Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic**, a law school course, gives students firsthand experience in human rights advocacy under the supervision of international human rights lawyers. The clinic undertakes a number of litigation, research, and advocacy projects on behalf of human rights organizations and individual victims of human rights abuse.

The **Capital Punishment Clinic** assists members of the Capital Trial Unit of the Connecticut Public Defender Office in representing people facing the death penalty.

The **Education Adequacy Project Clinic** represents a coalition of parents, Connecticut mayors, boards of education, and nonprofits seeking to reform the state's school financing system.

The **Environmental Protection Clinic** is an interdisciplinary clinic that addresses environmental law and policy problems on behalf of client organizations such as environmental groups, government agencies, and international bodies.

The **Ethics Bureau** offers students a chance to advise lawyers on how to proceed when faced with violations of the Model Rules of Professional Conduct and other ethical dilemmas.

The **Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project** provides legal assistance and policy advocacy for displaced Iraqis.

The **Media Freedom and Information Access Clinic (MFIA)** is a team of student practitioners dedicated to increasing government transparency and supporting both traditional and emerging forms of newsgathering through impact litigation and policy work.

The **Nonprofit Organizations Clinic** provides legal assistance to nonprofit organizations that cannot afford to retain private counsel.

The **Prosecution Externship** allows students to work with state or federal prosecutors in assisting with responsibilities both before and at trial.

The **San Francisco Affirmative Litigation Project (SFALP)** is a partnership between Yale Law School and the San Francisco City Attorney's Office in which law students work with deputy city attorneys on some of the most innovative public interest lawsuits in the country.

The **Supreme Court Advocacy Clinic** combines classroom instruction about the court with hands-on involvement in writing certiorari petitions and briefs on behalf of parties and amici in 10-15 cases before the Court each year.

## Placement Facts<sup>12</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$160,000-\$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$60,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	90.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	91.2%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	36.0%
Business and Industry	3.6%
Government	6.1%
Public Interest Organizations	12.2%
Judicial Clerkships	38.6%
Academia	3.6%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>13-15</sup>

### Externships

**Prosecution Externship:** Students in this clinical externship can earn up to 3 units of credit to assist state or federal prosecutors with their responsibilities, both before and at trial. Placements are available in New Haven and surrounding cities and in a variety of fields, including misdemeanors, felonies, or specialized areas such as career criminal, traffic, or appellate work.

## **Internships**

The Law and Media Program facilitates summer internships with public interest and for-profit organizations, where students can get valuable experience in media law, defense of the First Amendment and the protection of journalism and journalists.

Each summer the Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization of Yale Law School (LSO) has an intern program of approximately 20-25 part- and full-time students, from Yale and other law schools.

## **Student Organizations<sup>16</sup>**

- The Africa Law and Policy Association (ALPA)
- The Yale Law School Chapter of the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Animal Legal Defense Fund
- The Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA, formerly PANA)
- The Association of Law Students with Significant Others (ALSSO)
- Barristers' Union
- The Black Law Students' Association
- The Capital Assistance Project (CAP)
- The Catholic Law Students' Association
- The Court Jesters
- The Green Haven Prison Project
- Habeas Chorus
- The Initiative for Public Interest Law at Yale, Inc.
- The Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
- The Latino Law Students' Association
- The J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- The Lowenstein Human Rights Project
- The Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project
- The Middle Eastern and North African Law Students' Association
- The Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals
- The Muslim Law Students' Association
- The Native American Law Students' Association (NALSA)
- YLS OutLaws
- The OWLS, or Old Souls
- The Pro Bono Network
- Project for Law and Education at Yale (PLEY)
- The Rebellious Lawyering Conference
- Six Angry Men
- The South Asian Law Students' Association (SALSA)
- SPIF - Student Contribution
- The Thomas Swan Barristers' Union
- The Temporary Restraining Order Project
- Universities Allied for Essential Medicine
- The Women of Color Collective

- The Yale Entertainment and Sports Law Association
- The Yale Environmental Law Association
- The Yale Federalist Society
- The Yale Graduate Law Students' Association
- Yale Health Law and Policy Society (YHeLPS)
- The Yale Jewish Law Students' Association
- The Yale Law & Business Society
- The Yale Law Christian Fellowship
- The Yale Law International Association
- The Yale Law National Security Group (NSG)
- The Yale Law Democrats
- The Yale Law Republicans
- The Yale Law
- Yale Law Social Entrepreneurs
- Yale Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Yale Law Students for Life Yale Law Students for Life
- The Yale Law Veterans Association
- Yale Law Women
- The Yale Project for Civil Rights
- The Yale Society of International Law (YSIL)

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RANK

2

# HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

## MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,3</sup>

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## ADMISSIONS PHONE

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## MAIN PHONE

617-495-3179

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

617-495-3119

## WEBSITE

[www.law.harvard.edu](http://www.law.harvard.edu)



## Overview<sup>4-7</sup>

Founded in 1817, Harvard Law School is the oldest continuously operating law school in the United States.

Harvard Law School offers an energetic and creative learning environment, a diverse and dedicated faculty whose expertise spans a broad array of legal subjects—and a student body that comes from every state in the US and more than 70 countries around the world.

Approximately 1,900 students attend HLS each year. The faculty includes more than 100 full-time professors and more than 150 visiting professors, lecturers on law, and instructors. The curriculum features more than 260 courses and seminars that cover a broad range of traditional and emerging legal fields.

A Harvard Law education prepares students for success in law practice, business, public service, teaching, and more. Most HLS students are pursuing a JD (Juris Doctor) degree, while many others are earning an LLM (Master of Laws) or the SJD (Doctor of Juridical Science). Harvard Law School also offers many joint degree programs, coordinated programs, and concurrent degree opportunities with other schools within Harvard University. The law school community is also home to numerous research programs and engaging Publications, including books, scholarly periodicals, newsletters, and a weekly student newspaper.

Since 2006, the law school's introductory curriculum has included new courses on problem-solving, legislation and regulation, and comparative and international law. The law school is deepening advanced programs of study in law and government; law, science and technology; international and comparative law; law and business; and law and social change; cross-university initiatives including joint degree programs; and study abroad opportunities.

The library is the largest academic law library in the world, and continues to reinvent itself to meet the needs of the law school. The library seeks to offer empirical research support, collect more interdisciplinary and international materials – and to support Harvard Law School's Programs of Study.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

11.4:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	NA	NA
Median*	173	3.88

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>10</sup>

Approximate number of applications	5,388
Number accepted	865
Percentage accepted	16.1%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>11</sup>

There is no published curve with respect to the distribution of grades and there are no class rankings.

### Honors, Pass, Low Pass or Fail Grades

All Harvard Law School courses, seminars, clinics and written work - with the exception of courses offered Credit/Fail are graded Honors, Pass, Low Pass, or Fail (H, P, LP, or F).

### Dean's Scholar Prizes

Dean's Scholar Prizes are awarded to JD students in recognition of outstanding work in classes with seven or more Harvard Law School JD and LLM students following the drop/add period.

### Credit/Fail Grades

All reading groups and independent clinics, and certain courses with prior approval from the Vice Dean for Academic Programming, are graded on a Credit/Fail basis. Faculty does not award Credit/Fail grades without prior consultation with the Vice Dean for Academic Programming.

All work done at foreign institutions as part of the Law School's study abroad programs is graded on a Credit/Fail basis.

Dean's Scholar Prizes is not awarded in courses graded on a Credit/Fail basis.

## **Harvard Law Review**

Students are invited to join the Harvard Law Review based on their grades and performance on the Law Review's writing competition. No students are invited on to Law Review without first completing the writing competition.

## **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

Students who complete the requirements for the JD degree with distinction receive the degree cum laude, magna cum laude, or summa cum laude.

Latin honors at graduation are based on the average of the three annual grade point averages (GPA). GPA is calculated for each year of study and then averaged across the three years to determine Latin honors.

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
<i>summa cum laude</i>	4.75 GPA
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 10% of the graduating class
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 30% of the graduating class

## **Awards<sup>13</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
Yong K. Kim '95 Memorial Prize	The best paper concerning the law or legal history of the nations and peoples of East Asia or issues of law pertaining to US-East Asia relations.
Andrew L. Kaufman Pro Bono Service Award	Winner selected on records of total completed pro bono hours submitted by students.
Irving Oberman Memorial Award	The best essay by a student on each of six current legal subjects.
Frank S. Righeimer Jr. Student Prize for Citizenship	A graduating student to recognize exceptional citizenship within the law school community.
Sidney I. Roberts Prize	The best paper in the field of taxation.
Sears Prize	The two first-year students and the two second-year students with the highest grade point averages.
Boykin C. Wright Memorial Fund	For the winning and losing teams in the final argument of the Ames Competition.
Joseph H. Beale Prize	The highest grade in Conflict of Laws.
Addison Brown Prize	The best essay on private international law or maritime law.
Victor Budney Prize	The best paper on corporate governance.
The Dean's Awards for Community Leadership	Community leadership.

Fay Diploma	The student with the highest graduating average for three years.
George Leisure Award	The best paper on public international law.
Mancini Prize	The best essay on European law and European legal thought.
John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics	The best papers in the area of law and economics.
Roger Fisher and Frank E.A. Sander Prize	The best student paper on a topic related to negotiation, dispute system design, mediation, dispute resolution, or ADR.
Program on International Financial Systems Prize	The best paper written in the seminar on international finance.
Davis Polk Legal Profession Paper Prize	Paper topics on the legal profession itself or on a related aspect of the delivery of professional services.
LGBTQ Writing Prize	Awarded annually to the best student paper concerning lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or Queer legal issues
Morgan Chu Prize	Awarded to the student with the highest first year grades
Project on the Foundations of Private Law Prize	Awarded annually to the best student paper on a topic related to private law.
William J. Stuntz Award	Awarded to the graduating student who has demonstrated exemplary commitment to justice, respect for human dignity, and compassion
David Westfall Memorial Award	Awarded annually to one graduating student to recognize contributions to creating community within the first-year section and class.
LAYLIN Prize	The best paper written by a student in the field of public international law.

## Journals<sup>14</sup>

The **Harvard Business Law** Review stands at the intersection of law and business. Publishing thematic issues that feature short, policy-oriented essays from academics, practitioners, and regulators, HBLR aims to bridge the worlds of theory and practice. For students, the journal provides an unmatched opportunity to engage with business law beyond the classroom.

The **Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review**, founded in 1966, seeks to promote social change and intellectual debate through the publication and advancement of innovative legal scholarship, and is committed to exploring new directions and perspectives in the struggle for social justice and equality. CR-CL fosters progressive dialogue within the legal community and serves as an intellectual and social meeting place for a diverse group of progressive students.

The **Harvard Environmental Law Review** has been dedicated to publishing high-quality, cutting-edge scholarship for over 30 years. ELR publishes two issues each year on a wide variety of topics, including climate change, air and water pollution regulation, energy, land use, international environmental law, administrative law, and law and economics.

The ***Harvard Human Rights Journal*** provides a forum for scholarship on a broad range of topics related to human rights, international human rights law, and international humanitarian law. The semiannual journal publishes cutting-edge pieces by academics, human rights practitioners, government and international organization officials, and law students alike. The journal also hosts an annual Human Rights Conference at the Law School.

The ***Harvard International Law Journal*** covers a wide variety of topics in public and private international law. The journal publishes articles and comments in international, comparative, and foreign law, as well as the role of international law in US Courts and the international ramifications of US domestic law. In addition to an annual Student Note Competition, the ILJ publishes student-written pieces on recent developments in international law and reviews of new books in the field.

The ***Harvard Journal of Law and Gender***, first published in 1978, is dedicated to developing and advancing feminist jurisprudence and to combining legal analysis with political, economic, historical, and sociological perspectives. In recent years, the journal has published leading articles by professors, practitioners, and students on varied topics, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, reproductive rights, and women in the military.

The ***Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy*** is one of the most widely circulated student-edited law journals in the country and the nation's leading forum for conservative and libertarian legal scholarship. The journal publishes three issues each year on a broad range of legal and public policy topics. Recent articles have explored issues such as military commissions, gun control, the First Amendment, judicial confirmations, same-sex marriage, racial desegregation, the Patriot Act, and originalism.

The ***Harvard Journal of Law & Technology*** since its inception in 1988 has published writings by academics, practitioners, and policymakers on a variety of topics, including intellectual property, biotechnology, e-commerce, space law, computer law, cybercrime, the Internet, and telecommunications. JOLT is the most cited legal technology journal in the world, and in the top three of all specialty journals, nationwide.

The ***Harvard Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice*** is founded by the Black Law Students Association and aspires to advance progressive legal scholarship by focusing on the intersection of race, class, gender, and the law. The journal seeks to promote a conscientious and honest dialogue on issues of race and class in the law through publishing articles by academics, practitioners, and students.

The ***Harvard Journal of Sports and Entertainment Law*** provides the academic community, the sports and entertainment industries, and the legal profession with scholarly analysis and research related to the legal aspects of the sports and entertainment world. The legal issues raised in these fields frequently draw from areas as diverse as antitrust law, civil procedure, constitutional law, contract law, corporate law, copyright law, labor law, and real estate law.

The ***Harvard Journal on Legislation*** is a semiannual student-edited journal on legislation and legislative reform. The journal which presents pieces from academics, members of Congress, practitioners, and current students, deals with a wide range of legislative topics, including Affirmative Action, punitive damages, family law, executive agency regulation, and anti-terrorism legislation.

The ***Harvard Latino Law Review*** provides a forum for the scholarly discussion of legal issues affecting Latinos and Latinas in the United States. Recent articles have addressed issues including education, the impact of NAFTA, corporate responsibility, and acoustic segregation.

The ***Harvard Law & Policy Review*** is the official national journal of the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy (ACS). The journal provides a prominent forum for debate and discussion of innovative progressive and moderate legal policy ideas, analysis and proposals. *The Review* invites innovative approaches to policy challenges by progressive legal scholars, policymakers, and practitioners. HLPR serves as a nexus between the worlds of academia, policy-making, and practice, with a focus on promoting first-rate scholarship with practical application to societal challenges.

The ***National Security Journal*** is a student-edited, faculty- and practitioner-advised, online academic journal. It serves both as a contribution to the universe of ideas surrounding national security law and policy and as a source for updates on relevant fields. NSJ welcomes article submissions from both academics and practitioners in the national security field.

The ***Harvard Negotiation Law Review*** is a semi-annual journal dedicated to publishing academic articles on alternative dispute resolution that would be of interest to legal scholars, professionals, and practitioners. HNLR publishes on topics as diverse as the role of religious fundamentalism in international negotiations, the success rate of student mediations in elementary schools, and game theoretic approaches to negotiation.

The ***Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left*** is an online journal of the legal left at Harvard Law School and also the community of left-affiliated students, professors, and practitioners who publish it. Unbound seeks to begin a redefinition project, staking out a place for left legal intellectual discussion and formulating a new set of ideas for a new century.

## Moot Court<sup>15</sup>

The upper-level Ames Moot Court Competition was established in 1911 as the result of a bequest by the late Dean James Barr Ames. The Board of Student Advisers is charged with administrating the competition, which over the years has become one of the most-anticipated events on the Harvard Law School calendar.

The competition takes place in three rounds, beginning with the qualifying round (held in the fall of competitors' 2L year), followed by the semi-final round (held in the spring of competitors' 2L year), and culminating in the final round (held in the fall of competitors' 3L year).

## Clinical Programs<sup>16-18</sup>

Law school clinics provide students with hands-on legal experience under the supervision of attorneys who are not only great practitioners but also trained in individually educating and mentoring students. Harvard Law School offers a range of clinical experiences which include In-house Clinics, Externship Clinics, the Independent Clinical Program and the Continuing Clinical Program.

In-house Clinics are student placements at HLS clinics, and the clinical professors and instructors are part of HLS. HLS's in-house clinics include:

- Criminal Justice Institute
- Cyberlaw Clinic
- Education Law Clinic of the Trauma and Learning Policy Initiative
- Emmett Environmental Law and Policy Clinic
- Family, Domestic Violence, and LGBT Law: Litigating in Family Court Clinic (WilmerHale Legal Services Center)
- Food Law and Policy Clinic of the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation (WilmerHale Legal Services Center)
- Harvard Immigration and Refugee Clinic
- Harvard Legal Aid Bureau
- Harvard Negotiation and Mediation Clinic
- Health Law and Policy Clinic of the Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation (WilmerHale Legal Services Center)
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Making Rights Real: The Ghana Project
- Post-Foreclosure Eviction Defense/Housing Law Clinic (WilmerHale Legal Services Center)
- Predatory Lending/Consumer Protection Clinic (WilmerHale Legal Services Center)
- Shareholder Rights Clinic
- Transactional Law Clinics
- Veterans Law and Disability Benefits Clinic (WilmerHale Legal Services Center)

Externship Clinics are located outside of HLS. Students are placed at organizations in the greater Boston area, as well as in other cities throughout the United States. Some of HLS's externship clinics include:

- Capital Punishment Clinic
- Child Advocacy Clinic
- Criminal Prosecution Clinic (Prosecution Perspectives)
- Employment Law Clinic
- Government Lawyer: Attorney General Clinic
- Government Lawyer: Semester in Washington Clinic
- Government Lawyer: United States Attorney Clinic
- Judicial Process in Community Courts Clinic
- Sports Law Clinic
- Supreme Court Litigation Clinic

The Independent Clinical Program enables students who are interested in a specialized area of the law or field of practice to create their own educational experience.

The Continuing Clinical Program allows students to continue their clinical work in subsequent semesters or academic years at their clinical placement.

## Placement Facts<sup>19</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$160,000-\$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$57,408

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	90.90%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	93.70%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Practice Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	56.90%
Business and Industry	5.20%
Government	5.70%
Public Interest Organizations	10.10%
Judicial Clerkships	22.10%
Academia	0%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>20,21</sup>

### Externships

Students are allocated to work in externship placements through some clinical courses. These are non-HLS organizations such as governmental and non-profit offices, local legal services organizations, or law firms. Boston offices or long-distance placements such as agencies in Washington, DC are also included in externship placements. A few clinical courses may offer a variety of placements across in-house or externship placements.

### Internships

Each year Human Rights Program (HRP) helps place dozens of Harvard Law School students in summer internships for human rights. Summer fellowships for human rights internships are a central part of the Harvard human rights experience and provide rich professional, personal, and intellectual opportunities. Many students and alumni/ae who are committed to human rights were introduced to the field through an internship. Interns work for at least ten weeks with nongovernmental or intergovernmental organizations concerned with human rights, almost exclusively outside the United States (except for LLMs). The Program encourages interns to work in organizations in the developing world that are actively involved in monitoring and responding to human rights violations, grass roots mobilization, or similar activities. Students are free to seek out organizations and design new internships.

## Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>

- Abigail Adams Society
- Advocates for Education
- Advocates for Human Rights
- Alliance for Israel
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Armed Forces Association
- Asia Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Association for Law and Business
- Black Law Students Association
- Brazilian Studies Association
- Beeritas
- Board of Student Advisers
- Canadian Law Society
- Caribbean Law Association
- Catholic Law Students Association
- Chamber Music Society
- Child and Youth Advocates
- Christian Fellowship
- *Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review*
- Coalition to Stop Bank Evictions
- Committee on Sports and Entertainment Law
- Couples Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy
- Food Law Society
- Forum on Local Government and Politics
- Gary Bellow Public Service Award
- Harvard African Law Association
- Harvard Defenders
- Harvard Immigration Project
- *Harvard International Law Journal*
- Harvard International Affairs Council
- *Harvard Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice*
- *Harvard Journal on Sports and Entertainment Law*
- Harvard Law Documentary Studio
- Harvard Law Entrepreneurs
- *Harvard Law Review*
- *Harvard National Security Journal*
- Harvard Negotiators
- HLS Democrats
- HLS for Reproductive Justice
- HLS Investing Club

- HLS Latter-day Saints Student Association
- HLS Republicans
- HLS Student Bar Association
- HLS Student Government
- HLS TaxHelp
- HLS Forum
- HLS Improv: Statler and Waldorf, LLP
- HLS Running Club
- HLS/KSG Association for Law and Policy
- *Human Rights Journal*
- In Vino Veritas
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- *Journal of Law & Gender*
- *Journal of Law and Public Policy*
- *Journal of Law and Technology*
- *Journal on Legislation*
- Justice for Palestine
- Kids in the Court Program
- Korean Association of Harvard Law School
- La Alianza
- Labor and Employment Action Project
- Lambda
- Latin American Law Society
- Latino Law Review
- Law and Health Care Society
- Law and International Development Society
- Law and Mind Sciences
- Legal Aid Bureau
- Legal Theory Forum
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Mississippi Delta Project
- Muslim Law Students Association
- NAACP - HLS Chapter
- National Lawyers Guild - HLS Chapter
- National Security and Law Association
- Native American Law Students Association
- *Negotiation Law Review*
- Parents at the Law School
- Prison Legal Assistance Project
- Reaching Out Against Depression (ROAD)
- The Record
- Scales of Justice
- Society for Law, Life, and Religion
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund

- Student Public Interest Network
- Target Shooting Club
- Tenant Advocacy Project
- Tennis Club
- The Texas Club
- The Southern Legal Society
- *Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left*
- Women's Law Association

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RANK

2

# STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
650-723-3924



## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

Stanford Law School first welcomed students in 1893, two years after Stanford University opened its doors. The Stanford Law Department, as it was initially called, accepted freshmen in a program leading to a bachelor's degree in law. The first professor to be engaged was Benjamin Harrison, former President of the United States, who delivered a landmark series of lectures on the Constitution. The second was Nathan Abbott, a scholar who was to head the nascent law program. Abbott assembled around him a small faculty to which he imparted a standard of rigor and excellence that endures to this day. Stanford's law program was officially transformed into a modern professional school in 1924 when it began requiring a bachelor's degree for admission. That same year, Stanford's Board of Trustees adopted a resolution making the law school a purely graduate school.

Stanford Law School's courses assist students with building a solid foundation in legal theory and honing their skills in any legal specialty. Students can select from courses in subjects ranging from economics and business to science and technology to international law and public service. Students can pursue an established joint degree, customize a degree, or explore law's intersections with other disciplines through team-taught courses and academic concentrations. Through nine clinics, students, under the guidance of faculty, sharpen their skills, expand their perspectives, and cultivate the values that make for effective, ethical attorneys.

With a collection of more than 500,000 books, 360,000 microform and audiovisual items, approximately 8,000 periodicals, and an incredible array of online databases, the Robert Crown Law Library offers a wealth of resources for students, faculty, and staff exploring the law. The library's catalog (Socrates) is available online and is a gateway to books, journals, e-journals, and online databases. Resources unique to the law library are available via the library's webpage also.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

7.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	168-173	3.76-3.96
Median*	170	3.86

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications 3,966

Number accepted 384

Percentage accepted 9.7%

The above admission details are based on fall 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10-11</sup>

In Autumn 2008, Stanford Law School adopted a new grading system for all courses.

The policy is effective beginning the fall 2008 and applies to the class of 2010 onward. The new policy does not apply to the class of 2009, which graduated on the old grading and honors system.

The law school's new grading system replaces the letter number option and the optional 3K option.

### The New Grading System:

For the majority of the courses, e.g., those graded by exam or paper and Legal Research and Writing/Federal Litigation in the first-year JD curriculum, the following grading system is applicable:

H	Honors	Exceptional work, significantly superior to the average performance at the school
P	Pass	Representing successful mastery of the course material
MP	Mandatory Pass	Representing P or better work. (No Honors grades are available for Mandatory P classes.)
R	Restricted Credit	Representing work that is unsatisfactory
F	Fail	Representing work that does not show minimally adequate mastery of the material
I	Incomplete	
N	Continuing Course	
[blank]		Grading Deadline has not yet passed. Grade has yet to be reported
GNR	Grade Not Reported	Grading Deadline has passed. Grade has yet to be reported.

In other classes, primarily the so-called "skills" courses, the following grading scale is in effect:

MP	Mandatory Pass	Representing P or better work (No Honors grades are available for Mandatory P classes)
R	Restricted Credit	Representing work that is unsatisfactory
F	Fail	Representing work that does not show minimally adequate mastery of the material

In addition to the above grades, professors may award class prizes to recognize extraordinary performance in a particular course. The four prizes, which will be noted on student transcripts, are:

- Hilmer Oehlmann, Jr Award for Legal Research & Writing
- Gerald Gunther Prize for exam classes.
- John Hart Ely Prize for paper classes.
- Judge Thelton E. Henderson Prize for clinical courses

No more than one prize may be awarded for every 15 students in a course. Outside of first-year required courses, awarding these prizes is at the discretion of the instructor.

Also, effective Autumn 2009-2010, units earned by Stanford Law School students are quarter units. Units earned prior to 2009-2010 are semester units.

### **Grading System Prior to Autumn, 2008**

Prior to August, 2008, Stanford Law School had a numerical grading system with grades ranging from a 2.1 to a 4.3. These numerical grades corresponded to letter grades as follows:

A+ (4.3 - 4.2)	B+ (3.4 - 3.2)	R (2.2)
A (4.1 - 3.9)	B (3.1 - 2.9)	F (2.1)
A- (3.8 - 3.5)	B- (2.8 - 2.5)	

Between Autumn 2001 and Spring 2008, the mandatory mean in all examination courses was a 3.4. As Directed Research, writing courses, and many very small classes were off-mean, the mean grade among students in that particular class is listed after the grade given to the student.

Transcripts of alumni in the Classes of 2009 and earlier will have grades under this old system. Transcripts for students in the Class of 2010 will show first-year grades under the old system, but subsequent classes under the new grading system.

Students under the system used prior to 2008 could elect to take a limited number of courses on a credit/no-credit system (identified on the transcript as K/NK). In the first term of the first year, students could elect to take any or all of their classes K/NK. Thereafter, students could exercise the option in no more than two other courses. K was awarded for work that was comparable to numerical grades 4.3 to 2.5; RK for R-level work; and NK for F-level work. A small number of courses were mandatory K/NK, either as school policy or at the discretion of the faculty member. These grades appear on the transcript as KM.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)**

There are no grade point averages under the new grading system.

Stanford Law School imposes strict limitations on the percentage of Honors grades that professors may award. These vary a bit depending on the type of class, but approximately a third of students receive honors in any exam class and approximately 2/5th in other classes. So students, who would have received a grade on the mandatory mean (3.4), or even a 3.5 or 3.6 under the former numerical system, now receive a Pass under the current grading system.

## **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

The new grading system which came into effect from May 2008 includes a shared norm for the proportion of honors to be awarded in both exam and paper courses.

The law school no longer uses or awards the Order of the Coif or "Graduation with Distinction" honors. Instead, prizes are awarded in individual courses to recognize outstanding student performance. In first-year required classes, two prizes are available in small sections, and four in large sections. In advanced classes, professors have discretion whether and how many prizes to award. The maximum guideline for all courses is one per every 15 students. Prizes are registered on student transcripts.

## **Awards<sup>13</sup>**

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Steven M. Block Civil Liberties Award	Best written work on personal freedom issues
Carl Mason Franklin Prize	Outstanding paper(s) on International Law
Olaus and Adolph Murie Award	Best written work in Environmental Law
Hilmer Oehlmann Jr. Prizes	First Year Legal Research and Writing and Federal Litigation Award
Frank Baker Belcher Evidence Award	Best academic work in Evidence
Marion Rice Kirkwood Moot Court Prizes	Best oral advocate, best brief, best team, and best runner-up team
Stanford Law Review Awards	Best editorial contribution to SLR
Gerald Gunther Prize	Excellence in exam class
John Hart Ely Prize	Excellence in paper class
Judge Thelton E. Henderson Prize	Excellence in clinical course
Kirkland & Ellis Scholars	Scholastic achievement in the first year

## **Journals<sup>14-24</sup>**

The **Stanford Law Review** publishes one volume containing six separate issues between November and July. Each issue contains material written by student members of the law review, other Stanford law students, and

outside contributors, such as law professors, judges, and practicing lawyers. It is overseen by Stanford Law School students and is fully independent of faculty and administration review or supervision. The Law Review has two principal functions: to educate and foster intellectual discourse among the student membership, and to contribute to legal scholarship by addressing important legal and social issues.

The **Stanford Environmental Law Journal** was founded in 1978 and is a semiannual scholarly periodical dedicated to analyses of current environmental legal issues and policies. It covers topics like hazardous waste, energy development, natural resources conservation and regulation, global warming, and environmental justice.

The **Stanford Journal of Civil Rights & Civil Liberties** was founded in 2003 and is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to exploring civil rights and civil liberties issues in society. It seeks to explore the changing landscape of the civil rights and civil liberties dialogue, the real world implications of these changes on society, and the larger structural and systemic implications of these issues. The journal is published twice a year in the fall and spring.

The **Stanford Journal of International Law** is a scholarly periodical devoted to analyses of current international legal issues. The student-run biannual journal prints articles by professors, practitioners, and students on a wide range of legal topics, including public international law, human rights, international trade, and comparative law. First-year students are encouraged to participate in the spring workshop and can become editors by the end of their second semester.

The **Stanford Journal of Law, Business & Finance** is a semiannual publication dedicated to exploring legal issues in the fields of business and finance. Edited and operated by students in all three classes of the law school, the journal brings a practical focus to the world of legal scholarship. Furthermore, members of the journal are encouraged to assume both editorial and business responsibilities. Consequently, members benefit from direct experience in operating a business in addition to vigorous training in legal research and writing. Ultimately, members who demonstrate excellence and commitment to the journal have the opportunity to assume leadership positions and to join the journal's steering committee.

The **Stanford Law & Policy Review** is a non-ideological publication compiled and edited by students at Stanford Law School. While maintaining the scholarly standards of other law journals, the Stanford Law & Policy Review is written for and distributed to the nation's policymakers: lawyers, judges, government officials, scholars in law and the social sciences, and leaders in the business world. The journal is a small business; students are responsible for all aspects of managing and producing the journal. Staffing for the journal comes from all three Stanford Law School classes. Students can join as editor candidates during their first year. More experienced editors may become article editors responsible for entire articles. Second- and third-year students may also be selected to sit on the managing board.

The **Stanford Technology Law Review**, founded in 1997, is an innovative forum for intellectual discourse on critical issues at the intersection of law, science, technology, and public policy. Membership in the review provides students with interests in technology the opportunity to work with noted scholars in their fields of interest, develop strong writing and editing skills, and gain experience with Internet publishing technology. As a relatively new and growing organization, the review also affords unparalleled opportunities for leadership and a chance to leave a legacy at Stanford Law School.

The **Stanford Journal of Animal Law and Policy** was founded in August 2007. It is an online journal and provides a high-quality, widely accessible forum for the publication and discussion of animal law scholarship.

The **Stanford Journal of Law, Science & Policy** is a peer reviewed journal for innovative interdisciplinary scholarship that bridges the divide between legal and scientific scholarship. The semiannual journal provides a unique opportunity for scientists and legal scholars to write together. The journal is founded on the recognition that the challenges facing today's policy makers are complex for both scientific and political reasons, and that the search for solutions will require pioneering, cross-disciplinary collaboration.

The **Stanford Journal of Complex Litigation (SJCL)** was founded in 2012 and is the only law journal in the country focusing exclusively on complex litigation. The student-run, peer-reviewed journal prints articles by professors, practitioners, and students on a range of legal topics relating to complex litigation, including civil procedure, aggregate litigation, and mass torts

The **Stanford Law and Visual Media Project (SLVMP)** is an alternative law journal that produces student-made documentary films about contemporary legal topics.

## Moot Court<sup>25</sup>

The major moot court activity at Stanford Law School is the Marion Rice Kirkwood Memorial Competition, which takes place each year during the autumn and winter terms. Autumn term is for brief writing and completion of the written portion of the competition; the oral portion of the competition is conducted during the first four weeks (approximately) of winter term. Prior to the competition, materials and lectures are provided on research, brief writing, and oral advocacy techniques.

Registration for the Kirkwood Competition is by team. Each team is required to submit an appellate brief of substantial length and quality and to compete in at least two oral arguments, once on each side of the hypothetical case. The first draft of the brief is reviewed and critiqued by the course instructors. The final draft of the brief is scored by the course instructors and members of the Moot Court Board. The course also offers videotaping and critiques of practice oral arguments. Panels of local attorneys and judges serve as judges and score the oral argument portion of the competition.

Teams are selected for the quarterfinal, semifinal, and final rounds of the competition based on their brief scores and oral advocacy scores. The final round of the competition is held before a panel of distinguished judges, and the entire law school community is invited to attend.

## Clinical Programs<sup>26, 27</sup>

At Stanford Law School, clinical education accomplishes many goals. It is a vital part of the school's mission to prepare every student for the real-world challenges, responsibilities, and rewards of a career-in law. At the same time, it helps instill in students a fundamental commitment to a lifetime engagement with public service and pro bono activities.

**Community Law Clinic**

Students help about 500 low-income clients each year with a wide variety of legal challenges, including landlord-tenant disputes, employment issues, and government benefit claims.

**Criminal Defense Clinic**

Students in the Criminal Defense Clinic represent indigent individuals accused of crimes in Santa Clara County and San Mateo County. The cases encompass a wide range of misdemeanor offenses and some of the more common charges include drug possession, assault, theft, and weapons possession.

**Criminal Prosecution Clinic**

In this small but hard-working clinic, students prosecute cases at the San Jose Superior Court under the guidance of Santa Clara County prosecutors and faculty supervisors.

**Environmental Law Clinic**

Students provide legal counsel to national, regional, and grassroots nonprofit organizations on a variety of environment issues, with a focus on biodiversity and conserving natural resources.

**Immigrants' Rights Clinic**

Students represent immigrants in cases securing rights for survivors of domestic violence or in deportation, and participate in community outreach, public education, or policy advocacy.

**International Human Rights and Conflict Resolution Clinic**

Explore human rights, conflict resolution and the human rights and conflict resolution movements through engagement in practice and critical thinking about situations of rights abuse and conflict. Students in the clinic develop and implement strategies to advance human rights and manage conflict, often in partnership with partners around the world.

**Juelsgaard Intellectual Property and Innovation Clinic**

Under close supervision of clinic instructors, students focus on complex matters of IP law in areas ranging from biotechnology to information technology, pharmaceuticals, clean technology, and the creation and distribution of information.

**Organizations and Transactions Clinic**

Students provide governance advice and documents, draft contract and management materials, and analyze operating programs and contractual arrangements for established Northern California nonprofit organizations.

**Religious Liberty Clinic**

The Religious Liberty Clinic offers participating students a dynamic, real-world experience representing a diverse group of clients in disputes arising from a wide range of religious beliefs, practices, and customs in a variety of circumstances.

**Social Security Disability Pro Bono Project**

The SLS Social Security Disability Project (SSDP), the law school's only in-house pro bono project, gives students the opportunity to work directly with local homeless clients.

### **Supreme Court Litigation Clinic**

Students litigate cases before the Supreme Court of the United States working on petitions for review, opposition to petitions, and merits briefs filed with the Justices.

### **Youth and Education Law Project**

Dedicated to educational rights and reform work, represent both minors and families in special education and school discipline matters.

## **Placement Facts<sup>28</sup>**

### **Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)**

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$160,000-\$160,000
Private sector - Median	\$160,000
Public service - Median	\$62,401

### **Employment Details**

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	93.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	95.8%

### **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	53.5%
Business and Industry	4.8%
Government	4.3%
Public Interest Organizations	9.6%
Judicial Clerkships	25.7%
Academia	2.1%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>29, 30</sup>**

### **Externships**

At Stanford Law School, the externship program is a complement to the Clinical Program. Every quarter students who wish to supplement their clinical training, or do legal work which is not available in a clinic, head out to work for academic credit in non-profit agencies, government offices and public policy organizations. In these public interest placements, they may do legal research and writing, they may do client interviews or they may make court appearances under the supervision of an agency attorney. And in conjunction with this uncompensated work, they take either an Externship Companion course or engage in a supervised tutorial which allows them to reflect and learn from their experience in a guided pedagogical setting.

Students at SLS opt for any one of Stanford Law School's two externship programs: The Standard Externship Program (SEP) or the Special Circumstances Externship Program (SCEP).

The SEP allows students to work in the Bay Area for a minimum of 16 hours to a maximum of 34 hours per week in a public interest setting, such as a criminal prosecution or public defender's office, a civil rights organization or a legal organization that specializes in environmental law.

The SCEP allows students to work for academic credit throughout the United States and anywhere in the world. Because they are not in the Bay Area and are therefore unable to attend the weekly seminar, SCEP externs work for 40 hours per week at their approved placement.

### **Internships**

Stanford Law School offers legal internships with dozens of governmental, intergovernmental, or nongovernmental organizations around the world, such as the World Trade Organization, the Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Development Program, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, the U.S. Department of Justice/Office of International Affairs, the U.S. Agency for International Development, Transparency International, the Asia Foundation, the Legal Assistance Centre in Namibia, the International Crisis Group, the Supreme Court of Israel, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the International Atomic Energy Agency, and the International Center for Transitional Justice, among others.

### **Student Organizations<sup>31</sup>**

- Acappellants
- Advanced Degree Student Association
- American Bar Association, Law Students Division
- American Constitution Society
- Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Asian and Pacific Islander Law Students Association (APILSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- China Law and Policy Association
- Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Society (CRCLS)
- Criminal Law Society
- Drama Society
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federalist Society
- First Person
- International Law Society (ILS)
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- JD/MBA Club
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Joint Degree Student Association
- Law Students Building a Better Legal Profession

- League of Stanford Transfers (LOST)
- Marion Rice Kirkwood Moot Court Board
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- OUTLAW
- Parents Attending Law School (PALS)
- Public Interest Coalition
- Real Estate and Land Use Association
- Shaking the Foundations
- SLS Academy
- SLS Christian Fellowship
- Stanford Association for Law in the Middle East (SALME)
- Stanford Association of Law Students for Disability Rights
- Stanford BioLaw and Health Policy Society
- Stanford Critical Law Society (SCritLS)
- Stanford Entertainment and Sports Law Association (SESLA)
- Stanford Intellectual Property Association (SIPA)
- Stanford International Human Rights Law Association (SIHRLA)
- Stanford Latino Law Students Association (SLLSA)
- Stanford Law and Business Association (SLBA)
- Stanford Law and Policy Society (SLAPS)
- Stanford Law and Technology Association (SLATA)
- Stanford Law and Wine Society
- Stanford Law Association
- Stanford Law Democrats
- Stanford Law Immigration Initiative
- Stanford Law School Energy Club
- Stanford Law School Mock Trial Program
- Stanford Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Stanford Law Veterans Organization
- Stanford Muslim Law Students Association (SMLSA)
- Stanford National Security & the Law Society
- Stanford Program in Law and Society
- Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation (SPILF)
- Stanford Students for the Abolition of the Death Penalty
- Stanford Tax Club
- Street Law
- The Voting Rights Project
- Women of Color Action Network
- Women of Stanford Law (WSL)
- Youth and Education Advocates at Stanford (YEAS)

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RANK

**4**

# COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1-3</sup>

435 West 116<sup>th</sup> Street  
Mail Code 4004  
New York, NY 10027-7297

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

212-854-2668

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

212-854-2670

## MAIN PHONE

212-854-2640

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

212-854-2683

## WEBSITE

www.law.columbia.edu

## Overview<sup>4,5</sup>

Columbia Law School was one of the first law schools established in the United States. Columbia is internationally renowned as a leading center of legal scholarship and offers one of the most extensive selections of centers and programs for intensive and specialized studies. Columbia also boasts a faculty comprised of many leading scholars. The JD program is offered only on a full-time basis, and approximately 1,200 students are enrolled in the three-year program.

Columbia Law School offers numerous programs in many areas like international and comparative law, public interest and human rights law, corporate and securities law, intellectual property law, gender studies and family law, and legal history and legal theory. It places high emphasis on its clinical training program and offers students the opportunity to engage in several clinics. It also offers numerous joint-degree programs. There are 29 established international study-abroad programs. Students can create their own semester abroad program through the law school's Student-Initiated Study Abroad option. Students may actively contribute in student law journals.

Columbia Law School supports the development of community within the student body. Students work in teams on classroom and extracurricular projects. The school offers its students the opportunity to join a wide variety of publications, clubs, and interest groups, and students may also organize study groups for mutual support and learning. The curriculum at the law school is global, interdisciplinary, and rigorously practical.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>6</sup>

8.0:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>7</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	170-174	3.58-3.82
Median*	172	3.71

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>8</sup>

Approximate number of applications	6,592
Number accepted	1,214
Percentage accepted	18.4%

The above admission details are based on fall 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

Columbia Law School does not rank students or assign GPAs.

The law school uses an alphanumerical grading system to evaluate students' performance. Professors/instructors assign one of the following final grades to each student registered in his or her courses, which shall be reflected in the student's academic transcript: A (with plus and minus designations), B (with plus and minus designations), C, F, CR when so approved by the Curriculum Committee, or W.

Any student may, at any time, request that he or she be graded on the basis of Credit-Fail. In such event, the student's performance in every offering is graded in accordance with the standards outlined above, and the grades entered on the student's permanent transcript; but the transcript released to the student, or to others at the student's request, shall contain no grades other than Credit (for all passing grades) and Fail.

## Honors<sup>10</sup>

A **Kent Scholar** is awarded in recognition of outstanding academic achievement. A student is named a Kent scholar if during an academic year he or she has earned at least 15 graded law credits toward his/her degree, and in that year either 1) has achieved a grade point average of 3.800, or 2) has received grades all or all but one of which are A+, A, or A- (the exception being no lower than B), and, if the lowest grade is put aside, at least half of which are A or A+.

A **Stone Scholar** is awarded in recognition of superior academic achievement. A student shall be named a Stone scholar if during an academic year the student has earned at least 15 graded law credits toward his or her degree, the student has received no grade lower than B-, and the student's academic average for the year is at or above 3.410.

Only law credits are used to calculate honors. No one receives honors for a year which includes a grade of "Incomplete."

## Awards<sup>11</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Alfred S. Forsyth Prize	The best student in Environmental Law.
Allan Morrow Sexuality and Gender Law Prize	Outstanding achievement in the furtherance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights.
Andrew D. Fried Memorial Prize	The best student essay in the field of intellectual property and related law, published in the Columbia Journal of Law & the Arts during the preceding year.
Archie O. Dawson Prize	The best performance in the area of advocacy.
Carroll G. Harper Prize	The highest achievement in intellectual property studies and writing.
Charles Bathgate Beck Prize	The best examination paper in the course on law of real property.
Class of 1912 Prize	The best student in the subject of contracts.
David M. Berger Memorial Prize	A third-year student interested in international law and world peace.
E. B. Convers Prize	The best original essay on a legal subject.
Emil Schlesinger Labor Law Prize	The best student in the area of labor law.
Harold Brown Book Prize	The purchase of books to two or more needy first- year students who attended Columbia College.
Jane Marks Murphy Prize	Interest and proficiency in advocacy in clinical offerings.
Jeffrey Williams Memorial Prize for Critical Rights Analysis	The best paper in critical theory.
John Ordronaux Prize	General proficiency in legal study.
Lawrence S. Greenbaum Prize	The best oral presentation in the final argument of the Harlan Fiske Stone Moot Court Competition.
Milton B. Conford Book Prize in Jurisprudence	The best examination paper or essay on jurisprudence.
Paul R. Hays Prize	The best first-year student in Civil Procedure.
Pauline Berman Heller Prize Fund	The best female law student.
Robert Noxon Toppan Prize	The best written constitutional law examination.
Robert Stephen Haft Moot Court Prize	The best written examination in constitutional law.
Samuel I. Rosenman Prize	Excellence in public law courses and outstanding qualities of citizenship and leadership in the law school or activities related to the law school in the university community.
Simon H. Rifkind Prize Fund	The best overall performance in the first-year moot court program at Columbia Law School.
Valentin J.T. Wertheimer Prize in Labor Law	A creative, thoughtful approach to labor law, equal employment law, public or private sector collective bargaining, labor conflict resolution, or employment security.
Walter Gellhorn Prize	The best LLM student with the highest academic average.

Whitney North Seymour Medal	The student with the greatest promise of becoming a distinguished trial advocate.
Young B. Smith Prize	The best first-year student in Law of Torts.
Special Honors for Outstanding Performance in a Class Prize	At instructor's discretion to recognize the single best student in a class with enrollment of 30 or more students.

## Journals

The **Columbia Law Review** is one of the world's leading publications of legal scholarship. Founded in 1901, the Review is an independent nonprofit corporation that produces a law journal edited and published entirely by students at Columbia Law School. *The Review* which publishes eight issues a year is one of the most widely distributed and cited law reviews in the country. It receives about 2,000 submissions per year and selects approximately 20–25 manuscripts for publication annually, in addition to student Notes. Sidebar is *the Review's* online supplement which provides an important, emerging forum for the discussion of pressing legal issues.<sup>12</sup>

The **Columbia Human Rights Law Review** is a student-edited legal journal wherein student and professional articles are published on contemporary human rights and civil liberties issues, both in the United States and around the world. The journal presents in-depth analyses of specific legal questions as well as broad surveys of the law in particular areas. Topics covered include freedom of speech, criminal law and procedure, poverty and family law, the impact of legal institutions on the lives of individuals and groups, and the efficacy of various international efforts to protect human rights.<sup>13</sup>

The **Columbia Journal of Asian Law (CJAL)** commenced publication in 1987 as the Columbia Journal of Chinese Law under the auspices of the Columbia University School of Law and the Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law. At that time, the Journal provided a forum for legal practitioners and scholars from the People's Republic of China, the United States, and elsewhere to discuss a broad range of issues relating to law in the PRC. As Asia became increasingly integrated and legal issues increasingly cross-border in their impact, the Journal moved on to expand its geographical coverage to South, Southeast, and Northeast Asia. CJAL welcomes historical, comparative, and multi-disciplinary manuscripts covering legal issues in Asia as well as papers or notes examining the impact of rapidly changing legal regimes on specific areas of practice.<sup>14</sup>

The **Columbia Journal of Environmental Law** founded in 1972, is one of the oldest environmental law journals in the nation and is widely regarded as one of the preeminent environmental journals in the country. The journal produces two high quality legal publications annually. The rigorous publication process is managed by Columbia Law School students who are responsible for reviewing and editing articles, communicating with authors, managing subscriptions and ultimately finalizing the materials for publication. In addition to featuring the scholarship of leading environmental lawyers and academics, CJEL encourages student writing and publishes student works through its annual 2L note program. Published pieces cover a range of topics from civil rights to the Securities and Exchange Commission, all concerning some aspect of environmental law and policy.<sup>15</sup>

The **Columbia Journal of European Law (CJEL)** is committed to publishing and promoting the highest caliber European legal scholarship. CJEL is currently the single most cited European law journal in the

world and is ranked among the top five foreign and civil law journals in the country. *CJEL* is published under the auspices of Columbia's European Legal Studies Center. *CJEL* has a collaborative partnership with the Catholic University in Leuven, Belgium, which provides firsthand insight into cutting edge developments in EU legislation and European Court of Justice Jurisprudence. *CJEL* publishes three issues per year—Winter, Spring, and Summer—and contains articles exploring every dimension of European law. This includes the law of the European Union and also law at the national or regional levels, as well as broader jurisprudential questions relevant to the development of law and legal institutions in Europe.<sup>16</sup>

The ***Columbia Journal of Gender and Law*** is the preeminent journal for scholarship on the interaction between gender and law. *The Journal* fosters dialogue, debate, and awareness about gender-related issues and feminist scholarship. Gender is considered to be a broad category which includes issues relevant to people of different colors, classes, sexual orientations, and cultures. The articles express an expansive view of feminist jurisprudence, embracing issues relating to women and men of all races, ethnicities, classes, sexual orientations, and cultures. *The Journal* operates by consensus, and is organized in a manner that supports internal debate and discussion. *Journal* membership is comprised of students at Columbia University School of Law. Every *Journal* member is encouraged to contribute her or his views. All *Journal* members participate in the decision-making process regarding the selection and editing of articles. Members work in teams and follow one article in each issue from acceptance to publication.<sup>17</sup>

The ***Columbia Journal of Law and Social Problems (JLSP)*** established in 1965, is one of the oldest legal publications at Columbia Law School. Since its founding, one of *JLSP*'s missions has been to remind its readers of the law's responsibility to serve the public good. To that end, the journal emphasizes the sociological, economic, and political impact of legal issues. As a result, *JLSP*'s target audience includes not only judges and lawyers but also Congress, state legislatures, regulatory agencies, and members of the public. *JLSP* is the only Columbia Law journal that is entirely student-written. Thus, members have an excellent chance to publish a Note. This general interest publication is valued in the legal community, as is reflected by *JLSP*'s numerous citations in the Supreme Court, courts of appeal, and district courts.<sup>18</sup>

The ***Columbia Journal of Law & the Arts*** is a quarterly, student-edited publication dedicated to up-to-date and in-depth coverage of legal issues involving the art, entertainment, sports, intellectual property, and communications industries. Founded in 1975, the *Journal* is one of the most-cited periodicals devoted to arts law issues and features contributions by scholars, judges, practitioners, and students. Published pieces have addressed topics including fine arts, music, theater, photography, film, arts funding, computer software, copyright, trademark, patent, unfair competition, antitrust, labor, contracts, rights of publicity, right of privacy, cultural property, arbitration, bankruptcy, First Amendment, and not-for-profit, as well as important symposia.<sup>19</sup>

The ***Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*** is the second oldest student-run international law journal in the nation. Founded in 1961, the *Journal* today is the second most cited journal at Columbia. Writings that appear in the *Journal* are regularly cited by academics, practitioners and courts, including the United States Supreme Court. Recent surveys of prominent international law faculty have placed the *Journal* in the highest tier of international law journals, alongside its peer publications at Harvard and Yale. Each year the *Journal* publishes three issues, which contain articles by legal scholars and practitioners, student notes, book reviews and bibliographic materials. The *Journal*'s purpose is to provide the practicing bar and the academic community with insight into the evolving problems of an increasingly interdependent world.<sup>20</sup>

The **Columbia Business Law Review** is the first legal periodical at a national law school to be devoted solely to the publication of articles focusing on the interaction of the legal profession and the business community. The review publishes three issues yearly. For each issue, student editors and staff members are integral to the production process, as they are responsible for both editing leading articles in business law and producing the journal's student-written notes. The staff of the review consists of second-year law students selected on the basis of writing ability, academic performance during the first year of law school, and demonstrated interest in business law. Staff members assist in the substantive production of the review in addition to researching and writing a student note on a business-related topic developed with the assistance of a third-year editor. The note requirement and other responsibilities effectively train members to perform accurately both scholarly and practical legal research.<sup>21</sup>

The **Columbia Science and Technology Law Review (STLR)** deals with the exciting legal issues surrounding science and technology, including the Internet, biotechnology, nanotechnology and telecommunications law. Recent articles have discussed robust notice and informed consent in spyware legislation, the need for international regulation of nanotechnology, and the effect of a recent court decision on innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. Published twice a year, *STLR* focuses on quality over quantity, helping it achieve the #4 rank among all tech law journals in Washington and Lee Law Library's 'Impact Factor' ranking.<sup>22</sup>

The **American Review of International Arbitration** is a quarterly law review published by the Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law. The review which publishes scholarly articles, commentaries on recent developments, case notes, and bibliographical information attracts an array of contributions by leading scholars and practitioners as well as Columbia law students. Students are selected for editorial staff positions on the basis of an application submitted after their first year.<sup>23</sup>

The **Columbia Journal of Race and Law** is a new addition to Columbia Law School's rich tradition of scholarly publications. The Journal is an exciting and unique opportunity to deepen the discourse on race and the law both within Columbia as well as the broader legal community. It examines issues surrounding racial and ethnic justice. *The Journal* publishes articles written by scholars, practitioners, and students that make a substantive contribution to the current issues like affirmative action, immigration, employment law, community development, criminal law, environmental justice, voting rights, and education.<sup>24</sup>

The **Columbia Journal of Tax Law** provides a needed forum for academics, practitioners, and policymakers to explore ideas in tax law and policy. Unlike any other tax publication, the *Journal* aims to bridge the worlds of both theory and practice by targeting scholars, practitioners, and policymakers as its authors and audience. The *Journal* is published twice a year. Each issue aims to include scholarly articles, shorter pieces on hot-topic policy and practice subjects, and student notes.<sup>25</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>26, 27</sup>

The moot court programs at Columbia Law School are devoted to developing the written and oral advocacy skills of students. Students at the school participate in moot court programs at all levels of their studies.

The first-year Foundation Program is a compulsory program for first-year students. There are two competitions for the upper classes—the Harlan Fiske Stone Honors Competition and the Jerome Michael Jury Trial—which are elective. In addition to these “intramural” programs, there are various national-level

competitions in which Columbia participates, including the Frederick Douglass Moot Court, the NALSA Moot Court, the Giles Sutherland Rich Moot Court (American Intellectual Property Law Association), and the Environmental Law Moot Court.

Columbia Law School students also participate in three international moot court competitions:

- The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot
- The European Law Moot Court Competition

## **Clinical Programs<sup>28, 29</sup>**

At Columbia Law School, students working under the close supervision of their clinical professors are encouraged to identify and pursue their own learning goals while providing essential representation to a wide range of clients. The Columbia Law School clinical program has two additional goals. First, students are encouraged throughout their clinic experience to envision how legal institutions and practices can be reformed and reorganized to provide the best service to clients and the larger society. Second, clinic students provide pro bono service to clients who are unable to secure representation because of cost, the unpopularity of their causes, or the complexity of their problems. Some of the clinics offered at Columbia include:

- Child Advocacy Clinic
- Community Enterprise Clinic
- Environmental Law Clinic
- Human Rights Clinic
- Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic
- Mass Incarceration Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Prisoners and Families Clinic
- Sexuality and Gender Law Clinic

## **Placement Facts<sup>30</sup>**

### **Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)**

Private sector (25th-75th percentile)	\$160,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$55,000

### **Employment Details**

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	93.20%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	95.40%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed</b>	<b>In Percentage</b>
Law Firms	69.4%
Business and Industry	5.4%
Government	9.0%
Public Interest Organizations	5.8%
Judicial Clerkships	9.7%
Academia	0.7%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>31-36</sup>**

### **Externships**

Columbia Law School offers innovative opportunities for experiential learning in which students tackle the legal problems of real clients while gaining theoretical knowledge of the underpinnings of their work. Social Justice Initiatives has the primary responsibility for the creation and the oversight of externships at Columbia Law School. Externships—as well as clinics and practice seminars—have played a key role in preparing many graduates at Columbia to become excellent lawyers.

At Columbia Law School, an externship consists of a seminar that in most cases meets once a week, and a field experience at an NGO or government office that is closely related to the seminar. The seminars are taught by adjunct professors who are leading practicing attorneys, and the field placements usually are at their workplace. In most instances, the seminar leader also supervises the work of the students. In other cases, the seminar leader places the students with other supervisors in his or her office.

Some of the Externship programs offered in Spring 2013 and to be offered in Fall 2013 include:

### **Spring 2013**

- Arts Law Externship
- Bronx Defenders Externship on Holistic Defense
- Domestic Violence Prosecution Externship
- Federal Appellate Court Externship
- Federal Court Clerk Externship: Southern District of New York
- Federal Court Clerk Externship: U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York
- Externship on the Federal Government in Washington D.C.
- Immigration Defense Externship
- Externship on the New York State Attorney General's Role in Law Enforcement and Social Justice
- Representing New York City: New York City Law Department Externship
- United Nations Externship
- U.S. Attorney's Office Eastern District of New York: Federal Prosecution Externship

## **Fall 2013**

- Arts Law Externship
- Bronx Defenders Externship on Holistic Defense
- Community Defense Externship
- Constitutional Rights Enforcement in Capital Habeas and Prison Cases Externship
- Criminal Appeals Externship
- Domestic Violence Prosecution Externship
- Federal Appellate Court Externship
- Federal Court Clerk Externship: Southern District of New York
- Federal Court Clerk Externship: Eastern District of New York
- Externship on the Federal Government in Washington DC
- Federal Prosecution Externship: US Attorney's Office, Southern District of New York
- Immigration Defense Externship
- Judicial Externship

## **Internships**

**Human Rights Internships:** Through the Columbia Law School, students are able to access internships that provide experience and the opportunity to advocate for human rights. Students are given the chance to choose from internships around the world, all dealing with significant human rights topics, from helping establish the International Criminal Tribunals in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia, to researching prison conditions in Sri Lanka, to assisting in the writing of a Freedom of Information Act for Guatemala. Training is available prior to internships, allowing students more substantive assignments. Some of the internships available to Columbia Law School students at human rights organizations include:

- American Society of International Law
- Civil Rights Internships
- Initiative on Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity
- International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda
- International Labor Organization
- International Monetary Fund
- Organization of American States
- Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) Internship Program
- Public Interest Law Institute Internships
- Rights International
- Russian and East European Institute
- UN Headquarters
- UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- United States Government
- Washington Office on Latin America
- World Bank

**European Law Internships:** Students at Columbia Law School interested in European Law have the opportunity to clerk or to intern with various European institutions and international institutions located in Europe.

### *Columbia-Sponsored Clerkships and Internships*

- Dean Acheson Legal Stage, Luxembourg
- The ICC International Court of Arbitration Clerkships, Paris, France
- The Clerkship with the Commission des Operations de Bourse (COB), Paris, France
- The International Court of Justice in The Hague, Netherlands

### *Other Clerkships/Internships with European Institutions and International Institutions Located in Europe*

- European Court of Human Rights, Strasbourg, France
- In-service Training (stages) with the European Commission, Brussels or Luxembourg
- International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
- International Labour Organization (ILO), Geneva, Switzerland
- International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), Hamburg, Germany
- World Trade Organization (WTO), Geneva, Switzerland
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Summer School on Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland

**Summer Programs in Public Service:** Columbia Law School's summer funding program, one of the largest in the nation, is an integral part of preparing to practice law. Social Justice Initiatives oversees the two largest programs in the US: the Guaranteed Summer Funding Program and the Human Rights Internship Program, which give students the opportunity to receive stipends and explore legal practice while providing greatly needed assistance to a wide range of organizations and government agencies in the United States and around the world. Stipends cover a range of placements both domestic and international including NGOs, not-for-profit organizations, criminal prosecution and defense work, and federal, state, and local government agencies.

### **Student Organizations<sup>37</sup>**

- African Law Students Association
- Alpine Society
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Asian and Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- California Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Civil Rights Law Society
- Columbia Card Club
- Columbia Business and Law Association
- Columbia Gastronomy Society
- Columbia Health Law Association
- Columbia International Antitrust Law Association
- Columbia International Arbitration Association (CIAA)

- Columbia Latin American Business Law Association
- Columbia Law Opera And Classical Society
- Columbia Law Revue
- Columbia Law School Competitive Table Sport Society
- Columbia Law School Young Democrats
- Columbia Law School Military Association
- Columbia Law School Disc
- Columbia Law School Republicans
- Columbia Law School Soccer Club
- Columbia Law School Softball Club
- Columbia Law Women's Association
- Columbia Real Estate Law Society
- Columbia Society of International Law
- Columbia Strategic Simulation Society
- Criminal Justice Action Network
- Deans' Cup
- De Vinimus
- Domestic Violence Project
- Education Law and Policy Society
- Empowering Women Of Color
- Entertainment, Arts, and Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Fashion Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Fidelio Society
- Golf Club
- Harlem Tutorial Program
- High School Law Institute
- Impact
- Insite
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Koleinu (Law Students For Israel)
- Korean Law Students Association (KLSA)
- Latino/A Law Students Association
- Law/Culture
- Law Students for Life
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students for Social Enterprise (LSSE)
- Mentoring Youth Through Legal Education (MYLE)
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Midwest Society
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society (NSLS)
- Native American Law Students Association

- New England Law Students Association
- NHK: Japanese Legal Studies Association
- Outlaws
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Rightslink
- Running From The Law
- Saint-Ex Literary Dinner Club
- Society For Chinese Law
- Society For Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- Society For Law, Science and Technology
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Squash Club
- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Senate
- Tenants' Rights Project
- Texas Society
- Transfer and Visiting Student Organization
- Unemployment Action Center
- Y'Allsa
- Yoga Club
- Youth Justice Association

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RANK

**4**

# UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

1111 East 60th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60637

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

NA

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

773-834-4429

## MAIN PHONE

773-702-9494

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

773-834-7579

## WEBSITE

www.law.uchicago.edu

## Overview<sup>2-7</sup>

The University of Chicago Law School occupies a unique niche among premier law schools the U.S. The law school offers a rigorous and interdisciplinary professional education that blends the study of law with the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences. Founded in 1902, the University of Chicago Law School has been an innovator in legal education ever since.

The law school offers four outstanding legal clinics and is home to a wide variety of research programs. These programs provide excellent outlets for the theoretical and empirical work of both faculty and students. In addition, these programs host conferences, publish working papers, and support journals. The University of Chicago Law School also publishes six professional journals, of which three are student-edited and three are faculty-edited. The University of Chicago campus is a thriving community that offers many extracurricular opportunities for learning. There are approximately 60 student organizations at the law school and numerous lunch time events involving speakers or panels.

The University of Chicago Law School aims to train well-rounded, critical, and socially conscious thinkers and doers. The cornerstones that provide the foundation for Chicago's educational mission are the life of the mind, participatory learning, and interdisciplinary inquiry. Additionally, the Socratic Method is followed, wherein the professor does not lecture but instead engages the group in a dialogue.

The D'Angelo Law Library has collections of over 700,000 volumes in print and other formats, including the primary laws of the United States and all fifty states, foreign, comparative and international law, legal commentary on a variety of topics, and resources in other disciplines of interest to law researchers.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

7.5:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	167-173	3.65-3.96
Median*	171	3.90

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>10</sup>

Approximate number of applications	4,458
Number accepted	897
Percentage accepted	20.1%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>11</sup>

The law school does not rank students. The University of Chicago Law School uses the following grading

A	180-186
B	174-179
C	168-173
D	160-167
F	155-159

Law School grades are recorded as numerical grades.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)

The median grade in all courses and all seminars in which students are graded primarily on the basis of an examination must be 177. The median grade in all paper seminars, clinics, and simulation classes must be no lower than 177 and no higher than 179. Courses in which all students write papers, as well as courses and seminars in which students have the option to write a paper or sit for an examination, must have a median of 177 or 178. All IL electives must have a 177 median, regardless of the basis for grading in those classes. The median grade in Bigelow Legal Research and Writing classes must be 178. The Law School may permit minor deviations from these mandatory medians only for classes with very low enrollments when the instructor certifies that the students' performance was unusually strong or weak relative to students' performance in the same class during prior years.

A student's grade in a course is based entirely upon the written examination or paper in the class. Professors may choose to add a class participation component to the grade.

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honors are awarded at graduation based on final average as follows:

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10% (from pool of students who have earned at least 79 of the 105 credits needed for graduation in graded courses)
Highest Honors	182 and above
High Honors	180.5 and above
Honors	179 and above
Kirkland & Ellis Scholars.	Top 10% of graduating class

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Joseph Henry Beale Prize	The best student in each legal research/writing section.
Ann Barber Award	The best contribution to the law school's culture.
Edwin F. Mandel Award	The best contribution to the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic.
Casper Platt Award	The best paper written by a student annually.
Law firm sponsored Award	Top 5% of graduating class.

## Journals<sup>14-18</sup>

The Law School has three student-edited law journals: *The University of Chicago Law Review*, *The Legal Forum*, and *The Chicago Journal of International Law* besides three faculty-edited journals and one alumni-published journal.

### Student-edited Journals

The ***University of Chicago Law Review***: *The Law Review* publishes articles and book reviews by leading scholars along with comments written by students. In addition to participating in the editing and publication of legal scholarship, staff members have the unique opportunity to develop their own skills as writers and scholars. *The Law Review* emphasizes student works. On an average, half of each issue is devoted to student comments. In recent years, approximately 20% of the students in each first-year class have been invited to join *The Law Review*.

The ***University of Chicago Legal Forum***: *The Legal Forum* is the Law School's topical law journal. Its student board annually publishes a volume of articles (by academics and practitioners) and comments (by students) that focus on a single area of the law. Each fall the *Legal Forum* hosts a symposium at which the authors of the articles present their work.

The ***Chicago Journal of International Law***: *The Chicago Journal of International Law*, a biannual student-edited journal, is the Law School's newest journal. It publishes short Comments and articles by students and scholars on matters of international law and foreign affairs.

## **Faculty-edited Journals**

The ***Journal of Law and Economics***, established in 1958, publishes research on a broad range of topics including the economic analysis of regulation and the behavior of regulated firms, the political economy of legislation and legislative processes, law and finance, corporate finance and governance, and industrial organization. *The Journal* has published some of the most influential and widely cited articles in these areas. It is an invaluable resource for academics as well as those interested in cutting-edge analysis of current public policy issues.

The ***Journal of Legal Studies*** is a journal of interdisciplinary academic research into law and legal institutions. It emphasizes social science approaches, especially those of economics, political science, and psychology, but it also publishes the work of historians, philosophers, and others who are interested in legal theory. The *JLS* was founded in 1972.

The ***Supreme Court Review***, which first appeared in 1960, has won acclaim for providing a sustained and authoritative survey of the implications of the Court's most significant decisions. *SCR* is an in-depth annual critique of the Supreme Court and its work, keeping up on the forefront of the origins, reforms, and interpretations of American law. *SCR* is written by and for legal academics, judges, political scientists, journalists, historians, economists, policy planners, and sociologists.

## **Alumni Publication**

Several alumni publish *The Green Bag*, an entertaining journal of law, on which four faculty members serve on the board of advisors. *The Green Bag* strives to be “a journal that appeals to those who value useful and engaging reading on the legal issues of the day.

## **Moot Court<sup>19</sup>**

**Hinton Moot Court Competition:** The Hinton Moot Court Competition, named for Judge Edward W. Hinton, is open to all second- and third-year students (except those third-year students who made it to the semi-finals during the previous year). The competition provides students the opportunity to develop skills in writing and appellate advocacy. The Moot Court Competition is conducted by the Hinton Moot Court Board, which is typically made up of semi-finalists and finalists from the previous year, under the supervision of the Office of the Dean of Students and the Faculty Moot Court Committee

Moot Court participants advance through three rounds: the fall round, the winter round and the spring round.

**Other Moot Court Competitions:** Students often participate in moot court competitions hosted by other law schools. Students participate in outside moot court competitions; so long as they do not miss any classes or exams or let these affect their coursework.

## **Clinical Programs<sup>20, 21</sup>**

The University of Chicago Law School is home to many highly-regarded legal clinics and clinical projects, all of which are located in the School's Arthur O. Kane Center for Clinical Legal Education. Second- and third-year students obtain practical training through the law school's clinical and experiential programs,

in which students represent clients and engage in other lawyering roles under the supervision of full time clinical teachers, faculty, and practicing attorneys. The Law School's clinical and experiential programs give students an opportunity to learn litigation, legislative advocacy, and transactional skills. Students learn through classroom instruction, simulation, and representation of clients under the close supervision of the clinical teachers and attorneys. The program is intended to join the academic study of law with experience in interviewing clients, investigating facts, developing strategies, conducting negotiations, dealing with adverse parties, drafting legislation and lobbying legislators, drafting contracts, and participating in court proceedings.

The Law School was a pioneer in clinical legal education, having opened the very first legal clinic associated with a law school, the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic.

Some of the clinical programs at the law school include:

**Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic:** One of the earliest law school-affiliated legal clinics, the Mandel Clinic comprises a number of projects intended to teach students effective advocacy skills while serving as advocates for people typically denied access to justice. Current Mandel projects include:

- Abrams Environmental Law Clinic
- Civil Rights and Police Accountability Project
- Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project
- Employment Discrimination Project
- Federal Criminal Justice Clinic
- Housing Initiative
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Mental Health Project
- Social Service Project

**Exoneration Project:** The Exoneration Project represents clients who have been convicted of crimes of which they are innocent. The Project assists clients in asserting their claims of actual innocence in state and federal court.

**Corporate Lab:** The Corporate Lab aims to provide students with "real-world" work experience and to prepare them to become well-rounded legal practitioners, all the while working on cutting-edge legal projects with world-class companies.

**Gendered Violence and the Law Clinic:** Through a seminar combined with a field placement at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Metropolitan Chicago, students assist with representation of domestic and sexual violence survivors to meet a broad range of legal needs.

**Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship:** The Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship, or IJ Clinic, is a public interest organization devoted principally to expanding economic liberties. It provides a range of legal services, especially those for start-up businesses, to local entrepreneurs in economically disadvantaged communities.

**Poverty and Housing Law Clinic:** The Poverty and Housing Law Clinic exposes students to the practice of poverty law work by giving them the opportunity to work on housing-related cases at the Legal Assistance

Foundation (LAF), which provides free legal services to indigent clients in civil matters.

**Prosecution and Defense Clinic:** The clinic provides students with an opportunity to learn about the criminal justice system through the combination of a 2-quarter seminar and a clinical placement in either a prosecutor's office or public defender's office.

**Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights:** The Young Center for Immigrant Children's Rights is a human service and policy advocacy program dedicated to advocating for the best interests of immigrant and refugee children who are alone in the United States.

**The Advocate:** The Advocate chronicles the clinical law experience at the Law School -- learn more about the wide range of clinics and programs offered at Chicago.

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$160,000-\$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$47,657

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	90.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	95.1%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	58.3%
Business and Industry	9.0%
Government	4.5%
Judicial Clerkships	10.1%
Public Interest Organizations	15.6%
Academia	2.5%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>23-25</sup>

### Externships

While the law school does not grant academic credit for student externships with entities outside of the school, the sole exception to this rule is for work undertaken through a student's participation in one of the Law School's clinical programs (e.g., the Gendered Violence and the Law Clinic or the Prosecution and

Defense Clinic). Law school students however do choose to participate in externships with outside entities (the FBI, Cook County State's Attorney, judges, etc.).

### **Internships**

**International Internship Program:** The University of Chicago Law School administers an international internship program in which students who have completed at least one year of basic American law study ("JD study") are considered for summer employment by employers outside the United States. The purpose of the program is to bring together students who have an interest in international practice with employers who will provide supervision and experience in legal practice.

**Summer Judicial Internship Program:** The Office of Career Services administers a judicial internship program to help connect students with judges who are interested in having volunteer interns work for them during the summer. Recognizing the significant educational and experiential benefits of working in a judge's chambers, the school encourages its students to consider these positions when they are searching for summer employment.

### **Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Amicus
- Apathy
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Bull Moose Society
- Chicago Investment Law Group
- Chicago Law Foundation
- Chicago Journal of International Law
- China Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Dallin H. Oaks Society
- Disability Law Society
- Domestic Violence Project
- The Edmund Burke Society
- Energy Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Entertainment & Sports Law Society
- Federalist Society
- FeedChicago
- Food Law Society
- GreenBooks
- Health Law Society
- Hinton Moot Court

- Human Rights Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- Japan Law Society
- JD/MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Labor and Employment Law Society
- Latino/a Law Students Association
- Law and Economic Society
- Law and Internet Forum
- Law and Society
- Law and Technology Society
- Law, Inc.
- *Law Review*
- Law School Democrats
- Law School Film Fest
- Law School Musical
- Law School Republicans
- Law Students Association (LSA)
- Law Students for Human Dignity
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Women's Caucus
- Lawyers as Leaders
- Legal Forum
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Neighbors
- OutLaw
- Personal Finance Club
- The Phoenix (student newspaper)
- Public Interest Law Society
- Res Musicata
- Scales of Justice
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Spring Break of Service
- Streetlaw
- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Trivia Contest
- Vis Arbitration Moot Team
- Wine Mess
- Women's Mentoring Program
- Winston Churchill Gaming Society

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RANK

**6**

# NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

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## MAIN PHONE

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## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

212-998-6090

## WEBSITE

www.law.nyu.edu

## Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

Founded in 1835, New York University School of Law has a record of academic excellence and national scholarly influence. One of the first law schools to admit women, it has been long committed to welcoming students of diverse backgrounds.

Located on the University's campus in Greenwich Village, NYU Law has been a leader, and continues to be, in areas such as law and business, clinical education, public service, interdisciplinary colloquia and global studies. With more than 1,800 JD and LLM students, 365 courses, and 110 full-time faculty, there's a lot to take in at NYU Law. One way that NYU Law creates a unique academic community is through its centers and institutes, which bring faculty and students together with leaders from a vast array of disciplines.

NYU Law has a range of signature scholarship programs that provide not only full tuition, but also intensive mentoring to develop tomorrow's leaders. Furman Academic Scholars focus on future legal teaching careers; the Furman Academic Fellowship program allows recent NYU Law graduates to continue that focus even after earning a JD. Prospective students who want to pursue public interest can apply to the Root-Tilden-Kern Scholarship Program. AnBryce Scholars come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, and are among the first in their immediate families to seek a graduate degree.

A pacesetter in legal education, the Law School was singled out in a highly influential study of legal education by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a "laboratory for the testing of theories about how to best train legal professionals who are at once scholarly, competent, and ethically committed."

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

9.0:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	169-173	3.54-3.84
Median*	171	3.69

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>7</sup>

Approximate number of applications	6392
Number accepted	1783
Percentage accepted	27.9%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>8</sup>

New York University School of Law does not rank students and does not maintain records of cumulative averages for its students. For the specific purpose of awarding scholastic honors, however, unofficial cumulative averages are calculated by the Office of Records and Registration.

To a great degree, a student's final grade in many of the courses offered at NYU School of Law is dependent upon the grade received on the final examination. No grade is recorded for a course or section of a course in which the student is not officially registered and retroactive registration is not permitted.

The grading system used for JDs beginning Fall 1990 through summer 2008 was

A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C	2.00
D	1.00
F	0.00

The new grading system for JDs effective fall 2008 is

A+	4.33
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C	2.00

D	1.00
F	0.00

Other symbols used on Law School transcripts are:

**CR (Credit)**, which shows successful completion of participation in student publications or as teaching assistants (for JD students only). It may also specify a course in which a student has selected the Credit option rather than a grade.

**EXC (Excused)**, which reflects an absence from an examination that has been excused by the Office of the Vice Dean for a good cause.

**FAB (Fail/Absence)**, which denotes an unexcused absence from an examination.

**FX**, which denotes failure due to cheating or plagiarism or any other dishonest academic act.

**INC (Incomplete) /IP (In Progress)**, which is used in seminar courses, directed research, or similar study when the student has made prior arrangements with the instructor to submit work later than the end of the semester in which the course is given.

**WD (Withdrew)**, which denotes withdrawal in writing from a course.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)**

The new grading guidelines for JD students adopted effective fall 2008 represent the faculty's collective judgment that ordinarily the distribution of grades in any course will be within the limits suggested.

The guidelines for first-year JD courses are mandatory and binding on faculty members. In addition, the guidelines with respect to the A+ grade are mandatory in all courses. In all other cases, the guidelines are only advisory.

With the exception of the A+ rules, the guidelines do not apply at all to seminar courses, defined for this purpose to mean any course in which there are fewer than 28 students. In classes in which credit/fail grades are permitted, these percentages are calculated only using students taking the course for a letter grade. If there are fewer than 28 students taking the course for a letter grade, the guidelines do not apply.

	<b>First Year (Mandatory)</b>	<b>All Other JD (Non-Mandatory)</b>
A+	0-2% (target = 1%)	0-2% (target = 1%)
A	7-13% (target = 10%)	7-13% (target = 10%)
A-	16-24% (target = 20%)	16-24% (target = 20%)
Maximum for A tier	31%	31%
B+	22-30% (target = 26%)	22-30% (target = 26%)
Maximum grades above B	57%	57%
B	remainder	remainder
B-	4-8% (target = 6%)	4-11% (target = 7-8%)
C/D/F	0-5%	0-5%

The cap on the A+ grade is mandatory for all courses. However, at least one A+ can be awarded in any course. These rules apply even in courses, such as seminars, where fewer than 28 students are enrolled.

Normal statistical rounding rules apply for all purposes, so that percentages will be rounded up if they are above .5, and down if they are .5 or below. This means that, for example, in a typical first-year class of 89 students, 2 A+ grades could be awarded.

## Honors<sup>9</sup>

**Order of the Coif:** Both six-semester JDs and four-semester JDs (transfer students or students who spend two semesters as a visitor at another law school) are eligible for Order of the Coif. The number of students eligible to be in the top 10% of the class is computed based on the entire class, including four-semester JDs. Ten percent of the number of four-semester JDs is calculated, and that number is the maximum number of four-semester JDs eligible for Order of the Coif from among the top 10% of the entire class. The balance of the overall 10% number of slots is filled by six-semester JDs only.

Honor	Criteria
<i>summa cum laude</i>	To the very few students (if any in a particular year) who, in the judgment of the executive committee, have compiled truly outstanding academic records
<i>magna cum laude</i>	To graduates whose GPAs place them in the top 10% of their classes
<i>cum laude</i>	To graduates whose GPAs place them in the top 25% of their classes
Pomeroy Scholars	Top 10 first-year students, based on cumulative grades
Butler Scholars	Top 10 students, based on cumulative grades for four semesters
Florence Allen Scholars	Top 10% of students, based on cumulative grades for four semesters (other than Butler Scholars)
Robert McKay Scholars	Top 25% of students, based on cumulative grades for four semesters (other than Butler and Allen Scholars)

## Journals<sup>10-18</sup>

### Student Journals & Publications

**Annual Survey of American Law:** Founded in 1942, the New York University Annual Survey of American Law is a student-edited journal at New York University School of Law. *The Annual Survey* is NYU's second-oldest legal journal and was originally compiled by NYU faculty members as a comprehensive annual reference to developments in American law. Now a quarterly publication, the *Annual Survey* continues its dedication to exploring contemporary legal developments in the United States from a practice-oriented perspective. *Annual Survey* articles analyze emerging legal trends, interpret significant recent court decisions and legislation, and explain leading legal scholars' and judges' perspectives on current legal topics. The journal is widely distributed throughout the world, giving lawyers both inside and outside the United States insight into American law and legal issues.

**Journal of Intellectual Property & Entertainment Law:** *The Journal of Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law (JIPEL)* was started with the goal of encouraging scholarly discourse between academics, practitioners, and students interested in intellectual property and entertainment law topics. *JIPEL* publishes innovative content by publishing scholarly articles that address timely and cutting-edge topics in the world of intellectual property and entertainment law along with comments and criticism of those articles by industry professionals. As NYU's first and only online journal, *JIPEL* also provides an opportunity for discourse through comments from all of its readers.

**Journal of International Law & Politics:** This student-run online publication is devoted to commentary on contemporary issues in international and comparative law. Founded in 1968, the New York University *Journal of International Law and Politics* features articles on international legal topics by leading scholars and practitioners, as well as notes, case comments, and book annotations by Journal members. *JILP* publishes four issues per year on diverse topics in both public and private international law.

**Journal of Law & Business:** The NYU Journal of Law & Business (*JLB*) is one of NYU School of Law's most innovative academic journals, providing a forum for dialogue and analysis of current issues, ideas, and problems at the intersection of two dynamic fields: law and business. *The Journal* aims to contribute to academic scholarship, as well as the professional development of its readership, through the publication of pieces by both academics and practitioners. *The Journal* explores a number of general areas, including: bankruptcy and restructuring; capital markets and securities; corporate law and governance; foreign and international business law; hedge funds and private equity; and tax.

**Journal of Law & Liberty:** *The Journal of Law & Liberty* is the first student-edited law journal dedicated to the critical exploration of classical liberal ideas. *The journal* is dedicated to providing a forum for the debate of issues related to human freedom from both theoretical and practical standpoints. Its focus includes the nature of rules and order, theories of rights and liberty, legal history, jurisprudence, constitutional law, historical and contemporary legislation, and more. The breadth, coupled with the diversity of viewpoints among members of *the journal*, fosters a spirit of debate among journal members that is actively encouraged.

**Law Review:** Founded in 1924, the *New York University Law Review* is a generalist journal publishing legal scholarship in all areas, including legal theory and policy, environmental law, legal history, international law, and more. Each year, it publishes issues in April, May, June, October, November, and December. These six issues contain cutting-edge legal scholarship written by professors, judges, and legal practitioners, as well as Notes written by members of the *Law Review*. In November 2012, *the Law Review* launched the *New York University Law Review Online*, an online supplement to the print version of the *Law Review*.

**Review of Law & Social Change:** The *NYU Review of Law & Social Change* was "created to provide an outlet for student scholarship and analysis in areas of the law of particular interest to socially concerned attorneys." The commitment of the authors to social change is reflected in some of the topics the journal touches, such as ineffective assistance of counsel for the poor, tactics for squatters in abandoned New York City buildings, reformation of laws regarding retaliatory evictions, and the legality of maximum grant regulations for welfare recipients. Over the past thirty years, *Social Change* has grown in scope and stature. Originally an annual publication, *Social Change* now publishes four issues per year. In addition to publishing the work of NYU students, it also now publishes articles by nationally-recognized scholars, legal practitioners, and activists.

## **Faculty Journals & Publications**

**Clinical Law Review:** *The Clinical Law Review* is a semi-annual peer-edited journal devoted to issues of lawyering theory and clinical legal education. *The Review* is jointly sponsored by the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA), and New York University School of Law.

**Tax Law Review:** *The Tax Law Review (TLR)*, the premier law school journal for tax policy scholarship, is one of the few faculty-edited journals in the legal academy. The *TLR* publishes articles and essays by leading legal academics and practitioners as well as noted economists. The journal annually awards merit scholarships to six or seven students who serve as graduate editors, assisting the faculty editorial board. *The Tax Law Review* publishes four issues annually, one of which is devoted to an annual tax policy symposium.

## **Moot Court<sup>19, 20</sup>**

The New York University Moot Court Board is a student-run, honorary organization that combines legal scholarship with oral advocacy. Staff members are selected from the first-year class on the basis of a brief writing competition held in early spring. Each year, between 30 and 35 students out of approximately 150 applicants are offered positions on the board. As second-year students, Moot Court Board staff members, under the guidance of third-year editors, choose to join either the NYU Law Moot Court Casebook Division or the NYU Law Moot Court Competitions Division. In addition, the New York University Moot Court Board administers the annual Orison S. Marden Competition, one of the country's best-known intra-school moot court competitions.

*The NYU Moot Court Casebook*, published annually, is the most widely recognized and utilized set of moot court problems in the nation. (More than 110 law schools have current subscriptions.)

New York University School of Law is represented in a number of moot court competitions nationwide. Students participate in an oral advocacy and brief writing program that involves writing appellate briefs and arguing before a panel of moot court judges. The law school also participates in the National Moot Court Competition and the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

## **Clinical Programs<sup>21-23</sup>**

New York University School of Law's Jacob D. Fuchsberg Clinical Law Center has long been renowned for the quality of its faculty, the variety of its offerings, and the innovative structure of its curriculum. With 15 full-time clinical faculty and 39 clinics, NYU School of Law provides students with unparalleled experiences in working with clients and communities to address urgent problems, influence public policy, and improve the quality of legal problem-solving.

For twenty years, NYU Law has coordinated its much heralded first-year Lawyering Program, upper-level simulation courses, and fieldwork clinics in a carefully structured pedagogical construct of sequenced, dynamic learning. The Lawyering Program introduces students to a sophisticated theory of legal problem-solving. Grounded in this model, students in the Law School's second- and third-year clinics work with clients and communities on intensely demanding cases, projects, and deals.

Clinics advance the instruction to which students already have been exposed, diversify the skill sets available for effective legal problem solving, and deepen an increasingly coherent sense of how lawyers might best do their work. At the same time, clinics exhort students to appreciate just how much they must grow over the course of their careers. Problems evolve, and so must problem solvers if they are to become and remain expert in the practice of law. A distinctive feature of NYU School of Law's clinics is that the faculty who teach them are tenured or tenure track professors whose sole professional interest is the research and teaching they do at the Law School. The faculty-student ratio in clinical courses is extremely low (typically, a clinical faculty member teaches 8 to 10 students), in order to ensure students the intensive experience that the best of clinics should deliver.

New York University School of Law offers the following year-long clinics:

- Civil Rights Clinic
- Community Reentry and Reintegration Clinic
- Constitutional Transitions Clinic and Colloquium: The Middle East Revolutions (for JDs)
- Criminal and Community Defense Clinic
- Employment and Housing Discrimination Clinic
- Family Defense Clinic
- Federal Defender Clinic
- Immigrant Rights Clinic
- Juvenile Defender Clinic

New York University School of Law also offers the following one semester-long clinics:

- Brennan Center Public Policy Advocacy Clinic
- Business Law Transactions Clinic
- Children's Rights Clinic
- Community Development and Economic Justice Clinic
- Comparative Criminal Justice Clinic: Focus on Domestic Violence
- Constitutional Transitions Clinic and Colloquium: The Middle East Revolutions (for LLMs)
- Criminal Appellate Defender Clinic
- Environmental Law Clinic
- Equal Justice and Defender Clinic
- Global Justice Clinic
- Government Civil Litigation Clinic - Eastern District of New York
- Government Civil Litigation Clinic - Southern District of New York
- Immigrant Defense Clinic
- International Environmental Law Clinic
- International Organizations Clinic
- The Legal Ethics Bureau at NYU Law School
- Legislative and Regulatory Process Clinic
- LGBT Rights Clinic
- Litigation, Organizing and Systemic Change Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Mediation Clinic - Advanced: Dispute System Design
- Medical-Legal Advocacy Clinic

- New York Civil Liberties Clinic
- Prosecution Clinic - Eastern District of New York
- Prosecution Clinic - Southern District of New York
- Racial Justice Clinic
- Regulatory Policy Clinic
- Reproductive Justice and Women's Equality
- Tax Clinic
- Technology Law and Policy Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>24</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$53,500

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	93.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	93.8%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed	In Percentage
Law Firms	53.8%
Business and Industry	4.9%
Government	8.3%
Public Interest Organizations	18.2%
Judicial Clerkships	14.3%
Academia	0.2%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>25</sup>

### Internships

NYU offers two special internship programs for students interested in international law and public service, and a third program for those working in environmental and land use law. The Dedicated International Fellowships, coordinated by the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice, provide internships with the UN's International Law Commission and with human rights organizations around the world. The Law School also sponsors an International Summer Internship at The Hague Conference on Private International Law. In addition, the Center for Environmental and Land Use Law has a summer fellowship program for students.

## **Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>**

- African Law Association
- AGL-NYU Mentoring Program
- Alternative Breaks
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Anti-Trafficking Advocacy Coalition (ATAC)
- Art Law Society
- Asia Law Society
- Asian-Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Allied Law Students Association (BALSA)
- Christian Legal Fellowship
- Class of 2014 Graduation Gift
- Coalition on Law & Representation (CoLR)
- The Commentator
- Competition, Public Policy, and Development Society
- Deans' Cup
- Debtor's Rights Project
- Defenders Collective
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Project (DVAP)
- Education Law and Policy Society
- English as a Second Language
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federalist Society
- Food Law
- Health Law and Policy Society (HLPS)
- High School Law Institute (HSLI)
- HIV Law Society
- Intellectual Property & Entertainment Law Society (IPELS)
- International Arbitration Association (IAA)
- International Law Society (ILS)
- I-PREP
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- JD/MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Know Your Rights Project (KYRP)
- Latino Law Students Association (LaLSA)
- Law & Business Association
- Law and Film Society (LaFS)
- Law and Government Society
- Law and Social Entrepreneurship Association (LSEA)
- Law Revue
- Law Students for Economic Justice (LawSEJ, formerly Practice)
- Law Students for Human Rights (LSHR)

- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Women
- Learned Foot
- Legal Outreach
- Media Law Collaborative
- Mental Health Law Association (MHLA)
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild (NLG)
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- NYU Law Democrats
- NYU Law Rugby
- NYU Mediation Organization (NMO)
- Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Open Meditation and Yoga Association (OM)
- OUTLaw
- PORTMANTEAU
- Prisoners' Rights & Education Project (PREP)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Public Service Auction
- Real Estate & Urban Policy Forum
- Recent College Graduate Mentors
- Research, Education & Advocacy to Combat Homelessness (REACH)
- Running from the Law
- Students for the Education and Representation of Veterans (SERV)
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Southern Connection
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Lawyer Athletic Program (SLAP)
- Substantial Performance
- Supreme Court Reading Group (SCRG)
- Suspension Representation Project (SRP)
- Transfer Student Committee
- Trial Advocacy Society
- Unemployment Action Center (UAC)
- West Coast Connection (WCC)
- Women of Color Collective (WoCC)

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RANK  
**7**

# UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW SCHOOL

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215-898-7493



## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

Philadelphia is the birthplace of the US Constitution. Millions around the globe are inspired by the decisions made here, which laid the bedrock foundation for the American legal system. James Wilson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, framer of the Constitution and member of the first U.S. Supreme Court, in 1790 delivered the University of Pennsylvania's first lectures in law to President George Washington and all the members of his Cabinet.

Following this auspicious beginning, Penn began offering a full-time program in law in 1850, under the leadership of George Sharswood, an innovator in legal education. Since that time, Penn Law has been at the forefront of legal education in the country. The University of Pennsylvania remains an eminent, world-class institution for the creation and dissemination of knowledge, serving as a model for colleges and universities throughout the world.

Penn's rich heritage is reflected in its landscape, where a vibrant, 302-acre, urban campus boasts more than 200 buildings and many notable landmarks, including Houston Hall, the nation's first student union; Franklin Field, the country's first double-decked college football stadium; and 165 research centers and institutes.

Penn Law's distinctive emphasis on cross-disciplinary education embraces a University-wide ideal of "integrating knowledge." Penn Law's academic programs are fully integrated with other professional and graduate schools on campus, providing students an unparalleled opportunity to prepare for careers that engage virtually every major issue facing our society. Cross-disciplinary joint- and dual-degrees and certificates in 35 areas of study – including business, medicine, science and technology, human rights and education – equip future lawyers with knowledge in the ever-expanding number of fields in which their clients operate.

The University of Pennsylvania Law School's Biddle Law Library serves the Law School's faculty and students, the University community, and the regional legal community. Two-thirds of the one million volumes in its collection consists of American primary materials (cases, statutes, regulations, etc.) and secondary sources such as journals, scholarly monographs, loose-leaf services, and federal legislative histories.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.3:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	164-171	3.55-3.94
Median*	170	3.87

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications	5848
Number accepted	907
Percentage accepted	15.5%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

University of Pennsylvania Law School students are not ranked in class. The school hence advises employers to be careful when comparing grades of Penn students with that of students of other schools. The school observes that its students are admitted under very competitive standards. However, its mandatory first year curve requires that some students fall into all grade categories.

The Law School's grading system consists of A, A-, B+, B, B-, C and F grades, with a rare A+ awarded for distinguished performance. The 1L Legal Writing course is graded on an honors/pass/fail basis.

The school encourages employers to consider additional qualifications when evaluating its students and not just the grades. The students' academic excellence should be kept in mind when considering their grades, both in comparison with their classmates and with their peers at other law schools.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>

The A+ grade is only rarely awarded. In any given semester, only a handful of students will achieve more than two A grades while, due to the mandatory nature of its grading curve, students will receive B and C grades. The mandatory curve requires that some students fall into all grade categories.

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving
Order of the Coif	10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Approx. 1-2%

<i>magna cum laude</i>	Approx. 15%
<i>cum laude</i>	Approx. 30%

## Awards<sup>13, 14</sup>

Thirty-four awards for a variety of accomplishments are awarded at Commencement.

**The Barenkopf Scholarship** goes to the rising 3L with the best academic record at the University of Pennsylvania Law School for the first two years of the JD program. Only those who have completed all graded course work by June 1 of their second year will be eligible for the Scholarship.

## Journals<sup>15-21</sup>

Penn Law has a proud tradition of excellent journal scholarship. Its six journals have each been recognized nationally for their high level of scholarship, integrity, and value to the profession. In addition, students who become members on these journals find that it provides an invaluable experience both in substantive law and skills in research, analysis and expression.

**Law Review:** Originally published in 1852 as *The American Law Register*, the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* is the nation's oldest and among the nation's most distinguished and influential.

*The Law Review* has both a professional and an educational mission. It serves the legal profession, the bench, the bar, and the academy by providing a forum for the publication of original legal research of the highest quality. *The Journal* accepts and scrutinizes approximately 2,000 written submissions annually to select approximately twelve articles in each volume.

**Journal of Business Law:** *The University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law* is an expansion of the University of Pennsylvania *Journal of Business and Employment Law*, which has published cutting-edge business and employment scholarship for more than a decade. Founded in 1997, the *Journal* publishes articles and comments on a broad range of business law topics including corporate governance, securities regulation, capital market regulation, employment law and the law of mergers and acquisitions.

*The Journal of Business Law* is published in three standard issues and one symposium issue each year.

**East Asia Law Review:** The *East Asia Law Review* is committed to addressing current cutting-edge legal developments in East Asia by providing a forum for scholars and students to contribute to the development of legal affairs in the region. To this end the law school publishes and distributes a cutting-edge journal and hosts a variety of events within the Penn legal community in an effort to inform peers and colleagues about recent developments in East Asian jurisprudence.

**Journal of Constitutional Law:** The *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law* provides a forum for the interdisciplinary study of and rigorous analysis of constitutional law. To that end, *The Journal* cultivates innovative scholarship, promotes critical perspectives, and reinvents the traditional study of constitutional law.

To encourage dialogue about the Constitution within and between diverse communities, *The Journal* hosts an annual symposium and publishes via both print and electronic media.

**Journal of International Law:** *The Journal of International Law*, formerly the *Journal of International Economic Law*, has broadened its focus to explore all issues at the forefront of general international law, but retains its strength as a leading journal of international business and economic law.

*JIL* now publishes scholarship on diverse issues ranging from international economic law to international human rights and environmental regulation. *The Journal* continues to work with preeminent authors on articles regarding private international transactions, international governmental regulation, and empirical research on the effects of international law on world economies. One issue per year is devoted to scholarship arising from the annual *JIL* Symposium.

**Journal of Law and Social Change:** *The Journal of Law and Social Change* is a progressive, student-run journal and seminar that espouses an interdisciplinary scholarly approach to challenge social injustice. *JLASC* is unique among Penn Law journals both in its mission and process. All journal members participate in journal decision-making by collectively reviewing, selecting and editing each piece of scholarship.

## Moot Court<sup>22, 23</sup>

Penn Law students participate in numerous moot court competitions locally and across the country.

The Law School's in-house moot court program, The Keedy Preliminaries, is open to all 2Ls. The winners of that competition become the Keedy Cup teams, the next highest placing group become members of the National Moot Court Competition team, and the next group are asked to join the Moot Court Board.

A number of external moot court competitions are also held around the country each year.

Some of the Moot Court Competitions available to students of Penn Law School include:

- ABA Arbitration Competition
- ABA Client Counseling Competition
- ALA's National Moot Court Competition
- Asylum & Refugee Law National Moot Court Competition
- August A. Rendigs, Jr. National Products Liability Moot Court Competition
- Billings, Exum & Frye National Moot Court Competition
- Capitol City Challenge Mock Trial Competition
- Cardozo/BMI Entertainment and Communications Law Moot Court Competition
- Charleston School of Law National Moot Court Competition
- Conrad B. Duberstein Moot Court Competition
- D. M. Harish Memorial Government Law College International Moot Court Competition
- Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Competition
- European Law Moot Court Competition
- Evan A. Evans Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition
- First Amendment Moot Court Competition
- Foreign Direct Investment International Moot Competition

- Gabrielli National Family Law Moot Court Competition
- Immigration Law Moot Court Competition
- Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition
- John J. Gibbons National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition
- Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition
- Monroe E. Price Media Law Moot Court Competition
- Mugel National Tax Moot Court Competition
- National Animal Law Competitions
- National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- National Ethics Trial Competition
- National Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition
- National Moot Court Competition in Child Welfare & Adoption Law
- National White Collar Crime Mock Trial Competition
- Pace Law School National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- Robert R. Merhige, Jr. National Environmental Negotiation Competition
- Ruby R. Vale Interschool Moot Court Competition
- Student Trial Advocacy Competition
- Sutherland Cup Moot Court Competition
- Thurgood A. Marshall Memorial Moot Court Competition
- Uvaldo Herrera National Moot Court Competition
- Williams Institute Moot Court Competition on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law

### Clinical Programs<sup>24-34</sup>

Penn Law Clinics are specially designed to help students develop core lawyering competencies – drawn from challenging experiential learning opportunities in litigation, business transactions, child advocacy, mediation, legislation, interdisciplinary practice, international lawyering, appellate lawyering, and IP and technology law. Under the close supervision of the Clinic's expert faculty, students hone their skills in a firm environment while serving the community, the nation, and the world.

**Civil Practice Clinic:** The Civil Practice Clinic is where students represent indigent clients in state and federal courts and have an opportunity to develop their litigation skills under faculty supervision. Students enrolled in the course join the law school's teaching law firm, the Penn Legal Assistance Office. Here, students who have completed three semesters of law school are certified by state and federal courts to represent clients with real legal matters.

Some of the activities that Civil Practice Clinic students engage in:

- Interview and counsel clients
- Develop case strategies and theories, conduct fact investigations and manage client expectations
- Draft pleadings
- Engage in discovery and conduct depositions
- Negotiate with opposing parties
- Provide actual representation in court proceedings and administrative hearings
- Hone their communication, organizational and collaboration skills while working in a team with other another clinic student

**The Criminal Defense Clinic:** The Criminal Defense Clinic, in partnership with the Defender Association of Philadelphia, combines hands-on trial experience with an educational seminar component tailored to developing litigation skills.

Students try cases in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas and the Philadelphia Municipal Court under the close supervision of a senior trial attorney from the Defender Association of Philadelphia. Students first receive an intensive introduction into trial techniques, Pennsylvania criminal law, procedure and evidence. During this period students are also assigned mock cases to help prepare them before their first court appearance, in addition to observing actual preliminary arraignments, preliminary hearings, and trials.

Students are then assigned to represent defendants in different cases, under close supervision. They interview and counsel clients, develop case theories, negotiate with opposing parties, prepare pretrial motions, and conduct misdemeanor trials and preliminary hearings for felony cases. Students are given the opportunity to interact with their clients, members of the judiciary, District Attorneys, witnesses and complainants.

**Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic:** Founded in 1981 with Wharton, Penn Law's Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic (ELC) provides pro bono transactional legal services to Philadelphia area entrepreneurs and businesses.

**Detkin Intellectual Property and Technology Legal Clinic:** The Detkin Intellectual Property and Technology Legal Clinic ("IPC") immerses students in a transactional interdisciplinary IP law practice.

The IPC provides pro bono transactional patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret services to individuals, non-profit and for-profit clients in technology and the arts. The Clinic is groundbreaking in establishing a unique relationship with Penn's Center for Technology Transfer (CTT) and tapping into the resources of Penn's strong network of professional schools (including the Schools of Engineering, Medicine, Business [Wharton], Arts and Sciences, and other Penn departments and programs).

**The Child Advocacy Clinic:** Founded 1983, the Clinic works in collaboration with Penn's Schools of Medicine and Social Policy & Practice, and with Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

The Child Advocacy Clinic is truly an innovative, interdisciplinary clinical seminar that teams law students, medical students, and social work students to study the legal system's response to the problem of children not adequately cared for by their families in an interdisciplinary context, and to represent children in the role of Child Advocate in Dependency Court proceedings.

Students represent their clients in court hearings (under "student practice" rules of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court), participate in developing a plan to serve the child's best interest, and in assuring that the plan is carried out through a variety of interactions with parents, the Department of Human Services (DHS), and various service providers.

**Legislative Clinic:** Founded in 1997, the Legislative Clinic is one of only a handful of law school clinical programs in the nation devoted exclusively to legislative lawyering and the formation of public policy. The Clinic combines federal legislative fieldwork in Congress with a classroom seminar involving academic readings, simulations, guest speakers, and legislative drafting exercises.

In their field work, students engage in a broad range of legislative activity, including

- Drafting proposed legislation
- Preparing legislators and staff for important committee hearings and meetings with lobbyists
- Conducting research and analysis in order to develop legislative solutions to public policy issues and individual constituent concerns

Through the combination of classroom and field work, students gain a deeper understanding of federal and state legislative process, legislative drafting, theories of statutory interpretation, constitutional restrictions on lawmaking, legislative advocacy, lobbying accountability and disclosure, and ethical issues confronting legislative lawyers – and they have a unique opportunity to be directly involved with some of the most important public policy issues of our time.

**Mediation Clinic:** Founded in 1986, Penn Law's Mediation Clinic was one of the first real case programs of its kind in the nation. With its cutting-edge technology-based instruction and breadth of sophisticated faculty-supervised fieldwork, it has maintained its preeminent place as a national model for mediation courses. The Mediation Clinic focuses on developing students' skills and addresses the role and ethical issues in the mediation function. But, in the process, it teaches much more. By the end of the course students learn a great deal about listening and empathizing, dispassionately evaluating cases for litigation and advising clients in that realm, identifying solutions to problems and negotiating effectively, presiding over a meeting - in short, the skills that all lawyers need and that clients value.

**Supreme Court Clinic:** Founded in 2009, the Supreme Court Clinic was the first in the nation to closely integrate practical experience on Supreme Court matters with a semester-long academic seminar on the workings of the Court. Clinic students assist on real Supreme Court cases, including recruiting, strategizing, researching, writing briefs, and participating in moot court rehearsals that are held before oral arguments at One First Street.

**Transnational Legal Clinic:** Students engage in the direct representation of clients and organizations in international human rights and immigration proceedings in the Transnational Legal Clinic, Penn Law's international human rights and immigration clinic. Since its founding in 2006, students have represented individuals seeking asylum and other forms of immigration relief from across the globe and have worked alongside and on behalf of international human rights and community-based organizations before regional and international human rights mechanisms on a range of rights-based issues, particularly as they relate to migrants and internally-displaced persons.

**Lawyering in the Public Interest:** Lawyering in the Public Interest is an innovative upper-class Seminar designed to enrich the Law School curriculum by integrating theory and academic analysis with practice themes emerging from students' public interest work experiences during law school. Through contemporary readings, court observations, guest speakers, film and in-class exercises, students utilize clinical methods to actively explore the difficult challenges inherent in public interest lawyering.

## Placement Facts<sup>35</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$130,000-\$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$58,376

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	83.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	91.2%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	68.3%
Business and Industry	6.9%
Government	4.2%
Public Interest Organizations	3.8%
Judicial Clerkships	15.6%
Academia	1.1%
Unknown	0.0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>36-39</sup>

### Externships

The Law School's unique geographic location offers students unparalleled externship opportunities to be at the forefront of legal practice in the nation's most prominent government offices and non-profit organizations. Students earn academic credit while gaining valuable experience under close supervision in a wide array of placements. Students meet regularly with their externship supervisors to receive feedback on the important legal work they perform at their placement site. Most externships are open to second and third year students; third year students are given enrollment priority.

Externships are intended to offer students in-depth study in substantive areas, supplement experiential study provided in clinical courses, and explore experiential study of subjects or activities not currently offered experientially in the curriculum. Through such study, the program hopes to enhance the development of a broad range of lawyering skills, advance personal career goals, enable critical reflection of the legal profession and legal institutions, encourage self-directed learning through reflection, and promote core competencies and professional values that produce skilled and ethical lawyers and professionals in our society.

Students have participated in these externships over recent years:

- ACLU of Pennsylvania
- Aids Law Project of PA
- Community Legal Services
- Death Penalty Litigation at the Capital Habeas Unit of the Federal Defenders Office
- Delaware River Keeper
- Federal Appellate Litigation (in partnership with the Dechert Law Firm)
- Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Federal Public Defender (Camden, NJ)
- IRS Office of Chief Counsel (Philadelphia Office)
- Maryland Office of the Attorney General (Economic Crimes Division)
- Mazzoni Center (Legal Services Department)
- Montgomery County District Attorney's Office
- National Labor Relations Board New York City Law Department
- NY Attorney General's Office
- Office of the General Counsel (University of Pennsylvania & Temple University)
- Open Society Justice Initiative (New York)
- PA Human Relations Commission
- Philadelphia District Attorney's Office
- Philadelphia Law Department (Labor & Employment Unit)
- Philadelphia Legal Assistance
- The Pennsylvania Innocence Project
- U.S. Attorney's Office
- U.S. Attorney's Office (Delaware)
- U.S. Attorney's Office (ED NY) US Department of Commerce
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission (Philadelphia Office)
- U.S. State Department – Office of Legal Adviser
- Women's Law Project

### **Internships**

The law school offers a summer internship program. Its Public Interest Funding Program is an integral part of the school's public service programming. The law school provides at least partial funding to more than 100 law students who wish to undertake public interest work in U.S. government, nonprofit organizations, and public interest law firms. Resources for summer scholarships are bolstered by the student-organized annual Equal Justice Foundation Auction, a lively evening event that draws faculty, students, alumni, and Philadelphians to bid on numerous exciting items – all for a great cause.

**International Summer Human Rights Fellowship Program (ISHRF):** This program supports JD students to work in non-governmental organizations, organs of the United Nations, regional inter-governmental bodies, and government offices involved directly in the provision of human rights services. To complement the Law School's course offerings and clinical opportunities in human rights, Penn Law provides students with opportunities to gain first-hand experience in promoting and protecting human rights abroad. The ISHRF program puts students in direct contact with the people and organizations that are at the forefront of cutting edge advocacy and litigation on behalf of victims of human rights abuses.

Through the ISHRF program, Penn Law students have worked around the world on issues ranging from women's rights to rule of law development to criminal law reform and international prosecution of human rights violations. Recent fellowship sites include Argentina, Cambodia, Ecuador, Guatemala, India, Namibia, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Tajikistan, Tanzania, The Hague, Uganda, and Venezuela

**Penn Law International Internship Program (PLIIP):** Each summer PLIIP places students in internship positions at local law firms around the world, giving students cross-cultural experience and a better understanding of foreign legal practice. By utilizing the law school's exceptional network of international alumni and professional connections, Penn Law is able to offer pre-selected internship opportunities with preeminent law firms around the globe. PLIIP emphasizes internships in foreign firms, rather than the foreign offices of American or multinational firms.

## Student Organizations<sup>40</sup>

- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Asian Pacific American Law Student Assoc. (APALSA)
- Beyond a Reasonable Stout
- Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Civ Throw - Penn Law Ultimate Frisbee
- Civil Rights Law Project
- Council of Student Representatives (CSR)
- Custody and Support Assistance Clinic (CASAC)
- Eastern European Law Student Association (EELSA)
- Employment Advocacy Project
- Entertainment and Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law Project (ELP)
- Equal Justice Foundation (EJF)
- Federalist Society
- Feminist Working Group
- Geeky Law Students
- Graduate and Professional Student Association
- Guild Food Stamp Clinic
- Health Law Group
- Health Law and Policy Project (HeLPP)
- Immigrant Rights Project
- International Human Rights Advocates
- International Law Organization (ILO)
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jessup International Moot Court Team
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Joint Tenants Society
- L.E.A.R.N.
- Lambda Law

- Latin American Law Students Assoc. (LALSA)
- Law School Light Opera Company (LSLO)
- Law and Entrepreneurship Organization (LEO)
- Law and the Brain
- Legal Education Partnership
- Maimonides Penn Law
- Marshall Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Mincha Minyan
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers Guild
- Penn Advocates for the Homeless
- Penn Biotech Group (PBG)
- Penn Housing Rights Project
- Penn Intellectual Property Group (PIPG)
- Penn Law Association for Law in the Arts
- Penn Law Basketball League
- Penn Law Bioethics Society
- Penn Law Bowling League
- Penn Law Boxing Club
- Penn Law Careers in Academia
- Penn Law Catholic Student Association
- Penn Law Cycling Club
- Penn Law Democrats
- Penn Law Energy Club
- Penn Law Fiber Arts Club (PLFA)
- Penn Law Flag Football
- Penn Law Golf Club
- Penn Law Gun Club
- Penn Law Immigrants Rights Project
- Penn Law International Human Rights Advocates (IHRA)
- Penn Law JD/MBA
- Penn Law Mock Trial Team
- Penn Law Movie Club
- Penn Law National Security Society
- Penn Law Real Estate Club
- Penn Law Sailing Club
- Penn Law Soccer Club
- Penn Law Softball
- Penn Law Squash Club
- Penn Law Students for Life
- Penn Law Tennis Club
- Penn Law Weightlifting
- Penn Law Wine and Food Club
- Penn Law Women's Association (PLWA)
- Penn Law and the Arts

- Penn Law for Animal Rights Awareness
  - Penn Law for Reproductive Justice (Penn Law for Choice)
  - Prisoners' Education and Advocacy Project (PEAP)
  - Public Interest Mentoring Initiative (PIMI)
  - RegBlog
  - Reproductive Rights Law Project
  - Servicemembers and Veterans Legal Assistance Project
  - South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
  - Sparer Public Interest Law Conference
  - Street Law
  - Students Against Gender-Based Exploitation (SAGE)
  - Subject to Change
  - United Law Students of Color Council (ULSCC)
  - University of Pennsylvania East Asia Law Review
  - University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law
  - University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law (JCL)
  - University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law (JIL)
  - University of Pennsylvania Journal of Law and Social Change (JLAS)
  - University of Pennsylvania Law Review
  - University of Pennsylvania Law School Dog Lovers Association
  - Urban Law Forum
  - Urban Ventures Project
  - With All Deliberate Speed (The Penn Law Running Club)
  - Women's Legal Assistance Project
  - Work it!
  - Y'allsa
  - Yoga Practice at Penn

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RANK

7

# UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA SCHOOL OF LAW

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
434-924-7349



## Overview<sup>5,6</sup>

Founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1819, the University Of Virginia School Of Law is a world-renowned training ground for distinguished lawyers and public servants. Consistently ranked among the top law schools in the nation, Virginia has educated generations of lawyers, instilling in them a commitment to leadership, integrity and community service.

The school is justly famous for its collegial environment that bonds students and faculty, and student satisfaction is consistently cited as among the highest in American law schools. At Virginia, law students share their experiences in a cooperative spirit, both in and out of the classroom, and build a network that lasts well beyond their three years here.

With more than 20,000 students and a faculty of more than 2,100, the University of Virginia has been ranked first or second among the nation's public universities since 1984. The University's diverse intellectual life is open to law students: Up to 12 credits from other departments may be counted toward the JD degree.

The Arthur J. Morris Law Library collects an expansive array of materials to support the curriculum and the research interests of faculty members and students at the School of Law. The collections include print and online legal materials and rare materials including books and manuscripts in print and digitized formats.

Surrounded by inviting gardens and an elegant, tree-lined lawn, the Law School reflects Jefferson's conviction that locating an intellectual community within a beautiful environment fosters learning and personal growth.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.9:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	164-171	3.53-3.93
Median*	170	3.87

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications	6,062
Number accepted	920
Percentage accepted	15.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10-12</sup>

The Law School does not use or disclose class rank except for limited purposes, such as determination of specific academic awards. Grades in each course are awarded to an enforced mean. Instructors ensure that grades have an adequate distribution around this mean.

Under the current grading system, there are 10 possible grades that can be used by the faculty in evaluating performance in courses and seminars: A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, D and F. In a few select courses, the grades S (Satisfactory) and U (Unsatisfactory), or CR (Credit) and NC (No Credit) are awarded. No credit will be awarded for a course in which a student receives an F, NC, U, W (Withdrawn) or WF (Withdrawn Failing) grade. The grades U and NC are treated as F grades for all purposes.

The numerical grade point values for letter grades are as follows:

Letter Grade	Value
A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
D	1.0
F	0.0

Candidates for the JD degree must accumulate 86 credits while satisfying two conditions: a student must maintain a minimum grade point average of C+ (2.3) and accumulate fewer than three exclusion points at the conclusion of each academic year. A grade of D carries one exclusion point and a grade of F carries two exclusion points.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)**

It is the intent of the faculty that, for the purpose of allocating grades in a course or seminar and to assist in achieving grade uniformity, the mean grade for each course and seminar will be a 3.3. However, there is no particular grading curve to which a faculty member must adhere. Thus, the mean can be achieved either by averaging relatively high and low grades or by having most grades grouped more closely around the B+ (3.3) mean.

### **Honors<sup>13</sup>**

Each year the Order of the Coif extends invitations to the top 10% of graduating JD students.

### **Awards<sup>14</sup>**

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Bracewell & Giuliani Oral Advocacy Awards	One student from each first-year for outstanding appellate brief and one student from each first-year for outstanding oral advocacy.
Mortimer Caplin Public Service Award	A graduating student who is entering a career in the public service sector and who demonstrates the qualities of leadership, integrity and service to others.
Mortimer Caplin Public Service Fellowship	Exceptional law students who accept low-paying or unpaid public service internships during the summer.
Edwin S. Cohen Tax Prize	The graduating student who has demonstrated, by the sustained excellence of his or her performance in tax courses, superior scholarship in the tax area.
Claire Corcoran Award	One or two second-year students who have demonstrated the most commitment to public interest work.
Hardy Cross Dillard Prize	The author of the best student note in a current volume of the <i>Virginia Journal of International Law</i> .
Hardy Cross Dillard Scholarship	An exceptional member of the entering class based on – in addition to financial need – prior academic achievement, leadership, integrity, service to others, success in endeavors outside the classroom and maturity.
Linda Fairstein Public Service Fellowship	Exceptional law students who accept low-paying or unpaid public service internships during the summer.
Carl M. Franklin Prize	The student with the highest grade point average at the end of his or her first year of law school.
Robert E. Goldsten ('40) Award	The student who has, in the opinion of the faculty, contributed the most to classroom participation.

Eppa Hunton IV Memorial Book Award	A third-year student who has demonstrated unusual aptitude in litigation courses and shown a keen awareness and understanding of the lawyer's ethical and professional responsibility.
Margaret G. Hyde Award	An outstanding member of the graduating class whose scholarship, character, personality, activities in the affairs of the school and promise of efficiency have, in the opinion of the law faculty, entitled him or her to special recognition.
Jackson Walker LLP Award	The student who has attained the highest grade point average in his or her class after four semesters.
Robert F. Kennedy Award for Public Service	The graduate who, during his or her Law School years, best exemplifies the ideals of the late Senator.
Herbert L. Kramer/Herbert Bangel Community Service Award	A third-year student who has contributed the most to the community during law school.
Law School Alumni Association Best Note Award	The member of the graduating class who wrote the best note in a current issue of a Law School publication.
Thomas Marshall Miller Prize	An outstanding and deserving member of the graduating class selected by the faculty.
Monroe Leigh Fellowship in International Law	One or two students to pursue a public international law project of their own choosing during the summer following their first, second or third year.
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	An outstanding woman in the graduating class.
John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics	The graduate or graduates who have produced outstanding work in the field of law and economics.
Powell Fellowship in Legal Services	A graduating student or to a judicial clerk to enable him or her to work in public interest law and to enhance the delivery of legal services to the poor under the sponsorship of a public interest organization.
Pro Bono Award	The student who exhibits the most extraordinary commitment to pro bono legal service during his or her years at the Law School.
Pro Bono Service Awards	Graduates who have successfully fulfilled the requirements of the Law School's Pro Bono Program.
Mary Claiborne and Roy H. Ritter Prizes	Two female and two male members of the second-year class. The prize is applied against each recipient's tuition during his or her final year of study.
Rosenbloom Award	A student with a strong academic record who has significantly enhanced the academic experience of other law students by volunteering support and assistance to them.
Shannon Award	The student with the highest academic record after five semesters.

Earle K. Shawe Labor Relations Award	The graduating student who shows the greatest promise of becoming a successful practitioner in the field of labor relations.
James M. Shoemaker, Jr., Moot Court Awards	The final-round participants in the William Minor Lile Moot Court competition.
James C. Slaughter Honor Award	An outstanding member of the graduating class.
Stephen Pierre Traynor Award	The participant in the final round of the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition who, in the opinion of the judges of the final round, presents the best oral argument.
Roger and Madeleine Traynor Prize	The best written work by two graduating students.
Trial Advocacy Award	A graduating student who best exemplifies the attributes of an effective trial lawyer.
Virginia State Bar Family Law Book Award	The graduating student who has demonstrated the most promise and potential for the practice of family law.

## Journals<sup>15</sup>

**Journal of Law & Politics:** The *Journal of Law & Politics* is the first and only nonpartisan publication devoted exclusively to examining the interaction between law and politics. Founded in 1982 under the guidance of then-Circuit Judge Antonin Scalia, this interdisciplinary publication consists of articles, essays, and commentaries by scholars, practitioners and national political leaders.

**Virginia Journal of Criminal Law:** The *Virginia Journal of Criminal Law*, created in 2010, publishes scholarly articles on criminal law and procedure twice yearly. The journal also sponsors legal symposia and conferences.

**Virginia Environmental Law Journal (VELJ):** VELJ is dedicated to providing a national forum for research and discussion in the areas of environmental and natural resource law. Published quarterly by Law School students, the journal includes articles by scholars, practitioners and environmental professionals, as well as student notes, on a broad array of topics from environmental justice to corporate liability.

**Virginia Journal of International Law (VJIL):** As the oldest continuously published, student-edited law review in the United States devoted exclusively to the fields of public and private international law, the *Virginia Journal of International Law* is considered by many to be the finest and most authoritative journal of its kind. Positions on the journal's editorial board are open to all students in the Law School and in other schools of the University who successfully complete a written tryout that is conducted every spring and fall.

**Virginia Journal of Law & Technology (VJoLT):** UVA Law's only e-journal, *VJoLT*, provides a forum for students, professors and practitioners to discuss emerging issues at the intersection of law and technology. Recent issues of the journal have included articles on biotechnology, telecommunications, e-commerce, Internet privacy and encryption.

**Virginia Journal of Social Policy & the Law:** This journal is a student-edited law journal which publishes articles exploring the intersection of law and social policy issues. Recognizing the significance of the law and legal institutions on social conditions, the journal provides a forum in which to examine contending legal,

judicial and political perspectives. Among the issues the journal addresses are: health care policy, welfare reform, criminal justice, voting rights, civil rights, family law, employment law, gender issues, education and critical race theory.

**Virginia Law & Business Review:** *The Virginia Law & Business Review* is a premier journal of business law scholarship. It is published three times a year. The student-editors are members of the Virginia Law & Business Review Association, a not-for-profit corporation chartered in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The journal addresses accounting, antitrust law, bankruptcy law, commercial law, corporations law, corporate finance, corporate governance, employment law, mergers and acquisitions, real estate law, securities regulation, secured transactions, takeover litigation, venture capital financing and other corporate law subjects.

**Virginia Law Review:** *The Virginia Law Review (VLR)* is a journal of general legal scholarship that publishes eight times a year.

**Virginia Sports & Entertainment Law Journal (VaSE)** - VaSE focuses on all aspects of both sports and entertainment law. Published biannually by the students and the law school, the journal features articles written by sports and entertainment law professors, as well as those written by experienced practitioners in the sports and entertainment law fields.

**Virginia Tax Review (VTR):** VTR is published four times each year and focuses primarily on federal and international taxation, as well as pure business legal issues. Founded in 1980, it is one of the oldest student-run law journals at the University Of Virginia School Of Law and is regarded as a top tax specialty journal. The journal encourages participation by students interested in tax or general corporate law.

## Moot Court<sup>16</sup>

Students compete in appellate moot court and trial advocacy competitions nationwide, and the law school also is home to one of the most famous moot court competitions.

### William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition

About 150 second-year students, competing in two-person teams, hone their oral argument skills in the annual William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition. Distinguished federal and state judges preside in the semifinal and final rounds. Winners receive a cash prize and their names are inscribed on a plaque located outside the three moot courtrooms. Teams of students chosen from among those entered in the competition may represent the law school in the national Moot Court Competition and other extramural competitions nationwide.

### Extramural Moot Court

Extramural Moot Court is part of the William Minor Lile Moot Court program. Students from all years try out for Extramural Moot Court.

## **Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Team**

Each year law students compete in the Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition, the largest moot court competition in the world, with over 100 countries and 500 law schools participating. The competition simulates a dispute before the International Court of Justice and participating students gain expertise in both public and private international law. Selection for the Jessup Team is based upon a formal tryout and an interview.

## **Clinical Programs<sup>17, 18</sup>**

Law students at Virginia enjoy an array of clinics and courses that offer a wide range of practical training options. Virginia's 20 clinics, many of which offer contact with clients, build experience with real-world problems. Students also advance their skills through courses in public speaking, trial advocacy and professional responsibility, as well as extracurricular moot court and mock trial competitions.

Under the supervision of an attorney, students perform the lawyer functions associated with their cases, including client and witness interviews, factual development, legal research, preparation of pleadings and negotiation. Students with third-year practice certification may also be responsible for courtroom advocacy.

Some of the clinics offered by the University Of Virginia School Of Law include:

- Advocacy for the Elderly
- Appellate Litigation
- Capital Post-Conviction
- Child Advocacy
- Criminal Defense
- Employment Law
- Environmental Law and Conservation
- Family Mediation
- First Amendment Law
- Immigration Law
- Innocence Project
- International Human Rights
- Litigation and Housing Law
- Mental Health Law
- Nonprofit Clinic
- Patent and Licensing I
- Patent and Licensing II
- Prosecution
- Supreme Court Litigation
- Transactional Law

## Placement Facts<sup>19</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$125,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$36,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	96.0%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	53.4%
Business and Industry	3.5%
Government	14.4%
Public Interest Organizations	11.4%
Judicial Clerkships	16.5%
Academia	0.8%
Unknown	0.0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>20, 21</sup>

### Externships

UVA Law's externship programs allow students to make connections between legal theory and practice during their second and third years of law school. Through the program, students can earn academic credit while working in the public sector under the supervision of a lawyer. The program includes three options:

#### UVA Law in DC

UVA Law in DC is a curricular offering requiring 40 hours per week of work at the host organization, which must be a government office or agency or a Washington, DC-based nonprofit organization. Students participate in a weekly seminar in Washington, complete directed reading and writing assignments, and write a research paper on an approved topic relevant to the host organization's work, for a total of 12 credits.

#### Part-Time Externships

Part-time externships are primarily local and require students to work 10 hours per week for the host organization, as well as complete reading and short writing assignments. Students receive 3 academic credits.

## Full-Time Externships

Full-time externships may be local, national or international, and require 40 hours per week of work at the host organization. Students must design a course of study and work under the supervision of a faculty member to complete directed readings and academic writing assignments, including a substantial research paper on an approved topic relevant to the host organization's work, for a total of 12 credits.

## **Internships**

The Public Interest Law Association offers grants to help fund a broad array of summer public interest opportunities, which have recently included internships with the UN World Food Program in Rome; the Justice for Widows and Orphans Project in Lusaka, Zambia; and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Protection Unit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, among others. The Human Rights Program arranges a student summer internship with the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, in Arusha, Tanzania. DLA Piper Rudnick Gray Cary in Washington, DC, has established a place for a Virginia student to work as a summer fellow with the firm's Kosovo pro bono legal reform initiative, and the law school recently established internships with Human Rights First.

## **Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>**

- A Cappellate Opinions
- Action for a Better Living Environment (ABLE)
- Advocates for Life at Virginia Law (AFL)
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- The Aristotle Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Child Advocacy Research & Education (CARE)
- Conference on Public Service & the Law
- Domestic Violence Project
- Extramural Moot Court
- Federalist Society
- Feminist Legal Forum
- First Year Council (FYC)
- Graduate Law Students (GLSA)
- Health Law Association
- Human Rights Study Project, Cowan Fellows
- JD/MBA Society
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- John Bassett Moore Society of International Law (J.B.Moore)
- Korean American Law Student Association (KALSA)
- Lambda Law Alliance
- Latin American Law Organization (LALO; formally Voz Latina)
- Law Christian Fellowship (LCF)
- Law School Football League (LSFL)

- Law Student Advocacy Project (LSAP) (part of VELLA)
- Legal Advisory Workshops for Undergraduate Students (LAW for US)
- The Libel Show
- Migrant Farmworker Project (Part of LALO)
- Moot Court Board
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Trial Advocacy Team
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- North Grounds Softball League (NGSL)
- Outdoors at VA Law
- Peer Advisor Program
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honor Society - Minor Inn
- Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Team
- Post-Conviction Assistance Project (P-CAP)
- Public Interest Law Association (PILA)
- Rex E. Lee Law Society (RELLS)
- Rivanna Investments
- Secular Legal Society
- St. Thomas More Society
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Legal Forum (SLF)
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy
- Virginia Animal Law Society (VALS)
- Virginia Employment and Labor Law Association (VELLA)
- Virginia Entrepreneurial Society
- Virginia Environmental Law Forum (VELF)
- Virginia Law & Business Society
- Virginia Law Democrats
- Virginia Law Families
- Virginia Law and Graduate Republicans
- Virginia Law Rod & Gun Club
- Virginia Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Virginia Law Veterans
- *Virginia Law Weekly* (newspaper)
- Virginia Law Women (VLW)
- Virginia Society of Law & Technology (VSLAT)
- Virginia Sports Law Society
- Volunteer Income Tax Association (VITA)
- West Coast Wahoos
- Women of Color

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RANK

9

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY BOALT HALL SCHOOL OF LAW

## MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

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Berkeley, CA 94720-7200

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

510-642-2278

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

510-642-2274

## MAIN PHONE

510-642-6483

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

510-642-4567

## WEBSITE

[www.law.berkeley.edu](http://www.law.berkeley.edu)



## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

The University of California–Berkeley, a public institution, was founded in 1868 and its law school traces its roots back to 1882 when a class on Roman law became the first law course offered on the Berkeley campus. The Department of Jurisprudence was founded in 1894, and the Boalt Memorial Hall of Law was built in 1911 with a major gift from Elizabeth Josselyn Boalt (in memory of her husband, John Henry Boalt, an attorney and judge) and supplemental donations from California lawyers. In 1912, the Department of Jurisprudence gained autonomous status and was renamed the School of Jurisprudence. That same year, the school hired full-time legal scholars as professors, and the California Law Review was founded. In 1950, the School of Jurisprudence became the School of Law, and "Boalt Hall" became the school's popular name.

Boalt Hall School of Law offers an interdisciplinary curriculum. It features specialized curricular programs in law and economics, comparative legal studies, environmental law, international legal studies, law and technology, and social justice.

Boalt Hall's centers act as incubators for cutting-edge legal research in areas such as technology, public affairs, and tax policy. They give students opportunities to work with leading scholars and practitioners, and they promote in-depth learning, advanced research, and extracurricular offerings such as lectures, conferences, and other events.

The collection of the law library is rich in legal history and common law material. Through the Robbins endowment, it also has solid collections of comparative law, international and human rights law, and civil law. The law library is also home to the world-renowned Robbins Collection of rare books and manuscripts in civil and religious law.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

11.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	163-170	3.68-3.91
Median*	167	3.81

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	7,027
Number accepted	813
Percentage accepted	11.6%

The above admission details are based on fall 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

Berkeley law students are not ranked by their academic records. The law school does not calculate grade point averages (GPAs). Students can receive one of five grades in courses:

- High Honors (HH)
- Honors (H)
- Pass Conditional/Substandard Pass (PC)
- Credit (CR)/No Pass (NP) very few courses are graded on this basis
- No Credit (NC), a failing grade showing that no credit has been earned for the course

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>

In first-year classes, the curve for honors grades is strict—the top 40% of the class receives honors grades, with 10% of the class receiving High Honors and the next 30% receiving Honors. There is no required curve for the grades of Pass and below, and faculty members are not required to give any Substandard Pass or No Credit grades. In second- and third-year classes, up to 45% of the class can receive honors grades, of which up to 15% of students can receive High Honors. In small seminar classes, the curve still exists, but it is further relaxed. Very few courses are graded on a Credit (CR)/No Pass (NP) basis.

Boalt students are not ranked by their academic records. Moreover, the grade ranges described above often do not make fine distinctions. A student who received a Pass grade, for example, may have done very strong or only minimally passing work. Students are graded on a curve, which strictly limits recognition for excellence. The grading system has remained constant for more than 25 years; there has been no grade inflation.

With a fixed curve and a talented student body, an Honors grade represents a substantial achievement and a High Honors grade an outstanding one. For internal purposes, the University of California–Berkeley campus translates both Honors and High Honors grades into its system as A grades.

A student with mostly Honors grades is doing excellent work in very competitive company, as Boalt's student body is exceptionally strong. A transcript with a rough mixture of Honors and Pass grades represents strong performance that would likely stand above the class median at schools of comparable quality.

In evaluating student records with more Pass grades, it is important to remember that a significant number of students receive such grades even though they have written examinations that placed them above or near the class median. At schools with more conventional grading systems, median performances often earn a grade of B+. Thus, even a record with no or few High Honors or Honors grades may conceal considerable academic distinction.

For example, each year a few Boalt students whose exam performance places them at or above the class median in their first-year courses fail to achieve a single Honors grade. Sometimes such students can provide letters from their instructors documenting their strong performance. In other cases, one must speak to academic references, review writing samples, weigh journal commitments, or evaluate the quality of the undergraduate record in order to form a fair estimate of the student's achievement and potential.

## Honors<sup>11</sup>

Each year the Order of the Coif extends invitations to the top 10% of graduating JD students by grade point average. GPA is determined by multiplying the point value of each grade received in a Boalt course (HH = 5 points, H = 3, P = 2) by the units given for that course and dividing the sum of the products by each student's total number of graded units.

## Awards<sup>12, 13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Jurisprudence Prize	Highest-ranking student in each section/class
Prosser Prize	Second-highest-ranking student in each section/class
Best Brief Award	The best brief
Best Oral Argument Award	The best oral argument
James Patterson McBaine Honors Moot Court Award	Advanced moot court competition
Ellis J. Harmon Prize in Environmental Law & Policy	The best research paper in Environmental Law and Policy
Alvin & Sadie Landis Prizes in Water Law & Government Law	The best research papers in Water Law and Government Law
Thelen Marrin Award for Scholarship	The best GPA from the first five semesters
Thelen Marrin Award for Writing	The best published student article

Stephen Finney Jamison Award	The best student scholar-advocate
Anthony F. Dragonette Memorial	The best third-year student in Civil Trial Practice
Alvin & Sadie Landis Scholarship	The best student in Local Government Law or Water Law
Francine M. Diaz Memorial Award	The third-year minority woman student who best exemplifies the spirit of public interest law practice
Class of 1995 Student Service Award	The third-year student who has contributed the most to the Boalt Hall community
Brian M. Sax Prize	Excellence in clinical advocacy
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	A graduating female student for excellence in promoting women's welfare
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	The best student in the Bankruptcy course
Ellis J. Harmon Environmental Law Writing Award	The most outstanding environmental law writing

## Journals

The **California Law Review** was founded in the year 1912 as the first student journal west of Illinois. It publishes articles on problems and developments in all areas of the law. It publishes six issues per year on a variety of engaging topics in legal scholarship.<sup>14</sup>

The **Asian American Law Journal** is one of the two law journals in the country devoted to Asian Pacific American issues. The journal is a comprehensive forum for discussing legal policy and the social implications of issues affecting Asians and Pacific Americans. The *Asian American Law Journal* was established to help develop Asian Pacific American legal scholarship and create an intellectual network to advance this area. It is published annually, and each volume typically contains articles, book reviews, essays and other contributions from scholars, practitioners, policymakers, and students.<sup>15</sup>

The **Berkeley Business Law Journal** allows the Boalt community, business, and academia to investigate the intersection between business practice and legal theory. It inspires scholars to explore new topics in business law and economics. To facilitate this development through hosting symposia, it provides a constant forum for scholarly discussion, bringing together leading scholars from around the world, and publishing the newest and most intriguing articles. It publishes two issues per year.<sup>16</sup>

The **Berkeley Journal of African-American Law & Policy** was founded in 1992 and is dedicated to addressing legal and policy issues that affect the African American community and people of color in general. The journal deals with such matters as constitutional law, criminal justice, civil rights, African American participation in the political process, the death penalty, fair housing, economic development in the African American community, African immigration to the United States, and health issues that affect African Americans. It is published annually each spring. This academic year, *BJALP* will publish two independent editions for the first time in the history of the journal.<sup>17</sup>

The **Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law** was founded in 2000 and is the premier criminal law review in the western United States. The journal is produced by students and presents cutting-edge scholarship on all

aspects of criminal law and procedure. Two issues are published per year: one in fall and one in spring. It also publishes the *California Annual Review*, a yearly review of the most pressing issues in California criminal law. The *Boalt Journal of Criminal Law* publishes articles on topics of regional, national, and international significance.<sup>18</sup>

The **Berkeley Journal of Employment and Labor Law**, one of the nation's leading student journals, focuses exclusively on current developments in labor and employment law of interest to scholars, practitioners, and students. The journal addresses the full range of legal issues in the field, including employment discrimination, "traditional" labor law, public sector employment, wage-and-hour law, international and comparative labor law, employee benefits and leave, and workforce participation. The journal is published two times a year.<sup>19</sup>

Formerly the *Berkeley Women's Law Journal*, the **Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice** was founded in 1984. It takes a multidisciplinary approach to critical legal issues affecting women, particularly underrepresented women, such as women of color, poor women, lesbians, and women with disabilities. It currently publishes two issues annually, one in the winter and one in the summer.<sup>20</sup>

The **Berkeley Journal of International Law** publishes articles, case notes, and book reviews that address current issues pertaining to international law. *BJIL* publishes a broad range of scholarship that spans public international, private international, and comparative law disciplines. It currently publishes two issues of the printed publication per year. *BJIL* also produces *Publicist*, an online-only journal that allows for faster publication of ideas in a shorter and more accessible format than the traditional printed *Law Review*. In addition to publication, it organizes the annual Stefan A. Riesenfeld Symposium, through which leading scholars and practitioners assemble to address pressing international legal issues.<sup>21,22</sup>

Established in 1981, the **Berkeley La Raza Law Journal** is one of the few law reviews in the United States centering on Latina/o conditions, communities, and identities and is the longest continuously running Latina/o law journal in the country. The journal was established to provide a forum to analyze legal issues affecting the Latina/o community.<sup>23</sup>

The **Berkeley Technology Law Journal** has emerged as the leading technology law journal in the United States. Published four times per year, it covers legal issues in the areas of intellectual property and biotechnology. Recent issues have included articles on copyright misuse, cyberlaw, and private rights in information. Founded in March 1985, the journal is a student-run publication of Boalt Hall School of Law. It strives to keep judges, policymakers, practitioners, and the academic community abreast of the dynamic field of technology.<sup>24</sup>

The **Ecology Law Quarterly** is Boalt Hall's environmental law journal. Since its first issue in the winter of 1971, it has consistently reflected its members' broad conception of environmental law and policy. In 1990, the *Ecology Law Quarterly* was awarded the United Nations Environment Programme's Global 500 Award, which recognized the journal as one of the top 500 environmental organizations in the world. In 2008, ELQ launched *Ecology Law Currents*, a companion online journal designed to act as a forum for short-form environmental legal writing to be published on a more frequent basis than the print journal.<sup>25</sup>

The **Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern & Islamic Law** published its debut issue in May 2008 and has continued to publish in the spring of each year. This annual journal is dedicated to the study of Middle Eastern and Islamic law and their impact in the United States and abroad. The journal is produced by students and

presents cutting-edge scholarship. It is a valuable resource for academics, jurists, practitioners, students, and others interested in Islamic and Middle Eastern law and policy.<sup>26</sup>

The **Berkeley Journal of Entertainment & Sports Law** was founded in 2011. It was the first law journal at the University of California, Berkeley, School of Law (Boalt Hall) founded on an electronic platform. It is dedicated to providing a multifarious selection of intellectual and practical discussions from scholars, practitioners, and students on legal issues that contemporaneously impact various entertainment industries, domestically and internationally. As an interactive and electronic law review, it presents a unique platform for rich discourse on legal topics regarding copyright, trademark, art, sports, film and television, communications and broadcast media, First Amendment, right to privacy, music, antitrust and unfair competition, and contracts, among others.<sup>27</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>28, 29</sup>

The Board of Advocates (formerly the Moot Court Board) assists in organizing and oversees the McBaine Moot Court Honors Competition. The Board also provides student advisors to the Appellate Advocacy class and gives students opportunities to compete in off-campus moot court and mock trial competitions.

The James Patterson McBaine Honors Competition is Boalt Hall's moot court competition and is open to all Boalt second- and third-year law students. Cases chosen for the competition involve cutting-edge issues of great public importance.

The competition format is modeled after US Supreme Court practice. All competitors must prepare both an appellate brief and an oral argument.

### Clinical Programs<sup>30-34</sup>

Berkeley Law's clinics—nine in the community, three in the law school—are directed by full-time faculty members. Classroom seminars provide students with the necessary foundation in relevant law and practice, while hands-on casework for clients builds critical lawyering skills.

It offers the following clinics:

The **Death Penalty Clinic**, which gives students opportunities to work under the supervision of faculty to assist clients facing capital punishment. Students participating in the clinic get to hone their legal skills in an exceptional way, representing men and women in capital post-conviction proceedings in several states, including Alabama, Texas, Virginia, North Carolina, and California. It also drafts and files amicus curiae briefs, petitions for writs of certiorari, clemency petitions, and pretrial motions on behalf of capital clients across the country. Clinic students also assist in the representation of clients facing the death penalty at trial, and have done so in Texas, Georgia, Virginia, and Alabama.

The **International Human Rights Law Clinic**, focuses on the protection of human rights. Students create and employ creative solutions to promote the global struggle for human rights.

The **Samuelson Law, Technology, and Public Policy Clinic**, aims to serve as the public's voice in legal and regulatory disputes currently dominated by lobbyists and the government. Students represent consumer interests in intellectual property, communications regulation, and privacy issues. The clinic takes on projects in many fields relating to technology and the public interest. It functions as both a traditional legal clinic and as a site of interdisciplinary, policy-relevant research.

The **East Bay Community Law Center** is the community-based component of Boalt Hall's clinical program. It provides legal services to low-income and underrepresented members of the community near the law school. EBCLC's nine clinical placements include:

- Clean Slate Clinic (Criminal/Litigation)
- Green Jobs Clinic (Economic Development/Transactional)
- Health Law Clinic (Multidisciplinary/Administrative)
- Housing Law Clinic (Litigation)
- Immigration Law Clinic (Administrative/Litigation)
- Neighborhood Justice Clinic (Litigation/Brief Services)
- Policy Advocacy Clinic (Multimodal Policy)
- Welfare Law Clinic (Administrative/Policy)
- Youth Defender Clinic (Criminal/Litigation)

## Placement Facts<sup>35</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$145,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$55,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	72.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	82.6%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	53.1%
Business and Industry	6.2%
Government	10.3%
Judicial Clerkships	12.8%
Public Interest Organizations	15.5%
Academia	2.1%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>36-38</sup>

### Externships

Boalt Hall School of Law offers a field placement program. There are three components to the field placement program, all of which are supervised by the field placement coordinator. These are:

The **General Field Placement Program**, in which students work with supervising attorneys in public interest organizations or government agencies. These field placements offer work in many different areas, including civil rights, consumer protection, criminal law, employment, environmental law, health, housing, poverty, regulatory law, and women's rights.

Second and third year students can receive academic credit for full and part-time externships with non profits, government agencies, and courts in the San Francisco Bay Area as well as throughout the United States and the world.

The **Judicial Externship Program**, in which students work as externs for local, federal, or state judges. The externships may be full-time or part-time.

The **Away Field Placement Program**, in which students get field placements outside of the San Francisco Bay Area.

**UCDC Law Program:** Started in Spring 2009, law students are eligible to participate in a semester externship program in Washington, DC in which students receive up to 10 units for their field placements. The program is a collaborative effort of UC Berkeley and UCLA Law Schools.

### Internships

The law school offers a program called the **Domestic Violence Law Practicum**, which provides students opportunities to work in civil or criminal domestic violence legal agencies or with their instructors on state legislation. Students work on real cases, either in faculty-supervised field placements or under the direct supervision of a faculty member. The work focuses on restraining orders, family law, welfare, immigration, employment issues, prosecution of batterers, or post-conviction issues of battered women in state prisons. Students also work with the instructor on policy matters, including writing amicus briefs.

## Student Organizations<sup>39</sup>

- Advocates for Drug Law Reform
- Advocates for Youth Justice
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America-Boalt Chapter
- Berkeley Chinese Law Society
- Berkeley Consumer Advocacy and Protection Society (CAPS)
- Berkeley Energy Resources Collaborative

- Berkeley Law Critical Race Scholars Society
- Berkeley Law Foundation
- Berkeley Society of Law and Public Policy
- Berkeley Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Berkeley Student Chapter of the J. Reuben Clark Society
- Boalt Association of Military Veterans
- Boalt Catholic Community
- Boalt Civil Rights Outreach Project
- Boalt Criminal Law Association
- Boalt Death Penalty Discourse Project
- Boalt Disability Law Society
- Boalt Hall Committee for Human Rights
- Boalt Hall Democrats
- Boalt Hall Federalist Society
- Boalt Hall Healthcare Law Society
- Boalt Hall Labor Coalition
- Boalt Hall Older & Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Boalt Hall Patent Law Society
- Boalt Hall Queer Caucus
- Boalt Hall Women's Association
- Boalt Jewish Students Association
- Boalt Hall Student Association (BHSA)
- Boalt Muslim Student Association
- Boalt.org
- Boalt Hall Capital Markets Group
- Boalt Police Review Advocates
- Board of Advocates
- California Asylum Representation Clinic
- Community Legal Outreach
- East Bay Community Law Center Student Steering Committee
- Environmental Law Society
- Genetics, Law & Policy Council
- Global Justice & Climate Change Policy Initiative
- International Law Society
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project
- Korean American Law Students Association
- La Raza Law Students Association
- Law & Society Student Forum
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students for Justice in Palestine
- Law Students of African Descent
- Men of Color Alliance
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild-Boalt Chapter
- Native American Law Students Association
- Parents at Boalt

- Pilipino American Law Society
- Restorative Justice Committee
- Society for Cultural Heritage, Arts and the Law (SCHAL)
- Law Student Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Students for Environmental and Economic Justice
- Student Organization for Advanced Legal Studies
- Students Opposed to Domestic Violence (STOP DV)
- Transfer Student Coalition
- Universities Allied for Essential Medicines
- Vietnamese American Law Society
- Women of Color Collective
- Workers' Rights Clinic

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RANK  
**9**

# UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN LAW SCHOOL

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734-763-6499

ADMISSIONS PHONE

734-764-0537

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

734-764-0546



## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

Founded in 1859, the University of Michigan Law School is widely and perennially regarded as being at the forefront of legal education, providing an interdisciplinary approach to the law. The school is known for its faculty's interdisciplinary approach to the study of law and legal institutions. The quantity of faculty with joint appointments (14 or 25%), with PhDs in cognate disciplines (23 or 40%), and with fellowships in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (8 or 14%) illustrates the sheer range and breadth of the law school's scholarship and expertise.

The law school provides an interdisciplinary approach to the law in its class offerings, seminars, clinics, externships, and independent research opportunities. It has 14 dual degree programs with 13 graduate schools/departments within the University of Michigan system in which students may pursue a JD and companion graduate degree. Its off-site opportunities abound both internationally and domestically through its externship and independent study programs.

The law library has remarkable collections of research materials. Its collection includes print and online access to reports of the American federal and state courts, as well as the court reports of Great Britain and the Commonwealth, and most European, Asian, and South American countries. The constitutions, codes, and statutes of each state and of most foreign countries are kept retrospectively and up-to-date. Legal documents for the UN, the EU, the WTO, and other inter-governmental organizations represent a particular strength of the collection. There are extensive special collections in the fields of Roman law, international law, comparative law, trials, biography, and legal bibliography.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

12.8:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	166-170	3.57-3.83
Median*	169	3.73

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	5,062
Number accepted	1,238
Percentage accepted	24.5%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

The University of Michigan Law School's letter grading system corresponds to the following point values:

Grade	Honor Points Per Credit Hour
A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
E	0.0

In all first-year courses and upper-level courses in which letter grades are assigned to 40 or more students, faculty will turn in to the Registrar's Office the mean GPA for the class along with their final grades. These standards are not mandatory in upper-level courses in which letter grades are assigned to fewer than 40 students.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>

In determining course grades, members of the faculty refer to the percentage guidelines adopted by the faculty and set forth below. For each grade, there is a target percentage and also a range of recommended minimum and maximum percentages. In addition, there is a target mean for the entire class.

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Target Percentage</b>	<b>Minimum and Maximum Percentage</b>
A+ and A	10%	0-3% for A+7-11% for A
A-	15%	13-17%
B+	30%	26-34%
B	25%	21-29 %
B-	10%	8-12%
C+	7%	5-9%
C and below	3%	0-5% for C 0-4% for C-, D+, D, E
Mean	3.19	3.13-3.25%

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

JD degrees will be awarded as follows to students who matriculated in May 2012 or thereafter.

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	Students must earn a minimum of 62 credit hours in courses at the Law School which are fully graded and factored into their honor point average
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 4.000 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	The top 10% of the class not qualifying for summa.
<i>cum laude</i>	The top 37.5% of the class not qualifying for summa or magna.

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
ABA-BNA Labor Law Award	Student who has excelled in the study of labor law
Abram W. Sempliner Memorial Award	Elected Editor-in-Chief of the Michigan Law Review for the following year, in recognition of outstanding work for the Law Review and effective leadership.
Allan Lewis Kaufmann Award	Author of the best student contribution to each volume of the Michigan Law Review
Carl Gussin Memorial Prize	Excellence in the area of trial work
Certificate of Merit Winners	Outstanding performance in each Law School course
Class of 1908 Memorial Scholarship	Highest scholastic average at the beginning of his or her senior year
Craig Spangenberg Oral Advocacy Award	Exceptional ability in courtroom oral advocacy
Daniel H. Grady Prize	Graduated with the highest standing in his or her Law School class
Dores McCree Award	Extraordinary devotion to the well-being of students and commitment to a widely inclusive and unified vision of the Law School community

E. Blythe Stason Award	Author of the best student contribution to each volume of the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform.
Edwin D. Dickinson Award	Elected Editor-in-Chief of the Michigan Journal of International Law for the following year, in recognition of outstanding work for the Journal and effective leadership
Emmett E. Eagan Award	Excellence in the field of corporate law
Eric Stein Award	Outstanding contributions to the Michigan Journal of International Law
The Jon Henry Kouba Prize	Best student papers on European Integration and International Peace and Security
Fiske Award	Exceptional graduates serving as government employees at the federal, state, or local level, and who have demonstrated a commitment to public service values
Helen L. DeRoy Memorial Award	Author of the best student contribution to each volume of the Michigan Law Review
Henry M. Bates Memorial Scholarship	Outstanding seniors, with account taken for scholarship in legal studies, personality, character, extracurricular interests, and promise of a distinguished career
Hessel E. Yntema Award	Best performance with distinction in courses and seminars in international and comparative law
Howard B. Coblenz Prize	Outstanding contributions by members of the senior editorial staff of the Michigan Law Review
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Demonstrated ability in courtroom advocacy
International Peace and Security Winner	Best Student on International Peace and Security Law
Irving Stenn, Jr. Award	Students who have demonstrated leadership, and contributed through extracurricular activities to the well-being and strength of the Law School or the University
Jack C. Radcliffe, Jr. Award	Second or third year student who has served as a senior judge in the legal writing program, with account taken for excellence in mentoring first year law students
Jane L. Mixer Memorial Award	Outstanding contributions to activities designed to advance the cause of social justice
Jason L. Honigman Award	Outstanding contributions to the Michigan Law Review by senior editors during the preceding two years
Jeffrey S. Lehman Legal Practice Award	Best legal practice student from the previous year

Jenny Runkles Memorial Award	Second year students for his selfless commitment to improving the Law School community, and society as a whole, through devotion to public interest and diversity
Juan Luis Tienda Memorial Scholarship Award	Commitment to working for the advancement of Latinos in the United States
Lee Bollinger Prize	Excellence in the study of the First Amendment
Louis Honigman Memorial Award	Outstanding contributions to the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform by senior editors during the preceding two years
Maurice Weigle Scholarship Award	Highest scholastic average at the end of his or her first year
Michigan Award	Students elected to the editorial board of the Michigan Law Review for the following year
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Academic achievement, community service, and the potential for future contributions to the advancement of women
Ralph M. Freeman Scholarship	A second or third year student for excellence in the fields of criminal law and procedure
Raymond K. and John R. Dykema Scholarship Award	Significant contributions to the Michigan Law Review and the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform by members of the junior staffs
Raymond K. Dykema Scholarship Award	Student chosen as Managing Editor of the Michigan Law Review for the coming year in recognition of outstanding work
Richard Katcher Senior Tax Prize	Outstanding work in courses and seminars in taxation and related areas
Robert S. Feldman Labor Law Award	Outstanding work in the field of labor law
Rockwell T. Gust Advocacy Award	An outstanding trial lawyer and advocate
Roger A. Cunningham Memorial Property Prize	Scholastic excellence in the first-year Property Law course, along with outstanding performance in the rest of the first-year core curriculum
S. Anthony Benton Memorial Award	Scholastic excellence in the field of international law
Sarah Honigman Memorial Award	Incoming Editor-in-Chief of the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform
Saul L. Nadler Memorial Award	Outstanding work in courses related to commercial and corporate law
Scholarly Writing Awards	Scholarly work of superior quality, prepared without the expectation of publication
The Jon Henry Kouba Prize	Best student papers on European Integration and International Peace and Security
The Rakow Scholarship	Outstanding achievement in corporations or business law

William W. Bishop, Jr. Award	Excellency in international law and in related Law School activities
Women Lawyers' Association of Michigan Foundation	Women law students for her leadership capabilities and services in the community in such areas as family law, child advocacy or domestic violence, or displayed potential for advancing the position of women in society
Women Lawyers of Michigan Julia D. Darlow Award	Commitment to advancing the interests of women members of the legal profession and to promoting equity and social justice for all people

## Journals

The ***Michigan Law Review*** is edited entirely by students. As a scholarly journal, it provides a forum for discussion of new ideas and trends in the law. Moreover, since student editors are responsible for managing that forum, it offers its members a rigorous educational experience. It also devotes one entire issue each year to reviews of books in law and related fields. Annually, eight issues are published. First Impressions, the online companion to the Michigan Law Review, publishes op-ed length articles by academics, judges, and practitioners on current legal issues.<sup>14</sup>

The ***University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform*** was founded in 1968. The journal has a strong commitment to providing law students with journal experience, publishing student notes promoting reform, and hosting symposia on a wide range of current, reform-related issues.<sup>15</sup>

The ***Michigan Journal of International Law*** was first published as the Michigan Yearbook of International Legal Studies. It publishes four times a year. It presents cutting-edge articles from scholars and practitioners in international, comparative, and foreign law, as well as research notes written by the student editors.<sup>16</sup>

The ***Michigan Journal of Gender & Law*** published its first issue in the winter of 1994. The journal was founded by a group of first-year students in 1991, which recognized the need for an alternative voice at the University of Michigan Law School and in the legal community. After the publication of its second issue, the journal won approval to increase its publication to two issues per year. Its goal is to provide practitioners, academics, activists, and students with a forum for expressing their views concerning gender issues in the law. The journal is dedicated to providing a forum where different segments of the feminist community can explore how gender issues and related issues of race, class, sexual orientation, and culture impact the lives of women and men.<sup>17</sup>

The ***Michigan Journal of Race & Law*** serves as a forum for scholars of all races to develop and expand theoretical, critical, and socially relevant approaches to intersections between race and property law, contract law, constitutional law, criminal law, and other areas of the law. The journal's Critical Race Theory Reading Group and film series enhance the law school community's experience with the intersections of race and law.<sup>18</sup>

The ***Michigan Telecommunications and Technology Law Review*** was founded in 1994. It examines issues pertaining to the continuing emergence of new techniques and technologies in computing, telecommunications, biotechnology, multimedia, networking, and information services. It uses interactive media to promote informed discourse about the interrelated legal, social, business, and public policy issues raised by emerging technologies. It publishes online and printed volumes, available through subscription and is available through Lexis-Nexis, Westlaw, and the web site.<sup>19</sup>

The ***Michigan Journal of Environmental and Administrative Law*** is a student run new provisional journal that publishes Notes and Articles relating to environmental law and policy. The journal also covers topics of administrative law and environmental law and publishes in one issue per year.<sup>20</sup>

The ***Michigan Journal of Private Equity and Venture Capital Law*** is a student run provisional legal journal. Its mission is to serve as a vessel for practitioner and scholarly work, including regulatory, securities, corporate, tax, intellectual property, and other legal issues involved with private equity, and venture capital.<sup>21</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>22, 23</sup>

There are various moot court competitions in which University of Michigan Law School students participate: the Henry M. Campbell Moot Court Competition, Herbert J. Wechsler National Criminal Moot Court Competition, the Entertainment Media and Arts Moot Court Competition, the Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition, the Child Welfare Law Moot Court Competition, and the Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition.

Moot Court is open to both second- and third-year students. All first-year students complete one oral appellate argument and brief as part of the required Legal Practice class.

### Clinical Programs

The University of Michigan Law School now offers 14 clinics. Its clinical offerings, combined with legal practice curriculum and breadth of practice-based coursework such as seminars and simulation courses, compose a rich portfolio of skill-building opportunities for Michigan students.<sup>24</sup>

The **Child Advocacy Law Clinic** provides an in-depth, interdisciplinary experience working with problems of child abuse and neglect and of children in foster care.<sup>25</sup>

The **Community and Economic Development Clinic** (CEDC) is dedicated to promoting vibrant, diverse and sustainable communities by providing transactional legal services to nonprofit and community-based organizations. The clinic provides legal, research, technical, and policy assistance to organizations and groups engaged in a variety of community and economic development efforts in Southeast Michigan. Second- and third-year law students work under the close supervision of faculty members who are licensed Michigan attorneys with significant transactional experience.<sup>26</sup>

The **Criminal Appellate Practice Clinic** provides students opportunities to represent convicted felons on appeal. Students participating in the clinic work under the supervision of attorneys.<sup>27</sup>

The **Entrepreneurship Clinic** (the “clinic”) launches in the winter 2012 semester as a novel clinical law program focusing exclusively on advising University of Michigan (“U-M”) student entrepreneurs. The clinic will provide law students with unique, real-world experience in early-stage business and intellectual property law while offering valuable legal services to the U-M student body.<sup>28</sup>

The **Environmental Law Clinic** provides opportunities to litigate and develop policies to protect natural resources and the environment. The clinic operates in association with the National Wildlife Federation’s Great Lakes Natural Resource Center in Ann Arbor.<sup>29</sup>

In the **Federal Appellate Litigation Clinic**, second- and third-year law students gain hands-on experience in various stages of federal appellate litigation. Under the supervision of attorneys from the Office of the Federal Public Defender for the Northern District of Ohio students prepare and file briefs on behalf of criminal defendants and/or habeas petitioners in the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.<sup>30</sup>

The **General Clinic** provides students opportunities to practice law in the civil and criminal sectors under the supervision of faculty. It is a one-semester, seven-credit clinic.<sup>31</sup>

The **Human Trafficking Clinic** offers students the opportunity to work on both domestic and international human trafficking issues. It provides a range of services, including direct representation of foreign nationals trafficked in the United States, advocacy for both domestic and foreign national victims, and community education and trainings.<sup>32</sup>

The **International Transactions Clinic** provides real-world experience for students working on real matters for real clients. It combines an international and transaction focus. Students represent socially responsible investors that want to see their international investments provide both a positive social as well as financial return.<sup>33</sup>

In the **Juvenile Justice Clinic**, students represent minors charged with violations of the criminal law and status offenses in Michigan’s family courts. While primarily a litigation clinic, students may from time-to-time handle appellate matters and may be involved in public policy issues such as analyzing proposed legislation.<sup>34</sup>

The **Low Income Taxpayer Clinic** gives students hands-on experience in assisting clients dealing with Internal Revenue Service problems.<sup>35</sup>

The **Mediation Clinic** helps students develop skills pertinent to facilitating mediation as well as mediating legal disputes in various community settings.<sup>36</sup>

In the **Michigan Innocence Clinic**, students investigate and litigate cases on behalf of prisoners with new evidence that may establish that they are actually innocent of the crimes for which they have been convicted. It focuses on innocence cases where there is no biological evidence to be tested. Students work on all aspects of the cases, including investigating new evidence, preparing state post-conviction motions, conducting hearings and arguing motions in conjunction with these motions, and filing appeals to the state and federal courts.<sup>37</sup>

The mission of the **Pediatric Advocacy Initiative** (PAI) is to achieve justice and dignity for all low-income children and their families by integrating high-quality legal advocacy into health care settings. As a medical-legal partnership, it pursues by uniting health care providers, attorneys, and social workers to eliminate the effects of poverty on children’s health and well-being.<sup>38</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>39</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$140,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$61,245

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	70.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	85.8%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	47.1%
Business and Industry	10.6%
Government	9.5%
Judicial Clerkships	15.9%
Public Interest Organizations	13.1%
Academia	2.5%
Unknown	1.4%

## Externships/Internships<sup>40, 41</sup>

### Externships

Externships, also known as external studies opportunities, offer an exciting opportunity to augment classroom study with real-world work experience. Students (under the guidance of both a faculty member and an attorney supervisor) may immerse themselves for an entire semester in legal work for nonprofits such as the Institute for Justice, the Food and Drug Administration, Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, and the Human Rights Law Network in New Delhi, India, and the Financial Action Task Force in Paris, France.

The law school also has special externships based in South Africa and Geneva, Switzerland. The South Africa externship program takes place during the winter academic term and is managed by the Office of Student Affairs. The Geneva externships also occur during the winter academic term and are managed by the Center for International and Comparative Law.

In recent years, students have pursued externships with such organizations as the US Department of State, Office of the US Trade Representative, US Department of Commerce, Overseas Private Investment Cooperation, and at public interest organizations in New York, Washington, DC, and London.

### Internships

The law school supports paid internships at the Aire Centre in London, as well as those offered through its Cambodian and Refugee Law Programs.

## **Student Organizations<sup>42</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asia Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Bankruptcy Law Society
- Black Law Students Alliance
- Business Law Association
- Campbell Competition Board
- Catholic Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Classical Music Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Cultural Heritage Law Society
- Education Law and Policy Society
- Entertainment, Media, and Arts Law Students Association
- Entrepreneurial Law Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Family Law Project
- Federalist Society
- Food Futures
- Frank Murphy Society
- Future Advocates In Training
- Headnotes
- Human Rights Advocates
- Intellectual Property Students Association
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- JDs in the D
- Jessup International Moot Court
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law School Democrats
- Law School Hockey Team
- Law School Student Senate
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Advocates for Children and Youth
- Legal Alternative Winter Breaks
- Michigan Association for Legal Zymology
- Michigan Election Law Project
- Michigan Energy Law Association
- Michigan Health Law Organization
- Michigan Immigration and Labor Law Association
- Michigan Law Africanists Society
- Michigan Law Culinary Club

- Michigan Law Running Club
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- The N9NE
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- Native American Law Students Association
- Older Wiser Law Students
- Organization of Public Interest Students
- Outlaws
- Poverty Law Society
- Prisoners' Rights Organization of Students
- Public Benefits Advocacy Project
- Real Estate Law Society
- Res Gestae
- Society for Space Law and the Law of the Sea
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Funded Fellowships
- Tax Law Society
- Wolverine Street Law Organization
- Women Law Students Association

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RANK

**11**

# DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

210 Science Drive  
Box 90362  
Durham NC 27708

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

919-613-7027

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

919-613-7020

## MAIN PHONE

919-613-7006

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

919-613-7031

## WEBSITE

www.law.duke.edu



## Overview<sup>2-7</sup>

The mission of Duke University School of Law is to prepare students for responsible and productive lives in the legal profession. As a community of scholars, the law school also provides leadership at the national and international levels in efforts to improve the law and legal institutions through teaching, research, and other forms of public service.

Duke Law offers a wide variety of courses in almost every area of legal theory and practice. The school's clinical programs give law students platforms to hone their legal skills, increase their knowledge of substantive areas of the law, and, of course, provide much-needed legal services to real clients. In addition to these programs, Duke Law also offers a number of substantive courses with clinical components. The law school has given special attention to those areas in which there is likely to be a growing demand for lawyers over the coming decades. These courses allow students to immerse themselves in the study of a particular subject and then apply their knowledge in a practice setting or in a simulated experience.

Duke University School of Law offers American students the opportunity to pursue a joint degree in international and comparative law. Its joint JD/LLM program has grown stronger as the internationalization of the legal profession has increased. It has relationships with 14 foreign universities in Australia, China, England, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, Korea, Mexico, and South Africa, among others.

The Duke University School of Law Library is one of the finest academic law libraries in the United States and offers its users an outstanding collection of legal materials, direct access to a variety of sources of electronic legal information, and the services of a highly trained staff.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

9:1:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	166-170	3.58-3.85
Median*	169	3.76

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>10</sup>

Approximate number of applications 4,963

Number accepted 949

Percentage accepted 19.1%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>11</sup>

Duke University School of Law uses a slightly modified form of the traditional 4.0 scale. The modification permits faculty to recognize especially distinguished performance with grades above a 4.0. The law school does not release class rank.

### Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>12</sup>

The law school has an enforced maximum median grade as well as a limit on grades above 4.0 in all first-year courses and in upper-level courses with more than ten (10) students:

In all first-year courses and upper-level courses with enrollments of more than forty (40) students, the maximum median grade is 3.3. Additionally, in these courses, no more than five percent (5%) of the grades in any class may be higher than a 4.0.

In upper-level courses with enrollments of ten (10) to thirty-nine (39) students, the maximum median grade is 3.5.

There is no maximum median grade in upper-level courses with fewer than ten (10) students.

A grade higher than 4.0 is comparable to an "A+" under letter grading systems. A grade of 1.5 or lower is failing.

For large classes (40 or more students) and all first-year classes, the grade distribution is expected to approximate the following:

Numerical Grade	Percentage of Class
4.1-4.3	0-5%
3.5-4.0	20-40%
3.2-3.4	30-50%
2.8-3.1	20-40%
2.0-2.7	0-5%

The median shall be 3.3. No more than 5% of the grades may exceed 4.0.

For smaller-sized classes (10-39 students) other than first-year classes, the median grade shall not exceed 3.5. In special circumstances, the faculty member grading the course may exceed the median with the approval of the senior associate dean (e.g., when the incoming cumulative GPA of the class is significantly above the median). It is expected that for classes in which the grading is based upon an exam, the median would ordinarily approach the typical median defined above for larger classes.

## Honors<sup>13</sup>

Duke University School of Law has three levels of graduation honors:

Honor	Criteria
Order of Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 2% of the class
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 15% of the class
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 35% of the class

### Top Five Percent Honors

In addition to the Latin honors awarded at graduation, JD students whose graded work in all courses at the law school places them in the top five percent of the students in their graduating class shall be recognized for this achievement. Students shall be recognized as in the top five percent of their graduating class both after the recording of all second-year grades and at graduation. Top five-percent recognition is available only to students who complete their first year at Duke Law School.

## Awards<sup>14</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Justin Miller Award for Leadership	The student active in the law school and/or the greater Durham community who best demonstrates initiative and leads by example.
Justin Miller Award for Integrity	A courageous student with strong principles, a solid character, and a true sense of altruism.
Justin Miller Award for Citizenship	The student who best brings people together in constructive ways.
Justin Miller Award for Intellectual Curiosity	A student who has an intellectual hunger and passion for the law and consistently shares this with and encourages it in others (not necessarily the student with the highest grades or the most academic honors).

## Journals

The **Alaska Law Review** is a scholarly publication that examines legal issues affecting the state of Alaska. The review team comprises second- and third-year law students from Duke University School of Law and is

governed by a faculty advisor committee. The review is published in June and December and provides articles related to current legal trends and issues of practical importance to the Alaska bar.<sup>15</sup>

The **Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum** began in 1991 as an interdisciplinary magazine published annually. Since then, it has grown into an environmental law journal. Its affiliations with the Nicholas School for the Environment, the Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy, and the School of Law render it uniquely positioned to adapt to the increasingly interdisciplinary nature of environmental law.<sup>16</sup>

The **Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law** is published each spring and fall. It is a very influential, specialized journal devoted exclusively to the issues of comparative and international law. Established in 1990, the journal draws upon Duke University School of Law's prominent faculty and its JD/LLM Program in International and Comparative Law. Approximately one-third of the journal is devoted to student notes.<sup>17</sup>

The **Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy** examines legal issues at the intersection of constitutional litigation and public policy. The journal is a practical resource for practitioners, judges, and legislators confronting new constitutional issues and constitutional and policy dimensions of recent and pending state and federal decisions and legislation. Its purpose is to enhance the legal community's understanding of current constitutional law and public policy issues and to arm practitioners with arguments and proposals for reform. Outside of academia, the *Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy* aims to be of interest to practicing attorneys and judges who need timely analysis of important constitutional issues and arguments and policymakers, legislators, and lobbyists interested in timely, understandable legal analysis of current legislation and the constitutional and policy considerations it involves. The journal regularly publishes an online edition -- the "Sidebar" -- with timely comments on topical trends and current subjects of constitutional law and public policy. It publishes a print edition each spring.<sup>18</sup>

The **Duke Journal of Gender Law & Policy** is devoted to providing a forum for the issues surrounding gender, sexuality, race, and class in matters pertaining to law and policy. Accordingly, it takes a broad view of the law and also includes other fields, such as literature, politics, etc. It is published twice per year, and the student staff is chosen from the 1L Casenote Competition.<sup>19</sup>

The **Duke Law & Technology Review** is an online legal publication that focuses on the evolving intersection of law and technology. This area of study draws on a number of legal specialties--intellectual property, business law, free speech and privacy, telecommunications, and criminal law--each of which is undergoing doctrinal and practical changes as a result of new and emerging technologies. The *Duke Law & Technology Review* strives to be a "Review" in the classic sense of the word. New developments are examined and synthesized around larger theoretical issues, and the implications are critically examined. Recent cases, proposed bills, and administrative policies are reviewed and consolidated.<sup>20</sup>

The **Duke Law Journal** was first published in March 1951 as the *Duke Bar Journal*. A medium for student expression, the *Duke Bar Journal* consisted entirely of student-written and student-edited work until 1953, when it began publishing faculty contributions. To reflect the inclusion of faculty scholarship, the *Duke Bar Journal* became the *Duke Law Journal* in 1957. In 1969, the journal published its inaugural "Administrative Law Symposium" issue, a tradition that continues to this day. *The Duke Law Journal* publishes eight issues per volume.<sup>21</sup>

The ***Law and Contemporary Problems*** is a quarterly, interdisciplinary publication of Duke University School of Law. It was founded in 1933 and is the oldest journal published at the law school. It is a quarterly, interdisciplinary, faculty-edited publication of Duke Law School. *Law and Contemporary problems* uses a symposium format, generally publishing one symposium per issue on a topic of contemporary concern.<sup>22</sup>

The ***Duke Forum for Law & Social Change*** (*DFLSC*) is the newest addition to the Duke Law family of journals. It is a yearly publication. It features articles covering a wide range of social issues, with each printed issue focusing on a timely, central theme. *DFLSC* is published both in print and online formats.<sup>23</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>24-28</sup>

Duke University School of Law's moot court program allows students to practice appellate advocacy in a manner similar to how it is practiced in an appeal before the Supreme Court. In order to perform various activities related to the school's moot courts, the Moot Court Board has been established.

Entry onto the Board is available solely through competitive tournaments in either the first year (Hardt Cup competition), the second and third years (Dean's Cup competition), or through tryouts for the Jessup competition. The board organizes and conducts the law school's annual Hardt Cup and Dean's Cup intramural competitions and selects Duke Law's representatives for the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Members of the board regularly compete in national and the world's most prestigious moot court competitions. Teams are selected at the beginning of the fall semester and participate in competitions like the American Bar Association's National Appellate Advocacy Competition and the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition.

The Hardt Cup Competition is open to first-year students and offers them opportunities to hone their oral advocacy skills. The competition is comprised of three preliminary rounds and one final round, all completed within a three-week period. Participation in the first round of the Hardt Cup is a mandatory component of the Legal Analysis, Research, and Writing Program curriculum for all 1L students. Participation in subsequent rounds, through which students can earn invitations to join the Moot Court Board, is voluntary but strongly encouraged. At the end of the third round, the top finishers are invited to join the Moot Court Board. The top eight finishers continue to argue in the final round to compete for the Hardt Cup trophy.

The Dean's Cup Competition offers interested 2L and 3L students an opportunity to join the Moot Court Board. Participants submit appellate briefs and present oral arguments.

## Clinical Programs<sup>29, 30</sup>

The law school offers a variety of clinical programs that allow students to build an experiential bridge between law school and practice. The clinical programs are organized and operate as public interest law firms, providing students challenging opportunities to deepen their substantive legal knowledge, strengthen their lawyering skills, and build their professional identities.

The following clinical programs are offered by the law school:

- AIDS Legal Project
- Appellate Litigation Clinic
- Children's Law Clinic
- Community Enterprise Clinic
- Environmental Law and Policy Clinic
- Guantanamo Defense Clinic
- Start-Up Ventures Clinic
- Wrongful Convictions Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>31</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25th-75th percentile)	\$110,000-\$160,00
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$57,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	72.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	87.4%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	61.9%
Business and Industry	6.1%
Government	6.6%
Judicial Clerkships	16.8%
Public Interest Organizations	5.6%
Academia	3.0%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>32-36</sup>

### Externships

The law school permits several types of externships: (1) individual externships; (2) faculty-mentored externships; (3) integrated externships.

### **Individual Externships**

A student may earn from 2 to 4 credits for placement work in an Individual Externship. Only 2L and 3L students may enroll in an externship, and a student may not exceed 6 total credits of externship during law school.

### **Faculty-Mentored Externships**

A student may receive up to 9 credits for work at the externship placement in a Faculty-Mentored Externship. Credit for work in the externship will be awarded on a Credit/No Credit basis. In no event may a student receive more than 14 credits for a Faculty-Mentored Externship. Faculty-mentored externships, including externships abroad, require Curriculum Committee approval. Any student enrolled in the JD/LLM Program in International and Comparative Law may undertake a Faculty-Mentored Externship abroad.

### **Integrated Externships**

An Integrated Externship is a curricular offering in which multiple students participate during the same semester in similar externship placements and in a classroom component for which a Duke Law School faculty member serves as instructor. A semester-long Integrated Externship at the Federal Public Defender's Office for the Eastern District of North Carolina is also offered by the law school. Duke in D.C. gives students who are interested in public policy, public service, and careers in the public sector an opportunity to study federal policymaking firsthand, under the direction of Duke Law faculty and practitioners.

### **Internships**

Public Interest and government summer internship opportunities in North Carolina are available to Duke Law students. These internships are awarded by non profit centers, district attorneys or public defenders, the Department of Justice, Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts program, the Fair Trial Initiative, legal aid, and the state government.

### **Ad Hoc Internship**

Law students may register for a one-credit internship in a legal setting during the summer break with approval from the Law School Administration (specifically the Associate Dean for International Studies). It should be linked to the student's course of study and supervised by the Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and by a senior lay practitioner in the legal setting. The internship will not be graded. Instead, students will receive a Credit/No Credit notation on their transcripts. The credit does not count toward the academic credit required for graduation.

## **Student Organizations<sup>36</sup>**

- ABA Law Student Division
- Admiralty and Maritime Law Society
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Asian Law Students Association
- Association for Social Entrepreneurship & Innovation

- Black Graduate and Professional Student Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Coalition Against Gendered Violence
- Court Jesters
- Duke Bar Association
- Duke Education Law and Policy Society
- Duke Environmental Law Society
- Duke JD/MBA Club
- Duke Law Book Club
- Duke Law Democrats
- Duke Law Drama Society
- Duke Litigators
- Federalist Society
- Government and Public Service Society
- Graduate and Professional Student Council
- Haiti Legal Advocacy Project (HLAP)
- Health Law Society
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Human Rights Law Society
- Immigrant Education Project
- Innocence Project
- Intellectual Property and Cyberlaw Society
- International Criminal Court Student Network
- International Law Society
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project
- J. Reuben Clark Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Law & Economics Society
- Law & Entrepreneurship Society
- Law & History Society
- Mock Trial Board
- Moot Court Board
- National Security Law Society
- Off the Record A Capella
- OutLaw
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Refugee Asylum Support Project
- The SJD Association
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Southern Justice Spring Break
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Organization for Legal Issues in the Middle East and North Africa (SOLIMENA)
- Texas Club
- Transfer Students Association

- Veterans Disability Assistance Project
- Video Game Law Society
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
- Women Law Students Association

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RANK  
**12**

# NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

**MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,2</sup>**

375 East Chicago Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60611-3069

**REGISTRAR'S PHONE**

312-503-8464

**ADMISSIONS PHONE**

312-503-8465

**MAIN PHONE**

312-503-3100

**CAREER SERVICES PHONE**

312-503-3498

**WEBSITE**

[www.law.northwestern.edu](http://www.law.northwestern.edu)

## Overview<sup>3-7</sup>

Founded in 1859, Northwestern University School of Law empowers students to meet the challenges of the complex, competitive, and ever-changing legal and business worlds. The school uses a pre-admissions interviewing process to attract students who have not only strong academic abilities, but also strong speaking and writing skills, judgment, maturity, and ambition. It teaches students not only the law but also how to educate themselves so they can effectively perform multiple and changing professional roles in the course of long careers.

Northwestern University School of Law's educational program provides a strong core foundation in the law and legal reasoning, exposes students to the law in context and in action, builds teamwork and communication skills, reflects the increasing globalization of law and business, and enables them to share an understanding of law and legal institutions with non-lawyers. The law school has adopted a public service strategy designed to build an ethic of service and giving among all students, regardless of their career path. Each law student performs a minimum of 50 hours of public service before graduation.

The Pritzker Legal Research Center is an integral part of Northwestern University School of Law. It includes among its resources a library of print and electronic collections to serve the research and curricular needs of the faculty and students of Northwestern Law. It combines library collections from the Elbert H. Gary Library of Law, the Owen L. Coon Library, and the American Bar Association's William Nelson Cromwell Library.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

8.2:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	164-171	3.38-3.84
Median*	170	3.75

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>10</sup>

Approximate number of applications 4,390

Number accepted 1,040

Percentage accepted 23.7%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>11, 12</sup>

Class rank is not computed, nor is any entry concerning class rank recorded on the official record of any student. Grades and their numerical equivalents on a 4.33 scale are awarded as follows:

A+	4.33
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
D	1.00
F	0.00

Authorized grade entries also include:

- W (Withdrawal)
- CR (Credit)
- NC (No Credit)
- I (Incomplete—exam not yet taken or research paper not yet submitted)
- IP (In Progress—grade not yet received; delay approved by faculty and dean of students)

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>13</sup>

A mandatory curve is applied to all courses with more than 40 students enrolled. A professor teaching such a course must distribute grades as follows:

A+	3-7%
A	12-15%
A-	10-15%
B+	15-30%
B	20-35%
B-	10-15%
C+	0-7.5%
C	0-7.5%
D	0-7%
F	0-7%

To maintain good academic standing and to graduate, a student's grade point average must meet or exceed 2.25.

## Honors<sup>14</sup>

Beginning with the graduating class of 2003, honors have been distributed as follows:

Honor	Criteria
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 4.20 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.97 or higher
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.65 or higher
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Dean's List	GPA 3.50

## Awards<sup>15, 16</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Raoul Berger Prize	Best paper in the senior research program.
Leigh B. Bienen Prize	Best note or comment for <i>Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology</i> .
Barnet & Scott Hodes Prize	Best paper on an aspect of the law of local government.
Charles Cheney Hyde Prize	Every other year for the best paper related to public international law.
Harold D. Shapiro Prize	Best student in the course in Business Planning.
John Paul Stevens Prize	Third year law student graduating with the highest GPA.
Lowden-Wigmore Prizes	Finalist of Julius H. Miner Moot Court Competition.

## Journals

The **Northwestern University Law Review** is a student-operated journal whose primary purpose is to publish a journal of broad legal scholarship in four issues each year. It publishes articles written by professors, judges, and practitioners, as well as student pieces. The review also publishes symposium issues on a broad range of important topics.<sup>17</sup>

The **Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology**, founded in 1910 by Dean John Henry Wigmore, has played a unique role in the history of criminology in the United States. It was a product of the National Conference on Criminal Law and Criminology, held in 1909 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Northwestern University School of Law, and is one of the most widely circulated law journals in the country. The journal covers aspects of criminal law as well as criminology and deals with topics of legal doctrine including constitutional criminal procedure.<sup>18</sup>

The **Northwestern Journal of International Law & Business** focuses on the importance of private international law and business. It analyzes transnational and international legal problems and their effect on private entities. Three issues are published annually. It also publishes student-written notes and comments.<sup>19</sup>

The **Northwestern Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property** is dedicated to analysis of the burgeoning body of academic, business, newsworthy, and legal issues regarding the rapidly increasing and shifting field of intellectual property and technology law. Because intellectual property and technology law is an interdisciplinary field, the journal addresses law at the intersection of domestic and international economics, ethics, and medicine, to name a few areas. The journal publishes articles on a number of matters including, but not limited to, law and biotechnology, copyrights, the Internet, media, patents, telecommunications, and trademarks.<sup>20</sup>

The **Northwestern University Journal of International Human Rights** is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to providing a dynamic forum for the discussion of human rights issues and international human rights law. It seeks contributions from professionals, scholars, and experienced field workers of every background, including but not limited to law, business, political science, public policy, economics, sociology, religion, and international relations. In addition to publication, the journal seeks to promote the discussion of international human rights law by organizing symposia and a speaker series.<sup>21</sup>

The **Northwestern University Journal of Law and Social Policy** is an interdisciplinary journal that explores the impact of the law on different aspects of society. Topics covered include race, gender, sexual orientation, housing, immigration, healthcare, juvenile justice, voting rights, family law, civil rights, poverty, the environment, and privacy rights.<sup>22</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>23</sup>

Moot court programs are an important part of legal training at Northwestern Law. They prepare students for and allow them to participate in appellate arguments.

Participation in the Arlyn Miner First-Year Moot Court Program is required for first-year students. Participants present a professional-level written brief and argue the case against fellow students before an appellate court composed of alumni and faculty.

The Julius H. Miner Moot Court Competition is for students in their second year and is administered by third-year students under faculty supervision. It involves the preparation of appellate briefs and presentation of oral arguments before panels of judges and practitioners. The final round is conducted before the entire student body with a panel of distinguished judges from the federal and state benches.

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team is selected following an intra-school competition that takes place during the first year of law school. The team is coached by an adjunct professor, who prepares students to compete during their second year of studies. The team prepares briefs and presents oral arguments.

The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court is open to second- and third-year law students interested in international arbitration. Team members are selected based on their successful completion of course study in both international arbitration and international sales and tryouts. This moot team requires a year-long commitment, which culminates in an international competition in Vienna, Austria, in the spring, allowing team members to interact with the top arbitrators and to network with the top arbitration firms in the world.

## Clinical Programs

Northwestern University School of Law offers the following clinical programs:

The **Children and Family Justice Center**, under the supervision of attorneys and clinical professors, the law students represent young people on matters of delinquency and crime, family violence, school discipline, health and disability, and immigration and asylum.<sup>24</sup>

The **Center for International Human Rights** focuses on researching and addressing emerging human rights norms and related issues as well as providing valuable clinical experiences for students committed to protecting human rights on a global scale.<sup>25</sup>

The **Center on Wrongful Convictions** focuses on factors leading to wrongful convictions. Clinic students investigate possible wrongful convictions and represent imprisoned clients with claims of actual innocence.<sup>26</sup>

The **Investor Protection Center** provides assistance to investors with limited income or small dollar claims who are unable to obtain legal representation.<sup>27</sup>

Under the supervision of the faculty of the **Civil Litigation Center** students perform the roles of lawyers in litigation, including taking depositions, drafting written discovery, preparing and arguing motions, and trying cases. Students also interview clients and make case presentations at the LAFC case acceptance meetings.<sup>28</sup>

The **Center on Negotiation and Mediation** is designed to teach students effective negotiation and mediation theory and skills through a series of courses and workshops. The program coaches the teams representing Northwestern Law in the ABA Negotiation Competition.<sup>29</sup>

The **Roderick MacArthur Justice Center** was started in 2006. Law students receive academic credit for assisting the center in preparing cases. The center litigates issues of significance for the criminal justice system, including issues pertaining to prisoner rights, the death penalty, and gun control.<sup>30</sup>

The **Appellate Advocacy Program**, Program offers students the opportunity to participate in appellate advocacy before the Seventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court in two separate clinical courses.<sup>31</sup>

The **Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth** (CWCY) is a joint project of the Center on Wrongful Convictions and Children and the Family Justice Center at Northwestern University School of Law's Bluhm Legal Clinic. It is the only innocence project in the country that focuses exclusively on individuals who were convicted or accused of crimes when they were adolescents or younger.<sup>32</sup>

Under the supervision of clinical faculty and staff of the **Entrepreneurship Law Center**, law and business students work together to represent start-up companies, entrepreneurs, and nonprofit organizations. Students provide affordable legal advice on matters such as incorporation, trademark registration, copyright protection, and contract review.<sup>33</sup>

Students of the **Bartlit Center for Trial Advocacy** participate in nationally-ranked, simulation-based teaching programs. The coursework includes ethics and professional responsibility, evidence, pre-trial litigation, trial technology, and trial advocacy. Students are additionally able to gain unparalleled experience and feedback competing on trial teams and participating in moot court.<sup>34</sup>

Students of the **Environmental Advocacy Center** are responsible for driving environmental solutions through a broad range of strategies: litigation, administrative proceedings, legislative and rule-making proceedings, public advocacy, and media. Clean air and water, clean up of hazardous waste sites, safe drinking water, green technology, climate change, and renewable energy all are issues pursued by the this legal clinic.<sup>35</sup>

The **Center for Criminal Defense** provides trial-level representation for adult criminal defendants as well as some advocacy at the post-conviction stage. Students represent a wide range of clients who have cases pending in Cook County, the collar counties, various other venues in Illinois, and in the Federal courts.<sup>36</sup>

The **Prison Reentry Strategies** focuses on developing and promoting new approaches to reentry and to develop new, effective and cost-efficient program models that will connect returning prisoners who need jobs, to jobs that need doing. It provides research and technical assistance in the design and implementation of employment-related prison reentry programs. Students take on the challenges of implementing criminal justice reform and mastering the complex interplay between federal, state and local policy makers and agencies, law, public opinion, and political debate.<sup>37</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>38</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$145,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$60,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	77.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	84.7%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	69.9%
Business and Industry	10.9%
Government	3.8%
Judicial Clerkships	9.8%
Public Interest Organizations	4.10%
Academia	1.5%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>39-41</sup>**

### **Externships**

The externship programs at Northwestern University School of Law provide students opportunities to learn substantive law while experiencing experimental, hands-on learning through fieldwork. These programs are referred to as practicums. Both the externship and the seminar are significantly enhanced by the blending of the seminar's theory and the externship's practical experience. Practicums available include:

**The Civil Government Practicum**, through which students secure externships at federal, state, or local governmental agencies or offices involving civil law, including the Federal Trade Commission, Securities and Exchange Commission, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Office of the Illinois Attorney General, Office of the Cook County Public Guardian, etc

**The Judicial Law Clerk Practicum**, in which students undergo externships with United States District Court Judges, magistrate judges, and Court of Appeal judges. The tasks include research, memoranda writing, drafting, and observing courtroom proceedings.

**The Public Interest Practicum**, in which students working at a public interest legal organization represent clients in civil matters. **The Public Interest Practicum** offered in the summer includes civil government externships. Students interview clients, research and draft legal memoranda, assist in discovery, and participate in policy initiatives.

**The Criminal Law Practicum**, in which students work with either prosecution or defense lawyers in the federal or state criminal justice system at locations including the U.S. State's Attorney's Office, Federal Defender's Office, Cook County State's Attorney's Office, and Cook County Public Defender's Office.

**The Corporate Counsel Practicum**, in which students secure externships in the legal departments of Chicago-area corporations. Students conduct research, write memoranda, and counsel clients under the direction of in-house lawyers.

**The Mediation Practicum**, through which students can become certified mediators and conduct mediations under faculty supervision after completing mediation skills training from the Center for Conflict Resolution.

## **Internship**

The **Summer Business Intern Program** is designed to provide students with exposure and participation in a business environment. Every year, the Center for Career Strategy and Advancement invites companies in Chicago and around the United States to partner with the law school in its **Summer Business Intern Program**. It provides students with the opportunity to get first-hand work experience. First- and second-year law students get practical experience within an active corporate legal environment.

The law school offers a full-time **Summer Business Internship** for JD students. It is designed for a company to engage a first-year JD student (or perhaps a second-year JD). The student participates in the program five days a week from mid-May through mid-August for up to twelve weeks.

## **Student Organizations<sup>42</sup>**

- Advocates for Reproductive Freedom
- African Legal Library Project
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF)
- Art and Entertainment Law Society (AEELS)
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Student Chapter (ATLA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Disability Law Society
- Diversity Coalition
- Environmental Law Society
- Faculty Research Seminars for Students (FARSS)
- Habeas Chorus
- Human Rights Project
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- JD-MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students' Association (JLSA)
- Labor and Employment Law Association (LELA)
- Latino Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Law School Democrats
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers Guild (NLG)
- OUTlaw
- Public Interest Law Group (PILG)
- Small Business Opportunity Clinic (SBOC)
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Sports Law Society

- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Effort to Rejuvenate Volunteering (SERV)
- Student Funded Public Interest Fellowships Program (SFPIF)
- The D.R.E.A.M. Committee
- The Federalist Society
- Veterans Association
- Wigmore Follies
- Women's Leadership Coalition

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RANK

13

## CORNELL UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

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ADMISSIONS PHONE  
607-255-5141

CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
607-255-5252



### Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

Established in 1887 and ranked among top-tier law schools, Cornell University Law School provides a wide-ranging curriculum.

With a wide range of courses, Cornell University Law School offers students ample opportunities to explore everything from corporate finance and labor law to capital punishment and immigration and refugee law. In spite of its technicality, the law is approached as a humanistic science at Cornell University Law School. Students learn the principles, skills, and ethics of being a lawyer and study the context in which laws are made. In examining the doctrines and policies of the current legal system, they are encouraged to evaluate its virtues and defects. They graduate prepared to provide clients with professional service of the highest quality, to help further legal progress and reform, and to become community leaders.

The law school aims at providing an intellectual and resourceful atmosphere supported by a faculty who follow the principle that study of law ought to be done within the context of its ultimate humanity.

JD students can participate in international joint and dual degree programs as well as in semester exchanges at various universities and summer institutes in Paris. Cornell Law School has embraced an international perspective, a diverse student body, and international scholarship from the beginning. International endowments include the Berger International Legal Studies Program; the Clarke Center for International and Comparative Legal Studies; the Clarke Program in East Asian Law and Culture; the Mori, Hamada & Matsumoto Faculty Exchange; and the Clarke Middle East Legal Studies Fund. These allow the school's students to receive training relevant to a rapidly evolving transnational environment.

Cornell University Law School is the proud home of the Legal Information Institute, a preeminent source of legal materials and a major network resource available to users worldwide.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

9.4:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	166-169	3.54-3.77
Median*	167	3.68

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications 4,054

Number accepted 1,181

Percentage accepted 29.1%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

As a matter of faculty policy, Cornell Law School does not release the academic rankings of students. After four semesters, the top five students in the class are ranked.

Grades awarded and their corresponding grade point values are:

A +	4.33
A	4.00
A -	3.67
B +	3.33
B	3.00
B -	2.67
C +	2.33
C	2.00
C -	1.67
D +	1.33
D	1.00
D -	0.67
F	0.00

Each JD student, after the first year, may elect to take up to two upper class courses at law school on a Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory basis. Students who opt for Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory grading in the class are awarded a grade of S if they receive a C- or better. A grade of U is given to any student who receives a D+ or worse.

A student's merit point ratio (grade point average) is determined by dividing the total number of merit points awarded by the number of credit hours of work taken. Credit hours of coursework for which a grade of F was given are included in the computation. Grades in seminars, problem courses, and clinical courses are based upon written projects, oral presentations, and class participation, according to instructor preference. Grades in most other courses are based upon an exam and other written and oral projects, if the instructor so chooses. In addition, class participation may be an element of a student's final course grade.

An incomplete grade for a law course may be submitted by an instructor only if the student has substantial equity at a passing level in the course with respect to work completed and also has been prevented by circumstances beyond the student's control from completing all course requirements on time. Failure to remove the incomplete grade within the specified time limit will result in an automatic entry of F on the student's transcript.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

Faculty members are required to grade all courses, including problem courses, clinics, and seminars, so that the mean grade for JD students in the course does not exceed 3.35 (the acceptable range is 3.2 to 3.5). Actual grade distribution data for all law courses is made available to students at the end of each semester.

#### **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Exceptional performance
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 30%
Dean's List	Top 30%
Charles Evans Hughes Scholar	Top 30% at the completion of the second year of law school. (Beginning with the Class of 2014)

#### **Awards<sup>13</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
<i>American Bankruptcy Law Journal</i> Prize	The highest grade in any bankruptcy course.
American Bankruptcy Medal of Excellence	Excellence in bankruptcy law.
American Bar Association Prize	Excellence in the study of land use and local government.

Peter Belfer Memorial Prize	Excellence in federal securities regulation and related laws.
Boardman Third-Year Law Prize	The best work through the end of the second year.
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition Prizes	The two best papers on copyright law.
Cali Excellence for the Future Award	The highest grades in selected courses.
Arthur S. Chatman Labor Law Prize	Academic excellence, especially in labor law, or a paper on labor law.
Daniel B. Chernoff Prize	Academic excellence in intellectual property and patent law.
Cornell Law Library Prize for Exemplary Student Research	First and second prizes annually for best academic research papers.
Cuccia Prizes	The finalists of the fall moot court.
Fraser Prize	Outstanding work in law studies.
Freeman Award for Civil-Human Rights	The greatest contribution to civil-human rights.
Morris P. Glushien Prize	The best student note or comment in a Cornell student law journal.
Stanley E. Gould Prize for Public Interest Law	Stanley E. Gould Prize for Public Interest Law.
Harry G. Henn Prize in Corporations	The highest grade in an upper-class corporations course.
Seymour Herzog Memorial Prize	Excellence in law, commitment to public interest law, and love of sports.
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	An outstanding record in trial and appellate practice.
Louis Kaiser Prizes	The best briefs submitted in the fall and spring moot court competitions.
Marc E. and Lori A. Kasowitz Prize for Excellence in Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy	Excellence in writing and oral advocacy.
John J. Kelly Memorial Prize	Graduating law school student who best exemplifies qualities of scholarship, fair play and good humor.
Ida Cornell Kerr and William Ogden Kerr Memorial Prize	The best third-year student.
David Marcus Memorial Prize	An outstanding comment in the <i>Cornell Law Review</i> .
Robert S. Pasley Memorial Prize Fund	The student who best exemplifies Professor Pasley's scholarly interest in the law and the arts, classics, or humanities.
Herbert R. Reif Prize	Exemplary use of the English language in a note or comment written for the <i>Cornell Law Review</i> .
Esther and Irving Rosenbloom Prize Fund	The best class paper or law review note on law and finance.
Helen Belding Smith and Henry P. Smith III Moot Court Fund	Helen Belding Smith and Henry P. Smith III Moot Court Fund.

The Student Legal Ethics Award	The student who demonstrates, in a law review note, a seminar paper or independently-written paper, or through work in a clinical program or in some other significant way.
Honorable G. Joseph Tauro Dean's Prize	General academic excellence.
Fredric H. Weisberg Prizes	The best students in Cornell's Constitutional Law and Legal Methods courses.
West Publishing Company Awards	Excellent overall scholastic achievement.

## Journals

The **Cornell Law Review** strives to uphold the vision articulated for it more than 90 years ago—a vision for publishing useful and challenging legal scholarship. For more than 90 years, The Review has earned a reputation as one of the nation's leading law journals by publishing significant and challenging contributions to the world of legal scholarship. From its inception in 1915 through 1966, the *Cornell Law Review* published four issues annually and was known as the *Cornell Law Quarterly*. It now publishes six issues per year.<sup>14</sup>

The **Cornell International Law Journal**, one of the oldest and most prominent international law journals in the country, was founded in 1967. Three times per year, the journal publishes scholarship that reflects the sweeping changes that are taking place in public and private international law. Each issue features articles by legal scholars, practitioners, and participants in international politics as well as student-written notes.<sup>15</sup>

First published in July 1992, the **Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy** is dedicated to publishing articles, commentaries, book reviews, and student notes that explore the intersections of law and public or social policy. It addresses current domestic issues and their implications in the fields of law, government, public policy, and the social sciences. The journal accepts and solicits manuscripts written by members of the academic and professional community. It publishes three issues a year in print, and is currently in the process of expanding its Internet presence.<sup>16</sup>

The **Cornell Law Forum** is Cornell Law School's magazine and is published twice annually for alumni, friends, and supporters. In addition to news about the law school, the *Cornell Law Forum* features scholarly articles, class notes, and profiles of alumni, faculty, and students. The newsletter started in 1949 and expanded in 1974 to the magazine's present format.<sup>17</sup>

The **LII Bulletin** is a Cornell Law School electronic journal. Second- and third-year law students are members of its editorial board, and are responsible for every aspect of the journal's management, from selecting decisions for commentary to researching, writing, editing, and producing the journal content in HTML. Since 2004-05, the bulletin has covered cases currently before the U.S. Supreme Court. Bulletin content is available on the site and by (free) email subscription.<sup>18</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>19, 20</sup>

Each year, the student-run Moot Court Board prepares and administers two upper-class competitions and one first-year competition. The Board also sponsors students' participation in 4 annual external, nationwide competitions. The final round is judged by Appeals Court judges, usually including a circuit judge from the U.S. Court of Appeals.

Students have many opportunities to participate in international moot court competitions. Under the auspices of the Berger Program, Cornell regularly sends teams of students to participate in competitions, including the Phillip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition, the Niagara Competition (for US and Canadian schools), the ICC Mediation Competition, Paris, and the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition, in Vienna.

## Clinical Programs<sup>21</sup>

Large numbers of law students participate in a wide range of live-client clinics housed at Cornell Law School. The Cornell Legal Aid Clinic offers legal services to individuals financially unable to employ an attorney and provides students with the chance to engage in the supervised practice of law under the direction of experienced attorneys. Clinical faculties also conduct a variety of other specialized clinics and skills courses within the regular curriculum. Some students elect to enroll in in-house clinics where students represent clients in real practice settings. Students also appear before administrative tribunals or courts.

Clinics offered by the school include:

- Children Advocacy Clinic
- Advocacy for Lesbian Gay Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Communities Clinic
- Capital Punishment Clinic: Post Conviction Litigation
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- DREAMer Pro bono Project
- Immigration Appellate Law and Advocacy Clinic
- Innocence Clinic
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Juvenile Justice Clinic
- Labor Law Clinic
- Prosecution Clinic
- Securities Law Clinic
- U.S. Attorney's Office Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25th-75th percentile)	\$160,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$62,467

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	69.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	76.1%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	54.4%
Business and Industry	1.6%
Government	17.6%
Judicial Clerkships	13.7%
Public Interest Organizations	8.80%
Academia	0.5%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>23, 24</sup>**

### **Externships**

Cornell law students have opportunities to represent individuals, groups, or institutional clients directly. The Legal Aid Clinic provides externship courses and places students in a variety of workplaces that meet their particular educational goals. Students can enroll in local, part-time externships or immerse themselves in practice settings by enrolling in semester-long, full-time externships in various cities in the U.S. or, occasionally, abroad.

Second- and third-year students can take advantage of the following externship options:

The **Full-Term Externship**, in which students work with organizations in the not-for-profit sector, governmental agencies, or in-house counsel offices in media or sports or serve judicial clerkships.

The **Judicial Externship**, in which students work with a state or federal trial and appellate court judge in New York. The emphasis is on learning about judges, the judicial decision-making process, and trials.

The **Legislative Externship**, in which students work with Assembly member Barbara Lifton and other members of her staff. The emphasis is on learning about the legislative process and the drafting of legislation, understanding the reasons for statutory ambiguity, and developing various skills.

The **Law Guardian Externship**, in which selected students are placed at the Law Guardian Office, where they assist attorneys in the representation of children in abuse and neglect cases, juvenile delinquency proceedings, and PINS (person in need of supervision) cases. Students also may have their own cases, in which they will assume primary responsibility for representation. It offers important insights into the representation of children in Family Court.

The **Neighborhood Legal Services Externship**, in which cases involve the representation of clients of a legal services office, the Ithaca office of Legal Assistance of Western New York. Students provide legal assistance to indigent clients in civil matters.

## **Internships**

The law school provides internship opportunities in order to gain relevant experience and make valuable contacts. The diversity and breadth of the international law practice area precludes it from being confined to a tidy definition. In the public international law field, most lawyers' interest stems from an affinity with a particular country or global region (India, South Asia) and/or an interest in particular policy issues (hunger, poverty). Cornell graduates in the field advise students to learn everything they can about the region in which they are interested in order to be sensitive to the legal structure, social and political norms, customs, and geography.

## **Student Organizations<sup>25</sup>**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Student Association
- Bioethics & Health Law Society
- Black Law Students Association
- Briggs Society of International Law
- Business Law Society
- California Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Cornell Advocates for Human Rights
- Cornell Association of Law And Economics
- *Cornell International Law Journal*
- *Cornell Journal of Law And Public Policy*
- Cornell Law Second Amendment Club
- Cornell Law Students Association
- Cornell Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Intellectual Property and Technology Association
- Italian American Law Students Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Lambda Law Association (LGBTQ)
- Latino American Law Students Association
- Law Students For Reproductive Justice
- Legal Information Institute
- LLM Association
- Mock Trial Board
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students
- Public Interest Law Union
- Society of Wine & Jurisprudence

- South Asian Law Students Association
- Spring Break Service Trip
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Leadership Council
- Women's Law Coalition

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RANK

14

# GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1-3</sup>

600 New Jersey Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20001

REGISTRAR'S PHONE  
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[www.law.georgetown.edu](http://www.law.georgetown.edu)

CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
202-662-9300



## Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

Georgetown University Law Center began in 1870 and was the first law school established in the United States by a Jesuit institution of higher learning. Located at the foot of Capitol Hill, in Washington, DC, Georgetown Law offers its students access to the Congress, the Supreme Court, and numerous agencies, administrative boards, and commissions of the federal government and the District of Columbia.

Georgetown Law educates an exceptionally talented and diverse student body for legal practice and the pursuit of justice. In addition to a wide variety of courses in more than 27 traditional legal fields, the school's curriculum provides numerous opportunities in courses and clinics for students to develop the problem solving, negotiation, and mediation skills modern legal practice demands. Georgetown Law's extensive international law curriculum and numerous multidisciplinary courses and programs also enable students to prepare themselves for a profession that is increasingly global and interdisciplinary. Students may pursue their legal education through the full-time program or a part-time program curriculum. Several joint degrees are offered, through which students may combine their legal education with a business degree or the study of international affairs, public health, public policy, government, or philosophy.

The Edward Bennett Williams Law Library and the John Wolff International and Comparative Law Library contain extensive collections of print and microform material available for the use of the Georgetown community and legal scholars worldwide.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

11.0:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	165-170	3.43-3.82
Median*	169	3.73

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications 8,087

Number accepted 2,296

Percentage accepted 28.4%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

Georgetown University Law Center does not rank its students.

The Law Center's faculty awards the grades of A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, C-, D and F. Some courses available to upper class students are graded under the Pass/Fail option and in the clinical programs, the graduate fellows also participate in the grading process.

The following numerical equivalents are assigned to each letter grade:

A+	4.00
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D	1.00
F	0.00

An A+ grade is assigned a 4.00 numerical equivalent, and is awarded in recognition of truly extraordinary academic performance. A student's cumulative grade point average is computed by multiplying the numerical equivalent of each letter grade by the credit value of the course, adding the results together, and then dividing the total by the total number of credits. While the cumulative grade point average is based upon all the student's Georgetown Law grades, the annual grade point average is based only upon the student's grades for one academic year. In calculating the student's cumulative grade point average, the Law Center includes

the academic credits for any course the student has failed, even when the student has successfully retaken the course.

### **Pass/Fail Option**

Students decide whether to use the Pass/Fail option for a course. First-year JD students are not permitted to use the Pass/Fail option. Upper-class JD students are eligible to use the Pass/Fail option for upper-class electives at the Law Center and at the Center for Transnational Legal Studies, and cross-listed law center graduate courses that are available for Pass/Fail.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

The following is the faculty-approved recommended curve for all first-year and upper-level examination courses. The faculty also established a grade of A+ to be recorded on official law school transcripts in recognition of truly extraordinary academic performance in a law school class.

A	12%
A-	19%
B+	28%
B	31%*
B-	
C+	
C	
C-	5-10%*
D	
F	

\* Because the target percentage for B- and below is a range, rather than a specific number, the target percentage of B grades can increase by one percent for every percent below 10 percent that a faculty member decides to award grades of B- and below.

### **Honors<sup>12, 13</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.70 or higher (based upon the cumulative grade point average and granted at the sole discretion of the faculty)
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top one-third
Dean's List	Top one-third
Directors' List Distinction	Top 15%

## Awards<sup>14</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Health Care Law	Up to three graduating students for having the highest GPA in a basic Health Law course or for outstanding performance in this field.
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Intellectual Property Law	Up to three graduating students for having the highest GPA in a basic Intellectual Property Law course or for outstanding performance in this field.
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Labor and Employment Law	Up to three graduating students for having the highest GPA in a basic Labor and/or Employment Law course or for outstanding performance in this field.
ALI/ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	The student who best represents leadership and scholarship.
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Excellence in Bankruptcy Law.
American Bankruptcy Law Journal Student Prize	The highest grade in any bankruptcy class at any accredited United States law school.
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State, and Local Government Law Certificate of Recognition	The best student in Land Use and Local Government Law.
Baker & McKenzie Law Student Assistance Program	First-year minority students.
Beaudry Cup	The best advocates of the first-year class.
The Bellamy Negotiation Competition	The students who best demonstrate skillful handling of a simulated legal negotiation with their peers.
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Each student receiving the top grade in a law school course.
Joyce Chiang Memorial Award	A student committed to public service.
Jeffrey Crandall Award	A student committed to legal aid who exemplifies the ideals and commitment of the late Jeffrey Crandall.
Dean's Certificate	Outstanding service to the Georgetown Law community.
Kathleen Stowe Dixon Visiting Student Prize	The visiting student with the highest GPA during his or her year at Georgetown University Law Center.
Dean Hugh J. Fegan Memorial Prize	The best overall academic record at the conclusion of the first year.
Michael Feldman Advocacy Award	An outstanding advocate in the Criminal Justice Clinic.
Georgetown Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC Award	The best overall academic performance.
Georgetown Law Journal Meritorious Service Award	Up to four members who have made outstanding contributions to the <i>Georgetown Law Journal</i> .
Alan J. Goldstein Memorial Award	The student in the Criminal Justice Clinic who best demonstrates intelligence, creativity, and resourcefulness in defending criminal clients and a dedication to criminal law, fair play, and justice.

Greenfield Trial Practice Awards	Substantial monetary awards to help defray the cost of student loans given to several students in the Criminal Justice Clinic who have accepted jobs as prosecutors and as public defenders
Nelson T. Hartson Memorial Award	A graduating student in the JD program on the basis of scholastic achievement, economic need, or a combination of the two factors
Deborah K. Hauger Memorial Fellowship Fund	A graduate to facilitate the study of issues in international affairs, specifically in the realm of peacekeeping in developing nations.
Kirby S. Howlett III Memorial Award	A recent graduate who has participated in the Criminal Justice Clinic or the Juvenile Justice Clinic, taken out student loans while attending Georgetown Law, and upon graduation accepts employment at a public defender's office.
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Trial clinic students who excel at advocacy.
Juvenile Justice Clinic Public Service Award	A graduating Juvenile Justice Clinic student who has accepted a job providing service to the community.
Kappa Beta Pi Prize	The highest academic average after the first year.
Milton A. Kaufman Prize	The best work for the year on the <i>Georgetown Law Journal</i> .
Charles A. Keigwin Award	The best overall academic record after the first year.
John F. Kennedy Labor Law Award	The best overall performance in the field of labor law.
Leahy Moot Court Competition	The winner of the Leahy Moot Court Competition.
Francis E. Lucey, S.J. Award	The student with the highest academic average for his or her law school career.
James John McTigue Essay Award	The author of the best seminar paper.
George Brent Mickum III Prize	The highest academic average in first-year courses.
Saint Thomas More Award	The top three graduating journal members for outstanding work on the <i>Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics</i> .
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Academic excellence and contribution to the advancement of women in society.
Vincent G. Panati Memorial Award	The best combined scholastic record in Criminal Justice courses.
Bettina E. Pruckmayr Memorial Award	Commitment to human rights.
Leon Robbin Patent Award	Annually to the graduating student who has done the best work in the field of patent law.
Sewall Key Prize	The best work in taxation.
Tutorial Program Award	Outstanding contributions to Georgetown Law's academic program.
Washington Law Reporter Prize	The best contribution to the success of the Student Bar Association.

## Journals

The **Georgetown Law Journal**, founded in 1912, is one of the oldest and most prestigious law journals in the nation. Its six annual issues serve as an important forum for the legal community. The journal publishes articles on timely issues by professors and practitioners, solicits reviews of recent books, coordinates symposia on important topics, and produces thoughtful student notes. It is the flagship law review of Georgetown University Law Center. It publishes the widely used *Annual Review of Criminal Procedure (ARCP)*.<sup>15</sup>

The **American Criminal Law Review** is the most-cited criminal law review in the nation and ranks among the country's most-cited law reviews of any kind. It publishes student work both in its print publications and on its website. In addition to its three general issues per year, the *ACLR* also publishes the Annual Survey of White Collar Crime, a comprehensive guide to yearly developments in the field.<sup>16, 17</sup>

The **Georgetown Immigration Law Journal** is the student-edited law journal devoted exclusively to the study of immigration law. It is published quarterly and is dedicated to exploring and critically analyzing international and domestic events as they shape the field of immigration law. Each issue features articles by scholars and legal practitioners, as well as a significant number of student notes and a section reviewing current developments in immigration.<sup>18</sup>

The **Georgetown International Environmental Law Review** is published four times per year by students of Georgetown University Law Center. Attempts to confront and resolve global and trans-boundary environmental problems have created the need for a legal forum to provide analyses of these issues. The *Georgetown International Environmental Law Review* was created to meet this need, and its location in Washington, DC, facilitates contact with key domestic and foreign governmental institutions as well as international and environmental practitioners.<sup>19</sup>

The **Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law** is in its twelfth year of publication. Its mission is to explore the impact of gender, sexuality, and race on both the theory and practice of law. It complements a long tradition of feminist scholarship and advocacy at Georgetown University Law Center and seeks to complement the critical work being done by existing feminist journals while expanding inquiries into the intersection between gender, sexuality, and race.<sup>20</sup>

The **Georgetown Journal of International Law** was formerly known as *Law and Policy in International Business*. It has changed its name and expanded its scope to include issues of general international law. It publishes four annual issues that serve as invaluable resources to scholars, corporate and international bars, and practitioners. It also provides a preeminent educational opportunity for students to gain a greater understanding of a wide range of international topics while working with leading scholars in the field.<sup>21</sup>

The **Georgetown Journal of Law & Public Policy** is published biannually by students of the Georgetown University Law Center. It is a scholarly legal journal with a focus on conservative, libertarian, and natural law thought.<sup>22</sup>

The **Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics** is published by students of the Georgetown University Law Center. The journal was founded in 1987 to exemplify the mission and mandate of the legal profession articulated in Canon 32 of the Canons of Professional Ethics which was approved by the American Bar Association in 1908.

Through its four annual issues and featured symposia, the journal aspires to serve as the main forum for the discussion and development of the most compelling and pertinent issues currently affecting both the Bench and the Bar.<sup>23</sup>

The **Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy** is the nation's premier law journal on poverty issues. It features student research, works from scholars in poverty-related disciplines, and the "voices" of persons living in poverty. In pursuit of distinctive and seminal scholarship, the journal adopts focus areas for each of its three annual issues. It is committed to bringing international attention to these and other issues of substantial importance to society's less advantaged. Consistent with its mission, the journal is also actively involved in local community outreach and works with legal and social service organizations to provide assistance to those in need.<sup>24</sup>

The **Tax Lawyer** is published by the Section of Taxation of the American Bar Association with the assistance of the Georgetown University Law Center and its students. It offers scholarly articles, student notes, and comments on topics of professional interest to members of the Section of Taxation and other readers. The journal is published five to six times annually, including at least one issue of The State and Local Tax Lawyer.<sup>25</sup>

The **Georgetown Journal of Modern Critical Race Perspectives**, Georgetown's newest law journal is dedicated to legal scholarship on race and identity. It provides both a forum for scholarship by academics, students and practitioners who are committed to racial justice and a rigorous editorial experience for students, who have the same goal.<sup>26</sup>

The **Journal of National Security Law & Policy** is published by Georgetown law & Syracuse University Institute for National Security and Counterterrorism. It is devoted exclusively to national security law and policy.<sup>27</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>28-30</sup>

The Moot Court Program is the centerpiece of the Supreme Court Institute's public service activities. Every student enrolled in the JD program at Georgetown attends a moot court as part of the first-year Legal Research and Writing curriculum.

The Appellate Advocacy division of the Barristers' Council runs Georgetown University Law Center's moot court program. Two competitions are organized per year: William E. Leahy Moot Court Competition and Robert J. Beaudry Moot Court Competition.

The Leahy Competition is held in the fall and is open to Georgetown Law LLM and upper-class JD students. The Beaudry Competition is held in the spring and is open to Georgetown Law first-year JD students. Competitors must write an appellate brief based on a closed packet and then argue their case in front of a panel of judges. Finalists argue before a panel of prominent local and federal judges. Those who advance to a certain level are invited to join the Barristers' Council and to represent Georgetown Law in an interscholastic moot court competition.

The Council also hosts the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Competition, a unique interscholastic moot court competition that deals with emerging international law and space law issues.

## Clinical Programs<sup>31</sup>

Georgetown University Law Center offers a variety of clinical programs in different areas of the law. Students can work on civil, criminal, legislative, and policy matters, assisting clients such as refugees seeking political asylum, adult and juvenile criminal defendants, victims of domestic violence, housing and community development groups, individuals threatened with eviction, children seeking access to adequate special and regular education, groups or individuals seeking to remedy civil rights violations or protect the environment, and organizations seeking legislative and regulatory reform on a variety of issues in the United States and abroad.

Clinics offered by the school include:

- The Appellate Litigation Clinic
- The Center for Applied Legal Studies
- The Community Justice Project
- The Criminal Defense & Prisoner Advocacy Clinic
- The Criminal Justice Clinic
- The Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Federal Legislation and Administrative Clinic
- The Harrison Institute for Housing and Community Development Clinic
- The Harrison Institute for Public Law Policy Clinic
- The Institute for Public Representation
- The International Women's Human Rights Clinic
- The Juvenile Justice Clinic
- The DC Law Students in Court Clinic
- The DC Street Law Clinic
- The Social Enterprise and Nonprofit Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>32</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$160,000-\$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$61,245

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	63.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	71.1%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	46.7%

Business and Industry	10.7%
Government	14.7%
Judicial Clerkships	8.6%
Public Interest Organizations	16.6%
Academia	1.9%
Unknown	0.8%

## Externships/Internships<sup>33, 34</sup>

### Externships

Students may choose to do an externship in the summer for either two or three credits. Summer externships are limited to the Washington, DC area.

Students are no longer limited to one externship but must receive prior approval from the Associate Dean for Clinical Programs for a second externship. Externship credits are Pass/Fail, and count towards the 7 credit Pass/Fail limit.

Summer externs must satisfy all general externship requirements, except for or in addition to the following:

- Summer externs must complete at least 110 hours over the course of at least 6 weeks for 2 credits.
- Summer externs must complete at least 165 hours over the course of at least 6 weeks for 3 credits.
- Summer externs must attend an in-person mandatory orientation session before beginning their externships.

### Internships

As part of the Criminal Justice Clinic, the Investigative Internship Program was founded in 1985 and continues today as an integral part of the success of its clinical program. Investigators work closely with clinic attorneys in all aspects of pre-trial preparation. In exchange for interns' assistance, the law school offers a hands-on educational and working environment.

## Student Organizations<sup>35</sup>

- 1L Tutors
- Advocates For Life
- American Bar Association
- American Civil Liberties Union-Georgetown Law
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Brother's Forum
- Caribbean Law Students Association

- Catholic Student Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Club Basketball
- Consumer Law Society
- Contemplative Law Society
- Corporate Law Association
- Criminal Law Association
- Cyberlaw Association
- Democrats
- Election Law Society
- Entertainment Media Alliance-Law
- Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Foundation
- Everybody Wins - Georgetown Law
- Federalist Society
- Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown
- Friends of Transfer Students Association
- Future Law Teachers
- Georgetown Labor and Employment Law Society
- Georgetown Law Off-Campus Housing
- Gilbert & Sullivan Society
- Global Race and Identity Project
- Golf Club
- Green Committee
- Gun Club
- Habitat for Humanity
- Haiti Coalition
- Home Court
- HouseReach
- Hoya Lawya Runners
- Human Rights Action / Amnesty International
- Human Rights Institute
- Immigration Law Club
- Independent Media Society
- Innocence Project
- International Arbitration Society
- International Law Society
- International Students Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor
- Korean American Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Students Association
- Law Weekly
- Lawcappella
- LL M Tax Council

- Military Law Society
- Muevalo
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- Office of Public Interest & Community Service
- OutLaw
- Outreach
- Parents Group
- Peer Advisor & Alumni Mentor Program
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Fellows Program (OPICS)
- Reproductive Justice (not sponsored or funded by University)
- Republican Law Students Association
- Residence Life
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteers
- Rugby Club
- Secular Student Alliance
- Securities & Financial Law Organization
- SJD Students
- Soccer Club
- Society for Health Law & Bioethics
- Softball Club
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Space Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association
- Students Against Looting Valuable Antiquities - Georgetown Endeavor
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy
- Suspension Representation Project
- *The Georgetown Law Journal*
- Uncorked
- United Nations at Georgetown
- Water Polo Club
- Women of Color Collective
- Women's Basketball Club
- Women's Legal Alliance
- Writ of Knit
- Youth Advocacy Group

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RANK

15

# UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW

## MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,2</sup>

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## ADMISSIONS PHONE

512-232-1200

## MAIN PHONE

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## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

512-232-1150

## WEBSITE

[www.utexas.edu/law](http://www.utexas.edu/law)



## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

Founded in 1883, the University of Texas School of Law is one of the oldest law schools in the nation. The law school offers a wide array of courses and students have the advantage of diverse opportunities to study abroad through exchanges or internships. UT Law offers a large number of elective courses and seminars of varying class sizes, with some classes having as few as seven students. The small-group program for first-year students ensures individual attention, and the upper classes are offered a wide range of seminars, colloquia, and clinics. Clinical programs in National Security, Immigration, Children's Rights, Mental Health, Criminal Law, Supreme Court, Housing, and Trial Advocacy allow students to work on cases, with supervision.

The law school offers many study-abroad programs to JD students. These are designed such that students can earn their JD in conjunction with a foreign Law degree at an international law school in three and a half to four years. In the Semester Abroad Program, students spend the fall semester of their 3L year abroad. Currently host institutions include University of Edinburgh, Scotland and University of Nottingham, England. Students can earn 28 transfer credits toward the JD degree in this way. After completion of the dissertation portion of the coursework, a student opting for this mode of study can receive a LLM degree from the respective host university. Likewise, in the AD HOC Programs, students are offered a compelling reason to study at a foreign law school not offered on the exchange program and UT law students are granted a course of study at any law school in the world. However, with a student-initiated program, students themselves have to complete most of the required research and paperwork.

UT Law's Tarlton Law Library is the seventh-largest academic law library in the United States. It offers a comprehensive American law collection as well as a large foreign and international law collection in several interdisciplinary areas of study. Tarlton has been a Federal Depository Library since 1965. The Government Documents department collects all Congressional publications and selected law-related titles from the Executive and Judicial branches of the US government.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

11.5:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	163-169	3.52-3.82
Median*	167	3.67

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications 4,316

Number accepted 1,172

Percentage accepted 27.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10, 11</sup>

It is the policy of the law school not to rank its students on the basis of academic standing. The only exception to this policy is the top 10% computed for eligibility for Order of the Coif, but individual students are not ranked.

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

A+	4.30
A	4.00
A-	3.70
B+	3.30
B	3.00
B-	2.70
C+	2.30
C	2.00
D	1.70
F	1.30

Grades, except those in seminars, are based primarily on examinations. Grades in seminars are based primarily on individual research as reflected in a paper and an oral report.

## **Pass/Fail Grades**

In general, students receive letter grades in law courses. The Dean may determine whether Pass/Fail grading is preferable for a course. Courses that will be offered only on a Pass/Fail basis are announced before registration.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>12, 13</sup>**

A student must receive a final grade of at least D in a course to receive credit for that course. A student must have a grade point average of at least 1.90 for all law courses taken to graduate from UT Law.

Distribution of grades in large first-year sections must meet the following requirements:

- 30% to 40% of grades must be A+, A, or A-.
- At least 5% of grades must be C+, C, D, or F.

Recommended distribution of grades in other courses is as follows:

- About 35% of grades should be A+, A, or A-.
- About 55% of grades should be B+, B, or B-.
- About 10% of grades should be C+, C, D, or F.

A maximum of 6% of grades (rounded up to the next whole number) may be A+ grades for classes other than seminars.

## **Exemption for Seminars**

The rules established above do not apply to seminars. But even in seminars, there should be a distribution of grades from A+ to B or below. A maximum of 15% of grades (rounded up to the next whole number) may be A+ grades for seminars.

## **Treatment of First-Year Students in Upper-Class Courses and Non-JD Candidates**

Professors may calculate separate curves for first-year and upper-class students in courses that enroll both. Each curve considered separately shall be subject to these rules.

## **Honors<sup>14, 15</sup>**

Effective Spring 2011, graduates of the School of Law who are judged by the faculty to have completed the Doctor of Jurisprudence with scholarly distinction are awarded degrees with honors. In general, honors are awarded solely on the basis of work done at the University's School of Law. No more than 35% of the graduating class may receive honors, high honors, and highest honors. No more than 5% may receive high honors and highest honors. No more than 1% may receive highest honors. The top 10% are eligible to be invited to join Coif.

## Awards<sup>16, 17</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Niemann Cup	The best advocate in the graduating class.
Order of Barristers	Outstanding ability in the preparation and presentation of moot appellate argument.
Dean's Achievement Award	Outstanding student in each course, chosen from among those with the highest grades.
Justice Center Graduating Student Awards	Students' work in public interest, legal pro bono, government, legislative, and other non-profit sectors, as well as their participation in law school clinical courses, pro bono projects, and student groups.
Chancellors	Students for their outstanding and consistent scholarship and achievement.

## Journals

The **Texas Law Review**, founded in 1922, is a national and international leader in legal scholarship and is edited and published entirely by students at the University of Texas School of Law. Seven issues are published per year. The journal contains articles by professors, judges, and practitioners, reviews of important recent books from recognized experts, essays, commentaries, and student-written notes.<sup>18</sup>

The **American Journal of Criminal Law** strives to promote and encourage improvement in the administration of criminal justice. It is devoted to exploring current issues in criminal law. The journal is published three times per year and is one of the largest circulating journals at the University Of Texas School Of Law. Each issue contains articles by law school faculty, members of the judiciary, and practicing attorneys, as well as a significant amount of student work written by the journal's members.<sup>19</sup>

The **Texas Environmental Law Journal** has been published by law students since 1990 in association with the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Section of the State Bar of Texas. Published quarterly, the journal provides timely and practical information about developments in environmental law. It includes articles by practitioners and academicians; information about recent developments involving cases, statutes, and rules relevant to environmental law; and notes submitted by law students throughout Texas.<sup>20</sup>

The **Texas Hispanic Journal of Law & Policy** is designed to provide better legal representation to the Hispanic community. It is dedicated to the discussion of Latino legal and public policy issues. It publishes articles on a variety of issues including but not limited to freedom of speech, affirmative action, immigration, voting, hate crimes, criminal procedure, the death penalty, discrimination, education, employment and labor law, NAFTA, communications, AIDS, law practice and other professions, the environment, international trade, Mexican law, taxation, healthcare, and business.<sup>21</sup>

The **Texas Intellectual Property Law Journal** is dedicated to all aspects of intellectual property law on the national and the state level. It focuses on issues of interest to academics and practitioners on topics such as patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secret law, and unfair competition. Articles and notes are written

by scholars, practitioners, and students. Their primary focus centers on providing significant and innovative contributions to U.S. and international intellectual property law. It is published three times a year.<sup>22</sup>

The **Texas International Law Journal** is a student-edited journal. It publishes articles, essays, and student notes in the areas of public and private international law, international legal theory, the law of international organizations, comparative and foreign law, and domestic laws with significant international implications. It publishes three issues per year. *TILJ* also hosts an annual symposium, which brings together preeminent scholars to discuss timely topics confronting international business, human rights litigation, U.S. litigation with international implications, and other areas of international significance.<sup>23</sup>

The **Texas Journal of Oil, Gas, and Energy Law** aims at providing significant and innovative contributions to energy law practitioners, professors, and students around the world. It focuses on imparting information to law students pertaining to the future of the energy legal field. It publishes two academic journal issues per year.<sup>24</sup>

The **Texas Journal of Women and the Law** is an innovative, student-edited journal dedicated to publishing legal scholarship to explore cultural, racial, and socioeconomic factors affecting women. It celebrates the legal, social, and political advances made by women's advocates, enhances the relationship between theoretical and practical perspectives by promoting discourse on gender and the law issues, and seeks to enrich the dialogue between the sexes by cultivating interdisciplinary discussions and encouraging the affirmation of differences.<sup>25</sup>

The **Texas Review of Entertainment & Sports Law** was founded in 1997 by law students committed to publishing the best available scholarship on legal issues that affect the entertainment and sports industries. It facilitates a scholarly discussion on the state of entertainment and sports law in America.<sup>26</sup>

The mission of the **Texas Review of Law & Politics** is to be the prime forum for the discussion and debate of contemporary social issues, including crime, federalism, affirmative action, constitutional history, and religious liberties. It publishes thoughtful and intellectually rigorous conservative articles—articles that traditional law reviews often fail to publish—to serve as blueprints for constructive legal reform.<sup>27</sup>

The **Review of Litigation** was established in 1980 at the University of Texas School of Law. It is a student-managed publication of national scope devoted to the process of litigation. The review balances the interests of academia with pragmatic issues important to practicing attorneys and judges. It publishes four issues a year on topics related to procedure, evidence, trial and appellate advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and often-litigated substantive law.<sup>28</sup>

The **Texas Journal on Civil Liberties & Civil Rights** was founded in 1992. Formerly, it was known as the *Texas Forum on Civil Liberties & Civil Rights*. The journal publishes articles at the intersection of law, politics, and society written by judges, lawyers, professors, and students. It receives funding and other support from the Section on Individual Rights and Responsibilities of the State Bar of Texas.<sup>29</sup>

The **Blackacre** was founded in 2005. It welcomes articles on legal and non-legal topics and invites students and faculties to submit fiction, poetry, drama, essays, artwork, photographs, interviews, book reviews, philosophy, memoirs, manifestos, diatribes, gossip, recipes, jokes and anything else that they think would be interesting.<sup>30</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>31, 32</sup>

The University of Texas School of Law established in honor of Judge John R. Brown "the Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition," an interscholastic appellate advocacy competition.

The University of Texas has a unique Advocacy Program that links the academic and competitive aspects of advocacy. Many of the advocacy students are also members of the Board of Advocates (BOA). The BOA is a student organization that promotes the development of both oral and written advocacy skills. The BOA organizes all intramural advocacy competitions, including mock trial, moot court, voir dire, mediation, negotiation and client counseling. The BOA also assists with over a dozen interscholastic competition teams such as the ABA National Moot Court Competition, Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, National Trial Competition, National Appellate Advocacy Competition, ATLA Student Trial Advocacy Competition, John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition, and many others.

## Clinical Programs<sup>33, 34</sup>

UT Law has an extensive clinical education program that provides opportunities for students to integrate substantive law, theory, strategy, and skills by working on legal issues in real-world settings. The goal of the school's experience-based clinical courses is to build a bridge between the classroom and the practice of law. These clinics cover a range of legal issues and internship courses in nonprofit organizations, the legislature, government agencies, and courts. Students represent clients during the preparation, trial, and appeal of cases in litigation or in law-related transactions and projects. Faculty members closely supervise students. The school provides the following clinics:

- The Actual Innocence Clinic
- The Capital Punishment Clinic
- The Children's Rights Clinic
- The Civil Rights Clinic
- The Criminal Defense Clinic
- The Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic
- The Environmental Clinic
- The Housing Clinic
- The Human Rights Clinic
- The Immigration Clinic
- The Juvenile Justice Clinic
- The Legislative Lawyering Clinic
- The Mediation Clinic
- The Mental Health Clinic
- The Supreme Court Clinic
- The Transnational Worker Rights Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>35</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$90,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$155,000
Public service - median	\$55,017

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	62.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	76.7%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed	In Percentage
Law Firms	54.5%
Business and Industry	14.7%
Government	11.4%
Judicial Clerkships	13.2%
Public Interest Organizations	5.9%
Academia	0.3%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>36, 37</sup>

### Internships

Students work closely with experienced attorneys and judges in nonprofit organizations, government agencies, domestic and international courts, and the legislature. All internships are graded on a Pass/Fail basis, and there is no final paper or examination. No compensation is given for internships. The school provides the following internship programs:

- Government Internship
- Health Law Internship
- International Internship
- Judicial Internship
- Legislative Internship
- Nonprofit Internship
- Prosecution Internship
- US Attorney Internship

## **Student Organizations<sup>38</sup>**

- Abuse Survivors Assistance
- Action Committee for Career Services
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Law Students Association
- Assault & Flattery
- Beyond Any Bar
- Board of Advocates
- Chicano/Hispanic Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Health Law and Bioethics Society
- Human Rights Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Legal Society
- Law Student Mentors
- Law Students for the Arts
- Law Yoga Club
- Legal Research Board
- OUTLaw (LBGTS Alliance)
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity
- Public Interest Law Association
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association
- Student Government - SBA
- Texas Federalist Society
- Texas Law Democrats
- Texas Law Fellowships
- Texas Law Soccer Club
- Texas Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Texas Oil and Gas Law Society
- Thurgood Marshall Legal Society
- Women's Law Caucus
- Youth Court

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RANK

15

## VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

### MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,2</sup>

131 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue South  
Nashville, TN 37203-1181

REGISTRAR'S PHONE  
615-322-0019

ADMISSIONS PHONE  
615-322-6452

MAIN PHONE  
615-322-2615

CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
615-322-6192

WEBSITE  
[law.vanderbilt.edu](http://law.vanderbilt.edu)



### Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

Vanderbilt University Law School offers a program designed to educate lawyers for careers in many professional areas. The school encourages students to acquire a broad knowledge of law and a thorough understanding of the legal system. Emphasis is placed on the development of analytical ability and other intellectual capabilities.

Legal education at Vanderbilt Law School allows students to gain extensive knowledge of domestic and international law and gives students an opportunity to understand lawmaking institutions. The curriculum at the school is oriented toward developing the analytical skills of students, as well as their verbal, writing, and communication skills. Second- and third-year students opt from a broad range of electives, including clinical courses focusing on civil, criminal, international and other areas of legal practice. All students also have the opportunity to focus on specific areas of law and practice through its academic programs. The faculty at the school aim to provide extensive training in all facets of legal research.

Vanderbilt's innovative academic programs connect rigorous intellectual training in legal theory with its immediate applications in practice, enabling Vanderbilt law students to gain the skills, information and practical experience they need to function effectively as soon as they enter the legal profession. In addition to the Ph.D. Program in Law & Economics and the Law & Business Program, which enables students to earn a certificate in Law & Business, the law school offers eight programs that allow students to focus on a particular area of interest.

The Jean and Alexander Heard Library offers a variety of services and materials. As part of the Federal Depository Library Program, the Government Information and Media Services (GIMS) department houses a broad collection of U.S. government documents.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

13.1:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	163-170	3.43-3.85
Median*	169	3.71

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>9</sup>

Approximate number of applications	3,757
Number accepted	1,133
Percentage accepted	30.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

The grading system followed at the law school is as follows:

A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>

A student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above to graduate.

## Honors<sup>12, 13</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Dean's List	Top 20%
Founder's Medal	Awarded to the student in the graduating class with the highest GPA, having completed at least 55 credit hours and five full-time semesters in residence at Vanderbilt.

## Awards<sup>14, 15</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Junius L. Allison Legal Aid Award	Significant contribution to the work of the Legal Aid Society.
Banks Award	By the Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition team to the member who has made the greatest contribution to the team's overall success during the prior year.
Bennett Douglas Bell Memorial Award	A graduating student who is not only well versed in the law but also embodies the highest conception of the ethics of the profession.
Damali A. Booker Award	A third-year law student dedicated to legal activism and committed to confronting social issues facing both the law school and the Nashville community.
Nathan Burkan Memorial Prize	The best paper on copyright law.
G. Scott Briggs Transnational Legal Studies Award	The senior who has exhibited a high degree of scholastic achievement in transnational legal studies and made the most significant contribution to the development of international legal inquiry while a student of Vanderbilt Law School.
Philip G. Davidson III Memorial Award	A student chosen by the Vanderbilt Bar Association Board of Governors who is dedicated to the law and its problem-solving role in society and who provides exemplary leadership in service to the law school and the greater community.
Robert F. Jackson Memorial Prize	The student who has maintained the highest scholastic average for his or her first two years at the law school.
Lightfoot, Franklin & White Legal Writing Awards	The best brief and to the best oralist in each of the eight sections of the first-year Legal Research and Writing course.
Archie B. Martin Memorial Prize	The highest general average for the first year.
National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Student Award	The student whose law school involvement best fulfills the goals of contributing to the advancement of women in society and promoting women's issues in the legal profession, exhibiting tenacity, enthusiasm, and academic achievement.

Jordan A. Quick Memorial Award	The student who has made the greatest contribution to the quality of life at the law school through his or her leadership with the Vanderbilt Bar Association.
Stanley D. Rose Memorial Book Award	The best paper in the field of jurisprudence or legal history submitted to fulfill the law school's advanced writing requirement.
Carl J. Ruskowski Clinical Legal Education Award	The best student in the law school's clinical program.
Vanderbilt Scholastic Excellence Award	The highest grade in all courses except seminars and limited enrollment courses.
Weldon B. White Prize	The best paper written to fulfill the law school's advanced writing requirement.
Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law Outstanding Service Award	The student, other than the editor-in-chief, who has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law</i> .
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Masamichi Yamamoto Second-Year Editor Award	The second-year staff member who has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of the journal.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law</i> Student Writing Award	The best piece of student writing submitted for publication in the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law</i> .
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Outstanding Editor Award	The third-year staff member who has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Grace Wilson Sims Medal in Transnational Law	The editorial board member, other than the editor-in-chief, who has contributed the most outstanding work to the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Second-Year Editor Award	A second-year staff member for outstanding work on the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the academic year.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Grace Wilson Sims Prize for Student Writing in Transnational Law	The best piece of student writing submitted for publication in the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year.
<i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> Candidate's Award	The second-year staff of the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> to a third-year staff member, other than the editor-in-chief, for his or her contribution to their development as staff members of the law review.
<i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> Editor's Award	A third-year editorial board member for significant contribution to the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> .
<i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> Morgan Prize	The most outstanding piece of student writing published in the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> during the school year.

<i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> Myron Penn Laughlin Recent Development Award	The student, other than the recipient of the Morgan Prize, who has contributed the best student note to the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> during the school year.
Bass Berry & Sims Moot Court Competition Award	The semifinalists in the Intramural Appellate Competition.
John A. Cortner Moot Court Competition Award	The two members of the winning team in the Intramural Appellate Competition.
K. Harlan Dodson Moot Court Staff Award	The senior member of the moot court staff, other than the chief justice, who rendered the most outstanding service during the year in all aspects of the moot court program.
Judge Albert C. Hunt National Moot Court Team Award	Students chosen as members of the National Moot Court Team.
Richard Nagareda Best Oralist	The Best Oralist who is chosen by a committee of Moot Court Board members headed by the Chief Justice of the Board.
Best Brief Award	The team based on the grading system for the briefs each team turns in chosen by the entire Moot Court Board.

## Journals

The ***Vanderbilt Law Review*** publishes six issues per year. It selects new members in the spring of their first year. Students interested in *Law Review* membership are required to compete in a case comment competition following their spring final exams. Members are selected based on a combination of their case comment score and their first-year grade point average. The law review selects 32 first-year students annually. Second-year students may also 'write on' to the *Law Review*.<sup>16</sup>

The ***Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law*** was founded by Vanderbilt law students in 1998 as the *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment Law and Practice*. It presents informative discussion of the contemporary legal issues that face the entertainment and technology industries. The journal endeavors to provide a venue where practitioners and scholars alike can confront the principal concerns of rapidly changing industries that transcend both culture and medium. *JETL* publishes four issues annually, including a special issue with papers from *JETL*'s annual symposium. In addition to the printed journal, *JETLaw* seeks to connect interested communities through its blog, which incorporates easily accessible legal analysis of current events, cases, and issues related to the journal's scope.<sup>17</sup>

The ***Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law*** publishes five issues per year. It examines issues of public and private international law, admiralty and maritime law, and other legal events and trends that transcend national boundaries. It features articles and book reviews by highly regarded scholars and practitioners in the international field and also publishes student work, including notes on significant transnational legal developments as well as comments on recent cases and developments concerning new treaties and statutes.<sup>18</sup>

The ***Environmental Law and Policy Annual Review (ELPAR)*** is a joint publication between Vanderbilt University Law School (VULS) and the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) in Washington, DC. Law students

work with an expert advisory board and senior staff from ELI to identify the year's best legal and policy solutions to pressing environmental problems. Edited by students, the single volume includes condensed versions of the selected articles, along with commentaries from leading experts from the academy, law firms, business, government and non-governmental organizations. The authors of the articles and comments present their work at an annual conference in Washington, DC, that is co-sponsored by ELI and the law school.<sup>19</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>20, 21</sup>

Each year the Moot Court Board holds a competition to select the students who will compete in two tournaments in which Vanderbilt enters teams. This competition is a moot court tournament for second- and third-year students. Membership on the Moot Court Board is based on participation in the Intramural Appellate Advocacy Competition. The team that wins the final round of the Bass Berry & Sims Moot Court Competition gets the Cortner Award. The annual cash award, which honors the memory of Judge Albert C. Hunt, goes to Vanderbilt Law students chosen as members of the National Moot Court Team. The Bass Berry & Sims Moot Court Competition Award awarded to the semifinalists in the Intramural Moot Court Competition. Participants also get Richard Nagareda Best Oralist, Best Brief, and K. Harlan Dodson Moot Court Staff Award.

### Clinical Programs<sup>22, 23</sup>

Vanderbilt Law School's clinical legal education program provides students opportunities to represent clients and handle legal cases or complete substantive research to support international institutions, domestic government agencies, or international tribunals under the close supervision of a member of the law school's clinical faculty. Clinical courses are offered for academic credit on a Pass/Fail basis, and students may enroll for one or two semesters.

The law school offers the following clinical courses:

- The Appellate Litigation Clinic
- The Civil Practice Clinic
- The Criminal Practice Clinic
- The Family Law and Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Intellectual Property and the Arts Clinic
- The International Law Practice Lab

### Placement Facts<sup>24</sup>

#### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$105,000	\$169,000
Private sector - median	\$125,000	
Public service - median	\$56,000	

## **Employment Details**

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	65.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	76.3%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	47.6%
Business and Industry	9.5%
Government	11.6%
Judicial Clerkships	15.9%
Public Interest Organizations	13.2%
Academia	1.6%
Unknown	0.5%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>25-29</sup>**

### **Externships**

Vanderbilt Law School offers many opportunities for students to pursue externships that provide valuable professional experience while gaining academic credit. Students may engage in externships in Nashville during the school year or during the summer. Also during the summer, students may engage in externships anywhere in the U.S. or the world. The Externship Program allows students to choose and design placements tailored to their individual goals and interests, typically by working with federal or state judges, prosecutors, defenders, or agencies; state attorneys general or legislative offices; corporate legal departments; or legal aid or other non-profit or non-governmental organizations.

Externship placements and proposals are approved by the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs. Students may not receive course credit for any work for which they are paid. A limited number of students may engage in a full semester externship outside Nashville. These students spend the entire semester at the externship site. Students who do not engage in full semester externships may count a maximum of 6 externship credits toward graduation requirements. Students who engage in full semester externships receive 8 credits for their externship, and may count no additional externship credits toward graduation requirements.

The following externships are available to students at Vanderbilt Law School:

- Externship - Outside Nashville/Summer
- Externship - Full Semester
- Externship - In Nashville/Academic year/Summer
- International Law Externship Programs
- Environmental Law Externships
- The Environmental Law Institute (ELI) externship
- The Hague -Spring semester externship

## **Internships**

The following internships are available to students at Vanderbilt Law School:

**International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia; The Hague, The Netherlands** - The six-month internship is open to 1 or more 3L students each semester. This internship with the Prosecutor's Office of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia was established by the UN Security Council to investigate and prosecute perpetrators of genocide and other war crimes arising from the conflict in the former Yugoslavia. One or more students each semester participate in a range of investigative work, factual development, and legal research on both procedural and substantive international criminal law issues. Students are also required to produce a substantial research paper as part of the internship. A strong background in international and/or criminal law is required.

## **Student Organizations<sup>30</sup>**

- Advocates for Life
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Organization
- Ambassadors
- American Constitution Society
- Animal Law Society
- Art and Cultural Property Law Association
- Asian-Pacific American Law Student Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Colloquy
- Criminal Law Association
- Disability Law Society
- Entertainment & Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law and Policy Annual Review
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Headnotes
- Health Law Society
- Honor Council
- Intellectual Property Association
- Interdepartmental Group in Law and Neuroscience
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- JD-MBA Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Judicial Codes Counselors and Appellate Advocates
- La Alianza
- Law & Business Society
- Law Futbol Club
- Law Partners
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice

- Law Students for Social Justice
- Law Students for Veterans Affairs
- Legal Aid Society and Public Interest Stipend Fund
- Middle Eastern Law Student Association
- Mock Trial Board
- Moot Court Board
- National Security and Law Society
- Native American Law Students Association
- Off Campus Events
- OUTLaw
- Phi Delta Phi
- Running Club
- Second Amendment Club
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Student Health & Wellness Association
- The VENT
- Transfer Students Association
- Vanderbilt Bar Association
- Women Law Students Association

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RANK  
**17**

## UCLA SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

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Los Angeles, California 90095

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MAIN PHONE

310-825-4841

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

310-206-1117

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[www.law.ucla.edu](http://www.law.ucla.edu)

### Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

Founded in 1949, the University of California–Los Angeles School of Law is the youngest top law school in the nation. It is one of four law schools in the top 20 to offer a degree concentration in business law and policy. It also offers a degree specialization in critical race studies and programs in public interest law and policy.

UCLA School of Law's clinics were the first in the nation to systematically teach students about the link between theory and practical skills. This commitment to integrating theory and practice continues today in the extraordinary array of simulated transaction courses and live-client clinics covering the waterfront of practice areas from mergers and acquisitions to workers' rights and environmental law. UCLA also has been at the forefront of efforts to link research to what goes on outside the ivory tower.

Beginning in the 1990s, UCLA School of Law created policy centers that enabled the best minds to gather together and focus on policy and legal issues free of partisan influence and ideological biases. UCLA School of Law is proud to lay claim to three such institutions—the Williams Project on Sexual Orientation Law, the Empirical Research Group, and the Environmental Law Center—which meet the highest standards of knowledge production. They provide invaluable information for legislators, the judiciary, and the public and provide critical training for the legal community, students, and tomorrow's academic and political leaders.

The Hugh and Hazel Darling Law Library is the primary place for study and research. The law library services are also designed to meet the needs of the law school community and the staff.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

10.9:1

### Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	164-169	3.58-3.89
Median*	168	3.78

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 6,117

Number accepted 1,447

Percentage accepted 23.7%

The above admission details are based on fall 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7</sup>

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

Grade	Grade Points	Definitions
A+	4.3	Extraordinary Performance
A	4.0	
A-	3.7	Excellent Performance
B+	3.3	
B	3.0	Good Performance
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C	2.0	Satisfactory Performance
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	
D	1.0	Unsatisfactory Performance
F	0.0	Lack of understanding of major aspects of the course No credit awarded
P		Pass (equivalent of C- and above) Not calculated into the GPA
U	1.0	Unsatisfactory (equivalent to grades D+ and D)
NC	0.0	No credit (equivalent to a grade of F) No unit credit awarded
LI		Incomplete, course work still in progress

IP		In Progress, multiple term course, grade given upon completion
W		Withdrew from course

**Pass/No Pass Grading System** is employed for certain clinical courses, externships (10 or 11 units for the actual placement) and selected advanced courses.

**The One-Time Retroactive Pass/Unsatisfactory/No Credit (P/U/NC) Option**—Students may retrospectively elect to convert no more than four (4) semester units of graded credit and no more than one (1) course during the second and third years of course work to a Pass/Unsatisfactory/No Credit basis.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>8</sup>**

All first-year courses and all upper-division lecture courses with an enrollment of 40 students or more are subject to the following mandatory curve:

<b>First-Year Courses</b>	<b>Letter Grades</b>	<b>Upper-Division Courses with 40 or More Students</b>
25-29% (Target: 27%)	A+ to A-	23-27% (Target: 25%)
41-52%	B+ to B	50-60%
18-22% (Target: 20%)	B-	17-23% (Target: 20%)
5-8%	C+ or below*	Not mandatory but may be given at faculty member's discretion.

\*Contrary to popular rumor, an instructor does not need to “petition” to give a grade below “C-”.

For upper-division courses with enrollments of fewer than 40 students, with the exception of seminars and clinics with enrollments of 16 or fewer, the median grade shall not exceed (but may be lower than) B+. For seminars and clinics with enrollments of 16 or fewer students, there are no grading constraints. An instructor seeking to deviate from the curve must obtain the approval of the Vice Dean.

#### **Honors<sup>9</sup>**

Students in the top 10% of each graduating class are invited to join the Order of the Coif. The minimum grade point average required to qualify for this honor is approximately 3.746.

#### **Awards<sup>10</sup>**

Various prizes, awards, and scholarships are awarded to UCLA School of Law students. For all awards except those with specific requirements, a general scholarship application is submitted by students. UCLA School of Law has not provided a list of specific awards.

## Journals

The ***UCLA Law Review***, which is published six times per year, is run by a student board of editors which determines membership on the basis of a writing competition. Membership on the review helps students develop skills in legal research and writing and make significant contributions to the advancement of the law through the publication of commentary on crucial legal issues. *The UCLA Law Review* is published by the students of the UCLA School of Law and the Regents of the University of California.<sup>11</sup>

The ***Asian Pacific American Law Journal*** is dedicated entirely to Asian Pacific American issues. Run by students at the UCLA School of Law, the journal seeks to facilitate discourse on issues affecting South Asian, Southeast Asian, East Asian, and Pacific Islander communities in the United States. It addresses the legal, social, and political issues facing the Asian American and Pacific Islands community. *The Asian Pacific American Law Journal* welcomes membership by all students.<sup>12</sup>

The ***Chicana/o-Latina/o Law Review*** has, over the last 30 years, provided an essential forum for the discussion of central issues affecting the Latino community that the “mainstream” journals continue to ignore. Since 1972, the review has established a reputation for publishing strong scholarly work on affirmative action and education, Spanish and Mexican land grants, environmental justice, language rights, and immigration reform.<sup>13</sup>

UCLA School of Law's the ***Dukeminier Awards Journal of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law*** publishes articles on sexual orientation and gender identity law issues each year. Its staff and faculty advisory board identifies the best articles on sexual orientation law and public policy from law reviews and reprints these articles in the journal's annual issue. It also publishes original articles written by law students, which are chosen as part of a national writing competition. The Williams Institute and the UCLA School of Law students who staff the journal have initiated The Dukeminier Awards to acknowledge and distribute the best of these articles.<sup>14, 15</sup>

The ***UCLA Entertainment Law Review*** is an international law journal published once or twice a year. Its articles are devoted to legal issues in the field of entertainment law. Its topics cover the areas of sports law, motion picture and television law, music law, art law, radio broadcasting law, media and communication law, and “soft” intellectual property law.<sup>16</sup>

The ***UCLA Journal of Environmental Law & Policy*** offers diverse perspectives on topics of current environmental interest. It offers students with an interest in environmental law or policy an immediate opportunity to become involved in editing and publishing in a field of rapidly growing importance. The journal features articles by practicing attorneys, judges, and legal scholars. It also actively solicits student-written comments. It is published semiannually, and its issues focus on international, national, or local-level environmental law and policy.<sup>17</sup>

The ***UCLA Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs*** is a student-run, interdisciplinary publication dedicated to promoting scholarship in international law and foreign relations. It publishes articles by leading scholars, practitioners, and other professionals from around the world as well as student comments. Issues of the journal are topical, focusing on immigration or international gender and race discrimination, and others offer more variety, ranging from conflicting approaches to technological developments, to the international criminal court, to sovereign debt crises.<sup>18</sup>

The ***UCLA Journal of Islamic and Near Eastern Law*** was first published in 2002 and is published once a year. It presents scholarly and practical articles dealing with the complex and multifaceted issues of Islamic and Near Eastern law and its applications and effects within and outside of the Near East.<sup>19, 20</sup>

The ***UCLA Journal of Law and Technology*** has produced an online journal providing a forum for timely and relevant materials addressing the law's attempt to keep pace with technological innovation. Its content includes traditional scholarly articles and comments as well as practical advice from attorneys practicing at the cutting edge of law and technology. The journal also hosts an intellectual property and technology career forum.<sup>21, 22</sup>

The ***National Black Law Journal*** was the first journal of its kind in the country and has been committed to scholarly discourse exploring the intersection of race and the law for 35 years. Started in 1970 by five African American law students and two African American law professors, it has aimed to build on this tradition by publishing articles that make a substantive contribution to current dialogue taking place around issues such as affirmative action, employment law, the criminal justice system, community development, and labor issues. The *National Black Law Journal* has a commitment to publish articles that inspire new thought, explore new alternatives, and contribute to current jurisprudential stances.<sup>23</sup>

The ***UCLA Pacific Basin Law Journal*** covers diverse legal topics with a focus on nations located along the Pacific Rim, including Asian, Central American, and South American countries. It features articles written by leading scholars and practitioners on international legal topics such as human rights law, constitutional law, criminal law, international trade regulations, corporate governance, intellectual property law, and other areas of business law. The journal is published twice per year.<sup>24</sup>

The ***UCLA Women's Law Journal*** provides a forum for feminist legal scholarship written by academics and students. It is an entirely student-run academic legal journal that uses the power of language to educate people and make women's voices heard. It addresses issues of gender, race, and sexual orientation. The journal is published twice a year and is available on Lexis and Westlaw.<sup>25</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>26</sup>

The UCLA Moot Court Program is an intramural competition open to second- and third-year law students. Teams of students brief and argue a case created especially for the competition by members of the Moot Court Executive Board. The focus is on appellate advocacy, and the judges consist primarily of local members of the bench and bar.

The Roscoe Pound Tournament is the final internal competition in the UCLA Moot Court Program. First, the top two oral advocates from each side on each issue (eight in all) are chosen from the Spring Honors Competition. These eight advocates argue before distinguished members of the California and federal benches in the semifinals round. The top four oral advocates on each side of each issue advance to the finals to argue before a panel of distinguished jurists from around the country.

The top twelve students who compete in both the fall and spring competition are named Distinguished Advocates. The top nineteen students who compete in both the Fall and Spring are eligible for various international, national, and state teams.

## Clinical Programs<sup>27-29</sup>

The **UCLA School of Law Clinical Program** is widely regarded as one of the strongest in the nation. Every first-year student is required to take a foundational legal skills course and upper-division students elect to take one or more of the 20 clinical course offerings. Students can choose from among a variety of live-client clinics (in which they represent actual clients or community groups) and sophisticated simulation-based courses. The law school conducts Live Client clinics and provides transactional clinical offerings. They have evolved to include an increasing focus on live-client work where, in combination with extensive classroom simulation exercises, students represent real clients in a wide variety of settings.

### Live Client Clinic offerings include:

- Asylum Clinic
- Civil Rights Litigation Clinic
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- First Amendment Amicus Brief Clinic
- Frank G. Wells Environmental Law Clinic
- Human Rights Law & Technology
- Interviewing and Counseling
- Mediation Clinic
- Ninth Circuit Appellate Advocacy Clinic
- Public Policy Advocacy
- Real Estate Law Clinic
- Street Law
- Supreme Court Clinic
- Trial Advocacy Clinic (year-long)
- Tribal Legal Development Clinic
- Youth & Justice Clinic

New Clinical Courses for the 2013-2014 academic year:

- First Amendment Amicus Brief Clinic
- Youth & Justice Clinic

Although the UCLA School of Law Clinical Program is based on the premise that lawyering skills are transferable across substantive practice areas, effective training for students who seek a transactional career requires additional specialized training focused on that practice. In response to this reality and as part of the corporate law specialization, UCLA School of Law has developed an impressive and growing range of sophisticated transactional clinical courses. For example, students can learn how to finance a startup company, sell a private company, advise a community-based organization engaged in economic development projects, or manage a myriad of environmental issues that arise when selling a business.

Present transactional clinical offerings include the following:

- Bankruptcy Transactional Course
- Business Deals Clinic
- Community Economic Development

- Environmental Aspects of Business Transactions
- Mergers & Acquisitions Transaction Planning
- Regulatory Lawyering
- Real Estate Law Clinic
- Secured Financing Transactions
- Sports and the Law Clinical

## Placement Facts<sup>30</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$80,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$145,000
Public service - median	\$60,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	45.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	64.8%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	53.7%
Business and Industry	8.6%
Judicial Clerkships	7.3%
Academia	3.5%
Public Interest Organizations	15.6%
Government	11.4%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>31-36</sup>

In addition to a vibrant curriculum, students also enjoy opportunities to spend a semester or summer doing an externship or internship in human rights with a non-governmental organization, an international organization or with government.

### Externships

UCLA School of Law's **Externship Program** is extensive and well established. Students can work as an extern law clerk to a judge, at a government agency, a non-profit organization or in some circumstances with in-house counsel. Students may take externships either for a full semester or on a part-time basis but not both. Students on a full-time externship receive 11 units of P/U/NC credit for the placement portion of the externship and 2 units of graded credit for a concurrent tutorial or seminar. Students on a part-time

externship receive between 2 and 4 units of P/U/NC credit, depending on the number of hours worked at the placement. Students may also apply to the **UCDC Law Program** in Washington DC. Students in that program receive 10 units for the field placement portion of the program and 3 units for a companion seminar.

### **Full-Time Externship Program**

In the **Judicial Externship Program**, students have to make choices between the state and federal systems; positions in trial, appellate or specialized courts; and geographic location.

In the **Agency Externship Program**, UCLA School of Law offers externships in a variety of settings from government agencies to non-profit organizations. Currently, externship placements are limited to California, Seattle, Chicago, New York, and Washington, DC (through the UCDC Program).

### **Part-Time Externship Program**

Second- and third-year students may apply to do a part-time externship with a judge, a government agency, a non-profit organization or with in-house corporate counsel. A student may take more than one part-time externship, but may receive a cumulative total of no more than four units of P/U/NC credit for satisfactory completion of all part-time externships. A student may take only one part-time externship during a semester. A student may not receive any monetary or other compensation for services performed during a part-time externship. They may not take a part-time externship at a law firm.

### **Internships**

UCLA students have held summer or semester-long internships in various places such as The United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague and Rwanda (ICTR) in Arusha; The UN High Commissioners for Refugees (UNHCR) and Human Rights (UNOHCHR) in Geneva; The International Organization on Migration (IOM) in Geneva; The International Development Law Organization (IDLO) in Rome; The State Department's Office of the Legal Adviser in Washington, DC; The Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI) in New York City; The Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) in The Hague and Freetown; The Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) in Phnom Penh, also known as the Khmer Rouge Tribunal; and The Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL) in The Hague.

### **Entertainment Industry Internships**

UCLA Law School students are eligible to receive course credit with respect to an entertainment industry summer internship by virtue of completing a research paper, preferably in connection with a general topic area on which they worked during their term at the respective venue. That paper may be in the form of a Law 340 independent study course paper; a Law 547 Entertainment Law Research and Writing substantial analytical paper, a paper for another law seminar or a faculty-supervised law review article.

## **Student Organizations<sup>37</sup>**

- Advocates for Children and Teens
- American Constitution Society of Los Angeles
- Animal Law Society
- Art Law Society
- Asian/Pacific Islander Law Students Association

- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Association
- China Law Association
- Christian Law Students Association
- Disability Law Society
- Education and Law Society
- El Centro Legal Clinics
- Empirical Legal Scholars Association
- Entertainment Law Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Immigration Law Society
- Innocence Project
- International Human Rights Law Association
- International Justice Project
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- La Raza Law Student Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Women of UCLA
- Mock Trial Association
- Moot Court Honors Program
- Ms. JD National Women's Law Student Organization
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association
- OUTlaw
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Law Fund
- Real Estate Law Fund
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports Law Federation
- Student Bar Association
- Students Helping Assure Racial Equity, Justice and Diversity
- Tax and Estate Planning Law Association
- Veterans Law Society
- Womyn of Color Collective

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RANK

18

## UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GOULD SCHOOL OF LAW

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WEBSITE

lawweb.usc.edu

### Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

One of the most prominent law schools in the country, University of Southern California Gould School of Law offers a forward-looking, interdisciplinary legal education guided by nationally renowned professors and informed by the diversity of a friendly and collegial student body. Located in the nation's second-largest city, one of the largest and most dynamic in the world, the school offers myriad opportunities to apply the law to real-world problems through partnerships with some of the world's leading companies and law firms. Students acquire the experience necessary to succeed as leaders in a global environment through interdisciplinary training and practical application of skills.

Through a wide range of academic programs, USC Law serves the community, sponsors cutting-edge research, provides hands-on learning opportunities to students, and offers timely continuing education programs for professionals. Its interdisciplinary focus stresses the interconnections among law and other areas, from economics and history to public policy and healthcare.

USC Law is known for its diverse student body, its leadership in clinical education, and its tight-knit alumni network composed of national leaders in the legal profession, business, and the public sector. It is the most diverse of the nation's top law schools.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

11.7:1

### Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	165-168	3.51-3.8
Median*	167	3.73

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	5,019
Number accepted	1,457
Percentage accepted	29.0%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7-9</sup>

USC Law School does not rank its students. However, the law school provides the GPA cutoff for the top 10% of each class. This limited rank information is calculated and published at the end of each academic year.

USC Law's grading system uses both numbers and letters. Numerical grades range from 1.9 to 4.4 with letter-grade equivalents ranging from F to A+. The system differs from a typical letter-grade system (in which A=4.0, A-=3.7, and B+=3.3, etc.) in that faculty can assign intermediate numbers, such as 3.4. For example, although both 3.3 and 3.4 are grades of "B+", the 3.4 carries a slightly higher numerical value, and therefore contributes to a higher GPA. "CR" is assigned as the satisfactory passing grade in courses that are not graded numerically or when a student has elected to take a numerically graded course on a CR/D/F basis.

Each number-grade on the grading system has a letter-grade equivalent. The grading scale includes the following number grades and letter-grade equivalents:

USC Numerical Grade	USC Letter Grade Equivalent
4.1-4.4	A+
3.8-4.0	A
3.5-3.7	A-
3.3-3.4	B+
3.0-3.2	B
2.7-2.9	B-
2.5-2.6	C+
2.4	C
2.0-2.3	D
1.9	F

A grade above 1.9 (F) or a grade of CR must be earned to receive credit required for the Juris Doctor degree. Courses will not be counted towards the JD degree when a grade of 1.9 (F) is entered.

Sometimes students may notice markings other than "CR" or a numerical grade on their records. Other markings which may appear on the transcript or Record of Academic Performance (RAP) are:

IP - "In Progress"--No grade is yet reported; IP represents the first half of a two-semester course; grade reported at the end of the second semester.

MG - Missing Grade; faculty member did not submit a grade for the student for the course; or faculty member submitted a numerical grade when a non-numerical grade is required, or vice versa.

W - Withdrawal, approved by academic petition to the Registrar, no grade entered.

IN - Incomplete; assigned when work is not completed because of documented illness or other "emergency" occurring after the twelfth week of the semester.

IX- If a mark of IN is not removed within one calendar year it becomes a grade of IX, and is calculated into the GPA as a failing grade.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10, 11</sup>**

In order to achieve fairness and consistency across classes and courses, the average and the distribution of grades in the law school courses are controlled following USC Law's historic grading patterns. Minimum grade required for graduation is 2.60.

#### **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

Students in the top 10% of each graduating class may be invited to join the Order of the Coif.

#### **Awards<sup>13</sup>**

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Alfred I. Mellenthin Award	Highest GPA after two years of law study
ALI-ABA Scholarship & Leadership Award	Graduating student best representing scholarship and leadership
American Board of Trial Advocates Award	Best third-year student in preparation for trial practice of the law
Barger and Wolen Written Advocacy Award for Best Brief	Best <i>Brief</i> and Best Petitioner <i>Brief</i> in the Hale Moot Court Honors Program
Carl Mason Franklin Award in International Law	Excellence in the field of international law
Deloitte Award	Excellence in the field of corporate taxation
Dorothy Wright Nelson Justice Award	Contribution to the improvement of the administration of justice
Edward S. and Eleanor J. Shattuck Award	Students who are judged by the faculty to exhibit the greatest potential for becoming outstanding members of the bar
Eleanor Klein Merit Award	Outstanding graduating woman
Irmas Fellowship	Assist recent USC Law graduates beginning careers in public interest law
James J. Holbrook Award	Significant contribution to the <i>Southern California Law Review</i>
Judge Barry Russell Federal Practice Award	Significant contribution toward the improvement of the administration of justice

Judge E. Avery Crary Award	Four finalists in the Hale Moot Court Honors competition
Judge Malcolm Lucas Award	Highest scholastic average during first-year
Law Alumni Award	Member of the graduating class with the highest academic average in scholarship
Mason C. Brown Trial Advocacy Award	Commitment to public interest endeavors and an aptitude for trial work
Miller-Johnson Equal Justice Award	Commitment to civil and social justice while at USC Law
National Association of Women Lawyers	Contributing to advancement of women in society
Norma Zarky Memorial Award	Excellence in entertainment law
Peter D. Knecht Memorial Award	Excellence in contract and entertainment law
Roger Sherman Memorial Prize in Intellectual Property	Excellence in intellectual property
Warren J. Ferguson Award	Best essay on a social justice topic, such as labor, poverty, criminal justice, civil rights, or discrimination based on race, gender, or sexual orientation

## Journals

The **Southern California Law Review**, in existence since 1927, is a student-run organization that publishes one volume produced as six separate issues over the course of each year. It strives to publish articles of high caliber that advance legal scholarship and thereby aid in the resolution of contemporary legal problems, to foster a sense of intellectual community and professional camaraderie among members of the *Law Review* and the faculty of the law school, and, finally, to train students in the methods of legal analysis and writing.<sup>14</sup>

The **Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal** was founded in 1978 to assess contemporary society, conceive new and unique legal methodology, and seek solutions to contemporary societal problems. It seeks to do this not from the perspective of traditional legal scholarship but rather by challenging traditional legal scholarship through the perspectives of disciplines upon which the law is premised. As a result, it provides a framework upon which the future of the law must grow.<sup>15</sup>

The **Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice** promotes the discussion and examination of issues lying at the intersection of social justice and the law. It contains legal narrative and analyses of case law and legislation in order to promote a greater understanding of the law's interaction with historically stigmatized groups, and potential as an instrument of positive social change. This analysis may borrow from the perspectives of many disciplines. The journal's goal is to influence the development of the law in ways that encourage full and equal participation of all people in the political, social, civic, and economic life of the country.<sup>16</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>17</sup>

USC Law's Hale Moot Court Honors Program, in existence since 1948, provides students with an opportunity to develop written and oral appellate advocacy skills. During the first year, each student writes an appellate

brief and presents an oral argument before panels of student judges. On the basis of their written and oral performance, a selected number of students are invited to participate in the second-year Hale Moot Court Competition.

During the Hale Competition, students write an appellate brief, attend an oral advocacy clinic, participate in videotaped practice rounds, and present their arguments before panels of judges from state and federal courts, practicing attorneys, and faculty members. The Hale Competition culminates with a final round of argument before a panel of distinguished judges. Winners of the Hale Competition represent USC Law in national and state competitions in their third year. The entire program is administered by third-year students.

The National Team consists of third-year students who represent USC Law in national-level moot court competitions around the country.

## Clinical Programs<sup>18</sup>

USC Law offers two types of clinical training: classroom courses that include simulated exercises and supervised casework with actual clients. These clinical training programs help students to hone their lawyering skills. Through classroom exercises, students use hypothetical case materials in simulated law office and courtroom settings, with actors playing the roles of clients and witnesses. Then, students learn legal skills and principles by working on actual cases for real clients under the supervision of faculty member. It offers the following clinical programs:

- Immigration Clinic
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law Clinic
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Post-Conviction Justice Project
- Small Business Clinic
- USC Housing Law Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>19</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$100,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$61,350

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	54.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	69.6%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	69.8%
Business and Industry	8.9%
Government	6.5%
Public Interest Organizations	5.9%
Judicial Clerkships	5.3%
Academia	3.6%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>20, 21</sup>**

### **Externships**

The Office of Public Service is responsible for the coordination and administration of the **Judicial and Clinical Externship Programs**.

Students can receive academic credit for clinical externships by working for a non-profit public interest office or government agency. Students also receive academic credit through an externship with a judge. This program provides a valuable opportunity to observe and affect government and legal processes from within.

### **Internships**

The law school offers **Clinical Internship Programs**. Students can participate in government and non-profit organizations.

## **Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU @ USC)
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Armenian Law Students Association
- Art Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Assoc (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Society
- Critical Legal Studies Association
- Entertainment Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Government Law Organization (GLO)
- Health Law and Bioethics Society
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law Society
- International Law and Relations Organization
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)

- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino Law Students Association
- Legal Aid Alternative Breaks (LAAB)
- Neuroscience and Law Society (NLS)
- OUTLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Real Estate Law
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Space Law Society
- Sports Law Society
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Women's Law Association (WLA)

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RANK  
**19**

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612-625-1866

## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

The University of Minnesota Law School is more than a century old. The law school focuses on providing its students theoretical and practical training. The law school has launched a new curriculum. Its new curriculum focuses on how law shapes and transforms the foundation of a society. It exposes students to several different perspectives in exploration of such present-day issues as the role of law in economic development, the legislative response to prison overcrowding, the international response to global warming, and the untangling of legal complexities in modern financial transactions.

The law school offers several cutting-edge legal concentrations with other University of Minnesota programs. Students can specialize in such fields as Health Law and Bioethics, Human Rights Law, Business Law, and Labor and Employment Law. Its clinics cover subjects from bankruptcy to domestic assault to immigration. The Research Institute and its programs in law and history provide important scholastic and community opportunities to explore legal application and responsibilities within a range of real-world issues and challenges. The law school publishes both student-edited and faculty-edited scholarly journals.

The library has collections of foreign, comparative and international law, and international human rights. It also maintains a magnificent collection of rare books and other valuable legal materials, and is a national leader in the integration of electronic resources into a traditional legal research environment.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.9:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	158-168	3.36-3.89
Median*	167	3.8

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 3,225

Number accepted 747

Percentage accepted 23.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9-11</sup>

The Registrar's Office computes class ranks for each class on the basis of cumulative grade point average after all available spring semester grades are entered.

Class ranks are computed but not revealed to students or others except (1) for qualification for Order of the Coif, although ranking is not disclosed to students, (2) for the limited purpose of application for judicial clerkships or academic teaching positions, and (3) for a law school graduate applying for any position that requires release of a rank.

The law school grading scale is as follows:

Grading Scale	Letter Equivalent	Description
4.333	A+	Excellent to outstanding performance
4.000	A	
3.667	A-	
3.333	B+	Substantially better than adequate through very good performance
3.000	B	
2.667	B-	
2.333	C+	Minimally acceptable through adequate and somewhat above adequate performance
2.000	C	
1.667	C-	
1.000	D	Inadequate performance
0.000	F	Failing performance

A notation of incomplete, or I, will be entered for any course, seminar, or credited exercise when, due to extraordinary circumstances (as determined by the instructor or Dean), the student who has successfully completed a substantial portion of the course's work with a passing grade was prevented from completing the work of the course on time.

All transcript notations for incomplete work will convert to an "F", and the student's grade point average adjusted accordingly, if the work is not completed and a final grade submitted by the instructor within one year of the end of the semester of enrolment of the exercise.

A notation of "X" may be assigned to indicate continuation of a course, seminar, or other credited exercise that has not concluded at the end of the semester of enrollment, especially for exercises that last longer than one semester, but are not assigned a final grade until the conclusion of the entire course sequence.

### **P/F Grades**

Under the Pass/Fail, or P/F, grading basis, a student receives credit for the exercise only if he or she receives a Pass, which indicates minimally acceptable performance. Pass grades do not impact grade point average calculation.

### **Pass/Fail/Honors**

Under the Pass/Fail/Honors, or P/F/H, grading basis, a student receives credit for the exercise for either a Pass, which indicates minimally acceptable performance, or Honors, which indicates excellent performance. Pass and Honors grades do not impact grade point average calculation. Failing grades do factor into grade point average calculation.

### **Audit**

Under an Audit, or V, grading basis, a student is permitted to attend class sessions, but does not receive credit. Audits are rarely permitted at the law school and only with instructor approval and if the course has open seats. Audit marks have no impact on grade point average calculation. Students registered on an audit basis are not required to complete course assignments or sit for exams.

### **Other grades**

Grades which are accepted for credit from any source outside of the law school, including courses in other parts of this University or transfer credit, will be treated as credit (T) for this purpose, and will not be used in calculating the grade point average.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>12, 13</sup>**

All first year courses are graded on a curve such that the average (mean) grade for the class falls between 3.0 and 3.333. Instructors for upper division non-seminar classes of 25 students or more are encouraged—but not required—to use the same grading curve. Every instructor of an upper class course with an enrollment of more than 25 is encouraged to grade that course so that the average (mean) grade is between 3.0 and 3.333.

## **Honors<sup>14</sup>**

The University of Minnesota Law School confers the following honors:

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	75 percent of a student's credits toward degree requirements be in "graded courses" that count toward the JD
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 4.0 - 4.333
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.500 - 3.999
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.333 - 3.499

## Awards<sup>15</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
ALI-ABA Scholarship & Leadership Award	Outstanding graduates for their combined qualities of scholarship and leadership
Steven M. Block Prize	Outstanding paper or article in the area of civil rights and/or civil liberties.
Sidney J. Kaplan Legal Scholarship Fund Award	Outstanding performance as decided by the Dean or appointed committee
Lockhart Award for Excellence in Scholarship, Leadership, and Service	Third-year student for his combined qualities of excellent scholarship, leadership, and service
Mondale Hall Engagement Award	Graduating students who have enriched the Law School through student initiatives, activities, mentorship, and service to their peers, the Law School, and the community
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Contribution for the advancement of women in society and legal profession
Dr. Matthew Stark Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Student Award	Demonstrated leadership in the areas of social justice, civil liberties, civil rights, and public education
Book Award	Outstanding student performance

## Journals

The **Minnesota Law Review** is a student-edited journal that publishes articles on the entire spectrum of legal topics as well as the intersections between law and other fields. *The Law Review* also publishes student notes and case comments. The Minnesota Law Review Foundation publishes the journal six times per year. *Headnotes* currently publishes twice a year. *Headnotes* is the *Minnesota Law Review* online companion journal.<sup>16</sup>

The **Law and Inequality: A Journal of Theory and Practice** was founded in 1981 to examine the social impact of law on disadvantaged people. It publishes articles by legal scholars and practitioners, law students, and non-lawyers. Members of the staff for the student-edited journal are selected on the basis of their writing abilities and their commitment to eliminating inequality. Editors are elected from among staff members to serve during their third year in law school. It publishes twice a year.<sup>17</sup>

A student editorial board directs the publication of both professional and student articles in the **Minnesota Journal of International Law**. After 14 years as the *Minnesota Journal of Global Trade*, publishing studies of economic policy and international trade law from its inception, the *Minnesota Journal of International Law* now publishes articles on issues relating to global trade as well as articles covering other areas of international law. It is broadening its scope in recognition of the changes in the world legal system and the increased blurring of the line between trade law and other international legal disciplines.<sup>18</sup>

The ***Minnesota Journal of Law, Science & Technology*** is a cutting-edge, multidisciplinary journal with a focus on law, health, the sciences, and bioethics. It is edited by faculty and students with a faculty editorial advisory board drawn from across the University of Minnesota. The journal tackles issues pertaining to intellectual property, technology policy and innovation, bioethics, and law and science while maintaining a rigorous grounding in law, values, and policy. Formerly the *Minnesota Intellectual Property Review*, the journal is overseen and managed by the University of Minnesota Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment, and the Life Sciences.<sup>19</sup>

The ***Constitutional Commentary***, a faculty-edited journal founded in 1984, features essays on constitutional law developments. It also features review essays, book reviews, and a popular column titled "But cf...." that offers "interesting and sometimes amusing tidbits from judicial opinions, old law reviews, and historical works."<sup>20</sup>

The ***Crime and Justice: A Review of Research***, founded in 1977, is a refereed hardcover journal specializing in the publication of review essays on topical research or policy subjects relating to crime and criminal justice.<sup>21</sup>

The ***ABA Journal of Labor & Employment Law*** has been published from the law school since 2009. The editorial work on the journal is a faculty-student collaboration. The journal provides balanced discussions of current developments in labor and employment law to meet the practical needs of attorneys, judges, administrators, and the public. The journal is the publication of the American Bar Association Section of Labor and Employment Law.<sup>22</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>23</sup>

The moot court programs at the University of Minnesota Law School train students in written and oral advocacy. Students are given mock problems and required to argue their cases to appellate courts. They are taught substantive principles, communication skills, and clinical skills to train them in analyzing and communicating about legal issues.

Second- and third-year students can bid to participate in the following moot court competitions:

- The Civil Rights Moot Court
- The Environmental Law Moot Court
- The Intellectual Property Moot Court
- The International Law Moot Court
- The Maynard Pirsig Moot Court
- The National Moot Court
- The Wagner Labor Law Moot Court

## Clinical Programs<sup>24</sup>

The University of Minnesota Law School's clinics provide second- and third-year law students with unique educational opportunities. Students enrolled in the clinics develop professional skills through a combination

of theoretical classroom instruction and practical application in simulations and live cases. Under the Student Practice Rule adopted by the Minnesota Supreme Court, clinic students are permitted to represent clients in actual court and administrative agency proceedings under the supervision of clinical faculty. Currently, the school offers clinical courses in the following areas of practice:

- Bankruptcy
- Business Law
- Child Advocacy/Juvenile Justice
- Civil Rights Enforcement
- Community Mediation
- Consumer Protection
- Criminal Defense Appeals
- Criminal Prosecution Appeals
- Environmental Sustainability: Land Use Policy
- Federal Defense
- Housing Law
- Human Rights Litigation and International Legal Advocacy
- Immigration and Human Rights Law
- Indian Child Welfare
- Innocence Project
- Insurance Project
- Misdemeanor Defense
- Misdemeanor Prosecution
- Misdemeanor Defense/Prosecution (combined)
- Phillip C. Carruthers Public Interest Law
- Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi Civil Practice
- Ronald M. Mankoff Tax
- Special Education Law
- Workers' Rights

## Placement Facts<sup>25</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$85,000 - \$120,000
Private sector - median	\$110,000
Public service - median	\$50,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	64.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	66.3%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	39.8%
Business and Industry	18.3%
Government	7.9%
Judicial Clerkships	16.2%
Public Interest Organizations	9.1%
Academia	2.9%
Unknown	5.8%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>26-30</sup>**

### **Externships**

The University of Minnesota School of Law's **Judicial Externship Program** allows students to serve as part-time law clerks for one semester. Positions are available with federal district, bankruptcy, and magistrate judges, with state court of appeals and district court judges, and with tribal courts. In addition, students periodically attend a one hour seminar in which readings on the judicial process are discussed and view a judicial training session.

In the **Corporate Externship**, students experience the transactional work of corporate legal departments. This summer program consists of 150 hours during the 8-week summer session. Some of the areas of law are corporate governance, human resources, sales (vendor and supplier agreements), SEC filings and documents, international and comparative law, finance, and intellectual property. This program is available to students who have completed the 2L year.

In the **Nonprofits and Public Sectors Externship**, students acquire legal experience in nonprofit and public sectors under the supervision of practicing attorneys. The course has two parts: a two-credit graded seminar, and a two-credit externship graded on a pass, fail, honors basis.

### **Internships**

#### **Summer Public Interest Work**

A number of programs offer students working in the public interest field an opportunity to gain financial support for a public interest summer internship. With these, students receive a stipend for a position at a public service organization during their 1L or 2L summer.

#### **International Law Concentration**

The law school gives internship opportunities to students to get exposure to and experience with international organizations.

## **Student Organizations<sup>31</sup>**

- American Constitution Society For Law and Policy (ACS)- MN Chapter
- Amnesty International Legal Support Network
- Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
- Asylum Law Project
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Association (BLA)
- Criminal Justice League (CJL)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Fighting Mondales Hockey Club
- Gamma Eta Gamma
- Health Law & Bioethics Association (HLBA)
- Indian Services Project (ISP)
- International Law Society (ILS)
- International Youth and Students for Social Equity
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Joggin' Mondales
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law School Armed Forces Association
- Law School Democrats (LSD)
- Law School GOP
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Legal Bowling
- Litigation and Trial Advocacy Group (LTAG)
- Media Law Society
- Minnesota Justice Foundation (MJF)
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- Native American Law Student Association (NALSA)
- OutLaw
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Student Employment and Labor Law Association (SELLA)
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)
- The Federalist Society
- The St. Thomas More Real Catholic Club and Pre-Saint Society
- Theatre of the Relatively Talentless (TORT)
- West Bank Brewing Association (WLSA)
- Women's Law Student Association (WLSA)

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RANK  
**19**

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## Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

Ranked among the finest law schools in the country and part of a world-renowned university, Washington University School of Law distinguishes itself by its devotion to the total professional and personal development of its students.

The law school's clinical education program, trial and advocacy program, practical skills courses, journals, and other professional opportunities enable students to gain perspectives on professional practice while developing important legal skills. Through the school's clinics and public service opportunities, students also are able to provide services to the most deserving and neediest clients.

Washington University School of Law provides many different services to support its students in their academic and professional endeavors. It has a broad-based curriculum that supplements traditional courses with hands-on clinical training, interdisciplinary learning, and global legal studies. Its curriculum provides a comprehensive education that prepares its students to practice anywhere in the United States and to address transnational legal problems as well.

The Washington University Law Library is a major academic research facility. The Law Library's East Asian Law Collection of contemporary legal materials is in Chinese, Japanese and Korean as well as English. The library acquires both primary and secondary source materials basic to the needs of students, scholars, and practicing attorneys.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

10.4:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	160-168	3.34-3.78
Median*	166	3.68

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 3,989

Number accepted 1,138

Percentage accepted 28.5%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7</sup>

The law school has discontinued ranking JD students. Students in the top 5% are informed of their rank.

Effective with the class of 2013, the law school has changed the grading system from number grades (70-100) to letter grades (A, B, etc.), along with changing the GPAs to a 4.0 scale (based on 31 number grades separated by .06, ranging from 2.50-4.30) that continue to allow the Faculty to distinguish between students' scores to a greater degree than the systems at most other Law Schools. The conversion scale is:

Letter Grades	Values
A+	4.00-4.30
A	3.76-3.94
A-	3.58-3.70
B+	3.34-3.52
B	3.16-3.28
B-	3.04-3.10
C+	2.92-2.98
C	2.80-2.86
D	2.74
F	2.50-2.68

Effective with the graduating class of 2004 and ending with the class of 2013, Washington University School of Law instituted a JD grading system with a scale of 70 to 100. Effective with that graduating class, the middle score in the scale was changed from an 83 to an 87. With this scale, a grade of 74 or better is necessary to earn credit in a course. A 79 average is necessary to remain in good standing each year and overall with the scale. For this grading system, the conversion is as follows:

The conversion of number grades to letter grades (updated in 2013) is:

A+	95-100
A	91-94
A-	88-90
B+	84-87
B	81-83
B-	79-80
C+	77-78
C	75-76
D	74
F	70-73

#### **Additional Grades Codes:**

The law school offers following additional grade codes:

AUD	Audit
CR# or CR	Credit
CIP	Course In Progress
N	Grade Not Recorded
HP	High Pass
NCR# or NCR	No credit
I - Incomplete	Incomplete
IP	In Progress
P	Pass
PW	Permitted to withdraw
RX	Reexamined in course
LP	Low Pass
RW	Required to withdraw
R	Course repeated

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>8</sup>**

The law school provides grade distributions for each course. The current grading scale is 2.50 (F) to 4.30 (A+), with 2.74 (D) being the minimum passing grade for all students. A cumulative and 2L academic year average of 3.04 (B-) is necessary to remain in good standing. Beginning with the JD Class of 2004, faculty are required to abide by the following mandatory mean restrictions for JD students' grades: for first year courses, the mean of the JD grades must be in the range of 86.7 (3.49, starting with the Class of 2013) - 87.5 (3.49 - 3.55, starting with the Class of 2013) For upper-level courses the mean of the JD grades must be the same as the mean of the GPAs of the JDs in the particular course. Effective with the 2007-2008 school year, the grades for JD students in Seminars were required to meet a mandatory median instead of a mean – that is based on the mean of the GPAs of the JD students in the class.

## Honors<sup>9</sup>

Order of the Coif	Top 10% of the class
Dean's List	Top one-third of the semester class
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 2% of the class
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10% of the class
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 1/3 of the class
Honor Scholar	Top 10% of the class

## Awards<sup>10</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Breckinridge Academic Awards	Two students in each JD class with the first- and second-highest academic averages for the academic year
CALI Awards	Each JD student for the highest grade in a class
Alumni Association Prize	Highest GPA in his or her entire career at the law school
American Bar Association Section of State and Local Government Law, Student Excellence Award	Highest grade in Land Use Law and State and Local Government
Charles Trobman Memorial Award	Highest grade in Immigration Law
Breckinridge Practice Court Prizes	Awarded for proficiency in the preparation of briefs, mastery of subject matter, and excellence in presentation of oral arguments in moot court competitions
Charles Wendell Carnahan Prize	Highest final grade in Conflict of Laws
Christophine G. Mutharika International Law Prize	Highest grade in International Law
Dan Carter-Earl Tedrow Memorial Award	Demonstrating an agreeable and helpful disposition and mature attitude, an interest in law school affairs, a conscientious regard for studies, and an inclination to further the ideals of the legal profession
Dean's Book Award	Outstanding leadership and service to the law school
Don Sommers Prize in Professional Responsibility	Highest grade in Legal Profession
Equal Justice Works Award	Outstanding commitment to pro bono and public service
Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution Award	Excellence in the ADR classes or the ADR competitions: Client Counseling, Negotiation, and Representation in Mediation Competitions
F. Hodge O'Neal Corporate Law Prize	Highest grade in Corporations
Family Law Award	Highest grade in Family Law
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Proficiency in advocacy and litigation skills, as demonstrated in classes or competitions

Jack Garden Humanitarian Award	Awarded for significant contribution to the law school or the broader community
Joseph Kutten Prizes in Bankruptcy and Insurance	JD graduating students with the highest grades in Bankruptcy and Insurance
Judge Amandus Brackman Moot Court Prize	Proficiency in briefing and arguing cases in moot court competitions
Judge John W. Calhoun Trial Practice Award	Exceptional talent and enthusiasm for trial practice, as demonstrated in classes or competitions
Judge Myron D. Mills Administrative Law Prize	Best paper on an administrative law topic in a course for credit during each academic year
Mary Collier Hitchcock Prize	One student of each of the school's three publications ( <i>the Law Review, the Journal of Law &amp; Policy, and the Global Studies Law Review</i> ) for outstanding writing
Milton F. Napier Trial Award	Proficiency in trial advocacy, as demonstrated in classes or competitions
National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Graduate Award	Academic achievement, professional image, and commitment to the advancement of women in society
Order of Barristers	Membership offered to 10 students in the senior class on the basis of excellence in and service to lawyering skills competitions
Philip Gallop Award	Highest grade in Real Estate Transactions
Public Service Law Student of the Year	Extraordinary commitment and dedication to serving those most in need
William M. Pomerantz Trial Prize	Excellence in regional mock trial competition

## Journals

The **Washington University Law Review** was inaugurated as the *St. Louis Law Review* in 1915 and retitled the *Washington University Law Quarterly* in 1936. It is an academic journal run by students that publishes six issues per year. It invites articles on current and recent issues from legal scholars, practitioners, and students.<sup>11</sup>

The **Washington University Journal of Law and Policy** originated in 1968 as the *Urban Law Annual*, which focused entirely on issues surrounding land use, urban development, and other legal concerns of urban communities. The journal is committed to generating a symposium-based publication that brings together communities of scholars through a mutual and collaborative student and faculty process, emphasizing existing and emerging visions of the law in relation to interdisciplinary and multicultural perspectives, the implications of technology, and the consequences of economic globalization for the purpose of influencing law and social policy.<sup>12</sup>

The **Washington University Global Studies Law Review** is a student-edited legal journal dedicated to publishing superior works by renowned international, foreign, and comparative law scholars. It is published quarterly. Students are selected for membership by participation in a writing competition and first-year grades. The journal presents outstanding articles, book reviews, essays, and notes from prestigious academics, practitioners, and prominent students to expand the global community's knowledge and understanding of real-world issues.<sup>13</sup>

The **Washington University Jurisprudence Review** is the student-edited, in-print journal of law and philosophy in America. The *Jurisprudence Review* promotes academic discussion and scholarship at the nexus of law and philosophy. It also seeks to broaden and deepen the law school experience by fostering critical analysis of the suppositions and theories that underpin the law school curriculum. It also publishes articles by scholars from within and outside the legal academy, as well as student-authored notes. Additionally, the *Jurisprudence Review* hosts an annual jurisprudence colloquium where invited authors of the current volume present their work to the broader academic community.<sup>14</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>15</sup>

Washington University School of Law's moot court competitions allow students to develop courtroom skills and to gain an appreciation for the extensive preparation needed for trials or appeals. Students have several opportunities to observe and participate in moot court sessions and can voluntarily participate in intramural oral advocacy competition that includes legal arguments in front of judges drawn from the legal community. Students are selected for teams that participate in the Wiley Rutledge Moot Court Competition, held in the fall semester, which is the oldest and largest moot court at Washington University. The Environmental Moot Court is held in the spring, and the winning team represents the school at the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition.

Other opportunities for students include the following interscholastic moot court competitions: the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition; the Niagara International Law Moot Court Competition; the American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition; the William E. McGee National Civil Rights Moot Court Competition; the Giles Rich Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the American Intellectual Property Law Association; and the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the International Trademark Association.

## Clinical Programs<sup>16</sup>

The clinical education program at the Washington University School of Law provides students opportunities to learn professional skills and values by working in the real world with clients, attorneys, judges, and legislators. Every interested student has at least one clinical opportunity during his or her second or third year of law school.

The school offers the following clinics:

- Appellate Clinic
- Civil Justice Clinic
- Civil Rights, Community Justice & Mediation
- Corporate Judicial Field Placement
- Criminal Justice Clinic
- Intellectual Property & Nonprofit Organizations Clinic
- Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic
- International Justice and Conflict Resolution Field Placement
- Judicial Clerkship

- Patent Law Field Placement
- Summer Experiential Opportunities
- Supervised Practicum

### **Live Client Clinics**

Students enrolled in the school's client-based clinics serve as members of professional teams representing clients. Law students serve as lead or co-counsel in the legal representation of and advocacy for clients. Washington University students from disciplines such as social work, engineering, environmental studies, and medicine also enroll in some of the clinics. They too work on behalf of clients as part of these multidisciplinary teams offering legal services to individual and institutional clients. In these clinics, students engage in transactional or litigation practice in a range of legal matters from individual disputes or transactions, to complex litigation and policy advocacy, to creating property rights in intellectual property, to advising the development of new legal entities and organizational policies.

Most students will undertake a variety of legal work, including client interviewing and counseling, fact investigation, pretrial practice, litigation, appeals, business planning, oral advocacy, and motion and brief writing. Law students in the Criminal Justice and Civil Justice Clinics are most likely to appear in court, but students in the Interdisciplinary Environmental and Appellate Clinics also have opportunities to appear in court. Students in the transactional Intellectual Property and Nonprofit Organizations Clinic will work with community and other nonprofit organizations and businesses and with artists and other creators of intellectual property, all with an aim of avoiding litigation. Faculty members directly supervise and guide all phases of student practice, encouraging students to treat cases and projects as their own and to assume both the initiative and responsibility for the progress and successful completion of their cases or projects. The clinics are designed to help students develop their skills in and perspectives on client advocacy and litigation, and develop a structured, reflective approach to the lawyering process that will assist them in their legal studies and legal career.

### **Placement Facts<sup>17</sup>**

#### **Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)**

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$66,250 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$105,000
Public service - median	\$58,000

#### **Employment Details**

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	52.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	66.6%

#### **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	49.1%
Business and Industry	18.5%

Government	14.2%
Judicial Clerkships	6.5%
Public Interest Organizations	9.8%
Academia	1.5%
Unknown	0.4%

## Externships/Internships<sup>18-24</sup>

### Externships

The **Congressional and Administrative Law Externship** is a year-round, interdisciplinary clinic with full-time externship offerings on Capitol Hill for graduate, professional, and upperclass undergraduate students. It has recently expanded its scope and capacity as a result of Washington University's academic partnership with the Brookings Institution. Third-year students have the opportunity to work for a member of Congress; a congressional committee; a federal administrative agency; or a nongovernmental policy, advocacy, or research organization, including the Brookings Institution.

The **Government Lawyering Externship** provides the opportunity to work with attorneys in the Criminal and Civil Divisions of the United States Attorney's Offices for both the Eastern District of Missouri and the Southern District of Illinois.

The **Lawyering Practice Externship** provides the students the opportunity to learn advocacy and litigation skills. Students are working under the supervision of field supervisors in government law offices or legal departments of tax-exempt charitable organizations.

The **New York City Regulatory and Business Externship** places law students in a semester-long clinical experience in New York City. The program is being offered in conjunction with Washington University's Olin School of Business, including a companion course in ethics with students from both schools. Students have the opportunity to learn first-hand about the practice of business associations and regulation in the nation's largest city. The externship allows third-year law students, and qualified second-year law students, to spend their fall or spring semester in NYC and work under the direction of attorneys in a variety of non-profit, government, and in-house counsel offices having an emphasis on business associations and regulation.

The **Semester-In-Practice Externship** is an innovative program that empowers second- and third-year law students to gain hands-on professional experience anywhere outside the St. Louis area. Students work full time for a nonprofit, government, or in-house corporate law office in the location of their choice. Students work directly with an attorney/field supervisor and receive oversight at the law school from a faculty supervisor.

### Internships

The law school offers following internships:

## **Transnational Law Program**

Washington University School of Law launched a Transnational Law Program for students in both the U.S. and Europe in 2008. It offers internships with U.S. and European corporations, law firms, courts, enforcement and administrative agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

## **International Public Interest**

Law students participate in a number of international public interest opportunities, both in the U.S. and abroad. The law school faculty helps students to find new internship opportunities. Opportunities literally span the globe. The law school has a close relationship with the Legal Aid Board in Durban, South Africa. Dozens of law students have participated in summer internships with the Legal Aid Board, aiding in the defense of indigent and other clients before South Africa's criminal and civil courts. Each summer several law students work in Accra, Ghana; Nairobi, Kenya; and Delhi, India.

## **Student Organizations<sup>25</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society
- Animal Law Society (Student Animal Legal Defense Fund)
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Africa Public Interest Law & Dispute Resolution Project
- Barely Legal Theater
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- China Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate Law Society
- Devil's Advocate
- Education Law & Policy Society
- Energy & Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Works (EJW)
- Family Law Society (FLS)
- Federalist Society
- Fitness Club
- Future Advocates in Training
- Golf Club
- Graduate-Professional Council
- Graduate Student Representative to WU Board of Trustees
- Honor Council
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society (Student Chapter)
- Jewish Law Society
- JD/MBA Association

- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA)
- Latin America Public Interest Law Initiative
- Law and Social Work Society
- Labor & Employment Law Society
- Law School Democrats
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students For Life
- The Liberman Graduate Center
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- Non-Traditional Law Students Association
- OUTLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta
- ProGradS (opens in new window)
- Public Interest Law Society (PILS)
- Real Estate & Economic Development Law Society
- Sidebar Wine Society
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Sport Shooting Society
- Sports & Entertainment Law Society (SLES)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Health Lawyer's Association (SHLA)
- Student Law Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- University-wide Graduate Student Groups
- Women's Law Caucus (WLC)

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23. <http://law.wustl.edu/tlp/pages.aspx?id=>
24. <http://law.wustl.edu/international/pages.aspx?id=6053>
25. <http://law.wustl.edu/students/index.asp?ID=1005>

RANK

21

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## Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

Established in 1865, The George Washington University Law School is the oldest law school in the District of Columbia.

The George Washington University Law School offers students the opportunity to sample a broad array of areas of the law and to design a program of study that fits their individual interests and career plans. It offers more than 275 different elective courses, seminars, and clinics. In addition to introductory-level and more advanced courses in a variety of fields, there are some highly specialized areas of the curriculum that allow students to gain considerable expertise in a field. In addition to traditionally taught classes, there are a number of simulation courses that teach skills such as drafting, trial and appellate advocacy, negotiations, and mediation, as well as more than a dozen different clinical programs in which students learn skills while working directly with clients.

The George Washington University Law School offers full- and part-time JD programs. The curriculum consists of a first-year required curriculum for JD candidates and different elective courses including numerous live client clinics. Some highly specialized areas of the curriculum allow students to gain considerable expertise. These specialized areas include international law, environmental law, intellectual property law, government regulation and constitutional law. The school also organizes summer study abroad and exchange programs. There are research centers at the law school.

The Jacob Burns Law Library offers a research collection rich in the historic and contemporary legal materials of the U.S., as well as international and comparative materials. Library collections total more than 600,000 volumes and its wide range of electronic resources provide researchers with a wealth of legal information.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

15.4:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	162-168	3.31-3.78
Median*	167	3.60

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 6,597

Number accepted 2,031

Percentage accepted 30.8%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

Students of the law school are not supplied with individual class rankings. However, in lieu of specific rankings, students' relative academic accomplishments are represented through two scholar designations.

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

A+	4.33
A	4.00
A-	3.66
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.66
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.66
D	1.00
F	0.00

Credit toward the JD degree is given for all grades between D and A+ (inclusive). A student's cumulative average includes all grades earned in courses evaluated on a letter-grade basis.

The majority of courses are graded on a letter-grade basis, but for a small number of courses, primarily those that are clinical or skills-oriented, the grade of CR (Credit) or NC (No Credit) is given, or the following grading scale is used: H (Honors), P (Pass), LP (Low Pass), and NC (No Credit). For Honors, a student has done work of excellent quality, and no more than 25% of the class may earn this grade. For courses graded on a Credit/No Credit or Honors, Pass, Low Pass, or No Credit basis, no credit is given for work that would receive a grade below C- were evaluation to be made using the letter-grade scale.

Once a student has been evaluated in a course using the method indicated in the course description, the instructor may raise or lower the student's grade on the basis of class participation. A student's grade may be raised or lowered by only one grade step for class participation (e.g., from B to B+ or from B to B-).

Courses that require the preparation of a major research paper in lieu of an examination are marked "research paper." The satisfactory completion of such a paper by a student individually satisfies the legal writing curriculum requirement for the JD degree.

Skills courses are usually graded on the basis of simulation, role-playing, and/or some form of written assignment and may be marked, for example, "drafting assignments" or "simulation and paper." In clinical courses no method of evaluation is indicated. In such courses it is the student's performance in carrying out his or her clinical responsibilities that forms the basis for the grade.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

#### **Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2012 graduation class)**

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.740
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.557
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.474
Median GPA	3.369
Minimum GPA required for graduation	1.67

### **Honors<sup>12, 13</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Highest Honors	Students who obtain the highest cumulative averages of at least 3.67 (but not exceeding 3% of the class)
High Honors	Students who obtain the highest cumulative averages of at least 3.33 or better (but not exceeding 10% of the class)
Honors	Students with the highest cumulative averages of 3.0 or better (but not exceeding 40% of the class)
George Washington Scholar	Students whose cumulative GPA at the end of any semester places them among the top 1% to 15% of their class
Thurgood Marshall Scholar	Students whose cumulative GPA at the end of the semester places them among the top 16% to 35% of their class

## Awards<sup>14</sup>

<b>Excellence in a Field of Study</b>	
<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Excellence in the field of debtor and creditor law
American Bar Association/Bureau of National Affairs Award	Excellence in health law
American Bar Association/Bureau of National Affairs Award	Excellence in intellectual property law
American Bar Association/Bureau of National Affairs Award	Excellence in labor and employment law
Chris Bartok Memorial Award in Patent Law	Excellence in patent law
Henry R. Berger Award	Excellence in tort law
Ogden W. Fields Labor Law Award	Highest overall proficiency in labor law
Finnegan Prize in Intellectual Property Law	Juris Doctor or Master of Laws student for the best publishable article on an aspect of intellectual property law
Phi Delta Phi Award	Excellence in the school's courses on professional responsibility, ethics, and jurisprudence
Peter D. Rosenberg Award	Excellence in patent and intellectual property law
Joel B. Rosenthal Commercial Law Award	Excellence in commercial law
Laurence E. Seibel Memorial Award in Labor and Employment Law	Excellence in the school's courses on labor and employment law
Richard L. Teberg Award	Highest overall proficiency demonstrated in the school's courses on securities law
Patricia A. Tobin Government Contracts Award	Member of the graduating Juris Doctor or Master of Laws class who has demonstrated excellence in government contracts law
Jennie Hassler Walburn Award	Member of the graduating Juris Doctor class for outstanding performance in civil procedure
Imogen Williford Constitutional Law Award	Outstanding JD student in the field of constitutional law
<b>Excellence in Oral Advocacy</b>	
Michael J. Avenatti Award for Excellence in Pre-Trial and Trial Advocacy	Excellence in the school's courses on pre-trial and trial advocacy
Jacob Burns Award	Two members of the winning team in the Van Vleck Moot Court Competition
Judge Albert H. Grenadier Award	Students who represented the law school in the Mid-Atlantic regional Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
Cohen & Cohen Mock Trial Award	Two members of the winning team in the Cohen & Cohen Mock Trial Competition

<b>Excellence in Clinical Practice</b>	
Manuel and Ana María Benítez Award for Clinical Excellence in Immigration Law	Student who demonstrates extraordinary ability in his or her work in the Immigration Clinic and who possesses the personal qualities that distinguish Manuel and Ana María Benítez—both immigrants to the United States from Mexico—including initiative, creativity, zeal, loyalty, and integrity
John F. Evans Award	Outstanding achievement in the criminal division of the Law Students in Court Program
Richard C. Lewis Jr. Memorial Award	Extraordinary dedication to work in the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics and unusual compassion and humanity toward clients and colleagues
West Publishing Awards	Clinical achievement in consumer law and in family law
Community Legal Clinics Volunteer Service Award	Excellence in volunteering his or her time and energy to promote goals and ideals in the public interest by contributing to the efforts of the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics
<b>Distinguished Accomplishment</b>	
ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Member of the graduating Juris Doctor or Master of Laws class who best represents a combination of scholarship and leadership, the qualities embodied by the American Law Institute (ALI) and the American Bar Association (ABA)
Michael D. Cooley Memorial Award	Most successful student who was able to maintain his or her compassion, vitality, and humanity during law school
The George Washington Alumni Association Award	Extraordinary leadership and commitment to the university and its community
Justice Thurgood Marshall Civil Liberties Award	Member of the graduating Juris Doctor class who has demonstrated outstanding performance in and dedication to the field of civil rights and civil liberties
National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Graduate Award	Member of the graduating Juris Doctor or Master of Laws class who has contributed to the advancement of women in society, promoted issues and concerns of women in the legal profession, achieved academic success, and earned the respect of the law school's faculty and administration
Thelma Weaver Memorial Award	Foreign graduate student who has contributed the most to the intellectual and professional life of the law school, its students, and its faculty
<b>Overall Academic Excellence</b>	
Anne Wells Branscomb Award	Highest grade point average in the entire course of the evening division for the Juris Doctor degree
Willard Waddington Gatchell Award	Three graduating members who attained the highest grade point averages in their entire JD course of study
Charles Glover Award	Highest grade point average in the third-year, full-time Juris Doctor course of study

Kappa Beta Pi Award	Female members of the graduating class in the full- and part-time divisions who attained the highest grade point averages in the first-year course of study for the Juris Doctor degree
John Bell Larner Award	Highest grade point average in the entire course of study for the Juris Doctor degree
John Ordronaux Awards	Highest grade point averages in the first year and second year

## Journals

The **George Washington Law Review** is a student-published scholarly journal that examines legal issues of national significance. It publishes six times per year. Each issue covers scholarly articles, essays, and student notes. The law review also devotes a double issue to the annual Law Review Symposium, and one issue to the Annual Review of Administrative Law.<sup>15</sup>

The **George Washington International Law Review** is edited and managed by students. In four annual issues, it presents articles and essays on public and private international financial development, comparative law, and public international law. Additionally, the review publishes the *Guide to International Legal Research* annually.<sup>16</sup>

The **American Intellectual Property Law Association Quarterly Journal** is a publication of the American Intellectual Property Law Association, one of the largest private bars of intellectual property attorneys in the world. The journal is housed at The George Washington University Law School and is edited and managed by law students under the direction of its editor-in-chief, Professor Joan Schaffner. The journal is dedicated to presenting materials relating to intellectual property matters.<sup>17</sup>

The **Public Contract Law Journal**, which is produced jointly by the George Washington University Law School and the Public Contract Law Section of the American Bar Association, is a premier journal read by practitioners in the field of government procurement law. The journal is published quarterly and is edited and managed by JD and LLM students.<sup>18</sup>

The **International Law in Domestic Courts** is an online subscription service founded in 2007 by the Oxford University Press. Its rapporteurs identify, propose, and then write commentary on cases from around the world which involve international law issues. The law school is the rapporteur for the U.S. Students are selected for membership on the basis of their writing skills and interest in international law.<sup>19</sup>

The **Federal Circuit Bar Journal** is a national quarterly publication and is the official journal for the Federal Circuit Bar Association and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The primary emphasis of the journal is patent and trademark jurisprudence, but it also covers certain specialized areas which include vaccination disputes, veterans' appeals and environmental and natural resources litigation.<sup>20</sup>

The **Journal of Energy and Environmental Law** is produced in association with the Environmental Law Institute. It is published twice each year. The journal focuses on legal issues related to next-generation energy production and distribution and on environmental and climate law issues related to the production of energy.

Selection procedures for JD students are like those used by the law review. LLM students can also apply for membership.<sup>21</sup>

The **Federal Communications Law Journal** (*FCLJ*) is the official journal of the Federal Communications Bar Association (FCBA), the leading organization for communications lawyers and other professionals. In conjunction with the FCBA, the law school publishes three times a year and features articles on a range of domestic and international issues in communications law by practitioners, Commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission, policymakers, and professors, as well as book reviews and student notes. It is edited and managed by JD students.<sup>22</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>23, 24</sup>

The George Washington University Law School Moot Court Board is a student-run, honorary society that plays a vital role at the law school by promoting the development of oral and written advocacy skills. Particular attention is given to fostering excellence in appellate oral advocacy. Membership on the Board is offered to first-year law students who achieve exceptional performance in the first-year moot court competition and to upper-class students who achieve distinguished performance in one of the intra-scholastic competitions in which the school competes.

Each year, the Moot Court Board hosts various competitions for GW Law students, including the Van Vleck Constitutional Law Competition, the Giles S. Rich Intellectual Property Competition, the Grenadier International Law Competition, the McKenna Long & Aldridge "Gilbert A. Cuneo" Government Contracts Competition and the First Year Competition.

In addition, the Moot Court Board hosts the National Security Law Competition in which schools from across the country are invited to compete.

### Clinical Programs

Despite their diversity, all of the clinics at the George Washington University Law School share a common goal: to provide members of the community with critically needed legal services while giving motivated law students the opportunity to experience the practical application of law and to develop skills as negotiators, advocates, and litigators within an exciting and supportive educational environment.

The **Neighborhood Law & Policy Clinic** takes a community-based approach to serving the civil legal needs of the indigent population of DC, keeping abreast of local trends in order to maintain a caseload responsive to community needs. Students interview clients, develop factual and legal theories, conduct research, prepare witnesses, negotiate with opposing parties, engage in discovery, write briefs and motions, present oral arguments, and conduct hearings and trials.<sup>25</sup>

In the **Small Business & Community Economic Development Clinic**, students provide legal assistance to selected small businesses and nonprofit organizations that cannot afford to pay a lawyer. Students deal with a wide variety of legal issues including drafting incorporation and partnership papers (such as articles of incorporation and bylaws), compliance with local licensing requirements, reviewing and drafting contracts and leases, and advising on tax problems and related matters.<sup>26</sup>

In the **Public Justice Advocacy Clinic**, students represent clients both in large class action lawsuits and in individual matters. The clinic also handles administrative hearings and other matters for individual clients. Students serve the community by advancing and protecting the legal rights of low-income clients of the metropolitan area.<sup>27</sup>

The **Family Justice Litigation Clinic** represents clients in DC Superior Court cases involving custody, child support, divorce, and protection from abuse. Participating students represent a range of clients and help respond to the dearth of pro bono legal services in cases that concern critical needs and legal issues for the indigent population.<sup>28</sup>

In the **Federal, Criminal, and Appellate Clinic**, second- and third-year students work under the supervision of faculty to represent indigent clients in proceedings following criminal convictions.<sup>29</sup>

In the **Vaccine Injury Clinic**, students represent individuals who have suffered serious vaccine-related injuries and who are seeking damages in trial and appellate proceedings before the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.<sup>30</sup>

In the **Immigration Clinic**, students handle a range of immigration law matters including determining what benefits or forms of relief, if any, are available to their clients and, in appropriate circumstances, represent their clients in removal proceedings. The clinic mainly represents clients who are out of status, unfamiliar with the legal culture in the U.S., and, very often, not conversant in English.<sup>31</sup>

In the **Health Rights Law Clinic**, second- and third-year students provide advice and information and assist in providing legal representation to older DC residents who are having difficulty with medical bills, Medicare, Medicaid, and other health insurance problems. The clinic also serves the Washington, DC, community as the Health Insurance Counseling Project (HICP). The clinic serves more than 4,000 members of the community through direct legal services, counseling, and information sessions on health care and health insurance matters.<sup>32</sup>

In the **International Human Rights Clinic**, students work in partnership with experienced attorneys and specialized institutions engaged in human rights activism on case projects drawn from international human rights tribunals and treaty bodies, primarily in the Inter-American and United Nations human rights systems, or human rights litigation and advocacy in the United States, especially in relation to the Alien Tort Claims Act and other federal statutes.<sup>33</sup>

The **Law Students in Court Clinic** offers students opportunities to develop skills as trial lawyers while representing indigent persons in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. It is a joint project of five law schools of Washington, DC.<sup>34</sup>

Through the **Domestic Violence Project**, second- and third-year students get the opportunity to intensively investigate the legal issues of battered women. The project combines a seminar with field placements with attorneys and organizations involved in domestic violence policy and advocacy matters.<sup>35</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>36</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$120,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$160,000
Public service - median	\$62,467

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	81.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	88.0%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	42.7%
Business and Industry	11.9%
Government	18.2%
Judicial Clerkships	8.9%
Public Interest Organizations	8.5%
Academia	7.5%
Unknown	2.2%

## Externships/Internships<sup>37, 38</sup>

### Externships

The George Washington University Law School **Field Placement Program** provides students with opportunities to work closely with judges or practicing lawyers as legal externs in governmental, public interest, and private nonprofit organizations for academic credit. The program is designed to enhance the student's educational experience at the law school by allowing him or her to apply substantive knowledge in legal settings while gaining exposure to the actual practice of law.

The primary educational objectives of the program are to provide students with the opportunity to gain invaluable experience in different substantive areas of law and legal process; to develop additional legal research and writing, interviewing, counseling, and investigative skills; to deal with issues of professional responsibility in a real practice setting; and to reflect upon what they are learning.

### Internships

The law school provides summer judicial internships with either state or federal judges.

## **Student Organizations<sup>39</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society
- Antitrust Law Association
- Arab Student Law Association
- Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society (ACHLS)
- Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
- Banking and Securities Law (BASL)
- Bar None Project (BNP)
- Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate and Business Law Society (CBLS)
- Criminal Law Society
- Cyberlaw Students Association (CYLSA)
- District of Columbia Public Defender Service Recording Sealing Service (DRSS)
- East Asian Law Society (EALS)
- Entertainment and Sports Law Association (ESPLA)
- Environmental Law Association (ELA)
- Equal Justice Foundation (EJF)
- Evening Law Student Association (ELSA)
- Family Law Society
- The Federalist Society
- The Feminist Forum
- Government Contracts Students Association (GCSA)
- Gulf Recovery Network (GRN)
- GW Basketball Association (GWBA)
- GW Law Democrats
- GW Law Softball Club
- Hispanic Law Student Association (HLSA)
- Human Rights Law Society (HRLS)
- Immigration Law Association (ILA)
- International Law Society (ILS)
- The Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
- Jewish Law Student Association (JLSA)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Lambda Law
- Law Association for Women (LAW)
- Law Revue
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Military Law Society
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Association (NSLA)
- Native American Law Student Association (NALSA)
- Nota Bene
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)

- Phi Delta Phi (PDP)
- Political Law Society
- Promissory Notes (PN)
- South Asian Law Student Association (SALSA)
- Space Law Society (SLS)
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP)
- Student Health Law Association (SHLA)
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)
- Tax Law Society (TLS)

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RANK  
**21**

# UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SCHOOL OF LAW

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## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

The traditional curriculum of the University of Alabama School of Law is augmented with electives dedicated to the study of emerging areas of law. Clinical, advocacy, and skills training programs enhance the school's curriculum by enabling students to master the legal process while gaining a thorough grasp of the role of law in ordering the affairs of society, both historically and contemporarily.

Skills training is an important mission of the law school, and its various clinical programs allow law students to hone their legal practice skills. An array of clinical choices and opportunities to gain hands-on work experience help students develop the self-confidence they need to practice effectively.

Student-edited law journals provide excellent educational opportunities in legal research, writing, and editing. Members of the journals are chosen based on first-year academic performance or through writing competitions.

The University of Alabama School of Law's Public Interest Institute is dedicated to the idea that the privilege of being an attorney includes service to the community. Participating students are eligible for the Dean's Community Service Award and the prestigious Order of the Samaritan.

Additionally, the University of Alabama School of Law provides five-week summer programs at the University of Fribourg in Switzerland and at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, serving to round off students' legal credentials with global exposure.

Its Bounds Law Library contains over 550,000 volumes, and numerous online resources available for legal research, and reference librarians available to assist anyone engaging in research at the library.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.1:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	158-167	3.31-3.94
Median*	165	3.83

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	1,679
Number accepted	423
Percentage accepted	25.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

The law school faculty adopted a new ranking policy. The policy took effect for the Classes of 2011 and 2012 after the spring 2010 semester. Under the new policy, it will provide individual rankings to students in the top 15% of each class at the end of the fall and spring semesters. At the end of the fall and spring semester, the Registrar will publish the GPA for the Top 10%, Top 20%, Top 25%, Top 33%, and Top 50% of each class. Students will know where their GPA places them within these bands. Students outside of the Top 15% will not receive individual ranks.

Student work in University of Alabama School of Law courses and seminars is graded on a numeric scale ranging from 0 to 4.0, which corresponds to the letter grades in the chart below:

Grades	Corresponding Letter Grades
A (Excellent)	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67

D+	1.33
D (Unsatisfactory)	1.00
F (Failure)	0.00

If a student fails a course, he or she may be required to repeat that course. Students must pass all required classes to graduate. The grade of I (Incomplete) may be assigned at the law school's discretion when, for acceptable and approved reasons, a student has been unable to complete the required work for a course or seminar. The awarding of an I instead of a 0 may be contingent upon completion of the unfinished work, at which time another grade may be assigned, or upon other terms fixed by the law school.

### **High Pass**

In certain classes graded on a P/D/F basis, professors may designate up to 33% of the grades as "High Pass." This option applies to trial advocacy classes, externships, P/D/F law clinics, and appellate advocacy classes. This option is not available for journals, Moot Court classes and competitions, and trial advocacy competition teams, independent studies, and other co-curricular activities that do not involve substantial scheduled classes and coursework.

Passing a course requires a grade of D-, and a student must maintain a 2.0 (C) average to graduate.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

Effective fall 2010, the law school faculty approved a mandatory mean of 3.2 for all first-year classes. Recommended distributions are noted below.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>GPA</b>	<b>Proposed Distribution Percentages</b>
A	4.00	16 15 14 15 15
A-	3.67	22 22 21 22 21
B+	3.33	29 29 33 25 31
B	3.00	29 29 33 25 31
B-	2.67	8 6 6 9 6
C+	2.33	5 5 5 6 5
C	2.00	5 4 5 4 5
C-	1.67	2 2 4 4 3
D+	1.33	1 2 2 1 3
D	1.00	1 2 0 0 0
F	0.00	1 1 0 0 0

Effective fall 2009, the Law School faculty approved a mandatory mean of 3.3 for all upper-level classes with more than 12 students. Recommended distributions are noted below.

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>GPA</b>	<b>Proposed Distribution Percentages</b>
A	4.00	15 15 17 16 15
A-	3.67	20 20 26 21 25
B+	3.33	27 39 29 30 30

B	3.00	28 10 07 13 10
B-	2.67	4 5 7 10 10
C+	2.33	2 5 7 10 5
C	2.00	2 5 7 0 5
C-	1.67	2 1 0 0 0
D+	1.33	0 0 0 0 0
D	1.00	0 0 0 0 0
F	0.00	0 0 0 0 0

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 5%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 10%

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Dean M. Leigh Harrison Award	Students of fifth semester who are in the top 5% of their section and have demonstrated above-average ability in legal writing
Order of the Samaritan	Student who qualifies for both the Alabama State Bar's Volunteer Lawyers Program Student Award and the law school's Dean's Community Service Award
Dean's Community Service Award	Students who complete 40 hours of non-legal community service
Bench and Bar Legal Honor Society	Membership generally offered to second- and third-year students with minimum scholastic averages of 2.5 who have participated in student government, legal journals, moot court competitions, trial advocacy, law school societies, and other extracurricular activities
Alabama Volunteer Lawyers Program Student Award	Volunteering at least 50 hours at an approved law office
Independent Legal Public Service Program Award	Students with minimum of 50 hours of legal services in a law office or in a non-profit organization

## Journals

The **Alabama Law Review** is published five times per year and is well known for publishing works by promising emerging scholars. Through their participation in the journal's editorial process, selected second- and third-year law students continue a rich tradition of scholarship exploring issues of national and local significance to members of the legal profession.<sup>14</sup>

The **Journal of the Legal Profession** has been publishing essays by distinguished judges, attorneys, and legal scholars for the past 30 years. Its student staff is selected from the top 25% of students after their first year in law school. The journal provides an excellent opportunity to research and write commentary on questions of professional ethics and to present findings and opinions to an international readership.<sup>15</sup>

The **Law & Psychology Review** addresses the interplay between the disciplines of law and the behavioral sciences. Founded in 1975 by law students of the University of Alabama who were concerned about the rights of the mentally disabled, it is published in the spring of each year.<sup>16</sup>

The **Alabama Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Law Review** is a specialized law journal published by the school of law. It tracks the developments in the vital and interconnected areas of civil rights and civil liberties. It surveys and follows the drive for equality as the specter of discrimination - be it along racial, ethnic, religious, or other lines which are used to divide one another - still lurks in many corners of everyday life. Issues like age, gender, and race discrimination, disability rights, fair housing, and voting rights are covered by the journal.<sup>17</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>18</sup>

First-year students at the University of Alabama School of Law participate in a moot court program during their second semester, and second-year students may compete in an intramural competition with final-round judges from state and federal benches. Third-year students can join teams that participate in competitions such as the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the National Moot Court Competition, the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, and competitions involving environmental, labor, bankruptcy, intellectual property, and tax law.

## Clinical Programs<sup>19, 20</sup>

The University of Alabama School of Law offers an array of clinical choices. Students often describe their law clinic experience at Alabama as one of the most significant components of their legal education.

In the **Capital Defense Clinic**, students assist counsel representing individuals who are facing capital charges or who have been sentenced to death.

In the **Civil Law Clinic**, students provide free legal advice and representation to university students in civil cases and to members of the community unable to secure legal services, through referral or by application on a case-by-case basis.

The **Community Development Clinic** provides legal assistance to individuals and nonprofit or community organizations seeking to improve the economic, cultural, social, or environmental well-being of disadvantaged or underserved communities.

In the **Criminal Defense Clinic**, students represent indigent defendants in misdemeanor and felony criminal matters through the Tuscaloosa County Public Defender's Office in the county courthouse in downtown Tuscaloosa. Students are exposed to preliminary hearings, motions, and bench and jury trials.

In the **Domestic Violence Clinic**, students provide free legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in a seven-county area of West Alabama.

In the **Elder Law Clinic**, students represent individuals aged 60 and above in matters pertaining to Medicare, Medicaid, and other public benefits; protection from abuse, neglect, and exploitation; advance directives and durable powers of attorney; the drafting of wills; consumer fraud; and other civil matters.

In the **Mediation Law Clinic**, students provide individuals with free mediation services who have cases in family courts in Tuscaloosa County, Alabama.

## Placement Facts<sup>21</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$56,000 - \$105,000
Private sector - median	\$90,000
Public service - median	\$57,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	66.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	87.8%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	49.3%
Business and Industry	15.8%
Government	10.5%
Public Interest Organizations	7.9%
Judicial Clerkships	13.8%
Academia	2.6%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>22, 23</sup>**

### **Externships**

The school of law offers placement in practical legal settings outside of the law school. Externships assist the law school in meeting its overall educational objective by permitting students to engage in the practical application of the legal knowledge gained in the classroom and practical skills learned in the classroom and in clinical settings.

#### **Summer Externship**

During the summer, placements are available with offices specializing in criminal law (e.g., United States Attorneys, District Attorneys, Public Defenders, and Alabama's Attorney General) and civil law (e.g., US Attorneys' Offices, Governor's Legal Counsel's office, Legal Services, National Labor Relations Board, and University of Alabama Counsel's office). Under the direct supervision of attorneys, students work full time during a six-week session. Students also attend externship classes at the law school and submit papers during and at the conclusion of the externship.

#### **Academic Year Externship**

During the academic year, placements are available in the chambers of state and federal judges and magistrates. Students work eight hours per week in the offices where they are placed. Duties include hearing and pretrial preparation and assistance on trials and appeals. They also attend several class sessions and submit multiple papers during and following the externship.

#### **Federal Legislative Externship**

In the spring semester of each academic year, up to six law students will have the opportunity to earn ten hours of externship credit working in Washington, DC with the US Congress. Students will primarily assisting lawyers serving as Congressional and Senate staff members and as counsel in executive branch agencies.

### **Internships**

The law school provides funds for public interest summer internships for law students in public interest legal work.

## **Student Organizations<sup>24</sup>**

- ABA/Law Student Division
- Alabama Citizens for Constitutional Reform
- Alabama Civil Rights and Civil Liberties Law Review
- Alabama Defense Lawyers Association Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition Team
- Alabama Law Review
- American Constitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Barbri Representative
- Bench and Bar Legal Honor Society
- Black Law Student Association

- Bruce B. Seigal Intellectual Property Moot Court Team
- Business Law Society
- Campbell Moot Court Board
- Career Services Board
- Christian Legal Society
- Civil Rights Law Students Association
- Council of Presidents
- Criminal Law Student Association
- Defense Lawyers (Student Chapter of the DRI)
- Defense Lawyers Association
- Dorbin Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Feld, Hyde, Wertheimer, Bryant & Stone Tax Moot Court Team
- Future Trial Lawyers Association
- Gay-Straight Alliance (Outlaw)
- Hispanic Law Student Association (Student Chapter of the Hispanic National Bar Association)
- Honor Court
- Intellectual Property Society
- International Law Student Association (ILSA)
- Jessup International Moot Court Team
- Judge Conrad Duberstein Bankruptcy Team
- Just Democracy (The University of Alabama School of Law Just Democracy)
- Kaplan PMBR Representatives
- Kettering Institute
- Labor and Employment Law Society
- Law and Economics Society
- Law and Film Society
- Law And Psychology Review
- Law Democrats
- Law Republicans
- Law Society Moderates
- Law Spouse Club
- Law Students For Choice
- Lehr Middlebrooks & Vreeland Robert F. Wagner National Labor Law Moot Court Team
- Lexis Representative
- Military Law Society
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
- National Civil Trial Competition
- Navy JAG Corps Moot Court Team
- Pass Your Bar
- Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity
- Phi Delta Phi
- Protective Life National Moot Court Team
- Public Interest Institute Executive Board
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society

- Student Ambassadors
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Board of the Public Interest Law Institute
- Student Farrah Law Society
- Tax and Estate Planning Law Association
- The Journal of The Legal Profession
- Thurgood Marshall Trial Advocacy Team
- West Law
- Wettermark, Holland & Keith LLC National Trial Competition Team
- WildLaw Environmental Law Moot Court Team
- Wilmer "Buddy" Parker Criminal Law Moot Court Team

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RANK

23

# EMORY LAW SCHOOL

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[www.law.emory.edu](http://www.law.emory.edu)



## Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

Established in 1916, Emory Law School aims to imbue the academic experience with certain qualities, including: commitment to humane teaching and mentorship and collegial interaction among faculty, students, and staff.

An Emory legal education is about more than practice; it is about taking the skills gained in the classroom and putting them into practice through activities outside the classroom. Students learn "black letter law," the language of the legal world. Through innovative programs such as field placements, the Kessler-Eidson Program for Trial Techniques, the TI:GER Program in cooperation with Georgia Institute of Technology, and many others, students gain practical legal experience by working with real lawyers in the real world.

The MacMillan law library holds over 400,000 volumes. It also holds primary and secondary resources in United States and British law as well as international law. Its archives room houses law school archives and notable collections of papers and other materials. In addition, the library provides access to many electronic resources, including Lexis-Nexis, Westlaw, and a variety of other specialized legal databases.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

10.8:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	161-166	3.35-3.82
Median*	165	3.70

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	3,943
Number accepted	1,229
Percentage accepted	31.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7-9</sup>

Individual class ranks are given to the top 10% of the class.

Emory Law School uses a letter grading system with grades ranging from A+ to F. A cumulative average of 2.25 is required for good standing and for graduation. In the JD program, a student must earn a grade of at least D- to receive credit for a course. F is a failing grade.

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

Required coursework or deferred examination must be completed by the close of the term in which the course is next offered, or the grade of I (Incomplete) will automatically be converted to a final grade of F.

## Pass/Fail Option

A student may elect to take a total of six credit hours pass-fail. These credits may either be graduate level course work from other Emory University schools/colleges or Law School courses, or any combination thereof, up to six hours.

The option to take a course pass-fail applies only to elective, upper-level courses and not to seminar classes and is available only to students taking a full load of the law school courses.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>**

To be in good academic standing, a student in the JD program must, based on all coursework completed at the conclusion of the second term (the term in which the student completes at least 25 semester hours), have a cumulative average of at least 2.25. Any student not in good standing is automatically ineligible to continue in the JD program. No student who has a cumulative average less than 2.25 shall be granted a JD degree.

### **Honors<sup>11, 12</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
First Honor Graduate	Highest overall academic average for all three years at Emory
High Honors	Final cumulative average of 3.80
Honors	Final cumulative average of 3.45
Dean's List	Semester average of 3.45 or higher for at least 10 graded law hours

### **Awards<sup>13, 14</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
Dean's Public Service Awards	Special recognition of a number of law students who have contributed to public service at the law school
Pro Bono Awards	Working a minimum of 25 pro bono hours during the academic year
A. James Elliott Community Service Award	Student demonstrated the greatest commitment to community service while at the law school
Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund Award	Outstanding academic performance in real estate courses
Beynart Professionalism Award	Outstanding third-year student
Distinguished Service Award	Students involved in extracurricular activities
Georgia Association of Women Lawyers Award	Outstanding commitment to women in law
Moffett Litigation Award	Outstanding academic performance in trial preparation
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Outstanding devotion to women in law issues
Order of Barristers	Outstanding academic performance in appellate advocacy
Barbara S. Rudisill Award	Student pursuing law as a second career
Wall Street Journal Achievement Award	Top-ranked student in his or her graduating class
American Law Institute-ABA Leadership Award	Outstanding leadership and scholarship
ABA/BNA Leadership Award	Outstanding academic performance in intellectual property
Kleinrock Publishing Award	Outstanding academic performance in taxation
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Outstanding academic performance in bankruptcy
Custer-Tuggle Award	Outstanding commitment to family law

International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Outstanding litigation skills
Alternative Dispute Resolution Conflict Resolution Award	Outstanding alternative dispute resolution skills
State Bar of Georgia Labor/Employment Award	Outstanding academic achievement in labor and employment
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law	Awarded for outstanding academic achievement in health law
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law	Outstanding academic achievement in labor and employment law
Bryan Prize	Outstanding achievement in constitutional law
Georgia Tax Section Award	Outstanding achievement in taxation
Paul Hastings Janofsky Award	Outstanding achievement in securities law
Order of Emory Advocates Award	Significant achievement in appellate advocacy
James C. Pratt Memorial Award	Outstanding service to the Emory Moot Court Society
James C. Pratt Best Brief Award	Outstanding brief in 2L moot court competition
Henry Quillian Prize in Contracts	Outstanding achievement in commercial law
Sutherland Asbill Brennan Award	Outstanding achievement in a federal income tax course
Most Outstanding Third-Year Student Award	Outstanding leadership
Douglass Lee Peabody Memorial Award	Outstanding 1L advocacy
Burt and Betty Schear Book Prize	Unique character and leadership
Keith J. Shapiro Award	Excellence in business and consumer bankruptcy
Student Legal Services Award	Overall leadership in Student Legal Services
Who's Who Award	Overall leadership in law school
State Bar of Georgia Real Property Award	High achievement in real property coursework
Bolton Award	Excellence in brief writing
Mary Laura "Chee" Davis Award	Best journal comment
Herman Dooyeweerd Prize	Outstanding law and religion students
Awarded to outstanding law and religion students	Best speaker
Emory International Law Review Founders Award	Best journal comment
Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart Award	Best oralist in 2L competition
Gary B. Katz Memorial Award	Outstanding service in Student Legal Services
Myron Penn Laughlin Award	Excellence in legal research and writing
Outstanding 3L Student Award	Outstanding commitment to public service/pro bono work while in law school
Michael Gullett Memorial Award	Best Speaker
LaMarr Inn of Court	Outstanding advocacy skills

## Journals

The **Emory Law Journal**, which began in 1952 as the Journal of Public Law, is published bimonthly and edited entirely by students. It serves as a forum for legal activism by demonstrating where the law should be. The journal's members and candidates carry sole responsibility for the editorial content and the substantive and technical accuracy of each article published. The journal's goals, among others, include fostering excellence among students in legal research, writing, analysis, and editing as well as providing the legal community with reliable and thoughtful commentary on new developments and trends in the law.<sup>15</sup>

The **Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal** is an entirely student-run journal that explores the principles, policies, and practice of bankruptcy law. It publishes two volumes per year and hosts a symposium in the spring. This widely-read journal provides a forum for research, debate, and information for practitioners, scholars, and the public.<sup>16</sup>

The **Emory International Law Review** is published semiannually. *EILR* publishes articles and essays submitted by professionals and students from around the world on a vast array of topics ranging from human rights to international intellectual property issues. It is entirely edited by students and is known for excellence in scholarship, legal research, analysis, and professionalism.<sup>17,18</sup>

The **Emory Corporate Governance and Accountability Review** will explore the relationship between the corporation and its stakeholders in the United States and abroad. It will address issues of who the relevant stakeholders are, and how far corporate responsibility to them should extend. It will focus on questions surrounding litigation, as well as issues of financial risk management, labor law, products liability, environmental law, health law, lawmaking, and corporate political involvement. In exploring these issues through the common lens of corporate governance, the journal will aim to examine the role of corporations holistically, and help shape the current state of corporate policy. The first issue of *ECGAR* is expected Spring, 2014.<sup>19</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>20</sup>

Moot court membership is open to all full-time JD students with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.35. The Emory Moot Court Society has 68 members. Students compete for places on an inter-mural team, which is selected based on brief writing and oral advocacy scores in an intra-school competition. This special team competes in various inter-school competitions around the country. Emory's special teams have had a long tradition of excellence in appellate advocacy, winning many moot court competitions nationwide.

Emory Law has so far successfully competed in the Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition in Washington, DC; the Irving R. Kaufman Securities Law Moot Court Competition in New York City; the Jerome Prince Evidence Moot Court Competition in New York City; the Vanderbilt First Amendment Moot Court Competition; the Georgia Intrastate Moot Court Competition; and the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. In addition, the Emory Moot Court Society sends a team to compete in the National Moot Court Competition.

## Clinical Programs<sup>21</sup>

Emory Law offers experiential learning opportunities that give students real-world experience through its centers and clinics.

The **Barton Public Policy and Legislative Advocacy Clinic** focuses on the use of sound legal and scientific research and the pursuit of evidence-based reforms in child law and juvenile policy.

The **Barton Juvenile Defender Clinic** provides holistic legal representation for children in delinquency and status offence proceedings.

The **Barton Appeal for Youth Clinic** engages law students in providing appellate representation of youthful offenders in the juvenile and criminal justice systems.

The **Child Rights Project** trains student lawyers to advocate for the interests of children and youth in cases before the US Supreme Court.

The **International Humanitarian Law Clinic** advances development of the laws of war and promotes implementation of humanitarian law in U. S. military operations and national security strategy.

The **Turner Environmental Clinic** provides pro bono legal assistance to individuals, community groups and nonprofit organizations seeking to protect and restore the natural environment.

The **Volunteer Clinic for Veterans** assists veterans and their families with legal issues they face, including disability benefit claims before the Veterans Administration and subsequent appellate proceedings.

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$70,000 - \$135,000
Private sector - median	\$90,000
Public service - median	\$55,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	52.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	76.0%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	47.4%
Business and Industry	11.2%
Government	12.1%

Judicial Clerkships	10.7%
Public Interest Organizations	12.1%
Academia	3.7%
Unknown	2.8%

## Externships/Internships<sup>23</sup>

### Externships

The Externship (formerly Field Placement) Program provides a legal externship program that places up to 150 students with approximately 880 government agencies, public interest organizations, judges, and corporations in the Atlanta metropolitan area. Students receive 3 credit hours for externing under the supervision of practicing attorneys, in offices that are pre-approved by the law school. All second- and third-year JD students are eligible to apply.

## Student Organizations<sup>24</sup>

- American Bar Association/Law Student Division
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
- American Constitution Society
- Asian American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Democratic Law and Policy Research Group
- Emory Advocacy Society
- The Emory Immigration Law Society
- Emory Federalist Society
- Emory Food Club
- Emory Mock Trial Society
- Emory Moot Court Society
- Emory OutLaw
- Emory Public Interest Committee
- Emory Student Lawyers Guild
- Environmental Law and Conservation Society
- Health Law Society
- Homeless Advocacy Program
- Intellectual Property Society
- International Law Society
- JD/MBA Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Students Association
- Lamar Inn of Court
- Legal Association for Women Students
- Legal Fraternities

- National Security & Law Society
- Real Estate Society
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association
- Student Legal Services

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RANK

23

# UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
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WEBSITE  
[law.nd.edu](http://law.nd.edu)



## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

Established in 1869, the University of Notre Dame Law School is among the oldest law schools in the nation and the first law school established on the campus of a Catholic university. The school's academic programs prepare students for an array of legal careers in all jurisdictions in the United States, as well as the practice of law internationally. Yet, beyond mere professional competence, a Notre Dame legal education focuses on issues of justice and values inspired by two traditions—the Catholic tradition and the Anglo-American legal tradition.

Notre Dame Law School's national program aims to educate men and women to become lawyers of extraordinary professional competence who possess a partisanship for justice, an ability to respond to human need, and compassion for their clients and colleagues. Methods of instruction are both traditional and innovative. The school's curriculum includes comprehensive courses and programs which cross traditional course lines and cover broad areas of practice.

Though the law school has adapted and modified its curriculum to reflect the changing nature of the profession, it has been steadfast in its emphasis on teaching and developing lawyers who are committed to effectively serving their clients and bringing honor to the profession. Committed to the most demanding standards of scholarly inquiry, it seeks to illustrate the possibilities of dialogue between and the integration of reason and faith. Through its teaching, the school tries to prepare students to practice law with competence and compassion and to contribute, as leaders in the bar, the academy, and government, to the development and reform of an increasingly complex and internationalized legal and regulatory framework.

The law school's Kresge Law Library has rich collection of 300,000 print volumes, 3,000 print serial titles, 300,000 microform volume equivalents, and more than 35,000 electronic resources.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

9.3:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	161-167	3.43-3.8
Median*	166	3.66

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 2,852

Number accepted 676

Percentage accepted 23.7%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

The Law School does not rank students, either internally or externally, except that the dean may notify students who are in the top 10% of their class as of the end of each academic year of this status.

Grading at the law school is governed by the Hoyne Code. Grades are not calculated on a numerical basis, but are assigned values for calculating grade-point average, according to the following grading system:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Value</b>
A	4.000
A-	3.667
B+	3.333
B	3.000
B-	2.667
C+	2.333
C	2.000
C-	1.667
D	1.000
F	0.000

The faculty regards A as superior, B as good, C as indicating satisfactory work, D as unsatisfactory with credit, and F as failure. Therefore, a C at Notre Dame is considered a respectable grade.

## **Other Grades**

I	Incomplete. A temporary grade. The coursework must be completed and the Incomplete changed prior to the end of the next semester's final examination period; otherwise, the Incomplete will be changed to an F.
S/U	Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory. For selected courses.
Pass/Fail	The Pass/Fail option is limited to two elective courses and may be used only with the permission of the professor teaching the particular course. These two courses may not be taken in the same semester.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10, 11</sup>**

Effective academic year 2011-2012, the law school implemented a grade normalization policy, with mandatory mean ranges (for any course with 10 or more students) and mandatory distribution ranges (for any course with 25 or more students).

The mean ranges are as follows:

1L Required Courses Mean: 3.25 to 3.30

Distribution

A	8-14%
A-	15-25%
B+,B	25-35%
B-	7-13%
C+	0-10%

Large Upper-Level Courses (> 25 students) Mean: 3.25 to 3.35

Distribution

A	8-18%
A-	15-25%
B+,B	20-35%
B-	5-15%
C+	0-10%

Small Upper-Level Courses (10 to 24 students)

Mean: 3.15 to 3.45

Distribution: none

To maintain academic good standing, a first-year student must achieve a minimum GPA of 1.500 for the first semester and 1.750 for the second semester. Second- and third-year students must achieve a minimum semester GPA of 2.000.

The minimum cumulative GPA required for graduation is 2.000.

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Graduation honors at Notre Dame Law School are based on grade point average, which is computed by including all courses taken at the school.

Honor	Criteria
Dean's Honor Roll	GPA of 3.6
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.8
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.6
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.4

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded to/Awarded for
A. Harold Weber Award	Excellence in Legal Writing
The A. Harold Weber Moot Court Competition Award	Outstanding achievement in art of Oral Advocacy
Alvin McKenna Alumnus of the Year Award	Graduate who distinguishes him/herself with the African American legal community
The Arthur May Award	Member of the Notre Dame Barristers Team who demonstrates a commitment to professional ethical standards and who exhibits excellence in trial advocacy.
The Barrett Award for Trial Advocacy	The advocate champions the cause Entrusted to him Honorably and with the courage born of competence
Captain William O. McLean Award	Notre Dame Law School Community Citizenship Award
The Charles Crutchfield Professional Excellence Award	Outstanding academic achievement
Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Student Award	Outstanding in clinics
Conrad Kellenberg Award	Graduating student who has dedicated a substantial amount of time to the betterment of the community through service
David T. Link Award	Outstanding service in the field of social justice
Dean's Award	Winner of the Annual Moot Court Competition
Dean Joseph O'Meara Award	Outstanding academic achievement
Dean Konop legal Aid Award	Outstanding service in legal aid and defense
The Dwight King Service Award	Outstanding achievement
The Farabaugh Prize	High Scholarship in Law
The George and Claudine Pletcher Senior Scholarship Award	Outstanding achievement
The Graciela Olivarez Award	Outstanding Hispanic Lawyer or Judge

The Hoynes Prize	Member of the graduating law class who has the best record in scholarship, application, deportment, and achievement
The International Academy of Trial Lawyers	Distinguished achievement in the art and science of advocacy
Jessup International Moot Court Award	Excellence in advocacy
John Bruce Dodd Memorial Scholarship	Embodying His triumph of the human spirit
Jon Krupnick Award	Excellence in the Area of Trial Advocacy
Joseph Ciraolo Memorial Award	For a law student who exemplifies spirit, service, and significant achievement in the face of adversity
The Judge Joseph E. Mahoney Award	Outstanding leadership
Kresge Library Student Service Award	Graduating student worker whose efforts on behalf of the library exemplify the highest standards of dedication, loyalty and service
Notre Dame Law School Client Competition	Excellence in Lawyering Process
Peter A.R. Lardy Scholarship Award	Courage, Love and Understanding toward his fellow man
Smith-Doheny Legal Ethics Award	Student scholarship in the field of legal ethics.
The William T. Kirby Award	Excellence in Legal Writing

## Journals<sup>14</sup>

The **Notre Dame Law Review**, founded in 1925 and known until 1982 as the Notre Dame Lawyer, is edited and published five times per year by students at Notre Dame Law School. It affords qualified students an invaluable opportunity for training in precise analysis of legal problems and in clear and cogent presentation of legal issues. The journal contains articles and lectures by eminent members of the legal profession as well as comments and notes by members of its staff and maintains a tradition of excellence.

The **Journal of College and University Law**, published by Notre Dame Law School and the National Association of College and University Attorneys, is the only law review in the United States dedicated exclusively to the law of higher education. Headed by both faculty editors and a student editor, the journal is published three times per year.

The **Journal of Legislation** is published by Notre Dame Law School students. It contains articles by both public policy figures and distinguished members of the legal community concerning either existing or proposed legislation, suggestions for legislative change, and public policy matters.

The **Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy** is unique among legal periodicals. It directly analyzes law and public policy from an ethical perspective and consequently strengthens Notre Dame Law School's commitment to moral and religious values in legal education by translating traditional Judeo-Christian principles into imaginative yet workable proposals for legislative and judicial reform. It publishes two issues annually. It devotes one issue to a single topic of public concern and the other issue to any topic related to the journal's mission.

The **American Journal of Jurisprudence**, founded in 1956 by the Natural Law Institute at Notre Dame Law School as the Natural Law Forum and renamed the *American Journal of Jurisprudence* in 1970, publishes articles and review essays that critically examine the moral foundations of law and legal systems and explore current and historical issues in ethics, jurisprudence, and legal (including constitutional) theory.

The International Law Society (ILS) hosted its first annual symposium in 2010 and its great success established the **Notre Dame Journal of International, Comparative, and Human Rights Law** (JICH). This new journal is designed around a new approach that addresses concerns for quality, accessibility, and efficient use of resources. In 2011, ILS hosted its second annual symposium which achieved even greater success and contributed in large part to the first issue of *JICH*. The journal will focus on international law.<sup>15</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>16</sup>

The Appellate Advocacy Seminar provides an advocacy-oriented look at the appellate process, including providing students a chance to hone both written advocacy and oral advocacy skills. Students in Moot Court - International receive classroom training and participate in the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. All first-year students are invited to participate during the spring semester in an appellate advocacy competition from which members of the Moot Court Board are selected. Moot Court Board members can earn co-curricular credit while participating in prestigious national moot court competitions such as the ABA and New York National competitions. Student groups also sponsor teams to participate in other national moot court competitions. Recent competitions have included the Asylum and Refugee Law National Moot Court Competition, the Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition (BLSA), the IASLA Space Law Moot Court Competition, the George Washington Religious Freedom Moot Court Competition, and the Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition.

## Clinical Programs<sup>17</sup>

Clinics are free, community legal services programs that allow students to engage in law practice under close supervision of full time, seasoned expert faculty members. Whether involving litigation, transactional work, or mediation, the clinics place students in a "first chair" position as lead attorneys in their matters, with full responsibility to carry out all lawyering duties. The clinics provide the most intensive training and supervision among NDLS experiential programs, combining classroom sessions with frequent one-on-one supervision. While learning a host of fundamental lawyering skills, clinic students also provide an invaluable community service to clients who cannot afford legal counsel. Each clinic has unique policies and procedures. The current clinics are:

- Community Development Clinic
- Economic Justice Clinic
- Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic
- Mediation Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>18</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$70,000 - \$117,500
Private sector - Median	\$87,500
Public service - Median	\$32,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	48.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	66.8%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	36.8%
Business and Industry	9.2%
Government	16.7%
Judicial Clerkships	22.4%
Public Interest Organizations	12.1%
Academia	2.3%
Unknown	0.6%

## Externships/Internships<sup>19-21</sup>

### Externships

Externships offer an opportunity for students to earn academic credit while working in outside law offices or judicial chambers. Externships enable students to explore legal work in both South Bend and Chicago that may not be available through clinics or other courses. Externship students participate in faculty-led seminars and other activities to help them reflect on their field experiences.

Current externship offerings allow students to work in the field for as little as a half day per week or as much as four days per week. Students may earn up to ten fieldwork credits in externships toward their graduation requirements.

- Advanced Criminal Justice Externship
- Appalachia Externship
- Intercollegiate Athletics Externship
- Lawyering Practice Externship
- National Immigrant Justice Centre Externship
- Public Defender Externship
- Seventh Circuit Advocacy Externship
- Summer Externship

## **Internships**

### **Summer Internships**

The Program seeks to involve students, especially at the law school, in research projects on law and human development during the academic year and summer breaks. The Summer Internships, a core component of the Program, enable students to engage issues of law and human development on the ground, from Kenya to Amman and Santiago to East London.

### **Summer Research Internships**

The Center for Civil and Human Rights (CCHR) and the Program on Law and Human Development (PLHD) provide internship funding to JD students who seek unpaid international internships in the field of human rights law.

## **Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Forum
- Christian Legal Society
- Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty
- Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity
- The Environmental Law Society
- The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Human Rights Society
- International Law Society
- Irish Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jus Vitae of Notre Dame
- Legal Voices for Children & Youth
- Married Law Students Organization
- Military Law Students Association
- Native American Law Students Association
- Phi Alpha Delta
- The Public Interest Law Forum
- Social Justice Forum
- Sports, Communications and Entertainment Law Forum
- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Bar Association
- Women's Legal Forum

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RANK

25

# INDIANA UNIVERSITY MAURER SCHOOL OF LAW—BLOOMINGTON

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

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Bloomington, IN 47405-7001

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ADMISSIONS PHONE

812-855-4765

MAIN PHONE

812-855-7995

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

812-855-0258

WEBSITE

[www.law.indiana.edu](http://www.law.indiana.edu)



## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

Established in 1842, the Indiana University School of Law—Bloomington focuses on preparing students with the essential skills of reading, listening, reasoning, writing, and oratory excellence.

The law school's first-year students take a set of required courses that introduce them to the world of litigation. They are taught the basic concepts of legal practice, including the skills of close reading, careful reasoning, and learning to "think like a lawyer." The curriculum also includes an intensive legal writing program.

Students can choose from a variety of course from different areas, choosing a specific area of focus is not required here. In addition to the areas of focus like Business and Commercial Law, Constitutional and Public Law, Criminal Law and Procedure, Intellectual Property, the Practice of Law, the law school also offers a moot court program and special courses in sports and entertainment law, constitutional law, advocacy, real estate law, and litigation, among others.

Students can also participate in Indiana Law's student-run journals, and the school offers a number of credit based opportunities that provide practical legal experience, including extracurricular clinics, moot court competitions, trial teams, and faculty-sponsored internships and externships. The rise of multidisciplinary centers at the law school also provides students with a broad legal education. Additionally, the law school helps students who want to enhance their educational experiences by studying overseas find the right study abroad programs. Students are encouraged to participate in any of the law school's international programs or earn a joint degree through the law school and one of the other departments or schools at the university.

The law library houses a first-rate collection in Anglo-American law as well as substantial holdings in international and foreign law. In addition to its outstanding print collection, it offers users access to numerous, important electronic legal information sources.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

11.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	156-166	3.39-3.88
Median*	164	3.80

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	2,358
Number accepted	1,083
Percentage accepted	45.9%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

Student performance at Indiana Law is graded and credited according to the following scale:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Grade Points Per Hour of Credit</b>
A, A+	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7 (No credit grade; course must be repeated if required)
F	0.0 (No credit grade; course must be repeated if required)

Where appropriate, the following marks are used: W (withdrawal), I (incomplete), S (satisfactory), and P (pass). If a student withdraws from a course without the required approval, the grade of F is entered for that course. If a student withdraws with approval, the mark of W is entered.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>

### Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2012 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.653
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.534
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.486
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.371
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	3.237
Median GPA	3.382
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.30

## Honors<sup>11, 12</sup>

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	Top 10%	21
Order of Barristers	Not provided	10
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1%	02
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%	19
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 30%	39
Dean's Honors	Top 30%	

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Scribes Awards	Top first-year students in Legal Writing sections
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Top grade in a course; faculty choice
West Publisher's Award	Top GPA in each class
JUMP Scholars	Academic achievement
Moot Court Awards	Merit-based
John Edwards University Fellowship	Top Indiana University student
Chancellor's Scholarships	Merit-based

## Journals

The **Indiana Law Journal** is a quarterly journal published by law students. It is a general-interest academic legal publication and was founded in 1925. Staff membership is based on first-year academic performance and a writing competition. The law journal has also published an online companion in the *Indiana Law Journal* Supplement. It is published on a rolling basis throughout the year.<sup>14</sup>

The ***Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*** focuses on the intersections of global and domestic legal regimes, politics, markets, cultures, and technologies. It is a student-edited, peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal. It is published twice a year - winter and summer.<sup>15, 16</sup>

The ***IP Theory*** is a peer-edited on-line intellectual property law publication hosted by the law school's Center for Intellectual Property Research. It is neither law journal nor blog; it is a different sort of publication designed to occupy a niche between the two. Faculty peers solicit and select content. Student editors are selected by their peers and the faculty advisor. It serves as a forum for essays or opinion pieces that are more concise (and more lightly footnoted) than typical law review articles, book reviews, and reviews of literature, either IP scholarly literature or literature in allied fields.<sup>17</sup>

The ***Indiana Journal of Law and Social Equality*** was established in May 2011. It will publish its first issue in the spring of 2013. The purpose of the online journal is to serve as an interdisciplinary academic forum for scholars, practitioners, policy-makers, and students to contribute to society's understanding of legal and policy issues concerning race, religion, gender, and class. Second- and third-year students who have exhibited a demonstrated commitment to social equality are invited to become member of the journal. Second- and third-year students are members of the journal.<sup>18</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>19, 20</sup>

The Sherman Minton Advocacy Board is composed of third-year law students who are selected on the basis of their strengths in trial and appellate advocacy, and their leadership abilities. The Executive Board, along with the Competition Board, organizes and conducts the annual Sherman Minton Moot Court Competition, Maurer Law's school-wide appellate advocacy competition, and the Trial Team. Members of the board also compete in national interscholastic trial and moot court competitions.

The Sherman Minton Moot Court Competition is a student-run program in written and oral appellate advocacy. The majority of the second-year class participates in this annual competition, which is also open to third-year students who have not previously competed owing to study abroad or joint-degree programs.

### Clinical Programs<sup>21</sup>

The clinical programs at Indiana Law offer law students academic credit. Students are provided instruction by faculty members and work with community members on vital legal matters. Second- and third-year students gain practical experience under the guidance of outstanding, highly regarded professors. Clinics are primarily one semester, three credit hour courses. The school offers the following clinical programs:

- Community Legal Clinic
- Conservation Law Clinic
- Disability Law Clinic
- Elmore Entrepreneurship Law Clinic
- Viola J. Taliaferro Family and Children Mediation Clinic

The law school's intellectual property law practicum complements the existing IP curriculum by offering significant clinical experience.

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$76,000 - \$105,000
Private sector - median	\$98,000
Public service - median	\$53,600

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	62.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation (including 25% of those with unknown status)	73.3%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	44.3%
Business and Industry	16.5%
Government	15.9%
Public Interest Organizations	6.8%
Judicial Clerkships	9.7%
Academia	6.8%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>23, 24</sup>

### Externships

Externships are supervised by practicing lawyers in an off-site setting and by a faculty member at the law school. Students receive from one to six hours of academic credit depending on the externship program and the number of hours worked by the student.

- Criminal Law Externship
- Independent Clinical Projects
- Indiana Legal Services Externship
- Intellectual Property Externship
- Judicial Field Placement
- Public Interest Externship Program
- Private Practice Externship Program
- Student Legal Services Externship
- Washington Public Interest Program

## **Internships**

### **Legal Internship Program**

A student may serve as a legal intern under the Supreme Court of Indiana. Students are supervised by a practicing attorney (admitted to practice in Indiana).

## **Student Organizations<sup>25</sup>**

- American Bar Association (ABA)–Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
- Business and Law Society (BLS)
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
- Feminist Law Forum
- Health Law Society
- Indianapolis Bar Association
- Inmate Legal Assistance Project
- Intellectual Property Association
- International Law Society (ILS)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society (JRCLS)
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Labor and Employment Law Society
- Latino Law Student Association
- Law and Drama Society
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Moot Court Board
- Older and Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Outlaw
- Outreach for Legal Literacy
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Pro Bono Immigration Project (PIP)
- Protective Order Project
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
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- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Tenant Assistance Project
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RANK

26

# UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COLLEGE OF LAW

## MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

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319-335-9034

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

319-335-9011

## WEBSITE

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## Overview<sup>2,3</sup>

The University of Iowa College of Law is more than a century old and focuses on providing its students theoretical and practical training. Its curriculum provides students with a solid foundation in the fundamental workings of the law and legal principles. Its upper grade students are exposed to a broad array of substantive areas of the law, with focus on fact-gathering, interviewing, counseling, drafting, transaction planning, negotiation, and litigation. Students also concentrate course work or writing and research opportunities in particular areas of interest.

The Clinical Law Program gives students opportunities to gain experience in many different areas of law, including assistive technology, consumer rights, criminal defense, disability rights, domestic violence, general civil, immigration, and workers' rights. It operates like a law firm within the walls of the Boyd Law Building. Externship opportunities are also available.

The College of Law sponsors programs in London, England; Arcachon, France; and Bucerius, Germany. Students may also apply to ABA-accredited programs offered by other law schools.

The law library with its collection of over one million volumes and volume equivalents has one of the largest law school library collections among all law school libraries in the country. The law library collects in great depth primary and secondary legal materials of all kinds, on all subjects, and in all formats relating to the US, its territories, and every state. It is a State of Iowa Government Documents Depository.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>4</sup>

10.8:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>5</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	158-164	3.46-3.8
Median*	162	3.66

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 1,463

Number accepted 713

Percentage accepted 48.7%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>6,7</sup>

Students at the University of Iowa College of Law are not ranked until they complete their first year of study. Thereafter, rankings are done at the end of every semester and summer session once all grades are reported. The school uses the following system for ranking students by their grade point averages:

- The top 10% in each class may be informed of their exact rank.
- The grade point averages at the 12.5 percentile and 37.5 percentile will be posted.
- The above will constitute the entire ranking system.

Students are ranked following the fall semester, spring semester, and summer session each year. Final class standing will be based on the ranking in September and include students who completed all graduation requirements in August, May, and the previous December. For purposes of ranking underclass students, the same system is used based upon the expected date of graduation.

Grades are awarded on a scale of 1.5 to 4.3. No academic credit is given for a grade below 1.8 or for a grade of Fail. A 2.1 average (the lowest C average) is required for retention and graduation. Numerical grades may be translated into letter grades for purposes of comparison as follows:

A+	4.3-4.2
A	4.1-3.9
A-	3.8-3.6
B+	3.5-3.3
B	3.2-3.0
B-	2.9-2.7
C+	2.6-2.4
C	2.3-2.1
D	2.0-1.8
F	1.7-1.5

## **Pass/Fail Grades**

The various courses for which Pass/Fail grades are awarded are Iowa Law Review, Journal of Corporation Law, Journal of Transnational Law and Contemporary Problems, Journal of Gender, Race, and Justice, Appellate Advocacy I and other Moot Court courses. Trial Advocacy may be graded Pass/Fail or numerically at the option of the instructor.

The effects of marks other than Pass, Fail, and numerical grades in all courses are as follows:

1. W equals Withdrawn. This grade carries no course credit.
2. I denotes Incomplete. This grade carries no course credit toward a degree until changed to either a numerical grade or where permitted, a pass/fail grade.
3. A mark of R is reported if the student is registered for a year-long course or program and has completed the first semester of the course or program satisfactorily, but a grade cannot be assigned until the second half of the course or program is completed.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>8</sup>**

For most classes at the University of Iowa College of Law, the median grade must be 3.3, and the grades assigned must adhere to the following distribution guidelines:

A+	4.2-4.3	0-5%, with a norm of 2.5%
A	3.9-4.1	5-10%, with a norm of 7.5%
A-	3.6-3.8	10-20%, with a norm of 15%
B+	3.3-3.5	20-30%, with a norm of 25%
B	3.0-3.2	20-30%, with a norm of 25%
B-	2.7-2.9	10-20%, with a norm of 15%
C+	2.4-2.6	5-10%, with a norm of 7.5%
C, D, F	2.3 and under	0-5%, with a norm of 2.5%

For upper-level courses with fewer than 30 students in which the final grade is based primarily on a final examination, an alternative curve is mandatory. The median grade in such courses must be between 3.2 and 3.4, and the grades assigned must adhere to the following distribution guidelines:

A+/A/A-	3.6-4.3	15-35%
B+	3.3-3.5	20-30%
B	3.0-3.2	20-30%
B-/C+/C/D/F	2.9 and below	15-35%

The curve is not applicable in upper-level seminars and other upper-level classes in which a student's grade is based primarily on the student's performance on graded skills-oriented tasks (including writing) other than a final examination.

## Honors<sup>9</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Highest Distinction	Cumulative weighted average of 3.9 or more
High Distinction	Top 12.5%
Distinction	Top 37.5%

## Awards<sup>10</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Hancher-Finkbine Medallion Award	Outstanding learning, leadership, and loyalty
Philip G. Hubbard Human Rights Award	Contribution to human rights work
Donald P. Lay Faculty Recognition Award	Distinctive contribution to the law school community
John F. Murray Award	Outstanding scholastic achievement
Robert S. Hunt Legal History Award	Outstanding scholarly legal history paper
Iowa State Bar Association Award	Scholastic achievement and contribution to law school life
Iowa College of Law Appellate Advocacy Award	Outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Achievement in trial advocacy
Michelle R. Bennett Client Representation Award	Outstanding legal clinical service
Alan I. Widiss Faculty Scholar Award	Outstanding and distinctive scholarly paper
Antonia "D.J." Miller Award for Advancement of Human Rights	Contribution to the advancement of human rights in the law school community
ALI/ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Scholarship and leadership qualities
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property	Excellence in the study of intellectual property law
Joan Hueffner and Stephen Steinbrink Real Estate Award	Excellence in the study of real estate law
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Contribution to the advancement of women in society as well as in the legal profession and academic excellence
Erich D. Mathias Award for International Social Justice	Contribution to or demonstrated commitment to attaining international social, economic, and cultural justice
Randy J. Holland Award for Corporate Scholarship	Best scholarly paper on corporate law
Russell Goldman Award	The most improved academic performance
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Excellence in bankruptcy studies

Burton Award for Legal Achievement	Plain, clear, and concise legal writing style in a student paper
Dean's Achievement Award	Contribution to diversity at the law school
Sandy Boyd Prize	Outstanding creativity and ability in legal writing
Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Outstanding advocacy in the Roy L. Stephenson Trial Advocacy Competition
Outstanding Scholastic Achievement	Outstanding performance in both the academic and co-curricular programs
Faculty Award for Academic Excellence	Student with second-highest grade in a class of at least 40 students
Jurisprudence Award for Academic Excellence	Student with the highest grade in a seminar
The Dean's Award for Academic Excellence	Student with the highest grade in a class of at least 15 students
Boyd Service Award	Volunteer services to charitable, religious, civic, community, governmental, and educational organizations

## Journals

Since its inception in 1915 as the Iowa Law Bulletin, the ***Iowa Law Review*** has served as a scholarly legal journal, noting and analyzing developments in the law and suggesting future paths for the law to follow. Since 1935, it has been edited and managed by second- and third-year students, and it is published five times annually.<sup>11</sup>

The ***Journal of Corporation Law*** is a student-published journal that specializes in corporate law. Its philosophy is to provide quality articles examining subjects of current importance to businesses, scholars, and the practicing bar. The journal has been designed to serve as a practitioner-oriented publication.<sup>12</sup>

The ***Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems*** is a multidisciplinary journal edited by students and published thrice per year. Two issues take the form of a symposium on a single topic and is guest-edited by a legal scholar noted for his or her work on that topic. The third yearly issue is submissions-based. The journal addresses issues and problems that transcend national political boundaries, presenting to the international and comparative law communities matters not commonly found in other journals.<sup>13</sup>

The ***Journal of Gender, Race & Justice*** is part of a dynamic and provocative movement going on throughout the national legal community to push at the boundaries of "traditional" legal scholarship and theory. The journal invites responsible commentary from all sides on any gender, race, or justice-related legal issue. The journal is a symposium-based law review that currently publishes one volume in three issues each year.<sup>14</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>15</sup>

The University of Iowa College of Law Appellate Advocacy Program seeks to familiarize students with brief writing and citation form, to further develop research skills, and to strengthen students' persuasive ability in oral argument at the appellate level.

The Appellate Advocacy Program is designed to give second-year students a chance to prepare and argue an interrelated question of law and fact in an adversarial setting. In September, advocates begin a ten-week process of researching and brief writing that culminates in oral presentations of their arguments. Those advocates with the highest total scores will have the opportunity to participate in the Spring Competitions (Van Oosterhout-Baskerville and Jessup Competitions) the following semester.

The Appellate Advocacy Program offers following competitions:

- Van Oosterhout-Baskerville Domestic Competition
- Jessup International Moot Court Competition
- National Moot Court

The Moot Court Board consists of approximately 16 Student Judges (depending on class size) and an Executive Board consisting of approximately seven members. The Moot Court Board operates under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

The University of Iowa College of Law also hosts the Iowa Supreme Court on the University of Iowa campus each fall. Third-year students present oral arguments before the Supreme Court in a competition which is open to the public.

## Clinical Programs<sup>16</sup>

The University of Iowa College of Law's clinical programs reflect the richness and diversity of modern law practice, offering students opportunities to put their legal skills to use in a variety of practice areas.

### In-House Clinic

Interns work on cases supervised by full-time faculty members, and have primary responsibility for the representation of their clients at all stages of the legal process, including interviewing and counseling, negotiation, fact investigation, depositions, drafting and briefing, and courtroom appearances. Most interns each semester have an opportunity to argue cases before various state and federal trial or appellate courts, or before administrative agencies. Students also provide basic estate planning, document-drafting, and other transactional services to clients. Some projects involve interns partnering with grassroots organizations, non-profits, businesses, and public officials to solve recurring and systemic problems that cannot be adequately addressed through litigation or traditional legal methods.

Practice areas include: consumer rights, criminal defense, disability rights and policy, domestic violence, immigration and workers' rights.

## Placement Facts<sup>17</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$46,000 - \$80,500
Private sector - median	\$60,000
Public service - median	\$50,000

## **Employment Details**

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	48.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	72.7%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	48.8%
Business and Industry	15.5%
Government	18.5%
Judicial Clerkships	7.7%
Public Interest Organizations	7.1%
Academia	1.8%
Unknown	0.6%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>18, 19</sup>**

### **Externships**

In addition to its diverse “in-house” clinical programs, the law school offers an externship program that places students in a variety of legal settings. These externships are directly supervised by staff attorneys and are also supervised by faculty members. Students have been placed with judges in US District Courts, US Magistrate Courts, and US Bankruptcy Courts. In addition, students have worked in the offices of the US Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa in Des Moines and the Quad Cities. Students have also been placed with the Iowa Attorney General, the Youth Law Center in Des Moines, Student Legal Services in Iowa City, the Iowa City City Attorney's Office, the Federal Public Defender in Cedar Rapids, Iowa Legal Aid in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, and HELP Legal Services in Davenport.

### **Internships**

The Burns H. Weston Funded Human Rights Internship Program provides funding for a UI College of Law student to intern with an organization, such as Human Rights Watch, that focuses on human rights advocacy. It promotes and recognizes an outstanding law student working in international human rights issues. It also aims to promote understanding and the continuing advancement of human rights in the United States and abroad.

## **Student Organizations<sup>20</sup>**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Society (ADR)
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society

- Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Foundation
- The Federalists Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS)
- International Law Society (ILS)
- Iowa Campaign for Human Rights (ICHR)
- Iowa Student Bar Association (ISBA)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Military and National Security Law Society
- National Lawyers Guild (NLG)
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- Organization for Women Law Students and Staff (OWLSS)
- The Outlaws
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi (PHIDs)
- Pro Bono Society
- The Society for International Human Rights Law at Iowa (SIHRLI)
- Sports Law Society

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RANK

**26**

# WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1-3</sup>

Sydney Lewis Hall,  
Lexington, VA 24450

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

540-458-8455

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

540-458-8503

## MAIN PHONE

540-458-8400

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

540-458-8535

## WEBSITE

law.wlu.edu



## Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

Washington and Lee University School of Law had its origin in the Lexington Law School. The Lexington Law School became affiliated with Washington College in 1866, while Robert E. Lee was the college's president, and was made an integral part of the institution in 1870. After Lee's death, Washington College was renamed Washington and Lee University. Washington and Lee University School of Law has been a member of the Association of American Law Schools since 1920 and is accredited by the American Bar Association.

Learning at Washington and Lee University School of Law is an active endeavor as there is no arm's-length teaching at the law school. Students are expected to do a lot of writing and a lot of rewriting even in their first year, but not without feedback from full-time, tenure-track professors, all in connection with substantive courses. All first-year courses are required to give students a broad perspective on legal issues.

The Washington and Lee University Law Library contains more than 473,000 volumes, including microform materials, appellate records and briefs, and government documents. The Frances Lewis Law Center is the research arm of the law school. The center brings visiting judges and lawyers to the campus for varying periods, sometimes as long as a semester. It supports research by Washington and Lee faculty and students, and it convenes scholarly colloquia on topics of current legal interest.

Washington and Lee University School of Law's instructional program is designed to provide students with a legal education in the fullest sense—not only the technical tools needed for the practice of law but also an understanding of how law operates in our society and sensitivity to the ethical imperatives of the profession. Its new, entirely experiential third-year curriculum comprised of law practice simulations, actual-practice experiences, the development of law practice skills, and participation in a year-long course on the profession.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.2:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	159-165	3.4-3.73
Median*	164	3.62

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 3,408

Number accepted 1,031

Percentage accepted 30.3%

The above admission details are based on fall 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

Exact class standings are not released by Washington and Lee University School of Law. Each student, however, is informed of his or her grade point average. In addition, each student can determine the approximate percentile in the class in which he or she falls because grade point cutoffs at 5% intervals are posted; they vary from year to year and from class to class.

The following grading scale is used by the law school:

Law Grade	Points
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
D-	0.67
F	0.00

The grade points for a course are found by multiplying the number of credits awarded for the course times the appropriate grade points. For this and other grade calculations, Pass (P), No Pass (NP), Honors (H), Incomplete (I), Work-in-Progress (WIP) or No Grade Reported (NGR) entries do not count and should not be used.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>

### Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2012 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.675
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.576
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.512
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.388
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	3.236
Median GPA	3.388
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.000

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 3%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 13%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 15%

## Awards<sup>13-14</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
John W. Davis Award	Excellence throughout his or her law school career
Frederic L. Kirgis Jr. International Law Award	Outstanding record in international law
Academic Progress Award	Most marked improvement in the final year
Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Award	Best overall record in litigation courses
Calhoun Bond '43 University Service Award	Significant contribution to the Washington and Lee community
James W.H. Stewart Tax Law Award	Excellence in the study of tax law
Roy L. Steinheimer Commercial Law Award	Outstanding record in commercial law
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Academic achievement, motivation, and contribution to the advancement of women
Charles V. Laughlin Award	Outstanding contribution to the moot court program
Randall P. Bezanson Award	Outstanding contribution to diversity in the law school community
ODK Honor Society	Leadership in campus activities-from top 35%
Virginia Bar Family Law Section Award	Excellence in the area of family law
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Excellence in the study of bankruptcy law

Barry Sullivan Constitutional Law Award	Excellence in constitutional law
Thomas Carl Damewood Evidence Award	Excellence in the area of evidence
Student Bar Association President Award	President of the Student Bar Association
A.H. McLeod - Ross Malone Advocacy Award	Excellence in the area of advocacy
ALI-ABA Scholarship & Leadership Award	Student who best represents the combination of scholarship and leadership

## Journals<sup>15</sup>

First published in 1938, the **Washington and Lee Law Review** presents articles contributed by leading scholars, judges, and lawyers, as well as essays, book reviews, and student notes. Student writers are chosen during the summer after their first year of law school based upon grades and the results of a writing competition. The review is published four times per year.<sup>16</sup>

The **Washington and Lee School of Law Journal of Energy, Climate, and the Environment** is a student-edited journal. It is published by the law school student volunteers, whose members comprise the JECE. The journal includes articles, notes, case summaries, and legislative summaries from professors, practitioners, and students focused primarily on the areas of law surrounding energy and the climate, including, but not limited to, energy generation, energy usage, and climate impacts. JECE publishes the journal solely in an online format.

The **Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice** focuses on legal issues that affect historically underrepresented classes of persons in a wide variety of subject matter that includes real estate, education, healthcare, environment, and public welfare. JCRSJ publishes articles submitted by leading scholars and practitioners as well as student notes. It is a biannual publication.

The **German Law Journal** is an online journal. It publishes commentary and scholarship in the fields of German, European, and international law. Its English-language treatment of comparative and international law attracts more than two million site visits from more than 50 countries each year. W&L students have the opportunity to write book reviews, case comments, short articles, and, following instructional learning, assist in discussing and assessing submissions for the journal.

## Moot Court<sup>17-19</sup>

All students at the law school can participate in the Moot Court program. First year students help as bailiffs, clients, witnesses, and time keepers. Second- and third-year students can compete so long as they have signed and submitted the participation agreement after reading the professionalism policy and grievance procedure.

Teams consisting of two members interview and counsel a "client" with a legal problem in the Client Counseling Competition. Competitors are judged on their ability to establish and maintain an effective rapport

with the client and are then chosen from the intra-school competition to represent Washington and Lee in the ABA-sponsored Regional Client Counseling Competition.

The John W. Davis Appellate Advocacy Moot Court Competition provides interested students the opportunity to sharpen their brief writing and oral advocacy skills. Participants individually write a brief on an issue of constitutional law and then present at least two oral arguments to a bench of distinguished judges. Students who place at the top in this competition go on to represent Washington and Lee in several competitions around the country.

## Clinical Programs<sup>20, 21</sup>

One of the most significant opportunities afforded by a law school education at W&L is its legal clinics. Third-year students help to meet the need for legal assistance in the region and, at the same time, develop client contact and advocacy skills. Enrollment in an in-house clinic course satisfies the “actual practice” requirement of the Washington and Lee University School of Law third-year curriculum.

Clinical programs offered by the school include:

- The Black Lung Legal Clinic
- The Citizenship and Immigration Program
- The Community Legal Practice Clinic
- The Criminal Justice Clinic
- The Public Prosecutors Program
- The Tax Clinic
- The Virginia Capital Case Clearinghouse

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$59,000 - \$110,000
Private sector - median	\$83,000
Public service - median	\$55,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	27.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	63.6%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	46.0%
Business and Industry	16.8%

Government	9.7%
Judicial Clerkships	20.4%
Public Interest Organizations	5.3%
Academia	1.8%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>23-25</sup>

### Externships

Washington and Lee's innovative third-year curriculum is entirely experiential; expanding upon the lessons and law of the first- and second-year curriculum, students move out of the classroom and into the real world of legal practice. The new third-year curriculum is not merely a year devoted to practice skills, though lawyering skills are addressed in a variety of ways. Student externs spend one to two days at their externship site each week, and enroll themselves in an accompanying course.

#### Prosecutor Externship

Six to Eight students will be placed with a Commonwealth's Attorney's office. Recent participating offices are located in Covington, Fincastle, Lexington, Lynchburg, Roanoke, Salem, and Staunton, Virginia. For most externs, travel time is significant. Externs prosecute felonies and misdemeanors under Virginia law in Virginia trial courts under the supervision of a prosecutor at the placement.

In **Judicial Externship Program**, students are selected to serve as extern with state and federal trial and appellate judges. Externs can work side by side with the judge and his or her regular law clerks, and attend court as schedules and duties permit. They can work with judges of Federal and Appellate and Virginia Circuit Court.

#### General Externships

Students can work at a variety of offsite placements. Externs have worked with private law firms, City and County Attorney Offices, Corporate and University Counsel, Legal Aid, Public Defenders, The Justice Center, or other legal organizations. Other options include working for a state or federal agency, a public interest organization, etc. Select bankruptcy externships with bankruptcy practitioners, trustees, and judges are also available for students that have taken the bankruptcy course. Students may choose to apply to federal agencies, courts, NGOs and other organizations working on federal issues located in DC for an externship.

### Internships

The Transnational Law Institute sponsors several summer internships involving international or comparative law matters in a broad array of organizations. These students are designated Institute Summer Associates.

## **Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>**

- ABA/LSD Representative
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Burks Scholars x8020
- Christian Legal Society
- Domino & Card Club (DCC)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Epicurean Society
- Executive Committee
- Federalist Society
- First-Year Class Officers
- German Law Journal
- Health Law Association (HLA)
- Honor Advocates
- International Law Society (ILS)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice (CRSJ) x 8119
- Journal of Energy, Climate, and Environment x 4750
- Kirgis Fellows x 8334
- Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA)
- Law Ambassadors
- Law and Business Society
- Law and the Arts Society
- Law Families
- Law News x 8565
- Law Outdoors Club (LOC)
- Law Review x 8566
- Law Revue
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Lewis Powell, Jr. Distinguished Lecture Series
- Media Law Society
- Middle-East and North Africa Law Society (MENA)
- Moot Court Executive Board x 8575
- National Lawyers Guild
- OutLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Law Students Association (PILSA)
- Second-Year Class Officers
- Shepherd Poverty Law Organization
- Southwest Virginia Innocence Project (SVIP) x 4750
- Sports, Intellectual Property, & Entertainment Law Society

- Sports Czars
  - Student Bar Association (SBA) Officers x 8564
  - Student-Faculty Hearing Board
  - Tax Law Society/VITA
  - Third-Year Class Officers
  - Virginia Bar Association - Law School Council
  - Washington & Lee Wine Law Society
  - Women Law Students Organization (WLSO)

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28

# UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

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## Overview<sup>2-5</sup>

The University of Washington School of Law, located in Seattle, was first organized in 1899 and is fully accredited. The school's faculty members generally have an open-door policy to encourage contact and informal discussions with students. Great emphasis is placed upon gaining experience in analyzing cases, statutes, and other legal materials, as well as in synthesizing from these materials general notions of the structure and operation of the legal system. The law school's courses are designed to provide a broad view of the American legal system.

The University of Washington School of Law provides a foundation in legal doctrine, research skills, and lawyering skills through clinical and simulated programs. The curriculum also develops jurisprudential, interdisciplinary, comparative, and multicultural perspectives on law and legal institutions.

The Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library is one of the finest law libraries in the country. Its collection is among the largest university law collections on the West Coast. In addition to an extensive research collection, it supports the school's Asian law, law of sustainable development, and tax graduate programs and serves as a federal depository for selected US government documents.

The law school is committed to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and public service. The school provides opportunities for students to participate in legal reform and public service work, and it requires its students to fulfill a minimum public service commitment in order to graduate.

The education provided by the University of Washington School of Law prepares graduates to be responsible members and leaders of the legal profession and of the broader community, dedicated to the highest standards of ethics, excellence, and professionalism.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>6</sup>

9.3:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>7</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	162-166	3.50-3.82
Median*	164	3.68

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	2,930
Number accepted	638
Percentage accepted	21.8%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>8</sup>

Beginning with the students completing their second and third years in spring 2007, class rank shall be computed annually. Students are not ranked at the end of their first year.

A numerical class rank, based on the numerical equivalencies, shall be computed for the sole purpose of awarding academic honors, including graduation awards, prizes, or membership in scholarly societies, including Order of the Coif, legal journals, and reviews. It shall not be disclosed on a student's transcript or otherwise disclosed except for the purpose of computing eligibility for academic honors.

Grades to be assigned to all courses for credit toward the JD degree, except courses taken on a Credit/No Credit are A, A-, B+, B, B-, C, D, and E. Courses taken in Satisfactory/Not Satisfactory option, available for students to choose, will not count toward a law degree.

The following grading scale is used by the law school:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Numerical equivalent</b>
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.4
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C	2.0

D	1.0
E	0.0

## Incompletes

The grade of I is automatically converted to a failing grade if it is not made up (i.e., the course requirements completed) by the end of the following quarter.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>9</sup>

Grade	Percentage of Class
A	At least 5% and less than or equal to 15%.
A-	At least 20% minus (percentage given A) and less than or equal to 40% minus (percentage given A).
B+	At least 50% minus (percentage given A or A-) and less than or equal to 75% minus (percentage given A or A-).
B	% Discretionary.*
B-	% Discretionary.*
C	% Discretionary. C or D grades are capped at a total of 5% for first-year courses.*
D	% Discretionary. This grade indicates that the level of performance is below that which on average is required for the awarding of the JD degree. C or D grades are capped at a total of 5% for first-year courses.*
E	% Discretionary. This grade indicates unsatisfactory performance, and no credit is given for the course.*

\* At least 25% (but no more than 50%) B and below, combined.

These percentage ranges are mandatory for most JD courses, but there are certain exceptions for specialized and individualized courses such as seminars; clinical, experiential, and “practice”offerings; independent studies; workshops; summer quarter courses; courses heavily directed to non-law students; courses in which most of the enrolled students are candidates for post-JD graduate degrees; courses with 15 students or fewer; and designated “mastery” courses.

## Honors<sup>10</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
High Honors	Top 5%
Honors	Next 15%
Honor Graduate	Highest Grade Point Average

## Awards<sup>11</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law	Second- or third-year student with the highest grade point average in a basic labor and/or employment law course
Vivian Carkeek Prize	Best student contribution to the Washington Law Review
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition Award	Best papers on copyright law
Delta Theta Phi Founders Award	Student with the highest combined first- and second-year grades
Mary Ellen Krug Award	Proficiency in the fields of labor and employment law and related subjects
Judge James J. Lawless Award	Highest grades during the first year
Hugh Miracle Award	Best opening statement made in trial advocacy, trial practice, or moot court
Eugene A. Wright Scholar Award	Second- and a third-year student, each of whom (a) has produced a paper or article of particular noteworthiness as a law review or journal note or comment or as an analytical writing project, (b) has performed exceptionally well in trial or appellate moot court competition, either orally or in brief writing, or (c) has combined an outstanding academic record with an exemplary record of public service and community involvement
CALI Awards	Student with the highest grade

## Journals

The **Washington Law Review** is a student-run legal journal, established in 1919. It is the first legal journal published in the Pacific Northwest. The law review publishes articles and comments of national and regional interest four times per year. The law review sponsors an annual writing competition for students ending their first year of law school. Membership in the *Washington Law Review* is competitive.<sup>12</sup>

The **Shidler Journal of Law, Commerce & Technology** began in 2004 renamed as the **Washington Journal of Law, Technology & Arts**. It publishes concise legal analysis for practicing attorneys. It addresses business law and technology issues in a global context. It presents concise, practical articles aimed at corporate law practitioners and other business professionals interested in emerging issues with respect to technology and commerce. The journal is a partnership between student editors and an editorial board comprised of faculty and practicing attorneys.<sup>13,14</sup>

The **Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal** was founded in 1990 as an innovative vehicle for the discussion of legal and interdisciplinary policy-oriented issues affecting both Asian and trans-Pacific affairs. It publishes three times a year on legal issues and developments in jurisdictions bordering the Pacific Ocean. The journal has featured articles by internationally acclaimed legal scholars on topics such as constitutional law, human rights, corporate governance, antitrust, intellectual property, and environmental law.<sup>15</sup>

The ***Washington Journal of Environmental Law & Policy*** is a student-run and peer-reviewed journal publishing twice a year and supporting an investigative and interdisciplinary approach to analyzing environmental legal issues important to the Pacific Northwest and beyond. It gives a platform to the ideas pushing environmental law & policy in the region and across the country.<sup>16</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>17, 18</sup>

The Moot Court Honor Board (MCHB) organizes and hosts all University of Washington School of Law moot court events. Board members are selected from the first- and second- year classes on the basis of superior performance in the law school's in-house competitions and Mock Trial Competition. Third-year students are generally not invited to join MCHB. Some students, however, may occasionally be invited on to the Board as Special Selections. The board's primary mission is to assist law students with developing their advocacy skills through practice and competition.

MCHB sponsors five in-house competitions each year:

- Peterson Young Putra (2L/3L) Mock Trial
- WSBA Litigation Section 1L Mock Trial
- Contracts
- Judson Falknor Appellate Advocacy Competition
- 1L Appellate Advocacy Competition

The school of law officially participates in a number of regional and national moot court tournaments every year.

MCHB fully funds competitors in different regional/national competitions:

- National Criminal Justice Mock Trial Competition
- TYLA Mock Trial Competition
- AAJ Mock Trial Competition
- National Moot Court Competition
- Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition
- Jessup International Law Competition

Members of these teams are selected based on performance during the Falknor or 1L Appellate Advocacy Competitions. The Vis Arbitration Moot also provides an opportunity for interested students to participate in a mock international arbitration although it is not directly affiliated with MCHB .

## Clinical Programs<sup>19, 20</sup>

The clinical law program is central to the law school's public service and access to justice efforts. Each year, a variety of clinics offers diverse practice opportunities to law students. Students work on real cases, transactions or projects for academic credit supervised by experienced faculty members.

Clinic students may advocate for clients in litigation, negotiate or mediate disputes, advise entrepreneurs and companies, develop policy by drafting legislation and getting it enacted, or gathering information and writing reports for legislative bodies, or engage in community education by teaching high school students about the law. Currently over 65% of JD students graduate have taken at least one clinic.

The law school offers the following clinical programs:

- Children and Youth Advocacy
- Criminal Prosecution
- Entrepreneurial Law
- Federal Tax
- Immigration Law
- Innocence Project Northwest
- Legislative Advocacy
- Mediation
- Race and Justice Clinic
- Street Law
- Technology Law and Public Policy
- Tribal Court Public Defense
- Unemployment Compensation
- Workers' Rights (not offered in '13-'14)

## Placement Facts<sup>21</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$68,875 - \$120,000
Private sector - median	\$100,000
Public service - median	\$50,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	54.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	62.6%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	44.2%
Business and Industry	14.1%
Government	16.7%
Judicial Clerkships	11.5%
Public Interest Organizations	10.9%
Academia	2.6%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>22-24</sup>**

### **Externships**

UW Law also offers a full range of externship opportunities with non-profit or government agencies.

The UW Law Externship Program facilitates the application process for these specialized programs:

- Judicial Externships
- Laurel Rubin Externship Advocacy Program (REAP)
- Olympia Quarter Fellows Program
- US Senate Externships
- Washington-in-Washington Public Service Program
- International Externships

### **Internships**

The William H. Gates Public Service Law Program provides support for internships as well as collaborative opportunities with other law schools in the state of Washington in the area of public service law.

## **Student Organizations<sup>25</sup>**

- Advocates for the Arts
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Association
- Center for Human Rights and Justice
- Chinese American Law Students Association
- Christian Law Society
- Disability Law Alliance
- Federalist Society
- GreenLaw
- Immigrant Families Advocacy Project
- Incarcerated Mothers Advocacy Project
- Innocence Project Northwest - Student Chapter
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Korean-American Law Student Association
- Latino/Latina Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students Starting Second Careers
- Law Women's Caucus
- Lawyers for Appropriate Dispute Resolution
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association of Washington MELSAW

- Military Law Students' Association
- Minority Law Students' Association
- Moot Court Honor Board
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security and Law Society
- Native American Law Student Association
- Outlaws (LGBT Student Group)
- Pacific Rim Law & Policy Journal
- Parents Attending Law School
- Public Interest Law Association
- Sport/Entertainment Law Association
- Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Health Law Organization
- Students for Labor and Employment Justice
- Technology Law Society
- The Forum for Evidence-Based Law & Policy (FELP)
- Washington Journal of Environmental Law & Policy
- Washington Journal of Law, Technology & Arts
- Washington Law Review

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23. <http://www.law.washington.edu/Clinics/>
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RANK

29

## SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR COLLEGE OF LAW

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### Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

The college of law is recognized for its innovative academic program that includes exciting and a wide range of practical opportunities.

The college of law provides its students theoretical and practical training. Its curriculum provides students with a solid foundation in the fundamental workings of the law and legal principles. Through the clinical programs, students get experiences in civil, criminal, mediation, patent, public defender, and immigration law. Students work with indigent clients, government agencies, defense lawyers, tribal judges, researchers, and faculty through these clinics.

Through its externships program, students get hands-on training in the legal skills needed in the courtroom, in the conference room, and with clients. They work with judges, legislative offices, and administrative agencies, ranging from the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to the Arizona Legislature to the Center for Law in the Public Interest.

Its centers and programs- the Center for Law, Science, and Innovation; the Indian Legal Program; the Center for Law and Global Affairs; and the Diane Halle Center for Family Justice - combine intellectual excellence and a visionary edge help to shape the legal landscape.

The Ross-Blakley Law Library's collection is designed to meet the legal information needs of the faculty, the students, the University community, and the public. It maintains a collection of primary authority and secondary source materials. The law library is a participant in the Federal Library Depository Program. Some collection emphases include Indian Law, English Legal History and a growing student Study Skills Collection.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.2:1

### Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	161-165	3.30-3.82
Median*	163	3.65

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 1,865

Number accepted 625

Percentage accepted 33.5%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

A student who's grades are in the top one-third of the class will be ranked at the end of each semester and he/she has completed all the required first semester coursework (after 1 semester), all the required first and second semester coursework (after 2 semesters), 42 credits (after 3 semesters), 54 credits (after 4 semesters), 66 credits (after 5 semesters), or 87 credits (after 6 semesters). Class rank information shall be released only upon authorization of the student concerned.

The work of each student is graded on the following basis. It is effective for the classes who entered in fall 2009 and after.

A+	
A	Excellent
A-	
B+	
B	Good
B-	
C+	
C	Average
D	Deficient
E	Failure
P	Pass
X	Audit
W	Withdraw
I	Incomplete
XE	Academic Dishonesty

## **Policies on Graded Courses and Pass/Fail Grading for classes entering Fall 2009 and after (Effective beginning Fall 2009)**

All courses are to be graded on letter grade scale shown above except for (a) offerings in which the primary instructor is not a resident, visiting, or adjunct faculty member; (b) seminars in which the faculty/instructor's posted course description states that pass-fail or non-numeric grading will be employed; and (c) independent research where faculty/instructor's independent study approval form states that pass-fail or non-numeric grading will be employed. Offerings that are not numerically graded will be graded "pass-fail," within the meaning of the last paragraph of this section.

In those courses that are graded pass-fail, a grade of the equivalent of C or above will be recorded as a pass. Any grade below C will be recorded as the grade which the student earned.

### **Incomplete Grades**

A grade of incomplete "I" may be given whenever a student does not complete a course because of failure to meet academic requirements according to the schedule announced by the faculty member. An instructor may assign a grade of incomplete in a first-year course with the approval of the Dean's designee for rare and unusual cases with compelling reasons.

If an incomplete is not removed by the instructor within one calendar year from issuance, it becomes part of the student's record. Students receiving incomplete grades will be notified in writing of the effect of a failure to remove an incomplete grade within the specified time period, with a copy to the professor. No credit is recorded for a course until an incomplete has been removed, and an incomplete may not be changed to a withdrawal. For graduating students incomplete coursework must be submitted and certified as completed by the final scheduled day of the examination period in the semester in which they plan to graduate. Exceptions to this deadline can only be granted by the Dean's designee.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

Students who entered in fall 2009 and after spring 2009, grade normalization is as follows.

With enrollment of 20 or more in all 1L courses and upper level courses, the following distribution requirements are followed:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Subgroup % Distribution</b>	<b>Group % Distribution</b>
A+(*)	0 - 4%	Combined A's must constitute 25% of the grades awarded (plus or minus 2%)
A	10 - 15%	
A-	10 - 15%	
B+	25 - 35%	Combined B's must constitute 60% of the grades awarded (plus or minus 2%)
B	20 - 30%	
B-	5 - 15%	
C+ and Below	15% (plus or minus 4%)	
D and E(**)	0 - 4%	

(\*) Note: A+ should be awarded only when exceptional work is clearly demonstrated.

(\*\*) Note: D and E should be given only when deficient performance is clearly demonstrated.

In any 1L class of fewer than 20 students, faculty must use the following grading system:

(1) no more than 25% A's (+/-2%) and no more than one A+; (2) no more than 60% B's (+/-2%); (3) no more than 15% C+'s (+/- 4%) and below.

In upper level classes of fewer than 20 students, faculty are to use the grade distribution system for upper level courses with 20 or more students as a guide, but are not held to that distribution. In these classes, however, faculty are to award no more than 50% A's and no more than 1 A+.

The lowest grade in any course is E, which constitutes a failing grade.

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 5 students
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Remainder of Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 15%
Pedrick Scholar Honors	GPA of 3.5 or higher

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Hon. William Canby Jr. Scholarship	Third-year law student with demonstrated interest in Indian law
John S. Armstrong Award	Outstanding academic performance and contribution to the law school
Mary Schroeder Prize Endowment	Graduating student committed to practice in public interest law upon bar admission
W. P. Carey/Armstrong Prize	Graduating student demonstrating dedication Achievement in Public Service to public service
Pro Bono Distinction	Students who contribute 50+ hours of pro bono service while pursuing JD
Janet Mueller Oral Advocacy Award	Graduating student who excels in oral advocacy and moot court competition
Daniel Strouse Prize	Academic strengths and contributions to the Center for Law, Science & Innovation

Order of Barristers	Promoting legal advocacy & advancing ethical standards
Justice Sandra Day O'Connor Award	Excellence in Constitutional Law studies
Alan Matheson Service Award	Outstanding service to the law school.

## Journals

The **Arizona State Law Journal** was originally published under the title Law and the Social Order. It was established in 1969. It is published four times a year, featuring articles written by top-notch scholars, as well as student-authored work on cutting-edge areas of the law. Students who are selected to serve as staff writers during their second-year have the opportunity to become editors in their third-year.<sup>14, 15</sup>

The **Jurimetrics, the Journal of Law, Science, and Technology**, is the journal of the American Bar Association Section of Science & Technology Law and the Center for Law, Science & Innovation. It is a quarterly publication. It is a forum for the publication and exchange of ideas and information about the relationships between law, science, and technology. Every year first-year students at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law are invited to become associate editor. Jurimetrics was first published in 1959 and the current name was adopted in 1966.<sup>16, 17</sup>

The **Law Journal for Social Justice** is the student-run online journal. LJSJ aims to edit, publish, and produce notable works through its online website from legal scholars, practitioners, and law students. It publishes two issues a year, featuring articles that focus on important, novel, and controversial areas of law.<sup>18</sup>

The **Sports and Entertainment Law Journal** is a student-edited interdisciplinary biannual journal. It promotes debate and dialogue on issues concerning the developing fields of *Sports and Entertainment Law*. It provides research and analysis on various areas of law as agency law, antitrust law, constitutional law, contract law, copyright law, labor law, and trademark law. It publishes issues in the spring and fall in both digital and print versions.<sup>19</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>20, 21</sup>

The Moot Court Board is the administrative arm of the Moot Court program, and consists of 2Ls and 3Ls. The Board runs all of the internal competitions, hosts the year-end banquet, and assists teams with external competitions. It provides an opportunity for law students to develop oral and written advocacy skills while working with junior high and high school students in their mock trial/moot court activities.

The Moot Court program features two types of competitions:

- Internal (within ASU Law)
- External (Interschool teams)

### Internal Competitions

Four internal competitions are held each year:

- Client Counseling
- Jenckes

- Oral Argument
- Oplinger

These are open to all law students (1L, 2L, and 3L). Some competitions have cash prizes and all are a great way to develop advocacy skills in a friendly environment while meeting local attorneys and fellow students.

### **External Competitions**

ASU law students are encouraged to participate in the many interschool competitions that are held regionally, nationally, and globally. In the past, ASU has funded and sent teams to the National Environmental Law Competition, the Jessup International Law Competition, the National Moot Court Competition, and many others.

### **Clinical Programs<sup>22</sup>**

Clinical education has been an integral part of the ASU curriculum since 1969. Student attorneys represent homeowners facing foreclosure in Maricopa County, entrepreneurs and small business start-ups seeking economic viability, families seeking assistance in obtaining immigration services, juveniles in need of advocates, and inmates with compelling claims of innocence. They work to effectuate needed policy changes for families striving to balance work and other critical demands and for Arizona's Native American tribes and people on issues critical to their autonomy and sovereignty.

The clinical program consists of following clinics:

- Civil Justice Clinic
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Healthcare Entrepreneurship Clinic
- Homeowner Advocacy Unit
- Immigration Law & Policy Clinic
- Indian Legal Clinic
- Innovation Advancement Program
- Juvenile Advocacy Clinic
- Lodestar Mediation Clinic
- Lisa Foundation Patent Law Clinic
- Post-Conviction Clinic
- Public Defender Clinic

### **Placement Facts<sup>23</sup>**

#### **Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)**

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$125,000 - \$125,000
Private sector - median	\$125,000
Public service - median	\$56,000

## Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	50.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	72.1%

## Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	46.2%
Business and Industry	15.6%
Government	21.5%
Public Interest Organizations	6.5%
Judicial Clerkships	9.1%
Academia	1.1%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>24-26</sup>

### Externships

The externship program of the college of law is designed to enhance the educational experience of second-and third-year law students by giving them an opportunity to do advanced legal work that is generally not available through law curriculum.

Students are placed at non-profit or governmental legal agencies that do not have the funds to hire legal interns.

### Washington, DC, Legal Externship Program

The college of law offers a special program for second- and third-year law students. The program helps students to identify and apply for externships in government or non-profit organizations of interest.

### Internships

The **Transnational Law Summer Fellowship** is an opportunity for Arizona State University (ASU) law students to spend a summer semester working abroad with governmental, inter-governmental and/or non-governmental organizations. Fellows can work on public/private partnerships, human rights, human trafficking, health law, environmental regulation, transitional justice or other issues in any part of the world.

## Student Organizations<sup>27</sup>

- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- American Bar Association Law Student Division
- Amicus Society (AS)

- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
  - John P. Morris Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
  - Chicano/Latino Law Student Association (CLLSA)
  - Christian Legal Society
  - Corporate and Business Law Society (CABLS)
  - Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity
  - Environmental Law Society
  - Executive Moot Court Board
  - Federalist Society
  - Health Law Society
  - Intellectual Property Student Association (IPSA)
  - International Law Students Association (ILSA)
  - Jewish Law Student Association (JLSA)
  - J. Reuben Clark Law Society
  - Jurimetrics Journal
  - Law & Science Student Association (LASSA)
  - Law Journal
  - Law Journal for Social Justice
  - Master of Legal Studies (MLS)
  - Muslim Law Students' Association (MLSA)
  - National Lawyers Guild
  - Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
  - OUTLaw
  - Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
  - Phi Delta Phi
  - Sports & Entertainment Law Students Association (SELSA)
  - Sports and Entertainment Law Journal
  - St. Thomas More Law Student Society
  - Student Bar Association (SBA)
  - Tax and Estate Planning Law Association (TEPLA)
  - Women Law Students' Association (WL SA)

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RANK

29

# BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,2</sup>

765 Commonwealth Avenue  
Boston, MA 02215

REGISTRAR'S PHONE  
617-353-3115

## MAIN PHONE

NA

ADMISSIONS PHONE  
617-353-3100

## WEBSITE

www.bu.edu/law

CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
617-353-3141



## Overview<sup>3-7</sup>

Boston University School of Law was founded in 1872 by a group of educators, lawyers, law teachers, and jurists. The faculty uses the Socratic teaching method; instead of lecturing to students, the school's professors encourage interactive dialogue during class.

BU Law's curriculum offers more than 190 courses, 20 areas of legal study, and 17 study abroad programs. The school's clinical programs teach real-world skills under the close supervision of experienced professors and practitioners. Students can cross-register in other BU graduate schools, pursue dual degrees by combining law study with other BU graduate programs, or pursue combined JD/LLM degrees in either tax or banking and financial law on an accelerated basis.

BU Law offers one of the widest selections of overseas study opportunities, in which students study the host country's legal system and culture. They live and work with international teachers, scholars, and fellow students. The school's career development office offers resources to law students and gives them advice to help them reach their career goals.

The Pappas Law Library's collection of over 680,000 volumes and volume equivalents is a scholarly collection developed to meet the needs of the students and faculty at the Boston University School of Law. In addition to the law collections, Boston University law students have access and borrowing privileges at all Boston University libraries.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

12.7:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	162-167	3.52-3.83
Median*	166	3.75

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 5,914

Number accepted 1,802

Percentage accepted 30.5%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

The Registrar provides only the following information concerning class ranks.

- a. The Registrar informs the top five students who have completed the first year in each section of their section ranks and provides cutoffs for the top 10%, top 25%, and top 33.3% of each section.
- b. For each class, and with respect to both average earned during the most recent year and cumulative average, effective May 2011, the Registrar will inform the top 15 students, who have completed the second or third year, of their ranks and provide cutoffs for the top 10%, top 25%, and top 33.3% of the class.

Boston University has a letter grading system. The numerical equivalents for letter grades are as follows:

A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D	1.0
F	0.0

The minimum passing grade is D. Final grades are released to students by the registrar and not by the instructor; however, an instructor may change final grades to rectify arithmetical or mathematical errors. A faculty vote is required to change final grades.

If a graded seminar or course is taken by a student on a Credit/No Credit/Honors basis, the student must earn a "C" or better on the graded work in the course or seminar to pass.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

For all courses and seminars with enrollments of 26 or more, the following grade distribution is mandatory:

A+	0-5%
A+, A, A-	20-25% (A+ subject to 5% limitation above)
B+ and above	40-60% (subject to limitations on A range above)
B	10-50% (subject to limitations above and below)
B- and below	10-30% (subject to limitations below on ranges C+ and below)
C+ and above	5-10%
D, F	0-5%

For seminars and courses with enrollment of 25 or fewer students, the above distributions are not mandatory, but a median of B+ is recommended.

#### **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Percentage of Class Receiving</b>
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top one-third
Edward F. Hennessey Distinguished Scholars (Third-Year Students)	Top 15 Students
Edward F. Hennessey Scholars (Third-Year Students)	Top 10%
Paul J. Liacos Distinguished Scholars (Second-Year Students)	Top 15 Students
Paul J. Liacos Scholars (Second-Year Students)	Top 10%
G. Joseph Tauro Distinguished Scholars (First-Year Students)	Top 5 Students
G. Joseph Tauro Scholars (First-Year Students)	Top 10%

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Awards	Awarded for/to
American Law Outstanding Achievement Award	Excellence in academic achievement, honorable conduct and contributions to the class
Graduate Tax Program Academic Achievement Award	Highest cumulative average in the class of 2013
Ernest M. Haddad Award	Best Graduate Tax Program student
A. John Serino Outstanding Graduate Banking and Financial Law Student Prize	Overall performance, in terms of academic achievement and dedication to the highest standards of scholarship and service
Dennis S. Aronowitz Award	Academic Excellence in Banking and Financial Law, for the highest cumulative average in the class of 2013
Faculty Award for Academic Accomplishment	Most scholarly progress in the third year
William L. and Lillian Berger Achievement Prizes	Exemplary scholastic achievement
Faculty Award for Community Service	Exceptional dedication to the ideals of community service
Peter Bennett Prize	Third-year JD law student receiving the highest grade point average for that year
Spencer R. Koch Memorial Award	Outstanding contributions to achieving the goals of the Esdaile Alumni Center through alumni outreach
Honorable Albert P. Pettoruto Memorial Award	Excellence in the field of Probate or Family Law
Melville M. Bigelow Scholarship Award	Member of the graduating class who shows the greatest promise as scholar and teacher in law
Warren S. Gilford Humanity and Law Prize	Humanitarian interest in law, primarily by taking a job in the public sector after graduation
Alumni Academic Achievement Award	Highest cumulative average in the three-year program of law study
Sylvia Beinecke Robinson Award	Significant contribution to the life of the School of Law
Dr. John Ordronaux Prize	Exemplary academic performance and leadership:

## Journals<sup>14</sup>

The **Boston University Law Review**, established in 1921, provides analysis and commentary on all areas of the law. Published five times per year, it contains articles contributed by law professors and practicing attorneys from all over the world, along with notes written by student members.

The **American Journal of Law & Medicine**, published quarterly, is an interdisciplinary periodical containing professional articles, student notes and case comments, summaries of recent legislative and judicial

developments, and book reviews in the area of health law and policy. It specializes in medical and legal topics, exploring both traditional health law issues and less conventional issues such as bioethics. The journal is published jointly with the American Society of Law, Medicine and Ethics.

The **Review of Banking & Financial Law**, founded in 1982, is a scholarly *journal of banking and financial law*. It contains professional articles by academics and practicing lawyers, as well as student notes and comments on topics ranging from banking law and regulation to commercial law, bankruptcy, and administrative and constitutional law.

The **Boston University International Law Journal** was established in 1980 to provide a forum for student interests and scholarship in the field of international law. It strives to publish groundbreaking and even controversial professional articles and student-written notes analyzing the most current issues of public and private international law, foreign and comparative law, and trade law. The journal is published twice per year.

The **Journal of Science & Technology Law** carries on BU Law's long-standing tradition as a leader in offering intellectual property law programs. A biannual journal, it provides practical scholarship regarding the intersection of science, technology, and the law. Its subject matter encompasses biotechnology, computers, communications, intellectual property, the Internet, technology transfer, and business for science and technology-based companies.

The **Public Interest Law Journal**, founded in 1990, is a nonpartisan publication dedicated to the academic discussion of legal issues in the public interest. It focuses on constitutional law, criminal law, family law, legal ethics, environmental issues, education law, and civil rights law and is particularly interested in submissions that combine theory and practical application. Notes written by students on public issues are also published.

## Moot Court<sup>15-18</sup>

Boston University School of Law's commitment to practical legal education is reflected in its moot court programs, which have been an integral part of its offerings since the late 1870s. Every year, teams of students represent BU Law at moot court and other competitions around the country. All first-year students begin honing their advocacy skills by participating in the J. Newton Esdaile Appellate Moot Court Program, a required component of the first-year curriculum.

Second-year students may pursue more rigorous advocacy training through the law school's two intramural competitions: the Edward C. Stone Appellate Competition and the Homer Albers Prize Moot Court Competition. These are open to all second-year students. Final arguments for the Albers Competition have been held before eminent jurists. Third-year students who participated in Stone during their second year are eligible for membership on BU Law-sponsored intermural moot court teams.

BU Law sponsors several intramural moot court teams, including the national moot court team, national Appellate Advocacy team, National First Amendment moot court team, Jessup international Law moot court team, Oxford International Intellectual Property moot, the Sutherland Cup Competition, and John J. Gibbons Criminal Law moot court team.

## Clinical Programs<sup>19, 20</sup>

Boston University School of Law's clinical programs let students apply the legal theories they have learned in the classroom to real-life legal practice. Representing actual clients in real cases from initial interview to final courtroom summation, students have the rare opportunity to practice law while receiving close supervision and support from highly qualified faculty. Students at BU Law may choose from clinical programs in criminal law, civil litigation, and legislative services.

### Litigation Clinics

The following programs offer the chance to work under the close supervision of clinical professors experienced in litigation matters, representing real clients in real cases. The cases have been specially chosen to provide students with the greatest possibility of client contact and courtroom experience.

In the **Civil Litigation Program**, students acquire legal skills while representing indigent clients in civil matters. Working out of the offices of Greater Boston Legal Services in downtown Boston, students are assigned cases concerning such issues as housing, employment, family and disability, asylum & human rights, and employment rights. These programs are either full-year or semester-long. Students represent low-income clients in all phases of litigation under the supervision of full-time clinical faculty. Students participate in one of three program areas:

- The Housing, Employment, Family & Disability Clinic (full-year program)
- The Immigration Rights Clinic (full-year program)
- The Employment Rights Clinic (semester-long program)

In the **Criminal Clinical Program** (full-year program), students conduct investigations, participate in plea bargaining, try cases and make sentencing arguments, all under faculty supervision. After a semester of training and supporting senior members of the clinic, students lead their own cases during their second semester of participation. During this semester, students choose to act as prosecutor, an adult defender, or a juvenile defender.

The **Immigration Detention Clinic** covers issues of detention in the immigration context. Students visit local detention centers to provide intake and assistance to individuals in immigration custody.

In the **Human Trafficking Clinic**, clinic students provide a variety of legal services, including direct representation of non-citizens trafficked into the US, advocacy for trafficking survivors, and community education and training.

Students in the **Wrongful Convictions Clinic** screen applications from prisoners claiming innocence. Students scrutinize transcripts, forensic evidence, motions and appeals, and report to the New England Innocent Project.

In **Civil Rights of Non-Citizens in the Immigration Process**, students have the opportunity to work on real cases challenging the violation of non-citizens' civil rights in the current environment of increased immigration enforcement.

## **Legislative Programs**

The law school boasts several great options for students wishing to explore the intriguing world of the legislative process. These are:

In the **Africa i-Parliaments Clinic**, students draft bill language and produce high-quality research reports supporting the African Parliamentary Knowledge Network (APKN), which helps to build the capacity of African parliaments to draft and enact more effective legislation.

The **American Legislative Practice** is the most comprehensive program for learning about the law-making process. Either through its in-house clinic or through an externship at the Massachusetts State House, students work on projects typically handled by the legal and research staff of a legislative committee.

The **Legislative Policy & Drafting Clinic** is a drafting-intensive clinic where students draft legislation for legislators, administrative agencies and public interest groups.

## **Placement Facts<sup>21</sup>**

### **Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)**

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$70,750 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$132,500
Public service - median	\$52,500

### **Employment Details**

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	44.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	57.5%

### **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	39.5%
Business and Industry	12.2%
Government	15.1%
Judicial Clerkships	11.3%
Public Interest Organizations	14.7%
Academia	7.1%
Unknown	0%

### Externships

Externship program consists of a weekly seminar and a field experience at a non-profit, public interest, or government organization. The majority of its programs are part-time: students work 12-20 hrs/week (earning 3-5 credits) at the field placement. BU Law also offers one full-time program, the Semester-in-Practice Program, for out-of-area placements.

The Semester-in-Practice Program offers four options:

**Human Rights Externship (Geneva)** - Through the Human Rights Externship, students may spend a semester working in Geneva at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

**Government Lawyering in Washington, DC** - Students in the Government Lawyering Externship may spend a semester working at a government office in Washington.

**Death Penalty Externship** - Students participating in the Death Penalty Externship may work at the Southern Center for Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia.

**Independent Proposal Externship** (local and away placements) - Under this fourth option, students may develop their own proposal for a full-time externship.

BU Law also offers five part-time externship programs. Each program accommodates 10-16 students.

### Externship Program Offerings

Each program is offered fall and spring, unless otherwise noted. These are:

- Affordable Housing Externship Program
- Community Courts - (spring only)
- Government Lawyering Externship Program - (fall only)
- Health Law Externship Program
- Independent Proposal Externship
- Judicial Externship Program
- Legal Externship Program

### Internships

#### Legislative Internship Program

Interns with senators and representatives at the Massachusetts State House, have the opportunity to draft legislation, evaluate testimony and participate in planning meetings with legislators and staff. They also observe legislative strategy sessions and negotiations, research questions of law and fact for proposed legislation and attend floor debates and committee meetings.

## **Student Organizations<sup>25</sup>**

- American Constitution Society
- Art Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Student Association
- Boston University School of Law American Civil Liberties Union
- Business Law Society
- China Law Society
- Communication, Entertainment, and Sports Law Association
- Education and School Law Association
- Environmental and Energy Law Association
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Association
- Human Rights Law Society
- Immigration Law and Policy Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Student Association
- Latin American Law Student Association
- Law Christian Fellowship
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Follies
- Middle Eastern & South Asian Law Students Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- Native American Law Students Association & Peoples
- OutLaw
- OWLS (Older Wiser Law Students)
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Project
- Running Club
- Scotch Club
- Shelter Legal Services
- Softball
- Student Government Association
- Women's Law Association

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RANK

**31**

# BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,3</sup>  
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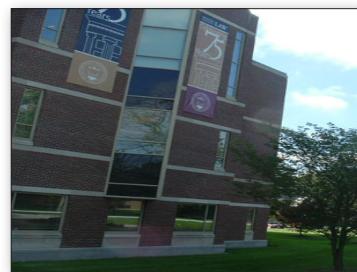
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ADMISSIONS PHONE  
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WEBSITE  
[www.bc.edu/lawschool](http://www.bc.edu/lawschool)

CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
 617-552-4345



## Overview<sup>4-7</sup>

Founded in 1929, Boston College Law School has grown into an internationally known leader in legal education. Its beautiful 40-acre campus is located in Newton, Massachusetts.

The law school places a great deal of emphasis on the practical professional skills every good lawyer must possess. Those skills are imparted within a framework of ideals, such as justice and public service that have made the study and practice of law a calling for so many. The school's curriculum provides thorough knowledge of the foundations of law through an extensive array of required and elective courses and encourages students to think creatively in real-world situations through its advocacy programs, clinical programs, and student publications. It also offers a semester-abroad program at Kings College in London, combining legal placements and academic coursework.

Boston College Law School also has designed an academic support program to help students adopt learning strategies in their first year of law school that will lead to academic success and to reduce the sense of academic isolation law students may experience in their first year of law school.

The Boston College Law Library provides research, educational, and technological support to the Boston College Law School community. It produces a series of award-winning research guides designed to teach users how to find and understand legal materials.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

12.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	161-166	3.40-3.71
Median*	164	3.61

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	4,774
Number accepted	1,400
Percentage accepted	29.3%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

Boston College Law School does not rank its students. An approximation of grade distributions is issued for each class at the end of the Academic Year.

Boston College Law School awards the traditional letter grades of A through F.

Boston College Law School assigns grade point values to letter grades as follows:

A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D	1.00
F	0.00
I	Incomplete
W	Withdrawal

## Pass/Fail Option

JD students may take a total of six credits, in no more than two classes, on a pass/fail basis in their second and third years if such an option is offered by the professor in a particular class. Constitutional Law II and Professional Responsibility cannot be taken on a pass/fail basis.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>

For all classes in which students are evaluated by examination, the mean grade should be approximately 3.2, and the distribution of grades should be approximately as follows:

A	10%
A-	15%
B+	25%
B	35%
B-	10%
C+ and below	5%

Instructors have discretion to vary the mean grades for their classes as follows:

- For classes with enrollments of 40 or more, the mean grade may be as high as 3.30 or as low as 3.0.
- For classes with enrollments of fewer than 40, the mean grade may be as high as 3.4 or as low as 2.9
- For classes with enrollments of less than 25 in which students are evaluated by means other than examination (including seminars and clinics), the suggested mean grade is 3.5

A law student must maintain a cumulative average of at least 2.0, measured at the end of each academic year, as well as receive a 2.0 average for each year's work to remain in good academic standing.

## Honors<sup>12, 13</sup>

Honor	GPA Required
Order of the Coif	3.636 and above
<i>summa cum laude</i>	3.786 and above, top 2% of class
<i>magna cum laude</i>	3.642 - 3.753, top 10% of class
<i>cum laude</i>	3.479 - 3.641, 1/3rd of class

## Awards<sup>14</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
James W. Smith Award	Student with the highest academic rank
Susan Grant Desmarais Award	Public service achievement and leadership
William J. O'Keefe Award	Outstanding contribution to the law school
St. Thomas More Award	Intellectual and moral qualities
Cornelius J. Moynihan Award	Scholarship and co-curricular leadership
Richard S. Sullivan Award	Overall contribution to the law school community
John O'Reilly Award	Contribution to the life of the law school
Law School Alumni Association Award	Scholarship and service to the law school and the profession
Philip Privitera Family Award	Commitment to service
Aviam Soifer Award	Public service achievement and leadership
Dean Dennis A. Dooley Award	Outstanding scholarship average
Lewis S. Gurwitz Award	Commitment to the underprivileged

Frederick N. Halstrom Award	Outstanding advocacy competition
McGrath & Kane Award	Academic excellence and community contribution
Sheila McGovern Award	Achievement of personal goal
Richard G. Huber Award	Leadership and co-curriculum
Kimberly Baker Irvin Award	Exceptional leadership

## Journals

The **Boston College Law Review** is the oldest scholarly publication at *Boston College Law School*. Published five times per year, it features articles concerning legal issues of national interest. Articles from academic symposia are organized, sponsored, and published. The review gives third-year students an opportunity to edit the work of other writers.<sup>15</sup>

First published in 1971, the **Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review** is one of the nation's two-oldest law reviews dedicated to environmental law. In recent years, its articles have addressed such diverse topics as affordable housing, kosher food laws, economic analysis of environmental regulation, and animal rights. In recent years, it also has cultivated a reputation for hosting novel legal symposia on current environmental and land use issues. It is published two times per year.<sup>16</sup>

The **Boston College International and Comparative Law Review** focuses on international legal issues and publishes an annual survey of European Union law. It publishes two issues annually—one in the spring and one in the winter. The spring issue pursues articles that address a variety of international and comparative law issues, such as human rights, cross-border environmental disputes, arms control, covert action, international investment, International Court of Justice jurisdiction, and terrorism, to name only a few. The winter issue contains articles (written by outside and student authors) focusing on the rapid evolution of the European Union, particularly on areas of vital concern to US practitioners advising clients who conduct business in Europe and to the academic community which is closely monitoring these developments.<sup>17</sup>

The **Boston College Journal of Law & Social Justice** (founded in 1978 and publishing its first thirty-one volumes as the **Third World Law Journal**) is a unique periodical that fills the need for a progressive, alternative legal perspective on issues both within the US and in the developing world. Its scope includes issues affecting underrepresented populations, human and civil rights, immigration, women's and children's issues, and issues of disproportionate economic impact. It is published twice annually. Its member staff comprises of second- and third-year students.<sup>18</sup>

The **Uniform Commercial Code Reporter-Digest** is a research tool used by practitioners to find cases decided by all federal, state, and bankruptcy courts addressing issues related to the Uniform Commercial Code. Commercial law issues often arise in the context of contract disputes, tort claims, and bankruptcy proceedings. These issues typically relate to secured transactions, transactions in goods, banking, and investment securities. Second-year students write for the *Uniform Commercial Code Reporter-Digest*, and the publication is edited by third-year students.<sup>19</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>20</sup>

The students at Boston College Law School are encouraged to be involved in a variety of internal and inter-school competitions to build the persuasive legal skills and self-confidence needed in the boardroom and the courtroom. These include proficiency in written advocacy as well as the ability to mold facts into a persuasive presentation, develop intellectual flexibility, anticipate and respond effectively to questions, and function well under pressure.

Students are able to build advocacy skills throughout their three years. First-year students may participate in negotiation and client counseling competitions sponsored in conjunction with the American Bar Association. In the second year, the intramural moot court competition focuses on appellate advocacy. In the third year of law school, the internal mock trial competition is held, and opportunities are available to compete with students from other law schools in various national advocacy competitions.

The **Wendell F. Grimes Moot Court Competition** in the second semester is essential for students aspiring to enter interscholastic competition and others who simply want to build their advocacy skills.

The **National Moot Court Competition** team participates in one of the oldest and most prestigious moot court competitions in the country, sponsored by the American College of Trial Lawyers.

The **Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition** team aims to participate in regional, national, and international competitions as they prepare and argue briefs regarding an appeal that could go before the International Court of Justice.

The **European Union Law Moot Court Competition** is a recent addition to the school's moot court programs. It requires the students to write briefs in English and French. If a team is invited to the oral rounds, it must argue in both languages.

The **National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition** team prepares an appellate brief and competes in mock oral argument regarding an important environmental issue.

The **J. Braxton Craven Memorial Moot Court Competition** team briefs and argues issues of constitutional law arising in mock civil or criminal cases.

The **National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition** team enters a national competition regarding a criminal procedure problem.

The **Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition** team engages in an inter-school competition that focuses on significant minority issues and is sponsored by the National Black Law Students Association.

The **Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property (Trademark) Moot Court Competition** team prepares and presents cases related to trademark law.

Students also participate in the following moot courts:

- Religious Freedom Moot Court
- First Amendment Moot Court
- Immigration Moot Court

## Clinical Programs<sup>21, 22</sup>

Boston College Law School is widely regarded as having one of the best clinical curricula in the country in a wide range of practice areas. There is no general rule governing how many clinical courses a student should take or the best time to enroll in them. There is also no general rule about the sequence in which clinical courses may or should be taken. However, some students prefer to wait until the third year because they want to use clinical courses as a way to transition to professional life or because the clinics in which they were interested were open only to third-year students.

The law school has following in-House clinics where students are supervised by full-time clinical faculty members. Courses include:

The **Civil Litigation Clinic** is a civil clinical course that gives students the opportunity to work as practicing lawyers representing actual clients at the Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau. Students are responsible for their own cases and advise and represent clients with a variety of legal problems, including landlord-tenant disputes, Social Security appeals, employment discrimination suits, and consumer complaints.

The **Community Enterprise Clinic** introduces students to transactional legal work on behalf of low- and moderate-income entrepreneurs, small businesses, and nonprofit organizations. It includes fieldwork and a weekly seminar.

The **Criminal Justice Clinic** examines the criminal justice system from the perspective of both defense attorneys and prosecutors and is made up of two programs: the BC Law Prosecution Program and the BC Defenders. The BC Defenders represent indigent clients in district court, while student prosecutors prosecute cases under the auspices of a district attorney's office.

The **Housing Law Clinic** introduces students to the pervasive problem of homelessness in cities. Students litigate cases on behalf of poor individuals who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless if they lose their current housing. The course includes fieldwork and a weekly seminar.

The **Immigration and Asylum Clinic** provides students with the opportunity to apply their substantive learning in a hands-on, real-world setting. Students advise or represent clients in a wide range of immigration matters, including asylum, criminal waivers, adjustment of status, bond, appellate litigation, and amicus briefing.

In the **Juvenile Rights Advocacy Clinic**, students work for juvenile justice and child advocacy as well as in problem areas of juvenile representation and policy. They primarily represent girls in the Massachusetts justice system across the full range of their legal needs, including those pertaining to delinquency, post-disposition administrative advocacy, special education, personal injury, status offenses, child abuse and neglect, and public benefits.

## Placement Facts<sup>23</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$105,000 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$145,000
Public service - median	\$48,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	51.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	72.3%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	49.0%
Business and Industry	7.5%
Government	12.9%
Judicial Clerkships	16.5%
Public Interest Organizations	7.1%
Academia	6.7%
Unknown	0.4%

## Externships/Internships<sup>24, 25</sup>

### Externships

Through Boston College Law School's externship programs, students are placed in settings outside of the law school under the supervision of practicing lawyers.

The **Attorney General Program** provides an intensive full-year clinical experience in civil litigation in the Government Bureau of the Massachusetts Office of the Attorney General. Students work directly with Bureau attorneys in the representation of state agencies and officials in state and federal courts.

Through **Immigration and Asylum Externship Program**, students hone their immigration lawyering skills and get exposed to the realities of immigration practice. Students work either off campus at a firm or non-profit, or on campus with the Post-Deportation Human Rights Project.

The **London Program** is held each spring semester at King's College London. It seeks to supplement the educational process at Boston College Law School by exposing students firsthand to a different legal culture. The program is designed to provide students with critical insight into comparative legal institutions and prepare them for international law practice, with special emphasis on international regulatory process, whether in environmental or securities regulation, antitrust, intellectual property, or human rights. Students work with a number of nonprofit environmental organizations and London law firms.

The **Semester in Practice Program** is designed to maximize students' ability to improve their lawyering skills while observing experienced local lawyers and judges.

**Semester in Practice: International Human Rights** is a new course. It offers a unique opportunity to work on-site during the spring semester at an international human rights organization. The course is designed to provide students with real-world experience and critical insight into international legal institutions, and to prepare them for international legal practice, with special emphasis on human rights and other public interest-oriented arenas.

### **Internships**

Through Boston College Law School's Internships, students do not perform actual legal work, but observe legal and judicial practice. The courses include:

The **Judge and the Community Court** examines the functioning of the **judicial process** in lower-level trial courts. Students undertake this study of lower court judicial performance through clerkship-like, fieldwork placements with individual Justices of the District Court, Boston Municipal Court, Juvenile Court, and Housing Court Departments of the Massachusetts Trial Court.

The Judicial Process allows a student to sit as an intern one day per week with a series of Massachusetts Superior Court Judges (Trial Court). The student is in court as an observer, not as a law clerk.

### **Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>**

- American Constitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Art Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- BC Law and Asia Society
- BC Law Democrats
- BC Law Republicans
- Business and Law Society
- Children's Rights Group
- Christian Legal Society
- Community Economic Development Group
- Criminal Justice Law Project
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Gag Order A Capella Group
- Gender Violence Awareness Coalition
- Gulf Coast Recovery Group
- Health Law Society
- Holocaust Human Rights Project
- Immigration Law Group

- Intellectual Property and Technology Forum
  - International Law Society
  - Jewish Law Student Association
  - Lambda
  - Latin American Law Students Association
  - Law and Religion Program
  - Litigation and Advocacy Society
  - Muslim Law Students Association
  - National Lawyers Guild
  - Native American Law Student Association
  - Phi Alpha Delta
  - Public Interest Law Foundation
  - South Asian Law Students Association
  - Sports and Entertainment Law Society
  - Students for Reproductive Justice
  - Students With Kids
  - St. Thomas More Society
  - Veterans Association
  - Women's Law Center

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RANK

**31**

# UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

Van Hecke-Wettach Hall  
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Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3380

## REGISTRAR'S PHONE

919-962-1249

## ADMISSIONS PHONE

919-962-5109

## MAIN PHONE

919-962-5106

## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

919-962-8102

## WEBSITE

www.law.unc.edu



## Overview<sup>2-5</sup>

The University of North Carolina School of Law at Chapel Hill offers its students open study spaces, high technology classrooms, enlarged library facilities, clinical teaching venues, writing laboratories, and placement operations. The classes as well as faculty-student ratios are small, which facilitates innovative and disparate educational opportunities. The student body is considered to be highly credentialed and intellectually diverse. The law school is known for its civil rights, banking, intellectual property, entrepreneurial and securities law, critical studies, bankruptcy, and constitutional inquiry offerings. It has a strong alumni network, and its pro bono efforts have achieved national distinction.

The University of North Carolina School of Law takes seriously the obligations of public education. Accordingly, commitments to access and equality reside at its core. Its new series of externship and clinical programs provides practical experience essential to rigorous professional training. Its curriculum provides students with the courses required for a Juris Doctorate degree as well as several dual-degree programs.

Partnerships with Duke University School of Law and North Carolina Central University School of Law make it possible for UNC law students to take the classes they want if they are not offered here.

The Kathrine R. Everett Law Library houses a rich collection of law and law-related materials to support the research and teaching of the law school community. The library is also open to lawyers and other members of the public. There is also a rich and growing collection of legal information available online.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>6</sup>

13.0:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>7</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	160-164	3.33-3.69
Median*	162	3.51

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 2,361

Number accepted 682

Percentage accepted 28.9%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>8</sup>

The law school does not provide class ranks for individual students, with the exception of the top 10 students in each class. Students and employers will receive information about the grade-point-average cutoffs for the top 10%, top third and top half of each class, however.

The University of North Carolina School of Law uses the following grading scale:

A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0

An A+ (4.3) may be awarded in exceptional situations. There is no D-. A failing grade is F (0.0).

### Incompletes

Faculty members may award a grade of "Incomplete" (designated "IN" on a transcript) in instances in which they believe the award of such a grade is warranted. Incompletes should generally be cleared by the end of the semester following the semester in which a grade of Incomplete is awarded.

### Pass/Fail Courses

Some courses are designated as Pass/Fail courses. Students may not change a graded course to a Pass/Fail course.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>9</sup>**

### **First-Year Curve**

First-year classes (other than first-year research and writing classes) are subject to a mandatory curve. The curve has two aspects: a distributional requirement and a mean requirement. The distributional requirement does not apply to first year small sections, although grading in small sections must still meet the mean requirement.

#### Distribution Requirement

<b>Percent</b>	<b>Grade</b>
35% (31-39%)	A,A-
55% (51-59%)	B+,B,B-
10% (6-14%)	C,C+

A deviation of 4% is permitted in each letter grade category. A grade of A+ is considered part of the 35% of grades to be awarded in the A to A- range. Grades below C will be considered part of the 10% of grades to be awarded in the C+ to C range.

The mean requirement for the first-year courses is 3.25 with a permissible range of 3.2 to 3.3. A grade below a C is considered a 2.0 for purposes of determining the required mean.

An A+ is counted based on its actual value (4.3) for determining the required mean.

### **Upper-Class Mean**

In each upper-class course, the mean GPA should fall within a relatively narrow target band. The mean GPAs should vary by no more than 0.1 from one class to another in order to ensure fair treatment of all students.

In small-enrollment upper-class courses (15 or fewer students), a variance of 0.3 is permitted. In upper-class writing courses (WE or RWE), the mean GPA is somewhat higher, and a variance of 0.2 is permitted. The bands for upper-level offerings are as follows:

<b>Type of Class</b>	<b>Target Band</b>
Courses (Small-15 or fewer students)	3.1-3.4 mean GPA
Courses (Larger-more than 15 students)	3.2-3.3 mean GPA
RWEs and WEs	3.4-3.6 mean GPA

A ratcheting system for upper-class courses is used (upwards or downwards) if the overall mean GPA of enrolled students in the course (prior to enrolling for the course) is higher or lower than the mean GPA for upper-class students.

An annual cumulative grade point average of 2.20 is required to continue in the law school at the end of the first year, and a cumulative GPA of 2.25 is required to continue after the second year and to graduate.

## Honors<sup>10, 11</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Highest Honors	GPA of 4.0 or higher
High Honors	Top 10%
Honors	Top one-third
Dean's List	Top 50% of the class in any semester

## Awards<sup>12, 13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
James E. and Carolyn B. Davis Society	Membership offered to eight 3L students for excellence in academics, leadership, and other areas
Pro Bono Publico Awards	Outstanding pro bono service of students, student groups, and faculty

## Journals

The **North Carolina Law Review** is a student-edited journal. It publishes the scholarship of judges, attorneys, scholars, and students. Through its collaboration with the legal community, the law review provides timely and thought-provoking commentary for people of North Carolina and the country. In addition, the law review trains its members in intensive legal research, analysis, and writing, thereby preparing them for the rigors of legal practice and public service.<sup>14</sup>

The **North Carolina Banking Institute Journal** is a student-edited legal journal. Its annual volume is published in the spring in conjunction with the Annual Banking Institute CLE Program. It publishes the most current and practical topics related to the banking industry and welcomes articles, notes, and comments from all segments of the banking community.<sup>15, 16</sup>

The **North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation** publishes issues on international law and commerce and provides practical information in the area of international law, international trade, and commercial regulation. Published four times per year, it features articles written by leading scholars, respected practitioners, and ILJ staff members. In order to foster discussion of international legal issues, the journal also hosts an annual symposium that brings together the legal community for academic and public discourse on an important issue in international law.<sup>17</sup>

The **North Carolina Journal of Law & Technology** is a student-edited journal. It focuses on the many intersections between law and technology. The journal is a forum for the publication and exchange of ideas and information about the relationships between law, science, and technology. It covers the issues in intellectual property, science, cyberspace, environmental law, criminal law, etc. It publishes one print and one online edition at the end of each academic semester. Both editions feature full-length professional articles

submitted to the journal, as well as student-written comments and recent developments prepared by the staff.<sup>18</sup>

The **First Amendment Law Review** is a student-edited legal journal that seeks to promote and protect the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States through publishing scholarly writings on and promoting discussion of issues related to the First Amendment. It publishes professional and student articles for the benefit of scholars and practitioners. Its professional contributions include scholarly articles, symposium papers, and novel, interesting essays on a variety of issues touching the First Amendment. Its student contributions include scholarly examinations of discrete First Amendment topics and recent developments in First Amendment law.<sup>19</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>20</sup>

The Holderness Moot Court Bench at the University of North Carolina School of Law gives law students the opportunity to develop practical skills in legal research and writing, client counseling, appellate oral advocacy, and negotiation. The bench primarily advances these goals through sponsoring teams that participate in competitions held throughout the United States.

The Holderness Moot Court Bench also coordinates the J. Braxton Craven Memorial Moot Court Competition. Students can become members of Holderness Moot Court via the William B. Aycock Intraschool Moot Court Competition, which is now held in the spring semester of their 1L year. Prospective members may be selected for membership on one of seven competition teams: the National Team, the Negotiation Team, the Client Counseling Team, the Invitational Team, the International Team, the Environmental Appellate Advocacy Team, and the Environmental Negotiation Team.

## Clinical Programs

The University of North Carolina School of Law offers the following clinical programs:

The **Civil Legal Assistance Clinic**, a two-semester clinic in which third-year students represent low-income clients in a variety of civil matters, including but not limited to landlord/tenant and other housing law issues; family law cases, including domestic violence cases; and unemployment benefits, consumer law, and public benefits issues. The *Civil Legal Assistance Clinic* also works with the University of North Carolina School of Law's Center for Civil Rights and other statewide and national legal advocacy organizations on complex litigation in state and federal courts regarding a broad range of matters involving civil rights.<sup>21</sup>

The **Community Development Law Clinic**, in which third-year students provide corporate and transactional counsel to North Carolina nonprofit community development organizations. The clinic helps students develop skills in corporate and transactional law and allows them to serve the legal needs of under-resourced communities in North Carolina. This is a two-semester clinic.<sup>22</sup>

The **Consumer Financial Transactions Clinic** is a full-year clinic in which third-year students represent clients in civil matters related to consumer credit and homeownership. Students may also participate in advocacy projects and community education events, depending on community need.<sup>23</sup>

The **Domestic Violence Representation** Project is a 3 credit, pass/fail, one-semester experiential course taught in both the fall and spring semesters in which third-year law students represent low-income clients in civil matters aimed at assisting clients in safely leaving abusive relationships.<sup>24</sup>

The **Immigration/Human Rights Policy Clinic**, in which students represent clients in immigration cases and work on legal projects addressing human rights initiatives. Working in teams of two or three, the students prepare claims and advocate on behalf of immigrant clients, including refugees applying for asylum, battered immigrants applying for Violence Against Women Act relief, immigrants eligible for U (crime victim) visas, immigrants eligible for T (trafficking) visas, and immigrants with claims to U.S. citizenship and other claims for permanent residency status. This is a two-semester clinic.<sup>25</sup>

The **Juvenile Justice Clinic**, in which third-year students represent children accused of crimes. Cases are assigned to individual students who research, draft, and prepare witness examinations as well as arguments. Pre-trial and pre-sentencing investigations are also conducted wherein regular contact with the client is maintained. Students in this clinic appear in court and also handle appellate matters. This is a one or two-semester clinic.<sup>26</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>27</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$70,000 - \$145,000
Private sector - median	\$117,500
Public service - median	\$50,980

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	46.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	78.1%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	49.3%
Business and Industry	18.1%
Government	9.8%
Public Interest Organizations	11.2%
Judicial Clerkships	10.7%
Academia	0.9%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>28-30</sup>

### Externships

The Externship Program offers three different academic options; the fall/spring three credit program for 3L students, the summer five credit program (for rising 2L and 3L students), and the 12-credit Semester in Practice program during the fall of the 3L year. Students participating in the Externship Program receive pass/fail academic credit for externing at one of the program's approved sites.

In the **Three Credit Program** students work under the direct supervision of an on-site supervisor for approximately 10 to 11 hours each week during the 14-week semester. The program offers 55 placements in both the fall and spring semesters at a number of sites, and is limited to third-year law students through the clinic/externship lottery. The Program can occasionally offer a spot to a spring 2L student once the lottery and waitlist are complete. The fall/spring program earns 3 pass/fail credit hours.

The **Summer Program** offers 50 placements, both at judicial and non-judicial sites. First- and second-year students interested in summer placement earn 5 credits during the session and are on-site 32 hours per week.

The **Semester in Practice program** offers full time, semester long externships with partner government agencies and public interest organizations in Washington DC, New York City, Atlanta and North Carolina. Students participating in the program receive 12 units of pass/fail credit.

### Internships

**World Intellectual Property Organization Internship** - The law school offers internship programs and creates opportunities for students to use their intellectual property skills to serve the public interest.

**Berkman Summer Internship Program** - Each summer the Berkman Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University offers an internship program for ten weeks. Internships are open to students enrolled across the spectrum of disciplines and do not have to be affiliated with Harvard University.

**Public Knowledge** offers unpaid internships during the school year and summer to students studying either law or public policy.

**Direct Brands, Inc.** offers Summer Internship in General Corporate/Media/ Entertainment/Intellectual Property Law.

Other internship programs offered by the law school:

- UNC Office of Technology Development Internship Program
- EFF - Electronic Frontier Foundation Internships
- Ilene B. Nelson Internship
- National Association of Record Industry Professionals - Music Industry Intern
- Summer Internship Program offered by Academy of Television Arts & Sciences
- The Gibson Desaulniers Smith Public Interest Internship

## **Student Organizations<sup>31</sup>**

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - Carolina Law Chapter
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Asian American Law Students Association (AALSA)
- Attorney General Staff
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Broun National Trial Team
- Carolina Health Law Organization
- Carolina Intellectual Property Law Association (CIPLA)
- Carolina Law Ambassadors (CLA)
- Carolina Law Democrats
- Carolina Law Republicans
- Carolina Law Soccer Club
- Carolina Public Interest Law Organization (CPILO)
- Carolina Street Law
- Carolina Teen Court Assistance Program
- Child Action
- Christian Legal Society
- Community Legal Project (CLP)
- Conference on Race, Class, Gender and Ethnicity (CRCGE)
- Consumer & Commercial Law Society
- Death Penalty Project
- Disability Law Organization
- Domestic Violence Action Project (DVAP)
- Education Law and Policy Society
- Environmental Law Project (ELP)
- Federalist Society
- First Amendment Law Review
- Hispanic/Latino Law Students' Association (HLLSA)
- Holderness Moot Court
- Honor Court
- Immigration Law Association
- Innocence Project;
- International & Comparative Law Organization
- Jewish Law Association (JLA)
- Julius L. Chambers Civil Rights Appellate Advocacy Team
- Labor and Employment Law Society
- Lambda Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- North Carolina Banking Institute Journal
- North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation (ILJ)
- North Carolina Journal of Law and Technology (JOLT)
- North Carolina Law Review

- Parents As Law Students (PALS)
- Peer Partnership Organization
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity (PAD)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Transactional and Corporate Law Association
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Women in Law (WIL)

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RANK  
**35**

# THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY MARSHALL-WYTHE SCHOOL OF LAW

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757-221-3805

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## Overview<sup>3-7</sup>

The College of William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law was established based on the legal training ideals of Thomas Jefferson, who in 1779 led the creation of the law school at the college.

The study of law at William & Mary is designed to prepare graduates to emphasize the human element of the practice of law. The foremost minds and emerging voices in the theory and practice of law present bold new ideas pertaining to international human rights, national security, election law, civil liberties, post-conflict justice and more. Law students get hands-on experience arguing cases in the most technologically advanced courtroom in the world. Research centers, conferences and lectures, faculty scholarship, and student publications add exciting new dimensions to academic life at the law school.

William & Mary School of Law's innovative Legal Skills Program offers students a unique perspective on the real world of practicing law. The program teaches students about the essential tools for effective legal writing, advocacy, and client relations in an environment much like the environment they will face in their careers. It is organized into law offices, each of which uses the law of an actual jurisdiction.

Legal training at William & Mary School of Law is innovative and technologically advanced. In the Jeffersonian tradition of the citizen lawyer, the school honors its obligation to participate in resolving leading issues of the day.

The Wolf Law Library at the College of William & Mary houses more than 400,000 volumes. It includes all basic materials necessary for research and study in Anglo-American law. Collection of treatises in law and related fields, encyclopedias, and digests help faculty and students stay current with national and world events. The Institute of Bill of Rights Law supports research and education on the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and sponsors educational programs for various audiences.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

14.1:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	161-166	3.45-3.84
Median*	164	3.74

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	5,564
Number accepted	1,770
Percentage accepted	31.8%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10, 11</sup>

Law students are ranked at the conclusion of one full year of legal study at William & Mary. Thereafter, students are ranked at the conclusions of the fall and spring semesters. Students attending summer school do not receive new rankings at the conclusion of their summer classes. Class rankings are based on rounded GPAs, and the majority of student rankings are determined in percentage terms rather than individual class rankings. Students with GPAs of 3.6 or higher are given numerical rankings.

First-year grades are based only on examinations or may also consider class participation when assigning the final grade and upper-level elective and seminar courses are graded entirely by an exam or paper.

The following grading scale is used by the law school:

A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7

D	1.0
F	0.0

As an alternative to these standard letter grades, two different versions of pass-fail grades may be used in the law school courses.

"Standard Pass-Fail" grading means that only two grades are possible, "P" for pass and "F" fail. Students must earn a "P" in order for the course credits to count towards the total number of credits required for graduation. A "P" in a Standard Pass-Fail course will not affect a student's grade point average. An "F" in a Standard Pass-Fail course, however, will affect a student's grade point average.

"Extended Pass-Fail" grading means that the following four grades are possible: "H" (honors), "P" (pass), "LP" (low pass), and "F" (Fail). Similarly, grades other than "F" will not affect a student's grade point average but will count towards the total number of credits required for graduation. An "F" in an Extended Pass-Fail course will affect a student's grade point average.

Other grades that have no effect on grade point average may be on transcript:

"T" (transfer credit from another institution)

"NG" (no grade or credit earned - when a faculty member has not yet submitted grade)

"I" (incomplete-can only be given with permission of the Associate Dean for Administration and is never given to a graduating student in the semester they are graduating)

"O" (audit-no credit earned)

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>12</sup>**

The law school follows Mandatory Grade Curve as given below

Type of Class	Minimum GPA	Target GPA	Maximum GPA	Grade Distribution (described below)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First-year Doctrinal Courses</li> <li>Professional Responsibility (regardless of size)</li> </ul>	3.25	3.30	3.35	Must substantially follow distribution as determined by the Vice Dean.
Upper-level courses of 30 or more	3.25	3.30	3.35	Should follow distribution to the extent practicable.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper-level courses of 10-29</li> <li>All sections of Legal Practice Program (regardless of size)</li> </ul>	3.20	3.30	3.40	Should follow distribution to the extent practicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upper-level courses of 9 or fewer</li> <li>Clinics (regardless of size)</li> <li>Courses classified as satisfying the writing requirement (regardless of size)</li> </ul>	3.20	n/a	3.70	n/a

In addition to the mandatory limits on mean GPAs, distributional standards apply. In grading first-year doctrinal courses and Professional Responsibility, faculty shall award grades that, as determined by the Vice Dean, substantially follow the distributions set forth below. For other courses enrolling 10 or more students, faculty should attempt to follow the distribution to the extent practicable.

A (including A+ if available)	10%
A-	20%
B+	35%
B	20%
B- or below	15%

William & Mary School of Law has a mandatory grading curve for classes of 30 or more students. Faculty may assign, in classes of 30 or more students, one A+ grade. No grade of A+ may be awarded in a class of fewer than 30 students.

## Honors<sup>13,14</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 3%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 25%

## Awards<sup>15, 16</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Dean's Certificate	Students who have initiated new projects, led organizations, participated enthusiastically in law school or community activities, or demonstrated special initiative on behalf of the law school
ABA-BNA Award for Excellence in Health Law	Excellence in health law
American Bankruptcy Institute Award	Outstanding performance in bankruptcy law
American Bar Association State and Local Government Award	Excellence in the areas of land use and local government law
Rachel Carson Award for Excellence in Environmental Law	Outstanding accomplishment in environmental law
Drapers' Scholarship	Scholarship from Queen Mary College of the University of London for a year of postgraduate study; student selected for this award is known as the Drapers' Scholar
Environmental Law and Policy Review Award for Excellence in Scholarship	Outstanding student not published in the William & Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review
Gambrell Legal Skills Award	Top student in each of the law school's Legal Skills firms
William Hamilton Prize	Outstanding student performance in legal history
Ewell Award	Well-rounded graduating students
Lawrence W. l'Anson Award	Promise through scholarship, character, and leadership
Family Law Book Award	Student who demonstrates the most potential for the practice of family law
Herrmann Prize	Student who demonstrates the most potential for contributing to the efficient administration of justice through the innovative use of technology
Robert R. Kaplan International Financial Law Award	Outstanding student in International Financial Law
Kaufman & Canoles Prizes	Outstanding performance in the Legal Skills Program
Kruchko & Fries Prize	Outstanding student performance in employment law
Wayne M. Lee Endowed Book Award	Student with the highest grade point average after completion of the first semester
Order of Barristers	Substantial contribution to an oral argument program
Thurgood Marshall Award	Distinguished public service
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Outstanding contribution to the advancement of women in society
Spong Professionalism Award	Best third-year student in the Legal Skills Program
William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law Outstanding Member	Third-year student who exhibits outstanding dedication to and support for the William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law

William & Mary Law Review Best Student Note	Outstanding student note published in the William & Mary Law Review
Virginia Trial Lawyers Award	Excellence in trial advocacy and demonstration of the high standards and integrity of a trial lawyer
George Wythe Award	Outstanding service to the law school
Thomas Jefferson Prize	Best student note in the current volume of the William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal
Legal Skills Scholars Award	Excellent legal skills
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Student for significant contribution to legal scholarship in any law school course
Therapeutic Jurisprudence Award	Student who has exemplified the mission of Therapeutic Jurisprudence from academic, scholarship and service perspectives
Lawrence W. i'Anson Award	Student who has shown evidences through scholarship, character and leadership
Book Awards	Highest grade in each eligible class

## Journals

The **William & Mary Law Review** was first published in 1957. It provides a forum for academic treatment of legal issues, offers a unique educational opportunity to its student members, aids practitioners in understanding recent developments in the law, and enhances the life of the law school. It is published six times per year. A student-published journal, it has featured important scholarly work from noted scholars in all areas of the law and has become one of the top general interest law journals in the country.<sup>17</sup>

The **William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law** is a student-edited journal founded in 1993 to focus scholarly debate on gender-related issues and to encourage discussion about the impact gender bias in the law has on society and women's lives. It covers the issues of labor law, international law, administrative law, wills and estates, contracts, torts, the criminal and civil justice systems, and many other areas of law. It also addresses the inherent interdependence between public policy and social issues.<sup>18</sup>

The **William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal** was founded in 1992 and is a student-run publication addressing issues regarding the Bill of Rights and the US Constitution. Previously known as The Colonial Lawyer, the journal expanded its original vision from that of a Virginia-focused journal to that of a journal of international scope. It serves a threefold purpose in analyzing new law, acting as a research tool, and serving as a source of enriched education for the legal community. The journal is published four times per year—in October, December, February, and April.<sup>19, 20</sup>

The **William & Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review** began as a newsletter entitled Environmental Practice News in 1975. By 1990 the publication evolved into the *William and Mary Journal of Environmental Law*, a law journal with a national and international perspective in its coverage of environmental law issues. Today, the central function of the review is to provide a forum for professors, scholars, practitioners, and students to publish articles on current topics in environmental law and examine in a more focused manner the policy implications behind the law.<sup>21</sup>

The ***Not Wythe Standing*** (the News) is a newspaper written by law students for the William and Mary law school community. Originating in 1970 with a newspaper called the Amicus Curiae, the law school newspaper has transformed until it was recently resurrected as the light hearted *Not Wythe Standing* (the News). It publishes a wide variety of articles: from professor interviews to music and food reviews, hot topic debates to stylistic reflections on life as a law student.<sup>22</sup>

The ***Journal of Military and Veteran Law*** is a student edited electronic legal periodical published by the Military Law Society of the College of William & Mary Law School. It publishes insightful and relevant essays and articles in the areas of national security, military and veteran law.<sup>23</sup>

The ***William & Mary Business Law Review*** is a scholarly publication of professional articles and student notes, edited and operated by students. It explores the nexus among business, law, and ethics.<sup>24</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>25</sup>

The moot court program at William & Mary School of Law gives students the opportunity to develop and refine both oral advocacy and brief writing skills. Team members participate in moot court tournaments, which require each team to research and write an appellate brief and then defend it before a panel of judges in an oral argument.

Moot court membership is an honor, and tryouts for the team are competitive. Each year, the moot court team sends its members to approximately 15 inter-collegiate moot court tournaments around the nation. In addition to competing, the William & Mary Moot Court Team annually hosts the William B. Spong Invitational Moot Court Tournament, which focuses on current issues in constitutional law. Rounds are judged by panels of federal and state court judges. Competitors at the Spong Tournament represent schools from across the United States.

Students are also competing in the National Championships of the American College of Trial Lawyers/New York City Bar Association National Moot Court Championship, Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championships, Stetson University International Environmental Moot Court Competition.

## Clinical Programs<sup>26</sup>

Students of the law school get many opportunities to practice the wide range of skills necessary to provide clients with competent representation of the highest caliber. Students in their second and third years represent real clients in actual cases through clinical program.

In the **Federal Tax Clinic**, students assist in the representation of low income Virginia taxpayers before the IRS, US Tax Court, and US District Court.

In the **Legal Aid Clinic**, students work in the Williamsburg office of Legal Services of Eastern Virginia, providing legal service to indigent people under the supervision of a faculty member. The legal work done by the students provides the basis for an exploration of the profession and the justice system.

The **Domestic Violence Clinic** enables students to represent victims of domestic violence in obtaining protection, as well as in the legal issues that arise as a result of such violence.

In the **Innocence Project Clinic** students can participate in the legal investigation and research of inmate claims of actual innocence.

Working in the **Family Law Clinic** in the Williamsburg office of the Legal Aid Society of Eastern Virginia allows students to provide legal services to indigent people in a variety of civil matters.

In the **Special Education Advocacy Clinic** students can assist children with special needs and their families in special education matters.

In the **Veterans' Benefits Clinic** students get the opportunity to learn veterans' disability law and procedure and aid military veterans in the filing, adjudication, and appeal of their disability claims with the Veterans Administration, working in conjunction with the psychology students at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond (VCU) to refer clients for assessment, counseling, and therapy as needed. This is the first service-learning project of the Health Policy and Law Initiative between William & Mary Law and VCU.

The following clinics have newly introduced to the course.

The **Appellate and Supreme Court Clinic** introduces 3L students to appellate practice in the federal Courts of Appeals and the United States Supreme Court. Students will work as a team to identify cases suitable for the clinic and then work as pairs to prepare appellate briefs in cases involving the First and Fourth Amendments.

The **Elder Law Clinic** will help second- and third-year students to understand the substantive legal issues affecting the elderly. The experience will also help to improve the students' interviewing, counseling, research, writing and advocacy skills as they advance their client's interests.

## Placement Facts<sup>27</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$60,000 - \$95,000
Private sector - median	\$75,000
Public service - median	\$53,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	45.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	68.1%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	31.3%
Business and Industry	16.0%
Government	23.3%

Judicial Clerkships	20.2%
Public Interest Organizations	4.9%
Academia	4.3%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>28, 29</sup>

### Externships

William & Mary School of Law's externship program provides a wide variety of pre-approved externship opportunities. Students can also arrange their own externship. The law school offers the following externships:

The **Federal Government Externships** are with executive or legislative agencies of the US government.

The **Judicial Externships** are with judges, courts, and organizations that provide research, educational, and management services to judges and courts.

The **Nonprofit Organization Externships** are with civil legal services and legal aid organizations and private nonprofit organizations.

The **Private Practice and In-House Counsel Externships** with solo practitioners, law firms, and in-house law departments of corporations.

The **Prosecutor Externships** are with state and local prosecutors

The **State and Local Government Externships** are with city or county attorneys, attorneys general, and executive or legislative agencies.

The **US Attorney Externships** with civil or criminal divisions of US Attorney offices.

### Virginia Attorney General Externships

### Internships

International Public Service Internships: The law school has provided international internships for the past ten years for students to work in Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Dominican Republic, England, Ghana, India, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritania, Mexico, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia, Rwanda, South Africa, Swaziland, Switzerland, and Washington, DC.

## Student Organizations<sup>30</sup>

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Team
- American Civil Liberties Union, W&M Chapter
- American Constitution Society

- Asian-American Law Students Association
- Black Law Student Association
- Bone Marrow Drive Committee
- Business Law Society
- Children's Advocacy Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Election Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- George Wythe Society
- Honor Council - Law School
- I'Anson-Hoffman American Inn of Court
- Institute of Bill of Rights Law--Student Division
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- LGBT Equality Alliance
- Military Law Society
- Moot Court Program
- Multicultural Law Student Association
- National Lawyer's Guild
- National Trial Team
- Not Wythe Standing (the News),
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity
- Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Intellectual Property Society
- Student Legal Services
- Students for Equality in Legal Education
- Students for the Innocence Project
- Venture Capital and Entrepreneurship Legal Society
- Virginia Bar Association
- Volunteer Service Corps of William & Mary Law School
- W&M Public Service Fund
- William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal
- William & Mary Business Law Review
- William & Mary Lawyers Helping Lawyers
- William & Mary Public Service Fund, Inc.
- William and Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review
- William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law
- Women's Law Society

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RANK  
**33**

# UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA SCHOOL OF LAW

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## Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

The University of Georgia School of Law was founded in 1859. Its supportive and cooperative environment provides law students ample opportunities to get involved on campus, polish their legal skills and build personal and professional relationships.

Its extensive and challenging curriculum prepares students for the practice of law. Students in their first year take required courses, and during their second and third years they select from offered broad courses. The law school offers local, regional, and international opportunities. For hands-on experience and community service, the law school offers clinical programs, summer study abroad programs and internships. Its moot court and mock trial programs give students a chance to develop their legal skills in court proceedings that are often judged by the state and nation's leading attorneys, judges, and justices.

The Alexander Campbell King Law Library, the oldest and largest public law library in the state, maintains a collection numbering in excess of 600,000 volumes and volume equivalents. It serves the public welfare through participation in cooperative efforts to collect, access, and preserve information at the regional, national, and international levels. The law library is one of the US law school depositories for European Union documents.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

11.8:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	158-165	3.33-3.82
Median*	164	3.65

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	2,526
Number accepted	792
Percentage accepted	31.4%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

Individual class ranks are calculated for those in the top 25% of the class only. Ranking letters are emailed to each student in the top quartile. Students are informed if they grouped in the top 10%, 25%, 33%, 50% or 75% of the class.

The University of Georgia School of Law uses the following grading scale:

A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
F	0.0

The law school may also assign the following grades:

- I (Incomplete)
- U (Unsatisfactory)
- W (Withdraw)
- WP (Withdraw Passing)
- WF (Withdraw Failing)
- NR (Not Reported)
- IP (In Progress)
- YL (Year-Long Course)

### Grade of Incomplete

If a student receives authorization not to complete work in a course he or she will be given a grade of "I" (Incomplete) instead of an "F." A student can remove the "I" from his or her record by completing the required

work within the time period specified by the instructor, which time period will not extend beyond the last day of the next regular semester. If a student fails to remove an "I" within the prescribed time, the "I" automatically will be changed to an "F".

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11, 12</sup>**

#### **First Year Grades**

The average grade in each first-year course should fall within the range of 2.9-3.1 based on the law school's grading system. Variations from this rule are allowed with permission from the dean.

#### **Upper-level Grades**

The average grade in all upper-level courses should fall within the range of 2.9-3.2. Variations are permissible only in extraordinary circumstances, which must be outlined in a letter from the instructor to the dean. The grades of non-JD students are disregarded for the purposes of this policy. Additionally, all courses and seminars with 20 or fewer students are not subject to this policy.

Though not mandatory, the suggested grade distribution guidelines for both first year and upper level are as follows:

#### **Grade Number of Students Receiving**

A+, A, A-	33% maximum
C+ or lower	33% maximum
A+	Maximum of two students

No student may be awarded a JD degree who does not, at the time of the awarding of the degree, have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average for University of Georgia School of Law work according to the grading system utilized within the law school. The minimum standard of academic performance while in the law school is 1.90.

### **Honors<sup>13, 14</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Percentage of Class Receiving</b>
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 2%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 8.5%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 37.5%

## Awards<sup>15</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
MacDougald Award	First honor graduate
Meinhard Award	Highest academic average
Dean Rusk Award	Best paper in the area of international law
Class of 1993 Torts Award	Excellence in the study of torts law
Chaffin Award	Excellence in the study of Trusts & Estates
Georgia Municipal Association Award	Excellence in the study of municipal corporation law
Donald P. Gilmore Jr. Labor Law	Excellence in the study of labor law
William King Meadow Award	All-around excellence
Ellen Jordan Environmental Award	Outstanding performance in environmental courses
Attorneys' Title Guaranty Award	Outstanding performance in property law
American Bankruptcy Institute Metal	Excellence in the study of bankruptcy
Richardson Award	Excellence in the study of trial advocacy
O'Byrne Award	Excellence in the study of taxation
Environmental Law Association Award	Excellence in environmental advocacy
Environmental Law Association Award	Excellence in outstanding service
State Bar of Georgia Tax	Excellence in the study of taxation
Attorneys' Title Insurance Award	Excellence in study of property
State Bar of GA Real Property Award	Excellence in study of real property
ABA-BNA Labor	Excellence in study of labor law
ABA-BNA Intellectual Property	Excellence in study of Intellectual Property
ABA-BNA Health Law	Excellence in study of health law
Carlson Evidence Award	Excellence in study of Evidence & Advocacy

## Journals

The **Georgia Law Review**, a quarterly publication, is the oldest of the legal journals published at the University of Georgia School of Law. Each year, it offers membership to a limited number of highly motivated members of the second-year law class who have demonstrated outstanding academic abilities and legal writing skills. Eligibility for law review membership is determined by a combination of first-year grades and performance on a "write-on" exercise designed to test applicants' legal reasoning, writing, and citation skills.<sup>16, 17</sup>

The student-edited **Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law** publishes three times per year and has covered legal issues and developments on the global front for more than four decades. The journal continues to maintain itself as a forum for academic discussion on current and important international subjects. Membership is limited to second- and third-year law students who are selected on the basis of their performance on an annual write-on competition.<sup>18</sup>

The ***Journal of Intellectual Property Law*** is a student-edited journal that covers articles on current legal issues written by leading scholars, judges, practicing attorneys, and students. It is published twice per year. The journal focuses on issues related to patent law, trademarks, trade secrets, copyright law, Internet law, and entertainment and sports law.<sup>19</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>20</sup>

The moot court program at the University of Georgia School of Law is supported by a committed faculty and moot court alumni who voluntarily bench practice rounds of oral arguments.

First year students have the opportunity to present an appellate argument during the spring semester of their legal research and writing class. After presenting this argument, students may elect to participate in the Richard B. Russell Moot Court Competition and try out for the first eight spots on the Georgia Law Moot Court team.

Membership on the Moot Court teams is reserved for second and third year law students. Students participate in the following moot court competitions:

Students participate in the following moot court competitions:

- National Moot Court Tournament
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- Georgia Intrastate Moot Court Competition
- National First Amendment Moot Court Competition
- Dean Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Moot Court Competition
- American Bar Associational Regional Competition
- Emory National Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court Competition
- Mercer University National Legal Ethics and Professionalism Moot Court Competition
- Evan A. Evans National Constitutional Law Moot Court Competition
- Hulsey/Gambrell Moot Court Competition

Students can also participate in moot court exchange programs held in alternating years with Gray's Inn of London, England, and King's Inn of Dublin, Ireland. These exchange programs enhance students' experience in the courtroom as well as their knowledge of other cultures and legal systems.

## Clinical Programs<sup>21-23</sup>

Students can participate in numerous clinics to get practical experience. They can hone their legal skills - interviewing, case appraisal and planning, negotiation, dispute resolution, and persuasive oral and written advocacy - through hands-on experience and community service.

Its criminal and civil clinical programs are open to second- and third-year students.

The school's criminal clinical programs include the following:

- Capital Assistance Project
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- Prosecutorial Clinic

Its civil clinical programs include the following:

- Appellate Litigation
- Business Law Practicum
- Community Economic Development
- Environmental Practicum
- Family Violence Clinic
- Mediation Practicum
- Medical-Legal Partnership
- Public Interest Practicum

## Placement Facts<sup>24</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$55,000 - \$90,000
Private sector - median	\$65,000
Public service - median	\$54,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	56.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	66.5%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	53.2%
Business and Industry	11.6%
Government	10.0%
Public Interest Organizations	7.9%
Judicial Clerkships	15.3%
Academia	2.1%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>25-27</sup>

### Externships

The University of Georgia School of Law offers following externships:

The **Civil Externship Program** allows students to work for disadvantaged community members through the Public Interest Practicum. Students in this program work with homeless and incarcerated individuals and local service institutions to coordinate resources and information on housing, child custody, debt, benefits and health care. Students work with attorneys and judges.

The **Summer Externship** Program encourages students to work in governmental, judicial, and private nonprofit placements through a focused program of reading, reflection, and professional enhancement.

The **Corporate Counsel Externship** explores the practice of law from the perspective of an in-house counsel. Students spend their time in a corporate legal department where they have work assignments and experience firsthand the inner workings of a legal department.

The **DC Externship** course consists of a ten-credit course, consisting of two parts: two credits arising from a weekly two hour seminar; and eight credits arising out of the student's work at their assigned placement.

Under the **Prosecutorial Clinic** in addition to attending a weekly seminar on more advanced prosecutorial topics, students perform an externship in a public prosecutor's office. Student externs not only provide research and document drafting assistance but are also authorized under the Third Year Practice Act to make court appearances on behalf of the state at preliminary hearings, grand jury, motion hearings, and trials.

### **Internships**

The Global Internship since 2001 provides students with four to 12 weeks of study and/or work experience in a legal learning environment of different countries. Law students get exposure to international and transnational law through summer internships in foreign governmental agencies, academic centers, law firms, corporations, and NGOs.

The initiative of the Dean Rusk Center allows first- and second-year students at the University of Georgia to venture beyond America's borders to gain experience in legal organizations.

### **Student Organizations<sup>28</sup>**

- American Constitution Society
- Asian Law Student Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Black Law Student Association
- Dean's Ambassadors
- Education Law Student Association
- Environmental Law Association
- Equal Justice Foundation Board
- Federalist Society
- Georgia Assn. of Law and Politics
- Society for Intl. & Comparative Law
- Georgia Trial Lawyers Student Chapter

- German American Law Society
- Health Law Society
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Jewish Law Student Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Labor & Employment Law Association
- Land Use & Planning Organization
- Law Democrats
- Law Literary Society
- Law Republicans
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Military Justice Society
- OUTLaws
- Older Wiser Law Students
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity
- Public Interest Law Council
- Rural South Law Society
- Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Women Law Students Association
- Working in the Public Interest

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RANK

33

## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN—MADISON LAW SCHOOL

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### Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

Established in 1868, the University of Wisconsin–Madison Law School has always propagated its principle that the study of law cannot be segregated from its practice. The law school has developed this principle through its “law-in-action” philosophy. The law-in-action concept is founded on the principle that law cannot be studied in isolation from society and other societal forces because law affects and is affected by every other institutional force in society—be it politics, economics, race and gender issues, education, or religion.

Thus, the law-in-action philosophy is a critical approach to the study of law that transcends ideology and focuses on how the law actually works in daily life. This approach to education provides students at the University of Wisconsin Law School with the required technical skills to succeed and also endows them with a broader outlook on the legal system. The law school’s curriculum places emphasis on the kinetics of law: how it reflects and also causes social changes and how its real-world practice can differ from the laws described in statutes. University of Wisconsin Law’s curriculum implements these principles in classrooms, in various clinical programs, and in numerous collaborations among departments and colleges.

The low student-faculty ratio at University of Wisconsin Law also allows students to work closely with mentors. The clinical faculty provides additional opportunities for students to receive meticulous training through personal attention and hands-on experiential learning. The career services office at the law school also aids students in obtaining gainful employment with valuable information and advice on a wide range of legal career opportunities.

With a collection of over 500,000 volume equivalents, the library is one of the major resources for faculty, staff, and students of the law school. The library provides easy access in both print and electronic formats to a full range of state and federal law, international law, and the law of certain foreign jurisdictions. The law library also has significant holdings of Canadian and British legal materials and large collections of US Government and United Nations documents.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.9:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	157-164	3.33-3.72
Median*	162	3.61

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	2,130
Number accepted	797
Percentage accepted	37.4%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9-12</sup>

The law school does not publish or prepare student class rank, except for the top 10 rising 3L students. Instead, the law school provides tables relating grade averages to approximate position in the class.

Students receive letter grades for most law school courses. The grading scale ranges from A+ to F. For purposes of calculating student grade point averages, letter grades are converted to numerical equivalents according to the following conversion table:

Letter Grade	GPA
A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

## **Grades of S or U**

In the following courses, the instructor may elect to give a grade of S (Satisfactory) or U (Unsatisfactory) in lieu of letter grades: Trial Advocacy; Appellate Advocacy; Lawyering Skills; Advanced Legal Writing; and seminars in which the enrollment is less than 20 students and the principal basis for the grade is a paper or class presentation.

Grades of S or U must be given in lieu of letter grades for Law Journal, Moot Court, Directed Reading and Directed Research. Clinical courses are graded on the basis of S+, S, S-, and U. S+ can be awarded to no more than 15% of the students in each clinical program. Grades of S, S+, S- and U are not taken into account in computing a student's GPA.

## **Incompletes**

If a student, by the end of the term, has not completed the required work (e.g., has not submitted a final paper), the faculty member may, if the faculty member feels it is appropriate, report a grade of "INCOMPLETE" and grant the student a first extension of one full semester.

## **Pass/Fail Grades**

Participation in clinical programs, moot court, the law journals, Trial Advocacy, Directed Reading, Directed Research, and the main Lawyering Skills course is automatically graded on a pass/fail basis (also sometimes called "Mandatory Pass-Fail"). Additionally, every semester some faculty may elect to make their courses available for students to take pass/fail on an optional basis.

The Pass-Fail option may be exercised in no more than two courses in one's law school career. A student may exercise the option twice in the same semester. "Mandatory Pass-Fail" courses do not count against the limit on the number of exercise Pass-Fail options. Finally, once a student requests to take a course Pass-Fail (by submitting the Pass-Fail selection form at the end of term) the request cannot be withdrawn once the submission deadline has passed.

Lists of the courses for which taking a pass/fail grade is an option will be published to students, who will have until the last day of classes each semester to choose a course or courses to take pass/fail, should they wish.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>13, 14</sup>**

For all first-year courses at the University of Wisconsin Law School, and for advanced classes with an enrollment exceeding 30, the mean grade normally must fall between 2.85 and 3.1 on the 4.3 (A+ to F) scale. For advanced classes with an enrollment of 30 students or fewer, the mean grade normally must fall between 2.7 and 3.3 on the 4.3 (A+ to F) scale.

Target ranges for the distribution of grades in large and small sections are shown in the table below. Large sections are courses or sections with enrollments exceeding 30.

<b>Grade Range</b>	<b>Large Section</b>	<b>Small Section</b>
F to C-	0-13%	0-15%
C and C+	7-17%	5-20%
B- and B	35-45%	30-50%
B+ and A-	28-38%	25-40%
A and A+	5-15%	0-20%

## Honors<sup>15</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Dean's Honor List	GPA of at least 3.3
Dean's Academic Achievement Award	Cumulative GPA of 3.35 at the end of their penultimate semester
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.85 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.65 or higher
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.35 or higher

## Awards<sup>16</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Leon Feingold Award	Outstanding commitment to the law school and greater community
Leonard Loeb American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Award	Contribution to family law and community service
Gwynette Smalley Award	Special contributions to the Wisconsin Law Review
Mary Kelly Quackenbush Memorial Award	Outstanding student articles in the Wisconsin International Law Journal
Mathys Memorial Award	Excellence in appellate advocacy

## Journals

The **Wisconsin Law Review** is published six times per year by law students. It provides a forum for articles on local law as well as analyses of issues in the national and international arenas. Student-members of the review are selected from a writing competition at the end of their first year. In addition the journal sponsors an annual symposium at which leading scholars debate a significant issue in contemporary law.<sup>17, 18</sup>

The **Wisconsin International Law Journal** was established in 1982. Published at least four times yearly, this student-edited journal contains articles by professionals and law students on various areas of international law. Each spring, its members host a conference on the emergent issues of interest in international law.<sup>19</sup>

The student-edited the **Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender & Society**, originally the Wisconsin Women's Law Journal publishes student notes and articles from professors and practitioners. It was established in 1985. Upholding the tradition of "law in action," it seeks to address the various avenues of women's studies as they relate to the practice of law.<sup>20</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>21</sup>

The board sends 16 to 17 moot court teams to compete in competitions on a variety of subjects across the country. Apart from this, the board also hosts the Evan A. Evans Constitutional Law Competition. The board itself does not compete in the program, but it organizes the competition. Some of the national and other moot court competitions in which the Moot Court Board participates are:

- National Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.
- Saul Lefkowitz Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition
- John Marshall International Moot Court Competition in Information Technology & Privacy Law
- San Diego National Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition
- Pepperdine National Entertainment Law Moot Court Competition
- Chicago Bar Association Moot Court Competition
- Stetson Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- Tulane Sports Law Moot Court Competition
- Vanderbilt First Amendment Moot Court Competition
- Minnesota Civil Rights Moot Court Competition
- Wagner Labor Law Moot Court Competition
- Cardozo BMI Entertainment & Communications Moot Court Competition
- Ruby R. Vale Corporate Law Moot Court Competition
- Jerome Prince Evidence Moot Court Competition
- Columbus National Telecommunications Moot Court Competition
- Florida Bar Association National Tax Moot Court Competition

## Clinical Programs<sup>22</sup>

Clinical students at the University of Wisconsin Law School receive a rich educational experience by applying the legal theory they have learned in the classroom to help real people outside of the classroom.

The law school offers numerous clinical programs, including:

- The Center for Patient Partnerships
- The Economic Justice Institute - It includes
  - the Consumer Law Clinic,
  - the Family Court Clinic,
  - the Mediation Clinic, and
  - the Neighborhood Law Clinic
- The Frank J. Remington Center- It includes
  - The Criminal Appeals Project
  - The Family Law-Restorative Justice Project
  - The Legal Assistance to Institutionalized Persons Project
  - The Re-entry Project
  - The Wisconsin Innocence Project
  - The Oxford Federal Project includes The Federal Appeals Project (FAP)

- Government and Legislative Law Clinic
- Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>23</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$52,500 - \$110,000
Private sector - median	\$70,000
Public service - median	\$49,500

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	46.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	70.1%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	46.0%
Business and Industry	18.6%
Government	16.8%
Public Interest Organizations	14.2%
Judicial Clerkships	2.7%
Academia	1.8%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>24</sup>

### Externships

The University of Wisconsin Law School offers externship programs to its students to help them gain experience in drafting, practicing trials, researching, analyzing advocacy approaches, and litigation, among other skills, in various fields. The law school offers numerous externship programs, including:

- The Department of Justice Clinical Externship Program
- The Disability Rights Wisconsin
- The Hayes Police-Prosecution Project
- The Labor Law Externship
- The Law Externship Program
- The Midwest Environmental Advocates Externship
- The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence Clinical Program

## **Internships**

The University of Wisconsin Law School offers internship programs to its students, including the following:

- Prosecution Project (Remington Center)
- Public Defender Project (Remington Center)
- Judicial Internship Program

## **Student Organizations<sup>25</sup>**

- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association/South Asian Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business & Tax Law Association (BATLAW)
- Children's Justice Project
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Democratic Law Student Association (DLSA)
- Elder Law and Estate Planning Society (ELEPS)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Student Association (HLSA)
- Indigenous Law Students Association (ILSA)
- Intellectual Property Students Organization (IPSO)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino Law Student Association (LLSA)
- Law School Family Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Legal Information Center (LIC)
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- National Lawyers Guild (University of Wisconsin Law School Chapter)
- PTLaw (Part Time Law students)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- QLaw (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Law Students)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Unemployment Compensation Appeals Clinic (U Clinic)
- Wisconsin Agricultural & Food Law Society (WAFLS)
- Wisconsin International Law Society (WILS)
- Women's Law Student Association (WLSA)

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RANK  
**36**

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## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

The Michael E. Moritz College of Law at Ohio State University was established in 1891. Including a range of clinical and skilled courses, the law school offers more than 145 courses covering almost every area of law. The curriculum is designed to provide a strong theoretical and analytical foundation, as well as multiple opportunities for developing and honing students' lawyering skills. Its law library is one of the nation's largest academic law libraries.

Along with an exceptionally broad range of clinical programs, including clinics in civil and criminal practice, mediation, legislation, and juvenile law, Moritz College of Law also offers a nationally ranked program and certificate in the emerging area of alternative dispute resolution. The curriculum also provides preparation in the fields of criminal law, intellectual property law, employment and labor law, commercial law, international law, and many others.

In addition, Moritz College of Law has various study-abroad programs in Oxford, England. Located at St. Anne's College on the campus of the University of Oxford, the Pre-Law Program provides students with exposure to various aspects of British cultural life as well as an understanding of English culture and legal institutions fundamental to the American legal system. Classes, guest lectures, and field trips to places of legal, historical, and cultural interest are also incorporated into this five-week program. Through the Schottenstein Zox & Dunn Distinguished Practitioners in Residence Program in Business Law, students take one-credit courses from prominent practitioners.

The collection of the Moritz Law Library is used by the entire Ohio State University community. It is a valuable resource for the attorneys, judges, officials, and citizens of Ohio. It is a member of Ohio LINK which connects the libraries of virtually all universities and colleges in Ohio, including the nine law school libraries.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

11.7:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	158-164	3.43-3.79
Median*	162	3.64

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	1,853
Number accepted	873
Percentage accepted	47.1%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

Class rankings are computed after the second semester ends and all grades are in. At Moritz College of Law, students in the top 5% of each class are ranked individually. The law school distributes a grade distribution sheet for each class that shows the numerical grade range for each percentage range in ranking for the top half of the class.

Moritz College of Law uses letter grades to determine academic good standing, probation, dismissal, and graduation. Students receive both a letter and a number grade—for example, 85B. Each letter grade has its own point value on a 4.0 scale. Grades are assigned according to the following scale:

<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>Numerical Grade</b>	<b>Grade Point Value (assigned to the letter grade)</b>
A	93-100	4.0
A-	90-92	3.7
B+	87-89	3.3
B	83-86	3.0
B-	80-82	2.7
C+	77-79	2.3
C	70-76	2.0
D	65-69	1.0
E	60-64	0.0

A student is in good standing if he or she has an average GPA of 2.0 or better.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>**

Moritz College of Law has a long-standing grade distribution policy. The underlying reasons for the policy are to promote a common faculty-wide grading standard and to reduce instances in which different professors use different grading standards. The policy is a suggested tool and is not mandatory. It suggests the following grade distribution to teachers of first-year courses:

A's	30%
B's	60%
C's	10%
D, E	Not more than 4% with the direction that a D or E should be given only if inferior performance is clearly demonstrated.

For second- and third-year courses, the grade distribution is based on the past average letter grade performance of the students as a whole who registered for the particular course. The professor receives a grade distribution for the students enrolled in his or her course that semester. There are no names on the grade distribution, so the profile in no way focuses on individual students.

### **Honors<sup>11</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Percentage of Class Receiving</b>
Order of the Coif	Graduates within the upper 10% of the class
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Graduation within the upper 3% of the class
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Graduation within the upper 10% of the class
<i>cum laude</i>	Graduation within the upper 25% of the class

### **Awards<sup>12</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
George R. Beneman Award	Demonstrating outstanding performance in the Moot Court program
Topper Eagle Award	Contribution to the administration of the Moot Court program

### **Journals**

The ***Ohio State Law Journal*** was established in 1935 and is published six times annually. Its management is exclusively governed by the student body of the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. The journal publishes articles by scholars, professionals, and students on the most important legal issues faced by the global legal market.<sup>13</sup>

The ***Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution*** reports on issues relating to alternative dispute resolution. It consists of three articles issues and one symposium issue. The periodical is exclusively run by students and

is published four times per year. It focuses on various methods of dispute resolution, including arbitration, mediation, mini-trials, negotiation, and summary jury trials. It is the official journal of the American Bar Association's Section on Dispute Resolution.<sup>14</sup>

The ***Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law***, published twice per year, discusses vital issues in the field of criminal law and justice. It publishes important research and writing by professionals and scholars in the field of criminal law. The journal comprises symposia, commentary, and book and cultural review sections. It is a peer-reviewed, faculty-student cooperative venture published by the College of Law.<sup>15</sup>

The ***I/S: A Journal of Law and Policy for the Information Society*** publishes three issues per year focusing on the intersection of law, policy, and information technology. It represents a partnership between Moritz College of Law and Carnegie Mellon University's H. John Heinz III School of Public Policy and Management.<sup>16</sup>

The ***Ohio State Entrepreneurial Business Law Journal*** releases thought-provoking articles, book reviews, and student notes on current happenings in the entrepreneurial business world. The latest addition to Moritz College of Law's publications, this journal gives students an excellent chance to explore the link between business and law. It is published twice per year and is managed exclusively by students. It also hosts an annual symposium where professors and practitioners from around the world gather to discuss topical issues and emerging trends in entrepreneurial business law.<sup>17</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>18-20</sup>

The Moot Court & Lawyering Skills Program is a student-run organization that provides skills-based competitions and learning experiences for law students at every level. The Moot Court Governing Board conducts Moritz's five intramural competitions and also assists with performance arguments for the 2L Appellate Advocacy Program. Students who are successful in those intramural competitions advance to represent Moritz at national competitions across the country.

The Program's Director is assisted by the Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Governing Board, which consists of a Chief Justice, seven Executive Justices, and nine Associate Justices. The Moot Court & Lawyering Skills Governing Board is responsible for the following intramural competitions at Moritz:

- James K.L. Lawrence Negotiations Competition (open to all 2Ls & 3Ls)
- Appellate Advocacy Performance Arguments (open to 2Ls)
- Moritz Representation in Mediation Competition (open to all 2Ls & 3Ls)
- Herman Moot Court Competition (open to all 2Ls)
- 1L Moot Court Competition (open to all 1Ls)
- Michael F. Colley Trial Competition (open to all 2Ls & 3Ls who have taken or are currently taking Evidence)

The Governing Board also assists the Director in supervising the Travel Team Program, where second- and third-year law students represent Moritz at moot court and lawyering skills competitions across the country. Law students participate in Sutherland Cup Moot Court Competition, National Moot Court Competition, Wechsler Criminal Law Moot Court Competition, McGee Civil Rights Moot Court Competition, Ruby R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition, Wagner Labor and Employment Law Moot Court Competition, and National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition.

## Clinical Programs<sup>21</sup>

Moritz College of Law students begin taking clinical courses in their second year. Third-year students may enroll in courses that permit them to represent clients under the supervision of Moritz faculty. The law school offers the following clinical programs:

- The Civil Law Clinic
- The Criminal Defense Clinic
- The Entrepreneurial Business Law Clinic
- The Justice for Children Clinic
- The Legislation Clinic
- The Mediation Clinic
- The Prosecution Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$52,000 - \$98,000
Private sector - median	\$72,500
Public service - median	\$50,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	43.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	71.0%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	43.7%
Business and Industry	26.3%
Government	16.0%
Judicial Clerkships	6.1%
Public Interest Organizations	4.7%
Academia	3.3%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>23-25</sup>

### Externships

Moritz College of Law's externship "**Washington, DC Summer Program**" requires students to dedicate at least 20 hours per week for at least seven weeks. Each student has a supervisor where he or she works. Students have the opportunity to work in substantive, legal externships in Washington DC while benefiting

from a high-quality academic program and a summer in the nation's capital. Twenty students participate in this externship program,

Thirty students are selected each semester by Moritz College of Law to serve as judicial externs in judges' chambers under **Judicial Externships**. This proves to be an excellent opportunity for students as they gain real-life experience with court proceedings. Students work on research and writing on pre-trial matters under the direct supervision of distinguished judges. They then attend numerous class sessions wherein they share their judicial experiences with their classmates and discuss ethical issues pertaining to the judicial context.

Judges participating in the law school's *judicial externship* program include United States Circuit, District, Bankruptcy, and Magistrate judges; justices of the Ohio Supreme Court; Franklin County Domestic Relations judges; and Juvenile Court judges. The program runs the full 14 weeks of the Autumn and Spring Semesters and 8 weeks of Summer Semester. Students receive three credits in Autumn and Spring and two credits in Summer, and the course is graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

## **Internships**

### **Washington, DC, Summer Program**

Professor Peter Swire, who directs the program, works closely with each student to secure a substantive internship in Washington, DC.

## **Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>**

- Advocates for Children
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Dispute Resolution and Youth
- Environmental Law Association
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Society
- I/S: A Journal of Law and Policy for the Information Society
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Inter-Professional Council
- International Justice Mission
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Labor & Employment Law Association
- Latino Law Students Association

- Law School Democrats
- Law School Republicans
- Mentoring Collaborative Student Association
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Military Law Students Association
- Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Governing Board
- Moritz Community Outreach Project
- Moritz Education Law Society
- Ohio State Entrepreneurial Business Law Journal
- Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law
- Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution
- Ohio State Law Journal
- OutLaws
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Pro Bono Research Group
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Real Estate Law Association
- SPEAK
- Sports and Entertainment Law Association
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association
- Truancy Mediation Project
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Women's Legal Society

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RANK

36

# WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

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## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

The Wake Forest University School of Law was established in 1894. The main feature of the law school's education program is its all-out effort to prepare individual students to meet the challenges of practicing law in the United States. The school also endeavors to implant in every student respect for law as a profession, devotion to the ideals of public service, and a commitment to basic professional values: honesty, diligence, competence, intelligence, and civility. Additionally, it stresses the development of fundamental skills for the practice of law.

The law school's course curriculum has been designed to impart the finer nuances of legal knowledge and skills—those that can help its graduates build their lives within the legal profession. Its programs are small in design, giving equal weight to legal analysis and critical thinking. In addition, students are encouraged to consider the range of social and economic settings in which legal principles and rules, as well as lawyers, have to operate.

The Academic Success Program of the law school helps first year students to figure out the best way to learn the law and to assist them in fulfilling their academic potential. Persuasive communication and clear communication being the two cutting-edge tools for lawyers, the law school emphasizes the development of both written and oral communication abilities in order to produce sharp and confident lawyers who are broadly educated in the skills, traditions, and ethics of the practice of law.

Students at the law school are divided into well-integrated learning groups of 40 each. Along with encouraging questions and debate, faculty members also stress the involvement of students in research. The school has a comprehensive research and writing program that is very challenging and effective.

The Professional Center Library serves the information and research needs of the School of Law and the Schools of Business. It is a private academic library that exists to support the educational and research needs of the faculty, students and staff.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

10.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	159-165	3.4-3.75
Median*	163	3.63

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	3,410
Number accepted	1,423
Percentage accepted	41.7%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

A student's class rank is available only upon the student's written request. After the student submits the request on a form provided by the registrar, the registrar will mail class rank information to the student. Individual ranks are calculated for those in the top 50% of the class only. Percentile rankings (in 5% increments) are assigned to all other students.

Wake Forest University School of Law uses the following numerical grading system:

A	90 to 100
B	80 to 89
C	70 to 79
D	66 to 69
F	Below 66

Normally grades range from 61 to 98, but in exceptional circumstances a student may receive a 100 at the high end or a 59 at the low end. A cumulative weighted grade average of 73.00 or above is required of every student at the end of the first year and at the end of every academic year thereafter in order to remain in law school and to graduate.

Grades earned in second- and third-year courses will be weighted at twice the value of first-year grades for the purpose of computing a student's cumulative GPA for graduating classes prior to May 2012.

### **Grade of Incomplete**

If a student receives authorization to miss an examination or not to complete work in a course within the prescribed time due to illness or emergency, he or she will be given a grade of I (incomplete) instead of an F. If a student fails to remove an "I" within the prescribed time, the "I" automatically will be changed to an "F".

### **Pass/Fail Option**

A student may take certain upper-level, non-required courses on a Pass/Fail basis. A student may not take more than three hours of course work on a Pass/Fail basis in any one semester.

A student who is registered for a course in which a Pass/Fail option is available may not change from the Pass/Fail to the grade option or vice versa during the final two weeks of the semester.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

A cumulative weighted grade point average of 73.00 or above is required of every student at the end of the first year and at the end of every academic year thereafter in order to remain in the Wake Forest University School of Law and to graduate.

All courses should have a mean or average grade of 85. This uniform grading policy does not apply to non-multiple-section upper-level elective courses taught by full-time members of the faculty when the class has fewer than 20 students or is a paper course.

### **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

Prior to the Class of 2012

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 95 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 91 - 94.99
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 90.00 - 90.99

Beginning with the Class of 2012

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 94 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 92 - 93.99
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 90.00 - 91.99

### **Awards<sup>13</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Award	Student with high professional standards and an interest in family law

Robert Goldberg Award in Trial Advocacy	Student or students showing the highest aptitude and ethics in trial advocacy
I. Beverly Lake Award	Proficiency in the study of constitutional law
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Academic achievement, motivation, tenacity, and drive, as well as the promise of future contributions to the advancement of women in society and the presentation of a personable and professional image
North Carolina State Bar Student Pro Bono Award	An individual who has performed pro bono law-related service for a student while in law school
Forsyth County Women's Attorney's Association Book Award	Outstanding female graduate
ABA/BNA Award for Health Law	Excellence in Health Law
ABA and the Bureau of National Affairs Award in IP	Excellence in the study of Intellectual Property
ABA/BNA Award for Excellency in Labor & Employment	Highest grade in Labor and Employment
The Dean's Award	Demonstration of uncommon qualities in leadership
E. McGruder Faris Memorial Award and \$200 cash	Student exhibiting the highest standards of character, leadership, and scholarship
Laura J. Gendy Award	Demonstration of integrity and passion for others
Wake Forest University School of Law Service Award	Extraordinary contributions to the law school's program of legal education, faculty or students

## Journals<sup>14</sup>

The **Wake Forest Law Review** is a student-managed journal published five times per year. The Law Review also sponsors two symposiums. The fall symposium changes topics yearly but the spring symposium is dedicated to exploring business law. Consistent academic performance is a required factor for admission to the publication board. A writing competition is also held. Generally, the top 10% of students receive invitations to join the board. It offers several opportunities to students who seriously wish to make contributions to various studies and publications of critical importance. The review thus offers a significant platform to students wishing to analyze and mold future legal trends. The Common Law is the online magazine of the Wake Forest Law Review.<sup>15</sup>

The **Wake Forest Journal of Business and Intellectual Property Law**, (formerly the *Wake Forest Intellectual Property Law Journal*) publishes legal scholarship pertaining to a wide variety of topics within the field of intellectual property law and business law. The staff of the journal is selected based on academic performance, achievement in an annual writing competition, and in some cases prior experience in intellectual property law. It publishes legal scholarship authored by academic faculty, practitioners, and students. It covers topics such as trademarks, copyrights, patent, trade secrets, unfair competition, cyberlaw, Internet business law, or any other subject of intellectual property. The journal is published twice annually.<sup>16</sup>

The ***Wake Forest Journal of Law and Policy*** is an interdisciplinary publication that explores the intersection of legal issues with public and social policy. The mission of the journal is to introduce, maintain, and advance discourse so as to uncover policies that will engender equality and the true administration of justice. The journal addresses various societal needs through legal doctrines and systems. While the journal primarily publishes legal analyses, it welcomes other scholarly works and social commentary that contribute to a diverse and dynamic intellectual dialogue. It publishes two issues annually.<sup>17</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>18, 19</sup>

Wake Forest University School of Law also runs a moot court program that allows students to gain appellate advocacy skills through intramural and interscholastic appellate advocacy competitions. Each year, the law school conducts two intramural moot court competitions. 1L students participate in the George K. Walker Moot Court Competition, and 2L and 3L students participate in the Edwin M. Stanley Moot Court Competition.

In addition, members of the Moot Court Board have the opportunity to travel to other law schools to compete in interscholastic moot court competitions against students from all over the country.

## Clinical Programs<sup>20-22</sup>

The clinical programs offered by Wake Forest University School of Law include:

The **Appellate Advocacy Clinic** represents low-income clients in all sorts of appeals, both civil and criminal, and in a variety of appellate courts, including the Fourth Circuit and the Seventh Circuit. Students handle an actual appeal from start to finish, with advice and assistance from their professor. Students also travel to Washington, DC, to observe arguments at the United States Supreme Court.

The **Child Advocacy Clinic** focuses on the representation of children in three settings: deciding the custody of children in high conflict cases, deciding the custody of children in civil domestic violence actions, and representing children of indigent parents in issues involving the public school system.

The **Community Law & Business Clinic** provides law and graduate business students with an opportunity to develop skills needed to practice in the increasingly complex legal and regulatory environment they will encounter as professionals.

The **Innocence & Justice Clinic** has its origins in the Innocence Project where Wake Forest students review and investigate claims of innocence to determine whether DNA evidence exists that could exonerate inmates. The I & J Clinic will expand the mission of the Innocence Project by providing students with the opportunity to review and investigate all types of innocence claims and pursue litigation when appropriate. The clinic offers students the unique opportunity to examine the legal, scientific, cultural and psychological causes of wrongful convictions.

The **Elder Law Clinic** was established in response to the rapid growth of the elder law sector. This clinic provides free legal assistance to moderate-income seniors and serves as a resource center for lawyers and other professionals. In a partnership with the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, the clinic offers law students a unique opportunity to learn about medical and health law issues of older clients.

The **Litigation Clinic** was established in 1981 as a legal services project. It incorporates the full spectrum of the practice of law. This clinic offers a good combination of both civil and criminal law. Students are placed with supervising attorneys in offices large and small, public and private, in a wide range of practice areas. The idea is for students to confront not only issues of property and money but life and liberty, while rounding out a skill set that will serve both the student and their future clients well.

## Placement Facts<sup>23</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$61,500 - \$130,000
Private sector - median	\$85,000
Public service - median	\$50,450

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	39.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	65.2%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	48.1%
Business and Industry	19.3%
Government	16.3%
Public Interest Organizations	5.9%
Judicial Clerkships	7.4%
Academia	2.2%
Unknown	0.7%

## Externships/Internships<sup>24, 25</sup>

### Externships

Students participate in the **Metropolitan Externship** based in Washington, DC. Third-year student can participate and they should complete all other graduation requirements, apart from the total credit hours requirement, before the starting date of the externship.

In the **Judicial Externship Program**, students work as a judicial extern for a state or federal judge, observing trials, conferences and hearings; researching law and procedure; and fulfilling the general role of a judicial extern. A student must have completed their first year of law school in order to participate.

In the **Prosecution Externship** the faculty member consults with the supervising attorneys in the office to establish customized learning objectives for each student, achieved through a variety of practice experiences.

The student will also complete written exercises to promote reflection on the fieldwork. Prosecution Seminar is a prerequisite; permission of the instructor is required.

The **Washington, DC Summer Judicial Externship** allows selected second- and third-year students to spend eight weeks working in some of America's most vibrant courts including the United States Court of Appeals and the Federal Circuit, among others. As part of the externship, students will engage in the kinds of tasks performed by law clerks, under the immediate supervision of an experienced attorney in Chambers. In addition, students attend a weekly class session, which explores issues common to the interns.

The **Carolina Externship** provides selected students with the opportunity to spend a month in Charlotte during the summer practicing in a corporate or business setting. The program involves both a class and externship placement where rising third-year students may expect to work on issues affecting corporations. For the externship, students will be placed full time with firms or in-house counsel offices. Classes will be held at the WFU Charlotte Center.

## Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>

- AAJ Trial Team
- American Constitution Society
- Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Civil Liberties Union
- Criminal Law Roundtable
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Center (DVAC)
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Guardian Ad Litem (GAL)
- Hispanic/Latino Law Students
- Honor Council
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Student Association
- Joint Degree Society
- Journal of Business & Intellectual Property Law
- Journal of Law & Policy
- Law Review
- Moot Court
- National Trial Team
- Native American Law Students
- NC Bar Association (NCBA)
- Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Outlaw
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Pro Bono Project
- Public Interest Initiative
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS)

- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Health Law Association (SHLA)
- Student Trial Bar
- Teen Court
- Veterans Advocacy Law Organization (VALOR)
- Women in Law
- Youth Advocacy Group

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RANK  
**38**

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WEBSITE  
[law.fordham.edu](http://law.fordham.edu)

## Overview<sup>2-6</sup>

Founded in 1905, Fordham Law School has been steadfast in its endeavors to coalesce its education system with scholastic excellence and accomplished legal skills—the predominant factors underlying legal ethics and professionalism. The school strives to enlighten students with the highest standards of the vocation and also toward the concept of public service. Fordham Law offers multiple programs addressing the practical craft of lawyering, substantive subject areas, and theory.

The law school includes a day and an evening program. It offers a wealth of international and comparative law opportunities for students, both at the school and around the world. The law school's curriculum is rich in its offerings of international, foreign, and comparative law courses.

Students gain an education that goes beyond simply understanding fundamental legal principles--through a variety of clinics, internships and externships, clerkships, summer placements, and fellowships. Students are challenged to master both the letter of the law and the law's impact on people and societies.

The law library houses an open-stack collection of nearly 700,000 volumes, comprising all essential sources of American law and public international law, many foreign legal sources and a wide range of related materials. Additionally, it also holds significant collections in European Community law and international antitrust law.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

13.7:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	162-166	3.36-3.68
Median*	165	3.54

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>8</sup>

Approximate number of applications 5,644

Number accepted 1,897

Percentage accepted 33.6%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

Student grades are calculated on both a letter and a 4.3 scale. There are no official class standings or ranks. At the end of the 2012-2013 academic year, a student who attained a true weighted average of 3.642 or better made Dean's List for that year. While students may not round up to compute Dean's List or awards, students may round up to the nearest hundredth of a point when reporting GPAs on their resumes (i.e., "3.278" can be presented as "3.28"). The faculty has adopted a numerical equivalent for letter grades.

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

A+	4.3
A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D	1.0
F	0.0

The minimum grade that will be recorded in a course is F. The grade of D constitutes a passing mark in a subject. Some courses are graded as pass/fail.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>

By a resolution adopted on April 8, 2008, the faculty made the percentage distribution of grades listed below mandatory for all first year courses (with the exception of Legal Writing). The percentage distribution of grades for first year courses will be strictly enforced.

A- To A+	10-20%
B+ to A+	40-50%
B- to B+	Remainder (the ratio of B- to B grades must be one-sixth to one-half of the total number of B- to B+ grades)
C- to C+	3 to 10%
D	No Standard
D	No Standard

To remain in good scholastic standing, a student must maintain a true weighted average of at least 2.0 in every academic year.

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving
Order of the Coif	Students also qualify for induction to the Order of the Coif as long as 75% of the credits are earned at the law school
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1% of the graduating class with the highest weighted cumulative GPA
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 12% of the graduating class with the highest weighted cumulative GPA
<i>cum laude</i>	Next top 21.3% of the graduating class with the highest weighted cumulative GPA
Dean's List	Top 25% of the entire JD class based on annual weighted GPA

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Abraham Abramovksy Award	Outstanding performance in Trial Advocacy
Class of 1911 Award	Best essay in legal subject
Joseph R. Crowley Award	Best emulates the qualities of the late dean Crowley
Mary Daly Prize in Legal Ethics Award	Significant writing or makes the most significant other contribution relating to lawyers' professional responsibility and/or the legal profession
Deans Special Achievement Award	Contribution to the Law School community
Donald J. Feerick Prize in Labor Law	Best paper on a subject in labor law
Donald Magnetti Award	Outstanding public commitment and contribution to the Community
Adele Monaco Memorial Award	Demonstration of compassion, courage, determination and commitment to public service

Ann Moynihan Award	Outstanding performance in the Law School's Clinical program
National Association of Women Lawyers	Outstanding law graduate
Parchomovsky-Siegelman Student Graduation Prize	Best work of scholarship published in one of Fordham Law School's journals
Walter B. Kennedy Award	Member of the Fordham Law Review in recognition of extraordinary service
Keith C. Miller Memorial Award	Demonstrated unselfish dedication to the Fordham Moot Court program
Robert Aram Renzulli Prize in Criminal Law	Excellent in the area of criminal law
Philip R. Fusco Memorial Award	Demonstrated dedication, enthusiasm, good sportsmanship and academic achievement.
Eugene J. Keefe Award	Contribution to the Fordham community
Chapin Prize	Highest weighted average throughout law school
David F. And Mary Louise Condon Prize	Highest grade in American Legal History
Benjamin Finkel Prize	Excellent in the course in Bankruptcy
Fordham Law Alumni Association Medal in Constitutional Law	Excellent in Constitutional Law
Whitmore Gray Prize	Outstanding in courses or activities relating to International Law practice
Hugh R. Jones Award in Law And Public Policy	Highest combined weighted average in the subjects of Constitutional Law, Criminal Justice and Professional Responsibility
Emmet J. McCormack Foundation Prize	Highest grade in Admiralty Law
Lawrence J. McKay Prize	Represented the Law School in the National Moot Court Competition
Honorable Joseph M. McLaughlin Prize	Highest combined weighted average during his or her first year
Addison M. Metcalf Labor Law Prize	Highest grade in the basic Labor Law course
Henrietta Metcalf Prize	Highest grade in Contracts
Peter J. O'Connor Prize	Highest weighted average in courses in Evidence and New York Practice
Thomas F. Reddy, Jr. Prize	Highest grades in courses in Intellectual Property
Robert Schuman Prize	Highest grades in courses in European Union Law.
Senior Prize	Highest weighted average throughout the year.
James E. Tolan Fellowship In International Human Rights	funds a Fordham Law School graduate to work for an international human rights organization for one year
Milton Young Prize	Excellent in the field of Taxation

## Journals

The **Fordham Law Review** is a scholarly journal serving the legal profession and the public by discussing current legal issues. Each volume comprises six books. The journal seeks to serve the legal profession as well

as the public with enlightened scholarly discussions on present and emergent legal issues. It is not merely an honor society. The review is managed by a board of up to 18 student editors whose membership is considered to be among the highest scholarly achievements at the law school.<sup>14</sup>

The **Fordham Urban Law Journal** annually publishes between five books which address policy matters affecting urban areas. The *Fordham Urban Law Journal* presents "City Square," the Journal's online companion. It features five literary discussions at a time and is regularly updated with new content.<sup>15</sup>

The **Fordham International Law Journal** publishes six issues annually covering various worldwide legal topics and featuring scholarly articles, essays, book reviews, and student write-ups. In association with Fordham's Crowley Program on International Human Rights, the *ILJ* annually publishes the Crowley Report, a survey of the Program's yearly international human rights mission.<sup>16, 17</sup>

The **Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law Journal** deals with intellectual property issues including patent, copyright, and trademark law; media and entertainment law; First Amendment rights; telecommunications; Internet law; and other legal topics dealing specifically with news media and the entertainment and sports industries. It publishes four times each academic year.<sup>18</sup>

The **Fordham Environmental Law Review** is published three times per year. It covers all legal topics relating to the environment, legislation, and public policy. It also sponsors a symposium each year featuring research papers and panel discussions concentrating on an environmental issue.<sup>19</sup>

The **Fordham Journal of Corporate & Financial Law** discusses topics in business law, including financial, securities, banking, bankruptcy, and tax law. Its main goals are to publish scholarly articles relevant to the business and legal community and to provide law students and professionals with a forum to present financial law-related issues. It also endeavors to hold one symposium each year.<sup>20</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>21-23</sup>

The Moot Court Board at Fordham Law School mentors students to hone their advocacy skills as writers and litigators. All first-year students are introduced to appellate briefs and arguments as part of their legal writing course. Third- and fourth-year students may serve as members of the Moot Court Editorial Board. Members of this board are chosen based on outstanding performance in previous competitions, and each member must have completed one year as a member of the Moot Court Board.

Every year, the Fordham Law School Moot Court Board conducts two intra-school competitions—the William Hughes Mulligan Moot Court Competition (held in the summer) and the Maurice Wormser Moot Court Competition (held in the fall). The board also hosts an inter-school competition—the Irving R. Kaufman Moot Court Competition—in late March centering on issues relating to federal securities law, in which more than 30 schools from across the nation participate.

Fordham's moot court teams participate in several other inter-school competitions across the nation, including the National Moot Court Competition, the Pepperdine National Entertainment Law Moot Court Competition, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, George Washington University National Security Law Moot Court Competition, University of San Diego National Criminal Procedure

Tournament, the Cardozo/BMI Entertainment and Communications Law Moot Court Competition, and the J. Braxton Craven Memorial Moot Court Competition.

## Clinical Programs<sup>24, 25</sup>

Fordham Law's clinical programs offer students opportunities to integrate legal analysis with lawyering theory and skills. The school offers clinics during the fall as well as the spring. With 15 practice areas to choose from, Fordham Law's Clinical program offers a wealth of options to gain essential lawyering skills. Each of the clinical offerings provides students with an opportunity to develop professional judgement and legal skills in a real practice setting. The clinics offered by the school are:

- Community Economic Development
- Consumer Litigation
- Corporate Social Responsibility
- Criminal Defense
- Family Advocacy
- Federal Litigation
- Immigrant Rights
- International Human Rights
- Mediation
- Policy & Legislative Advocacy: Civil Rights and Poverty Clinic
- Queens DA Prosecution Clinic
- Samuelson-Glushko Intellectual Property and Information Law
- Securities Litigation & Arbitration
- Social Justice (Feerick Center)
- Tax

## Placement Facts<sup>26</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$74,450 - \$160,000
Private sector - median	\$138,000
Public service - median	\$52,125

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	43.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	60.3%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	50.3%
Business and Industry	14.1%

Government	13.0%
Judicial Clerkships	8.6%
Public Interest Organizations	9.9%
Academia	4.1%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>27-29</sup>

### Externships

Every year, Fordham Law School students develop professional skills and judgment needed to become a complete lawyer through externship programs.

Under the supervision of mentor-attorneys, students can perform legal work in:

- Government agencies
- Non-profit organizations
- Local, state, and federal courts
- Legal departments focusing on IP or Media Law
- New York City Council

### Internships

#### International internships

Fordham Law School offers JD students the opportunity to work in excellent law firms around the globe.

#### The Dean Acheson legal stage program

The United States Embassy in Luxembourg offers an internship program in Luxembourg at the Court of Justice of the European Communities. This course is for three months and is offered to a limited number of students or recent graduates from select US law schools.

## Student Organizations<sup>30</sup>

- American Constitutional Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Catholic Law Student Association
- Committee on Diversity in Business Law
- Couture Counselor Student Fashion Law Society
- Fordham Information Law Society
- Fordham Law Democrats
- Fordham Law Follies
- Fordham Law Republicans

- Fordham Law Softball
- Fordham Law Students Supporting Science
- Fordham Law Tortfeasors
- Fordham Law Women
- Fordham OUTLaws - Fordham's LGBT Law Student Association
- Fordham Parents Attending Law School
- Fordham Sports Law Forum
- Global Law Society
- Irish Law Students Association
- Italian American Law Students Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Media and Entertainment Law Society
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Record at Fordham Law, The
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Amnesty International
- Advocates for Sexual Health and Rights
- Consumer Law Advocates
- Disaster Relief Network
- Domestic Violence Action Center
- Environmental Law Advocates
- Farm to Fordham
- Fordham Health, Education Advocacy and Law Society
- Fordham Law Advocates for Voter Rights
- Fordham Student Sponsored Fellowship, Inc.
- Habitat for Humanity at Fordham Law School
- Housing Advocacy Project
- Immigration Advocacy Project
- Indigenous Alliance
- Law Students Against Trafficking
- Legal Education and Advocacy Project
- Lincoln Square Neighborhood Children's Law Project
- Mentoring Youth Through Legal Education (MYLE)
- Prisoners' Rights Advocates
- Research, Education and Advocacy to Combat Homelessness
- Stein Scholars
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund of Fordham Law School
- Suspension Representation Project
- Unemployment Action Center
- Universal Justice
- Workers' Rights Coalition
- Youth Advocacy Law Association

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RANK

**38**

# UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA JAMES E. ROGERS COLLEGE OF LAW

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## MAIN PHONE

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## Overview<sup>2-5</sup>

The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, the oldest law school in Arizona and one of the first established in the west, was founded in 1915 as part of the College of Letters, Arts, and Sciences at the University of Arizona. In 1925, the College of Law was established as the fifth college. The law school has developed a high quality academic program that prepares lawyers for leadership and service throughout the state and country and internationally.

The law school's curriculum encompasses theoretical materials and diverse clinical programs affording students experience with actual cases and clients. Of particular note are the school's two specialized post JD legal degree programs in areas of international significance, including a program of advanced study of the international and domestic implications of the rapid economic and legal changes confronting indigenous peoples globally and a program involving the multiple legal dimensions of free trade expansion between the US and Latin, Central, and South America. In addition, joint degrees in many fields, including business, philosophy, psychology, women's studies, and Latin American studies, are also available.

With a collection of more than 400,000 volumes and access to a host of legal and law-related online databases, the Daniel F. Cracchiolo Law Library plays a vital role in fulfilling the college's dual mission of teaching and research. The law library provides legal materials and reference assistance for the faculty, staff, and students of the University as a whole and for the local bar and general public.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>6</sup>

10.5:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>7</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	159-162	3.28-3.79
Median*	161	3.52

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	1,372
Number accepted	547
Percentage accepted	39.9%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>8</sup>

At the James E. Rogers College of Law, first-year students are not ranked until the end of the academic year. All students are ranked at the end of the academic year. Second- and third-year students are also ranked at the end of the fall semester. No new rankings are calculated following summer school.

Pursuant to the rules of the University of Arizona, the law school employs the following grading system. The letter grades have the following numerical equivalents:

A	4.00
A-	3.667
B+	3.333
B	3.000
B-	2.667
C+	2.333
C	2.000
C-	1.667
D+	1.333
D	1.000
D-	0.667
E	0.00

A grading system for JD students in which "A" means excellent, "B" means good, "C" means fair, "D" means poor, and "E" means failure. In addition, "P" means pass, "F" means fail, "I" means incomplete, and "W" means withdrawal is employed by the law school.

## Pass/Fail

JD students do not have the option of taking Graded courses as Pass/Fail. The "Pass/Fail option" is only provided for LLM students. JD students may take courses on a Pass/Fail basis only when that course is designated as "Pass/Fail" on the law school's schedule.

## **Incomplete Work**

A grade of "I" may be awarded, and only in exceptional circumstances, if a student has not completed all the course work required for a grade. The grade of I may not be awarded if the student is expected to repeat the course; in such case, a grade of E shall be awarded. A grade of I may not be used in the calculation of grade point averages, but shall be automatically changed to a final grade of E unless removed by a final grade within one year after the "I" is given. A student who receives a grade of "I" in a course may not audit the course before removing the Incomplete. The grade "I" automatically becomes an E unless replaced by a final grade on the last day of classes within one year after the grade of "I" is awarded.

## **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>9</sup>**

The following rules apply with respect to class grade distributions at the law school:

The James E. Rogers College of Law's grade normalization curve applies to all courses with an enrollment of 21 or more students who are JD candidates enrolled for graded credit. Grades must be distributed in the following manner: 15% A's, 15% A-'s, 25% B+'s, 25 % B's, 10% B-'s, and 10% C+'s or lower. However, the faculty in extraordinary situations may deviate by 2.5% from the prescribed mandatory grade curve.

In classes, other than substantial paper seminars, with fewer than 21 students who are JD candidates enrolled for graded credit, the mean grade point average may not exceed 3.5. Faculty may not deviate from this requirement, except in extraordinary circumstances. Faculty who believe that extraordinary circumstances justify a higher mean grade point average for a particular class may seek permission to deviate from this requirement in writing from the Vice Dean.

For purposes of evaluating work in assigning grades under the mandatory curve prescribed, the grades of D+, D, and D- reflect varying degrees of unsatisfactory work. A grade of "E" reflects work that is so unsatisfactory as not to merit credit for the course.

There is no grade curve or required mean grade point average for substantial paper seminars or in-house clinics.

## **Honors<sup>10</sup>**

Students who rank within the highest 25% of the grade point averages for those in a graduation class may be awarded degrees with honors. No more than 25% of the total number of graduates in a class may graduate with honors.

<b>Honor</b>		<b>Criteria</b>
Order of the Coif		Top 10% of students who have completed at least 75% of their law studies in graded James E. Rogers College of Law courses
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Highest Distinction	Top 7%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	High Distinction	Next 7%
<i>cum laude</i>	Distinction	Next 11%

Dean's List		GPA of 3.30 or higher (students with 10 graded units per semester)
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## Awards<sup>11, 12</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Ralph W. Aigler Award	Outstanding senior student
Order of Barristers	Membership offered to eight to 10 students who have excelled in the school's second-year moot court competitions
Grand Legal Writing Competition	Juried competition
Feghtly Moot Court Competition	Juried competition
Jenckes Competition	Juried competition
Grand Damages Argument Competition	Juried competition
Ares Fellows	Students selected by first-year small-section professors
Wim Birmingham Trial Advocacy Award	Outstanding ability in the area of trial advocacy
Munger Prize for Scholars in International & Business Law	Outstanding Business Law contributions to community service
Steptoe & Johnson Award	Not provided
Charles L. Strouss Law Review Prize	Not provided
E. Thomas Sullivan Antitrust Award	Not provided
Harry S. Taylor Scholarship	Not provided
Lynn Thompson Memorial Scholarship	Not provided
Burr Udall Moot Court Award	Not provided
WMS and James A. Glasgow Scholarship	Not provided
F. Britton Burns Moot Court Award	Not provided
William Browning Constitutional Law Award	Not provided
Dannie Lee Chandler Memorial Award	Not provided
Rufus C. Coulter Jr. Memorial Scholarship	Not provided
John R. Christian Award	Not provided
T.C. Clark Litigation with Civility Award	Not provided
Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law Boris Kozolchyk Award	Not provided
William T. Birmingham Trial Advocacy Award	Not provided
DeConcini, McDonald, Yetwin & Lacy Academic Achievement Award	Academic achievement
William Gordon Moot Court Prize	First-year student for moot court
Richard Grand Damages Argument Award	Not provided

Richard Grand Legal Writing Competition Award	Best legal writing
Toney A. Hardy Law Prize	Not provided
Roger C. Henderson Distinguished Graduating Senior Award	Not provided
F. George Herlihy Merit Award in Law	3L student who achieved the highest academic ranking in terms of GPA after 2 years of law school
E. Herbert Herlihy Merit Award in Law	Must be US Citizen and must carry a full course for entire 3L year
Bruce R. Heurlin Study of Federal Courts Award	Not provided
Junius Hoffman "Beyond the JD" Award	Not provided
Jennings, Strouss & Salmon First-Year Law Student Award	First-year law student
Harry O. Juliani Memorial Award	Not provided
Law College Association Achievement Award	Not provided
Joseph M. Livermore Service Award	Not provided
Lorna E. Lockwood Award	Not provided
Paul Marcus Public Interest Law Fellowship Munger Prize	Not provided
Outstanding Senior Award	Not provided
Public Service Award	Not provided
Rusing and Lopez Award	Not provided
Andrew Silverman Community Service Award	Not provided
Snell & Wilmer Best Law Review Note Award	Best the Law Review Note
Snell & Wilmer Outstanding Second-Year Law Review Writer Award	Best writing in the Law Review

## Journals

The **Arizona Law Review** is edited and managed entirely by students. Students looking to gain intensive expertise in research consider working on the review a valuable educational experience. Published quarterly, it is widely circulated and serves as a forum for leading scholars, judges, and practitioners while providing its members with a demanding analytical writing experience dealing with criticism and commentary on current legal problems.<sup>13</sup>

As its name indicates, the **Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law** is a scholarly journal devoted to issues related to international and comparative law. Its emphasis is on providing students with a

rigorous analytical writing experience in a challenging and collegial atmosphere as they focus on international law topics. It publishes two volumes per year with articles from authors around the world and students at the University of Arizona. Each year, it also publishes a symposium issue which usually includes papers submitted at a conference related to international or comparative law.<sup>14, 15</sup>

The **Arizona Journal of Environmental Law & Policy (AJELP)** is a student-run online publication that examines environmental issues from legal, scientific, economic, and public policy perspectives. AJELP creates an engaging, responsive, and interactive platform where pertinent environmental law and policy issues can be discussed.<sup>16</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>17, 18</sup>

Students at the James E. Rogers College of Law are introduced to oral and written appellate advocacy through the school's moot court program. The Second-Year Program is an elective, 2 unit course. Persuasive Communication is a prerequisite to Second-Year Moot Court, Jessup Moot Court, and Pace Environmental Moot Court. Second-year students can enroll themselves in the Second-Year Moot Court competition, known as the Samuel M. Fegley Moot Court Competition. Students who excel in the Fegley Competition are invited to join the National Moot Court team and to serve on the Moot Court Board, where they assist in a variety of capacities in the Fegley Competition for second-year students. Qualified, selected students may participate in either the National Moot Court Competition or the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. However, students may not participate in either competition more than once. Further, students are not permitted to participate in both the National Competition and the Jessup Competition.

### Clinical Programs<sup>19</sup>

Clinical legal education is an integral part of the practical experience available at the James E. Rogers College of Law. The law school offers the following clinical programs:

In the **Arizona Attorney General's Clinic** students work on various matters handled by the Arizona Attorney General's Office, including drug prosecutions, electronic interception cases, public corruption, white collar, financial fraud, financial and/or physical elder abuse, and other conflict prosecutions including but not limited to homicide, child abuse, arson and home invasions. The students work with prosecutors and law enforcement to assess evidence and evaluate potential violations of law, draft indictments, evaluate potential evidentiary problems, participate in motion practice, plea and/or settlement negotiations, trial preparation, and, if necessary, trials.<sup>20</sup>

The **Child and Family Law Clinic** supports community agencies working to address the needs of families plagued by family violence. It defends the rights of children and adults involved with the justice system with integrity.<sup>21</sup>

The **Civil Rights Restoration Clinic** represents ex-offenders in seeking restoration of civil rights, setting aside of convictions, designations of Class 6 offenses, etc. Each student handles a number of cases which entails interviewing clients, gathering the necessary documentation, drafting pleadings, making court appearances, etc.<sup>22</sup>

In the **Criminal Prosecution Clinic** students serve as prosecuting attorneys in one of the prosecution offices in Tucson, or, with permission of instructor, in other Phoenix cities during the summer. Under the supervision of lawyers, students work in the felony, misdemeanor and juvenile law areas.<sup>23</sup>

The **Immigration Law Clinic** provides students with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience with immigration law by providing services to immigrants in a variety of settings. It provides three different types of services to the immigrant community in Southern Arizona: Deportation Defense, Immigration Consultation Clinic, and Immigrant Workers' Rights.<sup>24</sup>

The **Indigenous Peoples Law Clinics** provide domestic and international legal assistance to the indigenous peoples of the world. Students have multiple opportunities for hands on learning and can participate in the following clinics.<sup>25</sup>

In the **Indigenous Peoples Law Clinic** students provide legal assistance to tribal governments, tribal attorneys, and non-profit organizations working with and for Indigenous people in the United States and across the globe.

In the **Tribal Courts Clinic** students provide research support to tribal courts in Arizona and the Southwest, including serving as law clerks, drafting rules and procedures, and drafting training materials.

The **Mortgage Clinic** is open to students who have taken The Mortgage Crisis or who are currently enrolled in it. Students are placed at Southern Arizona Legal Aid (SALA), where they work with homeowners at risk of losing their homes.<sup>26</sup>

The **Veterans' Advocacy Pilot Clinic** is a hybrid, multidisciplinary legal clinic. By hybrid, it means that some of the legal work will be supervised in house and some by volunteer attorneys. Law students will perform three types of legal work. They will assist military veterans in the Veteran's Courts of both the Tucson City Court and the Pima County Justice Court. They will represent veterans in administrative appeals of denials of VA disability benefits and military insurance claims. They will participate in special projects to assist in resolving inter-governmental issues relating to military veterans.<sup>27</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>28</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$61,000 - \$95,000
Private sector - median	\$82,343
Public service - median	\$50,287

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	49.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	79.1%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Graduates Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	46.3%
Business and Industry	9.7%
Government	13.4%
Public Interest Organizations	11.2%
Judicial Clerkships	17.9%
Academia	1.5%
Unknown	0%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>29, 30</sup>**

### **Externships**

**Umbrella or "Ad Hoc" Externships:** JD students wishing to obtain academic credit for unique government-related, government-sponsored, or non-profit externships arranged by the student may be able to do so if they meet certain conditions established by the College of Law Faculty.

### **Internships**

Several internships are available to law students. Over the past several years, various congressional internships have provided an opportunity for one second- or third-year student each semester and summer to work with the legislator's staff in Washington.

The College of Law offers **Legislative Internships** in Washington, DC through which law students may receive academic credit while working in the office of a US Senator or Representative from Arizona. A student who serves as an intern with a US Senator or Representative during the fall or spring semester may receive 10 units of credit.

The College also offers internships with the Navajo, Tohono O'odham, White Mountain Apache and Pascua Yaqui tribal governments, through which students interested in Indian Law may undertake clerkships.

## **Student Organizations<sup>31</sup>**

- Advocates for Life
- American Bar Association Law Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Arizona Intellectual Property & Cyberlaw Society (AIPCS)
- Arizona Journal of Environmental Law & Policy
- Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law
- Arizona Law Review
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association

- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law and Policy Program
- Environmental Law Society
- The Federalist Society
- Immigration Law Student Association
- Intellectual Property Student Association
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latino Law Student Association (LLSA)
- Law Parents Club
- Law Student Legal Referral Clinic
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Women's Association
- LEAD Mentoring
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Student Association
- National Contract Management Association Student Group (NCMA)
- Oral Advocacy Organization
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International
- Phi Delta Phi
- Pride Law
- Public Interest Law Organization
- Rogers Law Vets
- Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense
- Student Bar Association
- Students of Arizona Health Law Organization
- Wills for Heroes

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RANK

38

# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA—DAVIS SCHOOL OF LAW

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MAIN PHONE

530-752-0243

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

530-752-6574

WEBSITE

[www.law.ucdavis.edu](http://www.law.ucdavis.edu)



## Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

The University of California–Davis School of Law (also referred to as the University of California–Davis King Hall School of Law) was established in 1965 and is dedicated to the development of legal knowledge and to training students to achieve excellence in the field of law.

The University of California–Davis School of Law has adopted a traditional approach to teaching law. This provides a strong foundation for its students' career moves as it equips them with the knowledge and skills they will need to advance in the legal field. The school offers a comprehensive three-year curriculum for the JD degree in all major areas of the law. The program is designed for full-time students.

The University of California–Davis School of Law curriculum also allows students to gain insight regarding some of the leading thinkers in specialized areas of practice. The school emphasizes teaching that is relevant to both existing and emerging practice areas. Students are also encouraged to voice their own ideas or even initiate new seminars or research projects on specific issues under faculty supervision. They are exposed to fundamental objects of legal analysis with the aid of faculty representing diverse fields of law.

The law school's legal education program blends theory with practice. Elective options can therefore include real-world experiences via programs such as the moot court team, journals, or the school's various clinics and externships. The first-year curriculum provides the quintessential structure for subsequent legal study. Second- and third-year study is elective, except for a few professionally required courses. Students receive credit for courses taken in other University of California–Davis departments and for courses satisfactorily completed at accredited law schools.

The Mabie Law Library has a huge collection. Law students receive keys for 24-hour access to the library and have online access to past law school exams.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

10.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	160-165	3.38-3.71
Median*	163	3.60

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	3,499
Number accepted	1,259
Percentage accepted	36.0%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7,8</sup>

The law school does not provide individual class rank nor does it post class rank on transcripts.

The University of California–Davis School of Law has a four-point letter grading system with plus and minus grades; some courses are graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory.

The following grading scale is used by the law school:

A+ or A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D+	1.3
D	1.0
D-	0.7
F	0.0

The grade of A+ may be awarded for extraordinary achievement and will be recorded on the student's transcript, but it will be counted as an A when computing the student's grade point average. After the end of each semester, students receive a cumulative grade point average for all of their work at the school. This average is computed by dividing the total grade points by the number of credits earned plus the number of credits assigned to any course in which an F was received. An F is a failing grade. The grade I stands for Incomplete. If the applicable coursework is not completed, an Incomplete converts to an F.

A student is in good standing if his or her cumulative grade point average at the end of the second, fourth, sixth, or final semester is 2.0 or greater.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>9</sup>**

In first-year sectioned courses, not including legal research and writing courses, faculty members distribute grades as follows:

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Percentage of Class Receiving</b>
A+, A, A-	20% (plus or minus 3%)
B+, B, B-	60% (plus or minus 3%)
C+ and below	20% (plus or minus 3%)

The mean of the grades awarded, expressed as a GPA, should be 3.0 plus or minus one-tenth of a point.

#### **Honors<sup>10</sup>**

To qualify for the Order of the Coif, a graduating student must be ranked in the top 10% of his or her class and have completed 75% of his or her units in graded courses. The law school does not recognize *cum laude* or *summa cum laude*.

#### **Awards<sup>11</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Awarded for/to</b>
School of Law Medal	Highest GPA after the fifth semester
Patrick Hopkins Law Prize	Law review writing prize
Witkin Award for Academic Excellence	Top grade in a qualifying course
Order of Barristers	Membership offered to students for outstanding academic performance in appellate advocacy
Martin Luther King Service Award	Services towards community
Theodore M. Pritchett Writing Award	Best write up in the Journal of International Law and Policy
Moot Court Outstanding Oral Advocate	Best oral advocate
Moot Court Outstanding Advocate	Best advocate
Moot Court Outstanding Brief	Best brief
Prof. Frank Environment Writing Award	Best writing on environment

## Journals

The **UC Davis Law Review** publishes five issues annually and hosts a symposium focused on pressing legal issues. It invites scholarly articles from legal academics, practitioners, and its own student editors. The Law Review provides students the opportunity to hone their research and writing skills, while advancing the public discourse surrounding important legal topics.<sup>12</sup>

The **UC Davis Business Law Journal** is a resource from which users may obtain quality legal and business analysis that is easily accessible and, best of all, succinct. Readers may search both current and past publications and keep abreast of the daily highlights of business and legal news from around the nation and the world. The journal addresses a broad spectrum of issues that fall within the intersection of business and the law. It now publishes two print issues each year, and provides access to author abstracts and interviews online.<sup>13</sup>

The **Environs** is an environmental law and policy journal. It is a semiannual journal which welcomes manuscript submissions year round from academics, students, and practitioners writing about environmental and land-use issues from a law and policy perspective. The journal publishes student papers right alongside professor and practitioner papers. It provides an open forum for the discussion of current environmental issues, particularly those pertaining to the state of California.<sup>14</sup>

The **UC Davis Journal of International Law & Policy** is published two times per year, in fall and spring, by students of the University of California–Davis School of Law. It accepts for publication pieces authored by academics and professionals on timely topics relevant to international law and policy. It contributes pertinent and interesting scholarly works to the field of international law.<sup>15</sup>

The **Journal of Juvenile Law & Policy** is published twice per year. Initially a product of the creativity and activism of a small group of University of California–Davis law students called the Advocates for the Rights of Children, the journal has evolved into a vigorous organization committed to providing practical information regarding current juvenile, family, and educational law issues. The ultimate goal of the journal is to encourage community awareness and involvement regarding these issues.<sup>16</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>17</sup>

The University of California–Davis School of Law Moot Court Program, also known as Appellate Advocacy, is a year-long program. Second-year students participate in the program each fall semester; they attend lectures on appellate skills, participate in oral arguments, and participate in the school's annual moot court competition. Students who excel in the Appellate Advocacy class during their second year are selected as members of the law school's Moot Court Board during their third year. Students who participate in moot court activities during the spring focus on appellate writing. The top students participate in the annual Neumiller Competition.

Every student is also expected to participate in one or more of the school's trial and appellate advocacy programs, which include Appellate Advocacy, various moot court competitions, trial practice classes, and the trial practice competition. Students also participate in the National Moot Court Competition and the Roger J. Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition.

## Clinical Programs

The law school's in-house Clinical Programs include specialized work in civil rights, family law and domestic violence, prisoners' rights, immigration law, and appellate advocacy. Students, under the mentorship of talented faculty experts, develop a keen awareness of their own unique skills and passions as lawyers.<sup>18</sup>

The **Immigration Law Clinic**, in which students represent immigrants seeking asylum or cancellation of removal before the US Immigration Courts, the Board of Immigration Appeals, and federal courts, including the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Students interview clients and witnesses, prepare legal briefs, draft pleadings and motions, and argue complex legal issues. The Immigration Clinic is a full-year clinic.<sup>19</sup>

The **Civil Rights Clinic**, in which students provide legal services to indigent clients who have filed civil rights actions in federal court.<sup>20</sup>

The **Prison Law Clinic**, in which students provide legal services to clients incarcerated in state prison. Students must analyze and apply constitutional law, state statutory law, agency regulations, and the rules of professional responsibility.<sup>21</sup>

Students are required to enroll for two semesters in the **Family Protection and Legal Assistance Clinic**. Students represent low-income clients in family law and related matters arising out of situations involving family violence. Cases handled by the students in this clinic involve restraining orders, child custody and visitation, child and spousal support, and property division.<sup>22</sup>

The **California Supreme Court Clinic** provides pro bono representation to individuals and organizations in matters pending before the state's highest court. Students participating in the Clinic research and write draft briefs under the supervision of the Clinic's director. In the Clinic seminar, students explore California Supreme Court practice and procedure, study principles of effective appellate advocacy, and meet with seasoned appellate practitioners from different areas of legal practice.<sup>23</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>24</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$70,000 - \$110,000
Private sector - median	\$85,000
Public service - median	\$56,088

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	34.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	60.5%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	52.0%
Business and Industry	8.5%

Government	12.4%
Public Interest Organizations	8.5%
Judicial Clerkships	5.6%
Academia	13.0%
Unknown	0.0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>25, 26</sup>

### Externships

The University of California–Davis School of Law offers following externship programs that are closely supervised by law school faculty. These are:

- Criminal Justice
- Employment Relations
- Environmental Law
- Federal Taxation
- Judicial Process
- Intellectual Property
- Legislative Process
- Public Interest

All placements must be approved by the faculty advisor for the externship and are limited to the Northern California-Nevada geographical area in order to facilitate faculty on-site visits.

**UCDC - Washington, DC Externship** Program is a uniquely collaborative semester-long externship program in Washington, DC, combining a weekly seminar with a full-time field placement. It offers law students an unparalleled opportunity to learn how federal statutes, regulations, and policies are made, changed, and understood in the nation's capital.

## Student Organizations<sup>27</sup>

- ACLU at King Hall
- American Bar Association, Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Bahá'í Law Student Association
- Black Law Students Association
- California Republican Lawyer's Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Coalition for Diversity
- Criminal Law Association
- Entertainment and Sports Law Society

- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Filipino Law Students Association
- Humanitarian Aid Legal Organization
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- King Hall Animal Law Forum
- King Hall Bar Review
- King Hall Book Club
- King Hall Climb, Ski & Snowboard Club
- King Hall Families
- King Hall Futbol Club
- King Hall Golf Club
- King Hall Health Law Association
- King Hall Intellectual Property Law Association
- King Hall Korean American Law Students Association
- King Hall Legal Foundation
- King Hall Negotiations Team
- King Hall Veterans Association
- King Hall Women's Law Association
- Lambda Law Students Association
- La Raza Law Students Association
- Law Cappella
- Law Students For Reproductive Justice
- Law School Democrats at King Hall
- Law Students for Workers Rights
- Middle Eastern and South Asian Law Students Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association
- Perfect Tender Child Care Co-op
- Phi Delta Phi
- Real Estate Law Society
- Students United for Reform and Justice
- Tax Law Society
- The King Hall Mentorship Program
- UC Davis Pipeline Program

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RANK

41

# GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

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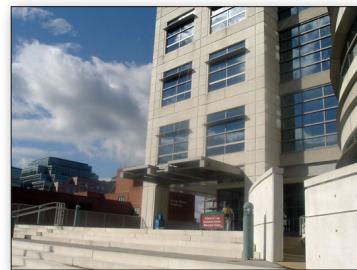
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CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
703-993-8020



## Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

After being established in 1972 as the International School of Law, George Mason University School of Law became a part of George Mason University in 1979. It offers two programs: a full-time day program and a part-time evening program. Students at the school are prepared to succeed in a broad spectrum of careers in law. Although the school offers a number of organized specialization choices, it is not compulsory for students to specialize in their legal studies. George Mason University School of Law requires that students pursue a general course of study first, choosing electives later as their interests develop.

The specialization choices at the law school ensure that graduates can acquire in-depth knowledge in specific legal fields. The law school offers different programs like Corporate and Securities Law Concentration, Criminal Law Concentration, Homeland and National Security Law Concentration, Intellectual Property Law Concentration, International Business Law Concentration, Legal and Economic Theory Concentration, Litigation Law Concentration, Personal Law Concentration, Regulatory Law Concentration, Tax Law Concentration, and Technology Law Concentration. The program provides students with the necessary skills to succeed in today's radically evolving legal environment.

The law school has integrated disciplines particularly elementary microeconomic theory and some basic mathematical and financial skills, including an ability to analyze financial data into law and economics-oriented curriculum.

Students can acquire advanced knowledge in particular substantive areas of the law through George Mason University's specialty law tracks. They may choose to pursue specialty tracks at the end of their first year of study in patent law, litigation law, or regulatory law.

George Mason University School of Law also offers the program in law and economics. This program introduces students to legal methods along with economic and quantitative tools, stressing the application of the non legal methods in legal contexts.

The George Mason University School of Law Library is an academic research center that supports the information needs of the faculty and students of the law school.

## **Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>**

14.4:1

## **Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>**

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	156-164	3.31-3.79
Median*	162	3.71

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## **Admission Statistics**

Approximate number of applications	3,481
Number accepted	993
Percentage accepted	28.5%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## **Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>**

Students are numerically ranked, based upon cumulative GPAs at the end of the fall and spring semesters after grades for all classes have been reported and recorded. Rankings are done only in combined class groups as follows: 1D/1E; 2D/2E/3E; and 3D/4E. Rank information is posted for each group and includes a listing of numerical ranks, as well as a summary of GPA ranges and rank percentages. Class rank is added to a student's transcript only if requested and is shown both numerically and by percentile. Final class rankings for the graduating class -- which includes December, May, and July graduates for the academic year -- are done after summer term grades have been recorded. Each graduate is then mailed an individual rank statement and summary. Final ranks are not posted at the law school.

Upon the completion of a course, matriculated students are graded on an A+ through F scale or CR and NC scale or the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs specifically authorizes a grade other than one on the A+ through F scale. A grade of CR indicates work equivalent to C or better on the A+ through F scale. The grade of NC indicates work that falls below the equivalent of a C on the A+ through F scale and does not qualify for credit toward the Juris Doctor degree.

George Mason University School of Law's letter grading system corresponds to the following point values:

<b>Letter</b>	<b>Points</b>
A+	4.33
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00
D-	0.67
F	0.00

The law school also uses the following designations in evaluating course performance:

- CR (Credit)
- NC (No Credit)
- IN (Incomplete)
- W (Withdrawal)
- Au (Audit—no credit granted)

If a student fails to complete assigned work on schedule, including the final examination, the grade assigned will determine whether the student may later complete the missed work. If permission has been granted to complete the missed work, the temporary notation IN is entered in lieu of a grade, and will be replaced by the appropriate grade upon completion of the work. If permission is not granted to complete the late work, the student will receive a grade of F or NC, whichever is applicable.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

A student's cumulative average is calculated by dividing the total number of quality points earned by the total number of quality hours (i.e., credit hours for which grades A+ through F have been given).

The mean grade for all required courses, exclusive of introduction to legal research, writing, analysis, trial-level writing, appellate writing, and legal drafting, may range from 3.20 to 3.30.

The mean grade ranges for introduction to legal research, writing, and analysis, trial-level writing, appellate writing, and legal drafting are established by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

The mean grade for upper-level elective courses with 50 or more students may range from 3.15 to 3.35.

The mean grade for upper-level elective courses with fewer than 50 students may range from 3.05 to 3.45.

Faculty members may not submit grades for which the mean is outside the designated range without first submitting a written explanation to the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and obtaining written permission from the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

## Honors<sup>12</sup>

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 25%

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Scott C. Whitney Writing Prize	Merit-based
Professor Richard S. Murphy Prize	Merit-based
Prof. Richard S. Murphy Scholarship	Merit-based
Mary Fischer Doyle Public Service Scholarship	Merit-based
Betty Southard Murphy Awards in Constitutional Law and Labor Law	Merit-based
Ann Southard Murphy and Cornelius Murphy Jr. Tuition Assistance Award	Merit-based
Murphy Jr. Tuition Assistance Award	Merit-based
Curran & Whittington Scholarship in Trial Advocacy	Merit-based
Philip H. Dorsey, II Law Library Scholarship Fund	Merit-based
LRWA Awards	Merit-based
Law School Service Award	Merit-based
Fairfax Bar Foundation Scholarship	Merit-based
Family Law Section of the VSB and VA Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Family Law Book Award	Merit-based
VA Trial Lawyers Advocacy Award	Merit-based
Giles Sutherland Rich Award for Excellence in the Study of IP Law	Merit-based
ALI-ABA Scholarship/Leadership Award	Merit-based
Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt P.C. Scholarship	Merit-based
Dr. Lawrence Cranberg Scholarship Endowment in Science and the Law	Merit-based
Banner & Witcoff Intellectual Prop. Law Scholarship	Merit-based
Cloudigy Law Scholarship Fund	Merit-based
Sen. Leroy S. Bendheim Scholarship	Merit-based
Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox Intellectual Prop. Law Scholarship	Merit-based
Smolen Plevy Scholarship	Merit-based
GMU Law Alumni Association Scholarship	Merit-based
David and Carrie Jolly Scholarship for Working Professionals	Merit-based
Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty	Merit-based

## Journals

The **George Mason Law Review** is a student-edited law review that provides students with an excellent opportunity to develop research, writing, and editing skills. Students selected as editors of the review are required to have achieved excellent academic performance or gain admittance through a write-on competition. Manuscripts are also submitted for publication by practicing attorneys and professors from across the country. It publishes four times per year.<sup>14</sup>

The **George Mason University Civil Rights Law Journal**, a student-run publication, is published three times a year by a board of editors comprised of select students at George Mason University School of Law. It publishes work from inside and outside the academy analyzing American civil rights issues.<sup>15</sup>

Founded in 2008, the **George Mason Journal of International Commercial Law (JICL)** is a legal periodical focusing on the international commercial law. It provides international scholars and practitioners a forum to exchange, develop, and publish innovative ideas. A select group of student editors at the law school has published this journal and is one of the only legal-academic journals dedicated exclusively to the legal issues affecting international commerce.<sup>16</sup>

The **Journal of Law, Economics & Policy** is published twice per year and is run by students with the aim of providing innovative and stimulating articles to both academia and the legal community. One issue each year is devoted to a specialized symposium on an important question of legal and economic policy. The second annual issue is a peer-reviewed compendium of articles submitted by individual authors.<sup>17</sup>

The **National Security Law Journal** (NSLJ) is George Mason University's newest law journal. Its mission is to publish innovative, thought-provoking journals on pressing issues in the field of national security law. Each issue will comprise creative, original, ground-breaking articles that appeal to both academia and the practicing legal community. NSLJ was founded in January 2012. It is publishing digital and print form. It is a student-run journal.<sup>18</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>19, 20</sup>

The George Mason University Moot Court Board provides second-year to fourth-year law students with a taste of practical appellate advocacy. It also helps students prepare for extramural competitions. The board sponsors two intramural competitions annually; the Upper Class Moot Court Competition and the First Year Moot Court Competition.

Additionally, the Moot Court Board hosts the annual Henry G. Manne Moot Court Competition for Law and Economics. The Moot Court Board is the primary body that represents George Mason University School of Law in national moot court competitions.

## Clinical Programs<sup>21</sup>

Students provide legal assistance to clients under the supervision of Mason professors and supervisors.

Students may participate in the same clinic for two semesters, subject to professor approval. George Mason University School of Law offers the following clinical programs:

- The Clinic for Legal Assistance to Service Members and Veterans (CLASV)
- The Domestic Relations Clinic
- The Law and Mental Illness Clinic
- The Practical Preparation of GMU Patent Applications Legal Clinic
- The Supreme Court Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>22</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$60,000 - \$140,000
Private sector - median	\$75,000
Public service - median	\$62,467

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	49.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	78.2%

### Areas of Legal Practice<sup>24</sup>

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	41.1%
Business and Industry	15.3%
Government	25.2%
Public Interest Organizations	6.7%
Judicial Clerkships	8.6%
Academia	3.1%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>23</sup>

### Externships

Under the supervision of Mason professors and field supervisors, the supervised externship programs are designed to allow students who have completed their first year of law school to perform substantive legal and legal policy work (unpaid) outside the classroom for academic credit. George Mason's proximity to Washington, DC and location in vibrant Northern Virginia offers students a wide range of opportunities to work in the field. In addition, in the summer semester, students may work outside of the DC area for academic credit, subject to professor approval. All externship programs are pass/fail, and students earn 2 or 3 out-of-class credits for their field work, depending on the particular externship program.

The law school offers following programs:

- Supervised Externship: Domestic Relations
- Supervised Externship: Immigration Law
- Supervised Externship: Virginia Practice
- Supervised Externships - Fall, Spring, Summer

## **Student Organizations<sup>24</sup>**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
- American Civil Liberties Union - GMU Chapter
- American Constitution Society
- American Inn of Court
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Association for Public Interest Law
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Civil Rights Law Journal
- Criminal Law Association
- Docket
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federal Circuit Bar Journal
- Federalist Society
- George Mason Law Review
- Health Law Society
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Honor Committee
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- Internet, Telecom & Media Law Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Journal of International Commercial Law (JICL)
- Journal of Law, Economics & Policy
- Law and Economics Society
- Law Students for the Second Amendment
- LGBTQ and Allies Law Association
- Mason Law Democrats
- Mason Law Republicans
- Mason Sports and Entertainment Law Association
- Military Law Society (MLS)
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Student Association

- National Security Law Journal
- National Security Law Society
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International
- Phi Delta Phi (Lewis F. Powell Inn)
- Running Along the Potomac
- Scrivner
- Sports, Entertainment, and Art Law Society (SEALS)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Thomas More Society
- Trial Advocacy Association
- VBA Law School Council and Pro Bono Society
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA)
- Wine and Spirits Law Society
- Women's Law Association

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RANK

41

# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FRANCIS KING CAREY SCHOOL OF LAW

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## Overview<sup>2-4</sup>

The academic program of the University of Maryland School of Law is designed to help students acquire the four basic characteristics of a lawyer: knowledge, professionalism, a broad perspective on the social implications of legal issues, and the ability to communicate effectively.

Students at the school have many legal writing opportunities, both required and elective. The Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research Program engage students in increasingly complex writing assignments.

Co-curricular activities provide additional opportunities for students to enhance their writing and advocacy skills. Through a broad range of electives, the law school's curriculum provides students with opportunities for in-depth study in many areas of law. Its certificate programs in environmental law and health law have received national recognition.

The University of Maryland School of Law offers specialty programs focusing on intellectual property law; business law; clinical law; international law; legislation, politics, and public policy; and women, leadership, and equality. The school's numerous public service and research centers provide students ample access to interdisciplinary education and cutting-edge research, along with the opportunity to observe and influence the creation of public policy.

The Thurgood Marshall Law Library contains more than 400,000 volumes of Anglo-American legal materials as well as outstanding international and foreign law collections; it also offers an extensive array of electronic resources. The University of Maryland campus includes other professional schools and academic centers, a career development office that offers diverse job placement services, and three courtrooms.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>5</sup>

11.9:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>6</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	152-164	3.33-3.76
Median*	162	3.65

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 3,068

Number accepted 833

Percentage accepted 27.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>7-9</sup>

Class rankings are only calculated at the end of the fall and spring semesters. Class rankings for graduates are determined in May of each year. They include the day, evening, and part-time day graduates from May of that year as well as the graduates from the preceding December and July graduation dates.

The law school uses the following letter grading system in which each letter grade is awarded points on a four-point scale:

Letter Grade	Points Awarded for Grade
A+	4.33
A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00

D-	0.67
F	0.00

A student's grade point average is computed by multiplying the point equivalent for the letter grade for each course by its weight in semester hours, adding the products for each course, and dividing the sum by the number of semester hours taken.

### **Incomplete Grades**

The grade I (Incomplete) may be given to students who have a proper excuse for failure to present themselves for examinations or to complete any other work that may be required by the instructor in time for the instructor to complete grading by the grading due date. It is not used to signify work of inferior quality. A grade of Incomplete may not be carried for more than one semester without the approval of the Assistant Dean for Registration & Enrollment.

### **Withdrawal from Courses**

A grade of W reflects a student's withdrawal from a course, either voluntary or required, after the add/drop period. A grade of WA reflects that a student has been withdrawn administratively, and a grade of WD indicates a student's withdrawal from school.

### **Grading in Year-long Courses**

Grading guidelines for year-long courses, such as clinics and Trial Planning and Advocacy, are as follows: at the end of the fall semester, the student will receive a grade of NM indicating that no grade is available; at the end of the spring semester, the student will receive a letter grade for all work done in the clinic or course. On the student's transcript, this letter grade will be listed for each semester according to the number of credits attributed to each semester, and it will replace the NM originally listed at the end of the fall semester. A student who is permitted to withdraw from the law school after completing one semester may receive a grade for the work done during that semester.

### **Credit/No Credit Option**

For certain courses, a Credit/No Credit system is used. A student who chooses the Credit/No Credit option will be assigned a grade by the Assistant Dean for Registration & Enrollment only after the student has earned a grade of at least C- (1.67). The grade CR (Credit) or NC (No Credit), as the case may be, will be recorded on the student's academic record. Neither grade will have an impact on the cumulative grade point average, but only the CR grade will cause credits to be earned toward degree requirements.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>**

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2010 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.73
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.50
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.39
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.27
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	3.01
Median GPA	3.27
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.0

## Honors<sup>11</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top five students
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top one-third of students

## Awards<sup>12</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Thomas Prizes	Highest scholastic average
Larry B. Shoda Award	Academic excellence for the evening student
Joseph Bernstein Fund Prizes	Best legal writing in each student journal
Hoffberger Clinical Law Prize	Outstanding work in clinical law program
Public Service Award	Legal work associated with public service
Sam Allen Memorial	Outstanding Leadership & Scholarship
Roger Howell Achievement Award	Student activities/leadership
Elizabeth Maxwell Carroll Chesnut	Good scholarship as determined by Dean
William P. Cunningham Award	Exceptional Service to the School

## Journals

The ***Maryland Law Review***, first published in 1936, is the oldest journal at the University of Maryland School of Law. It publishes four issues annually. These issues contain scholarly work by professors, practitioners, and judges in the traditional law review format. The review also publishes legal symposia. Currently, one issue per year is dedicated cyberlaw scholarship. Endnotes is the online companion to the *Maryland Law Review*. This online publication features response pieces to its print articles, non-traditional law review articles, and student pieces.<sup>13, 14</sup>

The ***Journal of Business & Technology Law*** is the student-run successor to The Business Lawyer. With a focus on matters at the intersection of business and technology, it publishes analytical articles by leading academics, judges, and practitioners. It also provides a unique forum for scholarly discourse on issues arising from new business and technology courts at the state level. Membership in the Journal is open to rising second-year students through the petitioning process.<sup>15, 16</sup>

The ***Journal of Health Care Law and Policy*** serves as a forum for interdisciplinary discussion of leading issues in health law, medicine, and health policy. Its contributors have included physicians, legal scholars, health law practitioners, leaders in health policy, and experts in philosophy, public health, sociology, and other disciplines that consider issues related to healthcare. Publishing two issues annually, the journal disseminates solution-based articles that are pertinent to problems confronting health law practitioners and health policymakers.<sup>17</sup>

The ***University of Maryland Law Journal of Race, Religion, Gender and Class*** focuses on issues of race, religion, gender, and class. It provides a forum that reflects the diversity of the backgrounds, interests, and concerns of students. Each year, the journal publishes two issues and hosts an annual symposium that explores a current legal topic related to race, religion, gender, or class.<sup>18</sup>

The ***Maryland Journal of International Law*** (MJIL) is the student-edited international law journal at the University of Maryland School of Law. It provides a unique forum for a wide range of issues of international and comparative law. This revived journal will continue the legacy of the "*Maryland Journal of International Law and Trade*," which was once published at the School of Law.<sup>19</sup>

### **Moot Court<sup>20-24</sup>**

The moot court program at the University of Maryland School of Law strives to develop students' oral advocacy and appellate writing skills while challenging them to understand the nuances required to excel in appellate advocacy. Eligible students may participate in Moot Court in either or both the fall and spring semesters. The best advocates are invited to join the Moot Court Board. The Moot Court Board is comprised of students who have demonstrated exceptional ability in appellate brief writing and oral arguing.

The Annual Fall Moot Court Competition is held early in the fall semester for second-year day and third-year evening students. Students who participate are responsible for composing an appellate brief based on a hypothetical case.

Students who participate in the International Moot Court Competition receive credit for intramural brief and other course-related activities. Select students from the course are chosen to represent the University of Maryland School of Law at the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

The Morris Brown Myerowitz Moot Court Competition consists of an appellate brief and oral argument. Participants receive a hypothetical case to research and defend. Each participant must write a complete appellate brief and present an oral argument before a panel of judges. The top three participants become the part of National Moot Court Team and represent the law school at the National Moot Court Competition held in New York.

### **Clinical Programs<sup>25, 26</sup>**

The Clinical Law Program provides opportunities to students to work with faculty members on real-life cases. It covers the integration of theory and practice through legal training combined with classroom teaching and real-life lawyering experiences.

Students enrolled in clinic programs represent clients singularly or in teams of two or three and give advice to individuals and groups and engage in formal and informal advocacy, as well as transactional work. Students can participate in the following clinic curriculum:

- Access to Justice Clinic: Effective Assistance of Counsel at Bail
- Appellate Advocacy Clinic

- Appellate and Post-conviction Advocacy Clinic
- Civil Rights of Persons With Disabilities Clinic
- Clinic II
- Community Economic Development Seminar: Legal Theory and Practice
- Community Justice Clinic
- Consumer Protection Clinic
- Criminal Defense Clinic: Federal and State Litigation
- Criminal Law Reform: Legal Theory Practice
- Crimmigration Legal Theory and Practice: Strategies and Solutions for Non-citizens Charged With Crimes
- Drug Policy and Public Health Strategies Clinic
- Environmental Law Clinic
- Gender Violence Clinic
- General Practice Clinic
- General Practice Clinic: Immigration Clinic
- General Practice Clinic: Just Advice
- Health Care Delivery and HIV / AIDS Clinic
- Immigration Clinic
- Intellectual Property Law Clinic
- International and Comparative Law Clinic
- International Human Rights: Legal Theory and Practice
- Juvenile Law, Children's Issues and Legislative Advocacy Clinic
- Landlord Tenant Clinic: Legal Theory and Practice
- Law, Policy and Practices of Community Recovery: Legal Theory and Practice
- Low Income Taxpayer Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Public Health Law Clinic
- Reentry Seminar: Legal Theory and Practice
- Writing in Law Practice: Criminal Practice: Legal Theory and Practice

## Placement Facts<sup>27</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$50,000 - \$110,000
Private sector - median	\$64,000
Public service - median	\$45,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	57.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	62.3%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	28.7%
Business and Industry	13.5%

Government	16.0%
Public Interest Organizations	10.5%
Judicial Clerkships	22.2%
Academia	8.7%
Unknown	0.4%

## Externships/Internships<sup>28, 29</sup>

### Externships

The University of Maryland School of Law's externships offer students opportunities to learn in supervised governmental and not-for-profit organization settings about significant aspects of law and its practice. Each externship has a program administrator. Externships fall into the following broad categories:

- Business Law
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (through the Center for Dispute Resolution at the University of Maryland, C-DRUM)
- Center for Health and Homeland Security
- Environmental Law
- Criminal Law Prosecution
- Judicial (Asper Fellowship)
- Health Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Law (including South Africa)
- Maryland Legislative
- Public Interest

### Internships

First-year students gain exposure to the court system in their first summer and many second-year students through judicial internships. Students also work with judges during the school year. All courts in Maryland and the DC Superior Court, as well as many of the federal courts take first-year students as judicial interns.

## Student Organizations<sup>30</sup>

- American Constitution Society for Law & Policy
- Asian/Pacific-American Law Student Association
- Black Law Student Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law Association
- Cycling Club
- Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Association

- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
- Immigration Law and Policy Association
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latino/a Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- LGBT Law Student Alliance
- Legally Sound - A Cappella Choir
- Maryland Education Law Project
- Maryland Environmental Law Society
- Maryland Intellectual Property Student Association
- Maryland Carey Service Corps
- The Maryland Public Interest Law Project, Inc.
- Mediators Beyond Borders - Partnering for Peace & Reconciliation
- Moot Court
- Muslim Legal Society
- National Lawyers Guild
- Parents Attending Law School
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Real Estate Association
- The Republican Law Society
- Softball Team
- Space Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Health Law Organization
- Student Honor Board
- The Trial Team
- University of Maryland Association of Legislative Law
- University of Maryland Law Democrats
- Women's Bar Association
- Women's Law Student Association

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RANK

41

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### Overview<sup>4-7</sup>

Established in 1913, the S.J. Quinney College of Law is known for its academic reputation, faculty, student-to-faculty ratio, innovative curriculum, and stunning location.

It offers a broad spectrum of courses and programs like concentrations in constitution law, corporate finance, international business, criminal procedure, and commercial law. The academic support program is available for eligible students and includes a legal process tutorial course, organized study groups, and academic counseling. It also offers a semester abroad program in London. It publishes the student-edited Utah Law Review, Journal of Law and Family Studies, and Journal of Land, Resources, and Environmental Law. The students participate in the National Moot Court Competition. Joint degrees in law and business administration or public administration, and an environmental certificate are available. In addition, it provides a comprehensive program in appellate litigation and trial advocacy.

The College of Law offers a variety of clinical experiences. Each clinic relies on placing the student with a supervisor to work on real cases. Each clinic has a related class to prepare for and/or reflect upon the experience. Students may spend a semester as full-time clerks in the judicial extern program as part of the judicial clinic.

Microforms constitute a major part of the collection of the law library comprising about 90,000 volume equivalents. All basic legal research tools are present. The collections of congressional bills and hearings, US Supreme Court briefs, session laws of all the states, state attorney general opinions and bar journals are in microform. Newer documents are now published in a digital form. The law library is a partial depository of the Government Printing Office and receives books and materials published by the federal government.

### Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>8</sup>

8.6:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>9</sup>

	LSAT	GPA
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	156-162	3.32-3.8
Median*	160	3.61

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	878
Number accepted	309
Percentage accepted	35.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>10</sup>

Class standings (numerical rank order of students) are not maintained by the S.J. Quinney College of Law at the end of fall and spring semesters, students are provided with GPA cut-offs for the top 10%, 20%, 30% and 50% of students in their class.

GPAs are calculated based upon a 0.0 to 4.0 range.

A	4.00
A-	3.70
B+	3.30
B	3.00
B-	2.70
C+	2.30
C	2.00
C-	1.70
D+	1.30
D	1.00
D-	0.70
E	0.00

To determine a GPA in the 0.0 to 4.0 range, the associated point value of the letter grade given for a course is multiplied by the number of credit hours for that course. This new value is referred to as the number of "grade points" that the student received for the course. All of the grade points that a student has, either by semester or cumulatively, are added up, and then divided by the total number of credit hours used to determine the grade points.

In lieu of a standard letter grade, an instructor may assign the following for a particular course. Whether a course is CR/NC or P/F is established by the curriculum committee; a student does not have the option to elect CR/NC or P/F in a graded course.

CR - Student receives non-graded credit for the course.

NC - Student receives no grade or credit for the course.

P - Student receives non-graded credit for the course.

F - Student failed the course. An F affects the student's GPA the same as an E.

EU - The grade EU is given to a student whose name appears on the Registrar's final grade report but for whom there is no record of attendance or other evidence of participation in the course. When the instructor enters no grade for such students, the Registrar records a grade of EU in the student's record. The EU grade, thereafter, is treated as an E in calculating the student's GPA.

I - The grade I (incomplete) may be given for work not completed because of circumstances beyond the student's control, provided the student is passing the course and needs to complete 20% or less of the work required for the course. Arrangements must be made between the student and the instructor concerning completion of the work.

T - The grade T (thesis/independent work) is given for thesis or other independent work in progress, but not for regular courses. The T grade remains in the student record until the work is completed and a letter grade is reported to the Registrar. There is no time limit governing removal of the T grade.

W - The grade W (official withdrawal) is given when a student officially withdraws from a class or from school after the 7th calendar day of the semester. Official withdrawal from a course or school before the 8th calendar day of the semester results in the deletion of affected courses from the student's records. The grade W is not used in calculating a student's GPA. For official withdrawal policies and procedures consult current registration materials distributed from the Registration Office.

V - The grade V (audit) is given for enrollment in courses for instruction without credit.

### **Pass/Fail and Credit/No Credit Option**

Effective fall 2009 grades at the S.J. Quinney College of Law shall consist of the following:

Letter Grades - For all courses not included below, students shall receive letter grades.

**Pass/Fail** - Students shall receive a grade of pass or fail for clinic placements, student-edited journals, moot court board, and the Traynor Moot Court participation. For directed research, students shall receive either a letter grade or a grade of pass or fail, as determined by the instructor. For competitions, students shall receive a grade of pass or fail unless the instructor, in consultation with the associate dean for academic affairs, elects to give letter grades to all students participating in the particular competition.

**Credit/No Credit (CR/NC)** - Students may elect to take one (1) advanced non-required course for CR/NC. Students may not exercise the CR/NC option in any College of Law required course (e.g., Constitutional Law II, Legal Profession, and any course to fulfill the seminar and skills course requirements) and may take only one course on a CR/NC basis during their law degree program. To receive credit, students must earn a grade of C- or better.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11</sup>**

Grades in all courses, except courses mentioned below, with enrollment of more than 15 students shall achieve a mean within the range of 3.10 to 3.30.

The mandatory mean shall not apply to the following:

- (a) Grades for Judicial Process, and for teaching assistants in the Legal Methods course and the Academic Support Program.
- (b) By petition of the instructor within one week after the add-drop deadline and approval of the Academic Dean, grades in courses meeting the following requirements: (i) the course has enrollment of 25 students or less; and (ii) in accordance with procedures set forth in the course syllabus, the instructor provides students with extensive formative assessment of their written work designed to result in excellent final work product, such as thorough instructor commentary on one or more successive drafts of a substantial research paper or other major written project upon which the instructor will base students' final grades.

Before posting grades each semester, all instructors teaching sections of the same first-year course shall confer in an effort to achieve a comparable distribution of grades across all sections. A consistent distribution across sections is a goal, not a requirement, of this consultation.

In all courses to which the mandatory mean set forth above does not apply, instructors are strongly encouraged not to deviate from the 3.10-3.30 mean GPA range unless actual student performance is either unusually strong or unusually weak, and application of the mean would result in grades that either understate or overstate the merits of actual student performance.

A faculty member may give D's and F's the same value as a C- solely for purposes of the mean calculation.

#### **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

Order of Coif	Top 10%
Highest Honors	3.8 and above GPA
High Honors	3.6 and above GPA

Honors	3.4 and above GPA
Dean's Award	Awarded to student with highest GPA in class
Faculty Award	Awarded to student with second highest GPA in class
College Award	Awarded to student with third highest GPA in class
Barrister's Award	Awarded to student with highest GPA in class
Quinney Award	Awarded to student with second highest GPA in class

Students with the same GPA will receive the same award in the case of ties.

Students graduate with highest honors, high honors and honors based on cumulative GPA at graduation. GPA cut-offs for each designation is decided by the faculty.

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Reva Beck Bosone Scholarship	First- or second-year student who is a member of the Women's Law Caucus and who is in good academic standing.
BioLaw Fellowship	Academic excellence and an interest in federal regulatory law, intellectual property law, law and bioscience, or law and medical informatics
CALI Award	Academic excellence in legal education.
Clyde Natural Resources Scholarship	Commitment to environmental or natural resources law
Dewsnup Fellowship	First-year student who has demonstrated an interest in natural resources law and excellence in academics
Edwin Brown Firmage Student Award in International Law and Human Rights	Academic achievement and commitment to international law and human rights issues
Fordham Loan Forgiveness Program	Fordham Loan Forgiveness Program
David T. Lewis Clinical Award	Outstanding achievement in the Clinical Program
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Outstanding law graduate who has demonstrated academic achievement
NRLF Natural Resources Scholarship	Commitment to environmental or natural resources law

S.J. Quinney College of Law Outstanding Achievement Award	Outstanding Achievement Award
Quinney Student Fellowship	Outstanding academic, research and writing skill
Robert Schmid Natural Resources Writing Award	Best paper on a natural resources
Robert W. Swenson Natural Resources Law Scholarship	Commitment to environmental or natural resources law
Roger and Madeleine Traynor Scholarship for Excellence in Legal Writing and Scholarship	Demonstrated distinction in legal writing and scholarship
Stephen Pierre Traynor Legal Writing Award	Outstanding writing by an advanced student
Utah Civil Rights and Liberties Writing Award	Best research paper on the First Amendment
The Alonzo W. Watson, Jr. Scholarship	Commitment to public service and a strong interest in public policy.

## Journals

The following scholarly journals are published by students. Members of the journals are chosen from summer writing competitions following spring semester exams. Non-graded credit may be received for participating on a journal.<sup>14</sup>

The **Utah Law Review** is a journal of critical analysis and commentary on current legal problems. The law review is a student-run organization, with all editorial and organizational decisions made by student-editors enrolled at the S.J. Quinney College of Law. It publishes four issues throughout the year.<sup>15</sup>

The **Journal of Law & Family Studies** addresses topics relating to family and juvenile law as well as a broad variety of issues relevant to family law in a broader sense. JLFS publishes articles involving doctrinal, practical, and theoretical issues in family law as well as articles from various related disciplines including sociology, psychology, economics, family and consumer studies, and history. It is published at least twice a year.<sup>16</sup>

The **Utah Environmental Law Review** is a multi-disciplinary journal focusing on natural resources and environmental law and policy. It publishes manuscripts from legal, literary, scientific, and other disciplines concerned with environmental issues. JLREL is committed to promoting public education and dialogue on natural resource and environmental policy. It publishes two issues each year; a fall issue and a spring issue.<sup>17</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>18</sup>

The S.J. Quinney College of Law conducts the Traynor Moot Court. It is a one semester class open to all second- and third- year students during the spring semester. Teams of two research and write an appellate brief and participate in multiple rounds of oral argument. Preliminary rounds are judged by members of the local bar and judiciary. The final round is judged by the S.J. Quinney College of Law's David T. Lewis distinguished jurist in Residence and two other prominent judges. Final rounds are generally held in April.

The top six students from the Traynor Moot Court Competition are invited to represent the S.J. Quinney College of Law in the National Moot Court Competition as third-year students. Finalists in regional competitions advance to the national finals. Team members also receive credit for serving as brief judges of the Traynor Moot Court competition, which uses the same problem.

## Clinical Programs<sup>19-22</sup>

The S.J. Quinney College of Law offers a variety of clinical experiences. Each clinic relies on placing the student with a supervisor to work on real cases.

There are two clinics which are offered every semester to develop basic skills for and insights about the practice of law.

The **Judicial Clinic** places students to serve as “interns” or part-time clerks. Clinic students improve their skills in legal analysis, research, and writing as they carry out legal research and draft opinions on pending cases.

The **Civil Clinic** is designed to teach essential skills (interviewing, counseling, problem-analysis, negotiation) for the practice of law.

The following clinics focus on particular practice areas or service projects where all students in the class are simultaneously doing clinic work:

- Criminal Clinic
- Environmental Clinic
- Innocence Clinic
- New Ventures Clinic
- Public Policy Practicum

There are a variety of other clinical opportunities that permit students to add a live experience to a related course when that course is taught (or the following term). These include:

- Appellate Clinic with Appellate Practice class (Fall)
- Disability Clinic with Disability Law class (Fall)
- Elder Law Clinic with Elder Law class (Fall)
- Health Law Clinic with Health Law class (options in Fall and Spring)
- Hinckley International Clinic with POLS 6910 class (every term)
- Hinckley Washington DC Clinic with POLS 6911 class (every term)
- International Clinic with International Practice Class - requires prerequisites (every term; plan ahead!)
- Legislative Clinic with Legislative Process class (Fall) or Legislation class (Spring)
- Mediation Clinic with Mediation/Advanced Negotiation class (Spring)
- Victim's Rights Clinic with Rights of Crime Victims class (Spring)

Individual student-arranged clinics are accompanied by a directed study class.

## Placement Facts<sup>23</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$55,000 - \$100,000
Private sector - median	\$70,000
Public service - median	\$54,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	47.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	74.6%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	56.2%
Business and Industry	14.0%
Government	14.0%
Public Interest Organizations	4.1%
Judicial Clerkships	9.1%
Academia	2.5%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>24-26</sup>

### Externships

The paradigmatic one-semester **Judicial Externship** is 12 credit hours. Students performing a judicial externship are authorized to take the Judicial Process course, if offered, that semester. It involves regular placement with local judges. The extern program is limited to third-year students. The taking of any other law school course or participation in any other law school activity or program, for credit while performing a judicial externship requires approval, in advance, from the Clinical Director.

### Internships

#### Senior Lawyer Volunteer Project Summer Internship

Summer intern serves as a law clerk to the director of the Senior Lawyer Volunteer Project (SLVP), a program of Utah Legal Services, Inc.(ULS). The intern also works with the project paralegal, Utah Legal Services attorneys, and volunteer retired and active attorneys who regularly assist the Project. The internship lasts approximately 9 -10 weeks.

## Hinckley International Clinic

The Hinckley Institute of Politics International Program currently places students in full-time internships in key locations in more than 35 countries. The goal of the international program is to provide students with experience in global public policy, service, business, and politics as well as to foster greater understanding among peoples, cultures, and governments.

## Student Organizations<sup>27</sup>

- The Air & Waste Management Association
- American Constitution Society
- The Art Law Alliance
- ASUU - College of Law
- Business Law Society
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society
- International Law Society
- Jackie Chiles Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Minority Law Caucus
- Natural Resources Law Forum
- National Lawyers Guild
- OUTLaws
- PILO
- SBA
- Second Amendment Club
- Sports Law Club
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association
- Student Litigation Society
- Utah Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Women's Law Caucus

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12. <http://www.law.utah.edu/awards/#academic>
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14. <http://epubs.utah.edu/index.php/ulr/about/editorialPolicies#focusAndScope>
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RANK

44

# BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY J. REUBEN CLARK LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,2</sup>  
PO Box 28000  
Provo, Utah 84602

REGISTRAR'S PHONE  
801-422-4275

ADMISSIONS PHONE  
801-422-4277

MAIN PHONE  
801-422-4274

CAREER SERVICES PHONE  
801-422-3685

WEBSITE  
[www.law2.byu.edu](http://www.law2.byu.edu)

## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

Founded in 1973, the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University is fully accredited by the American Bar Association. BYU offers students varied learning experiences—from the Socratic method of teaching and problem solving to seminars requiring individual research to hands-on clinical experiences—and the sum of these experiences helps prepare students to become adept in the range of professional experiences that make up the practice of law.

The J. Reuben Clark Law School's curriculum is designed to enable students to master legal reasoning and to appreciate the institutions and traditions that have shaped American law. The school's faculty members help students analyze complex factual situations and distinguish relevant information while performing thorough analysis of legal issues. Students are also taught the finer skills of written and oral advocacy.

Compact classes with small student-teacher ratios make the analytical approach to legal education more effective as they allow the teachers to pay closer attention to individual students. The first-year course curriculum also allows each student to actively participate in small, closely knit sections.

Students in their second and third years complete a substantial writing project under the supervision of a faculty member, which is designed to develop their writing and reasoning skills. In addition, the law school offers other opportunities to aid students with developing their careers through externships, seminars, and simulation courses. BYU law graduates may sit for the bar exam in any state of their choice.

J. Reuben Clark Law School's students also interact with the community to explore their future contributions as attorneys dedicated to religious principles practicing "law in light."

The law school's Howard W. Hunter Law Library comprises around 477,000 volumes of study materials in a technologically well-equipped environment.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

15.1:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	158-165	3.4-3.81
Median*	162	3.75

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	753
Number accepted	218
Percentage accepted	29.0%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

The law school compiles an individual class rank for students in the top 15% of the class. Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act class ranking and cumulative grade point average records maintained by the law school are available to students. The law school compiles, and students may request, individual Student Progress Reports that disclose ranking to the middle of the class in 10% increments, with the remainder of the class listed as bottom 50%.

All courses and seminars are evaluated by numerical grades unless departure from that general policy is approved by the Curriculum Committee. Individual faculty members may determine whether to grade Directed Research on a numerical or pass/fail basis. There will be a minimum grade of 1.6 for complete non-performance and a maximum grade of 4.0.

### Pass/Fail

In a Pass/Fail-graded offering, a student may receive a grade of Pass, Low Pass, or Fail. A Low Pass will appear on the transcript as a grade of 2.7 per credit hour. A Fail will be recorded as a 1.6.

The law school follows a 4.0 grading scale with intervals of 0.1. The presumptive top grade in each class is 4.0, the grade point average required for graduation is 2.7, and the minimum grade for which credit will be given is 2.2.

The J. Reuben Clark Law School uses the following grading scale:

A	4.0	Superior
	3.9	
	3.8	
	3.7	
	3.6	Excellent
	3.5	
	3.4	
B	3.3	High Pass
	3.2	
	3.1	
	3.0	Pass
	2.9	
	2.8	
	2.7	
C	2.6	Low Pass
	2.5	
	2.4	
	2.3	
	2.2	
No credit	2.1	Failing
	2.0	
	1.9	
	1.8	
	1.7	
	1.6	

#### Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>

The median grade for all first-year courses at the J. Reuben Clark Law School must be 3.3. For a class of fewer than 10 students in all second- and third-year courses, the median grade must be 3.3.

In a particular course a deviation may occur occasionally, but in almost all years the median for that course must be 3.3.

A cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.7 is required for graduation.

#### Honors<sup>11</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 2% or GPA of at least 3.80 or higher

<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.60 to 3.79
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.45 to 3.59
Dean's List	GPA of 3.45 or higher

## Awards<sup>12</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
J. Reuben Clark Award	Committed to making a contribution to the community by dedicating part of their legal education to public interest or pro bono causes
John S. Welch Awards	Winners of the law school's co-curricular writing competition
A.H. Christensen Award	Excellency in oral advocacy
Hugh B. Brown Award	Class presentation and performance
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Contribution to the advancement of women in society
Foundation Press Award	Excellence in constitutional law
Margaret Rose Nielson Award	Best oralist in moot court competition
International Center for Law and Religious Studies Award	Service related to international religious freedom
Distinguished Clinical Practice Award	Exceptional commitment to clinical practice
Exceptional Service Award - Student Bar Association	Exceptional service to the Student Bar Association
Linda Anderson Trial Advocacy Competition Awards	Competition's champion, runner-up, and finalist
High Grade Awards	Excellence in law school
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence	Professional project in the bankruptcy area
ABA-BNA Award for Excellence	Excellence in IP Law
Humor in the Law Award	Who has kept their sense of humor
ABA State & Local Govt. Award	Highest grade in municipal law and land use courses
Schooley Outstanding Mediator Award	Excellence in mediation
Faculty Awards	Meritorious contribution & distinguished services
ALI/ABA Scholarship/Leadership Award	Combination of scholarship and leadership

## Journals

The **Brigham Young University Law Review** is a self-perpetuating organization comprised of second- and third-year students at the J. Reuben Clark Law School. Its goal is to produce a legal periodical for use by scholars, practitioners, and judges. Members of the law review contribute to this goal by editing and writing articles and by performing other tasks associated with its publication that are assigned periodically throughout the year. The law review publishes six issues each year. By preparing articles, notes, and

comments for publication, members of the review receive intensive legal writing and editing experience, which improves their ability to analyze and discuss legal issues and contributes significantly to the orderly development of the law.<sup>13</sup>

The **Brigham Young University Education and Law Journal**, a student-run journal, is solely committed to the field of education law. The J. Reuben Clark Law School and the Brigham Young University Department of Educational Leadership and Foundations jointly sponsor this journal, which is currently published biannually and addresses educational and legal issues affecting elementary, secondary, and higher education. The journal features work by many of the nation's top legal scholars, practitioners, administrators, educators, and students.<sup>14</sup>

The **Brigham Young University Journal of Public Law** is dedicated to publishing scholarly articles addressing topics in public law, including the relationships between governments and their citizens, associations among governments, and the effects of governmental entities upon society. It publishes two issues per year.<sup>15,16</sup>

The **Brigham Young University International Law & Management Review** is an interdisciplinary student-edited journal that solicits, edits, and publishes articles dealing with current issues in the fields of international law and management. It is a biannual publication. It regularly conducts research and editorial training workshops for student editors. In addition to editorial training, the editorial board's research editors train students in the unique skills required for international legal and management research.<sup>17,18</sup>

### Moot Court<sup>19</sup>

The basic requirement prior to joining a J. Reuben Clark Law School moot court team is to write an appellate brief and give an oral argument, and all first-year students participate in the 1L Moot Court Competition at this level. The 1L Moot Court Competition is the primary mechanism by which 1Ls apply to the team, and invitations to new team members will be extended during the summer. Brigham Young University's National Moot Court team is selected from second-year students who participate in an intra-school competition - the Rex E. Lee competition during the first semester. This team then represents the school in all regional and national ABA competitions during their third-year. These team members also become the editors and judges for all first-year competitions.<sup>20</sup>

Others who progress in the competition may apply to compete in other competitions around the country during winter semesters of their 2L and 3L years. In years past the law school has sent teams to ten different competitions around the country. These competitions often focus on specific topics, such as securities law, civil rights, or religious liberty.

Participation in the Moot Court program is an excellent opportunity for students to hone their brief writing and oral advocacy skills in preparation for their professional lives.

### Clinical Programs<sup>20</sup>

The law school provides opportunities for students to develop practical skills in three main programs: externships, LAWHELP seminars, and simulation courses.

LAWHELP seminars include a one-credit course on the topic, together with a one-credit practical experience externship. The LAWHELP seminars include elder law, domestic violence intervention, domestic relations, mediation, immigration, child advocacy, public lands & natural resources, advanced mediation, advanced community lawyering, judicial tribal courts, and appellate courts. Training in the development of practical skills is also provided by well-developed simulated courses in civil, criminal, appellate, and non-litigation situations. The law school maintains a complete audiovisual facility that allows students to self-critique and review with the professor.

## Placement Facts<sup>21</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$64,000 - \$107,500
Private sector - median	\$84,500
Public service - median	\$55,500

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	45.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	58.0%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	46.8%
Business and Industry	14.9%
Government	12.8%
Public Interest Organizations	6.4%
Judicial Clerkships	14.2%
Academia	3.5%
Unknown	1.4%

## Externships/Internships<sup>22, 23</sup>

### Externships

The law school's externship program aims at providing real-life experience for the school's law students following their first year of law study at BYU Law School. Students receive one credit for each 50 hours of work up to a maximum of six units (300 hours) during the summer or three units (150 hours) during a school term.

Most students work full-time for five weeks during the summer and earn four credits. However, the number of hours and dates of work are mutually arranged between the student and the employer. American Bar Association rules prohibit students from receiving compensation of any kind, apart from compensation for expenses paid out of the student's pocket (like parking and lunch expenses), while earning externship credit.

A student who wishes to complete an externship must submit a learning plan (a list of experiences he or she hopes to have during the externship) to the law school, besides performing work assignments and participating in the full range of activities available through the office. A supervising attorney provides work assignments and evaluates the student's performance.

### **Internships**

The J. Reuben Clark Law Society Internship Program provides a living stipend to one student each year that has distinguished him or herself in law school and is not engaged in paid employment for the summer. The program provides a stipend of \$3000 and the recipient is expected to work approximately six weeks at a public service agency, private non-profit organization, or on a self-initiated, independent service project.

### **Student Organizations<sup>24</sup>**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- American Constitution Society
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Association
- Environment, Energy, and Resources Society
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Government & Politics Legal Society
- Immigration Law Forum
- International Law Students Association
- Iron Justice Golf
- Jail Outreach
- Joint Degree Student Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society, BYU Student Chapter
- Latino/a Law Student Association
- Law & Economics
- Law Spouse Association
- Law School Choir
- Minority Law Students Association
- Native American Law Students Association
- Pacific Island Law Student Association
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Real Estate Law Society
- Spirit in the Law
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Bar Association
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association
- Women in the Law
- Writer's League

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RANK

44

# UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1,2</sup>

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE

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## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

The University of Colorado Law School was established in 1892. The law school is a charter member of the Association of American Law Schools and has been on the American Bar Association's list of approved law schools since its first publication in 1923. The school has a well-defined mission to create "a supportive and diverse community of scholars and students in a place that inspires vigorous pursuit of ideas, critical analysis, and civic engagement in order to advance the rule of law in an open sustainable society."

The University of Colorado School of Law teaches students to use the law, to research and analyze legal materials, to speak and write in an effective manner, and to evaluate arguments. The school's faculty constantly urges students to inquire into the purposes of specific laws and whether those purposes are being served. Most classes in the school are conducted primarily through discussion rather than lecture. The Socratic method of probing interchanges between student and professor still use effectively to teach critical analysis—thinking like a lawyer. Judicial opinions and statutes are studied, and the principles extracted are used in arguments about hypothetical situations. Other methods of instruction include research and writing, drafting of legal documents, seminars, and practical experience both in clinical programs involving actual clients and in simulations.

A plethora of active student organizations, rich externship opportunities, and a robust Public Service Pledge Program enable its students to foster Colorado Law's tradition of service.

The William A. Wise Law Library provides materials and services that support the instructional and research programs of the faculty and students of the law school. As the largest collection of legal information resources in the state of Colorado, the law library offers its resources and services to assist the university and legal communities and the public in meeting their needs for legal information.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

9.7:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	159-166	3.35-3.79
Median*	164	3.65

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	2,802
Number accepted	953
Percentage accepted	34.0%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

Through the spring of 2012 for JD students who matriculated before the fall 2010 semester, for the law school purposes only, a numerical system of grading shall be used in addition to the university's Plus/Minus grading system. For JD students who matriculate in the fall 2010 semester or later, only letter grades shall be assigned. Numerical grades, when given, shall be reported to the law school registrar for recording and shall be related to the university's Plus/Minus grading system for JD students as shown in the following table:

<b>University Plus/ Minus Grade</b>	<b>Credit Point Value</b>	<b>Law School Numerical Grade</b>
A	4.0	93 and above
A-	3.7	90-92
B+	3.3	86-89
B	3.0	83-85
B-	2.7	80-82
C+	2.3	76-79
C	2.0	73-75
C-	1.7	70-72
D+	1.3	66-69
D	1.0	63-65
D-	0.7	60-62
F	0.0	59 or below

### **Incomplete**

The grade I may be given if the instructor and the Dean's Office determine that

- i. an incomplete grade is appropriate because of serious illness of the student or for other equally justifiable reason; or
- ii. the scope of the work involved in the course is such that it is appropriate to extend the time for its completion beyond the end of the semester.

### **Pass/Fail**

All academic credit previously graded on a Pass/Fail basis, and any new academic credit when so designated by the faculty, will be graded (until otherwise changed) on a "Pass-graded" basis; however, the instructor of any clinical course or trial practice may, with notice prior to the start of the semester, grade such course on the same basis as other courses. "Pass-graded" means that the grade of Pass will be given when, in the judgment of the instructor, the quality and quantity of the work is such that on a graded basis such work would be equivalent to at least a C or 75. If the work does not receive a grade of Pass, it is assigned a letter and numerical grade between F or 50 and C- or 74 that the instructor has determined is appropriate.

### **Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>**

#### **Median Grades (through spring 2010, to expire thereafter)**

The median grade in all first-year courses and in all sectioned upper-division courses, including upper-division courses that may be offered in different semesters of the same academic year, must be 84, plus or minus one point. For all other graded courses and seminars, the recommended median is 84, plus or minus one point. The highest recommended grade is 96.

#### **Median Grades (beginning summer 2010, for students who matriculated before fall 2010 semester and visiting students, to expire after spring 2012)**

The median grade in all courses shall be 88, plus or minus one point.

#### **Median Grades (for students who matriculate Fall 2010 semester or later)**

The median grade in all courses shall be B+.

### **Honors<sup>11</sup>**

Students in the top 10% of each graduating class may be invited to join the Order of the Coif and Dean's List.

### **Awards<sup>12, 13</sup>**

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Scholarship and leadership qualities
Austin W. Scott, Jr. Award	Appellate advocacy oral argument award

Journal of Telecommunications and High Technology Law Stephen William Leadership Award	Leadership qualities
Meritorious Student Award	Contributed most to Law School community
Don W. Sears Award	Contribution to the classroom learning experience in each academic year
Edward C. King Award	Outstanding leadership and achievement exemplifying the ideals encouraged by Dean King
Reilly Pozner Award	Outstanding oral argument & trial skills
Legal Aid & Defender Award	Outstanding commitment & service
Gary C. Bryner Distinguished Service Award	Commitment for services
Irving P. Andrews Award	Outstanding achievement by a black graduate
West Publishing Company Book Award	Highest scholastic average for the academic year
Courtland H. Peterson Leadership Award	Outstanding scholarship, leadership, and contribution to the school's law review
Courtland H. Peterson Writing Award	Outstanding comment or case note published in the school's law review
James N. Corbridge Initiative Award	Outstanding leadership and contributed significantly to the journal
Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy Writing Recognition Award	Outstanding writing contributions to the journal
Joel H. Greenstein-Colorado Trial Lawyers Association Award	Excellence in trial performance
Natural Resources Award	Outstanding scholarship and service in natural resources and environmental law
Outstanding Asian Pacific American Law Graduate	Dedication and service to the Asian Pacific American community, a commitment to diversity, and leadership ability
Outstanding Latino/a Graduate	Recognize a graduating Latino or Latina student who exemplifies characteristics that every person should hope to attain
Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Law Graduate Award	Outstanding scholarship and service in Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Law
Outstanding Student Mentor Award	Outstanding scholarship and service in mentoring
Women's Law Caucus Award	Contributed most to women's issues during his or her law school career
Student Bar Association Sutcliffe Distinguished Service Award	Outstanding dedication and service to the law school community
Jim R. Carrigan Cup	Excellence national trial competition
Legal Clinic Awards	Outstanding commitment and service to the Clinical Education Program in the categories of criminal and civil programs

Getches-Wilkinson Center for Natural Resources, Energy, and the Environment Outstanding Student Award	Outstanding contribution to the Center's work
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## Journals

The **University of Colorado Law Review** is a journal of legal scholarship managed and edited by students and published four times a year. It covers all topics of legal importance. Students of the Law Review conduct independent legal research, prepare notes and comments for publication, edit the works of their fellow students, as well as articles and book reviews submitted by faculty members and other scholars. New members are selected by the student Board of Editors based in part on class standing and the quality of student essays submitted in a writing competition.<sup>14</sup>

The **Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy** is now known as the **Colorado Natural Resources, Energy & Environmental Law Review**. It is dedicated to examining the legal and policy implications of local, regional, and international environmental issues. Published twice per year, it is student run journal. It is an interdisciplinary publication featuring articles discussing the broad fields of natural resources, energy, and environmental law and policy.<sup>15,16</sup>

The **Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law** publishes articles related to telecommunications, technological convergence, intellectual property, and regulatory law. It was founded in 2001. *JTHTL* is closely affiliated with the Silicon Flatirons Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Annually, the Center hosts the nationally renowned Digital Broadband Migration symposium, submissions to which are published in the winter issue of *JTHTL*.<sup>17</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>18</sup>

University of Colorado School of Law students compete in moot court competitions to develop their skills in appellate brief writing and oral argument and to gain valuable trial practice experience. Dean's Fund and endowments provide financial assistance to support student participation in these competitions. University of Colorado teams have consistently been extremely competitive, garnering top awards from most of the competitions in which they participate. The Rothgerber Moot Court Competition is the law school's premier internal appellate advocacy challenge. Top Colorado Law students compete for honor and prizes in this traditional capstone event that showcases their talent.

Selection of teams varies by competition, and students may earn academic credit for their participation. Some of the moot court competitions include:

- Child Welfare & Adoption Law Moot Court Competition
- Constance Baker Motley National Moot Court Competition
- Hispanic National Bar Association's Annual Moot Court
- Inter-American Sustainable Development Moot Court Competition:
- Mardi Gras National Moot Court Competition

- National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- National Moot Court Competition in Child Welfare and Adoption Law
- National Telecommunications Moot Court Competition
- Native American Law Students Association Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- Saul Lefkowitz National Moot Court Competition

## Clinical Programs<sup>19</sup>

The University of Colorado School of Law offers the following clinical programs:

The **American Indian Law Clinic**, which provides quality legal representation to low-income Native American clients with specific Indian law-related problems. Every case accepted or project undertaken involves issues of federal Indian law or the law of a particular tribe. The clinic primarily focuses on cases or projects located in Colorado.<sup>20</sup>

Through the **Appellate Advocacy Practicum**, students have an opportunity to work with an attorney appointed to the case by the Alternate Defense Counsel of Colorado. It enables students to work directly on Appellant briefs in cases where appeals from serious felony convictions are pending before the Colorado Court of Appeals or Colorado Supreme Court. This practicum is for students who want detailed experience preparing a criminal appeal, with intensive writing and instruction in oral appellate advocacy.<sup>21</sup>

The **Civil Practice Clinic**, in which students render services to low-income clients in family law, social security disability, and immigration asylum cases. Participating students represent real clients in court proceedings. The Civil Practice Clinic is a yearlong course.<sup>22</sup>

The **Criminal Defense Clinic**, in which students can hone their legal skills in the area of criminal practice. Students in this clinic represent clients in actual cases in municipal and county courts primarily in Boulder and Jefferson County. The clinic provides high-quality legal services to clients and serves the community at large by providing legal assistance to those too poor to otherwise afford a lawyer.<sup>23</sup>

The **Criminal and Immigration Defense Clinic** offers law students the opportunity to represent indigent clients charged with misdemeanor and municipal offenses in Boulder and Jefferson Counties. The clinic provides high-quality legal services to clients and serves the community at large by providing legal assistance to those too poor to otherwise afford a lawyer.<sup>24</sup>

The **Entrepreneurial Law Clinic**, which provides students with supervised, practical experience in transactional law and offers valuable legal services to local entrepreneurs in need.<sup>25</sup>

The **Family Law Clinic** provides free legal services to low-income Coloradans who need help with family law matters such as divorces, issues related to parenting time, and child support. The clinic typically handles cases in Boulder.<sup>26</sup>

The **Juvenile Law Clinic** provides legal services for indigent children, youth, and families, in four metro counties. Children and families facing abuse, poverty, homelessness, and despair are among the neediest members of our community requiring quality legal representation. It is a two-semester course.<sup>27</sup>

The **Getches-Green Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic**, in which students work in a small environmental law practice representing public interest clients before administrative agencies, state and federal courts, and Congress and state legislatures. The clinic deals with environmental litigation concentrating on the protection of federal public lands, especially lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management and the US Forest Service.<sup>28</sup>

Through **Samuelson-Glushko Technology Law & Policy Clinic**, student practitioners provide assistance "in the public interest" on technology issues to regulatory entities, courts, legislatures, and standard-setting bodies.<sup>29</sup>

## Placement Facts<sup>30</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$50,000 - \$100,000
Private sector - median	\$70,000
Public service - median	\$50,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	33.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	64.2%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	40.6%
Business and Industry	14.4%
Government	11.9%
Public Interest Organizations	5.6%
Judicial Clerkships	23.8%
Academia	3.1%
Unknown	0.6%

## Externships/Internships<sup>31,32</sup>

The Labor and Employment Law course offers following externship/internship opportunities to students.

- US Equal Employment Opportunity Commission
- National Labor Relations Board
- Colorado Dept. of Labor and Employment/ Industrial Claim Appeals Office
- Various City Attorney's Offices (e.g., Arvada, Boulder, Denver, Greeley, Jackson Hole)
- Children's Hospital of Colorado
- Denver Museum of Nature and Sciences

- Office of the University Counsel, University of Colorado
- Various labor & employment law firms employing Colorado Law students in paid work, both part-time during the school year and full-time during summers.

## **Externships**

The Colorado Law externship program is offered year-round (fall, summer, and spring semesters). Students may only extern at government or non-profit organizations and agencies. Students may work in all three branches of the government, at all three levels of government, including state and federal judicial chambers, executive agencies, and congressional offices. Students may also extern with nonprofit organizations. Externship sponsors are not limited to agencies and organizations that have sponsored externs in the past.

This program is administrated by the experiential learning program coordinator in the office of career development.

## **Student Organizations<sup>33</sup>**

- American Bar Association-Law Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Association (BLA)
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Class of 2011
- Class of 2012
- Class of 2013
- Colorado Election Law Project (CELP)
- Construction and Real Estate Law Association (CRELA)
- Doman Society of International Law
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
- Health Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Juvenile and Family Law Club
- Latino Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Alternative Dispute Resolution Club (LADR)
- Military Law Society
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association
- OUTlaw, the GLBT & Allies Law Student Group
- Public Interest Students Association (PISA)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Student Association (SELSA)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)

- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Technology and Intellectual Property Society (TIPS)
- Women's Law Caucus

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RANK

**46**

# UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

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Gainesville, FL 32611-7621

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## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

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## WEBSITE

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## Overview<sup>3-6</sup>

The University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law was founded in 1909. It is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools. It is dedicated to advancing human dignity, social welfare, and justice through knowledge of the law.

The Levin College of Law combines traditional and innovative teaching methods to provide a dynamic professional program. Its curriculum is designed to develop students' analytical ability, practical knowledge, communication skills, and understanding of the codes of responsibility and ethics that are central to the practice of law. Students also may enroll in certificate programs offered in several popular practice areas. The faculty at the school employs a variety of teaching methods, including the traditional case and Socratic methods, as well as problems, simulations, and role-playing. Courses designed to develop and refine students' writing abilities are required each year. Seminars and advanced courses provide close interaction and individualized research. Clinical programs (simulated and live) allow students to develop skills in the context of real cases.

Levin College of Law's Legal Information Center is open to the public. Only UF students, faculty and staff have borrowing privileges, but any member of the public may use the resources in the library.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

13.4:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	160-164	3.33-3.73
Median*	161	3.59

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications	2,687
Number accepted	897
Percentage accepted	33.40%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9,10</sup>

Two official class rankings are available during a student's Levin College of Law tenure, after completion of the first year and upon graduation. The end-of-first-year ranking is calculated based on cumulative grade point average compared with the averages of other students of the same matriculation date.

Grades are recorded permanently by the Office of the University Registrar. A student's grade point average is determined by computing the ratio of grade points of semester hours of work attempted in courses in which letter grades are assigned. Students receive grade points according to the following scale:

A (Excellent)	4.0
A	3.67
B+	3.33
B (Good)	3.0
B -	2.67
C+	2.33
C (Satisfactory)	2.0
C -	1.67
D+	1.5
D (Poor)	1.0
D -	0.67
E (Failure)	0.0

Grades of S (Satisfactory) and U (Unsatisfactory) are given in a few courses and are not computed into the GPA. A grade of S is equal to a C or better. I (Incomplete) or N (No Grade) grades recorded on a student record indicate the nonpunitive initial-term receipt of an I or N. A grade of I or N is not considered a failing grade for the term in which it is received, and it is not computed in the grade point average. However, if the I or N has not been changed by the end of the next term for which the student is enrolled, it will be counted as a failing grade and used in computation of the grade point average. I and N grades are not assigned to graduating students; they receive grades of I or NG.

An Incomplete grade may be assigned at the discretion of the instructor as an interim grade for a course in which the student has (1) completed a major portion of the course with a passing grade, (2) been unable to complete course requirements prior to the end of the term because of extenuating circumstances, and (3) obtained written agreement from the instructor and arranged for resolution of the Incomplete grade.

Instructors are not required to assign Incomplete grades. The grade of W (Withdrawn) may appear when a student drops a course during the semester or is permitted to withdraw without penalty.

### Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>11, 12</sup>

In general, faculty policy specifies that the mandatory mean grade for all seminars and course sections in which more than 25 students are enrolled must fall between 3.15 and 3.25 (inclusive). The mean grade for a course section is required to fall within the specified range. If 25 or fewer students are enrolled in a seminar or course section, the mean grade may not be higher than 3.6. The higher mean grade for courses in which there are 25 or fewer students is recommended rather than mandatory but in no event may the mean grade exceed 3.60.

The minimum grade for passing a course in the Juris Doctor program is a "D-" or "S."

### Honors<sup>13</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	The top 10% of a blend of all graduating classes—summer, fall, and spring—per fiscal year are chosen for this award upon faculty approval
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.90 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.70 or higher
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.30 or higher
Dean's List	GPA of 3.30 or higher
Book Awards	Based on exam grades

### Awards

The University of Florida Fredric G. Levin College of Law has not provided a list of specific awards.

### Journals

The ***Florida Law Review*** is a legal periodical produced and edited exclusively by students of the Levin College of Law. It publishes five issues yearly containing articles written by legal scholars and practitioners, as well as student comments and notes. In addition to publishing a legal journal, the review annually sponsors the Dunwody Distinguished Lecture in Law. This lecture is then published in a later issue of the *Florida Law Review*. Entirely student-edited, the *Florida Law Review* publishes articles, essays, lectures, and other scholarly work from professors, practitioners, and students from across the country and around the globe. The *Florida Law Review* also arranges the Allen L. Poucher Legal Education Series.<sup>14, 15</sup>

The ***University of Florida Journal of Law and Public Policy*** is an interdisciplinary, nonpartisan organization devoted to the study of, commentary on, and analysis of domestic legal and social issues. Founded in 1987, the journal fosters contemporary discourse on judicial decisions, legislation, law reform, and other legal and social issues facing public policy decision makers. Each published issue contains analytical and thought-

provoking articles written by lawyers, judges, scholars, and public officials. The journal is published three times per year. It extends invitations for membership to the top 10% of each class after the completion of the first-year law curriculum and to the winners of the book awards in Legal Research Writing or Appellate Advocacy. Additionally, the journal holds a comment-writing competition each semester that allows law students and students from all University of Florida graduate programs to compete for journal membership.<sup>16</sup>

The **Florida Journal of International Law** is a legal journal devoted to timely discussion of legal issues relating to international, maritime, comparative and foreign law. The journal publishes three times a year. It selects its editorial board and staff from the top 10% of students at the Levin College of Law and based on open writing competitions. It is a student-run publication.<sup>17,18</sup>

Published twice per year, the **Journal of Technology Law & Policy** is a scholarly legal journal devoted to the discussion of relevant technology issues, including patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, antitrust law, information privacy, and computer law. It is published both in print and online. Membership is limited to students at the Levin College of Law, who exclusively review and edit the journal under the supervision and guidance of a Levin College of Law faculty advisor. Students in their third, fourth, and fifth semesters are eligible for membership based on outstanding academic achievement or writing ability.<sup>19</sup>

The **Florida Tax Review** publishes articles dealing with significant issues of tax law and policy. The review focuses on a wide range of timely and important tax topics. Each volume of the Florida Tax Review consists of ten issues, which are distributed through Tax Analysts. A special invitational issue is devoted to an annual international tax symposium. It annually awards fellowships to a number of Graduate Tax Students who assist the faculty editorial board. It is a faculty-edited academic law review, is published by the Graduate Tax Program of the University of Florida College of Law.<sup>20</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>21,22</sup>

The **Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court Board** holds an annual intramural competition each summer. The intramural competition affords rising 2L law students the opportunity to compete for membership on the Moot Court team. Competitors submit an appellate brief and argue the case twice before a mock tribunal. Of those selected for the team, the top four competitors are chosen to compete in the annual Moot Court Final Four Competition.

The **Florida Moot Court** team governed by the Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court Board participates in intramural, state and national appellate competitions. New members are selected each fall from all third semester students who have completed appellate advocacy and be in good academic standing.

During the summer and early fall, the board holds a try-out competition which requires interested students to write an appellate brief and then present two oral arguments before a panel of student / faculty judges. The competition is sponsored by the Orlando firm of Zimmerman, Kiser & Sutcliffe, P.A., and the law firm Holland & Knight LLP.

## Clinical Programs<sup>23-26</sup>

Clinical programs of the law school offer real-world experience for students while benefiting the surrounding community. Currently, the following categories encompass eight clinics within the UF Law community:

- Criminal Law Clinics
- Conservation Clinic
- Virgil D. Hawkins Civil Clinics

**Virgil D. Hawkins Civil Clinics:** It gives students an opportunity to represent indigent clients with their family law problems, advocate for children in many different settings, become a county court mediator, and work on other real-life lawyering challenges. Real world legal work is paired with practical classroom instruction. The individual clinics within this program are

- County Court Mediation Clinic
- Family Advocacy Clinic
- Gator Team Child Juvenile Law Clinic
- Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Clinic

**Criminal Law Clinics:** It provides students with an opportunity to defend indigent clients charged with criminal offenses through the Office of the Public Defender. Students get an opportunity to perform as interns in the actual practice of law under the direct supervision of a licensed Assistant State Attorneys. The individual clinics within this program are

- Criminal Defense Clinic
- Prosecution Clinic

**Conservation Clinic:** The clinic provides upper level environmental law students and graduate students in conservation related fields with exposure to environmental and land use professional practice, applied research and public policy analysis under the supervision of the instructor/clinic director. Students from the college of law and relevant departments within the graduate school work in teams to provide quality professional services to governmental, non-governmental and the private sector clients to advance local, state, national, and international conservation objectives.

## Placement Facts<sup>27</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$54,000 - \$100,000
Private sector - median	\$70,000
Public service - median	\$41,500

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	35.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	64.8%

## **Areas of Legal Practice**

<b>Practice Employed In</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Law Firms	54.6%
Business and Industry	14.8%
Government	11.6%
Public Interest Organizations	8.9%
Judicial Clerkships	6.5%
Academia	3.3%
Unknown	0.3%

## **Externships/Internships<sup>28-30</sup>**

### **Externships**

The externships available through the Levin College of Law offer opportunities for students to combine substantive study with practical experience. All placements are available throughout Florida and the United States with government agencies, in judges' chambers, and nonprofit organizations; and in for-profit corporations; thus, the school's externs also provide valuable service to the community.

To enroll in an externship program students must have completed their first year of law school with good academic records. Externship programs should be approved by the College of Law Curriculum Committee and proposed by a faculty member. The externship position should be unpaid. A student may not participate in an externship and a clinic in the same semester. Externships are graded Pass/Fail.

### **Internship**

While participating in the **Criminal Law Clinics**, students intern at the actual offices of the State Attorney or the Public Defender while also attending clinical lectures and simulation-based classes. Students need Legal Intern Certification (CLI) and must become certified by the Florida Supreme Court for practice in the Criminal and most Civil clinics.

## **Student Organizations<sup>31</sup>**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Competition Team
- American Bar Association-Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Animal Law Association
- Art Law Society
- Asian & Pacific American Law Student Association
- Association for Law and Business
- Association of Public Interest Law
- Black Law Students Association, W. George Allen Chapter

- Caribbean Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Eighth Judicial Circuit Law Student Association (EJCLSA)
- Entertainment & Sports Law Society
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Florida Association for Women Lawyers
- Florida Journal of International Law
- Florida Law Review
- Gators for Alternative Dispute Resolution (GADR)
- GreenLAW: Environmental and Land Use Law Society
- Health Care Law Society
- Immigration Law Association (ILA)
- Intellectual Property & Technology Law Association
- International Commercial Arbitration Moot (ICAM)
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Journal of Technology Law and Policy
- Latino/a Law Student Association (LLSA)
- Law Association for Women
- Law College Council
- Law School Democrats [e-mail]
- Law School Republicans
- Law Student Division of The Florida Bar
- Military Law Student Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Outlaw
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Environmental Conference (PIEC)
- Real Property Group
- South Asian Law Society
- The Association for Tax Law
- The Florida Moot Court Team
- The Florida Tax Moot Court Team
- Trial Team
- Trusts and Estates Law Society
- University of Florida Jessup International Law Moot Court
- University of Florida Journal of Law & Public Policy
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

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RANK  
**47**

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS COLLEGE OF LAW

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## Overview<sup>2-5</sup>

The University of Illinois College of Law is a place not only to learn the law but also to gain a full understanding of it. The mission of the law school is to train well-rounded, critical, and socially conscious individuals to become outstanding lawyers.

Established in 1897, the University of Illinois College of Law was a charter member of the Association of American Law Schools and was the home of the founding chapter of the law honor society now known as the Order of the Coif. The school has specialized expertise in the areas of business and commercial law, employment law, environmental law, intellectual property law, international and comparative law, public interest law, and taxation law.

In addition to legal studies, University of Illinois law students enjoy a variety of learning opportunities that apply principles to practice. Analytical thinking, problem solving, research, pretrial and trial skills, negotiation, and interviewing are critical skills needed for real-world success. Encountering a breadth of practice experiences during law school also helps develop the increasingly important ability to practice law in and with diverse cultures at home and around the globe.

The University of Illinois College of Law offers scholarly areas of research, teaching, and coursework, which are called "specialty programs." These are not majors or concentrations in the traditional sense but areas of academic interest and strength within the law school.

Complementing a full array of courses are writing and editing responsibilities for scholarly journals, participation in clinical programs and competitions ranging from moot courts to trial teams to negotiation, opportunities for involvement in organizations, and invitations to study abroad. A robust schedule of lectures and conferences provides regular opportunities for lively student involvement in question-and answer sessions with renowned legal scholars and prominent members of the judiciary. The law school's environment is both collaborative and challenging while traditional and progressive. The faculty is also very accessible and accomplished. They are well-connected, well-published legal experts who care about students and teaching.

The all-inclusive learning environment at the University of Illinois College of Law features dining facilities, a bookstore, a student lounge, wireless computing areas, and a computer lab. The Albert E. Jenner Jr. Memorial Law Library has access to thousands of electronic legal information sources and offers students, faculty, and members of the community excellent legal academic resources.

## **Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>6</sup>**

12.3:1

## **Admission Criteria<sup>7</sup>**

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	156-168	3.23-3.73
Median*	163	3.55

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## **Admission Statistics**

Approximate number of applications	2,699
Number accepted	1,167
Percentage accepted	43.2%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## **Class Ranking and Grades<sup>8</sup>**

The University of Illinois College of Law neither computes nor discloses individual class rankings. After each semester, the cumulative GPA (CGPA) for each JD class (1L, 2L, 3L) at the cutoffs for top 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, and top one-third are published.

The following grading scale is used by the law school:

A+,A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D+	1.33
D	1.00

D-	0.67
F	0.00

### "I" or "DFR" Grades

If a student cannot complete required coursework by the time grades are due in circumstances attributable to good cause, the instructor may enter a grade of "I" (Incomplete) or "DFR" (Deferred). Students should be aware that the presence of an "I" or "DFR" on their transcript, until remedied, prevents them from qualifying for academic honors and prevents them from graduating. In addition, students on academic probation will not be allowed to register for courses as long as they have any "I" or "DFR" grades on their records. If the "I" or "DFR" grade is not replaced by a letter grade by the last day of classes of the next semester (excluding summer sessions), the Student Records Office is required to automatically convert the grade to an "F" (failure).

CGPA of 2.0 on a 4.0-point scale is required for continuation as a JD student at the law school and for graduation.

### Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>9</sup>

The College of Law does not impose a mandatory grading curve on any law class. The faculty, however, has adopted the following recommended curve for JD student grades:

- a. For all first-year courses: a mean course GPA for JD students of approximately 3.2, with at least 20% of the JD students receiving a grade of A- or higher.
- b. For all upper-level courses with at least 20 JD students enrolled: a mean course GPA for JD students between 3.2 and 3.4.

### Honors<sup>10</sup>

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of at least 3.75
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of at least 3.50
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of at least 3.25
Harno Scholars	Top 10% in each semester
Dean's List	Top 11%-30% in each semester

### Awards<sup>11</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Dykema Scholarship	Outstanding 1st year minority student

CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Highest grade in each course
Cook County Circuit Court Honors Externship Program	Earned Honors or High Honors distinctions in the first-semester Legal Research and Writing class
Harker Prize	Ranked number one after the first year
Robert E & Jane C. Ferris Scholarship	Outstanding student preservation of proper
H.H.Harris Foundation/Charles Hough	Excellency in Law
Rickert Awards	Excellence within a variety of academic, advocacy, and community-building activities
Larry Travis Bushong Writing Award	Best student paper on gay and lesbian issues
Honorary Round Best Oralist	Best oralist in the Moot Court Honorary Round
Joseph M. Barich Award	Excellence in Patent Law
J. Nelson Young Tax Award	Academic excellence in taxation
Student Scholar Award	Academic excellence
Ellen Daar Kerschner Memorial Scholarship	Outstanding female student
Class of 1996 Public Service Award	Public service commitment
Jenner & Block Minority Scholar	Outstanding 1st Year Minority Student
H.H.Harris Foundation/Charles Hough	Excellence in Law
Christian Law Award	Excellence in Law
Ward F. McDonald Scholarship	Excellence in Real Estate Law

## Journals

The **University of Illinois Law Review** is published five times per year by students of the University of Illinois College of Law. The student-edited review provides practitioners, judges, professors, and law students with analyses of important topics in the law. It is generally regarded as one of the preeminent law reviews in the country. Students may be invited to become a member based on a writing competition held before the beginning of the fall semester or by writing a note that is selected for publication in the law review.<sup>12</sup>

The **Elder Law Journal** is published twice annually by students of the University of Illinois College of Law. It is dedicated to addressing elder law issues and publishes manuscripts that not only address policy decisions but also serve as guides to attorneys practicing in the field. The journal helps attorneys who advise clients on estate planning, living wills, arrangements for long-term nursing care, qualifying for Medicaid, and other areas of law pertinent to the elderly, as well as professionals in fields such as social work, gerontology, ethics, and medicine.<sup>13</sup>

The **University of Illinois Journal of Law, Technology & Policy** is a peer-reviewed, biannual publication of the University of Illinois College of Law. It features articles that address the societal impact of technology, legal and regulatory regimes that govern technology, intellectual property issues posed by technology, the use of technology to vindicate societal goals, and ethics and technology. It is a unique forum for the discussion of issues at the intersection of law, technology, and policy. The Journal is available in print, online by subscription, and is indexed by Hein Online, LEXIS and Westlaw.<sup>14</sup>

The **Comparative Labor Law & Policy Journal** was founded in 1976. It provides a venue for the very best scholarship regarding the comparative analysis of labor law, employment policy, and social security issues. In 1997, the journal moved to the University of Illinois, where it was given its current name and its editorial advisory board broadened to better reflect its mission. With an extensive worldwide circulation, the journal has become a major international forum for research—theoretical and applied—in an area of growing importance to the developed and in the developing world. It is a publication of the University of Illinois College of Law and the United States branch of the International Society for Labor Law and Social Security.<sup>15</sup>

The **Illinois Business Law Journal** is a production of the University of Illinois College of Law's Business Law Society. It is inspired by an innovative trend in legal publication in which weblog technology is being utilized to allow faculty, students, and professionals to interact in a novel way, providing a unique complement to traditional law reviews. The purpose of the journal is to provide the casual reader with information on recent developments affecting business law.<sup>16</sup>

The **Illinois Law Update** is a column written by law students. These students are chosen from among the top legal writing students in the college. It focuses on recent developments in Illinois law. It is published monthly in the Illinois Bar Journal.<sup>17</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>18</sup>

The University of Illinois College of Law offers both internal and external moot court opportunities to its students. All second- and third-year students are eligible to participate in internal and external moot court competitions. Students can participate in following competitions:

- Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition
- Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition
- Frederick Green Moot Court Competition
- Hispanic National Bar Association Moot Court Competition
- Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition

## Clinical Programs<sup>19</sup>

The University of Illinois College of Law offers clinical programs where students solve real problems for actual clients. These programs provide hands-on experience and draw directly from the knowledge and skills gained in the classroom. There are in-house clinics and field placement clinics. All of the clinics provide free legal services to individuals and organizations that would not otherwise have access to legal representation.

The law school's in-house clinics are as follows:

- Civil Litigation Clinic
- Community Preservation Clinic
- Conflict Resolution Clinic

- Elder Financial Justice Clinic
- Family Advocacy Clinic
- Federal Civil Rights Clinic

The law school's field placements clinics include the following:

- Appellate Defender
- Appellate Prosecutor
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Innocence Project
- Legislative Projects
- Patent Law Clinic

## Placement Facts<sup>20</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$55,000 - \$145,000
Private sector - median	\$73,725
Public service - median	\$55,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	36.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	56.3%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	44.7%
Business and Industry	19.7%
Government	17.1%
Judicial Clerkships	5.9%
Public Interest Organizations	6.6%
Academia	5.9%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>21</sup>

### Externships

In the University of Illinois College of Law's externship programs, under the direct supervision of attorneys, students complete assignments such as interviewing clients and witnesses; researching legal questions; preparing pleadings, discovery motions, and briefs; and, in some instances, trying cases.

## **Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>**

- American Bar Association (ABA) - Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) - College of Law Chapter
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Asian American Law Students Association (AALSA)
- Bite of the Big Apple Law Student Association (BBALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Chicago Bar Association (CBA) - Student Division
- China Practice Student Association (CPSA)
- Christian Law Students Association (CLSA)
- Corporate and Business Law Association (CBLA)
- Criminal Law Society (CLS)
- Critical Thinkers Society (CTS)
- Education Law and Policy Society (ELPS)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- External Competition Team (ECT)
- Federalist Society (Federalists)
- Government Interest Law Association (GILA)
- Health Law Society (HLS)
- Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) - Student Division
- Immigration Law Society (IMLS)
- Intellectual Property Legal Society (IPLS)
- International Commercial Arbitration Team (VICAT)
- International Law Society (ILS)
- Internet and Technology Law Association (ITLA)
- Italian-American Law Students Association (ITALSA)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society (Reuben Clark Society)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Labor and Employment Law Society (LELS)
- Latino/Latina Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Law and Entrepreneurship Association (LEA)
- Law School Basketball (LSB)
- Law Student Labor Action Coalition (LSLAC)
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Lone Star Law Student Association (LSLSA)
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- Myra Bradwell Association for Women Law Students (WLS)
- OUTLAW (Sexual Orientation and Legal Issues Society)
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity (PAD)
- Prisoners' Rights Research Project (PRRP)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Racquetball Association (RA)
- Real Estate Law Society (RELS)

- Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS)
- Street Law (SL)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Legal Relief (SLR)

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RANK

**48**

# FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

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## CAREER SERVICES PHONE

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## WEBSITE

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## Overview<sup>4-6</sup>

The College of Law offers an excellent legal education with a strong liberal arts orientation. Its three-year course is rich and diverse. It begins with traditional courses along with the latest in theoretical and interdisciplinary analyses. Its structured curriculum provides students with the opportunity to obtain a broad and interdisciplinary exposure to different areas of law.

It offers students a dynamic program in three areas: environmental law, international law, and business. Students may earn certificates in these areas. Its clinical externship and study abroad program are designed to enhance the legal education of students. It annually sponsors a five-and-a-half-week summer semester of legal studies at the University of Oxford in England. Its International Exchange Programs with four universities allow students to attend a semester in Australia, The Netherlands, and China.

In cooperation with other colleges, schools and departments at Florida State University the law school offers joint-degree programs. Students can earn two degrees concurrently, the juris doctor and a master's degree.

Florida State University Research Center supports completely the scholarly pursuits of the faculty and students of the College of Law. The collection of nearly 500,000 volumes and volume-equivalents includes the basic sources of U.S. and British law as well as international law. The Research Center offers classes in International Legal Research, Environmental Legal Research, and Business, Economics and Tax Law Research.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>7</sup>

12.7

## Admission Criteria<sup>8</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	157-162	3.29-3.73
Median*	160	3.54

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics

Approximate number of applications 2,499

Number accepted 834

Percentage accepted 33.4%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9</sup>

A class ranking for each law school class is calculated once a year. The law school does not publicly publish or display class rankings.

The following numeric and letter grades are used by the law school and are shown on a student's official grade transcript:

A +	98-100	S+: Distinguished Satisfactory Work (hour credit only)
A	93-97	S, S-: Satisfactory (hour credit only)
A-	90-92	U: Unsatisfactory (no credit)
B+	86-89	I: Incomplete
B	80-85	
B-	77-79	AD: Administrative Disenrollment (no credit)
C+	74-76	AF: Administrative F (numeric grade = 60)
C	69-73	WD: Withdrawn from course by permission
C-	65-68	W: Withdrawn from College/University
D	62-64	
F	60-61	

A student's official grade point average and class rank are determined using the student's numeric grades, not letter grades.

### Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) Grading Option

A student may elect to enroll in a law school course on an S/U basis. This option is not available to first-year students. An upper-level student may elect to take any course on an S/U basis, except a required course and may elect only one course each semester under the S/U option.

## Incomplete Grades

If a student has not completed all assigned course work at the time that grades are submitted an interim grade of Incomplete (I) may be assigned by the instructor. All incomplete coursework must be completed by the end of the next academic term. It will otherwise become an Administrative F (AF) and will result in a numeric grade of 60 in a graded course or an Unsatisfactory in an ungraded course.

## Grade Normalization (Curve)<sup>10</sup>

All grades awarded are subject to the following grade normalization rules.

**Mandatory curve:** In every class the median grade awarded must be in between 79 to 81 and the distribution of the final grades awarded in the class must fall within the following percentages:

45-55%	93-100	5-15%, with < 3% for 98-100
	86-92	10-25%
	80-85	20-35%
45-55%	74-79	20-35%
	67-73	10-25%
	60-66	5-20%, except 0-20% for Legal Writing

The term "class" refers to a particular section of a course and not to multiple sections even when an instructor teaches more than one section of a course, except that a professor who teaches two sections of a course together as one class shall curve both sections together.

**Class profile option:** In any upper-level class that either (a) is classified as satisfying the Upper Level Writing Requirement, or (b) has an enrollment of 16 or fewer students, the instructor may elect to award final grades in the class under the class profile option in lieu of the curve. Under the class profile option, the mean (i.e., average) of the grades awarded in the class must not vary from the mean grade point average of the students enrolled in the class by more than six ( $\pm 6$ ) points. In any other upper-level class that has an enrollment of 17 to 34, the instructor may elect to award final grades in the class under the class profile option in lieu of the curve. Under the class profile option, the mean (i.e., average) of the grades awarded in the class must not vary from the mean grade point average of the students enrolled in the class by more than three ( $\pm 3$ ) points. The registrar, prior to each examination period, calculates the mean GPA of each class eligible for the class profile option and report it to the instructor.

## Honors<sup>11, 12</sup>

Honor		GPA Required
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Highest Honors	93.000 or above
<i>magna cum laude</i>	High Honors	89.000 to 92.999
<i>cum laude</i>	Honors	84.000 to 88.999
Dean's List		86.000 or above

## Awards<sup>13</sup>

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Book Award Recognition	Highest grades in each course each semester

## Journals

The **Florida State University Law Review** includes scholarly articles authored by judges, scholars, clerks, attorneys, and law students. The law review is the flagship legal journal of the law school and is edited and staffed by students. It publishes four issues annually. It also publishes the annual prestigious Ladd Lecture and exemplary notes and comments written by students. It regularly publishes symposia including articles by leading figures in specialized fields of the law.<sup>14, 15</sup>

The **Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law** publishes articles by policy makers and members of the legal and academic communities as well as outstanding student articles. The journal sponsors two distinguished lecturers to highlight developments in state, national and international environmental law every year. It is published twice a year, fall and spring.<sup>16, 17</sup>

The **Journal of Transnational Law and Policy** publishes articles on human rights, comparative law, trade and economics, foreign investment law, public and private international law, and US foreign policy. The journal provides students the opportunity to write, edit, and research on a broad range of international law topics. The journal is supported by the Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Chair in International Law and co-sponsors speakers in international law. It is published once a year.<sup>18, 19</sup>

## Moot Court<sup>20, 21</sup>

The Moot Court team is composed of 30 upper-class students. Each spring, 16 new team members are selected, which includes 14 from the first-year class and two from the second-year class. Team members attend at least two competitions over the course of their membership. New 2L team members compete in the Orseck Workers Compensation Competition during the summer between their second and third years of law school, and then compete in an additional tournament during their third year.

Students are chosen during the three-day annual Judges John S. Rawls and James R. Wolf Intramural Moot Court Competition. All 1L and 2L law students are eligible to try out. Selection is based on a combination of the written brief score and the oral argument score from three rounds. Each year, the top four scoring first-year students are chosen from the annual intramural competition to compete in the Final Four Competition.

The Florida State Law team competes annually in many regional and national moot court competitions, and on occasion in international competitions. Individual team coaches are drawn from the faculty, alumni, and surrounding legal community.

## Clinical Programs<sup>22</sup>

The Public Interest Law Center trains second- and third-year law students in legal advocacy, with an emphasis on mentoring, small group discussions and role playing. Students interview clients, conduct discovery, draft pleadings and represent clients in a variety of legal forums. Through its three live-client clinics – the **Children's Advocacy Clinic, the Family Law Clinic** and the **Medical-Legal Partnership** – the Public Interest Law Center provides students with practical skills training and management skills that they will continue to use as practicing attorneys.

## Placement Facts<sup>23</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$52,500-\$91,725
Private sector - median	\$65,625
Public service - median	\$48,102

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	23.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	78.9%

### Areas of Legal Practice

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	46.6%
Business/Industry	14.2%
Government	23.3%
Public Interest Organization	5.9%
Judicial Clerkships	6.7%
Academia	2.4%
Unknown	0.8%

## Externships/Internships<sup>24, 25</sup>

### Externships

Through its most extensive externship programs, students earn academic credit while working under the supervision of practicing attorneys. Its clinical externship program places students in more than 100 offices throughout Florida and elsewhere. Students may even select international externships in locations around the world including London, The Hague, and Botswana. Many of its externships involve the practice of law, which requires students to be certified by the Florida Supreme Court. This certification is beneficial during and after law school. These programs provide more academic credit, so students are more engaged in actual law practice and gain more valuable experience.

Externships are available to eligible students who have completed 48 credits of law studies. Externships include:

- Judicial Programs
- Criminal Justice Programs
- Civil Programs
- Legal Services Programs
- Appellate Programs
- International Programs

### **Internships**

The law school offers internships in one of Tallahassee's 500-plus law firms, courts, the Governor's Office, the Florida Legislature or one of Tallahassee's many state agencies. Students have a wide variety of Internships opportunities from which to choose.

### **Student Organizations<sup>26</sup>**

- Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights (AIRR)
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Association for Criminal Justice
- Aviation & Space Law Society
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Society (BLS)
- Business Review
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- CityHackers
- Cuban American Bar Association (CABA)
- Democratic Law Student Association (DLSA)
- Dispute Resolution Society (DRS)
- Entertainment, Art, and Sports Law Society (EASL)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Estate Planning and Elder Law Society
- Federalist Society
- FSU Law Review
- Health Law Society
- International Law Students Association (ILSA)
- JD Activities without Stress (JAWS)
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Journal of Land Use and Environmental Law (JLUEL)
- Journal of Transnational Law & Policy (JTLP)
- Law Dawgs
- Law School Council

- Law School Golf Association
- Lawtinos
- LitiGators
- Mock Trial Team
- Moot Court Team
- OUTLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Law Students Association (PILSA)
- Real Estate Law Society (RELS)
- Republican Law Students Association (RLSA)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Associaton (SBA)
- Student Federal Bar Associaton
- The Florida Bar YLD - Law Students Division
- Transfer Students Organization
- Wine Law Society
- Women's Law Symposium (WLS)

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RANK

48

## SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY (DEDMAN)

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1-3</sup>

Southern Methodist University  
SMU Dedman School of Law  
3315 Daniel Avenue, Dallas, Texas

MAIN PHONE

214-768-8617

WEBSITE

[www.law.smu.edu](http://www.law.smu.edu)

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

214-768-2552

ADMISSIONS PHONE

214-768-2550

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

214-768-2797



### Overview<sup>4,5</sup>

SMU Dedman School of Law is a global law school community of distinguished alumni residing throughout the United States and in more than 75 countries.

The law school is situated on a beautiful tree-lined campus in an upscale residential neighborhood located just minutes from the heart of downtown Dallas. The school's selective admissions process creates a small, close-knit student body, with students enjoying an environment of constructive competition and camaraderie.

The law school's faculty is well-recognized for its outstanding teaching and scholarly leadership in such areas as dispute resolution (including litigation), international and comparative law, intellectual property, corporate, commercial and tax law. The school offers a rich curriculum of over 165 upper class courses in subjects such as oil and gas, health and environmental law. Over one-half of its upper class courses have fewer than 25 students; three-fourths have fewer than 50 students. The first year class is divided into three sections of approximately 90 students each, with small legal writing sections of approximately 25 students each. The school emphasizes the vital skill of legal writing through its six-hour legal research, writing and advocacy course and an elective three-hour edited writing seminar.

The law quadrangle provides an idyllic setting for learning. The Underwood Law Library houses the largest private law collection in the Southwest. The Godwin Gruber Lawyers Inn offers students an elegant backdrop for study breaks and meals. A secure wireless network is available in all law school buildings. Most importantly, the school's small size fosters a scholarly community that features interaction with faculty, attention to personal needs, and lifelong friendships. SMU Dedman School of Law boasts of an active student government, five respected law journals, six specialized legal clinics and two related projects, numerous moot court and mock trial competitions, and one of the finest career services offices in the country.

In addition, students participate in the thriving intellectual life of the school. The law school has been chosen as the national headquarters for the Appellate Judges Educational Institute. In 2006 the Institute brought over 225 appellate judges and attorneys from across the country to SMU.

The school prides itself on having students who, in addition to being diverse, intelligent, and hardworking, are also engaged with the community. It has a comprehensive clinical program, which provides free specialized legal services to members of the Dallas community.

## **Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>6</sup>**

15.4:1

## **Admission Criteria<sup>7</sup>**

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	157-165	3.34-3.84
Median*	164	3.74

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## **Admission Statistics<sup>8</sup>**

Approximate number of applications 1,794

Number accepted 553

Percentage accepted 30.8%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## **Class Ranking and Grades<sup>9-11</sup>**

At SMU Dedman School of Law students are graded on a letter scale from A to F. Students may choose whether or not to list their GPA on their resume. The GPA listed must be the most current GPA as reported by the Office of the Registrar. Students who list their GPA must report the grade to three decimal points. Students may not round their GPA. The grades and their numeric equivalents at SMU are as below:

A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.3
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C+	2.3
C	2.0
C-	1.7
D	1.0
F	0.0

A student may receive a grade of I (Incomplete) if, for some justifiable reason acceptable to the instructor, the student has been unable to complete the requirements of the course. The maximum period of time allowed to clear the grade of I (Incomplete) is 12 months. If the Incomplete grade is not cleared by the date set by the instructor or by the end of the 12-month deadline, the grade of I will be changed to the grade provided by the instructor. If no alternative grade is provided, the grade of F will be recorded. The grade of I is not given in lieu of a grade of F (Fail), W (Withdrew) or other grade, each of which is prescribed for other specific circumstances. The grade of I does not authorize a student to attend the course during a later term. Graduation candidates must clear all Incomplete grades prior to the deadline in the Official University Calendar, which may allow less time than 12 months.

Law students at SMU Dedman School of Law are not given an individual class rank until graduation. Class rank percentiles are released for (1) the full-time first year law class, (2) the combined full-time second year law class and (3) the combined full-time third year law class. The law GPA is used for rank and cumulative cut off purposes; this GPA excludes all courses taken outside of the law school.

#### **Grade Normalization (Curve)**

The minimum passing grade is D or 1.0, and an average grade of C or 2.0 is necessary for graduation.

SMU Dedman School of Law releases the numeric cut off for the top 10%, top 25%, top 33%, and top 50% for each class following the spring semester of each year.

The numeric cutoff based on data for the May 2012 graduation class:

Top 10%	3.606
Top 25%	3.412
Top 33%	3.327
Top 50%	3.195

#### **Honors<sup>12</sup>**

<b>Honor</b>	<b>Percentage of Class Receiving</b>	<b>GPA Required</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
Order of the Coif	10%	3.50	31
<i>summa cum laude</i>	1%	3.80	5
<i>magna cum laude</i>	7%	3.60	19
<i>cum laude</i>	37%	3.20	104

#### **Awards<sup>13</sup>**

<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Name of Award</b>	<b>Selection Process</b>
Order of Coif	Top 10%	Cumulative GPA
Barristers	10	Selected by current students

Phi Delta Phi Award	1/class	Highest grade in class
Brief Awards	24	Nominated by legal research writing professor
Scholarships	varies	Financial Aid Committee chooses from top 20%
Dean's List	varies	Top 25% of each class each semester

## Journals<sup>14</sup>

Students have the opportunity to receive academic credit for and participate in the publication of five law reviews – the SMU Law Review, the Journal of Air Law and Commerce, The International Lawyer, the Law and Business Review of the Americas and the SMU Science and Technology Law Review. The SMU Law Review and the Journal of Air Law and Commerce are published by the SMU Law Review Association. The International Lawyer and Law & Business Review of the Americas are published by the International Law Review Association of SMU. The law reviews select their editorial staffs on the basis of academic performance and a writing competition.

The **SMU Law Review**: Formerly the Southwestern Law Journal, the *SMU Law Review* is published four times each year and reaches law schools, attorneys, and judges throughout the United States and abroad. Each issue includes articles by prominent legal scholars and practitioners dealing with significant questions of local, national, and international law. In addition, articles by students analyze recent cases, statutes, and developments in the law. Each year one issue of the *SMU Law Review* is devoted to an Annual Survey of Texas Law and contains articles by attorneys, law professors, and judges concerning current developments in the law of Texas.

The **Journal of Air Law and Commerce**: A quarterly publication of the School of Law, this journal was founded at Northwestern University in 1930 and moved to SMU in 1961. The oldest scholarly periodical in the English language devoted primarily to the legal and economic problems affecting aviation and space, it has a worldwide circulation of more than 2,300 subscribers in some 54 countries. Articles by distinguished lawyers, economists, government officials, and scholars deal with domestic and international problems of the airline industry, private aviation, and outer space, as well as general legal topics that have a significant impact on the area of aviation. Also included are student commentaries on a variety of topical issues, case notes on recent decisions, book reviews, and editorial comments.

The **International Lawyer**: This is the quarterly publication of the Section of International Law and Practice of the American Bar Association. The ABA published the inaugural issue in 1966 and SMU has been the home of this prestigious journal since 1986. With a worldwide circulation in excess of 13,000 in 75 countries, The International Lawyer is the most widely distributed U.S. international law review in the world. The *International Lawyer* focuses primarily on practical issues facing lawyers engaged in international practice. Addressing issues such as international trade, licensing, finance, taxation, litigation, and dispute resolution, it has become an authoritative reference for practitioners, judges, and scholars concerned with current legal developments throughout the world.

The **Law and Business Review of the Americas**: Formerly, NAFTA, this is an interdisciplinary publication addressing the legal, business, economic, political, and social dimensions of the North American Free Trade

Agreement, its implementation, its evolution and expansion, and its overall impact on doing business in the Americas. This journal is a quarterly publication produced by the SMU Dedman School of Law in association with the Section of International Law and Practice of the American Bar Association, the SMU Cox School of Business, the SMU Department of Economics and Political Science, and the Centre for Commercial Law Studies.

The **SMU Science and Technology Law Review**: Formerly the Computer Law Review and Technology Journal, this is SMU's newest scholarly publication. This journal is published three times a year and focuses on national and international technology-based legal issues, including the legal use and limits of hardware and software, and patent, copyright, and intellectual property law.

### Moot Court<sup>15, 16</sup>

Students at the law school have many opportunities to participate in oral advocacy competitions. The Board of Advocates (BOA) promotes practical experience in written and oral advocacy through a variety of competitions throughout the school year, and a Mock Trial Academy during the summer. The competitions are an excellent source for students desiring "real world" advocacy exposure and experience.

The BOA coordinates intramural mock trial, moot court, negotiation, client counseling, and mediation competitions which are open to all SMU law students, as well as the Jackson Walker Moot Court Competition for all first year students. These competitions are judged by local practitioners and members of the law faculty. The BOA also sponsors student teams for various state, national, and international interscholastic mock trial, moot court, negotiation, client counseling, and mediation competitions.

Each year, Dedman Law students participate in two of the most prestigious international moot court competitions. The Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the International Law Students Association and the American Society of International Law, is held each year in Washington, DC. Oral arguments for the William C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition are held each spring in Vienna, Austria.

### Clinical Programs<sup>17</sup>

Beginning in 1947, the Clinical Program at the Dedman School of Law was among the country's first to sponsor a community legal clinic. Today, it remains a national model of excellence. The Program has evolved over the years, reflecting changing perspectives in legal education and innovation in legal practice. However, at its core, the Program remains committed to the ideals that shaped it from its inception: public service, professional responsibility, and outstanding skills training. The Program now encompasses six specialized clinics.

Some of the clinics at SMU include:

**Civil Clinic:** Represents low-income clients in matters ranging from housing disputes to elder advocacy to civil rights litigation.

**Criminal Justice Clinic:** Represents Dallas county citizens charged with criminal offenses. Works with the Dallas Public Defender's Office and provides students with jury trial experience.

**Federal Taxpayers Clinic:** Represents low-income taxpayers needing to resolve tax problems with the Audit, Appeals and Collection divisions of the I.R.S. and the U.S. Tax Court.

**Small Business Clinic:** Introduces student attorneys to practical applications of business formation and provides needed representation for small start-up companies and individuals developing private nonprofit entities.

**W. W. Caruth, Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic:** Represents children who have been abused and neglected in Dallas County.

**Consumer Advocacy Project:** Reaches out to the local bilingual Hispanic community and helps resolve consumer complaints. Focuses on formal litigation, informal advocacy, negotiation and mediation strategies, as well as community education.

## Placement Facts<sup>18</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$62,500 - \$135,000
Private sector - median	\$85,000
Public service - median	\$56,204

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	43.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	69.5%

### Practice Areas

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	68.8%
Business/Industry	22.5%
Government	4.2%
Public Interest Organization	0.4%
Judicial Clerkships	2.5%
Academic	1.7%
Unknown	0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>19-21</sup>

### Externships

The goal of the Externship Program is to provide students with an experiential learning opportunity by working in carefully selected legal settings under the supervision of a mentor-attorney. Externships provide

students an opportunity to observe and participate by gaining a sense of the kind of lawyer they wish to become. In addition, the program is intended to foster sensitivity to the social, political and professional implications of the legal process. Students earn academic credit for externships.

Approved externship programs are offered at a variety of locations, including numerous courts, city attorneys' offices, district attorneys' offices, judges' chambers, the British Institute of International and Comparative Law, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Executive Office for Immigration Review, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Southern Methodist University Legal Affairs Office, Texas Lawyers for Children, the Children's Medical Center of Dallas, the US Citizenship and Immigration Services Chief Area Counsel's Office, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and the Federal Trade Commission.

### **Internships**

Several SMU Dedman School of Law public interest internships are available for SMU law students only. National non-profit organizations also offer Public Interest internships and post-graduate opportunities. For Government opportunities, the law school offers access to comprehensive resources offering listings of continually updated government internships in the US.

### **Student Organizations<sup>22</sup>**

- Aggie Law Students
- American Constitution Society
- Association for Law and Politics
- Association for Public Interest Law
- Black Law Students Association
- Board of Advocates
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate Law Association
- Criminal Law Association
- Energy Law Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Family Law Association
- Federalist Law Society
- Health Law Association
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Intellectual Property Organization
- International Law Review Association
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Labor and Employment Law Students Association
- Longhorn Bar Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- OUTlaw

- Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity
- Real Estate Law Association
- Second Amendment Foundation
- SMU Law Review Association
- Sports & Entertainment Law Association
- Student Bar Association
- Texas Trial Lawyers Association (TTLA)
- Women in Law

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RANK

48

# TULANE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS<sup>1</sup>

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## Overview<sup>2</sup>

The 12th oldest law school in the United States, Tulane University Law School was established in 1847. From its founding, Tulane has offered its students the opportunity to study both of the world's great legal systems—the common law system upon which English and U.S. law is based, and the civil law system governing most of the rest of the world.

Located on the main campus of Tulane University in uptown New Orleans, Tulane Law School has been accredited by the American Bar Association since May 1925.

The JD student body comprises 750 students from across the U.S., with just 15% from the state of Louisiana. At least 45 states are represented in the student body, as are close to 200 undergraduate schools. Approximately 47% of the student body is female, and about 20% are students of color.

The combination of the exceptional educational opportunities available at Tulane Law School and the chance to live in the culturally rich and aesthetically charming city of New Orleans is the ultimate educational experience for the students of Tulane Law School. This is an experience that most students would gladly repeat.

Among the things that set Tulane Law School apart are the breadth and depth of its curriculum. Its curricular strengths include international and comparative law, maritime law, and environmental law. It offers six certificates of specialization in: European Legal Studies, International & Comparative Law, Civil Law, Maritime Law, Environmental Law, and Sports Law. It offers six different live-client clinics: criminal defense, civil litigation, juvenile litigation, environmental law, domestic violence, mediation, and legislative and administrative advocacy. Its business and corporate course offerings are strong, as is its intellectual property law curriculum. Tulane Law School was the first in the country to require pro bono legal work as a condition of graduation.

## Student-Faculty Ratio<sup>3</sup>

13.3:1

## Admission Criteria<sup>4</sup>

	<b>LSAT</b>	<b>GPA</b>
25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	156-163	3.23-3.63
Median*	161	3.46

The above LSAT and GPA data pertain to the 2012 entering class.

\*Medians have been calculated by averaging the 25th- and 75th-percentile values released by the law schools and have been rounded up to the nearest whole number for LSAT scores and to the nearest one-hundredth for GPAs.

## Admission Statistics<sup>5</sup>

Approximate number of applications	2,271
Number accepted	1,096
Percentage accepted	48.3%

The above admission details are based on 2012 data.

## Class Ranking and Grades<sup>6,7</sup>

Students are graded on a letter-grade scale, with quality points assigned as follows:

A	4.00
A-	3.67
B+	3.33
B	3.00
B-	2.67
C+	2.33
C	2.00
C-	1.67
D	1.00
F	0.00

Graduate students are not permitted to take any course on a Pass/D/Fail basis.

Students who perform exceptionally well may be eligible to receive the degree "with distinction."

### Grade Normalization (Curve)

Minimum Grades Required (Based on May 2012 graduation class)

Minimum grade required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.644
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.461
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.330
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.180
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 75% of the class	2.893

## Honors<sup>8</sup>

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	Top 10%	3.612	26
<i>summa cum laude</i>	2.0%	3.750 - 4.00	5
<i>magna cum laude</i>	15.26%	3.500-3.749	38
<i>cum laude</i>	33%	3.337-3.493	36

## Awards<sup>9,10</sup>

Graduation Awards and Honors (conferred each spring in connection with graduation)

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
Civil Law Studies Award	The graduating student who has the highest grade point average in civil law courses.
Dean's Medal	The graduating student who attains the highest grade point average during the third year.
Edward A. Dodd Jr. Award	The outstanding candidate for the degree of LLM in Admiralty.
Faculty Medal	The graduating student who attains the highest grade point average in the entire course of three years in the School.
General Maurice Hirsch Award	The graduating student who, in the judgment of the faculty, has contributed most distinctively and constructively to university or community needs.
Haber J. McCarthy Environmental Law Award	The graduating student who has completed selected environmental law courses at Tulane with the highest grade point average.
Brian P. McSherry Community Service Award	The graduating student who has demonstrated the greatest dedication to the Law School's community service program.
George Dewey Nelson Memorial Award	The student in the graduating class who attains the highest grade point average in common law subjects throughout the three years of law study.

Tulane Tax Institute Award	The graduating student who has achieved the greatest distinction in the study of taxation receives an award funded by the Tulane Tax Institute, which produces a continuing education program in the field of taxation.
John Minor Wisdom Award	An outstanding JD candidate, who has demonstrated excellence in academic work and in writing ability, has contributed selflessly to the law school community, and who has accepted a federal or state judicial clerkship after graduation.
James A. Wysocki Award	Two students who have achieved the highest grade in Trial Advocacy, one in the fall, the other in the spring.
John Minor Wisdom Award	Awarded for excellence in writing and an outstanding academic record
James A. Wysocki Award	Awarded in the fall and the spring to the student with the highest grade in Trial Advocacy

**Other Awards and Honors** (conferred upon students who demonstrate excellence in specific areas)

Name of Award	Awarded for/to
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal for Excellence in Bankruptcy Studies	A graduating student who has demonstrated excellence in the study of bankruptcy law.
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State and Local Government Law	The student earning the highest grade in the Land Use Planning course and to the student earning the highest grade in the course State and Local Government.
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State and Local Government Law	The student earning the highest grade in the Land Use Planning course and to the student earning the highest grade in the course State and Local Government
Admiralty Writing Competition	The author of the best paper on an admiralty subject.
Cuthbert S. Baldwin Award	The student who has achieved the highest grade in Introduction to Civil Law Property.
CALI Excellence for the Future Awards	The student in each law school course achieving the top grade in the course.
Clark Boardman Callaghan Book Awards	The winners of the Senior and Junior Trial and Appellate competitions.
Ray Forrester Award	The member of the Constitutional Law I class gaining the highest mark in that subject.
Mitchell Franklin Award	The student in the Contracts I class gaining the highest mark in that subject.
Rufus C. Harris Award in Torts	The member of the Torts class gaining the highest mark in that subject.
David L. Herman Awards	The students who have earned the highest grades in Obligations I and Legal Profession.
James Cooke Johnson Scholarship	The member of the second-year class who attains the highest general average for the entire year.

Samuel Lang Award	The student receiving the highest grade in the course in Labor Law.
Law League of Louisiana Award	The member of the third-year class who has most improved his or her grade point average from the end of the first year.
Monte M. Lemann Award	The student attaining the highest mark in the Conflict of Laws course.
Cullen R. Liskow Award	The student receiving the highest grade in the Oil and Gas course.
Edwin I. Mahoney Award	The member of the Criminal Law course attaining the highest mark in that subject.
Paul Morphy Jr. Memorial Award	The student who achieves the highest grade in Civil Law Real Estate Transactions.
Leonard H. Rosenson Prize	The student earning the highest grade in Common Law Real Estate Transactions.
Ralph J. Schwarz Award	The student in Remedies receiving the highest grade.
Cicero C. Sessions Trial Advocacy Award	The students making the highest grades each semester in the course in Trial Advocacy.
Allen Smith Prize	The student who earns the highest grade in the course in Successions, Donations, and Trusts.
Walter J. Suthon Jr. Award	The member of the Louisiana Security Rights class achieving the highest mark in that subject.
Joseph Modeste Sweeney Scholarship	The student who achieves the highest grade point average in the first year.
West Publishing Co. Prizes	The top student in each of the first, second and third-year classes.
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	A third-year student who has performed well in school and who shows promise of contributing to the advancement of women in society.
Yippy Award	The student who obtains the highest grade in Civil Law Property II.
Association for Women Attorneys Award	The outstanding student in the Domestic Violence Clinic.

## Journals<sup>11-19</sup>

There are eight law journals sponsored by or otherwise affiliated with Tulane Law School. Six of these journals are run solely by students: *Tulane Law Review*, *Tulane Maritime Law Journal*, *Tulane Environmental Law Journal*, *Tulane Journal of International & Comparative Law*, *Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality*, and *Tulane Journal of Technology & Intellectual Property*. The Tulane European & Civil Law Forum has faculty involvement in the selection of manuscripts, but students assist with editing. The Sports Lawyers Journal is published by the national Sports Lawyers Association and edited by Tulane students.

**Tulane Environmental Law Journal:** The Tulane Environmental Law Journal (TELJ) is a biannual legal periodical produced and edited by students of Tulane Law School with the support of the faculty and administration of Tulane Law School. Tulane is recognized as having one of the strongest environmental law programs in the country and TELJ has been rated as one of the top 15 environmental law journals. TELJ contains timely articles written by professors and practitioners, as well as commentary on recent cases written by journal members. The journal features scholarly articles that rigorously analyze a broad range of environmental issues affecting individuals, communities, and the nation at large.

**Tulane European & Civil Law Forum:** Published annually, the Tulane European & Civil Law Forum is dedicated to offering scholarly and timely articles, comments, case notes, and book reviews that preserve and advance the civilian tradition and strengthen Louisiana's links with Europe. According to the 2008 results of Washington and Lee University School of Law's annual rankings, the Forum is among the most highly cited peer-reviewed journals in the world. It ranks #1 out of three European Law peer-edited journals in the United States and ranks #2 out of 18 peer-edited journals in the world.

**Tulane Journal of International & Comparative Law:** The Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law was founded at Tulane University Law School in New Orleans, Louisiana as an outgrowth of that institution's historical tradition as a signpost in the academic world for international and comparative law. The Journal is dedicated to discussing and debating all facets of international law, from human rights to transnational commerce to the historical evolution of current global law. The Journal is one of the leading law reviews in international and comparative law, and in terms of citation, is in the top quarter of all journals in the nation.

**Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality:** First published in 1991, the Tulane Journal of Law & Sexuality is the first and only student-edited law review in the country devoted solely to covering legal issues of interest to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community on a wide variety of subjects, including constitutional, employment, family, health, insurance, and military law. The Journal addresses all of these issues and more with theoretical and practical articles by academicians, practitioners, and students. This journal is published annually and has broad national and international circulation.

**Tulane Journal of Technology & Intellectual Property:** The Tulane Journal of Technology & Intellectual Property (JTIP) is a student-edited, scholarly publication of Tulane University Law School. JTIP examines legal issues relating to technology, including topics such as patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, antitrust, information privacy, computer law, constitutional law, contracts, torts, and all other policy implications of law and technology in our society. JTIP's editorial members are second- and third-year law students who work under the guidance of faculty advisors.

**Tulane Law Review:** The Tulane Law Review is a student-managed and student-edited legal journal. The Review has consistently published authoritative legal works while also training its members in legal writing and editing. Established in 1916 initially as the Southern Law Quarterly, the Tulane Law Review now is one of the principal legal publications in Louisiana and in the country. The Review is the flagship publication of the Tulane University Law School and is among the most frequently cited legal publications nationwide.

**Tulane Maritime Law Journal:** The Tulane Maritime Law Journal is the preeminent student-edited law journal in the field of Admiralty and Maritime Law. Published semi-annually, each issue of the Journal includes scholarly works written by academics, practitioners, and students concerning current topics in Admiralty and Maritime Law.

**Sports Lawyers Journal:** The *Sports Lawyers Journal* is a national legal journal edited by Tulane law students and published by the Sports Lawyers Association (SLA). The Journal is composed of articles authored by American, Canadian, and European law students and, it provides a unique view of sports issues and an unparalleled opportunity for students to have their works published and read!

## Moot Court<sup>20, 21</sup>

The Tulane Moot Court is among the oldest, most revered, and most visible programs of its kind in the nation. Through numerous competitive and non-competitive simulations of actual courtroom situations, the Tulane Moot Court empowers students with the opportunity to learn by doing direct and cross-examinations, opening and closing arguments, persuasive appellate presentations, negotiations, and arbitrations. The Law School's moot court program is designed to develop students' advocacy skills at both trial and appellate levels.

The Moot Court Board organizes teams for inter-school competitions in a variety of trial and appellate areas, including international law, constitutional law, mediation, corporate law, environmental law, and admiralty law. The BLSA chapter sponsors a team at the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, the European Legal Studies program sends a team to a commercial arbitration competition in Vienna, and other student organizations also send teams to special-interest competitions.

Inter-school competitions in which Tulane typically competes include:

- Appellate Competitions
- Inter-American Sustainable Law Moot Court Competition
- ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Appellate Competition
- Pace Environmental Law Appellate Competition
- Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Appellate Competition
- Kaufman Securities Law Appellate Competition
- Trial Competitions
- William W. Daniel National Invitational Mock Trial Competition
- Texas Young Lawyers' Association National Trial Competition
- ATLA Student Trial Advocacy Competition
- National Ethics Trial Competition
- Louisiana Trial Competition
- Negotiation, Mediation, and Arbitration Competitions
- American Bar Association Negotiation Competition
- American Bar Association Mediation Competition
- Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Competition

## Clinical Programs<sup>22-28</sup>

The Louisiana Supreme Court and federal courts in Louisiana authorize third-year law students to conduct a limited law practice for indigent clients. Under the direction of Tulane supervising faculty who are members

of the Louisiana bar, students represent clients by investigating, preparing, and trying cases, or by becoming involved in administrative or legislative proceedings.

In the Tulane law clinics, instruction is provided in a variety of contexts. For most of the clinics, students enroll in a seminar on lawyering skills, which addresses interviewing, counseling, negotiating, case planning, discovery, and motion practice. The emphasis is on lawyering skills that students will use after leaving law school. Students may also learn through simulated role performances, which are videotaped and critiqued. Finally, under faculty supervision, students represent individuals or organizations before trial or appellate courts, administrative agencies, or legislative bodies.

Casework is organized around regular, individual weekly case review meeting between student and supervisor. At these meetings, student work is reviewed and case planning is undertaken based upon a discussion of goals, options, strategy choices, and underlying reasoning. Student-attorneys then execute the decisions arising out of the case review meeting, such as conducting client interviews, planning and executing fact investigation and formal discovery, drafting legal documents, and representing the client before courts, agencies, or the legislature.

Some of the clinics available to Tulane law school students include:

**Civil Litigation Clinic:** The Tulane Civil Litigation Clinic (TCLC) provides students the opportunity to represent live clients primarily in civil rights matters in federal court. The civil rights docket of the TCLC typically consists of employment discrimination, fair housing, police misconduct, and First Amendment claims. Civil rights cases may involve allegations of discrimination based on any number of grounds, including race, color, national origin, religion, disability, gender, pregnancy, and familial status.

**Criminal Litigation Clinic:** Through Tulane's Criminal Defense Clinic, third-year law students represent indigent defendants charged with felonies and misdemeanors in the criminal district court. Clinic students also brief and argue appeals in the state appellate courts, including the Louisiana Supreme Court. The Criminal Defense Clinic also accepts appointments to represent indigent criminal defendants charged with federal crimes in the Eastern District of Louisiana.

**Domestic Violence Clinic:** Students in the Domestic Violence clinic represent clients escaping violent relationships and seeking protective orders, divorces and custody of their children. Students strategize with clients about their safety and work on a variety of legal issues important to clients' economic independence. The Clinic provides civil legal service but offers good training for future prosecutors.

**Environmental Law Clinic:** The Tulane Environmental Law Clinic (TELC) is a cross between a law school class and a law firm. Its purpose is to train law students in the practical aspects of representing clients in highly regulated fields. This type of practice requires strategic thinking, thorough investigation and research, and persuasive communication. TELC student attorneys are responsible for advancing client interests in a wide range of environmental disputes. Our docket generally includes lawsuits, administrative proceedings, and negotiations about air and water quality, wetlands protection, landfills, environmental justice, citizen participation, and community preservation. We emphasize service, legal ethics, and professionalism.

**Juvenile Litigation Clinic:** Student attorneys in the Juvenile Law Clinic litigate delinquency and dependency (or abuse and neglect cases) in the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court system. The student-attorneys are sworn

in to practice law under Louisiana Supreme Court Rule XX. They argue all pre-trial motions, preliminary examinations, arraignments, competency hearings, and they handle the trials or adjudication hearings, and draft all writs or appeals in the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal, and the state Supreme Court.

**Legislative & Administrative Advocacy/The Public Law Center:** The Public Law Center (TPLC) began operation in January 1988 with the aid of monies from the US Department of Education. TPLC handles matters in Baton Rouge at the state legislature and administrative rulemaking proceeding before state agencies for traditionally under-represented groups, such as the elderly and the handicapped.

## Placement Facts<sup>29</sup>

### Starting Salaries (2011 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 <sup>th</sup> -75 <sup>th</sup> percentile)	\$70,000 - \$103,000
Private sector - median	\$90,000
Public service - median	\$38,000

### Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	36.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	64.7%

### Practice Areas

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Law Firms	48.5%
Business/Industry	20.0%
Government	10.5%
Public Interest Organization	7.0%
Judicial Clerkship	11.0%
Academia	1.0%
Unknown	2.0%

## Externships/Internships<sup>30, 31</sup>

### Externships

Tulane Law School strives to create opportunities that enhance its students' practical skill sets in order to better prepare them for their jobs following law school. Through partnerships with local legal professionals, alumni, employers and law school faculty, Tulane Law works to supplement the classroom experience with programs such as Intersession "Boot Camp", externships, judicial clerkships and pro bono opportunities.

**The Public Service Externship** is an experiential learning course based in the real world. Student externs are placed in lawyering roles under the supervision of practicing lawyers or judges at work. There they gain

expertise in problem solving, professionalism and ethics; develop lawyering skills; explore career interests; provide service to the community; and examine lawyers' roles in ensuring justice for all.

Three types of field placements are available through the Public Service Externship: federal and state courts at the trial or appellate level, public interest and nonprofit organizations, or government offices at the federal, state or local level. Each setting offers unique and distinct opportunities for learning specific areas of law, developing specific lawyering skills, and serving the public.

### **Internships**

The Public Interest Law Foundation Grant Program enables Tulane law students to explore careers in public interest law. It provides financial support for summer internships which would otherwise be unpaid. Students are eligible for the Grant Program if they commit to work in the public interest for six to twelve weeks in legal positions representing individuals, causes, or organizations that suffer from a lack of adequate legal representation.

In addition to PILF Grants, students who are interested in pursuing unpaid public interest summer internships may obtain funding from a variety of other sources. Equal Justice Works and Equal Justice America are just two examples of the additional funding sources that Tulane students have utilized.

Eligibility for public interest summer grants typically requires students to work full time for nonprofit organizations serving low-income or underserved communities; state, county or nonprofit public defender offices; legal aid organizations; or civil rights organizations. A few of the many public interest organizations to which Tulane Law students have recently dedicated their summers include: Southern Environmental Law Center, Farm Sanctuary, Orleans Public Defenders Office, National Health Law Program, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Animal Legal Defense Fund, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Innocence Project, the ACLU, Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, Environmental Law Foundation, World Organization for Human Rights, Legal Aid Board of South Africa, United Nations Thailand, and the Document Center of Cambodia.

Judicial internships are generally unpaid, volunteer positions, either part-time or full-time during the summer. Law students may serve as interns in a judge's chambers after the first or second year of law school.

### **Student Organizations<sup>32</sup>**

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Law Society
- American Bar Association/Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society
- Asian-Pacific-American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Civil Law Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Disability and Health Law Society
- Eberhard P. Deutsch - International Law Society

- Energy and Environmental Law Society
- Entertainment and Art Law Society
- Environmental Law Journal
- Federalist Society
- Graduate Lawyers at Tulane
- Honor Board
- Human Rights Law Society
- Jewish Law Student Association
- La Alianza
- Lambda Law Alliance
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Women's Association
- Maritime Law Journal
- Maritime Law Society
- Military Law Society
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild - Tulane Chapter
- OWLS (Older and Wiser Law Students)
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Po' Boy Appreciation Society
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Real Estate Law Society
- Sports Law Society
- Sports Lawyers Journal
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Technology and Intellectual Property Society
- Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law
- Tulane Journal of Law and Sexuality
- Tulane Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property
- Tulane Law ReVieux Performing Arts Society
- Tulane Law Review
- Tulane University Legal Assistance Program
- VITA Program

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