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THE 2010 BCG ATTORNEY SEARCH **GUIDE TO AMERICA'S TOP 50 LAW SCHOOLS**



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

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America's Top 50 Law Schools

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INTRODUCTION

Raw data is just noise. Only organized and contextualized data can provide meaningful information.

The 2010 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 2009 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 Career Mission, 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 2010 BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's Top 50 Law Schools provides:

- A comparative reference to the top US 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 and the NALP Directory.

There has been a marked change in grading systems adopted by top law schools. Stanford Law School had a numerical grading system but now will be using a new system - which will award grades of honors, pass, restricted credit and no credit. Harvard Law School will also switch from the letter-grade system to an honors/pass/low pass/fail system.

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

Separating the grain from the chaff is never an easy task. At the end of the day, nobody is completely happy with the millers' efforts. So it is with law school rankings in the United States. Then why do it? One reason is to "rank for quality and for best value," according to U.S. News & World Report.¹ We use these rankings as a starting point to provide you with useful information to compare and assess the top US law schools.

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 firm or 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.

While there has been a sea change in law school rankings, The U.S. News & World Report has also concurrently modified their methods of ranking law schools. Previously, only the full-time entering student data used to be considered for the variables of acceptance rate, median undergraduate grade-point averages, and median LSAT scores. However, this year, the full-time entering student data has been combined with 2008 class admissions data for both full-time and part-time students to arrive at the rankings.

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 to find their numeric order like.^{2,3}

Identifying Talent

So how does one identify the "best" talent from the pool of law school graduates? The 2010 BCG Attorney Search Guide to America's Top 50 Law Schools aims to help 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 honors societies, such as the Order of the Coif or the Law Review. But a caution is in order here. Alike 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.⁴

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.⁵

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.⁶

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
<i>Yale Law School (173)</i>	<i>Yale Law School (3.89)</i>	<i>Yale Law School (7.7%)</i>
<i>Harvard Law School (173)</i>	<i>Stanford Law School (3.85)</i>	<i>Stanford Law School (9.2%)</i>
<i>Columbia Law School (172.5)</i>	<i>Harvard Law School (3.84)</i>	UC Berkeley School of Law (11.3%)
New York University School of Law (171)	UC Berkeley School of Law (3.81)	<i>Harvard Law School (11.5%)</i>
<i>University of Chicago Law School (171)</i>	<i>University of Virginia School of Law(3.73)</i>	<i>Columbia Law School (14.8%)</i>
<i>Stanford Law School (170)</i>	New York University School of Law (3.71)	University of Maryland School of Law (15.4%)
Northwestern University School of Law (169)	<i>Columbia Law School (3.70)</i>	University of Pennsylvania Law School (16.5%)
University of Pennsylvania Law School (168.5)	Duke University School of Law (3.70)	UCLA School of Law (16.6%)
<i>University of Virginia School of Law (168.5)</i>	Vanderbilt University Law School (3.69)	Northwestern University School of Law (17.9%)
University of Michigan Law School (168)	UCLA School of Law (3.68)	<i>University of Chicago Law School (17.6)</i>
Georgetown University Law Center (168)	<i>University of Chicago Law School(3.68)</i>	University of North Carolina School of Law (18.9%)
	University of Michigan Law School (3.68)	George Mason University School of Law (19.1%)
		<i>University of Virginia School of Law (19.7%)</i>

The schools shown in 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 five schools out of the top 10 as reported by U.S. News have been listed in all three columns.

New York University only appears in the first two columns, indicating that both LSAT and GPA criteria are important to the school for student selection. Columbia has high LSAT cutoffs but does not give equal importance to undergraduate GPA. Northwestern University and Georgetown University have high LSAT cutoffs compared to their overall rankings of 10 and 14 respectively.

Berkeley, Duke, Vanderbilt, University of Virginia, Columbia University, University of Pennsylvania appear on the GPA top 10 list but do not have high LSAT cutoff criteria, indicating that these schools rely more heavily on a prospective student's past academic performance. Stanford, though ranked sixth with respect to LSAT scores, has the second-highest GPA cutoff.

Yale and Stanford are the only schools with acceptance rates under 10%. Columbia's acceptance rate is 14.8 %, while the University of Chicago's is 17.6%. 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 (238) and Stanford (364) are less than that of Columbia (1,184). 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, as a recruiter, 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.

Justin N. Bezis, who specializes in intellectual capital, wrote an article titled "An Inquiry into the Implications of Using Percentage Rankings of Heterogeneous Scholastic Populations." In this article he asks how, if comparing two types of law schools—a prestigious national school and a less-prestigious regional one—a law firm can "(1) maximize the chance of selecting a high-skill student and (2) minimize the chance of selecting a low-skill student." Statistically, Bezis says, the top 10% of any class will likely include students with high LSAT and college GPA scores but not necessarily the best skill sets. When recruiting at an elite school, if you recruit only from the top 10%, you may be missing out on superior candidates who ranked lower in terms of pure academics.⁷

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."⁸ Further, 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 education, 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.⁹

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.¹⁰

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 six) 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.¹¹

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.¹²

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.¹³

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 help faculty invest 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 letter 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, Boston College 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 student performance. 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 constant, 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 to a student (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 demotivating 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 procedure for evaluation usually followed is that the registrar's office 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 GPA 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”).

GPAs Corresponding to Letter Grades at Different Schools

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	E	F
Ohio State Univ.		100-93	92-90	89-97	86-83	82-80	79-77	76-70		69-65	64-60	
Univ. of Chicago		186-180			179-174			173-168		167-160	Below 160	
Univ. of Colorado		93 & above	92-90	89-86	85-83	82-80	79-76	75-73	72-70	69-60		59 & below
Univ. of Iowa	4.3-4.2	4.1-3.9	3.8-3.6	3.5-3.3	3.2-3.0	2.9-2.7	2.6-2.4	2.3-2.1		2.0-1.8	1.7-1.5	
Wake Forest Univ.		100-90			89-80			79-70		69-66		Below 66
Washington Univ.School of Law	100-97	96-94	93-91	90-88	87-85	84-82		81-79		78-74		73-70
Univ. of Wisconsin	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.3	3.0	2.7	2.3	2.0	1.7	1.0		0

As can be seen from the table above, letter grades correspond to different GPAs at different schools.

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 92.17 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 US 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 set of work ethics 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 number is one of the tools to rank, evaluate, categorize, and compare journals.

The impact-factor of law reviews range from 2.86(Yale Law Journal) for the top-ranked law school to 0.43 (George Mason Law Review) for the 41st law school. This would indicate that the frequency of citations to articles in the Yale Law Journal is higher than the frequency of citations of other law reviews.

Although the implication of establishing impact-factor as a measure of reputé 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.

Sr.	Rank	Top US Law School	Law Review	Year of Publication	Impact Factor (2002-2009)
1	1	Yale Law School	Yale Law Journal	1891	2.86
2	2	Harvard Law School	Harvard Law Review	1887	2.2
3	2	Stanford Law School	Stanford Law Review	1948	2.6
4	4	Columbia Law School	Columbia Law Review	1901	2.84
5	5	New York University School of Law	New York University Law Review	1924	2.82
6	6	University of California–Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law	California Law Review	1912	2.65
7	6	University of Chicago Law School	University of Chicago Law Review	1933	1.95
8	8	University of Pennsylvania Law School	University of Pennsylvania Law Review	1842	2.57
9	9	University of Michigan Law School	Michigan Law Review	1902	1.62
10	10	Duke University School of Law	Duke Law Journal	1951	1.85
11	10	Northwestern University School of Law	Northwestern University Law Review	1906	2.1
12	10	University of Virginia School of Law	Virginia Law Review	1913	2.6
13	13	Cornell University Law School	Cornell Law Review	1915	2.47
14	14	Georgetown University Law Center	Georgetown Law Journal	1912	2.29
15	15	University of California–Los Angeles	UCLA Law Review	1952	2.37
16	15	University of Texas School of Law	Texas Law Review	1922	2.27
17	17	Vanderbilt University Law School	Vanderbilt Law Review	1947	1.94
18	18	University of Southern California Gould School of Law	Southern California Law Review	1927	1.92
19	19	Washington University School of Law–St. Louis	Washington University Law Review	1915	1.1
20	20	Boston University School of Law	Boston University Law Review	1897	1.7
21	20	Emory Law School	Emory Law Journal	1952	1.44
22	20	University of Minnesota Law School	Minnesota Law Review	1917	2.15

Sr.	Rank	Top US Law School	Law Review	Year of Publication	Impact Factor (2002-2009)
23	23	Indiana University School of Law–Bloomington	Indiana Law Journal	1926	1.26
24	23	University of Illinois College of Law	Notre Dame Law Review	1925	1.59
26	26	Boston College Law School	Boston College Law Review	1959	1.68
27	26	University of Iowa College of Law	Iowa Law Review	1915	1.63
28	28	The College of William & Mary Marshall-Wythe School of Law	William & Mary Law Review	1948	1.81
29	28	The George Washington University Law School	The George Washington Law Review	1932	1.02
30	30	Fordham Law School	Fordham Law Review	1914	1.11
31	30	University of Alabama School of Law	Alabama Law Review	1948	0.84
32	30	University of North Carolina School of Law	North Carolina Law Review	1922	1.48
33	30	University of Washington School of Law	Washington Law Review	1925	1.02
34	30	Washington and Lee University School of Law	Washington and Lee Law Review	1939	0.98
35	35	Ohio State University Michael E. Moritz College of Law	Ohio State Law Journal	1935	1.39
36	35	University of California–Davis School of Law	UC Davis Law Review	1978	1.5
37	35	University of Georgia School of Law	Georgia Law Review	1966	1.08
38	35	University of Wisconsin–Madison Law School	Wisconsin Law Review	1920	1.37
39	39	University of North Carolina School of Law	Hastings Law Journal	1949	1.51
40	40	Wake Forest University School of Law	Wake Forest Law Review	1965	1.47
41	41	Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School	Brigham Young University Law Review	1975	0.75
42	41	George Mason University School of Law	George Mason Law Review	1976	0.43
43	43	University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law	Arizona Law Review	1959	1.22
44	43	University of Maryland School of Law	Maryland Law Review	1936	0.53

Sr.	Rank	Top US Law School	Law Review	Year of Publication	Impact Factor (2002-2009)
45	45	American University Washington College of Law	American University Law Review	1952	1.23
46	45	Tulane University Law School	Tulane Law Review	1916-1918, resumed 1929	0.78
47	45	University of Colorado School of Law	University of Colorado Law Review	1929	0.78
48	45	S.J.Quinney College of Law	Utah Law Review	1948	0.78
49	49	Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law	SMU Law Review	1947	0.54
50	49	Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law	Cardozo Law Review	1979	0.9

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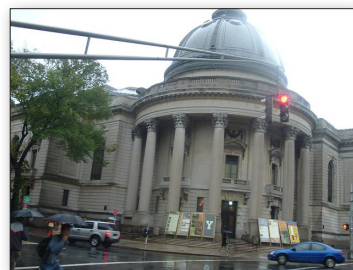
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Overview^{2,3}

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 US 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 a good 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 newly renovated law library is to support the needs of twenty-first-century legal researchers by integrating access to print and online sources throughout the library.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁴

6.8:1

Admission Criteria⁵

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	169-177	3.81-3.97

Admission Statistics⁶

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,109
Number accepted	238
Percentage accepted	7.7%

Class Ranking and Grades^{7,8}

All first-term courses are ungraded, and subsequent classes are graded honors/pass/low pass.

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)⁹

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

Awards¹⁰

Name of Award	Description
Charles G. Albom Prize	Awarded for excellence in the area of judicial and/or administrative appellate advocacy in connection with a law school clinical program
Thurman Arnold Appellate Competition Prize	Awarded for the best student argument in advanced moot court competition
Burton H. Brody Prize in Constitutional Law	Awarded for 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	Awarded for the best paper(s) on the subject of copyright law
Benjamin N. Cardozo Prize	Awarded for the best brief submitted by a student in moot court competition

John Fletcher Caskey Prize	Awarded for the best presentation of a case on final trial in the Thomas Swan Barristers' Union
Joseph A. Chubb Competition Prize	Two prizes awarded to individual students or two-person teams for legal draftsmanship
Barry S. Cohen, JD 1950, Prize	Awarded for 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	Awarded for 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	Awarded for an outstanding paper written by a member of the first-year class
Michael Egger Prize	Awarded for the best student note or comment on current social problems in the <i>Yale Law Journal</i>
Thomas I. Emerson Prize	Awarded for a distinguished paper or project on a subject related to legislation
John Currier Gallagher Prize	Awarded for proficiency in the presentation of a case on final trial in the Thomas Swan Barristers' Union
Ambrose Gherini Prize	Awarded for the best paper on a subject of international law, either public or private
Margaret Gruter Prize	Awarded for the best paper on how ethology, biology, and related behavioral sciences may deepen understanding of law
Jerome Sayles Hess Prize for International Law	Awarded for excellence in the area of international law
Jewell Prize	Awarded for outstanding contribution to a law school journal other than the <i>Yale Law Journal</i>
Florence M. Kelley '37 Family Law Prize	Awarded for exceptional interest or achievement in the area of family law
Khosla Memorial Fund for Human Dignity	Awarded for active engagement in advancing the values of human dignity in the international arena
Raphael Lemkin Prize	Awarded for outstanding student papers on international human rights
Stephen J. Massey Prize	Awarded to 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	Awarded for the best paper on the Bill of Rights
C. LaRue Munson Prize	Awarded for 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

John M. Olin Prize	Awarded for the best student essay on law, economics, and public policy during the academic year
Joseph Parker Prize	Awarded for the best paper on a subject connected with legal history or Roman law
Israel H. Peres Prize	Awarded for the best student contribution to the <i>Yale Law Journal</i> ; if no award is made, income of fund is used to purchase books for the law library
Clifford L. Porter Prize	Awarded for outstanding student performance in taxation
Edward D. Robbins Memorial Prize	Awarded for outstanding contribution of a third-year student to a law school journal other than the <i>Yale Law Journal</i>
Benjamin Scharps Prize	Awarded for a meritorious essay or research in one course on some legal subject
Potter Stewart Prize	Awarded for the best overall argument in the moot court trial argument by a student team
Harlan Fiske Stone Prize	Awarded for the best oral argument by a student in moot court
Colby Townsend Memorial Prize	Awarded for 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	Awarded for superior performance in the introductory course in corporate law
Francis Wayland Prize	Awarded for demonstrating the greatest proficiency in preparing and presenting a case in negotiation, arbitration, and litigation
Quintin Johnstone Prize in Real Property Law	Awarded to a second- or third-year student for excellence in the area of real property law

Journals

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 newly launched 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.¹¹

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.¹²

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. These experiences include the particular experiences of women of color and of lesbians. It encourages submissions of articles, essays, and reviews on any subject bearing upon the intersection of law and feminism.¹³

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.¹⁴

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.¹⁵

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, 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.^{16, 17}

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. There is much discussion and debate over what these concepts mean and how they interrelate. These issues demand holistic, cross-cutting analysis, and so the journal encourages writings that draw upon various academic disciplines, such as political science, public policy, economics, health, and sociology. It features pieces representing the broadest possible range of perspectives. It welcomes 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 (including US), regional, and international contexts in both the “industrialized” and the “developing” world.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

The **Yale Journal of Law & Technology** offers its readers a cutting-edge, 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.²⁰

Moot Court^{21, 22}

Each semester, the Morris Tyler Moot Court Competition takes place at Yale Law School. All second- and third-year law students are eligible and encouraged to participate. The pre-part program of the Morris Tyler Moot Court Competition is the 1L version. First-year students who are interested in competing in the Morris Tyler Competition are strongly encouraged to participate in the program. 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 Programs²³

Students at the law school have the opportunity to earn credit for their clinic work, much of which contains a classroom component. The clinical programs offered by Yale include:

The **Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization (LSO)**, which provides legal representation to individuals and organizations in need of legal help but unable to afford private attorneys. With more than 15 separate clinics, LSO clinical opportunities offer a wide range of options for students.

The **Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Law Clinic**, a law school course that gives students firsthand experience in human rights advocacy under the supervision of international human rights lawyers.

Several other clinical programs give students direct experience in the practice of law in particular areas:

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

Balancing Civil Liberties and National Security after September 11 is a clinic/seminar that focuses on civil liberties cases arising from new government policies after September 11, 2001.

The **Supreme Court Clinic** combines classroom instruction about the Court with hands-on involvement with litigation projects.

The **Capital Markets and Financial Instruments Regulation Clinic** offers students to research and comment on proposed regulations that affect corporate governance and capital markets.

Placement Facts²⁴

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$55,706

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	96.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.5%

Practice Areas²⁵

Practice Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	35.5%
Business/Industry	4.3%
Government	5.9%
Public Interest Organization	9.68%
Judicial Clerkship	41.4%
Military	0%
Academic	3.2%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²⁶⁻²⁸

Externships

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 Organizations²⁹

- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Animal Legal Defense Fund
- The Association of Law Students with Significant Others (ALSSO)
- Barristers' Union
- The Black Law Students' Association
- The Capital Assistance Project
- The Catholic Students' Association
- College Acceptance
- The Court Jesters
- The Green Haven Prison Project
- Habeas Chorus
- The Initiative for Public Interest Law at Yale, Inc.

- The Latino Law Students' Association
- The J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- The Lowenstein Human Rights Project
- The Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals
- The Muslim Law Students' Association
- The National Lawyers Guild
- The Native American Law Students' Association
- New Haven Cares
- YLS OutLaws
- The OWLS
- The Pacific Islander, Asian, and Native American Law Students' Association
- The Pro Bono Network
- Project for Law and Education at Yale
- The Rebellious Lawyering Conference
- Six Angry Men
- The South Asian Law Students' Association
- The Street Law
- The Thomas Swan Barristers' Union
- The Temporary Restraining Order Project
- Universities Allied for Essential Medicine
- Women and Youth in Support of Each Other
- The Women of Color Collective
- The Yale Entertainment and Sports Law Association
- The Yale Environmental Law Association
- The Yale Federalist Society
- The Yale Forum on International Law
- The Yale Graduate Law Students' Association
- YIPPIE! (Yale Incentive Program for Public Interest Employment)
- The Yale Jewish Law Students' Association
- The Yale Law & Business Society
- The Yale Law and Technology Society
- The Yale Law Christian Fellowship
- The Yale Law Democrats
- The Yale Law International Association
- The Yale Law Republicans
- The annual Yale Law Revue
- Yale Law School Workers' Rights Project
- Yale Law Social Entrepreneurs
- Yale Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Yale Law Students for Life
- The Yale Law Veterans Association
- Yale Law Women
- The Yale Project for Civil Rights

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Overview³⁻⁶

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 Ratio⁷

10.0:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	170-176	3.74-3.95

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	7,099
Number accepted	819
Percentage accepted	11.5

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

Harvard Law School recently adopted a new grading system where students who started at HLS in September 2008 or later will receive Honors, Pass, Low Pass or Fail grades instead of traditional letter grades. Students from the Class of 2010 will be graded under the new system for their third year courses only. Pass/fail classes will now be designated credit/fail. In accordance with law school's grading scale, unsatisfactory work would receive an F.

In addition, in classes with over 30 students, professors may, at their discretion, award one or two "Dean's Scholar" prizes for outstanding work. Dean's Scholar prizes will be noted on the student's transcript.

All work for which students have registered as of 2008-09, including independent writing, will be graded according to the prior grading system (A, A-, and so on), even if that work is completed in 2009-10.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

Under the new grading system, the recommended grade distribution for larger classes (over 30 students) is:

- Honors: 37%
- Pass: 55%
- Low Pass: 8%

Honors¹²

The system for awarding Latin Honors to graduates has also been modified.

Honor	Criteria
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1% of the graduating class
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 10% of the graduating class
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 30% of the graduating class

Awards¹³

Name of Award	Description
Yong K. Kim '95 Memorial Prize	Awarded for 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	Awarded for the best essay by a student on each of six current legal subjects
Frank S. Righeimer Jr. Student Prize for Citizenship	Awarded to a graduating student to recognize exceptional citizenship within the law school community
Sidney I. Roberts Prize	Awarded for the best paper in the field of taxation
Sears Prize	Awarded to 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	Awarded for the highest grade in Conflict of Laws
Addison Brown Prize	Awarded for the best essay on private international law or maritime law
Victor Brudney Prize	Awarded for the best paper on corporate governance
Dean's Awards for Community Leadership	Awarded for community leadership
Fay Diploma	Awarded to the student with the highest graduating average for three years
Laylin Prize	Awarded for the best paper on public international law
George Leisure Award	Awarded to the best oralist in the Ames Competition
Mancini Prize	Awarded for the best essay on European law and European legal thought
John M. Olin Prizes	Awarded for the best papers in the area of law and economics
Roger Fisher and Frank E.A. Sander Prize	Awarded for the best student paper on a topic related to negotiation, dispute system design, mediation, dispute resolution, or ADR
Program on International Financial Systems Prize	Awarded for the best paper written in the seminar on international finance
Davis Polk Legal Profession Paper Prize	The purpose of this prize is to encourage deeper reflection and consideration by HLS students about their chosen profession, its role in society, and the many challenges that lawyers face in a rapidly-changing world. Paper topics must relate to the legal profession itself or to 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

Journals

The **Harvard Law Review** is a student-run organization that focuses on publishing high-quality legal scholarship. Student editors make all editorial and organizational decisions and, together with a professional business staff of three, carry out day-to-day operations.¹⁴

The **Harvard BlackLetter Law Journal** is renamed as '*The Harvard Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice*'. For 25 years, the *Harvard BlackLetter Law Journal* has been home to legal scholarship exploring the contemporary and historic challenges facing all racial and ethnic minorities. Therefore the new journal title, to more accurately reflect the breadth of its subject matter.¹⁵

The **Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review** was founded in 1966 as an instrument to advance personal freedoms and human dignities. The review seeks to advance progressive thought and dialogue through the publication of innovative legal scholarship from various perspectives in diverse fields of study.¹⁶

The **Harvard Environmental Law Review** has been published semiannually, in winter and spring, since 1976. Its focus remains on articles that examine a broad range of environmental affairs.¹⁷

The **Harvard Human Rights Journal** was founded in 1988 and has since endeavored to be a site for a broad spectrum of scholarship on international and domestic human rights issues. The journal publishes a range of original scholarly works on human rights issues of contemporary relevance, and in the past has featured pieces on subjects as diverse as refugee asylum law, female prisoner's rights, rights of child soldiers, oil and the role of the World Bank, detention, rendition, and domestic violence.¹⁸

The **Harvard International Law Journal** has been ranked as having the strongest academic reputation, by senior scholars in the international and comparative law fields, of all student-edited international and comparative law specialty journals. The journal publishes articles on international, comparative, and foreign law; the role of international law in US courts; and the international ramifications of US domestic law.¹⁹

The **Harvard Journal of Law & Gender** publishes articles, recent developments, essays, and book reviews. Its areas of focus include gender and the law, feminist jurisprudence, and social equality.²⁰

The **Harvard Law & Policy Review** is a biannual, official journal of the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy. The review provides a forum for debate between legal scholars, policymakers, and practitioners.²¹

The **Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy** is published three times annually by the Harvard Society for Law & Public Policy, Inc., an organization of Harvard Law School students. The journal is one of the most widely circulated student-edited law reviews and the nation's leading forum for conservative and libertarian legal scholarship.²²

The **Harvard Journal of Law & Technology** publishes writings by academics, practitioners, and policymakers on a variety of topics, including intellectual property, biotechnology, e-commerce, cybercrime, the Internet, telecommunications, and the impact of technology on legal practice.²³

The **Harvard Journal on Legislation** is the nation's premier legal journal focused on the analysis of legislation and the legislative process. First published in 1964, the *Journal on Legislation* is the third oldest journal at Harvard Law School, after *the Harvard Law Review* and the *International Law Journal*. The journal is published semi-annually, in winter and summer. For nearly half a century, the *Journal on Legislation* has provided a forum for scholarship on legislative reform and on the efficiency and effectiveness of legislative decision-making. The journal is especially interested in publishing articles that examine public policy problems of nationwide significance and propose legislation to resolve them. The journal also publishes a bi-annual Congress Issue, which includes policy essays written by members of Congress.²⁴

The **Harvard Latino Law Review**, an annual publication, provides a forum for the scholarly discussion of legal issues affecting Latinos and Latinas in the United States. Recent articles have addressed issues including racial profiling, the English-only movement, the paradox of the alien-citizen, and the future of Latino legal scholarship.²⁵

The **Harvard Negotiation Law Review** provides a forum in which scholars from many disciplines can discuss negotiation as it relates to law and legal institutions. It is aimed specifically at lawyers and legal scholars. In its 14 year history, the journal has explored interdisciplinary academic perspectives on such topics as decision analysis; litigation settlement; mediator roles, strategies and tactics; the lawyer's role as a problem solver; reconsideration of legal education in light of negotiation; and a range of case studies of innovative negotiation and mediation systems around the world.²⁶

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.²⁷

Moot Court²⁸

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 administering 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^{29, 30}

The Clinical Legal Education Program is one of the most important and valued aspects of a Harvard Law School education. In clinics, students take direct responsibility for representing clients in actual cases under the supervision of nearly 70 HLS clinical faculty and instructors who are expert practitioners in their fields. Harvard also provides unparalleled financial support to supplement students in certain aspects of clinical and pro bono work.

Through the Clinical Legal Education Program, HLS students represent clients in actual cases under the supervision of Harvard faculty and staff attorneys. With clinical placements in more than 30 areas of the law and the opportunity for students to create their own, HLS provides following clinical opportunities:

- Child Advocacy Program
- Criminal Justice Institute
- Criminal Prosecution Clinic
- Cyberlaw and Intellectual Property Clinic (Berkman Center for Internet and Society)
- Education Law / Trauma Learning Policy Initiative
- Employment Civil Rights Clinic (LSC)
- Environmental Law and Policy Clinic
- Family and Children (LSC)
- Gender Violence Clinic
- Government Lawyer - Semester in Washington
- Government Lawyer - The Prosecutor
- Harvard Defenders
- Harvard Legal Aid Bureau
- Harvard Mediation Program (HMP)
- Health, Disability, and Planning (LSC)
- HLS Advocates for Human Rights
- Independent Clinical
- International Human Rights Clinic (Human Rights Program)
- Judicial Process
- Negotiation and Mediation Clinic
- Post-Foreclosure Eviction Defense Housing Clinic (LSC)
- Predatory Lending Prevention / Consumer Protection Clinic (LSC)
- Prison Legal Assistance Project (PLAP)
- Recording Artists Project (RAP)
- Sports Law
- Supreme Court Clinic
- Tenant Advocacy Project (TAP)
- Transactional Law Clinics
- War Crimes Prosecution

Placement Facts³¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$160,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$54,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.3%

Practice Areas³²

Practice Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	66.03%
Business/Industry	4.18%
Government	3.66%
Public Interest Organization	6.10%
Judicial Clerkship	18.99%
Military	0.00%
Academic	1.04%
Unknown	0.00%

Externships/Internships^{33, 34}

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 Organizations³⁵

- Abigail Adams Society
- Advocates for Education
- Advocates for Human Rights
- Alliance for Israel
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Appleseed Center for Electoral Reform
- Armed Forces Association
- Arts & Literature Law Society
- Asia Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Association for Law and Business
- Audiophiles
- Ballroom Dance Society
- Big Brother/Big Sister Organization
- Black Law Students Association
- Black Letter Law Journal
- 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 Against Gender Violence
- Coalition to Stop Bank Evictions
- Committee for Multi-Cultural Unity
- Committee on Sports and Entertainment Law
- Couples Association
- Crew: Men and Women
- Direct Action Against Poverty
- Drama Society
- Environmental Law Review
- Ethics, Law, and Biotechnology Society
- European Law Association
- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy
- Forum on Local Government and Politics
- Gary Bellow Public Service Award
- Gender Justice Working Group
- Harvard African Law Association
- Harvard Asia Quarterly
- Harvard Defenders
- Harvard Immigration Project

- Harvard International Affairs Council
- Harvard International Law Journal
- Harvard Journal on Racial and Ethnic Justice
- Harvard Journal on Sports and Entertainment Law
- Harvard Law Entrepreneurs
- Harvard Law Review
- Harvard National Security Journal
- Harvard National Security Research Committee
- Harvard Negotiators
- HLS Chinese-American Law Students Association
- HLS Democrats
- HLS for Peace
- HLS for Reproductive Justice
- HLS Forum
- HLS Golf Club
- HLS Latter-day Saints Student Association
- HLS Project on Wrongful Convictions
- HLS Republicans
- HLS Running Club
- HLS Student Bar Association
- HLS Student Government
- HLS Student Government
- HLS TaxHelp
- HLS/KSG Association for Law and Policy
- Human Rights Journal
- In Vino Veritas
- International Law Society
- JD/MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Journal of Law & Gender (formerly Women's Law Journal)
- Journal of Law and Public Policy
- Journal of Law and Technology
- Journal on Legislation
- Just Democracy
- 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
- Mediation Program
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Multiracial Law Students Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- NAACP - HLS Chapter
- National Lawyers Guild - HLS Chapter
- National Security and Law Association
- National Security and Law Association
- Native American Law Students Association
- Negotiation Law Review
- OneDaysWork
- Parents at the Law School
- Prison Legal Assistance Project
- Reaching Out Against Depression (ROAD)
- Real Estate Association
- Roscoe Pound Society
- Scales of Justice
- Soccer Club
- Society for Law, Life, and Religion
- Softball Club
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Squash Club
- Statler and Waldorf, LLP
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Funded Fellowships
- Student Public Interest Network
- Target Shooting Club
- Tenant Advocacy Project
- Tennis Club
- The Harvard Law Record
- The Society for Law and Global Policy
- The Society of Law and Family Matters
- The Southern Legal Society
- Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left
- Urban Debate League
- Women of Color Collective
- Women's Law Association
- Women's Law Journal

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RANK

3

STANFORD LAW SCHOOL

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Crown Quadrangle
559 Nathan Abbott Way
Stanford, CA 94305-8610

MAIN PHONE

650-723-2465

WEBSITE

<http://www.law.stanford.edu>

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

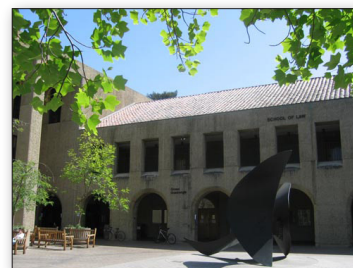
650-723-0994

ADMISSIONS PHONE

650-723-4985

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

650-723-3924

Overview²⁻⁵

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.

The Robert Crown Law Library has a collection of more than 500,000 print volumes and an incredible array of online databases. 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 Ratio⁶

8.6:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	168-172	3.76-3.94

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications 3,943

Number accepted 364

Percentage accepted 9.2%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹⁻¹¹

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

The policy is effective beginning the fall 2008 and it will apply 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 with following grades

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	
*	No Grade Reported	

These grades will be given in courses that would have been "on-mean" or "off-mean" under the traditional grading system. The 3K grading basis uses the symbols K, RK, and NK, which translates into credit, restricted credit, and no credit.

Legal Research and Writing in the first-year curriculum will be graded on the H/P/R/F scale for the Class of 2011 and ensuing classes. Classes that would have been mandatory 3K under the traditional grading system (other than Legal Research and Writing in the first year) will have a slightly different grading scheme to reflect the mandatory nature of the passing grade. In those courses, the grades will be as follows:

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.

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 described above.

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)^{12, 13}

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. 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, will receive a Pass under the current grading system.

Honors^{14, 15}

The new system includes a shared norm for the proportion of honors to be awarded in both exam and paper courses.

The law school will no longer use or award the Order of the Coif or “Graduation with Distinction” honors. Instead, prizes will be awarded in individual courses to recognize outstanding student performance. In first-year required classes, two prizes will be 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 will be one per every 15 students. Prizes will be registered on student transcripts.

The new policy does not apply to the class of 2009, which will remain on the old grading and honors system.

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
First-Year Honor	Highest cumulative GPA at the end of the first year
Second-Year Honor	Highest cumulative GPA at the end of the second year
Nathan Abbott Scholar	Highest cumulative GPA at the end of the student's third Stanford year
Urban A. Sontheimer Third-Year Honor	Second-highest cumulative GPA at the end of the student's third Stanford year

Awards^{16, 17}

Name of Award	Description
Steven M. Block Civil Liberties Award	Awarded for the best written work on issues relating to personal freedom by third-year students
Carl Mason Franklin Prize	Awarded for outstanding paper or papers on international law
Olaus and Adolph Murie Award	Awarded for the best written work in environmental law
Hilmer Oehlmann Jr. Writing Award	Research and writing award given to a first-year student
Frank Baker Belcher Evidence Award	Awarded for the best academic work in the area of evidence
Marion Rice Kirkwood Moot Court Prizes	Awarded to the best oral advocate, for the best brief, to the best team, and to the runner-up team
Stanford Law Review Awards	Awarded for outstanding editorial contributions and extraordinary dedication and vision
Graduation with Distinction	Awarded for high academic achievement during three years of Stanford Law School coursework
Gerald Gunther Prize	Awarded for exam classes
John Hart Ely Prize	Awarded for paper classes
Judge Thelton E. Henderson Prize	Awarded for clinical courses

Journals

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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

The ***Stanford Journal of Civil Rights & Civil Liberties*** is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to exploring civil rights and civil liberties issues in society. The journal is published twice per year in the fall and spring.²⁰

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.²¹

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.²²

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.²³

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.²⁴

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.²⁵

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.²⁶

Moot Court²⁷

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 Programs²⁸

The **Criminal Defense Clinic** gives students the opportunity to work on sentencing hearings, appeals, habeas corpus proceedings, and clemency petitions. Students represent criminal defendants who have been sentenced to life imprisonment under the "three strikes" laws or have been sentenced to death. Students get hands-on experience with regard to criminal defense cases. They identify relevant issues, conduct legal research, investigate facts, interview witnesses, and apply the law to the facts of cases.²⁹

The **Stanford Community Law Clinic** trains Stanford law students to become highly qualified public interest attorneys by serving low-income individuals and communities in and around East Palo Alto through legal representation, advice, and education.³⁰

The **Criminal Prosecution Clinic** is limited to six students who prosecute cases at the San Jose Superior Court under the guidance of Santa Clara County prosecutors and faculty supervisors. A trial advocacy class is also conducted to familiarize students with case preparation and courtroom skills.³¹

The **Cyberlaw Clinic** provides legal representation to private litigants and other clients in matters involving the public interest and technological development. The Cyberlaw Clinic gives students an opportunity to conduct technology-related litigation, policy research, and advocacy.³²

The **Environmental Law Clinic** offers students opportunities to provide legal assistance to nonprofit organizations on a variety of environmental issues, focusing primarily on natural resource conservation and biodiversity.³³

The **Supreme Court Litigation Clinic** exposes students to the joys and frustrations of litigation before the Supreme Court of the United States. Students in the clinic work on a wide variety of cases currently before the Court. The clinic is writing-intensive. Students prepare briefs and other filings, participate in moots for oral arguments, meet with Supreme Court personnel and reporters, and get practical experience regarding the functioning of the high court.³⁴

The **Immigrants' Rights Clinic** is committed to protecting the human rights of all non-citizens, regardless of immigration status. 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. Students work on all aspects of case preparation, including interviewing clients and witnesses, investigating facts, writing pleadings, developing case strategies, and conducting legal research.³⁵

The **International Human Rights and Development Clinic** explores international human rights and works to help implement the rule of law in developing countries. This year Stanford Law School launched an exciting new partnership with the University of Cape Town Law School to bring Stanford Law students to Cape Town, South Africa for the quarter to participate in an international human rights and development clinical program.³⁶

The **Youth and Education Law Project** works on educational rights and reform policy. Students represent both minors and families in special education and school discipline matters. They work with disadvantaged youth and their communities to ensure that they have access to equal and excellent educational opportunities.³⁷

The **Organizations and Transactions Clinic** provides pro bono corporate legal services to Bay Area nonprofit organizations. Students work on corporate governance, contracts and collaborations, and external communications matters. The clinic seeks to give students opportunities to develop analytical, planning, editorial, and counseling skills in the context of both live client projects and reality-grounded classwork, all with an eye to how business lawyers can serve the community.³⁸

Placement Facts³⁹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$160,000 - \$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$55,706

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	100.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	100.0%

Practice Areas⁴⁰

Graduates Employed	Percentage
Private Practice	61%
Business/Industry	4.7%
Government	3.5%
Public Interest Organization	6.4%
Judicial Clerkship	23.2%
Academic	1.2%
Military	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{41, 42}

Externships

Stanford Law School's externship program provides second- and third-year students with a focused educational experience by combining fieldwork in nonprofit and government organizations. A faculty member assists students with structured coursework or research. Externships involve direct casework, research, and writing. Students get experience and receive academic credit in areas of the law where clinical courses are not offered or pursue advanced work in areas of prior clinical practice. The externship program at Stanford Law School complements the school's clinical program.

The Standard Externship Program (SEP) offers placements in Bay Area organizations, and the Special Circumstances Externship Program (SCEP) assigns students to organizations outside the Bay Area. Through the SCEP, students work on the East Coast or abroad at international NGOs or governmental entities like the United Nations or US embassies.

Internships

The SLS International Internship

Stanford Law School offers legal internships with the US Government, Non-Governmental Organizations, Intergovernmental Organizations, and International Courts.

Student Organizations⁴³

- Acappellants
- Advanced Degree Student Association
- American Bar Association, Law Students Division
- American Constitution Society
- Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Arts and Literature Society
- 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
- Cultivating Opportunity and Access for College Hopefuls (COACH)
- Drama Society
- Energy Society of Stanford Law School
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federalist Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Law Association
- Law Students and Significant Others (LSSO)
- 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
- Real Estate and Land Use Association
- Shaking the Foundations
- SLS Academy
- SLS Christian Fellowship
- Stanford Arts and Literature Law Society (SALLS)
- Stanford Association of Law Students for Disability Rights
- Stanford BioLaw & Health Policy Society
- Stanford Entertainment and Sports Law Association (SES LA)
- Stanford Globalization Forum
- Stanford Intellectual Property Association (SIPA)
- Stanford International Human Rights Law Association (SIHRLA)
- Stanford International Law Society (SILS)
- Stanford Latino Law Students Association (SLLSA)
- Stanford Law and Policy Society
- Stanford Law and Technology Association (SLATA)
- Stanford Law and Wine Society
- Stanford Law School Golf Association
- Stanford Law School Mock Trial Program
- Stanford Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Stanford National Security & the Law Society
- Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation (SPILF)
- Street Law
- The Voting Rights Project
- Women of Stanford Law (WSL)

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RANK

4

COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS¹⁻³

435 West 116th Street
New York, NY 10027-7297

MAIN PHONE

212-854-2640

WEBSITE

<http://www.law.columbia.edu>

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

212-854-2668

ADMISSIONS PHONE

212-854-2670

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

212-854-2683

Overview^{4, 5}

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 27 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 Ratio⁶

9.3:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	170-175	3.58-3.82

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	7,988
Number accepted	1,184
Percentage accepted	14.8%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9, 10}

Columbia Law School does not rank students or assign GPA's

The law school uses an alphanumerical grading system to evaluate students' performance. In a timely manner, professors/instructors shall 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.

Honors¹¹

Kent Scholar: A student shall be named a Kent Scholar if during an academic year the student has earned at least 15 graded law credits toward his or 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+.

Stone Scholar: 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 school coursework is used to calculate honors. No student shall be named a Kent Scholar or Stone Scholar for any term that includes a law school grade of Incomplete.

Awards¹²

Name of Award	Description
Charles Bathgate Beck Prize	Awarded for the best examination paper in the course on law of real property
David M. Berger Memorial Prize	Awarded to a third-year student interested in international law and world peace
Harold Brown Book Prize	Awarded for the purchase of books to two or more needy first-year students who attended Columbia College

Class of 1912 Prize	Awarded to the best student in the subject of contracts
Milton B. Conford Book Prize in Jurisprudence	Awarded for the best examination paper or essay on jurisprudence
E.B. Convers Prize	Awarded for the best original essay on a legal subject
Archie O. Dawson Prize	Awarded for the best performance in the area of advocacy
James A. Elkins Prizes	Awarded to the best first-year law student in each of the following courses: Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, and Criminal Law
Alfred S. Forsyth Prize	Awarded to the best student in Environmental Law
Andrew D. Fried Memorial Prize	Awarded for the best student essay in the field of intellectual property and related law, published in the <i>Columbia Journal of Law & the Arts</i> during the preceding year
Walter Gellhorn Prize	Awarded to the best LLM student with the highest academic average
Lawrence S. Greenbaum Prize	Awarded for the best oral presentation in the final argument of the Harlan Fiske Stone Moot Court Competition
Carroll G. Harper Prize	Awarded for the highest achievement in intellectual property studies and writing
Paul R. Hays Prize	Awarded to the best first-year student in Civil Procedure
Pauline Berman Heller Prize Fund	Awarded to the best female law student
Jane Marks Murphy Prize	Awarded for interest and proficiency in advocacy in clinical offerings
John Ordronaux Prize	Awarded for general proficiency in legal study
Simon H. Rifkind Prize Fund	Awarded for the best overall performance in the first-year moot court program at Columbia Law School
Samuel I. Rosenman Prize	Awarded for 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
Emil Schlesinger Labor Law Prize	Awarded to the best student in the area of labor law
Whitney North Seymour Medal	Awarded to the student with the greatest promise of becoming a distinguished trial advocate
Young B. Smith Prize	Awarded to the best first-year student in Law of Torts
Robert Noxon Toppan Prize	Awarded for the best written Constitutional Law examination
Valentin J.T. Wertheimer Prize	Awarded for a creative, thoughtful approach to labor law, equal employment law, public or private sector collective bargaining, labor conflict resolution, or employment security
Allan Morrow Sexuality and Gender Law Prize	Awarded for outstanding achievement in the furtherance of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights
Jeffrey Williams Memorial Prize for Critical Rights Analysis	Awarded for the best paper in critical theory
Robert Stephen Haft Moot Court Prize	Awarded for the best written examination in constitutional law

Journals

The **Columbia Law Review** publishes articles and book reviews of scholarly and professional interest by academic authors and practicing attorneys, as well as notes written by members of the review. In addition to writing notes, staff members bear major responsibility for substantive and technical accuracy of the review's eight issues. Third-year students are responsible for selecting material for the issues and editing professional and student work.¹³

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.¹⁴

The **Columbia Journal of Asian Law** is published semiannually under the auspices of the centers for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Legal Studies. Formerly the *Journal of Chinese Law*, it is a forum for examining the fundamental underpinnings and the rapid development of bodies of law in Asia. Almost every aspect of Asian law is within the journal's scope: history, business, intellectual property, human rights, and public international law, to name a few. As part of this effort, the *Columbia Journal of Asian Law* was the first Columbia journal to pursue electronic publication via the Internet.¹⁵

The **Columbia Journal of Environmental Law** is a student-edited journal designed to be a valuable aid to the legal community and committed to the preservation and improvement of the environment.¹⁶

The **Columbia Journal of European Law** is published under the auspices of the European Legal Studies Center at Columbia Law School, in cooperation with the Institute for European Law of the Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven, Belgium. It is intended primarily to respond to the growth of interest in European law among Americans. While giving priority to the analysis of legal documents at the European Community and European Union level, the journal actively encourages contributions exploring any dimension of European law, including those at the national or regional levels, as well as those relevant to broader questions regarding the development of law and legal institutions in Europe as a whole. The subject areas covered by the journal range from human rights to corporate law.¹⁷

The **Columbia Journal of Gender and Law** publishes interdisciplinary works related to feminism and gender issues. It aims to promote an expansive view of feminism embracing women and men of different colors, classes, sexual orientations, and cultures.¹⁸

The **Columbia Journal of Law and Social Problems** is written and edited entirely by students, is published four times per year, and contains articles that analyze a specific legal question in light of related economic, political, or sociological considerations.¹⁹

The **Columbia Journal of Law & the Arts** is a quarterly publication on all aspects of law and the arts, entertainment, media, and intellectual property, both domestic and international. Each issue is entirely student-edited and includes both articles and student notes. Students are selected for staff positions at the end of their first year on the basis of a journal writing competition and their academic performance. Second-year responsibilities include the satisfactory completion of a note and administrative and production duties.²⁰

The **Columbia Journal of Transnational Law** publishes material on all aspects of transnational, international, and comparative law, both public and private. Each issue is entirely student-edited and includes articles by professional authors and by student members of the journal. Students are selected for staff positions at the end of the first year on the basis of grades and a writing sample (either the law review writing competition or their moot court briefs). Selections for editorial positions are made from among the staff at the end of the second year.²¹

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. It is governed by an administrative board consisting of third-year student editors. The staff consists of law students selected on the basis of academic performance during the first-year of law school and writing ability as demonstrated through the writing competition held annually after the spring term. Second-year 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.²²

The **Columbia Journal of East European Law** is subsumed by the current *Columbia Journal of European Law* publication and will cease to exist as a separate publication. Because of the rapid eastward expansion of the European Union and the growth of other transnational organizations such as the Council of Europe, the Boards have taken this decision.²³

The **Columbia Science and Technology Law Review** is an online journal that features articles from scholars and practitioners and provides a forum for scholarship regarding the changing technological landscape and its influence on law and social policy. Topic areas include but are not limited to the Internet, telecommunications, biotechnology, computer law, and technological property. A scientific or technical background is helpful but by no means required for membership.²⁴

The **American Review of International Arbitration** is a quarterly law review published by Columbia's Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law. It publishes scholarly articles, commentaries on recent developments, case notes, and bibliographical information. The review attracts an array of contributions by leading scholars and practitioners as well as Columbia law students.²⁵

The **National Black Law Journal** has been committed to scholarly discourse exploring the intersection of race and the law for more than 28 years. The journal has aimed to build on this tradition by publishing articles that make a substantive contribution to current issues such as affirmative action, employment law, the criminal justice system, community development, and labor issues.²⁶

Moot Court^{27, 28}

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 Competition and the NALSA Moot Court Competition.

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 WTO Moot Court Competition

In addition, the law school participates in the European Law Moot Court Competition, which was founded in 1988 and hosts teams from the European Union, Central and Eastern Europe, the United States, Canada, and Australia.

Clinical Programs^{29, 30}

The clinical programs at Columbia Law School provide students with two essential experiences. First, because the clinical professors are deeply engaged in their areas of expertise, they challenge students to learn not only how attorneys practice law but also how lawyers can advocate for changes in the law. Students are encouraged throughout their clinical experience to envision how legal institutions and practices might be reformed and reorganized to provide the best service to clients and the larger society. Also, in the course of undertaking clinical work, students learn to embrace the professional responsibility of community service. Whether pursuing a public interest career or developing a commitment to pro bono service, clinic students learn to serve clients who are unable to secure legal representation because of poverty or indigence, the controversial nature of their causes, or the complexity of their problems.

The clinical programs offered are:

- The Child Advocacy Clinic
- The Environmental Law Clinic
- The Human Rights Clinic
- The Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic
- The Mediation Clinic
- The Nonprofit Organizations/Small Business Clinic
- The Sexuality and Gender Law Clinic

The law school is currently offering following clinical programs in the spring 2010

- Environmental Law Clinic
- Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Prisoners and Families Clinic
- Sexuality and Gender Law Clinic

Placement Facts³¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25th-75th percentile)	\$136,000 - \$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$140,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	98.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.8%

Practice Areas³²

Graduates Employed	In Percentage
Private Practice	82%
Business/Industry	2%
Government	2%
Public Interest	3%
Judicial Clerkship	11%
Academic	1%
Military	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships³³⁻³⁶

Externships

At Columbia Law School, an externship consists of (1) a seminar that in most cases meets once a week and (2) 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 practicing attorneys, and the field placements are at their workplaces. Social Justice Initiatives has the primary responsibility for the creation and oversight of externships.

The specific externships offered in 2010 are as follows:

- Arts Law Externship
- Community Defense Externship
- Externship at the United Nations
- Externship on Pro Bono Practice and Design
- Federal Appellate Court Externship (Not Offered Spring 2010)
- Federal Court Clerk Externship
- Representing New York City: Externship at the New York City Law Department
- US Attorney's Office: Eastern District Of New York

Internships

Columbia Law School offers following internship programs:

Students who are 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, 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 Labor Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
- International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea
- World Trade Organization, Geneva, Switzerland
- World Intellectual Property Organization Summer School on Intellectual Property, Geneva, Switzerland

Public Interest Internships: The law school provides funds for all 1L and 2L JD students who are interested in working with public interest organization. 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.

Human Rights Internship Program: The program enables students to intern at international human rights organizations abroad with a stipend.

Student Organizations³⁷

- African Law Students Association
- Alpine Society
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Asian and Pacific American Law Students Association
- Beltway Bound
- Black Law Students Association
- Building A Better Legal Profession
- California Society
- Christian Legal Society

- Civil Rights Law Society
- Columbia Business and Law Association
- Columbia Gastronomy Society
- Columbia International Arbitration Association
- Columbia Law Revue
- Columbia Law School Democrats
- Columbia Law School Military Association
- Columbia Law School Republicans
- Columbia Law School Soccer Association
- Columbia Law School Softball Club
- Columbia Law School Trial Team
- 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
- The Courtroom Advocates Project (Cap)
- Entertainment, Arts, And Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Harlem Tutorial Program
- High School Law Institute
- Impact
- InSITE
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Koleinu
- Korean Law Students Association
- Latino/A Law Students Association
- MESO
- Mentoring Youth through Legal Education
- Midwest Society
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students for Social Enterprise
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association
- NHK: Japanese Legal Studies Association
- Outlaws
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Qanun
- Rightslink
- Society for Chinese Law

- Society for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- Society for Law, Science and Technology
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Student Senate
- Tenants' Rights Project
- Transfer and Visiting Student Organization
- Unemployment Action Center
- Y'Allsa
- Yoga Club
- Youth Justice Association

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RANK

5

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Overview²⁻⁵

Founded in 1835, New York University School of Law is a preeminent global law school featuring innovative teaching, research, and intellectual and professional development in a uniquely collegial environment.

The law school offers varied courses of study, including business, constitutional, criminal, environmental, interdisciplinary, international, procedure, public interest, and tax law, as well as innovative programs, such as clinics and lawyering program. Through clinical programs students work with clients and communities on intensely demanding cases, projects, and deals. The law school participates in exchange programs with 16 law faculties around the world. It encourages students to study abroad, and receives exchange students from other countries, enhancing the law school's goal of providing opportunities for the study of global legal issues.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

9.6:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	169-173	3.56-3.85

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	7,074
Number accepted	1,622
Percentage accepted	22.9%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

New York University School of Law does not rank students and does not maintain records of cumulative averages for its students.

Students' grades at New York University School of Law depend largely upon the grade received in the final examination. Grades are generally not provided for courses or sections in which the student is not officially registered.

For JD and graduate students, the letter grading system corresponding to respective GPA used 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 the law school's transcripts include:

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), 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 (Withdrawn), which denotes withdrawal in writing from a course.

All students must maintain satisfactory academic progress. For JD students, satisfactory academic progress is understood to mean:

1. Completion of the required first-year curriculum during the first year of enrollment with a grade of D or better in all courses.
2. Thereafter, completion (with a grade of D or better and no more than eight hours of "uncompensated" D grades) of sufficient credits of coursework in each semester to allow for accumulation of a total of at least 83 (or, if applicable, 82) credits, including 30 accumulated in the first year, by the end of the third year. A minimum of 12 credits must be completed each semester.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

New grading guidelines for JD courses have been adopted by the faculty effective fall 2008.

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 should be 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.

Grade	First Year (Mandatory)	All Other JD (Non-Mandatory)
A+	0-2% (target 1%)	0-2% (target 1%)
A	7-13% (target 10 %)	7-13% (target 10 %)
A-	16-20 %(target 20 %) Maximum for A tier = 31%	16-20 %(target 20 %) Maximum for A tier = 31%
B+	22-30 %(target 26%) Maximum Grades above B 57%	22-30 %(target 26%) Maximum Grades above B 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.

Honors¹¹

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

The **New York University Law Review** publishes legal scholarship on a range of issues including legal theory and policy, environmental law, legal history, and international law. Each year, six issues containing contributions by professors, judges, and legal practitioners and notes written by members of the law review are published.¹²

The **New York University Annual Survey of American Law** is dedicated to exploring contemporary legal developments in the United States. The survey's articles analyze emerging legal trends, interpret significant recent court decisions and legislation, and explain leading legal scholars' and judges' perspectives on current legal topics. It is a student-edited journal. It is a quarterly publication.¹³

The **NYU Journal of Law & Business** explores a number of general areas including international law and business, law and finance, the effect of law and business on public interest organizations, and current topics in law and business, such as corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital and private equity, bankruptcy and restructuring, capital markets, and securities.¹⁴

The **New York University Environmental Law Journal** provides a platform for intellectuals keen on researching, promoting, and challenging the effectiveness of all aspects of environmental law and policy on an international, national, or local level. It comprises articles, book reviews, comments, and essays from environmental law scholars, practitioners, and students.¹⁵

The **New York University Journal of International Law and Politics** includes articles on international legal topics by leading scholars, jurists, and practitioners. Recent issues have included articles on international human rights law, privatization in Eastern Europe and Latin America, international aspects of intellectual property law, the future of nationalism, and asset securitization in Japan. The journal is published four times per year. The journal also publishes the *New York University School of Law Journal of International Law and Politics Guide to Foreign and International Legal Citation*.^{16, 17}

The **NYU Journal of Law & Liberty** focuses on the critical discussion of classical liberal legal scholarship, the nature of rules and order, legal philosophy, theories of rights and liberty, constitutional law, jurisprudence, legal history, and historical and contemporary legislation.¹⁸

The **New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy** is a nonpartisan periodical specializing in the analysis of state or federal legislation. The student-edited journal publishes two to three issues per volume every academic year. Generally each volume consists of two compilation issues and one symposium issue.¹⁹

The **New York University Review of Law & Social Change** was established as a forum for the discussion of ways in which legal scholarship could respond to the injustices suffered by society's marginalized population. The review publishes four issues per year including articles by nationally recognized scholars, legal practitioners, activists, and students.²⁰

I•CON, the International Journal of Constitutional Law focuses on transnational constitutional law and is edited at New York University School of Law and published by Oxford University Press. Its focus is on comparative constitutional issues, and its articles examine an array of theoretical and practical issues.²¹

The **Clinical Law Review** is a semiannual journal focused on issues of lawyering theory and clinical legal education. The review is jointly sponsored by the Association of American Law Schools, the Clinical Legal Education Association, and New York University School of Law.²²

The **East European Constitutional Review** provides in-depth information on the challenges and obstacles of post-socialist law and politics. It tracks regional constitutional development through articles, roundtables, and symposia involving regional and foreign scholars. A quarterly published by New York University Law School and Central European University.²³

The **Tax Law Review** is a quarterly journal for tax policy scholarship, one issue of which is devoted to an annual tax policy symposium. It publishes articles and essays by leading legal academicians, practitioners, and noted economists.²⁴

Moot Court^{25, 26}

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 Programs²⁷⁻²⁹

New York University School of Law's clinical program 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 27 clinics, New York University 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.

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

- Brennan Center Public Policy Advocacy Clinic
- Civil Rights Clinic
- Criminal and Community Defense Clinic
- Employment and Housing Discrimination Clinic
- Equal Justice and Capital Defender Clinic
- Federal Defender Clinic
- Immigrant Rights Clinic
- International Human Rights Clinic
- Juvenile Defender Clinic
- Law, Organizing, and Social Change Clinic
- Offender Reentry Clinic

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

- Business Law Transactions Clinic
- Children's Rights Clinic
- Community Development and Economic Justice Clinic
- Comparative Criminal Justice Clinic
- Criminal Appellate Defender Clinic
- Environmental Law Clinic
- Family Defense Clinic
- Government Civil Litigation Clinic - Eastern District of New York
- Government Civil Litigation Clinic - Southern District of New York
- Immigrant Defense Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Mediation Clinic - Advanced
- 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
- Tax Clinic

Placement Facts³⁰

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	99.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.8%

Practice Areas³¹

Graduates Employed	In Percentage
Private Practice	79%
Business/Industry (legal)	2%
Government	3%
Public Interest Organization	8%
Judicial Clerkship	8%
Military	0%
Academic	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships³²

Internships

The law school 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 Center for Human Rights and Global Justice provides international internships with the UN's International Law Commission and with human rights organizations around the world. It also sponsors an International Summer Internship at The Hague Conference on Private International Law. The Center for Environmental and Land Use Law provides grants for summer internships to students working in environmental and land use law with environmental groups, government agencies, and other public interest law practice institutions in the US or abroad.

Student Organizations³³

- African Law Association
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asia Law Society
- Asian-Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Allied Law Students Association
- Canadian Content
- Christian Legal Fellowship
- Class of 2009 Graduation Gift
- Coalition for Legal Recruiting
- The Commentator

- Cuba Legal Studies Group
- Domestic Violence Advocacy Project
- Education Law and Policy Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Society
- High School Law Institute
- Intellectual Property & Entertainment Law Society
- International Law Society
- Islamic Law Students Association
- JD/MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law & Business Association
- Law & Social Entrepreneurship Association
- Law Democrats
- Law Republicans
- Law Revue
- Law Student Drug Policy Forum
- Law Students Against the Death Penalty
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students for Human Rights
- Law Women
- Legal AIDS
- Mediation Organization
- Mental Health Law Association
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Older Wiser Law Students
- Open Meditation and Yoga Association (OM)
- OUTLaw
- Law Students for Economic Justice (LawSEJ, formerly Practice)
- Prisoners' Rights & Education Project
- Project on Negotiation & Dispute Resolution
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Public Service Auction
- Real Estate & Urban Policy Forum
- Research, Education & Advocacy to Combat Homelessness
- Small Business Law Connection
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Southern Exposure
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Lawyer Athletic Program
- Substantial Performance

- Suspension Representation Project
- Texas Club
- Trial Advocacy Society
- Unemployment Action Center
- West Coast Connection
- Women of Color Collective (WOCC)
- Youth and Criminal Justice Society

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RANK

6

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Overview²⁻⁶

The University of California-Berkeley, a public institution, was founded in 1868 and its law school traces its roots back to a 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 law library is rich in legal history and common law material. Through the Robbins endowment, it has also a good 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, manuscripts and religious law.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

12.3:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	164-170	3.7-3.92

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	7,390
Number accepted	838
Percentage accepted	11.3%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

Berkeley law students are not ranked by their academic records.

- High Honors (HH)
- Honors (H)
- Pass (P)
- Substandard Pass (PC), showing that while credit has been obtained, the work is of low quality
- No Credit (NC), a failing grade showing that no credit has been earned for the course

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

Up until the fall of 1997, students received one of four grades in courses at Boalt Hall: High Honors (HH), Honors (H), Pass (P), or No Credit (NC). In fall 1997, a grade of Substandard Pass (PC), which falls between Pass and No Credit, was added; this grade indicates that the student received credit for the course but the work was of low quality.

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. A 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 20 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.

Honors¹²

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.

Awards¹³⁻¹⁵

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

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

Journals¹⁶

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.¹⁷

The **Asian American Law Journal** is one of the few 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 Islanders, both in the United States and abroad. The *Asian American Law Journal* was established to help develop Asian Pacific American legal scholarship and create an intellectual network to advance this area.¹⁸

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, providing a constant forum for scholarly discussion, bringing together leading scholars from around the world, and publishing the newest and most intriguing articles.¹⁹

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.²⁰

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 February and one in August. The *Boalt Journal of Criminal Law* publishes articles on topics of national and international significance. It is available in print and through LexisNexis and Westlaw.^{21, 22}

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.²³

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.²⁴

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.²⁵

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.²⁶

The **Berkeley Technology Law Journal** has emerged as the leading technology law journal in the United States. Published four issues 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.²⁷

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.²⁸

The **Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern & Islamic Law's** has published its debut issue in the spring 2008 and will continue to publish in the spring every 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 present cutting-edge scholarship. It is a valuable resource for academics, jurists, practitioners, students, and others interested in Islamic and Middle Eastern law and policy.^{29, 30}

IMPACT: A Multidisciplinary Journal Addressing the Issues of Urban Youth is a multidisciplinary journal fusing research, practice and policy to advance the success of urban youth. Each issue focuses on a particular theme and examines that topic from a variety of disciplines, including first hand accounts from the youth in our communities. It invites both academics and practitioners to share their experiences, research, and recommendations.³¹

Moot Court³²

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^{33, 34}

The clinical programs provide many opportunities for students to work on real cases as part of their legal education. During second and third years, students can participate in a variety of clinical projects that provide legal services directly to individual clients or that involve close interaction with lawyers on large-scale cases or other legal matters. Clinical opportunities include: the International Human Rights Law Clinic, the Samuelson Law, Technology and Public Policy Clinic, the East Bay Community Law Center, the Domestic Violence Clinic, the Death Penalty Clinic, and several student-run clinics, including: the California Asylum Representation Clinic, the East Bay Workers' Rights Clinic, the HIV Outreach Program, the Homeless Outreach Program, and Migrant Legal Services. The student-run clinics are typically open to first-year students who work under the supervision of 2L and 3L students and skilled practitioners. No course credit is given for participation in student-run 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.³⁵

The **International Human Rights Law Clinic**, which 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**, which 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.³⁶

The **East Bay Community Law Center** is the community-based component of Boalt Hall's clinical program. Students work under the direct supervision of the center's attorneys and Boalt Hall lecturers in areas of benefits advocacy, estate planning, family law issues, debt relief, and immigration.³⁷

Placement Facts³⁸

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$160,000 - \$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.3%

Practice Areas³⁹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	72%
Business and Industry	4%
Government	5%
Judicial Clerkship	9%
Military	0%
Public Interest Organization	10%
Academic	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{40, 41}

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.

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.

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.

Student Organizations⁴²

- 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 Energy & Resources Collaborative
- Berkeley Law Critical Race Scholars' Society
- Berkeley Law Foundation
- Berkeley Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (Berkeley SALDF)
- Boalt Catholic Community
- Boalt Criminal Law Association
- Boalt Death Penalty Discourse Project
- Boalt Disability Law Society
- Boalt Hall Committee for Human Rights
- Boalt Hall Student Association (BHSA)
- 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 Muslim Student Association
- Boalt.org
- Boalt Police Review Advocates
- Boalt Students for Israel
- Board of Advocates
- California Asylum Representation Clinic (CARC)
- Center for Social Justice Student Advisory Board
- Christians at Boalt
- Coalition for Diversity
- Community Legal Outreach
- Creative Law Society
- EBCLC Student Steering Committee

- East European and Central Asian Law Student Association
- Environmental Law Society
- International Law Society
- Korean American Law Students Association
- La Raza Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Students for Justice in Palestine
- Law Students of African Descent
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild - Boalt Chapter
- Native American Law Students Association
- The OC @ Boalt
- Parents at Boalt
- Pilipino American Law Society
- South Asian Law Student Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Organization for Advanced Legal Studies (SOALS)
- STudents OPposing Domestic Violence (STOP DV)
- Transfer Student Coalition
- Universities Allied for Essential Medicines
- Women of Color Collective (WOCC)
- Workers' Rights Clinic

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RANK

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<http://www.law.uchicago.edu>**Overview²⁻⁷**

The University of Chicago Law School occupies a unique niche among premier law schools in US. 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 lunchtime 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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁸

9.7:1

Admission Criteria⁹

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	169-173	3.57-3.79

Admission Statistics¹⁰

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	5,032
Number accepted	887
Percentage accepted	17.6%

Class Ranking and Grades¹¹

The University of Chicago Law School uses the following grading scale:

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

The University of Chicago Law School does not rank students. Grades are recorded as numerical grades by the law school and as letter grades by the Office of the Registrar.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹²

There is a curve for classes of more than 50 students where the number of A grades should approximately equal the number of C grades. The median grade for these classes is 177. To maintain satisfactory academic standing, a student must receive a weighted grade average of 168 or more for the work of each academic year (three-quarter sequence) and a cumulative average of 168 after the conclusion of the second year (sixth quarter) and the third year (ninth quarter).

A grade of 160 or above is required for credit in a course. A student who receives two failing final grades in any one academic year or three failing final grades during his or her period of residence at the law school will not have maintained satisfactory academic standing. Maintenance of satisfactory academic standing is a prerequisite to continuing study in the law school as well as to graduating from the law school.

Honors¹³

Since 2002, honors have been awarded at graduation based on final average as follows:

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Highest Honors	182 and higher
High Honors	180.5 and higher
Honors	179 and higher
Kirkland & Ellis Scholars.	Top 5% of graduating class

Awards^{14, 15}

Name of Award	Description
Joseph Henry Beale Prize	Awarded to the best student in each legal research/writing section
Ann Barber Award	Awarded for the best contribution to the law school's culture
Edwin F. Mandel Award	Awarded for the best contribution to the work of the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic
Casper Platt Award	Awarded annually for the best paper written by a student

Journals

The **University of Chicago Law Review** publishes articles, student comments, and book reviews on current legal issues and problems. It is published quarterly. The *University of Chicago Law Review* was first published in 1933. Often cited in Supreme Court and other court opinions as well as in other scholarly works, it is among the most influential journals in the field.^{16, 17}

The **Chicago Journal of International Law** provides an interdisciplinary forum for discussion and analysis of international law and policy issues. Short comments and articles written by students and scholars on issues pertaining to international law and foreign affairs are published primarily.¹⁸

The **University of Chicago Legal Forum** is the law school's topical law journal and examines current legal issues in depth. The *University of Chicago Legal Forum* is a student-edited journal that focuses on a single cutting-edge legal issue every year, presenting an authoritative and timely approach to a particular topic. First published in 1985, it is the University of Chicago Law School's second-oldest journal.¹⁹

The **Journal of Law & Economics** was established in 1958. It 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.²⁰

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. It was founded in 1972.²¹

The **Supreme Court Review** 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. It is written by and for legal academics, judges, political scientists, journalists, historians, economists, policy planners, and sociologists.²²

The **Green Bag** is an alumni publication. The journal is aimed at providing readers valuable and engaging material on current legal issues.²³

Moot Court^{24, 25}

The Hinton Moot Court Competition is open to all second- and third-year students. The competition provides students the opportunity to develop and demonstrate skills in written and oral appellate advocacy. Participants can advance through three rounds:

1. Fall Round (preliminary)
2. Winter Round (semifinal)
3. Spring Round (final)

The competition is conducted by the Hinton Moot Court Board, which is made up of semifinalists and finalists from the previous year. The winning team is awarded the Hinton Cup; the runners-up are awarded the Llewellyn Cup.

In addition, the law school participates in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. The participants are prepared under the guidance of the International Law Society.

Clinical Programs²⁶

The University of Chicago Law School is home to four highly regarded legal clinics: the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic, the Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship, the Exoneration Project, and the Immigrant Children's Advocacy Clinic.

The law school was a pioneer in clinical legal education, having opened the very first legal clinic associated with a law school. That clinic, the Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic, continues to serve the people of the city of Chicago to this day, and the law school now runs eight projects within that clinic and has added additional clinics to ensure both the growth of community service and practical education at the law school.

The **Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic** is a legal aid office. The mission of the clinic is to teach students effective advocacy skills, professional ethics, and the effect of legal institutions on the poor; to examine and apply legal theory while serving as advocates for people typically denied access to justice; and to reform legal education and the legal system to be more responsive to the interests of the poor.²⁷

The **Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship**, or IJ Clinic is a joint project of the Institute for Justice and the law school. It provides a range of legal services, especially those for startup businesses, to local entrepreneurs in economically disadvantaged communities. ²⁸

The **Immigrant Children's Advocacy Project** is a human service and policy advocacy program. It is committed to advocating for the interests of immigrant and refugee children who are alone in the US. The project's aim is to develop a national network of child advocates who help ensure the best interests of these particularly vulnerable children.²⁹

The **Exoneration Project** represents innocent clients who have been convicted of crimes. The project assists clients in asserting their claims of actual innocence in state and federal court. Student participants are involved in all aspects of post-conviction litigation, including selecting cases, uncovering and developing new evidence of our clients' innocence, and filing and litigating post-conviction petitions, habeas petitions, clemency petitions, and motions for forensic testing.³⁰

Placement Facts³¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$160,000 - \$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$56,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	96.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.5%

Practice Areas³²

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	82%
Business and Industry	3%
Government	1.5%
Judicial Clerkship	13%
Military	0%
Public Interest Organization	0.5%
Academic	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{33, 34}

Internships

The law school offers following internship programs:

International Internship Program: An international internship program is offered by the law school 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: A judicial internship program is offered by the law school to help connect students with judges who are interested in having volunteer interns work for the judge during the summer.

Student Organizations³⁵

- 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 Journal of International Law
- Chicago Law Foundation
- China Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- CLAWS
- Criminal Law Society
- Dallin H. Oaks Society
- The Edmund Burke Society
- Entertainment & Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- FeedChicago
- Health Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Human Rights Law Society
- International Law Society
- JD/MBA Association
- Japan Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latino/a Law Students Association
- Law and Internet Forum
- Law and Society
- Law Review
- Law School Democrats
- Law School Film Fest
- Law School Musical
- Law School Republicans
- Law Women's Caucus
- Lawyers as Leaders
- Legal Forum
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- Neighbors
- Muslim Law Students Association
- 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
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- Trivia Contest
- Wine Mess
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8

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Overview³⁻⁸

The University of Pennsylvania Law School started its full-time program in law in 1850 under the leadership of George Sharswood, an innovator in legal education. Its cross-disciplinary program allows law students to take classes and earn certificates or joint degrees through schools and programs such as the Wharton School, the Annenberg School for Communication, and the Center for Bioethics. Its academic program also allows law students the flexibility to craft a graduate legal education that reflects their own intellectual interests and professional goals.

The law school emphasizes its clinical programs in which students work with local residents and gain experience in their fields while completing coursework. Externships are also available to those students wishing to work at local firms or in public offices while still in school.

In addition to classes, each student must complete 70 hours of law-related public service prior to graduation. Penn Law is committed to its students learning the value of pro bono work. Students are allowed to choose an organization and then design a project to legally aid those who might otherwise be unable to afford help. Student activities at Penn Law cover a wide spectrum of academic interest areas, identity groups, political affiliations, intramural sports, publications, moot court activities, and service organizations.

The University of Pennsylvania Law School's Biddle Law Library has a rich collection in modern and historical Anglo-American law, foreign and international law, and rare books. The library not only supports the research, education, and scholarship of Penn Law faculty and students but also supports the needs of the rest of the university, the wider scholarly community, and the general public.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁹

11.6:1

Admission Criteria¹⁰

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	166-171	3.46-3.88

Admission Statistics¹¹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	5,811
Number accepted	957
Percentage accepted	16.5%

Class Ranking and Grades^{12, 13}

In the fall of 1995, the University of Pennsylvania Law School adopted a grading system of A, B+, B, B-, C, and F grades, with a rare A+ awarded for distinguished performance. In the fall of 2002, the law school additionally adopted the grade of A-.

University of Pennsylvania Law School students are not ranked in class. The school advises, “Employers should take care in comparing our system with those of other schools—students are admitted under very competitive standards, yet the mandatory curve requires that some students fall into all grade categories. Additionally, the 1L Legal Writing course is graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Students who perform exceptionally well in this course receive the grade of Honors.”

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{14, 15}

The A+ grade is only rarely awarded. Grades are awarded mandatorily in first-year courses, so in each course some students will receive B- and C grades. 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.

Honors¹⁶

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving
Order of the Coif	10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Approximately 1%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Approximately 5%
<i>cum laude</i>	Approximately 25%

Awards¹⁷

Approximately 34 awards for a variety of accomplishments are awarded at commencement. The University of Pennsylvania Law School has not provided a list of specific awards.

Journals

The **University of Pennsylvania Law Review** is published by students of the University of Pennsylvania Law School, covering a range of legal topics. Founded in 1852 as the *American Law Register*, the *University of Pennsylvania Law Review* is the nation's oldest law review. 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 law review also affords associate editors valuable educational experience.¹⁸

The **University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law** is an expansion of the *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business and Employment Law*. 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. It publishes three standard issues and one symposium issue each year.¹⁹

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. The journal has a relationship with the National Constitution Center and has an interdisciplinary relationship with the University of Pennsylvania's political science department, School of Social Policy and Practice, The Medical School, and Wharton School.²⁰

The **University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law** was formerly known as the *Journal of International Economic Law*. It has broadened its focus to explore issues at the forefront of general international law, but retains its strength as a leading journal of international business and economic law. It publishes articles on public and private international, comparative, transnational, and foreign law. The journal provides an interdisciplinary and comparative focus through the contributions of academics, government officials, and practitioners.²¹

The **University of Pennsylvania Journal of Law & Social Change** (JLASC) is student-run journal and seminar that uses an interdisciplinary scholarly approach to challenge social injustice. All journal members have input in journal decision-making, and new associate editors are involved in article selection and have other leadership opportunities. It publishes two issues of the journal and publishes articles from a diverse range of legal scholars around the country. JLASC members each play an integral role in article review, selection, and the editing process. In addition, it also conducts an informal seminar over the course of the year.²²

The **Journal of Animal Law and Ethics** is an independent journal produced by students at the University of Pennsylvania Law School and is not affiliated with or sponsored by the law school or the University of Pennsylvania. It is an annual publication.²³

The **East Asia Law Review** functions both as an independent, student-edited journal and a group for Penn Law students interested in comparative legal issues in East Asia. The mission of EALR is to provide a forum for the study of the law of East Asian nations. It invites articles on East Asian legal issues from students and academics, and also arranges for lectures and small group discussions on relevant topics.²⁴

Moot Court²⁵

Many students are very active in the moot court program at Penn Law, both at the law school and on Penn Law teams that attend other competitions. Faculty offer support and encourage students who become involved in the moot court program, recognizing its immense value for participants.

Appellate Advocacy II is Penn Law's second-year intramural moot court competition. Participants research and write a brief and then present their case in one or perhaps two rounds of oral arguments before a panel of students, faculty, practitioners, and judges. The results are then ranked.

From the 2L rankings, the top four students become the Keedy Cup Team, who then work on a new brief in the fall semester and argue before a panel of distinguished jurists.

The next three students represent Penn Law at the National Moot Court Competition. The next 14 students become members of the Moot Court Board and are responsible for preparing problems and reviewing the work of contestants.

In recent years, students have formed their own teams and participated in various moot court competitions including the Merna B. Marshall Moot Court Competition, the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, and the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

Clinical Programs²⁶

The University of Pennsylvania Law School offers the following clinical programs:

The **Civil Practice Clinic**, in which students provide legal representation to indigent clients in matters of civil nature. Students deal with a wide spectrum of legal work including interviewing clients, drafting negotiation, representation in courts, etc., under the supervision of faculty.²⁷

The **Entrepreneurship Legal Clinic**, founded in 1982, which provides law students experience in serving entrepreneurs—both for profit and in nonprofit capacities—and provides counseling to the community, free of cost. Students work under the supervision of faculty in the clinic.²⁸

The **Mediation Clinic**, whose primary aim is to develop the skills of students in mediation while taking note of pertinent ethical issues. The course has two components: classroom study and fieldwork.²⁹

The **Legislative Clinic**, which is focused on legislative work and the formation of public policy. Students in the clinic acquire extensive experience due to the combination of classroom training and fieldwork.³⁰

The **Interdisciplinary Child Advocacy Clinic**, in which law students, along with medical students and students of social work, study how the problems of children have been addressed by the legal system. As child advocates, students also represent children in court proceedings.³¹

The **Transnational Legal Clinic**, founded in 2006, which provides a platform for students to represent individuals and organizations dealing with a range of international and comparative legal norms in a variety of international and domestic venues.³²

Lawyering in the Public Interest, an upper-class seminar in which students study contemporary readings and court observations. The seminar is also enriched with guest speakers, films, and in-class exercises on utilizing clinical methods to help students understand the challenges inherent in public interest lawyering.³³

The **Criminal Defense Clinic**, which provides a vast number of opportunities to students and helps them gain experience in almost every related aspect of litigation. Students work under the supervision of a senior trial attorney from the Defender Association of Philadelphia.³⁴

The **Supreme Court Clinic**, in which students work on real Supreme Court cases, including conducting research, writing briefs and participating in moot court rehearsals that are held prior to oral arguments at One First Street.

Placement Facts³⁵

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$54,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.6%

Practice Areas³⁶

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	76.8%
Business/Industry	3.9%
Government	0%
Public Interest Organization	2.8%
Judicial Clerkship	16.5%
Military	0%
Academic	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{37, 38}

Externships

A limited number of experience-based opportunities are offered at unique public law settings in the Philadelphia area. Externs receive a diverse and rich mix of experiences, both in terms of direct participation as student-lawyers and via observation. The externship placement agencies work closely with the Penn Law

clinical faculty to ensure that all students receive close supervision and meet regularly with their externship supervisors to receive feedback on their placement work. Biweekly tutorials with clinical faculty provide opportunities to discuss broader themes involving professional responsibility, delivery of services, legal institutions, competence, and other relevant issues that arise in each setting. All externships are open to second- and third-year students, but third-year students are given enrollment priority.

Recent externship placements have included:

- Community Legal Services
- Death Penalty Litigation at the Capital Habeas Unit of the Federal Defenders Office
- Equality Advocates Pennsylvania (formerly the Center for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights)
- Federal Appellate Litigation (in partnership with Dechert, LLP)
- General Counsel's Office of the University of Pennsylvania
- National Labor Relations Board
- Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission
- Philadelphia District Attorney's Office
- Philadelphia Legal Assistance
- The Delaware Riverkeeper
- US Attorney's Office
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- Women's Law Project

Internships

The law school offers summer internship program. Its Public Interest Funding Program is an integral part of 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 US 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.

Student Organizations³⁹

- American Constitution Society for Law & Policy
- American Inns of Court (AIC)
- Animal Law Project
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Civ Throw - Penn Law Ultimate Frisbee
- Council of Student Representatives (CSR)
- Cross-Cultural Society
- Custody and Support Assistance Project
- East Asia Law Review
- East Asian Legal Studies Association

- Entertainment and Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law Project (ELP)
- Equal Justice Foundation (EJF)
- Federalist Society
- Feminist Working Group
- Geeky Law Students (GLS)
- Graduate and Professional Student Assembly
- Guild Food Stamp Clinic
- Health Law Group
- International Law Organization (ILO)
- Iron Chef Club
- J. Reuben Law Clark Society
- Jessup International Moot Court Team
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Joint Tenant Society
- Journal of Animal Law and Ethics
- Lambda Law
- Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA)
- Law and Entrepreneurship Organization
- Law and the Brain Group
- Law Revue
- Law School Light Opera Company
- Legal Education Partnership
- Maimonides
- Marshall Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project
- Middle Eastern Law Student Association
- Mincha Minyan
- Moot Court
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers Guild
- Penn Advocates for the Homeless
- 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 Boxing Club
- Penn Law Catholic Student Association
- Penn Law Christian Legal Aid
- Penn Law Democrats
- Penn Law Flag Football
- Penn Law Folk Music Circle
- Penn Law Foosball
- Penn Law for Reproductive Justice
- Penn Law Gun Club
- Penn Law Hellenic Group

- Penn Law Ice Hockey
- The Immigrant Rights Project
- Penn Law International Human Rights Advocates
- Penn Law Mock Trial Team
- Penn Law Real Estate Club
- Penn Law Republicans
- Penn Law Soccer Club
- Penn Law Softball
- Penn Law Squash
- Penn Law Tennis Club
- Penn Law Wine and Food Club
- Penn Law Women's Association
- Pre-Law Mentoring Program
- Prisoners' Legal Education Project
- Public Interest Mentoring Initiative
- Reproductive Rights Clinic
- Sadie T. Alexander Memorial Conference
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Sparer Public Interest Law Conference
- Street Law Students Against Gender-Based Exploitation - SAGE Group
- Employment Advocacy Project
- United Law Students of Color Council (ULSCC)
- University of Pennsylvania Journal of Business Law
- University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law
- University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law
- University of Pennsylvania Journal of Law and Social Change
- University of Pennsylvania Law Review
- Urban Law Forum
- Urban Ventures Project
- Y'allISA

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RANK

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE

734-764-0546

Overview²⁻⁵

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 University of Michigan Law School is also among the top law schools in placing the largest percentage of graduates in the most prestigious national law firms. The school has long enjoyed renown as a launching pad to the nation's premier private law firms, most competitive judicial clerkships, and coveted academic positions. In addition, the school encourages students to contribute to the community through pro bono programs, volunteer work, and public service-oriented fellowships. At least half of all University of Michigan law students commit themselves to some type of community service project, many of which are organized by student-run organizations, before they graduate.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

12.4:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	166-170	3.54-3.82

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	5,577
Number accepted	1,181
Percentage accepted	21.2%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

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

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)¹⁰

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.

Grade	Target Percentage	Minimum and Maximum Percentage
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%

Honors¹¹

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Student must earn a minimum of 62 credit hours in courses at the Law School which are fully graded and factored into his or her honor point average
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 4.000 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.700 or higher but lower than 4.000
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.400 or higher but lower than 3.700

Awards^{12, 13}

Name of Award	Description
Clara Belfield & Henry Bates Overseas Fellowships	Awarded to graduates/students with two or more years of law study to travel abroad for study or work experience
The International Court of Justice University's Traineeship Program	Awarded to final-year JD/LLM students with excellent overall academic records in public international law as well as strong research and writing skills
Clerkships at the European Court of Justice Dean Acheson Legal Stage Program	Awarded to students with strong knowledge of community law
Student Funded Fellowships	Awarded to students who take unpaid or low-paying public interest summer internships
Center for International & Comparative Studies Student Fellowships	Awarded to students conducting research on human rights, international development, and/or international security and cooperation
Jane L. Mixer Memorial Award	Not provided
Juan Tienda Scholarship	Not provided
Butch Carpenter Memorial Scholarship	Not provided
Robert B. Fiske Jr. Fellowship	Not provided
The Dean's Public Service Fellows Program	Not provided
Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship	Awarded to students to study modern foreign languages and related area or international studies

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.¹⁴

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.¹⁵

The **Michigan Journal of International Law** is the University of Michigan Law School's student-run international publication. First published as the *Michigan Yearbook of International Legal Studies*, the journal has evolved into one of the most highly regarded quarterly journals in international law. Working on the *Michigan Journal of International Law* provides opportunities to work with foreign law and languages and interact with authors from around the world.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

The **Michigan Telecommunications and Technology Law Review** is 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.¹⁹

Moot Court^{20, 21}

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 has clinics for the study of civil and criminal litigation, child advocacy, community economic development, environmental law, and poverty law.²²

In the **Urban Communities Clinic** (UCC), students offer transactional legal services for groups engaged in neighborhood-based community development.²³

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.²⁴

The **Pediatric Advocacy Clinic**, a key component of the Pediatric Advocacy Initiative, is part of the law school's public service commitment and is designed to improve child health outcomes by addressing legal issues that impact the health of low-income children and their families. The clinic was started in the fall 2004 semester and places students in pediatric healthcare settings to provide on-site legal advocacy assistance and training to pediatric providers and their patients.²⁵

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.²⁶

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.²⁷

The **Mediation Clinic** helps students develop skills pertinent to facilitating mediation as well as mediating legal disputes in various community settings.²⁸

The **Low Income Taxpayer Clinic** gives students hands-on experience in assisting clients dealing with Internal Revenue Service problems.²⁹

The **General Clinic** provides students opportunities to practice law in the civil and criminal sectors under the supervision of faculty.³⁰

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.³¹

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.³²

In the **International Taxpayer Clinic**, students make presentations to and hold individual consultations with workers and students from other countries about their US income tax rights and obligations and assist workers who speak English as a second language. Populations served include University of Michigan faculty, staff, and students as well as other members of the area community. Tax issues include nonresident alien/resident alien status and the tax consequences thereof, dual status tax years, and tax treaty benefits.³³

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.³⁴

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.³⁵

Placement Facts³⁶

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$55,706

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.5%

Practice Areas³⁷

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	72.6%
Business and Industry	5.1%
Government	2.6%
Judicial Clerkship	13.6%
Military	0%
Public Interest Organization	5.3%
Academic	0.8%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships³⁸⁻⁴⁰

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 Department of Defense General Counsels’ Office-International Affairs Division, US Department of Justice, Securities and Exchange Commission, US Copyright Office, ACLU of Michigan, Pharmaceutical Research Manufacturers Association, The Bronx Defenders, Habeas Corpus Resource Center, and the Boston Housing Authority.

During the fall academic year, there is also a South African externship program, which each year allows a limited number of students to complete externships in South Africa. Additionally, there is a winter semester externship program that allows select students to spend the semester in externships in Geneva, Switzerland. This program is 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 International Institute of University of Michigan funds undergraduate, graduate, and professional school students to participate in internships abroad. Internships can be with private companies, government agencies, international organizations, or non-governmental organizations. The international institute cannot assist applicants in obtaining internship placements. Internships can be paid or unpaid, but students with paid internships must include their salary amounts in their budgets, and are eligible only for partial funding. 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 Organizations⁴¹

- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asia Law Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Alliance
- Business Law Association
- Catholic Law Students Association
- Classical Music Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Entertainment, Media, and Arts Law Students Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Family Law Project
- Federalist Society
- Food Stamp Advocacy Project
- Future Advocates In Training
- Headnotes
- Intellectual Property Students Association
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Society
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law School Student Senate
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Advocates for Children and Youth

- Michigan Election Law Project
- Michigan Health Law Organization
- Michigan Immigration and Labor Law Association
- Michigan Law Culinary Club
- Michigan Law Texans
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association
- MLaw Student Veterans Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- Native American Law Students Association
- Organization of Dual Degree Law Students
- Organization of Public Interest Students
- Outlaws
- Prison Rights Organization for Students
- Real Estate Law Society
- Res Gestae
- Running Club at Michigan Law
- Scribbles
- Senate Qualified Law Students Association
- South Asian Law Students Association
- State Bar of Michigan Law Student Section
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Funded Fellowships
- Student Network for Asylum and Refugee Law
- Students for Legal Opportunities in Africa
- Tax Law Society
- Universities Allied for Essential Medicine
- Wolverine Street Law Organization
- Women Law Students Association

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RANK

10

DUKE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS¹

Science Drive and Towerview Road
Durham, NC 27708-0422

MAIN PHONE

919-613-7006

WEBSITE

<http://www.law.duke.edu>

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

919-613-7027

ADMISSIONS PHONE

919-613-7020

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

919-613-7031

Overview²⁻⁷

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 Ratio⁸

10.2:1

Admission Criteria⁹

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	165-170	3.55-3.85

Admission Statistics¹⁰

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	6,069
Number accepted	1,529
Percentage accepted	25.2%

Class Ranking and Grades¹¹

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)¹²⁻¹⁴

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%
3.7-4.0	20-30%
3.4-3.6	15-25%
3.0-3.3	30-45%
2.5-2.9	15-30%
1.6-2.4	0-15%
1.5/less	0-5% (a failing grade)

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.

Honors¹⁵

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

Highest Honors

Highest Honors are awarded to students whose extraordinary academic achievement and contribution throughout their course of study have so distinguished their performance as to justify separate recognition of their superb record and intellectual attainment in law school. It is recognized that students satisfying these criteria occur so infrequently that in some years no student will be approved for graduation with Highest Honors, and in no year is it contemplated that the honor will be conferred upon more than a handful of truly exceptional students.

High Honors and Honors

JD students who have completed their upper-class course of study at Duke University School of Law and whose graded work at the law school in courses other than the required first-year courses places them in the top 15% and 35% of the students in their graduation class shall be graduated with High Honors and Honors respectively.

Students who spend a semester in a Duke University School of Law-sanctioned exchange program or in an externship will be eligible to receive graduation honors unless their academic performance at the other institution or during the externship is, in the judgment of the dean in consultation with the Administrative Committee, inconsistent with the award of honors. Students who visit away at another institution during one or more upper-class semesters are also eligible to receive graduation honors if their upper-class average at Duke is well within the range of those in their graduating class who are receiving the honor in question and their academic performance at the other institution is, in the judgment of the Dean in consultation with the Administrative Committee, not inconsistent with the award of honors.

Awards¹⁶

Name of Award	Description
Justin Miller Award for Leadership	Awarded to 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	Awarded to a courageous student with strong principles, a solid character, and a true sense of altruism
Justin Miller Award for Citizenship	Awarded to the student who best brings people together in constructive ways

Justin Miller Award for Intellectual Curiosity	Awarded to 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)
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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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

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.²⁰

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.²¹

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.²²

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.²³

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. Initially it was edited and managed entirely by a faculty board of editors. In the 1970s, students began managing the editing process. *Law and Contemporary Problems* uses a symposium format, generally publishing one symposium per issue on a topic of contemporary concern. Recent symposia have included “Conservative and Progressive Legal Orders,” “Judgments Judged and Wrongs Remembered: Examining the Japanese American Civil Liberties Cases on Their 60th Anniversary,” and “The Emergence of Global Administrative Law.”²⁴

The **Duke Forum for Law & Social Change** (DFLSC) is the newest addition to the Duke Law family of journals. Its feature articles will cover a wide range of social issues, from immigration law and policy to poverty initiatives. It will be a yearly publication. DFLSC will further engage the Duke Law community in future Town Hall Forums and a speaker series, as well as an annual Social Change Conference, to be held each spring. DFLSC will also work with several student organizations to help further the dialogue of social change within Duke Law School and the surrounding community. DFLSC will be published both in print and online formats.²⁵

Moot Court²⁶⁻³⁰

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

Duke University School of Law's clinical programs allow students to acquire in-depth knowledge of substantive law to hone their legal practice skills and build their professional identities. Students gain experience working in a professional setting and provide free legal assistance to the community. They also receive guidance from faculty members.³¹

Clinics offered by the law school include:

The **AIDS Legal Project**, which provides free legal services to indigent HIV-infected persons. Students deal with issues important to people with HIV, including social security and private disability matters, permanency planning for children of HIV-infected parents, end-of-life planning, insurance, privacy, and discrimination.³²

The **Animal Law Project**, which allows students to gain experience with animal law issues, cases, and policy. It also provides support to activists and professionals who work for the welfare of animals.³³

The **Appellate Litigation Clinic** allows students to develop litigation skills by preparing and presenting appeals in appellate courts including the 4th US Circuit Court of Appeals. Students review the trial court record for the cases, conduct legal research, draft and file appellate and reply briefs, prepare the excerpts of record for the court of appeals, prepare for oral argument, and argue the case, with permission of the court and consent of the client.³⁴

The **Children's Law Clinic**, which provides advocacy for schoolchildren in the areas of special education and discipline and legal problems which affect a child's health and well-being. It provides free legal services to low-income children.³⁵

The **Community Enterprise Clinic**, which works to improve the quality of life in low-wealth communities through community economic development strategies. Nonprofit organizations and low-wealth entrepreneurs benefit from this clinic. It represents a wide range of clients to help them overcome barriers, attract resources, and improve the quality of life in the communities they serve.³⁶

The **Guantanamo Defense Clinic**, in which students directly assist the chief defense counsel for the Guantanamo detainees by preparing briefs and memos and with preparation for trials before US military commissions.³⁷

The **Low Income Taxpayer Clinic**, which assists North Carolina taxpayers with matters pending before the IRS that may be related to collections, audits of income tax returns, or appeals of adverse rulings. The Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic was not operated during the 2008-09 academic year.³⁸

The **Environmental Law and Policy Clinic**, in which students work on current cases and policy advocacy related to the environment. Cases and issues addressed by the clinic may relate to water quality, air quality, natural resources conservation, sustainable development, public trust resources, or environmental justice.³⁹

The **Wrongful Convictions Clinic** investigates claims of innocence made by incarcerated felons. Clinic students study the causes of wrongful convictions - mistaken eyewitness identification, false confessions, faulty forensic evidence, "jailhouse snitches" - and, together with the Duke Law Innocence Project, a student organization with the same mission, manage cases and perform a wide range of duties, including interviewing the inmates, locating and interviewing witnesses, gathering documentation, writing legal documents and memos, and working with experts.⁴⁰

Placement Facts⁴¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$140,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	100%

Practice Areas⁴²

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	75.4 %
Business and Industry	3.0%
Government	1.5%
Judicial Clerkship	16.3%
Military	0%
Public Interest Organization	3.0%
Academic	1.0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships⁴³⁻⁴⁵

Externships

The law school permits several types of externships: (1) individual domestic externships; (2) faculty-mentored domestic externships; (3) integrated domestic externships; and (4) international law externships (primarily for JD/LLM students). The international law externships is principally designed to complement the curriculum available to students in the JD/LLM program in international & comparative law. The law school also offers several pre-approved externships both domestically and abroad.

Pre-approved externship organizations include:

- The Center for International Environmental Law
- The Department of Commerce Office of the General Counsel (Import and Export Administrations; International Commerce)
- The International and Operations Law Division of the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Department
- The International Counsel for Environmental Defense at the Environmental Defense Fund
- The International War Crimes Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia
- The Office of the Legal Adviser at the US Department of State
- The Overseas Private Investment Corporation
- The US Trade Representative Offices in Geneva and Washington, DC

Internships

Summer internships for legal residents of North Carolina are offered in virtually all areas of state government. Every year, students are awarded funding for a public interest summer internship. The funding is drawn from the Interest on Lawyers Trust Accounts program (IOLTA), a non-profit organization created by the North Carolina Bar.

Student Organizations⁴⁶

- ABA Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society
- Animal Law Society
- Asian Law Students Association
- Association of Law Students and Significant Others
- Black Graduate and Professional Student Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Coalition Against Gendered Violence
- Death Penalty Reform Group
- Duke Bar Association
- Duke Education Law and Policy Society
- Duke Environmental Law Society
- Duke JD/MBA Club
- Duke Law ACLU
- Duke Law Bowling League
- Duke Law Democrats
- Duke Law Drama Society
- Duke Law Republicans
- Duke Law Soccer Club
- Epicurean Society
- Federalist Society
- Graduate and Professional Student Council

- Health Law Society
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Innocence Project
- Intellectual Property and Cyberlaw Society
- International Human Rights Law Society
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latin American Business Law Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Men Law Students Association
- Mock Trial Board
- Moot Court Board
- National Security Law Society
- OutLaw
- Parents Attending Law School
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Refugee Asylum Support Project
- Social Enterprise Law Initiative
- Society for East Asian Legal Studies
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Organization for Legal Issues in the Middle East and North Africa (SOLIMENA)
- The Devil's Advocate
- Transfer Students Association
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance
- Women Law Students Association

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RANK

10

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MAIN PHONE

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE

312-503-3498

WEBSITE

<http://www.law.northwestern.edu>Overview⁵⁻⁹

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 (40 for the classes of 2009 and 2010) before graduation.

The Pritzker Legal Research Center is an integral part of Northwestern University School of Law. It has a collection of more than 630,000 volumes and equivalents, access to a wide range of electronic resources, and a research collection of Anglo-American, international, and selected foreign legal materials.

Student-Faculty Ratio¹⁰

9:1

Admission Criteria¹¹

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	166-172	3.40-3.81

Admission Statistics¹²

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications 4,868

Number accepted 873

Percentage accepted 17.9%

Class Ranking and Grades¹³

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)¹⁴

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.

Honors¹⁵

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

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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 but a few areas, including but not limited to law and biotechnology, copyrights, the Internet, media, patents, telecommunications, and trademarks.¹⁹

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, by organizing symposia and a speaker series, the journal seeks to promote the discussion of international human rights law.²⁰

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.²¹

Moot Court²²

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 after an intra-school competition during their first year and coached by an adjunct professor to participate in 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 Programs²³

Northwestern University School of Law offers the following clinical programs:

The **Children and Family Justice Center**, a local and national leader in juvenile court reform and in issues and initiatives affecting children and families in crisis.

The **Small Business Opportunity Center**, which provides inexpensive legal services to entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations.

The **Center for International Human Rights**, which conducts academic and practical work in support of international human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

The **Center on Wrongful Convictions**, which pushes the criminal justice system to take claims of innocence seriously and create awareness about systemic shortcomings in the system.

The **Investor Protection Center**, which provides assistance to investors with limited income or small dollar claims who are unable to obtain legal representation.

The **Fred Bartlit Center for Trial Strategy**, which conducts research and teaches innovative and technologically advanced trial strategy.²⁴

The **Program on Civil Litigation**, in which participants work on litigation projects in the areas of students' and prisoners' rights, protection of clients from abusive divorce attorneys, and representation of victims of domestic violence.²⁵

The **Program on Advocacy and Professionalism**, which introduces to students the legal aspects of the pretrial process, including investigation, interviewing, counseling, discovery, and motion practice.²⁶

The **Program on Negotiation and Mediation**, which is designed to teach students effective negotiation and mediation theory and skills through a series of courses and workshops.²⁷

The **Roderick MacArthur Justice Center**, which was added to the school's list of legal clinics in 2006 and in which students assist with 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.²⁸

The **Appellate Advocacy Program**, which offers students the opportunity to participate in appellate advocacy before the Seventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court in two separate clinical courses.²⁹

Placement Facts³⁰

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$160,000 - \$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$56,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.6%

Practice Areas³¹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	74%
Business and Industry	4%
Government	2%
Judicial Clerkship	12%
Military	0%
Public Interest Organization	5%
Academic	3%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships³²

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. All second- and third-year students are eligible to participate in the Civil Government Practicum.

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 US 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.

Student Organizations³³

- Advocates for Reproductive Freedom
- Art and Entertainment Law Society (AELS)
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Consitution Society
- Amnesty International
- Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF)
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Association for Private Equity and Entrepreneurship Law (APEEL)
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Student Chapter (ATLA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Association
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Comparative Law Society
- Co-Counsel
- Diversity Coalition
- The D.R.E.A.M. Committee
- Environmental Law Society
- Epicurean Society
- Faculty Research Seminars for Students (FARSS)
- The Federalist Society
- Habeas Chorus
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- Investment Club
- JD-MBA Association
- Jewish Law Students' Association (JLSA)
- Labor and Employment Law Association (LELA)
- Latino Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Law School Democrats
- Media and Entertainment Law Society
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers Guild
- Northwestern Association of Wine Tasters Extraordinaire (NAWTE)
- OUTlaw
- The Pleader
- Public Interest Law Group (PILG)
- Single-Malt Scotch Club
- 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)

- Technology and Telecommunications Law Group
- Wigmore Follies
- Women's Leadership Coalition
- 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)
- Technology and Telecommunications Law Group
- Women's Leadership Coalition

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RANK

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Overview³⁻⁵

The University of Virginia School of Law is a public institution founded in 1819. Founded by Thomas Jefferson, it has developed a reputation as a premier training institution for the development of distinguished lawyers and public servants. Consistently ranked among the top law schools in the nation, the University of Virginia has instilled in generations of lawyers a commitment to leadership, integrity, and community service. The school's nationally acclaimed faculty consists of experts in various fields of study, and their expertise has helped Virginia's students grasp the ability of the law to influence political, social, and cultural life.

The University of Virginia School of Law's Arthur J. Morris Law Library holds more than 880,000 volumes and provides access to all national law-related databases. The law school also offers a number of exchange programs to second- and third-year students. Students may attend Bucerius Law School in Hamburg, Germany; the Melbourne Law School in Australia; the University of Nottingham in Nottingham, England; the Buchmann Faculty of Law at Tel Aviv University; or the University of Auckland in New Zealand. In addition, rising third-year students are also offered an opportunity to obtain a joint degree from Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne's law school and Sciences Po/Paris.

The University of Virginia School of Law is known for its spectacularly beautiful and balanced campus with buildings that still stand as testaments to Thomas Jefferson's architectural brilliance. The collegial environment of the campus unites students and faculty in camaraderie and intellectual pursuit. In addition, small first-year sections promote individual inquiry while providing support and friendship.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

13.5:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	167-171	3.56-3.89

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	6,548
Number accepted	1,290
Percentage accepted	19.7%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

The University of Virginia School of Law does not use or disclose class rank except for limited purposes, such as determination of specific academic awards.

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), U (Unsatisfactory), CR (Credit), and NC (No Credit) are awarded. No credit will be awarded for a course in which a student receives an F, NC, or U 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:

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

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

For grade uniformity, the mean grade for each course and seminar is a 3.3 (B+). However, there is no particular grading curve to which a faculty member has to 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.

Honors¹¹

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

Awards¹²

Name of Award	Description
Jackson Walker LLP Award	Monetary award by the Dallas law firm to the student who has attained the highest grade point average in his or her class after four semesters
Edwin S. Cohen Tax Prize	Monetary prize given to a graduating student who has demonstrated, by the sustained excellence of his or her performance in tax courses, superior scholarship in the tax area
Bracewell & Giuliani Oral Advocacy Awards	Awarded to 24 outstanding first-year oral advocates
Mortimer Caplin Public Service Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to a rising third-year student for his or her final year at the law school and first two years of public service employment, provided the student demonstrates a commitment to a legal career in the public sector
Claire Corcoran Award	Awarded to one or two second-year students who have demonstrated the most commitment to public interest work
Hardy Cross Dillard Prize	Monetary prize and plaque awarded to the author of the best student note in a current volume of the <i>Virginia Journal of International Law</i>
Hardy Cross Dillard Scholarship	Awarded to 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	Provides assistance to a rising third-year student for his or her final year at the law school and first two years of public service employment, provided the student demonstrates a commitment to a legal career in the public sector
Carl M. Franklin Prize	Cash award and plaque awarded to 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	Awarded to the student who has contributed the most to classroom participation; student receives a certificate of recognition at graduation and a lifetime membership in the University of Virginia Alumni Association
Eppa Hunton IV Memorial Book Award	Awarded to 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	Monetary award to an outstanding member of the graduating class
Robert F. Kennedy Award for Public Service	Awarded to the graduate who, during his or her law school years, best exemplifies the ideals of the late Senator Kennedy through active and effective community service
Kingdon Moot Court Prize	Awarded to the winners of the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition
Herbert L. Kramer/Herbert Bangel Community Service Award	Awarded to a third-year student who has contributed the most to the community during his or her time at the law school
Faculty Award for Academic Excellence	Awarded to the student who has had the most outstanding academic record during his or her three years at the law school
Law School Alumni Association Best Note Award	Monetary award to a member of the law review for the best note in the current volume of the review
Thomas Marshall Miller Prize	Monetary award given to an outstanding and deserving member of the graduating class
Monroe Leigh Fellowship in International Law	Awarded to one or two students to pursue a public international law project of their own choosing during the summer following the first or second year, during the fall and/or spring of the third academic year, or for a postgraduate internship
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Honorary membership awarded to an outstanding woman in the graduating class
John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics	Awarded for an outstanding paper that uses law and economics methodology
Powell Fellowship in Legal Services	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to graduates who have successfully fulfilled the requirements of the law school's pro bono program
Mary Claiborne and Roy H. Ritter Prizes	Awarded to two female and two male members of the second-year class for character, honor, and integrity
Rosenbloom Award	Awarded to an academically strong law student who has consistently volunteered his or her time to provide academic assistance to a law student or group of law students in need
Earle K. Shawe Labor Relations Award	Monetary award to the most promising student in the field of labor relations
James M. Shoemaker Jr. Moot Court Awards	Awarded to the final round participants in the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition
James C. Slaughter Honor Award	Monetary award to an outstanding member of the graduating class

Stephen Pierre Traynor Award	Monetary award to a participant in the final round of the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition for the best oral argument
Roger and Madeleine Traynor Prize	Awarded each year to acknowledge the best written work by two graduating students
Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Trial Advocacy Award	Awarded to the graduating student who best exemplifies the attributes of an effective trial lawyer
Virginia State Bar Family Law Book Award	Awarded to the graduating student who has demonstrated the most promise and potential for the practice of family law
Z Society Shannon Award	Awarded to the graduate with the highest overall academic record after five semesters

Journals

The ***Virginia Law Review*** is published eight times per year and contains articles of general legal scholarship. It was founded in 1913 and is published by law students.¹³

The ***Journal of Law & Politics*** is a nonpartisan, interdisciplinary publication that is devoted to examining the interplay between law and politics. It was founded in 1982 under the guidance of a circuit judge and consists of articles, essays, and commentaries by scholars, practitioners, and national political leaders.¹⁴

The ***Virginia Environmental Law Journal*** provides a forum at the national level for critical articles focused on environmental and natural resource law issues. Law students publish the journal on a quarterly basis. It includes student notes and articles by scholars, practitioners, and environmental professionals on a broad array of topics from environmental justice to corporate liability.¹⁵

The ***Virginia Journal of International Law*** is the oldest continuously published, student-edited law review in the United States. Its focus remains on aspects of public and private international law, and it is considered by many to be the finest and most authoritative journal of its kind.¹⁶

The ***Virginia Journal of Law and Technology*** is an online journal that provides a forum for students, professors, and practitioners to discuss issues that are emerging as technology develops and raises legal questions. Recent issues have included articles on biotechnology, telecommunications, e-commerce, Internet privacy, and encryption.¹⁷

The ***Virginia Journal of Social Policy & the Law*** is a student-edited law journal that includes articles that offer legal, judicial, and political perspectives on current social policy issues such as healthcare policy, welfare reform, criminal justice, voting rights, civil rights, family law, employment law, gender issues, education, and critical race theory.¹⁸

The ***Virginia Law & Business Review*** is a premier journal of business law scholarship. It is published twice per year, and the student-editors are members of the Virginia Law & Business Review Association, a not-for-profit corporation chartered in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Recent topics explored in the review have included accounting, antitrust law, bankruptcy law, commercial law, corporation 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 issues.¹⁹

The ***Virginia Sports & Entertainment Law Journal*** focuses on all aspects of both sports and entertainment law. Published biannually by students and the law school, it features articles written by sports and entertainment law professors, as well as articles written by experienced practitioners in the sports and entertainment law fields.²⁰

The ***Virginia Tax Review*** is one of the University of Virginia School of Law's oldest student-run law journals, and it deals exclusively with tax and corporate topics, including matters related to federal taxation. It is published four times in a year.²¹

Moot Court²²⁻²⁴

The William Minor Lile Moot Court Board administers the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition, which is held annually. About 150 second-year students competing in two-person teams hone their oral argument skills in the competition. Third-year students on the board draft and edit all of the problems for the competition and judge the first two rounds of competition with the aid of other third-year students. Distinguished federal and state judges preside in the semifinal and final rounds. Winners receive cash prizes, 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.

The law school's Mock Trial Team provides an opportunity for law students to hone their trial advocacy skills. Winning students represent the school in nationwide mock trial competitions.

Students from all years may participate in the Extramural Moot Court, which is a part of the Extramural Advocacy Team along with the National Trial Advocacy Team. The National Trial Advocacy Team provides a platform for students to participate in the various nationwide competitions.

Clinical Programs²⁵

In the University of Virginia School of Law's clinical programs, students perform the lawyer functions associated with cases—including client and witness interviews, factual development, legal research, preparation of pleadings, and negotiation—under the supervision of an attorney. Students with third-year practice certification may also be responsible for courtroom advocacy. The clinics usually offered by the school are:

- Advocacy for the Elderly
- Appellate Litigation
- Capital Post-Conviction
- Child Advocacy
- Criminal Defense
- Employment Law
- Environmental Law and Conservation
- Family Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Family Resource

- First Amendment Law
- Housing Law
- Immigration Law
- Innocence Project
- International Human Rights Law
- Mental Health Law
- Patent and Licensing I
- Patent and Licensing II
- Prosecution
- Supreme Court Litigation

Placement Facts²⁶

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$130,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$55,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.2%

Practice Areas²⁷

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private practice	77%
Business and industry	1%
Government	3%
Judicial clerkship	14%
Military	1%
Public Interest Organization	4%
Academic	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{28, 29}

Externships

The University of Virginia School of Law External Studies Program enables students in good academic standing to obtain academic and research experience outside the law school in organizations that are educational, charitable, governmental, or nonprofitable. The program is for students in their fourth or fifth semester and is administered by the Curriculum Committee. Organizations approved in the past include

the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, the Association for Water and Rural Development in South Africa, National Public Radio, the Center for Implementing Public Policies on Equity and Growth in Buenos Aires, and the War Crimes Chamber of the Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The program lasts for one semester.

Internships

Public Interest Law Association offers 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 Organizations³⁰

- A Cappellate Opinions
- ACLU-UVA Law
- Action for a Better Living Environment (ABLE)
- American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Child Advocacy Research & Education (CARE)
- Conference on Public Service & the Law
- Cowan Fellows Human Rights Study Project
- Domestic Violence Project (part of LAS)
- Extramural Advocacy Team
- Extramural Moot Court
- Federalist Society
- The Fowler Society
- First Year Council (FYC)
- Feminist Legal Forum
- 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)
- Just Democracy
- Lambda Law Alliance
- Latin American Law Organization (LALO; formally Voz Latina)
- Law Christian Fellowship (LCF)
- Law Partners
- Law Student Advocacy Project (LSAP) (part of VELLA)
- Legal Advisory Workshops for Undergraduate Students (LAW for US)

- Legal Assistance Society (LAS)
- Legal Education Project (part of LAS)
- The Libel Show
- Migrant Farmworker Project (part of LAS)
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Trial Advocacy Team
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- NeW at UVA Law (Network of Enlightened Women)
- North Grounds Softball League (NGSL)
- Outdoors at VA Law
- Peer Advisor Program
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Pro Bono Criminal Assistance Project (P-CAP)
- Public Interest Law Association (PILA)
- Rape Crisis Advocacy Project (RCAP)
- Rappahannock Legal Services Clinic (part of LAS)
- Rex E. Lee Law Society (RELLS)
- St. Thomas More Society
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Legal Forum (SLF)
- Students United to Promote Racial Awareness (SUPRA)
- Virginia Animal Law Society (VALS)
- Virginia Employment and Labor Law Association (VELLA)
- Virginia Environmental Law Forum (VELF)
- Virginia Innocence Project Student Group
- Virginia Journal of Criminal Law Association
- Virginia Law and Business Society
- Virginia Law Democrats
- Virginia Law Families
- Virginia Law and Graduate Republicans
- Virginia Law Grilling Society
- Virginia Law Libertarians
- Virginia Law Rod & Gun Club
- Virginia Law Veterans
- Virginia Law Weekly (newspaper)
- Virginia Law Wine Society
- Virginia Law Women (VLW)
- Virginia Society of Law & Technology (VSLAT)
- Virginia Sports Law Society
- Volunteer Income Tax Association (VITA) (part of LAS)
- Women of Color

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RANK

13

CORNELL UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS¹

Myron Taylor Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853-4901

MAIN PHONE

N/A

WEBSITE

<http://www.lawschool.cornell.edu>

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

607-255-7190

ADMISSIONS PHONE

607-255-5141

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

607-255-5252

Overview²⁻⁶

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 which follows 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 and China. 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 Ratio⁷

9.9:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	166-168	3.24-3.84

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,923
Number accepted	824
Percentage accepted	21%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

As a matter of faculty policy, Cornell Law School does not release the academic rankings of students.

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

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)^{11, 12}

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.

For the class that graduated in May 2008, the minimum grade point average required to fall within the top 10% of the class was 3.65. The minimum grade point average required for graduation was 2.30.

Honors¹³

Honor	Criteria
<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%

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
American Bankruptcy Law Journal Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in any bankruptcy course
American Bankruptcy Medal of Excellence	Awarded for excellence in bankruptcy law
American Bar Association Prize	Awarded for excellence in the study of land use and local government
Peter Belfer Memorial Prize	Awarded for excellence in federal securities regulation and related laws
Boardman Third-Year Law Prize	Awarded for the best work through the end of the second year
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition Prizes	Awarded for the two best papers on copyright law
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Awarded for the highest grades in selected courses
Arthur S. Chatman Labor Law Prize	Awarded for academic excellence, especially in labor law, or a paper on labor law
Daniel B. Chernoff Prize	Awarded for academic excellence in intellectual property and patent law
Cuccia Prizes	Awarded to the finalists of the fall moot court
Fraser Prize	Awarded for outstanding work in law studies
Freeman Award for Civil-Human Rights	Awarded for the greatest contribution to civil-human rights

Morris P. Glushien Prize	Awarded for the best student note or comment in a Cornell student law journal
Stanley E. Gould Prize for Public Interest Law	Awarded for outstanding dedication to public interest law and public interest groups
Harry G. Henn Prize in Corporations	Awarded for the highest grade in an upper-class corporations course
Seymour Herzog Memorial Prize	Awarded for excellence in law, commitment to public interest law, and love of sports
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded for an outstanding record in trial and appellate practice
Louis Kaiser Prizes	Awarded for 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	Awarded for excellence in writing and oral advocacy
Ida Cornell Kerr and William Ogden Kerr Memorial Prize	Awarded to the best third-year student
David Marcus Memorial Prize	Awarded for an outstanding comment in the <i>Cornell Law Review</i>
Robert S. Pasley Memorial Prize Fund	Awarded to the student who best exemplifies Professor Pasley's scholarly interest in the law and the arts, classics, or humanities
Herbert R. Reif Prize	Awarded for 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	Awarded for the best class paper or law review note on law and finance
Helen Belding Smith and Henry P. Smith III Moot Court Fund	Awarded to the student who shows the best understanding of the professional responsibilities of lawyers
Honorable G. Joseph Tauro Dean's Prize	Awarded for general academic excellence
Fredric H. Weisberg Prizes	Awarded to the best students in Cornell's Constitutional Law and Legal Methods courses
West Publishing Company Awards	Awarded for 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.¹⁵

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. Two of the issues feature articles by legal scholars, practitioners, and participants in international politics as well as student-written

notes. The third issue is dedicated to publishing papers generated by the journal's annual symposium held every spring in Ithaca, New York.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

The **Cornell Law Forum** is Cornell Law School's magazine and is published three times 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.¹⁸

The **LII Bulletin** is a Cornell Law School electronic journal. Second- and third-year law students are members of its editorial board, who 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 US Supreme Court. Bulletin content is available on the site and by (free) email subscription.¹⁹

Moot Court^{20, 21}

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. Faculty and members of the federal and state judiciary also judge rounds. The final round is judged by appeals court judges, usually including a circuit judge from the US 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 Toronto Moot Court Competition (for first-year law students), and the Wilhelm Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition, in Vienna.

Cornell Law School hosted the Mid-Atlantic Regional Jessup Moot Court Competition in 2000. The Cornell team advanced from the regional competition to the international competitions in Washington, DC in the same year.

Clinical Programs^{22, 23}

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:

- Asylum and Convention Against Torture (CAT) Appellate Clinic
- Capital Punishment Clinic: Post Conviction Litigation
- Capital Trial Clinic
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- Government Benefits Clinic 1
- Government Benefits Clinic
- International War Crimes Research Clinic
- Labor Law Clinic
- Prosecution Clinic
- Public Interest Clinic 1
- Public Interest Clinic 2
- Public Interest Clinic 3
- US Attorney's Office Clinic
- Water Law in Theory and Practice
- Women and the Law Clinic

Placement Facts²⁴

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$47,500

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	96.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.9%

Practice Areas²⁵

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	85%
Business and Industry	0%
Government	2%
Judicial Clerkship	9%
Military	1%
Public Interest Organization	2%
Academia	1%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²⁶⁻²⁹

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 US 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 selected students work with the local New York State Member of Assembly. 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 Tompkins County 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.

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 Organizations³⁰

- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Student Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Briggs Society of International Law
- Business Law Society

- Christian Legal Society
- Cornell Advocates for Human Rights
- Cornell Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Cornell International Law Journal
- Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy
- Cornell Law Democrats
- Cornell Law Republicans
- Cornell Law Review
- Cornell Law Students Association
- Cornell Law United
- Cornell Law Yearbook Club
- Cornell Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Intellectual Property and Technology Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- LAMBDA
- Latino American Law Students Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Information Institute
- Moot Court Board
- Ms. JD Board
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- Native American Law Students
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Law Union
- South Asian Law Students Association
- St. Thomas More Catholic Society
- Transfer Network Association
- Women's Law Coalition

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RANK

14

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

MAILING ADDRESS¹⁻⁴

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WEBSITE

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REGISTRAR'S PHONE

202-662-9220

ADMISSIONS PHONE

202-662-9010

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

202-662-9300

Overview⁵⁻⁷

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 25 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 Ratio⁸

12:1

Admission Criteria⁹

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	166-170	3.43-3.79

Admission Statistics¹⁰

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	9,815
Number accepted	2,366
Percentage accepted	24.1%

Class Ranking and Grades¹¹

Georgetown University Law Center does not rank its students. Final grades are given based on a letter system. Some courses available to upper-class students are graded under the Pass/Fail option. In the clinical programs, the graduate fellows also participate in the grading process. Each student's grade point average is computed at the end of each semester.

The following numerical equivalents are assigned to each letter grade:

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

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.

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 and cross-listed law center graduate courses that are available for Pass/Fail. The actual grade will appear on the student's transcript if the student earns the target grade or above. If the student earns a grade below the target but at least a grade of C, a Pass will appear on the transcript. If the student earns a grade of C or lower, the actual grade will appear on the transcript. Whether a student receives a Pass or a letter grade, the academic credits associated with the course count toward the school's six-credit limit on Pass/Fail courses.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹²

For the May 2008 graduating class, in order to fall within the top 10% of the class, a student had to have a GPA of at least 3.67, and in order to fall within the top 33% of the class, a student had to have a GPA of at least 3.47. The minimum grade point average required for graduation was 2.0.

Honors¹³

Honor	Criteria
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

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Health Care Law	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to the student who best represents leadership and scholarship
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for excellence in bankruptcy law
American Bankruptcy Law Journal Student Prize	Awarded for 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	Awarded to the best student in Land Use and Local Government Law
Baker & McKenzie Law Student Assistance Program	Awarded to first-year minority students
Beaudry Cup	Awarded to the best advocates of the first-year class
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition	Awarded for the best thesis in the field of copyright law
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Awarded to each student receiving the top grade in a law school course

Thomas Bradbury Chetwood, S.J. Prize	Awarded to the student with the highest academic average in each LLM program
Joyce Chiang Memorial Award	Awarded to a student committed to public service
Jeffrey Crandall Award	Awarded to a student committed to legal aid who exemplifies the ideals and commitment of the late Jeffrey Crandall
Dean's Certificate	Awarded for outstanding service to the Georgetown Law community
Kathleen Stowe Dixon Visiting Student Prize	Awarded to the visiting student with the highest GPA during his or her year at Georgetown University Law Center
Dean Hugh J. Fegan Memorial Prize	Awarded for the best overall academic record at the conclusion of the first year
Michael Feldman Advocacy Award	Awarded to an outstanding advocate in the Criminal Justice Clinic
Georgetown Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC Award	Awarded for the best overall academic performance
Georgetown Law Journal Meritorious Service Award	Awarded to up to four members who have made outstanding contributions to the <i>Georgetown Law Journal</i>
Alan J. Goldstein Memorial Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to trial clinic students who excel at advocacy
Juvenile Justice Clinic Public Service Award	Awarded to a graduating Juvenile Justice Clinic student who has accepted a job providing service to the community
Kappa Beta Pi Prize	Awarded for the highest academic average after the first year
Milton A. Kaufman Prize	Awarded for the best work for the year on the <i>Georgetown Law Journal</i>
Charles A. Keigwin Award	Awarded for the best overall academic record after the first year

John F. Kennedy Labor Law Award	Awarded for the best overall performance in the field of labor law
Leahy Moot Court Competition	Awarded to the winner of the Leahy Moot Court Competition
Francis E. Lucey, S.J. Award	Awarded to the student with the highest academic average for his or her law school career
James John McTigue Essay Award	Awarded to the author of the best seminar paper
George Brent Mickum III Prize	Awarded for the highest academic average in first-year courses
Saint Thomas More Award	Awarded to the top three graduating journal members for outstanding work on the <i>Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics</i>
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for academic excellence and contribution to the advancement of women in society
Vincent G. Panati Memorial Award	Awarded for the best combined scholastic record in criminal justice courses
Bettina E. Pruckmayr Memorial Award	Awarded for commitment to human rights
Leon Robbin Patent Award	Awarded annually to the graduating student who has done the best work in the field of patent law
Sewall Key Prize	Awarded for the best work in taxation
Tutorial Program Award	Awarded for outstanding contributions to Georgetown Law's academic program
Washington Law Reporter Prize	Awarded for 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.^{15, 16}

The ***American Criminal Law Review*** is the most-cited criminal law review in the nation and ranks among the country's 30 most-cited law reviews of any kind. Recently, ExpressO, an online submission service for legal scholars, ranked the *American Criminal Law Review* as the top subject-specific law review in the area of criminal law and procedure. Published four times per year, the journal provides timely treatment of significant developments in constitutional and criminal law through articles contributed by leading scholars and practitioners and through notes authored by the journal's student staff.¹⁷

The ***Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*** is the only 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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

The **Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law** is in its ninth 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.²⁰

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.²¹

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.²²

The **Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics** is published by students of the Georgetown University Law Center. It includes articles about the ethical implications of an attorney's use of evidence at trial and the relationship between conflicts of interest and behavioral economics. The *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics* is the third-most-cited student-run journal at Georgetown and is one of the top specialty journals in the country.²³

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.²⁴

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*.²⁵

The **Georgetown Journal of Modern Critical Race Perspectives** is Georgetown's newest law journal and 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 to provide a rigorous editorial experience for students, who have the same goal.²⁶

Moot Court

The Appellate Advocacy division of the Barristers' Council runs Georgetown University Law Center's moot court program.²⁷

The William E. Leahy Moot Court Competition is open to LLM students and upper-class JD students. Participating students are assigned to either the petitioner's or the respondent's side and provided with all of the materials necessary to submit an appellate brief and argue their case. They argue both "on" and "off" brief as they advance to higher rounds. The preliminary rounds of the Leahy Competition, which are judged by three- to five-person panels of Barristers' Council members, are scored using both the brief scores and the oral argument scores of each competitor. The final round is scored based on oral argument alone and is judged by prominent local and federal judges.²⁸

The Robert J. Beaudry Moot Court Competition, in which first-year day and evening students participate, is held each spring. It is based on a closed packet. Participating students are assigned to either the petitioner's or the respondent's side and provided with all of the materials necessary to submit an appellate brief and argue their case. They argue both "on" and "off" brief as they advance to higher rounds. The preliminary rounds, which are judged by three- to five-person panels of Barristers' Council members, are scored using both the brief scores and the oral argument scores of each competitor. The final round is scored based on oral argument alone and is judged by prominent local and federal judges.²⁹

The Sidley-IIEL WTO Moot Court Competition provides students with a unique opportunity for hands-on experience with the dynamic issues of international trade law that confront government, business, and the public. It allows students to participate in this dialogue and to work with the practitioners, government officials, and academics who are directly engaged with such issues. The Sidley-IIEL WTO Moot Court Competition is operated independently from the World Trade Organization and its members.³⁰

The Supreme Court Institute Moot Court Program is a nonpartisan, pro bono service that is provided to the legal community on a first-come, first-served basis. It is the centerpiece of the Supreme Court Institute's public service activities. The practice sessions allow attorneys to prepare for oral arguments before the Court. Nearly all cases heard by the Court are mooted at Georgetown before a panel of "justices" that includes law faculty and experienced Supreme Court advocates. The new Supreme Court Institute Moot Court room at Georgetown University Law Center is designed to evoke the interior of the courtroom used by the Supreme Court of the United States.³¹

Clinical Programs³²

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 Criminal Justice Clinic
- The Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Federal Legislation and Administrative Clinic
- The Harrison Institute Housing and Community Development Clinic
- The Harrison Institute Policy Clinic
- The Institute for Public Representation
- The International Women’s Human Rights Clinic
- The Juvenile Justice Clinic
- The Law Students in Court Clinic
- The Street Law Clinic

Placement Facts³³

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$50,500

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	94.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	97.4%

Practice Areas³⁴

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	74%
Business and Industry	5%
Government	6%
Judicial Clerkship	8%
Military	0%
Public Interest Organization	1%
Academic	1%
Unknown	1%

Externships/Internships^{35, 36}

Externships

Georgetown University Law Center's externships offer students opportunities to gain insight into the legal system by seeing law in action and to gain a deeper understanding of an area of the law by integrating classroom work with real-world experience. The school's externships also allow students to explore their professional objectives, to better understand specific areas of practice, and to enhance opportunities for public/community service.

Students receive two credits that are graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Students may participate in one externship only during law school, and the externship credits are counted toward the six-credit limit on Pass/Fail courses.

Externships are permitted in government, judicial, public interest, and nonprofit entities with supervision by an attorney. Students may not receive payment from their externships.

Internships

The law school offers international law-related internships and employment during summers or the school year. It helps students to secure internships and jobs that suit their focus in international studies and complement their particular talents.

Some representative positions are:

- Summer positions at law firms abroad
- Summer positions with international organizations or public-interest institutions abroad
- Work in the summer or during the school year in internationally-oriented positions in Washington, DC or elsewhere in the US
- Work as intern for federal or DC judges or in congressional offices while at the Law Center

Student Organizations³⁷

- Active Minds
- American Bar Association
- American Civil Liberties Union - Georgetown University Law Center
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- American-Japanese Law Students Alliance (AJLSA)
- Amnesty International
- Arab Law Students Association
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Board Game Enthusiasts
- Building a Better Legal Profession (BUILD)
- Caribbean Law Students Association (CLSA)
- Catholic Student Association (formerly Catholic Forum)

- China Legal Forum
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate Law Association (CLA)
- Disability Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Foundation (EJF)
- Federalist Society
- Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown (FLAG)
- Friends of Transfer Students Association
- Georgetown Chess Club
- Georgetown Gilbert & Sullivan Society (GG&SS)
- Georgetown Golf Club
- Georgetown Human Rights Action
- Georgetown Law African Students Society (GLASS)
- Georgetown Law Bridge Club
- Georgetown Law Brothers Forum
- Georgetown Law Democrats
- Georgetown Law Entertainment Media Association (GEMALaw)
- Georgetown Law Fly Fishing Club
- Georgetown Law Parents Group
- Georgetown Law Rugby Club
- Georgetown Law Women's Basketball Club
- Georgetown Law-Militia
- Georgetown Organization for Education Law
- Georgetown Outreach
- Georgetown Soccer Club
- Georgetown Youth Advocacy Group
- Global Race and Identity Project
- GULC Softball Club
- Habitat for Humanity
- Home Court
- Hoya Lawya Runners
- Independent Media Society
- Innocence Project
- International Law Society (ILS)
- Italian Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Just Praise Gospel Ensemble
- Korean American Law Students Association (KALSA)
- Latin American Law Student Association (formerly La Alianza Del Derecho)
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (formerly Law Students for Choice)
- LLM Tax Council
- Military Law Society
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers Guild (NLG)

- Outlaw
- Pakistani Law Students Association
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi
- Philosophy Club
- Progressive Alliance for Life (PAL)
- Republican Law Students Association
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Georgetown Law (RPCV)
- Russian Speaking Lawyers Association (RSLA)
- Society for Health Law & Bioethics
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy
- The Bright Line Magazine
- United Nations at Georgetown
- Wine Tasters
- Women of Color Collective (WCC)
- Women's Legal Alliance (WLA)
- Workers' Solidarity Group

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RANK

15

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Overview^{4, 5}

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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

11.6:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	164-169	3.49-3.87

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	8,007
Number accepted	1,331
Percentage accepted	16.6%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

Until 1970, UCLA School of Law ranked its graduates according to their final, cumulative grade point averages. Since that time, it has been the policy of UCLA School of Law not to rank its student body. The only exceptions are:

1. At the end of each academic year, the top 10 students in the second- and third-year classes are ranked.
2. Students in the top 10% of each graduating class are invited to join the Order of the Coif.

To ensure fairness in final course grades, the law school uses an anonymous grading system. The academic transcripts for the classes of 2009 and 2010 contain letter grades.

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

A+	4.3 (extraordinary performance)
A	4.0-4.29
A-	3.7-3.99
B+	3.3-3.69
B	3.0-3.29
B-	2.7-2.99
C+	2.3-2.69
C	2.0-2.29
C-	1.7-1.99
D+	1.3-1.69
D	1.0-1.29
F	0.0-0.99

Students may report their grade point averages on their resumes using either a letter grade or the appropriate numerical calculation. For example, a student with a 3.699 grade point average may report it as a 3.699, a 3.69, or a B+ average. Students are not permitted to “round up” in reporting their averages. Accordingly, for example, a student would not be permitted to report an A- average unless he or she had at least a 3.7 numerical average.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

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:

First-Year Courses	Letter Grades	Upper-Division Courses with 40 or More Students
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

*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 14 or fewer, the median grade shall not exceed (but may be lower than) B+. For seminars and clinics with enrollments of 14 or fewer students, there are no grading constraints. An instructor seeking to deviate from the curve must obtain the approval of an associate dean.

Externships, selected advanced courses, and clinical programs have a Pass/No Pass grading system that assigns Pass (P), Unsatisfactory (U), and No Credit (NC) grades to students.

Honors^{11, 12}

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 3.718.

Awards¹³

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.¹⁴

The ***Asian Pacific American Law Journal***, established in 1991, is dedicated entirely to Asian Pacific American issues. It is one of only two law journals in the nation that focuses exclusively on the legal issues affecting Asian Pacific American communities. 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.¹⁵

The ***Chicano-Latino 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.¹⁶

The ***UCLA Entertainment Law Review*** is an international law journal published biannually. 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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

The ***UCLA Journal of International Law and Foreign Affairs*** is a student-run, interdisciplinary publication dedicated to promoting scholarship in international law and international relations.²⁰

The ***UCLA Journal of Islamic and Near Eastern Law*** was first published in 2002 and is the first biannual journal in the United States dedicated to this area of study. 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.^{21, 22}

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.²³

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.²⁴

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.²⁵

The ***Los Angeles Public Interest Law Journal*** strives to support local social justice movements. It is hosting symposiums, publishing and disseminating scholarly literature that is helpful to the public interest practitioner. It provides opportunities for discussion and collaboration among the diverse activities and advocates in the Southland. It is an independent collaboration of law students from Loyola, Pepperdine, UCLA, and USC.²⁶

UCLA School of Law's ***Dukeminier Awards: Best Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law Review Articles*** journal publishes articles 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.^{27, 28}

Moot Court

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.²⁹

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.³⁰

UCLA School of Law also participates in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the National Moot Court Competition, the American Bar Association Moot Court Competition, and the Roger J. Traynor Moot Court Competition.³¹

Clinical Programs³²

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 more than half of the second- and third-year students elect to take one or more of the 20 or so upper-division clinical course offerings. Students can choose from among a variety of live-client clinics (in which they represent actual clients) and sophisticated simulation-based courses. The law school conducts in-house clinics and provides transactional clinical offerings.

In-House Clinics³³

- Appellate Advocacy Clinic
- Bankruptcy Transactions Course: Negotiating and Confirming Chapter 11 Plans
- Capital Punishment Clinic
- Civil Rights Litigation Clinic
- Community Economic Development
- Complex Litigation: Depositions and Discovery Clinic
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- Educational Advocacy
- Fact Investigation and Discovery in Complex Matters Clinic
- Frank G. Wells Environmental Law Clinic
- Immigration Clinic
- International Justice Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Ninth Circuit Appellate Advocacy
- Public Policy Advocacy
- Regulatory Lawyering
- Street Law
- Trial Advocacy Clinic
- Tribal Legal Development Clinic

Transactional Clinical Offerings³⁴

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:

- Community Economic Development
- Creating Value through Renegotiating Basic Business Agreements
- Environmental Aspects of Business Transactions
- Mergers and Acquisition Transaction Planning
- Public Offerings
- Sports and the Law Clinical
- Venture Capital Formation and Financing

Placement Facts³⁵

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$125,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$58,262

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.7%

Practice Areas³⁶

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	63.81%
Business/Industry	3.62%
Judicial Clerkship	10.85%
Academic	7.24%
Public Interest Organization	8.5%
Government	3.29%
Military	0.33%
Unknown	6.25%

Externships/Internships^{37, 38}

Externships

UCLA School of Law's externship program is extensive and well established. The externships offered are full-time, semester-long programs. A student can work either as an extern law clerk to a federal judge or in one of the law school's agency externships at a government agency, public interest law firm, or nonprofit organization. Students may complete externships in their fourth or fifth semesters of study.

To provide externship programs for UCLA law students, judicial and agency settings have been developed. A student can propose a new agency placement that is tailored to his or her particular academic goals.

In the **Judicial Externship Program**, students work in the chambers of federal trial and appellate judges and California Court of Appeal justices in the Los Angeles area.

In the **Agency Externship Program**, students may work for public interest organizations, such as the American Civil Liberties Union or the Natural Resources Defense Council; for governmental agencies in Washington, DC, such as the Department of Defense or the Department of Justice; or for the US Attorney's Office in Los Angeles.

Internships

Entertainment Industry Summer Internships

The law school offers summer internship in the entertainment industry (e.g., the legal department of a motion picture or television studio or of a music company). This option is available only when the entertainment industry employer restricts internships to students who will receive academic credit for it. Students need to get a faculty member's agreement to sponsor the paper prior to beginning work.

Student Organizations³⁹

- Advocates for Children and Teens
- American Constitution Society of Los Angeles
- Animal Law Society
- Asian/Pacific Islander Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Association
- China Law Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Disability Law Society
- El Centro Legal Clinics
- Entertainment Law Association
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Immigration Law Society
- Innocence Project
- International Law Society
- International Human Rights Law Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- La Raza Law Student Association
- Law and Economics Society
- Law Students for Justice in Palestine
- Mobile Clinic
- Mock Trial Association
- Moot Court Honors Program
- Muslim Law Students Association
- Ms. JD National Women's Law Student Organization
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association
- OUTlaw
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Law Fund
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports Law Federation
- Student Bar Association
- Students Helping Assure Racial Equity, Justice and Diversity
- Veterans Society
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

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RANK

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Overview²⁻⁵

Founded in 1883, the University of Texas School of Law is one of the oldest law schools in the nation. The University of Texas School of Law is also one of the nation's largest law schools. In addition, the school offers a Master of Laws (LLM) program for graduates of foreign law schools and another for American lawyers who want specialized degrees in various areas of law. 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. Students at the school can also take advantage of diverse opportunities to study abroad through exchanges and internships.

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. Its "virtual library" is designed to be an inclusive gateway to online legal research.

The University of Texas School of Law is a national school. Legal positions with the government, public service organizations, leading corporations, and law firms throughout Texas, the nation, and the world are available to its graduates.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

12.9:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	164-168	3.42-3.82

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	4,850
Number accepted	1,195
Percentage accepted	24.6%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9, 10}

It is the policy of the University of Texas School of Law not to rank its students on the basis of academic standing. Therefore, students may not estimate class standing or indicate a percentile ranking on their resumes, cover letters, or application materials.

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 Grades¹¹

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)^{12, 13}

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.

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on the May 2008 Graduating Class)¹⁴

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.65
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.42
Minimum GPA required for graduation	1.90

Honors^{15, 16}

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	10%	3.81	48
<i>summa cum laude</i>	1%	4.05	6
<i>magna cum laude</i>	7%	3.85	30
<i>cum laude</i>	50%	3.35	221
Chancellors Honors	Not provided	3.95	17

In general, honors are awarded solely on the basis of work done at the law school. 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.

Awards¹⁷

Name of Award	Description
Niemann Cup	Awarded to the best advocate in the graduating class
National Order of Barristers Awards	Awarded to the top 10 advocates in the graduating class
Judge Quentin Keith Endowed Presidential Scholarship	Awarded to a second-year Board of Advocates member for excellence in trial and appellate advocacy
Stanley P. & Claudie P. Wilson Endowed Presidential Scholarship	Awarded to a second-year Board of Advocates member for excellence in trial and appellate advocacy
Scott, Douglass & McConnico Litigation Award	Awarded to a second-year Board of Advocates member who has a B+ (3.3) grade point average or higher and who has been either (1) a member of an interscholastic mock trial team or (2) a semifinalist in an intramural mock trial
Order of Barristers	Membership offered to 10 third-year students who have demonstrated superior abilities in advocacy
Dean's Achievement Award	Awarded to the outstanding student in each course, chosen from among those with the highest grades

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.¹⁸

The ***American Journal of Criminal Law*** strives to promote and encourage improvement in the administration of criminal justice. It is one of the top student-edited legal journals in the nation 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.¹⁹

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.²⁰

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.^{21, 22}

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 US and international intellectual property law.²³

The ***Texas International Law Journal*** is among the-oldest international law journal in the country. For more than four decades, it has earned acclaim and recognition as one of the top international/specialty journals in the nation, and its prestige reflects the outstanding effort and dedication of more than 70 students at the University of Texas School of Law. Student editors develop and cultivate a substantive interest in the field of international law.²⁴

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.²⁵

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.²⁶

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.²⁷

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.²⁸

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 on topics related to procedure, evidence, trial and appellate advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and often-litigated substantive law.²⁹

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.³⁰

The ***Blackacre*** is 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.³¹

Moot Court³²⁻³⁴

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 Advocacy Program sponsors more than a dozen interscholastic competition teams annually, including mock trial, moot court, and alternative dispute resolution. Interscholastic moot court competitions simulate appellate hearings and help students understand the rules and processes involved with appellate argument. The interscholastic moot court program is open to second- and third-year students.

The names of a few moot court competitions in which the law school participates are:

- Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition
- Hispanic National Bar Association Moot Court Competition
- Giles Sutherland Rich Memorial Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition

Clinical Programs³⁵

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 seven 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 Community Development Clinic
- The Criminal Defense Clinic
- The Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Environmental Law Clinic
- The Housing Clinic
- The Immigration Law Clinic
- The Human Rights Clinic
- The Juvenile Justice Clinic
- The Mediation Clinic
- The Mental Health Clinic
- The National Security Clinic
- The Supreme Court Clinic
- The Transnational Worker Rights Clinic

Placement Facts³⁶

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$130,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	96.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.3%

Practice Areas³⁷

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private practice	63.13%
Business and Industry	9.64%
Government	8.43%
Judicial Clerkship	13.01%
Military	1.93%
Public Interest Organization	0.72%
Academic	1.75%
Unknown	0.48%

Externships/Internships³⁸

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 may be received for internships. The school provides following program:

- Access to Justice Internship
- International Internship
- Judicial Internship
- Legislative Internship
- Non-Profit / Government Internship
- Prosecution Internship
- US Attorney Internship

Student Organizations³⁹

- Action Committee for Career Services
- Aggie Law Students Association
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Law Students Association
- Assault & Flattery
- Austin Young Lawyers Assoc - Student Chap.
- Board of Advocates
- Catholic Law Students Association
- Chicano/Hispanic Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law Association
- Domestic Violence Survivor Support Network
- Environmental Law Society
- Graduate Student Assembly
- Human Rights Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Legal Society
- Law Students for the Arts
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Research Board
- National Lawyers Guild
- OUTLaw (LBGTS Alliance)
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity
- Pro Bono in January
- Public Interest Law Association
- Real Estate Law Association (RELAW)
- Samsara Yoga Club
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Government - SBA
- Student Recruitment & Orientation Committee
- Survivor Support Network
- Texas Association of International Law
- Texas Federalist Society
- Texas Law Chapter of the American Association for Justice
- Texas Law Democrats
- Texas Law Fellowships
- Texas Law Republicans
- Texas Law Society of Gentlemen
- Texas Law Veterans Association
- Texas Oil and Gas Law Society

- Thurgood Marshall Legal Society
- US - Mexico Bar Association - Student Chapter
- Women's Law Caucus

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Overview^{4,5}

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. The faculty at the school aim to provide extensive training in all facets of legal research.

Vanderbilt Law School offers a solid network of active and supportive alumni, a strong career services program, and a relatively small student body. It also works closely with the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt. The nation's largest media-related foundation, the center works to promote better understanding of First Amendment values through research, seminars, and publications.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

13.4:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	164-169	3.52-3.86

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications 4,336

Number accepted 1,057

Percentage accepted 24.4%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

Vanderbilt Law School does not rank its students. 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)¹⁰

The recommended grading curve at Vanderbilt Law School is as follows:

A student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above to graduate.

Honors¹¹

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Dean's List	Top 20%
Founder's Medal	Awarded to the student in the graduating class who has attained the highest GPA, having completed at least 55 credit hours in residence at Vanderbilt

Name of Award	Description
Junius L. Allison Legal Aid Award	Awarded for significant contribution to the work of the Legal Aid Society
Banks Award	Awarded 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded for the best paper on copyright law
G. Scott Briggs Transnational Legal Studies Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded for 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	Awarded for the highest general average for the first year
National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Student Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded for 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	Awarded to the best student in the law school's clinical program

Vanderbilt Scholastic Excellence Award	Awarded for the highest grade in all courses except seminars and limited enrollment courses
Weldon B. White Prize	Awarded for the best paper written to fulfill the law school's advanced writing requirement
Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law Outstanding Service Award	Awarded to 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>
Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law Masamichi Yamamoto Second-Year Editor Award	Awarded to the second-year staff member who has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of the journal
Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law Student Writing Award	Awarded for the best piece of student writing submitted for publication in the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment and Technology Law</i>
Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law Outstanding Editor Award	Awarded to 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
Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law Grace Wilson Sims Medal in Transnational Law	Awarded to 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
Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law Second-Year Editor Award	Awarded to a second-year staff member for outstanding work on the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the academic year
Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law Grace Wilson Sims Prize for Student Writing in Transnational Law	Awarded for the best piece of student writing submitted for publication in the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year
Vanderbilt Law Review Candidate's Award	Awarded by 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
Vanderbilt Law Review Editor's Award	Awarded to a third-year editorial board member for significant contribution to the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i>
Vanderbilt Law Review Morgan Prize	Awarded for the most outstanding piece of student writing published in the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> during the school year
Vanderbilt Law Review Myron Penn Laughlin Recent Development Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to the semifinalists in the Intramural Appellate Competition
John A. Cortner Moot Court Competition Award	Awarded to the two members of the winning team in the Intramural Appellate Competition

K. Harlan Dodson Moot Court Staff Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to students chosen as members of the National Moot Court Team

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 30 first-year students annually. Second-year students may also 'write on' to the law review.¹⁷

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. Beginning in 2008, JETL publishes four issues annually, including a special issue with papers from JETL's annual symposium. Past volumes have included articles on the legality of excluding preparatory players from the NBA, the protection of copyright in the age of peer-to-peer file sharing, and the regulation of distance learning in higher education.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

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.²⁰

Moot Court²¹

Each year, Vanderbilt Law School offers all 2Ls and 3Ls the opportunity to participate in the Bass, Berry & Sims Intramural Moot Court Competition. During the first week of the school year, all 2Ls are invited to attend an informational meeting, which is mandatory for those who wish to register for Moot Court.

The Bass, Berry & Sims Moot Court Competition is also a one-credit course in advanced appellate advocacy, administered by the Vanderbilt Moot Court Board. To complete the competition and earn the credit hour, the student must write an appellate brief and present two rounds of oral arguments in front of a panel of judges.

Thirty students are selected for the Vanderbilt Moot Court Board based on their combined brief and oral scores. Finalists receive cash prizes sponsored by Bass, Berry & Sims, and the winners also receive the distinguished Cortner Award. Other awards include Best Oralist and Best Brief.

Clinical Programs^{22, 23}

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 Community and Economic Development Clinic
- The Criminal Practice Clinic
- The Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Intellectual Property and the Arts Clinic
- The International Law Practice Lab

Placement Facts²⁴

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$113,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	96.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.2%

Practice Areas²⁵

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	73.5%
Business and Industry	3.0%
Government	5.0%
Judicial Clerkship	14.5 %
Military	1.5%
Public Interest Organization	2.0%
Academic	0.5%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²⁶⁻³⁰

Externships

The following externships are available to students at Vanderbilt Law School:

The **In Nashville/Academic Year/Summer Externship**: The basic guidelines for externships in Nashville are: (1) students may receive credit only for work supervised by faculty-approved fieldwork supervisors at faculty-approved placements and (2) various types of externships may qualify, including placements with federal and state prosecutors and defenders, the state attorney general's office, state legislative offices, federal and state agencies, state and federal judges, and legal aid or other nonprofit programs. Students may not receive credit for work for which they are paid.

The **Full-Semester Externship**: Any student who is interested in pursuing a semester-long externship must submit a proposal endorsed by a full-time faculty member to the associate dean for clinical affairs six weeks prior to the end of the semester preceding the one in which the externship will take place. If a student participates in a semester-long externship, no additional externship credits may be counted toward graduation requirements, and only in the instance of a semester-long externship can the six-credit limit for externship credits be exceeded. Students may not receive credit for work for which they are paid.

The **Externship in International Law**: International law externships are offered by the Vanderbilt International Legal Studies Program and give students opportunities to work with legal professionals on international law projects in organizations in the US and abroad. Students are placed in international courts; international institutions; offices of the US government; and NGOs in Europe, Africa, and Latin America.

The **Environmental Law Externships**: Students who are interested in gaining experience-based instruction in professional skills and values, a variety of organizations provide externship opportunities, including environmental and other non-profit groups. The Environmental Law Society organizes service projects and sponsors symposia on topics of importance to leaders in law, government, business, and the academy.

Internships

Students, who are foreign nationals, are required to participate in one or more summer internships, which may be paid or unpaid and served with private or public employers. This helps students to gain familiarity with American legal institutions and the culture of legal practice in the US.

A six-month 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.

Student Organizations³¹

- Administrative Law Society
- American Constitution Society
- Animal Law Society
- Asian-Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Colloquy
- Entertainment & Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law and Policy Annual Review
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Headnotes
- Health Law Society
- Honor Council
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- JD-MBA Society
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Labor and Employment Law Society
- La Alianza (Formerly the Latin American Law Students Association, or LALSA)
- Law & Business Society
- 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
- Moot Court Board
- National Security and Law Society
- Native American Law Students Association
- OUTLaw
- Phi Delta Phi
- Running Club
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Vanderbilt Alternative Dispute Resolution Organization (VADRO)
- Vanderbilt Art and Cultural Property Law Association (VACPLA)
- Vanderbilt Bar Association (VBA)
- Vanderbilt Intellectual Property Association (VIPA)

- Vanderbilt Law Brewing Guild
- Vanderbilt Law Futbol Club
- Vanderbilt Law Republicans
- Vanderbilt Law School Ambassadors
- Vanderbilt Law School Democrats
- Vanderbilt Law Transfer Students Association
- Vanderbilt Mock Trial Board
- Vanderbilt Student Health & Wellness Association (VSHWA)
- Vanderbilt Trial Advocacy Society (VTAS)
- Women Law Student Association (WLSA)

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RANK

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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
GOULD SCHOOL OF LAWMAILING ADDRESS¹
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213-740-2523MAIN PHONE
213-740-7331/2503CAREER SERVICES PHONE
213-740-7397WEBSITE
<http://lawweb.usc.edu/>**Overview²⁻⁴**

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. Half of the school's students come from outside California, and nearly 40% identify themselves as racial and ethnic minorities; 50% of students are women.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁵

11.5:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	165-167	3.48-3.71

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	5,595
Number accepted	1,149
Percentage accepted	20.5%

Class Ranking and Grades⁸⁻¹⁰

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. This combination of letters and numbers was selected because the letters can be easily understood by all potential employers, while the intermediate numbers allow more gradations and therefore more nuance than a simple system of letters only.

The below chart shows the current numerical and letter grades as well as the equivalent grades on the old 65-90 grading system used for students entering before the fall 2001 semester. These equivalents are provided for informal guidance only. Grades may be reported only in the manner in which they are recorded and displayed officially on the transcript or Record of Academic Performance (RAP). Grades may not be converted from one system to the other for reporting purposes:

Honors Designation (if any)	Old System Numerical Grade	Current System Numerical Grade	Current System letter Grade
Highest Honors	90	4.4	A+
High Honors	87-89	4.1-4.3	A+
High Honors	85-86	3.9-4.0	A
Honors	84	3.8	A
Honors	81-83	3.5-3.7	A-
Honors	80	3.4	B+
None	79	3.3	B+
None	76-78	3.0-3.2	B
None	73-75	2.7-2.9	B-
None	71-72	2.5-2.6	C+
None	70	2.4	C
None	66-60	2.0-2.3	D
None	65	1.9	F

A grade above 1.9 (F) or a grade of CR must be earned to receive credit toward the 88 units 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 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)^{11, 12}

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.

Honors¹³

Students in the top 10% of each graduating class may be invited to join the Order of the Coif.

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
American Board of Trial Advocates Award	Awarded to the best third-year student in preparation for trial practice of the law
Deloitte Award	Awarded for excellence in the field of corporate taxation
Judge Barry Russell Federal Practice Award	Awarded for significant contribution toward the improvement of the administration of justice
Warren J. Ferguson Award	Awarded for the best essay on a social justice topic, such as labor, poverty, criminal justice, civil rights, or discrimination based on race, gender, or sexual orientation
Carl Mason Franklin Award in International Law	Awarded for excellence in the field of international law

James J. Holbrook Award	Awarded for significant contribution to the Southern California Law Review
Irmas Fellowship	Awarded to assist recent USC Law graduates beginning careers in public interest law
Peter D. Knecht Memorial Award	Awarded for excellence in contract and entertainment law
Law Alumni Award	Awarded to the member of the graduating class with the highest academic average in scholarship
Alfred I. Mellenthin Award	Awarded for the highest GPA after two years of law study
Miller-Johnson Equal Justice Award	Awarded to a student or students for commitment to civil and social justice while at USC Law
Dorothy Wright Nelson Justice Award	Awarded for contribution to the improvement of the administration of justice
Edward S. and Eleanor J. Shattuck Award	Awarded to students who are judged by the faculty to exhibit the greatest potential for becoming outstanding members of the bar
Norma Zarky Memorial Award	Awarded for excellence in entertainment law
ALI-ABA Scholarship & Leadership Award	Awarded to the graduating student best representing scholarship and leadership
Barger and Wolen Written Advocacy Award for Best Brief	Awarded for Best Brief and Best Petitioner Brief in the Hale Moot Court Honors Program
Eleanor Klein Merit Award	Awarded to an outstanding graduating woman
Mason C. Brown Trial Advocacy Award	Awarded for the commitment to public interest endeavors and an aptitude for trial work
National Association of Women Lawyers	Awarded for contributing to advancement of women in society
Roger Sherman Memorial Prize in Intellectual Property	Awarded for excellence in intellectual property
Judge E. Avery Crary Award	Awarded to the four finalists in the Hale Moot Court Honors competition
Judge Malcolm Lucas Award	Awarded for the highest scholastic average during first-year

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.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

Moot Court¹⁸

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 Programs¹⁹

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 a faculty member. It offers the following clinical programs:

- Employer Legal Advice Clinic
- Immigration Clinic
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law Clinic
- Mediation Clinic
- Post-Conviction Justice Project
- Small Business Clinic

Placement Facts²⁰

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$145,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$149,464
Median in public service	\$55,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	93.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.2%

Practice Areas²¹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	68%
Business and industry	9%
Government	8%
public interest organization	4%
Judicial Clerkship	8%
Academic	2%
Military	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{22, 23}

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 Program. Students can participate in government and non-profit organizations.

Student Organizations²⁴

- American Constitution Society
- American Indian Law Student Association
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Assoc - APALSA
- Black Law Students Association - BLSA
- Christian Legal Society
- Community Service Affairs
- Corporate Law Society
- Diversity and Inclusion Strategy Committee
- Entertainment Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Gould /Marshall Alliance
- Health Law and Bioethics Society
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law Society
- International Law and Relations Organization
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association - JLSA
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law Students Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Aid Alternative Breaks - LAAB
- Middle Eastern South Asian Law Association - MESALA
- Muslim Law Students Association
- OUTLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta - PAD
- Public Interest Law Foundation - PILF
- Real Estate Law
- Review of Law & Social Justice - RLSJ
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association - SBA
- Slumbusters: Club for Housing and Unlawful Detainer Law - CHUD
- Surf Law Society
- USC Art Law Society
- USC Law Democrats
- USC Sports Law Society
- USC Trial Practice Association
- Women's Law Association - WLA

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RANK

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WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF
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One Brookings Drive
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314-935-6400

WEBSITE

<http://www.law.wustl.edu>

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314-935-4610

ADMISSIONS PHONE

314-935-4525

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

314-935-6451

Overview²⁻⁴

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 with more than 675,000 volumes and access to a rich collection of online databases. The library acquires both primary and secondary source materials basic to the needs of students, scholars, and practicing attorneys. It has one of the best collections of contemporary Chinese and Japanese law.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁵

11:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	162-168	3.20-3.70

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,700
Number accepted	996
Percentage accepted	26.9%

Class Ranking and Grades⁸

Beginning in Fall 1994, Washington University School of Law discontinued ranking JD students. Students in the top 5% are informed of their rank.

Effective with the graduating class of 2004, Washington University School of Law instituted a new 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 new 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 new scale. The school does not report the exact ranks of JD students, except for the top 5%. For the new grading system, the conversion is as follows:

A+	100-97
A	96-94
A-	93-91
B+	90-88
B	87-85
B-	84-82
C	81-79
D	78-74
F	73-70

Grade Normalization (Curve)⁹⁻¹¹

Cumulative and semester grade point averages for JD students are computed at the end of the fall and spring semesters. Yearly grade point averages for JD students are computed at the end of the spring semester. The academic year, for the purposes of the yearly GPA, begins with summer and ends with spring. Each average is computed as a weighted average by multiplying the numerical grade for each course attempted by the number of credit hours given for the course and dividing the total by the number of numerically graded hours attempted. (Credit/No Credit, transferred hours, and non-law courses are not included in these computations.)

A Fail in a Pass/Fail course (whether Modified or Straight Pass/Fail) is recorded as a 70 and is used to compute the student's average. A Low Pass in a Modified Pass/Fail course is recorded as a 78 and also is used to compute the GPA. A High Pass in such a course is recorded as a 94 and also is used to compute the student's average, unless the effect would be to lower the student's cumulative GPA. A Pass in a Modified Pass/Fail course is recorded as a P and does not affect the GPA.

Beginning with the class of 2004, faculty must abide by mandatory mean restrictions for JD students' grades—for first-year courses, the mean of the JD grades must be in the range of 86.5 to 87.5. For upper-level courses, the mean of the JD grades must be the same as the mean of the GPAs of the JD students in the particular course. Effective with the 2007-2008 school year, the grades for JD students in seminars is 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.

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	92.17
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	90.11
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	89.25
Minimum GPA required for graduation	79.00

Honors¹²

Honor	Criteria
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

Awards¹³

Name of Award	Description
Breckinridge Academic Awards	Awarded at the end of each year to the two students in each JD class with the first- and second-highest academic averages for the academic year
CALI Awards	Awarded to each JD student who has attained the highest grade in a class
Alumni Association Prize	Awarded to the student who has attained the highest GPA in his or her entire career at the law school
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State and Local Government Law Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in Land Use Law and State and Local Government
Charles Trobman Memorial Award	Awarded for the 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	Awarded for the highest final grade in Conflict of Laws

Christophine G. Mutharika International Law Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in International Law
Dan Carter-Earl Tedrow Memorial Award	Awarded to a senior for 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	Awarded for outstanding leadership and service to the law school
Don Sommers Prize in Professional Responsibility	Awarded for the highest grade in Legal Profession
Equal Justice Works Award	Awarded for outstanding commitment to pro bono and public service
Excellence in Alternative Dispute Resolution Award	Awarded for the excellence in the ADR classes or the ADR competitions: Client Counseling, Negotiation, and Representation in Mediation Competitions
F. Hodge O'Neal Corporate Law Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in Corporations
Family Law Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Family Law
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded for 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	Awarded to the JD graduating students with the highest grades in Bankruptcy and Insurance
Judge Amandus Brackman Moot Court Prize	Awarded for proficiency in briefing and arguing cases in moot court competitions
Judge John W. Calhoun Trial Practice Award	Awarded for exceptional talent and enthusiasm for trial practice, as demonstrated in classes or competitions
Judge Myron D. Mills Administrative Law Prize	Awarded for the best paper on an administrative law topic in a course for credit during each academic year
Mary Collier Hitchcock Prize	Awarded to one student of each of the school's three publications (the <i>Law Review</i> , the <i>Journal of Law & Policy</i> , and the <i>Global Studies Law Review</i>) for outstanding writing
Milton F. Napier Trial Award	Awarded for proficiency in trial advocacy, as demonstrated in classes or competitions
National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Graduate Award	Awarded for 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	Awarded for the highest grade in Real Estate Transactions
Public Service Law Student of the Year	Awarded for extraordinary commitment and dedication to serving those most in need
William M. Pomerantz Trial Prize	Awarded for 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.¹⁴

The **Washington University Journal of Law & 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.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

Moot Court¹⁷

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 American Bar Association National Appellate Advocacy Competition; the Giles Rich Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the American Intellectual Property Law Association; the Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the International Trademark Association; and the Thomas Tang National Moot Court Competition, sponsored by the APA Law Student Association of the South Texas College of Law.

Clinical Programs¹⁸

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. Law students assist indigent and low-income clients in juvenile justice, child welfare, housing, civil rights, environmental, community health, criminal defense, and intellectual property matters. With 13 distinct clinics, including one based in Washington, DC, students have an unparalleled opportunity to hone their skills as future practitioners.

The school offers the following clinics:

- Appellate Clinic
- Civil Justice Clinic
- Civil Rights & Community Justice Clinic
- Congressional & Administrative Law Clinic
- Corporate Judicial Placement
- Criminal Justice Clinic
- Intellectual Property & Nonprofit Organizations Clinic
- Interdisciplinary Environmental Clinic

Placement Facts¹⁹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$85,000-\$150,000
Median in the private sector	\$120,000
Median in public service	\$47,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	94.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.7%

Practice Areas²⁰

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	64%
Business and Industry	8%
Government	11%
Judicial Clerkship	11 %
Military	0.5%
Public Interest Organization	2%
Academic	1.5%
Unknown	2%

Externships/Internships²¹⁻²⁴

Externships

The law school offers local, national, and international externships during summer. These are

- The Judicial Clerkship Externship
- The Lawyering Practice Externship
- Africa and Asia Field Placements
- American Indian Law Externship

The law school also offers the Government Lawyering Externship. It 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.

Internships

Washington University School of Law has launched a Transnational Law Program for students in both the US and Europe in 2008. It offers internships with US and European corporations, law firms, courts, enforcement and administrative agencies, and non-governmental organizations.

Law students participate in a number of international public interest opportunities, both in the US and abroad. The law school faculty helps students to find out 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.

Student Organizations²⁵

- Africa Public Interest Law & Dispute Resolution Project
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) (opens in new window)
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- American Trial Lawyers Association (ATLA)
- Barely Legal Theater
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA) (opens in new window)
- China Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate Law Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Devil's Advocate
- Dispute Resolution Society
- Education Law & Policy Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Works (EJW)

- Family Law Society (FLS)
- Federalist Society
- Golf Club
- Graduate-Professional Council (opens in new window)
- Honor Council
- Illinois Student Bar Association (ISBA)
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society (opens in new window)
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Society
- Joint Degree Law Society
- Labor and Employment Law Association (LELA)
- Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA)
- Law School Democrats
- Law Students for Choice
- Law Students For Life
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security Law Society
- OUTLAW
- Phi Alpha Delta (opens in new window)
- Real Estate and Law Society
- Running Club
- Second Career Law Students (SCaLeS) (opens in new window)
- Sidebar Wine Society
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Sport Shooting Society
- Sports & Entertainment Law Society (SLES)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Health Lawyers' Association (SHLA)
- Student Law Association of Metropolitan St. Louis
- Women's Law Caucus (WLC) American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

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RANK

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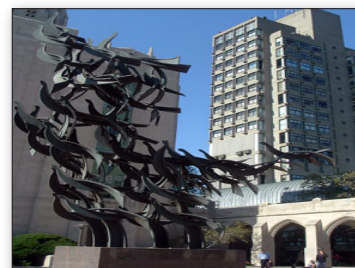
617-353-3115

ADMISSIONS PHONE

617-353-3100

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

617-353-3141

Overview²⁻⁶

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 150 courses, five concentrations, and 13 semester-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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

11.8:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	163-166	3.48-3.82

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	5,907
Number accepted	1,740
Percentage accepted	29.5%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

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.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

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.

Honors¹²

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1%	4.00
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%	3.71
<i>cum laude</i>	Top one-third	3.51
Edward F. Hennessey Distinguished Scholars	Not Provided	3.93
Edward F. Hennessey Scholars	Top 10%	3.86
Paul J. Liacos Distinguished Scholars	Not Provided	3.87
Paul J. Liacos Scholars	Top 10%	3.78
Joseph Tauro Distinguished Scholars	Not Provided	3.78-3.88
G. Joseph Tauro Scholars	Top 10%	3.68-3.73

Journals

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.¹³

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.¹⁴

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.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.^{18, 19}

Moot Court²⁰

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. 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 are eligible for selection to compete in major national appellate competitions.

BU Law sponsors several intramural moot court teams, including the National Moot Court Team, National Appellate Advocacy Team, J. Braxton Craven Constitutional Law Moot Court Team, BMI Entertainment and Communications Law Moot Court Team, National First Amendment Moot Court Team, Jessup International Law Moot Court Team, Frederick Douglass Moot Court Team, Thomas Tang Moot Court Team, and John J. Gibbons Criminal Law Moot Court Team.

Clinical Programs

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. The law school's clinical classes are small, ensuring high-caliber supervision and teaching. With no more than eight students to a teacher, students enjoy a close mentoring experience. Students at BU Law may choose from clinical programs in criminal law, civil litigation, and legislative services.²¹

Students enrolled in the **Criminal Law Clinics** carry full responsibility for the prosecution or defense of criminal cases in several Boston courts. They conduct investigations, formulate trial strategy, file appropriate pretrial motions, participate in plea bargaining, try cases before a judge, and make sentencing arguments, all under faculty guidance and with faculty support.²²

In the two-semester **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.²³

The **Legislative Clinics**, which include the **Policy & Drafting Clinic**, **Legislative Counsel Clinic**, and **Africa i-Parliaments Clinic**, offer students a variety of opportunities to examine the legislative process. Students work with state senators and representatives, mayors, city councils, administrative agencies, and public interest groups to create legislative solutions to problems.²⁴

Placement Facts²⁵

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$135,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	99.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.7%

Practice Areas²⁶

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	67.8%
Business and Industry	4.6%
Government	5.7%
Judicial Clerkship	13.6%
Military	1.5%
Public Interest Organization	3%
Academic	3.8%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{27, 28}

Externships

Boston University School of Law's **Legal Externship Program** gives second- and third-year students opportunities to gain valuable experience in a variety of legal settings in which they are exposed to the realities of law practice under the supervision of well-respected practitioners. Over the years, hundreds of students have expanded their experience through field placements in the following areas: civil and criminal litigation, civil rights, healthcare, taxation, securities law, environmental law, banking, domestic violence, children's law, and the judiciary.

Internships

Legislative Internship Program

Second and third year students who intern 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 Organizations²⁹

- The American Constitution Society
- The Art Law Society
- The Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- The Black Law Student Association
- China-US Legal Exchange
- Christian Legal Society
- The Communication, Entertainment, and Sports Law Association
- The Environmental Law Society
- The Federalist Society
- The Health Law Association
- The Human Rights Law Society
- The Intellectual Property Law Society
- The International Law Society
- The Jewish Law Student Association
- The J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- The Latin American Law Student Association
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Follies
- Mock Trial Team
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Security Law Society
- OutLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta
- The Public Interest Project
- The Real Estate Club
- The Running Club
- The Scotch Club
- Shelter Legal Services
- Softball
- The South Asian Law Student Association
- The Student Government Association
- The Women's Law Association

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Overview²⁻⁴

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 law library holds over 400,000 volumes and more than 4,000 serials subscriptions. The library is a selective depository for US Government documents and a full depository for European Union publications. In addition, the library provides access to many electronic resources, including Lexis-Nexis, Westlaw, and a variety of other specialized legal databases. The library's five-story building opened in August 1995 and is named for alumnus Hugh. F. MacMillan.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁵

10.7:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	164-166	3.42-3.71

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	4,209
Number accepted	1,009
Percentage accepted	24.0%

Class Ranking and Grades⁸⁻¹⁰

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. 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.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

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^{12, 13}

Honor	Criteria
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^{14, 15}

Name of Award	Description
Dean's Public Service Awards	Special recognition of a number of law students who have contributed to public service at the law school
Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund Award	Awarded for outstanding academic performance in real estate courses
Beynart Professionalism Award	Awarded to an outstanding third-year student
Distinguished Service Award	Awarded to honors students involved in extracurricular activities
Georgia Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding commitment to women in law
Moffett Litigation Award	Awarded for outstanding academic performance in trial preparation
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding devotion to women in law issues
Order of Barristers	Awarded for outstanding academic performance in appellate advocacy
Barbara S. Rudisill Award	Memorial award for a student pursuing law as a second career
Wall Street Journal Achievement Award	Awarded to the top-ranked student in his or her graduating class
American Law Institute-ABA Leadership Award	Awarded for outstanding leadership and scholarship
ABA/BNA Leadership Award	Awarded for outstanding academic performance in intellectual property
Kleinrock Publishing Award	Awarded for outstanding academic performance in taxation
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for outstanding academic performance in bankruptcy
Custer-Tuggle Award	Awarded for outstanding commitment to family law
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding litigation skills

Alternative Dispute Resolution Conflict Resolution Award	Awarded for outstanding alternative dispute resolution skills
State Bar of Georgia Labor/Employment Award	Awarded for 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	Awarded for outstanding academic achievement in labor and employment law
Bryan Prize	Awarded for outstanding achievement in constitutional law
Georgia Tax Section Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement in taxation
Paul Hastings Janofsky Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement in securities law
Order of Emory Advocates Award	Awarded for significant achievement in appellate advocacy
James C. Pratt Memorial Award	Awarded for outstanding service to the Emory Moot Court Society
James C. Pratt Best Brief Award	Awarded for an outstanding brief in 2L moot court competition
Henry Quillian Prize in Contracts	Awarded for outstanding achievement in commercial law
Sutherland Asbill Brennan Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement in a federal income tax course
Most Outstanding Third-Year Student Award	Awarded for outstanding leadership
Douglass Lee Peabody Memorial Award	Awarded for outstanding 1L advocacy
Burt and Betty Schear Book Prize	Awarded for unique character and leadership
Keith J. Shapiro Award	Awarded for excellence in business and consumer bankruptcy
Student Legal Services Award	Awarded for overall leadership in Student Legal Services
Who's Who Award	Awarded for overall leadership in law school
State Bar of Georgia Real Property Award	Awarded for high achievement in real property coursework
Bolton Award	Awarded for excellence in brief writing
Mary Laura "Chee" Davis Award	Awarded for the best journal comment
Herman Dooyeweerd Prize	Awarded to outstanding law and religion students
Emory International Law Review Award	Awarded to the best speaker
Emory International Law Review Founders Award	Awarded for the best journal comment
Gunster, Yoakley & Stewart Award	Awarded to the best oralist in 2L competition
Gary B. Katz Memorial Award	Awarded for outstanding service in Student Legal Services
Myron Penn Laughlin Award	Awarded for excellence in legal research and writing
Pro Bono Awards	Awarded to students for contributing 25 pro bono hours during the academic year
Outstanding 3L Student Award	Awarded to students for outstanding commitment to public service/pro bono work while in law school
Michael Gullett Memorial Award	Awarded to Best Speaker

LaMarr Inn of Court	Awarded for outstanding advocacy skills
Outstanding Public Service Award	Awarded for outstanding commitment to public service

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.¹⁶

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.^{17, 18}

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.^{19, 20}

Moot Court²¹

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 60 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 Programs²²⁻²⁴

Emory Law offers experiential learning opportunities that give students real-world experience through its centers and clinics.

The **Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic** offers students practical experiences in child advocacy work. The clinic was established to provide research-based information, training, and policy analysis to practitioners and policy-makers charged with protecting Georgia's children.

The **Barton Juvenile Defender Clinic** gives law students the opportunity to represent clients in delinquency and status offense proceedings in Georgia's juvenile courts. Pursuant to Georgia's third-year practice rule, under the supervision of the clinic's managing attorney, students are responsible for handling all aspects of client representation. Students may also participate in policy work related to juvenile justice issues.

The **Turner Environmental Law Clinic**, established in 1998, provides free legal assistance to individuals, community groups, and nonprofit environmental organizations seeking to protect and restore the natural environment for the benefit of the public. The clinic trains law students to be effective environmental attorneys with high ethical standards and sensitivity to the natural environment.

The **International Humanitarian Law Clinic** pairs students with organizations, law firms, tribunals, and other groups that prosecute war criminals, protect humanitarian relief efforts entering conflict zones, represent detainees at Guantanamo bay, monitor conduct during hostilities, gather information about abuses committed in conflict areas and similar issues.

Placement Facts²⁵

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$80,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$130,000
Median in public service	\$52,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	97.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	97.0%

Practice Areas²⁶

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	71.8%
Business and Industry	11.5%
Government	5.3%
Judicial Clerkships	8.6%
Public Interest Organizations	2.8%
Military	0.5%
Academic	0%
Unknown	1.9%

Externships/Internships^{27, 28}

Internships

The Field Placement Program provides second- and third-year law students the opportunity to serve internships with public service organizations, corporations, public defenders, and government agencies

As Emory law school does not have a summer session, there are no field placements available through Emory over the summer. Field placements or internships are sometimes sponsored by other ABA-AALS accredited law schools.

Student Organizations²⁹

- 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
- 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
- Law Society
- 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
- Fraternities
- National Security & Law Society
- Real Estate Society
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Bar Association
- Student Legal Services

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RANK

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612-625-3487

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

612-625-1866

Overview³⁻⁶

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. Research institutes and its program 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 Ratio⁷

12.6:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	163-167	3.29-3.82

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,783
Number accepted	841
Percentage accepted	30.2%

Class Ranking and Grades^{10, 11}

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, and (2) for the limited purpose of application for judicial clerkships or academic teaching positions. 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 credit-bearing course or exercise for which no grade is given by faculty at the end of the semester. If coursework is not completed and a grade assigned, any outstanding I will convert to an F grade.

P/F Grades

The faculty may authorize the use of a credit/no credit (P/F) system of grading, either as the sole available means of grading a course or as an alternative method of grading that course. The Educational Policy Committee may grant similar approval for a seminar.

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)^{12, 13}

The University of Minnesota Law School faculty imposes a standard distribution for all first-year classes; the average (mean) for first-year classes is between 3.0 and 3.330. Any faculty member with 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 3.330.

Minimum GPAs Required

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.549 - 4.151
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.353 - 3.548
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	3.133 - 3.352
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.000

Honors¹⁴

The University of Minnesota Law School confers the following honors:

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 4.0 and above
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.5 and above
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.33 and above

Awards¹⁵

Name of Award	Description
Ava & Russell Lindquist	Not Provided
Briggs and Morgan Scholarship	Not Provided
Caroline Brede Scholarship	Not Provided
Walter J. Trogner Scholarship	Not Provided
Faegre & Benson Scholarship	Not Provided
Fredrikson & Byron (joint degree)	Not Provided
Gerald & Elenor Heaney Scholarship	Not Provided
Henson & Efron, PA Scholarship	Not Provided
Judge Betty W. Washburn Scholarship	Not Provided
Law Class of '24 Memorial	Not Provided
Law Review Memorial Award	Not Provided
Leonard E. Lindquist Scholarship	Not Provided
Leonard Street Scholarship	Not Provided
Melvin C. Steen Scholarship	Not Provided
Michael McHale Scholarship	Not Provided

MIPLA Scholarship for IP	Not Provided
Robert A. Stein Scholarship	Not Provided
Roger and Violet Noreen Scholarship	Not Provided
Royal A. Stone Memorial Scholarship	Not Provided
Kent Wennerstrom Award	Not Provided
Book Award	Awarded for the highest grade in a class of more than 25 students
Steven M. Block Award	Not Provided
William B. Lockhart Award for Excel	Highest award at graduation
Excellence in Public Service	Not Provided

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

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.”²⁰

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.²¹

Moot Court²²

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 Programs²³

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
- Child Advocacy
- Civil Practice
- Criminal Appeals
- Environmental Sustainability
- Federal Defense
- Housing
- Human Rights Litigation and International Legal Advocacy
- Immigration
- Indian Child Welfare
- Innocence Project
- Misdemeanor Defense
- Misdemeanor Prosecution
- Multi-Profession Business Law
- Public Interest Law
- Special Education
- Tax
- Workers' Rights

Placement Facts²⁴

Starting Salaries (2006 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$70,000-\$120,000
Median in the private sector	\$115,000
Median in public service	\$47,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	85.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.9%

Practice Areas²⁵

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	61%
Business and Industry	7%
Government	9%
Judicial Clerkship	17%
Military	1.0%
Public Interest Organization	4%
Academic	0%
Unknown	1.0%

Externships/Internships^{26, 27}

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.

Internships

The law school sponsors a limited number of internships at regional offices of the National Labor Relations Board and the Equal Opportunity Employment Commission. Students participating in these internship programs have independent responsibility for investigating violations of law under the supervision of experienced government attorneys administering the principal federal labor and employment law statutes.

Student Organizations²⁸

- Alliance for Critical Interdisciplinary Legal Thought
- American Bar Association Law Student Division (ABA/LSD)
- ACLU Club
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- American Indian Law Student Association (AILSAs)
- Amnesty International
- Asian American Law Student Association (AALSA)
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America (ATLA)
- Asylum Law Project
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Disability Law and Policy Student Advocates (DLPSA)
- Entertainment and Sports Law Students' Association (ESLSA)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- The Federalist Society
- The Fighting Mondales Hockey Club
- Gamma Eta Gamma
- Graduate and Professional Schools Assembly (GAPSA)
- International Law Student Association (ILSA)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Student Association
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino Law Students Alliance (LLSA)
- Law Council
- Law School Basketball Association (LBA)
- Law School Democrats (LSD)
- Law School Football Club
- Law School Rec Sports
- Law School Republicans
- Law Students Chess Association (LSCA)
- Law Students for Choice (LSFC)
- Minnesota Justice Foundation (MJF)
- Minnesota Law Families
- Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
- National Lawyers' Guild
- National Security and Law Society
- Out!Law (Lambda Law Student Association)
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International (PAD)
- Pro-Life Law Society (PLLS)
- Property Law Student Organization (PLSA)
- Public Interest Law Student Association (PILSA)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Employment and Labor Law Association (SELLA)
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)
- Student Mentoring Program

- Student Real Estate Law Society
- Theatre of the Relatively Talentless (TORT)
- University Student Legal Services (USLS)
- Women's Law Student Association (WLSA)

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RANK

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WEBSITE

<http://www.law.indiana.edu>**Overview³⁻⁶**

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.

Second- and third-year students can choose from a variety of course offerings ranging from classes on local government law to an international law seminar on weapons of mass destruction. Students have the freedom to specialize in particular areas of law, such as environmental law or intellectual property, or to take courses from a number of interest areas. Several upper-level courses also help the school's students develop “on-the-job” skills through clinical programs. The Family and Children Mediation Clinic and the Community Legal Clinic give students opportunities to represent local clients under the supervision of faculty. Other courses that sharpen students' abilities to think quickly and analytically include in-trial skills and mediation classes.

Students can also participate in Indiana Law's three 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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

10:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	156-165	3.39-3.85

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,384
Number accepted	597
Percentage accepted	25%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

Student performance at Indiana Law is graded and credited according to the following scale:

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
F	0.0

The grading structure for Legal research and writing has four options: high pass (hp), pass (p), low pass (LP), and fail (F). The university transcript, however, only use pass for high pass, pass, and low pass. 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)¹¹

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.59
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.43
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.33
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.19
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.30

Honors^{12, 13}

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Order of Barristers	Not provided
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 30%
Dean's Honors	Top 30%

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
Vice President Scholar	Awarded to the top second-year student
JUMP Scholars	Awarded for academic achievement
Moot Court Awards	Merit-based
John Edwards University Fellowship	Awarded to the 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.¹⁵

The ***Federal Communications Law Journal*** contains features by commissioners of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and members of the US Congress. Published three times per year, it is an official journal of the Federal Communications Bar Association. Students are invited onto the editorial board on the basis of academic performance and a writing competition.¹⁶

The ***Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*** focuses on the intersections of global and domestic legal regimes, politics, markets, cultures, and technologies. It is an interdisciplinary journal edited by the faculty and published twice per year.¹⁷

Moot Court¹⁸

The Indiana Law Moot Court Board is a 25-member student group comprised of 3Ls that aims to promote advocacy skills among law students. Members of the board are selected on the basis of their performance in the Sherman Minton Moot Court Competition and compete in national interscholastic moot court competitions.

Clinical Programs¹⁹⁻²⁷

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. The school offers the following clinical programs:

The **Community Legal Clinic**, in which students mainly work with family law and low-income clients.

The **Conservation Law Clinic**, in which students work for the Conservation Law Center Inc. and offer legal services to clients in support of the conservation of natural resources. Students in the clinic gain knowledge from staff attorneys and experts in the fields of biology, ecology, agriculture, and forestry.

The **Disability Law Clinic**, in which students serve individual clients and disability rights groups. Students in the clinic handle discrimination issues and assist economically disadvantaged people with disabilities with acquiring benefits and services. It is a three-credit clinical course and was offered for the first time in spring 2007.

The **Elder Law Clinic**, in which students assist clients aged 60 and above with a number of civil legal issues, such as housing, consumer law, tax, public benefit, advance directive, and family law matters.

The **Elmore Entrepreneurship Law Clinic**, which is jointly sponsored by the Indiana University Kelley School of Business and Indiana Law and provides third-year law students and fourth-year JD/MBA joint-degree students with the opportunity to assist with issues involving high-growth ventures, startups, finances, organization, licenses, agreements, intellectual property, and regulations and zoning.

The **Family and Children Mediation Clinic**, in which second- and third-year students work on domestic relations mediation matters.

The **Federal Courts Clinic**, in which students work in the chambers of federal judges or magistrate judges in Indianapolis for one day per week.

The **Nonprofit Legal Clinic**, in which second- and third-year students develop professional skills through the representation of nonprofit entities.

Apart from the above clinical programs and projects, Indiana Law also provides practicums that are add-ons to existing courses and offer students considerable clinical experience:

The **Intellectual Property Practicum**, in which students work with experienced intellectual property lawyers.

The **Immigration Law Practicum**, in which students work with asylum applicants and on matters pertaining to bringing skilled labor to the United States.

Placement Facts²⁸

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$75,000-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$90,000
Median in public service	\$48,610

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	87.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation (including 25% of those with unknown status)	98.5%

Practice Areas²⁹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	46%
Business/Industry	16.3%
Government	13.9%
Public Interest Organization	5.6%
Judicial Clerkship	11.2%
Military	3%
Academic	4%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships³⁰⁻³²

Externships

Practicing lawyers supervise off-campus externship programs for Indiana Law students, and full-time faculty members provide at the law school. Academic credit is granted for Indiana Law's externship opportunities. Indiana Law has several externships that also offer academic credit. These are the **Indiana Legal Services Externship**, the **Student Legal Services Externship**, and the **Criminal Law Externship**.

The law school also offers a special externship - the **Washington Public Interest Program**. It allows select third-year students to spend their final semester in Washington, DC as public interest interns with nonprofit organizations or federal agencies. This program creates a valuable bridge in the transition from law student to practicing lawyer.

Internships

Indiana Law students can pursue an internship through the **Public Interest Internship Program** or the **Independent Clinical Project**. An internship program is an experiential opportunity in the nonprofit or public interest sector for which eligible students can earn academic credit.

Through the **Public Interest Internship Program**, students can receive up to four credit hours during the summer for engaging in unpaid legal work for nonprofit, government agencies, judges, or legal services organizations.”

Student Organizations³³

- 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)
- 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
- Lambda Law Society
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Latino Law Student Association (LLSA)
- Law and Drama Society
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Moot Court Board
- Older and Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Outreach for Legal Literacy
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Protective Order Project
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Tenant Assistance Project
- Women’s Law Caucus

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Overview²⁻⁵

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 "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 50 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 is home to some 750,000 volumes and has access to thousands of electronic legal information sources.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

12.3:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-167	3.20-3.80

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,299
Number accepted	947
Percentage accepted	28.7%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

The University of Illinois College of Law only verifies a student's grades if the student has provided written permission to the school to release that information.

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	1.00
F	0.00

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

Minimum Grade Required to Attain (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.74
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.52
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.00

Honors¹¹

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^{12, 13}

Name of Award	Description
Bell, Boyd & Lloyd Best Advocate Award	Awarded to first-year students for oral and written advocacy skills
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Awarded for the highest grade in each course
Cook County Circuit Court Honors Externship Program	Awarded to applicants who earned Honors or High Honors distinctions in the first-semester Legal Research and Writing class
Harker Prize	Awarded to the student ranked number one after the first year
Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg Law Review Writing Award	Awarded for the best law review note
Sonnenschein, Nath & Rosenthal Award of Excellence in Legal Research and Writing	Awarded for legal research and writing skills
Rickert Awards	Awarded to outstanding third-year law students who demonstrate excellence within a variety of academic, advocacy, and community-building activities
Larry Travis Bushong Writing Award	Awarded for the best student paper on gay and lesbian issues
Honorary Round Best Oralist	Awarded to the best oralist in the Moot Court Honorary Round
Dennis France Scholarship	Awarded to an outstanding third-year student in family law
J. Nelson Young Tax Award	Awarded for academic excellence in taxation
Brinks Hofer Award	Awarded for academic excellence in intellectual property
Ellen Daar Kerschner Memorial Scholarship	Awarded to an outstanding female student
Class of 1996 Public Service Award	Awarded for public service commitment
Jenner & Block Minority Scholar	Awarded to an outstanding 1st Year Minority Student
Cook County Circuit Court Honors	Awarded to 1st year students with honors in legal writing

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.^{14, 15}

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.¹⁶

The **University of Illinois Journal of Law, Technology & Policy** is a peer-reviewed, biannual joint 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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

Moot Court²⁰

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 one of seven internal moot court competitions:

- The Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition
- The Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- The Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition
- The Frederick Green Moot Court Competition
- The Hispanic National Bar Association Moot Court Competition

- The Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition
- The Jessup Moot Court Competition (focusing on International Law)

Students who participate in each of these competitions receive instruction in both brief writing and oral advocacy, write an appellate brief, and participate in practice and final rounds of oral argument. The top finishers in each competition will have the opportunity to compete in any of the following external competitions the following year:

- The Chicago Bar Association Moot Court Competition
- The Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition
- The Hispanic National Bar Association Moot Court Competition
- The Illinois Appellate Lawyers Association Moot Court Competition
- The Judge Conrad B. Duberstein Moot Court Competition
- The National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- The National Moot Court Competition
- The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

Clinical Programs²¹

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 five in-house clinics and three outplacement clinics.

The law school's in-house clinics are:

The **Civil Litigation Clinic**, in which students represent clients in civil litigation matters under close supervision in a model law office setting. The Civil Litigation Clinic represents low-income individuals and families who do not have the resources to hire an attorney. Cases include family law cases (such as divorce, child custody, and order of protection proceedings), debtor cases, and general civil litigation cases, providing participating students a broad range of experiences.²²

The **International Human Rights Clinic**, in which students develop skills required for legal practice in an international context while promoting human rights and development in Africa. Working in collaboration with international non-governmental organizations and human rights lawyers in Africa, students have the opportunity to develop their skills in case strategy and development; legal research, writing, and editing; written and oral advocacy; critical thinking; counseling; and cross-cultural legal practice.²³

The **Transactions and Community Economic Development Clinic**, which strives to promote the health and welfare of Illinois residents and their communities. It is part of the community-oriented legal movement, in which lawyers and community leaders use the law as one of many tools in a larger strategy for solving problems. This clinic focuses on fighting poverty and promoting economic justice for all segments of society by using a wide variety of problem-solving tools, such as advocacy, legislation, research, and litigation, as well as collaboration and cooperation. Clinic students also help to start and grow small businesses and not-for-profit corporations, dispute credit fraud and identity theft, fight predatory lending, and develop positive alternatives to high-cost credit.²⁴

The **Domestic Violence Clinic**, in which victims of domestic violence are given free legal aid by students who qualify for or already have 711 licenses. Students in this clinic represent clients in courts, draft papers, and take care of their clients' legal needs under faculty supervision. They also participate in seminars that cover topics related to domestic violence.²⁵

The **Federal Civil Rights Clinic** (FCRC) provides students with a unique opportunity to learn and practice federal trial skills under the supervision of an experienced trial attorney. The cases selected for representation involve significant issues of civil rights or constitutional law and address matters affecting a significant number of prison inmates, systemic questions, and issues of law that are in conflict among the circuits. In the FCRC, clinic students perform all tasks associated with developing a federal civil case. FCRC students normally prepare and try a federal civil jury case during the spring semester.²⁶

The **Family Advocacy Clinic** will start from the fall 2010. This clinic will expand and improve the representation of parents in juvenile abuse and neglect cases in Champaign County. It will not only provide students with real-world experience working with clients under the supervision of trained attorneys and faculty members but will also provide a necessary outlet for local families underserved due to the enormous backlog of juvenile abuse and neglect cases in Champaign County.²⁷

The law school's outplacements clinics are

- Appellate Defender
- Externship
- Legislative Advocacy
- Patent Clinic

Placement Facts²⁸

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$68,500-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$49,500

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	87.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.7%

Practice Areas²⁹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	53.3%
Business and Industry	12.3%
Government	12.3%
Judicial Clerkship	6.1%
Military	1.5%

Public Interest Organization	2.4%
Academic	2.3%
Unknown	9.8%

Externships/Internships^{30, 31}

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.

Internships

Summer Internship

The school assists students interested in working with public interest organizations find summer internships. Internships may be paid or unpaid, depending on the organizations. In some cases, the law school may help students in unpaid internships acquire outside funding.

Student Organizations³²

- American Bar Association - Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union - College of Law Chapter
- American Constitution Society
- Asian American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Chicago Bar Association " Student Division
- Christian Law Students Association
- Corporate & Business Law Association
- Criminal Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Society
- Illinois State Bar Association Student Division
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Legal Society
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Law Students Association
- Latino/Latina Law Students Association
- Law Student Improvisation Society

- Muslim Law Students Association
- Myra Bradwell Association for Women Law Students
- National Lawyers Guild
- OUTLAW (Sexual Orientation and Legal Issues Society)
- Paper Chasers
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity
- Prisoners' Rights Research Project
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Real Estate Law Society
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Spouse, Partner and Family Association
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Hurricane Network

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Overview³⁻⁵

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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

13.4:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	163-166	3.42-3.78

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,319
Number accepted	765
Percentage accepted	23.0%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9, 10}

Notre Dame Law School has been relatively immune to “grade inflation.” Its system judges students against a high Notre Dame standard rather than against student performance at other institutions. It has no mandated grading curve and does not rank students. Grading at the law school is governed by the Hoynes Code.

Grades are issued based on the following scale:

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. This is evident by the fact that, although its students enter the first-year class with outstanding undergraduate academic credentials, the median grade point average for first-year classes is approximately 3.1 each year. The faculty does not hesitate to issue a grade of D or F. Such a grade simply indicates that the student has not done acceptable work according to the Notre Dame standard.

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.

Notre Dame Law School does not publish an individual's grade point average or rank in class nor rank students internally or externally. The school publishes the mean grade point average for each class on a semester basis and on a cumulative basis and the grade distribution for each course and section on a semester basis, except for Directed Readings courses or courses with five or fewer students.

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{11, 12}

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.

Honors¹³

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 or higher
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.8 or higher
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.6 or higher
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.4 or higher

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
Dean's Award	Awarded for the highest grade in a course
Colonel William J. Hoynes Award	Based on GPA and leadership
Dean Joseph O'Meara Award	Based on GPA and leadership
Farabaugh Prize	Based on GPA and leadership
Legal Writing Award	Awarded for excellence in legal writing
Trial Advocacy Awards	Several different awards for excellence in trial advocacy
Dean Link Award	Awarded for outstanding service in social justice
Dean Konop Award	Awarded for outstanding service in legal aid and defense
ABA Negotiation Award	Awarded for excellence in the art of negotiation
Dean William O. McLean Award	Awarded for outstanding service to the law school
Nathan Burke Memorial Award	Awarded for the best paper in copyright law
Smith-Doheny Legal Ethics Award	Awarded for the best paper in legal ethics
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for contribution to the advancement of women in society
Indiana Bar Foundation Award	Awarded to students intending to practice in Indiana

Six additional awards are presented by the law school for excellence in writing, along with two additional leadership awards.

Journals¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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. Recent issues have recently addressed the problems posed by serious juvenile crime, homelessness, and AIDS.¹⁹

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.²⁰

Moot Court²¹

Notre Dame Law School's moot court program is conducted by students and coordinates intramural and intercollegiate competitions in its appellate, trial, and international divisions.

The Moot Court Appellate Division provides an opportunity for students to develop the art of appellate advocacy through a series of competitive arguments. First-year students are required to brief and argue at least one appellate case. Each year, a number of students participate in the second-year program of the Notre Dame Moot Court. These arguments are presented before courts whose membership includes faculty members, practicing attorneys, and third-year students. After successful completion of the second-year rounds, the highest-ranking participants are invited to represent the law school in national competitions in their third year.

In recent years, Notre Dame Law School has participated in the National Moot Court Competition sponsored by the Young Lawyers Committee of the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. The school also sponsors an annual event called the Moot Court Showcase Argument, in which the most successful third-year students demonstrate their ability in oral argument before a mock Supreme Court composed of eminent federal and state judges.

Students also may participate in the Notre Dame Law School Trial Competition, from which students are selected to represent the law school in the annual National Trial Competition. This competition is sponsored by the Young Lawyers Association of the State Bar of Texas and the Texas Bar Foundation.

Notre Dame Law School's Moot Court International Division allows students in their second and third years to prepare for and participate in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Students are selected to represent the law school in the national competition held each spring on the basis of interscholastic competition in the fall. The Jessup Competition provides an opportunity for students to develop the art of oral advocacy in the increasingly important area of international law. In recent years, its topics have included international pollution, nuclear proliferation, the rights of prisoners of war, and law of the sea.

Clinical Programs^{22, 23}

In the **Notre Dame Legal Aid Clinic**, second- and third-year law students provide free legal services to individuals and non-profit organizations. The students are trained and closely supervised by members of the Notre Dame Law School faculty. In addition to representing clients, the Legal Aid Clinic's students and faculty serve the community, the legal profession, and the academy through a variety of educational and law reform efforts.

The **Legal Aid Clinic** represents clients in both state and federal courts and administrative agencies. The clinic also provides transactional lawyering services that do not involve litigation. The subject matters include mental health, consumer protection, immigrant rights, housing, and disability benefits.

The Legal Aid Clinic is engaged in the following primary project areas.

- Criminal Justice Project
- Disability Benefits Project
- Economic Justice Project
- Mental Health Project
- Tenants' Rights Project
- Wills and Trusts Project

Placement Facts²⁴

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$90,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$135,000
Median in public service	\$53,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	88.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.0%

Practice Areas²⁵

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	67%
Business and Industry	3%
Government	7%
Judicial Clerkship	13%
Military	3%
Public Interest Organization	2%
Academic	0%
Unknown	1%

Externships/Internships^{26, 27}

Externships

Students represent clients through Legal Externships, including a Public Defender Externship and an Asylum Externship.

The **Refugee and Asylum Law Externship Program** is a spring semester practical training course offered by Heartland Alliance's National Immigrant Justice Center (NIJC) for law students interested in immigration law.

The **Legal Externship–Public Defender** involves assisting actual public defenders in representing indigent clients at the St. Joseph County Courthouse–Trial and Misdemeanor Division.

Internships

The law school offers **London Internship Program**. Credit shall be given for participation in the London Internship Program in accordance with the policies and procedures developed and maintained by the Director of the London Law Program.

Student Organizations²⁸

- The American Civil Liberties Union
- The American Constitution Society
- The Asian Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- The Business Law Forum
- The 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
- The Hispanic Law Students Association
- The Intellectual Property Law Society
- The International Human Rights Society
- The International Law Society
- The Irish Law Society
- The Italian Law Students Association
- The Jewish Law Students Society
- Jus Vitae of Notre Dame
- Legal Voices for Children & Youth
- The Married Law Students Organization
- The Military Law Students Association
- The Native American Law Students Association
- Phi Alpha Delta
- The Public Interest Law Forum
- The Social Justice Forum
- The Sports, Communications and Entertainment Law Forum
- The St. Thomas More Society
- The Student Bar Association
- The Women's Legal Forum

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RANK

26

BOSTON COLLEGE LAW SCHOOL

MAILING ADDRESS¹⁻³
885 Centre Street
Newton, MA 02459

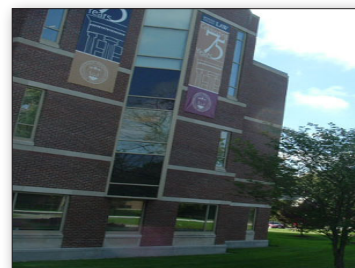
MAIN PHONE
617-552-8550

WEBSITE
<http://www.bc.edu/lawschool>

REGISTRAR'S PHONE
N/A

ADMISSIONS PHONE
617-552-4350/4351

CAREER SERVICES PHONE
617-552-4345



Overview⁴⁻⁶

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.

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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

13.5:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	162-165	3.49-3.77

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	6,552
Number accepted	1,334
Percentage accepted	20.4%

Class Ranking and Grades^{10, 11}

Boston College Law School awards the traditional letter grades of A through F. Official class rankings are not computed, but the Office of Career Services can provide a statistical chart of approximate percentile ranges (e.g., top 10%, top 50%) based on grade point average.

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
D-	0.67
F	0.00

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹²

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+	5%
C	5%
C-	5%
D	5%
D-	5%
F	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.

Honors¹³

Honors offered to Class of 2009

Honor	GPA Required
Order of the Coif	3.643 and above
<i>summa cum laude</i>	3.791 and above
<i>magna cum laude</i>	3.643 - 3.790
<i>cum laude</i>	3.425 - 3.642

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
James W. Smith Award	Awarded to the student with the highest academic rank
Susan Grant Desmarais Award	Awarded for public service achievement and leadership
William J. O'Keefe Award	Awarded for outstanding contribution to the law school
St. Thomas More Award	Awarded based on intellectual and moral qualities
Cornelius J. Moynihan Award	Awarded for scholarship and co-curricular leadership
Richard S. Sullivan Award	Awarded for overall contribution to the law school community
Lyne, Woodworth & Evarts Award	Awarded for outstanding editorial work on publications
John O'Reilly Award	Awarded for contribution to the life of the law school
Law School Alumni Association Award	Awarded for scholarship and service to the law school and the profession
Philip Privitera Family Award	Awarded for commitment to service
Aviam Soifer Award	Awarded for public service achievement and leadership
Dean Dennis A. Dooley Award	Awarded based on scholarship average
Lewis S. Gurwitz Award	Awarded for commitment to the underprivileged
Frederick N. Halstrom Award	Awarded for outstanding advocacy competition
McGrath & Kane Award	Awarded for academic excellence and community contribution
Sheila McGovern Award	Awarded for the achievement of personal goal
Richard G. Huber Award	Awarded for leadership and co-curriculum
Kimberly Baker Irvin Award	Awarded for 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.¹⁵

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 three times per year.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

The ***Third World Law Journal*** is a legal periodical that fills the need for a progressive, alternative legal perspective on issues both within the United States and in the developing world. The journal features articles discussing a complex matrix of social, economic, and political crises confronting minority groups, indigenous cultures, and under-industrialized nations. Published twice annually, its scope includes issues affecting underrepresented populations, human and civil rights, immigration, and women and children, as well as issues of disproportionate economic impact.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

Moot Court²⁰

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 **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.

The **Conrad B. Duberstein National Bankruptcy Memorial Moot Court Competition** employs a mock Supreme Court format as students advocate on either side of a current bankruptcy law issue.

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.

Clinical Programs^{21, 22}

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 **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 **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 our 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.

Students who take **Immigration Law Practicum** work with pro bono attorneys on political asylum cases in conjunction with the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project. They interview, counsel, and represent clients in detention facilities and immigration court and work on various types of national and regional “impact” litigation, especially regarding detention policies.

The **Advanced Immigration Law** is a two-credit seminar with a three-credit clinic connected to it. US immigration law issues are examined and discussed, and each student works with clients on immigration matters.

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.

The **Women and the Law Clinic** is a clinical and theoretical course that is a part of the Legal Assistance Bureau. Students will also be assigned two to three domestic cases involving matters such as divorce, custody, child support, spousal support, visitation, and restraining orders.

The **Community Enterprise Clinic** has started in the spring 2008 semester. This program is introducing 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.

Placement Facts²³

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$135,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$47,008

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	85.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.1%

Practice Areas²⁴

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	67.8%
Business and Industry	4.6%
Government	5.7%
Judicial Clerkship	13.6%
Military	1.5%
Public Interest Organization	3%
Academic	3.8%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{25, 26}

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.

The **International Criminal Tribunal Program** aims to provide a meaningful educational experience, instruction in international law, and exposure to different legal cultures. It offers an opportunity to work on site at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia or the newly established International Criminal Court, both located in The Hague, Netherlands.

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.

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 Organizations²⁷

- The American Civil Liberties Union
- American Bar Association: Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society
- Arts, Media, Entertainment and Sports Law Organization
- Amnesty International
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Board of Student Advisors
- BC Law Democrats
- BC Law Republicans
- Business and Law Society
- Community Economic Development Law Group
- Children's Rights Group
- Christian Legal Society
- Coalition for Equality
- Criminal Justice Law Project
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Gulf Coast Recovery Group
- Gender Violence Awareness Coalition
- Health Law Society
- Holocaust / Human Rights Research Project
- Immigration Law Group
- Intellectual Property and Technology Forum
- International Law Society
- Italian American Law Student Association
- Jewish Law Student Association
- Lambda Law Students Association (LGBT)
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law and Religion Program
- Law Students Association (LSA)
- Lex Vitae
- Litigation and Advocacy Society
- Native American Law Student Association
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Students for Animal Legal Defense Group
- Students for Reproductive Justice
- Students With Kids

- Sui Juris
- St. Thomas More Society
- Veterans Association
- Women's Law Center

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RANK

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UNIVERSITY OF IOWA COLLEGE OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS^{1,2}

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319-335-9034

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319-335-9080

ADMISSIONS PHONE

319-335-9095

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

319-335-9011

Overview^{3,4}

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 Ratio⁵

14.3:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	158-164	3.36-3.83

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	1,502
Number accepted	569
Percentage accepted	37.9%

Class Ranking and Grades^{8,9}

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:

1. The top 10% in each class may be informed of their exact rank.
2. The grade point averages at the 12.5 percentile and 37.5 percentile will be posted.
3. 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 will 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

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.

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, 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)¹⁰

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 seminars and other 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.

Honors¹¹

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%

Awards¹²

Name of Award	Description
Hancher-Finkbine Medallion Award	Awarded by the University of Iowa for outstanding learning, leadership, and loyalty
Philip G. Hubbard Human Rights Award	Awarded by the University of Iowa for contribution to human rights work
Donald P. Lay Faculty Recognition Award	Awarded for distinctive contribution to the law school community
John F. Murray Award	Awarded for outstanding scholastic achievement
Robert S. Hunt Legal History Award	Awarded for an outstanding scholarly legal history paper
Iowa State Bar Association Award	Awarded for scholastic achievement and contribution to law school life
Iowa College of Law Appellate Advocacy Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded for achievement in trial advocacy
Michelle R. Bennett Client Representation Award	Awarded for outstanding legal clinical service
Alan I. Widiss Faculty Scholar Award	Awarded for writing the most outstanding and distinctive scholarly paper
Antonia "D.J." Miller Award for Advancement of Human Rights	Awarded for contribution to the advancement of human rights in the law school community
ALI/ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Awarded for scholarship and leadership qualities
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property	Awarded for excellence in the study of intellectual property law
Joan Hueffner and Stephen Steinbrink Real Estate Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of real estate law
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for 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	Awarded for contribution to or demonstrated commitment to attaining international social, economic, and cultural justice
Randy J. Holland Award for Corporate Scholarship	Awarded for the best scholarly paper on corporate law
Russell Goldman Award	Awarded for the most improved academic performance
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for excellence in bankruptcy studies
Judge J.F. Dillon Prize	Awarded for an essay on legal history or the intersection of law and another discipline
Burton Award for Legal Achievement	Awarded in recognition of a plain, clear, and concise legal writing style in a student paper

Dean's Achievement Award	Awarded for contribution to diversity at the law school
Sandy Boyd Prize	Awarded for outstanding creativity and ability in legal writing
Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding advocacy in the Roy L. Stephenson Trial Advocacy Competition
Outstanding Scholastic Achievement	Awarded for outstanding performance in both the academic and co-curricular programs
Faculty Award for Academic Excellence	Awarded to the student with second-highest grade in a class of at least 40 students
Jurisprudence Award for Academic Excellence	Awarded to the student with the highest grade in a seminar

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.¹³

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.¹⁴

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.¹⁵

The ***Journal of Gender, Race & Justice***, founded in 1996, 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. It is devoted to furthering social justice and to promoting discussion and scholarship about the vital legal issues of our times. The journal is a symposium-based law review that currently publishes two issues each year in the spring and fall.¹⁶

Moot Court¹⁷

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 offered following competitions:

- Van Oosterhout-Baskerville Domestic Competition
- Jessup International Moot Court Competition
- National Moot Court

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 Programs¹⁸

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. They represent their clients at all stages of the legal process, including interviewing and counseling, negotiation, fact investigation, depositions, drafting and briefing, and courtroom appearances. Each semester they have an opportunity to argue cases before various state and federal trial or appellate courts, or before administrative agencies. Practice areas include: consumer rights, criminal defense, and disability.

Placement Facts¹⁹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$55,000-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$87,000
Median in public service	\$47,480

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	87.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.2%

Practice Areas²⁰

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	51.56%
Business and Industry	14.06%
Government	13.54%
Judicial Clerkship	11.98%
Military	2.60 %

Public Interest Organization	3.13 %
Academic	3.13 %
Unknown	1.03%

Externships/Internships²¹

Externships

In addition to its diverse “in-house” clinical programs, the University of Iowa College of Law 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.

Student Organizations²²

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Society (ADR)
- American Constitution Society
- Asian American Law Students Association (AALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Foundation
- 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)
- National Lawyers Guild (NLG)
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- Organization for Women Law Students and Staff (OWLSS)
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi (PHIDs)
- Pro Bono Society
- The Federalists Society
- The Outlaws

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RANK

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THE COLLEGE OF WILLIAM & MARY MARSHALL-WYTHE SCHOOL OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS^{1,2}

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757-221-3805



Overview³⁻⁷

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, award-winning 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 Ratio⁸

12.2:1

Admission Criteria⁹

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-166	3.35-3.79

Admission Statistics¹⁰

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	4,576
Number accepted	1,157
Percentage accepted	25.3%

Class Ranking and Grades^{11, 12}

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 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)¹³

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. This grade has a value of 4.3. School policy suggests that the following grade distribution:

A+/A/A-	15-25%
B+/B/B-	60-75% (B+: 25-35%; B: 20-30%; B-: 10-20%)
C+ or lower	5-15%

In calculating percentages within the B range, faculty members take the percentage of the whole class, not of the total percentage allowed in the B range.

Honors¹⁴

Students who graduate in the top 10% of their class from William & Mary School of Law are invited to join the Order of the Coif.

Awards^{15, 16}

Name of Award	Description
Dean’s Certificate	Awarded to 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	Awarded for excellence in health law
American Bankruptcy Institute Award	Awarded for outstanding performance in bankruptcy law
American Bar Association State and Local Government Award	Awarded for excellence in the areas of land use and local government law
Rachel Carson Award for Excellence in Environmental Law	Awarded for 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	Awarded to the most outstanding student not published in the <i>William & Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review</i>
Gambrell Legal Skills Award	Awarded to the top student in each of the law school's Legal Skills firms
William Hamilton Prize	Annual cash award for outstanding student performance in legal history
Ewell Award	Awarded to well-rounded graduating students
Lawrence W. I'Anson Award	Awarded based on evidence of great promise through scholarship, character, and leadership
Family Law Book Award	Awarded to the student who demonstrates the most potential for the practice of family law
Herrmann Prize	Awarded to the 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	Awarded to an outstanding student in International Financial Law
Kaufman & Canoles Prizes	Awarded for outstanding performance in the Legal Skills Program
Kruchko & Fries Prize	Awarded for outstanding student performance in employment law
Wayne M. Lee Endowed Book Award	Awarded to the student with the highest grade point average after completion of the first semester
Order of Barristers	Awarded for substantial contribution to an oral argument program
Thurgood Marshall Award	Awarded for distinguished public service
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding contribution to the advancement of women in society
Spong Professionalism Award	Awarded to the best third-year student in the Legal Skills Program
William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law Outstanding Member	Awarded to a third-year student who exhibits outstanding dedication to and support for the <i>William & Mary Journal of Women and the Law</i>

William & Mary Law Review Best Student Note	Awarded for the most outstanding student note published in the <i>William & Mary Law Review</i>
Virginia Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded for excellence in trial advocacy and demonstration of the high standards and integrity of a trial lawyer
George Wythe Award	Awarded for outstanding service to the law school
Thomas Jefferson Prize	Awarded for the best student note in the current volume of the <i>William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal</i>
Legal Skills Scholars Award	Awarded for excellent legal skills
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Awarded to the student for significant contribution to legal scholarship in any law school course
Therapeutic Jurisprudence Award	Awarded to the student who has exemplified the mission of Therapeutic Jurisprudence from academic, scholarship and service perspectives
Book Awards	Awarded for 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—in October, November, December, February, March, and April. 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.¹⁷

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 also addresses the inherent interdependence between public policy and social issues. The journal is committed to stimulating an open discussion encompassing a variety of viewpoints regarding these legal issues. Through such dialogue, it hopes to advance the development of the law in an area critical to social justice and equality.¹⁸

The ***William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal*** was founded in 1789 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.^{19, 20}

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.²¹

The Advocate is William & Mary School of Law's biweekly student newspaper. It publishes feature articles, news, sports, editorials, humor, and political commentary written by members of the law school community.²²

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.²³

Moot Court²⁴

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 Jr. 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.

Clinical Programs²⁵

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 Practice 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.

In the **Appellate Litigation Clinic**, students can hone their legal research and writing in preparation of petitions and briefs on behalf of pro se, court appointed and public defender clients.

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.

Placement Facts²⁶

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$95,500-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$135,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	88.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.1%

Practice Areas²⁷

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	60%
Business and Industry	7%
Government	8%
Judicial Clerkship	13%
Military	7%
Public Interest Organization	5%
Academia	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{28, 29}

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 **Criminal Litigation Externships** with state or federal public defenders and state or local prosecutors.

The **Federal Government Externship** with executive or legislative agencies of the US government.

The **Judicial Externships** with judges, courts, and organizations that provide research, educational, and management services to judges and courts.

The **Nonprofit Organization Externships** 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 **State and Local Government Externships** 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

Virginia Court of Appeals Chief Staff Attorney Externships

The **Virginia General Assembly Externships** with a member of the Virginia Senate or House of Delegates during the spring General Assembly session.

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 Organizations³⁰

- Alternative dispute resolution Team
- American Civil Liberties union
- American Constitution Society
- Asian-American Law Students Association
- Bankruptcy Law Society
- Black Law Students 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
- l'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
- Lesbian & Gay Law Association
- Military Law Society
- Moot Court program
- National Lawyer's Guild
- National Trial Team
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity
- Sports and entertainment Law Society
- St. Thomas more Society at the William & Mary Law School
- Student hurricane network
- Student intellectual property Society
- Student Legal Services
- Students for equality in Legal education
- Students for the innocence project
- The Marshall-Wythe Press
- Therapeutic Justice Society
- Virginia Bar Association
- The William & Mary Business Law Review
- W&M Law School Democrats
- W&M Supporters-in-Law
- W&M women's Law Society
- William & Mary Bill of rights Journal
- William & Mary public Service Fund, Inc.
- William and Mary environmental Law and policy review
- William and Mary Journal of women and the Law
- William and Mary Law review

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RANK

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**Overview⁴⁻⁶**

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 250 different elective courses. 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, and 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 US, as well as international and comparative materials. Collections of the library is more than 600,000 volumes and its wide range of electronic resources provide researchers with a wealth of legal information

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

15:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	162-168	3.28-3.83

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	8,225
Number accepted	1,847
Percentage accepted	22.5%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

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). The cumulative average of a student 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)¹¹

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.698
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.571
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.516
Minimum GPA required for graduation	1.667

Honors¹²

Honor	Criteria
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 15% of their class
Thurgood Marshall Scholar	Students whose cumulative GPA at the end of the semester places them between the top 15% and top 35% of their class

Awards¹³

Name of Award	Description
Excellence in a Field of Study	
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for excellence in the field of debtor and creditor law
American Bar Association/Bureau of National Affairs Award	Awarded for excellence in health law
American Bar Association/Bureau of National Affairs Award	Awarded for excellence in intellectual property law

American Bar Association/Bureau of National Affairs Award	Awarded for excellence in labor and employment law
Chris Bartok Memorial Award in Patent Law	Awarded for excellence in patent law
Henry R. Berger Award	Awarded for excellence in tort law
Ogden W. Fields Labor Law Award	Awarded for the highest overall proficiency in labor law
Finnegan Prize in Intellectual Property Law	Awarded to a Juris Doctor or Master of Laws student for the best publishable article on an aspect of intellectual property law
Phi Delta Phi Award	Awarded for excellence in the school's courses on professional responsibility, ethics, and jurisprudence
Peter D. Rosenberg Award	Awarded for excellence in the patent and intellectual property law
Joel B. Rosenthal Commercial Law Award	Awarded for excellence in commercial law
Laurence E. Seibel Memorial Award in Labor and Employment Law	Awarded for excellence in the school's courses on labor and employment law
Richard L. Teberg Award	Awarded for the highest overall proficiency demonstrated in the school's courses on securities law
Patricia A. Tobin Government Contracts Award	Awarded to a member of the graduating Juris Doctor or Master of Laws class who has demonstrated excellence in government contracts law
Jennie Hassler Walburn Award	Awarded to a member of the graduating Juris Doctor class for outstanding performance in civil procedure
Imogen Williford Constitutional Law Award	Awarded to an outstanding JD student in the field of constitutional law
Excellence in Oral Advocacy	
Michael J. Avenatti Award for Excellence in Pre-Trial and Trial Advocacy	Awarded for excellence in the school's courses on pre-trial and trial advocacy
Jacob Burns Award	Awarded at graduation to the two members of the winning team in the Van Vleck Moot Court Competition
Judge Albert H. Grenadier Award	Awarded to students who represented the law school in the Mid-Atlantic regional Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
Cohen & Cohen Mock Trial Award	Awarded to the two members of the winning team in the Cohen & Cohen Mock Trial Competition
Excellence in Clinical Practice	
Manuel and Ana María Benítez Award for Clinical Excellence in Immigration Law	Awarded to a 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	Awarded for outstanding achievement in the criminal division of the Law Students in Court Program
Richard C. Lewis Jr. Memorial Award	Awarded for extraordinary dedication to work in the Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics and unusual compassion and humanity toward clients and colleagues
West Publishing Awards	Awarded for clinical achievement in consumer law and in family law
Community Legal Clinics Volunteer Service Award	Awarded to a student who excelled 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
Distinguished Accomplishment	
ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Awarded to the 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	Awarded to the most successful student who was able to maintain his or her compassion, vitality, and humanity during law school
The George Washington Alumni Association Award	Awarded for extraordinary leadership and commitment to the university and its community
Justice Thurgood Marshall Civil Liberties Award	Awarded in honor of the late Supreme Court Associate Justice to a 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	Awarded to a 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	Awarded to the foreign graduate student who has contributed the most to the intellectual and professional life of the law school, its students, and its faculty
Overall Academic Excellence	
Anne Wells Branscomb Award	Awarded for the highest grade point average in the entire course of the evening division for the Juris Doctor degree
Willard Waddington Gatchell Award	Awarded to the three graduating members who attained the highest grade point averages in their entire JD course of study
Charles Glover Award	Awarded for the highest grade point average in the third-year, full-time Juris Doctor course of study

Kappa Beta Pi Award	Awarded by the Eta Alumnae Chapter of Kappa Beta Pi to the 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	Awarded for the highest grade point average in the entire course of study for the Juris Doctor degree
John Ordronaux Awards	Awarded for the 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.¹⁴

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.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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 US. Students are selected for membership on the basis of their writing skills and interest in international law.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

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 procedure for JD students is like to those used by the law review. LLM students can also apply for membership.²⁰

Moot Court^{21, 22}

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.²³

In the **Consumer Mediation Clinic**, students act as neutral third parties and help local consumers resolve disputes with businesses by facilitating mediated agreements.²⁴

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.²⁵

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.²⁶

In the **Civil & Family Litigation Clinic**, third-year students represent indigent litigants in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. The clinic also takes occasional small claims court cases.²⁷

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.²⁸

In the **Vaccine Injury Clinic**, third-year students represent individuals who have suffered serious vaccine-related injuries and who are seeking damages in trial and appellate proceedings before the US Court of Federal Claims.²⁹

Second-, third-, and fourth-year students participate in the **J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Environmental Law Clinic**, representing clients in environmental litigation in both the federal and state systems.³⁰

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, representing their clients in removal proceedings. The clinic mainly represents clients who are out of status, unfamiliar with the legal culture in the US, and, very often, not conversant in English.³¹

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.³²

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 the Torture Victim Protection Act.³³

The **Law Students in Court** 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 Washington, DC, law schools.³⁴

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.³⁵

Each year, a third-year student is chosen by the clinical faculty to receive the Jacob and Charlotte Lehrman Foundation Scholarship. The recipient of this partial scholarship serves as a student director, performing administrative duties in connection with the **Administrative Advocacy and Civil Litigation Clinics**. He or she assigns and supervises student caseloads, controls client intake, and acts as a liaison between law students and staff attorneys.³⁶

The **Project for Older Prisoners Clinic** encompasses a number of prison projects in which students are involved as volunteers or work for academic credit. Some students assist individual low-risk prisoners over the age of 55 to help them obtain paroles, pardons, or alternative forms of incarceration.³⁷

Placement Facts³⁸

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$135,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$54,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	88.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	92.8%

Practice Areas³⁹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	63%
Business and Industry	9%
Government	11%
Judicial Clerkship	10%
Military	2%
Public Interest Organization	3%
Academic	1%
Unknown	1%

Externships/Internships^{40, 41}

Externships

The George Washington University Law School Outside Placement Program provides students with opportunities to work closely with judges or practicing lawyers as legal interns in governmental, public interest, and private nonprofit organizations for academic credit. All field placements must be located in the Washington, DC, metropolitan area, except that students who work with judges outside the DC area during the summer may receive 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 Outside Placement 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 Organizations⁴²

- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society
- Anarchist Collective (GWLAC)
- Art and Cultural Heritage Law Society (ACHLS)
- Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Student Association (BLSA)
- Christian Law Society (CLS)
- Corporate and Business Law Society (CBLS)
- Criminal Law Society
- East Asian Law Society (EALS)
- Election Law Society (ELS)
- Entertainment and Sports Law Association (ESPLA)
- Environmental Law Association (ELA)
- Equal Justice Foundation (EJF)
- Evening Law Student Association (ELSA)
- The Federalist Society
- The Feminist Forum
- 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)
- 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
- The National Security Law Association (NSLA)
- Native American Law Student Association (NALSA)
- Nota Bene
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi (PDP)
- Republican National Lawyers Association
- South Asian Law Student Association (SALSA)
- St. Thomas More Society
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Health Law Association (SHLA)
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)

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RANK

30

FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL

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<http://law.fordham.edu/index.htm>**Overview²⁻⁵**

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.

Fordham Law 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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

13.9:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	161-166	3.32-3.72

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	6,859
Number accepted	1,700
Percentage accepted	24.8%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9, 10}

At Fordham Law, student grades are calculated on both a letter and a 4.3 scale. There are no official class standings. At the end of the 2008-2009 academic year, a student who attained a true weighted average of 3.556 or better made the Dean's List for that year. Students may not round up to compute eligibility for the Dean's List or awards; they may round up to the nearest hundredth of a point when reporting GPAs on their resumes (e.g., "3.278" can be presented as "3.28").

Grades awarded by the law school and their corresponding grade point values are:

A+	4.3	Extraordinary performance
A	4.0	Excellent, outstanding
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	
B	3.0	Very good, the standard expected of the majority of students
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	
C	2.0	Good
C-	1.7	
D	1.0	Performance at a level that if consistently repeated would be insufficient to advance
F	0.0	Failure to satisfy the absolute minimum requirements for the course

The minimum grade that will be recorded in a course is F. The grade of D constitutes a passing mark in a subject.

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{11, 12}

Fordham Law School does not rank its students or provide official class standings. However, the approximate class standing data posted by the school for 2008-2009 were as follows:

Approximate Class Standing	Class of 2010	Classes of 2011/2012
Top 10%	3.61	3.57
Top 25%	3.44	3.38
Top 33%	3.38	3.31
Top 50%	3.27	3.19

To remain in good scholastic standing, a student must maintain a true weighted average of at least 1.90 in every academic year.

Honors¹³

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	10%	3.619	47
<i>summa cum laude</i>	0.001%	3.988	2
<i>magna cum laude</i>	10%	3.619	47
<i>cum laude</i>	15%	3.470	70

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
Class of 1911 Prize	Awarded for the best essay by a student in the graduating class
Joseph R. Crowley Award	Awarded to the student who best emulates the qualities of the late Dean Crowley
Dean's Special Achievement Award	Awarded for singular and distinctive contribution to the Fordham Law School community
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition Prizes	Awarded for the best papers on copyright law
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded to an outstanding student who contributes to the advancement of women in society and the legal profession
Parchomovsky-Siegelman Student Graduation Prize	Awarded for the best work of scholarship published in one of Fordham Law School's journals
Walter B. Kennedy Award	Awarded to a member of the <i>Fordham Law Review</i> in recognition of extraordinary service that exemplifies the commitment to legal excellence of Professor Walter B. Kennedy
Keith C. Miller Memorial Award	Awarded for demonstrated unselfish dedication to the Fordham moot court program
New York State Bar Association Student Legal Ethics Award	Awarded for an outstanding article on legal ethics
Philip R. Fusco Memorial Award	Awarded for participation in the intramural athletic program
Chapin Prize	Awarded for the highest weighted average throughout law school
David F. and Mary Louise Condon Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in American Legal History
Benjamin Finkel Prize	Awarded for excellence in the course in bankruptcy
Fordham Law Alumni Association Medal in Constitutional Law	Awarded to a student who excelled in Constitutional Law in his or her first year
Whitmore Gray Prize	Awarded for outstanding performance in courses or activities relating to international law practice

Hugh R. Jones Award	Awarded for the highest combined weighted average in the subjects of constitutional law, criminal justice, and professional responsibility
Emmet J. McCormack Foundation Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in Admiralty Law
Lawrence J. McKay Prize	Awarded to students who represented the law school in the National Moot Court Competition
Honorable Joseph M. McLaughlin Prize	Awarded for the highest combined weighted average during the first year
Addison M. Metcalf Labor Law Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in the basic labor law course
Henrietta Metcalf Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in Contracts
Thomas F. Reddy Jr. Prize	Awarded for the highest grades in intellectual property courses
Robert Schuman Prize	Awarded for the highest grades in European Union law courses
Senior Prize	Awarded for the highest weighted average throughout the year
Adele L. Monaco Memorial Award	Awarded to evening student who made positive impact on the lives of evening students
Peter J. O'Connor Prize	Highest GPA: Evidence & NY Practice
Dean's List 375	Top 25% of entire JD class by annual GPA
Robert Aram Renzulli Prize	Awarded for the Highest grades in criminal law

Journals

Student and other contributors provide the nearly 75 articles that the **Fordham Law Review** publishes each year. 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.¹⁵

The **Fordham Urban Law Journal**, now in its 36th year, annually publishes between five and six issues which address policy matters affecting urban areas.¹⁶

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.^{17, 18}

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.¹⁹

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.²⁰

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.²¹

Moot Court²²⁻²⁴

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, the William B. Spong Jr. Invitational Moot Court Tournament, 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^{25, 26}

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. The clinics offered by the school are:

- The Community Economic Development Clinic
- The Criminal Defense Clinic
- The Family Advocacy Clinic
- The Federal Litigation Clinic
- The Housing Rights Clinic
- The Immigrants' Rights and Access to Justice Clinic
- The International Sustainable Development
- The Samuelson-Glushko Intellectual Property and Information Law
- The Mediation Clinic
- The Securities Arbitration Clinic
- The Social Justice Clinic
- The Tax and Consumer Litigation Clinic
- The Urban Policy & Legislative Advocacy Clinic
- The Walter Leitner International Human Rights Clinic

Placement Facts²⁷

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$152,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$160,000
Median in public service	\$49,785

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	87.9%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.5%

Practice Areas²⁸

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	69.27%
Business and Industry	8.63%
Government	6.53%
Judicial Clerkship	5.68%
Military	0.21%
Public Interest Organization	5.05%
Academic	0.84%
Unknown	3.79%

Externships/Internships^{29, 30}

Externships

Every year, Fordham Law School students develop professional skills and judgment needed to become a complete lawyer through externship program.

Under the supervision of mentor-attorneys, students can perform legal work in:

Government agencies
Judges' chambers
Non-profit organizations

Internships

Fordham Law School offers JD students the opportunity to work in excellent law firms around the globe. Opportunities for Summer 2010 are available in Argentina, Brazil, and Korea.

High Court Internships

Fordham Law School offers select JD students the opportunity to intern at a number of national high courts around the world. These internships take place over the summer and provide students the chance to learn

first hand from distinguished judges in some of the world's most exciting emerging economies. Opportunities are available in

- Argentina
- Colombia
- Georgia
- Ghana
- Israel
- Korea
- Mexico
- Nicaragua

Student Organizations³¹

- American Civil Liberties Union (student chapter)
- American Constitutional Society
- Amnesty International
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Civil Legal Advice and Resource Office (CLARO)
- Couture Counselor
- Death Penalty Awareness Project
- Domestic Violence Action Center (DVAC)
- Environmental Law Advocates
- Fordham Disaster Relief Network
- Fordham Federalist Society
- Fordham Health, Education, Advocacy and Law Society (HEALS)
- Fordham Information Law Society
- Fordham Law Democrats
- Fordham Law Follies
- Fordham Law Pro-Life Students Association
- Fordham Law Republicans
- Fordham Law Softball
- Fordham Law Students Supporting Science
- Fordham Law Tortfeasors
- Fordham Law Women
- Fordham Men's Law Society
- Fordham OUTLaws - Fordham's LGBT Law Student Association
- Fordham Parents Attending Law School
- Fordham Sports Law Forum
- Global Law Society
- Habitat for Humanity
- Housing Advocacy Project
- Immigration Advocacy Project
- Intramural Basketball

- Irish Law Students Association
- Italian American Law Students Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Students Association
- Law Students Against Trafficking
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Education and Advocacy Project (LEAP)
- Lincoln Square Neighborhood Children's Law Project
- Media and Entertainment Law Society
- National Lawyers Guild
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Prisoner's Rights Advocates
- Research, Education and Advocacy to Combat Homelessness (REACH)
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Unemployment Action Center
- Universal Jurisdiction

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RANK

30

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<http://www.law.ua.edu>Overview²⁻⁶

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.

Three student-edited law journals provide excellent educational opportunities in legal research, writing, and editing. Members of the *Alabama Law Review*, the *Journal of the Legal Profession*, and the *Law & Psychology Review* 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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

10:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	158-165	3.22-3.83

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications 1,276

Number accepted 395

Percentage accepted 31%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

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:

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
F	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 O 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.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

The University of Alabama School of Law faculty has adopted the following recommended (not mandatory) norms and ranges for the distribution of grades:

First-Year and Other Required Courses

Grade	Norm	Range
A	5%	2.5-5%
A-	7.5%	7.5-10%
B+	12.5%	10-15%
B	15%	12.5-17.5%
B-	20%	15-25%

C+	15%	12.5-17.5%
C	12.5%	10-15%
C-F	12.5%	0-15%

Effective Fall 2010, the law school faculty approved a mandatory mean of 3.2 for all first-year classes. Recommended distributions are noted below.

Letter Grade	GPA	Proposed Distribution Percentages
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

Honors¹²

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%

Awards¹³

Name of Award	Description
Dean M. Leigh Harrison Award	Awarded at the end of the fifth semester to students who are in the top 5% of their section and have demonstrated above-average ability in legal writing
Order of the Samaritan	Awarded to a 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	Awarded to 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	Awarded for volunteering at least 50 hours at an approved law office
Independent Legal Public Service Program Award	Awarded to students with minimum of 50 hours of legal services in a law office or in a non-profit organization

Journals¹⁴

The **Alabama Law Review** is published five times per year and is well known for publishing works by promising emerging scholars. It is now approaching its 61st volume. 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.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

Moot Court¹⁸

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^{19, 20}

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 Facts²¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$60,000-\$95,000
Median in the private sector	\$85,000
Median in public service	\$46,974

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	90.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.3%

Practice Areas²²

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	53.7%
Business/Industry	12.5%
Government	11%
Public Interest Organization	4.4%
Judicial Clerkship	11.8%
Military	4.4%
Academic	1.5%
Unknown	0.7%

Externships/Internships²³

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 6-week session. Students also attend externship classes at the law school and submit papers during and at the conclusion of the externship.

Fall 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.

Student Organizations²⁴

- The Alabama Public Interest Law Association
- The Bench and Bar Legal Honor Society
- The Black Law Students Association
- The Christian Legal Society
- The Civil Rights Students Association
- The Criminal Law Association
- The Defense Lawyers Association
- The Dorbin Association
- The Environmental Law Society
- The Federalist Society
- The Future Trial Lawyers Association
- The Intellectual Property Society
- The International Law Society
- The Law Democrats
- The Law Republicans
- The Law Spouse Club
- The Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity
- The Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity
- The Sports and Entertainment Law Society

- The Student Farrah Law Society
- The Student Honor Court
- The Tax and Estate Planning Law Association

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30

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Overview²⁻⁵

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.

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 Ratio⁶

15.4:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	157-163	3.40-3.77

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications 3,063

Number accepted 579

Percentage accepted 18.9%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9,10}

Starting with the Class of 2009 and classes after that, UNC School of Law no longer provides class ranks for individual students with the exception of the top 10 students in each class. The Class of 2008 will be the last class to receive individual class ranks. For Class of 2008, individual class ranks will be distributed based on grades computed after spring 2007 grades are in, again after fall 2007 grades are in, and one final time at graduation after spring 2008 grades are in.

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)¹¹

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

Percent	Grade
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, except as provided below with respect to ratcheting.

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 all students in the University of North Carolina class as a whole.

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. This requirement will be phased in for the classes of 2008 and 2009.

Honors¹²

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Highest Honors	GPA of 3.9 or higher
High Honors	Top 10%
Honors	Top one-third
Dean's List	GPA of 3.25 or higher for the semester

Awards^{13, 14}

Name of Award	Description
Order of Barristers	Membership offered for outstanding achievement in moot court service
James E. and Carolyn B. Davis Society	Membership offered to 3L students for excellence in academics, leadership, and other areas
Block Improvement Award	Awarded to the 3L student who has demonstrated the most improvement since his or her first year
William T. Joyner Awards	Awarded to 3L students for excellence in law journal writing
James W. Morrow III Award	Awarded to 2L and 3L students for outstanding service to the Holderness Moot Court Bench
Certificate of Merit	Awarded for the highest grade in each course
Pro Bono Publico Awards	Awarded for the 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.¹⁵

The ***North Carolina Banking Institute Journal*** is a student-edited legal journal. Its annual volume 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.^{16, 17}

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 three times per year, it features articles, comments, case notes, recent developments, and book reviews by students, professors, and practitioners. 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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

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.²⁰

Moot Court²¹

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 the bench during their second year via the William B. Aycock Intraschool Moot Court Competition. 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.²²

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.²³

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.²⁴

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 US citizenship and other claims for permanent residency status.²⁵

Placement Facts²⁶

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$65,000-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$115,000
Median in public service	\$43,500

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	71.2%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.0%

Practice Areas²⁷

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	63.3%
Business/Industry	8.7%
Government	6.1%
Public Interest Organization	8.7%
Judicial Clerkship	9.7%
Academic	1.5%
Military	1%
Unknown	1%

Externships/Internships²⁸⁻³⁰

Externships

At the University of North Carolina School of Law, third-year law students, as well as second-year law students in their spring semester, can receive three units of academic credit for working in an approved externship placement for approximately 10 hours per week during a 14-week semester. Judges at the federal and state levels and lawyers from government agencies, public interest groups, and corporate counsel offices serve as mentors and on-site supervisors for students. The law school's externship program directors serve as the students' faculty supervisors, guiding and facilitating their exploration of their externship experience through tutorials, journal writing, and group discussion.

Internships

Intellectual Property Internships - The law school offers internship program and create 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 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.

Other internship programs offered by the law school:

- Ilene B. Nelson Internship
- The Gibson Desaulniers Smith Public Interest Internship

Student Organizations³¹

- The American Civil Liberties Union
- The American Constitution Society for Law and policy
- The Asian American Law Students Association
- The Attorney General Staff
- The Black Law Students Association
- The Carolina intellectual property Law Association
- The Carolina Law Ambassadors
- The Carolina mediation Society
- The Carolina public interest Law organization
- The Carolina Street Law
- The Carolina Teen Court Assistance program
- The Christian Legal Society
- The Center for Civil rights- Civil Rights Appellate Advocacy Team
- The Community Legal project
- The Conference on Race, Class, Gender, and Ethnicity
- The Death Penalty Project
- The Disability Law Organization
- The Domestic Violence Advocacy Project
- The Environmental Law Project
- The Federalist Society
- The First Amendment Law Review
- The Hispanic/Latino Law Students Association
- Holderness Moot Court
- The Honor Court
- The Immigration Law Association
- The Innocence Project
- The International Law Organization
- The Jewish Law Association
- The Lambda Law Students Association
- The Latino Legal Initiative
- The Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- The National Lawyers Guild
- The Native American Law Students Association
- The North Carolina Banking Institute Journal
- The North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation
- The North Carolina Journal of Law & Technology
- The North Carolina Law Review
- Parents Active as Law Students

- The Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity
- The Sports and entertainment Law Association
- The Student Bar Association
- The Trial Law Academy
- UNC Law Music Club
- Volunteer income Tax Assistance
- Women in Law

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**Overview²⁻⁵**

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 University of Washington 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.

University of Washington School of Law's identity statement declares that law "is a calling in the spirit of 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 Ratio⁶

11.6:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-166	3.52-3.85

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,369
Number accepted	599
Percentage accepted	25.3%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

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 or Satisfactory/Not Satisfactory basis, are A, A-, B+, B, B-, C, D, and E.

The following grading scale is used by the law school:

A	4.0
A-	3.7
B+	3.4
B	3.0
B-	2.7
C	2.0
D	1.0
E	0.0

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

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.

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.

Honors¹¹

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
High Honors	Top 5%
Honors	Next 15%

Awards¹²

Name of Award	Description
Honor Graduate	Awarded for the highest cumulative grade point average
Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law	Awarded annually to the second- or third-year student with the highest grade point average in a basic labor and/or employment law course
Vivian Carkeek Prize	Awarded for the best student contribution to the <i>Washington Law Review</i>
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition Award	Awarded for the best papers on copyright law
Delta Theta Phi Founders Award	Awarded to the student with the highest combined first- and second-year grades
Mary Ellen Krug Award	Awarded for proficiency in the fields of labor and employment law and related subjects
Judge James J. Lawless Award	Awarded for the highest grades during the first year

Hugh Miracle Award	Awarded for the best opening statement made in trial advocacy, trial practice, or moot court
Eugene A. Wright Scholar Award	Awarded annually to a 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

Journals

The ***Washington Law Review*** is a student-run legal 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 of law school. Membership in the *Washington Law Review* is competitive.¹³

The ***Shidler Journal of Law, Commerce & Technology*** 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.¹⁴

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. Its function is threefold. First, it provides valuable writing and editing experience to University of Washington law students interested in Pacific Rim law and policy issues. Second, as one of the only two student-edited law journals in the United States devoted to the Pacific Basin and the only journal featuring translations of East Asian legal scholarship, it encourages the debate of issues vital to the Pacific Rim. Third, it enhances the University of Washington School of Law's national and international role as a center for East Asian legal studies.¹⁵

Moot Court^{16, 17}

The Moot Court Honor Board organizes and hosts all University of Washington School of Law moot court events. Board members are selected from the second- and third-year classes on the basis of superior performance in the law school's in-house competitions. The board's primary mission is to assist law students with developing their advocacy skills through practice and competition.

The University of Washington School of Law officially participates in a number of regional and national moot court tournaments every year. The Moot Court Honor Board coordinates participation in the Falknor Regional Competition, the National Appellate Advocacy Competition, the Philip C. Jessup Regional Competition, the American Trial Lawyers Association Mock Trial Regional Competition, the Texas Young Lawyers Association Mock Trial Competition, and the American Bar Association Negotiations Regional Competition every year. First-year law students may participate in the Moot Court Honor Board's in-house Client Counseling Competition,

Mediation Competition, Contract Drafting Competition, and First Year Appellate Advocacy Competition. With the exception of the First Year Appellate Advocacy Competition, moot court tournaments are open to all students at the law school.

Clinical Programs¹⁸

The clinical law program is central to the law school’s public service and access to justice efforts. Each year, a variety of clinics offer diverse practice opportunities to law students. Nearly 60% of each JD class enrolls in a clinic. Through clinical programs, UW students gain a strong foundation in legal theory, the skills necessary for success in the changing legal profession, and an awareness of their ethical and public service responsibilities.

The law school offers the following clinical programs:

- Bankruptcy Client Representation Project
- Children and Youth Advocacy
- Entrepreneurial Law
- Environmental Law
- Federal Tax
- Immigration Law
- Project Northwest
- Legislative Advocacy
- Mediation
- Refugee and Immigrant Advocacy
- Street Law
- Tribal Court Public Defense
- Unemployment Compensation

Placement Facts¹⁹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$92,250-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$110,000
Median in public service	\$45,009

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	92.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.9%

Practice Areas²⁰

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	56.3%
Business and Industry	3.4%
Government	15.4%
Judicial Clerkships	17.6%
Public Interest Organizations	4.5%
Military	0%
Academic	2.8%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²¹⁻²⁴

Externships

The UW law school offers a wide range of externships, or “field placements.” In externships students receive law school credit for performing legal work in a non-profit or government agency. Students are directly supervised by an experienced lawyer in the work setting. In addition, a faculty supervisor guides the students in reflecting on the externship experience.

In addition, the law school also offers specially designed collaborative externships. The law school and one or more community partners together design a special 15-credit immersion externship experience. The collaborative externship is offered each year during the same quarter. A cohort of students participates in special educational activities. The law school currently offers two collaborative externships, the Olympia Quarter Fellows and the Laurel Rubin Externship Advocacy Project.

In 2009-10 the law school is offering following externship programs:

- Agency Externship
- Criminal Justice Externship
- Judicial Externship
- Legislative Externship
- Public Interest Law Externship

Students serving in judicial externships perform legal work for an approved state or federal court judge at the trial court or appellate level, in compliance with the public service externship guidelines.

Second- and third-year JD students may engage in international externships with nonprofit organizations, government agencies, or international organizations.

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 Organizations²⁵

- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Center for Human Rights and Justice
- Center for Labor and Employment Justice
- Chinese American Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Disability Law Alliance
- Disorient: Critical Legal Journal of the Pacific Northwest
- Federalist Society
- The Forum on Law and Policy
- GreenLaw
- Immigrant Families Advocacy Project
- Innocence Project NW - Student Chapter
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Korean-American Law Student Association
- Latino/Latina Law Students Association
- Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Law Women's Caucus
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association of Washington
- Military Law Students' Association
- Minority Law Students' Association
- Moot Court Honor Board
- Native American Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security and Law Society
- Nontraditional Law Students
- Outlaws (LGBT Student Group)
- Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal
- Parents Attending Law School (PALS)
- Public Interest Law Association
- Shidler Journal of Law, Commerce + Technology
- Society for Small Business Development
- Sport/Entertainment Law Association
- Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Health Law Organization
- Technology Law Society
- Washington Law Review

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WEBSITE

<http://law.wlu.edu>**Overview^{4, 5}**

Washington and Lee University School of Law had its origin in the Lexington Law School, established by Judge John W. Brockenbrough in 1849. 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 436,000 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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

9.5:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-166	3.27-3.70

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,561
Number accepted	853
Percentage accepted	33.3%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9, 10}

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:

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 by the appropriate number of grade points. For this and other grade calculations, Pass, Incomplete (I), Work-in-Progress (WIP), and No Grade Reported (NGR) entries do not count.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.682
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.538
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.378
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	3.222
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.000

Honors^{12, 13}

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 2%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 13%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 13%

Awards^{14, 15}

Name of Award	Description
John W. Davis Award	Awarded to the student with the best record of general excellence throughout his or her law school career
Gardner Brothers Award	Awarded for outstanding performance in the Davis Moot Court Competition
Best Brief Award	Awarded for the best brief written in connection with the Davis Moot Court Competition
Frederic L. Kirgis Jr. International Law Prize	Awarded to the graduate with the most outstanding record in international law
Academic Progress Award	Awarded for the most marked improvement in the final year
Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Award	Awarded for the best overall record in litigation courses
Calhoun Bond '43 University Service Award	Awarded for significant contribution to the Washington and Lee community
James W.H. Stewart Tax Law Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of tax law
Roy L. Steinheimer Commercial Law Award	Awarded to a graduate with an outstanding record in commercial law
Roy L. Steinheimer Jr. Law Review Award	Awarded for the best article for law review publication
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for academic achievement, motivation, and contribution to the advancement of women

Charles V. Laughlin Award	Awarded for outstanding contribution to the moot court program
Randall P. Bezanson Award	Awarded for outstanding contribution to diversity in the law school community
Virginia Bar Family Law Section Award	Awarded for excellence in the area of family law
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for excellence in the study of bankruptcy law
Law Council Law Review Award	Awarded to the second-year student for best article in the Law Review
Barry Sullivan Award	Awarded to former graduate for compilation of constitutional law.
Thomas Carl Damewood Evidence Award	Awarded for the excellence in the area of evidence.
Student Bar Association President Award	Awarded to the President of the Student Bar Association
McLeod-Malone Prize	Awarded for the excellence in the area of advocacy
Kirgis International Award	Awarded to a Graduate for outstanding record in international law
ODK Honor Society	Leadership in campus activities-from top 35%
Public Interest Law Grant	Entering practice in the Public Interest

Journals^{16, 17}

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.

The **Washington and Lee School of Law Journal of Energy, Climate, and the Environment** (Journal) 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 Court¹⁸⁻²⁰

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 American Bar Association’s national 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 Programs²¹

One of the most significant opportunities afforded by an education at Washington and Lee University School of Law is the opportunity to participate in the school’s legal clinics. Second- and third-year Washington and Lee law students help to meet the need for legal assistance in the region through these legal clinics and, at the same time, develop client contact and advocacy skills. The law school’s faculty has developed programs that present legal practice up close, involving tough lessons and real-life decisions that the profession deals with every day.

Clinical programs offered by the school include:

- The Black Lung Legal Clinic
- The Community Legal practice Clinic
- The Criminal Justice Clinic
- The Judicial Clerkship program
- The public prosecutors program
- The Tax Clinic
- The Virginia Capital Case Clearinghouse
- The Washington and Lee Community Law Clinic at the Oliver Hill House

Placement Facts²²

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$75,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$105,000
Median in public service	\$48,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	75.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	93.3%

Practice Areas²³

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	57%
Business and Industry	7%
Government	6%
Judicial Clerkships	20%
Military	2%
Public Interest Organization	6%
Academic	1%
Unknown	1%

Externships/Internships ²⁴⁻²⁶

Externships

Students may pursue individual external placements for course credit. These placements, or externships, allow students to integrate substantive and procedural learning with practical experience. Students reflect on their roles as novice lawyers with feedback from supervising attorneys in their placements and in seminar meetings with other externship students. Students work with federal and state agencies, public interest service providers and organizations, general counsel, and even with some private practitioners.

In Judicial Externship Program, students are selected to serve as clerks for either a state or federal trial judge in Rockbridge or one of the surrounding counties, a bankruptcy judge whose offices are in Harrisonburg, one justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia, and one judge from the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Internships

The Transnational Law Institute sponsors several summer internships involving international or comparative law matters in organizations of the selected students choice.

Student Organizations²⁷

- ABA/LSD Representative
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Burks Scholars
- Capital Hill Lawn Sports Association (CHILSA)
- Christian Legal Society
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Epicurean Society
- Executive Committee
- Federalist Society
- Fieldsport and Angling Society
- Health Law Association (HLA)
- Honor Advocates
- Intellectual Property & Tech Law Society
- International Law Society
- Irish-American Law Students Association
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice (CRSJ)
- Journal of Energy, Climate, and Environment
- Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA)
- Law Families
- Law News
- Law Review
- Law Revue
- Lewis Powell, Jr. Distinguished Lecture Series
- Outlaw
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International (PAD)
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Law Students Association (PILSA)
- Secular Student Society
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Southwest Virginia Innocence Project (SVIP)
- Sports and Entertainment Law
- Sports Czars
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Tax Law Society/VITA
- The Washington & Lee Diplomats
- Toastmasters
- Virginia Bar Association - Law School Council
- Women Law Students Organization (WLSO)

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35

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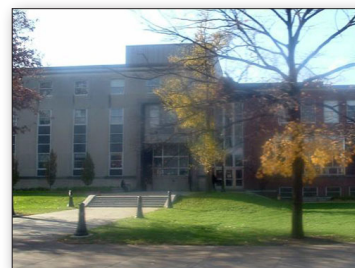
614-292-5992

ADMISSIONS PHONE

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE

614-292-0087

**Overview²⁻⁵**

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. Its law library is the 14th largest among law school libraries in the nation.

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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

13.2:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-164	3.36-3.78

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,375
Number accepted	767
Percentage accepted	32.3%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

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. Grades are assigned according to the following scale:

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Point Value
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

Class rankings are completed annually after the submission of all grades. In order to rank students, the numerical grades are used. Upper-level classes are weighted twice as heavily as first-year classes with respect to numerical average.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

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	30%
B	60%
C	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.

Honors¹¹

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	Top 10%	94.1	22
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 3%	95.6	7
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Not provided	Not provided	Not provided
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 25%	91.6	56

Awards^{12, 13}

Name of Award	Description
Tax Award	Awarded for the highest average in tax courses
Academic Excellence	Awarded for the highest cumulative average in each class
Torts	Awarded for the highest grades in Torts
Trial Practice	Awarded for the highest grades in Trial Practice
Legal Professions	Awarded for the highest grades in Legal Professions
Dispute Resolution	Awarded for the best research paper in an alternative dispute resolution course
Constitutional Law	Awarded to the top students in Constitutional Law
Ohio State Law Journal Awards	Not provided
Journal on Dispute Resolution	Not provided
Leadership Awards	Not provided
Clinic Awards	Not provided
George R. Beneman Award	Awarded for demonstrating outstanding performance in the Moot Court program
Topper Eagle Award	Awarded for significant contribution to the administration of the Moot Court program
Moot Court Awards	Not Provided
Labor and Employments Award	Not Provided
Bankruptcy Award	Not Provided

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.¹⁴

The ***Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution*** reports on issues relating to alternative dispute resolution. 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.¹⁵

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-evaluated, faculty-student cooperative venture published by the College of Law.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

The interdisciplinary ***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.¹⁸

Moot Court^{19, 20}

All second-year students must participate in Moritz College of Law's moot court program after successful completion of Appellate Advocacy I. In Appellate Advocacy I, students write an appellate brief and argue the case before a panel of judges comprised of faculty members, practicing attorneys, and third-year students.

Appellate Advocacy II (also known as the Herman Moot Court Competition) is an intramural moot court competition. Participation in Appellate Advocacy II is voluntary. Students write an appellate brief and argue a number of rounds to participate in this competition. They may participate in the second semester of their second year. Appellate Advocacy II serves as the selection process for third-year students who want to take part in national interscholastic moot court competitions.

The Moritz College of Law currently participates in the following national moot court competitions: ABA, Civil Rights, Constitutional Law, Corporate Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Jessup International Law, Juvenile Law, Labor Law, and National Mediations.

Clinical Programs²¹

Moritz College of Law students begin taking clinical courses in their second year. The law school offers the following clinical programs:

- The Civil Law Practicum
- The Criminal Defense Practicum
- The Justice for Children Practicum
- The Legislation Clinic
- The Mediation Practicum
- The Prosecution Practicum
- The Student Housing Legal Clinic

Placement Facts²²

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$63,000-\$115,000
Median in the private sector	\$95,000
Median in public service	\$47,468

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	84.3%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.5%

Practice Areas²³

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	53.73%
Business and Industry	13.93%
Government	17.41%
Judicial Clerkships	5.97%
Public Interest Organizations	2.99%
Military	1%
Academic	4.98%
Unknown	0.9%

Externships/Internships²⁴⁻²⁶

Externships

Moritz College of Law's externship "Washington, DC Summer Program" requires students to dedicate at least 20 hours per week. 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. Students secure an externship in a government, judicial, or nonprofit organization in Washington, DC.

Twenty-five students are selected each semester by Moritz College of Law to serve as judicial externs in judges' chambers. 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. Over the past few years, the program has expanded to include commissions of the Supreme Court of Ohio, the Franklin County Court of Common Pleas, and the Ohio Judicial Conference. The program runs the full 14 weeks of the spring semester. Students receive three credits, and the course is graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis.

Student Organizations²⁷

- Ability
- Advocates for Children
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- American Constitution Society
- Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Society (BLS)
- Christian Legal Society
- Criminal Law Society
- Dispute Resolution and Youth (DRY)
- Dispute Resolution Association
- Entrepreneurial Business Law Journal (EBLJ)
- Environmental Law Association
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Society
- Hearsay
- I/S: A Journal of Law and Policy for the Information Society
- Immigration Law Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Inter-Professional Council (IPC)
- International Justice Mission
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Labor & Employment Law Association
- Latino Law Student Association (LLSA)
- Law School Democrats
- Law School Republicans
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Military Law Students Association (MLSA)

- Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Governing Board
- Moritz Community Outreach Project (MCOP)
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Ohio State Journal of Criminal Law (OSJCL)
- Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution (JDR)
- Ohio State Law Journal
- OutLaws
- Pro Bono Research Group (PBRG)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Real Estate Law Association (RELA)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Association (SELA)
- Street Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)
- Women's Legal Society

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WEBSITE

<http://www.law.ucdavis.edu>**Overview²⁻⁴**

The University of California–Davis School of Law (also referred to as the University of California–Davis King Hall School of Law) was established four decades ago 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 University of California–Davis 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 Ratio⁵

12:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	158-163	3.45-3.75

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,310
Number accepted	1,005
Percentage accepted	30.4%

Class Ranking and Grades^{8,9}

The University of California–Davis School of Law has a four-point letter grading system with plus and minus grades; some classes 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)^{10, 11}

In first-year sectioned courses, not including legal research and writing courses, faculty members distribute grades as follows:

Grade	Percentage of Class Receiving
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.

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.636 (B+)
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.435 (B+)
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.386 (B+)
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.198 (B)
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	2.891 (B-)
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.000

Honors¹²

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.

Awards¹³

Name of Award	Description
School of Law Medal	Awarded to the student with the highest GPA after the fifth semester
Patrick Hopkins Law Prize	Law review writing prize
Witkin Award for Academic Excellence	Awarded for the top grade in a qualifying course
Order of Barristers	Membership offered to students for outstanding academic performance in appellate advocacy

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. Past symposia have dealt with subjects such as intellectual property and social justice, corporate governance, rules of evidence, the death penalty, critical race feminism, constitutional law, jurisprudence and comparative law, law of medicine, and family law.^{14, 15}

The ***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 also topically organizes and provides links to other worthwhile legal and business sites.¹⁶

The ***Environs Environmental Law & Policy Journal*** 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.¹⁷

The ***UC Davis Journal of International Law & Policy*** is published two times per year, in January and June, 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.^{18, 19}

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.^{20, 21}

Moot Court^{22, 23}

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 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 Programs²⁴

The four in-house clinical programs at the University of California–Davis School of Law, all of which are taught by members of the law school's faculty, are:

The **Immigration Law Clinic**, in which students represent immigrants seeking asylum or cancellation of removal before the Immigration Court in San Francisco. Students interview clients and witnesses, prepare legal briefs, draft pleadings and motions, and represent immigrants in federal, state, and administrative proceedings.²⁵

The **Civil Rights Clinic**, in which students provide legal services to indigent clients who have filed civil rights actions in federal court.²⁶

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.²⁷

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.²⁸

Placement Facts²⁹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$80,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$120,000
Median in public service	\$55,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	86.7%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	96.2%

Practice Areas³⁰

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	61%
Business/Industry	8%
Government	10%
Public Interest	13%
Judicial Clerkship	5%
Military	1%
Academic	2%
Unknown	2%

Externships/Internships^{31, 32}

Externships

The University of California–Davis School of Law offers seven externship programs that are closely supervised by law school faculty. These are:

- Criminal Justice
- Employment Relations
- Environmental Law
- Federal Taxation
- Judicial Process

- 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 Organizations³³

- ACLU at King Hall
- Advocates for the Rights of Children
- Agricultural Law Society
- American Bar Association, Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Catholic Association of Law Students
- Christian Legal Society
- Entertainment and Sports Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Feminist Forum
- Filipino Law Students Association
- Humanitarian Aid Legal Organization
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- King Hall Advocate
- King Hall Bar Review
- King Hall Board and Ski Club
- King Hall Democratic Law Students Council
- King Hall Golf Club
- King Hall Families
- King Hall Intellectual Property Law Association
- King Hall Legal Foundation
- King Hall Negotiations Team
- King Hall Soccer Fanatics
- La Raza Law Student Association
- Lambda Law Student Association
- Law And Disability Society
- Law Cappella
- Law Students Association

- Law Students For Reproductive Justice
- Martial Artists of King Hall (MAHK) a Difference
- Middle Eastern & South Asian Law Students Association
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Perfect Tender Child Care Co-op
- Phi Delta Phi
- Students for a Better King Hall
- Students for Death Penalty Reform

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RANK

35

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MAIN PHONE
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CAREER SERVICES PHONE
706-542-7541

WEBSITE
<http://www.lawsch.uga.edu>



Overview³⁻⁵

The University of Georgia School of Law was founded in 1859. Its supportive and cooperative environment provide 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 law library, the oldest and largest public law library in the state, maintains a collection numbering in excess of 500,000 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 Ratio⁶

14.4:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-164	3.39-3.82

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,283
Number accepted	556
Percentage accepted	24.4%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9,10}

The majority of University of Georgia School of Law students are not ranked in individual order. Only those members of a class whose cumulative GPAs are in the top 10% or who have cumulative GPAs greater than 3.5 are ranked in individual order.

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)

An Incomplete (I) is a temporary grade assigned when a student doing satisfactory work is unable, because of unusual circumstances, to complete course requirements. Any grade of I that is not converted to a letter grade by the end of the subsequent resident semester (summer school is not a resident semester) becomes an F.

The grade of YL indicates that a final grade will be reported at the end of the academic year.

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{11, 12}

The average grade in each first-year course should fall within the range of 2.9-3.1 based on the University of Georgia School of Law's grading system. Variations from this rule are allowed with permission from the dean. Though not mandatory for first-year courses, the school's suggested grade distribution guidelines are as follows:

Grade	Number of Students Receiving
A+, A, A-	33% maximum
C+ or lower	33% maximum
A+	Maximum of two students

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.

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^{13, 14}

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving
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^{15, 16}

Name of Award	Description
Jessie and Dan MacDougald Memorial Award	Awarded to the first honor graduate
CALI Excellence for the Future Awards	Awarded for outstanding performance in first-year and upper-level core courses
Class of 1933 Torts Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of torts law
Trusts & Estates and Verner F. Chaffin Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of fiduciary law
American Bar Association and Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor Law	Awarded for excellence in the study of labor law

American Bar Association and Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property Law	Awarded for excellence in the study of intellectual property law
Willis J. "Dick" Richardson Jr. Student Award	Awarded for outstanding trial advocacy
Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of real estate law
State Bar of Georgia Real Property Law Section Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of real property
John C. O'Byrne Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of taxation
State Bar of Georgia Tax Section Outstanding Student Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of taxation
Outstanding Prosecutorial Clinic Student	Awarded for outstanding performance in the law school's Prosecutorial Clinic
Outstanding Land Use Clinic Student	Awarded for outstanding performance in the law school's Land Use Clinic
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for excellence in the study of bankruptcy
Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial, LLP, Award	Awarded to an outstanding mock trial advocate
Kerry Harike Joedecke Memorial Award for Excellence	Awarded for contribution to the law school's moot court program and the law school community
Ronald Carlson Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of evidence
Shelley B. Knox Award	Awarded to an outstanding public interest student
Law School Alumni Association Award for Greatest Improvement in Academic Standing	Awarded for the greatest improvement in academic standing
Law School Alumni Association Award for Highest Academic Average	Awarded for the highest academic average
William King Meadow Award	Awarded for all-around excellence
Ellen Jordan Award	Awarded for commitment to public interest law
Isaac Meinhard Award	Awarded for the highest academic average
Dean Rusk Award	Awarded for the best paper in the area of international law
Georgia Municipal Association Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of municipal corporation law
Richardson Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of Georgia practice
Environmental Law Association Award for Environmental Advocacy	Awarded for environmental advocacy
Environmental Law Association Award for Outstanding Service	Awarded for outstanding service
American Bar Association and Bureau of National Affairs Award for Excellence in the Study of Employment Law	Awarded for Excellence in the Study of Employment Law
Julian McDonnell Award	Awarded for Excellence in the Study of Commercial Law

Georgia Association for Women Lawyers Outstanding Student Award	Awarded for Excellence
National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Student Award	Awarded for Excellence
Outstanding Legal Defense Clinic Student	Awarded for Outstanding performance in Legal Defense Clinic
Weinberg, Wheeler, Hudgins, Gunn & Dial, LLP Award	Awarded for Excellence in the study of Labor Law
Donald P. Gilmore Jr. Labor Law	Awarded for Excellence in the study of Labor Law

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.^{17, 18}

The student-edited ***Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law*** is published 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.¹⁹

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.²⁰

Moot Court^{21, 22}

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. Many law students participate in the school’s moot court program and appear before members of the state’s and region’s highest courts. Additionally, students can 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 Programs²³

The University of Georgia School of Law offers 10 criminal and civil service learning clinics. These clinics address criminal and juvenile law, indigent legal assistance, environmental and land use practice, agency and governmental representation, and private nonprofit service.

The school's criminal clinical programs include the Criminal Defense Clinic, the Prosecutorial Clinic, and the Capital Assistance Project. Its civil clinical programs include the Civil Externship Clinic, the Environmental Law Practicum, the Family Violence Clinic, the Land Use Clinic, the Public Interest Practicum Special Education Practicum, and the Mediation Practicum.

Placement Facts²⁴

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$65,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$100,000
Median in public service	\$46,500

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	89.6%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.2%

Practice Areas²⁵

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	57.5%
Business/Industry	7.3%
Government	11.4%
Public Interest Organization	5.7%
Judicial Clerkship	16.6%
Military	0%
Academic	1.0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²⁶⁻²⁹

Externships

The University of Georgia School of Law offers following externships:

The **Civil Externship Program** allows students to work for various governmental and private organizations and promotes three primary learning experiences: direct exposure to the skills and methods of legal practice; focused application of legal concepts to real conflicts; and reflective appraisal of personal abilities, values, and professional goals.

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 8-10 hours each week in a corporate legal department where they have work assignments and experience firsthand the inner workings of a legal department.

Internships

The **Global Internship** since 2001 provides students with six to 10 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. In University of Georgia School of Law, the Dean Rusk Center helps to expand the scope of research, teaching, and service into the evolving international dimensions of law. The Center plays an active role in international law and policy; hosting conferences, colloquia, and visiting scholars and undertaking international research and outreach projects.

Student Organizations³⁰

- American Bar Association/Law Student Division
- American Bar Association/Tort, Trial and Insurance Practice Section
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Law Student Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Davenport-Benham Chapter of the Black Law Students Association
- Dean's Ambassadors
- Education Law Students Association
- Environmental Law Association
- Equal Justice Foundation
- Federalist Society
- Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law
- Georgia Law Review
- German American Law Society
- Hispanic Law Student Association
- Honor Court
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Jewish Law Student Association
- Journal of Intellectual Property Law Society
- Labor and Employment Law Association
- Law Democrats
- Law for the Life of America at UGA
- Law Republicans
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Military Justice Society
- Mock Trial Board
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Student Association

- Negotiations Competition Team
- Outlaws
- Parents and Partners in Law
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Sports and Entertainment Law Association
- Student Bar Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Women Law Students Association
- Working in the Public Interest Conference

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RANK

35

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608-262-5914CAREER SERVICES PHONE
608-262-7856**Overview²⁻⁶**

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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

13.2:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	157-163	3.39-3.76

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,751
Number accepted	804
Percentage accepted	29.2%

Class Ranking and Grades^{10, 11}

The law school does not publish or prepare student class rank, except for the top 10 rising 3L students.

Students who entered the University of Wisconsin Law School in September 2005 and thereafter receive letter grades for most law school courses. The grading scale ranges from A+ to F. The law school does not make available students' class rankings (except to the 10 rising 3Ls with the highest GPAs, to assist them in seeking highly competitive judicial clerkships and fellowships). Instead, it provides tables relating grade averages to approximate position in the class.

For purposes of calculating student grade point averages, letter grades are converted to numerical equivalents according to the following conversion table:

A+	4.3	Outstanding
A	4.0	
A-	3.7	
B+	3.3	Good
B	3.0	
B-	2.7	
C+	2.3	Acceptable
C	2.0	
C-	1.7	
D+	1.3	Deficient
D	1.0	
D-	0.7	
F	0.0	Failure, no credit for course

The qualitative descriptions are not themselves grades but are intended simply to help translate the grading scale into qualitative language.

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.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹²

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 82.5 and 84 on the 65-95 scale or 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 81.5 and 85 or 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.

Grade Range	Large Section	Small Section
65-76 (F to C-)	0-13%	0-15%
77-80 (C and C+)	7-17%	5-20%
81-84 (B- and B)	35-45%	30-50%
85-88 (B+ and A-)	28-38%	25-40%
89 and above (A and A+)	5-15%	0-20%

Honors^{13, 14}

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
Dean's Honor List	GPA of at least 3.3 for at least 14 new credits completed in the spring or fall 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

Awards¹⁵

Name of Award	Description
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Award	Awarded for contribution to family law
Andre M. Saltoun Award	Awarded for special contribution to the <i>Wisconsin Law Review</i>
Mary Kelly Quackenbush Memorial Award	Awarded for outstanding student articles in the <i>Wisconsin International Law Journal</i>
Mathys Memorial Award	Awarded for appellate advocacy
State Bar of Wisconsin Environmental Law Essay Prize	Awarded for the best essay in environmental law

Journals¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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.¹⁹

Moot Court²⁰

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 Programs²¹

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 Clinical Semester
- The Community Supervision Legal Assistance Project
- The Criminal Appeals Project
- The Economic Justice Institute (which includes the Consumer Law Litigation Clinic, the Family Court Assistance Project, and the Neighborhood Law Project)
- The Family Law-Restorative Justice Project
- The Innocence Project
- The Legal Assistance to Institutionalized Persons Project
- The Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic

Placement Facts²²

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$85,500-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$115,000
Median in public service	\$47,018

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	84.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.3%

Practice Areas²³

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	61%
Business/Industry	10%
Government	9%
Public Interest Organization	10%
Judicial Clerkship	5%
Academic	4%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²⁴

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 Externship
- The Health Law Externship
- The Labor Law Externship
- The Midwest Environmental Advocates Externship
- The Thurgood Marshall Externship Program
- The Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence Clinical Program

Internships

The University of Wisconsin Law School offers internship programs to its students. These are

- Prosecution Project (Remington Center)
- Public Defender Project (Remington Center)
- judicial Internship Program

Student Organizations²⁵

- American Bar Association/Law Student Division (ABA/LSD)
- American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- 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)
- Delta Theta Phi
- Democratic Law Student Association (DLSA)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- Federalist Society
- Indigenous Law Students Association (ILSA)
- Intellectual Property Students Organization (IPSO)
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society (JRCLS)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Korean Law Students Association (KOLSA)
- Health Law Students Association

- 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)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Hurricane Network - UW Chapter (SHN-UW)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Unemployment Compensation Appeals Clinic (U Clinic)
- Wisconsin International Law Society (WILS)
- Wisconsin Sports Law Society
- Women's Law Student Association (WLSA)

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Overview²⁻⁵

University of California—Hastings College of the Law was founded in 1878 as the first law department of the University of California by Serranus Clinton Hastings, the first Chief Justice of California. Since then, Hastings College of the Law has been at the center of the West Coast's legal community, with renowned scholars serving as faculty.

Legal education at Hastings is a window to the breadth and diversity of the law. It provides both a focus on the fundamentals and a wider view to explore special areas of study through clinical training, seminars, opportunities to work on scholarly publications, and a moot court training program that regularly produces national championship teams for appellate advocacy competitions throughout the United States. Students can choose from 140 course offerings to specialize in tax, civil litigation, public interest, or international and comparative law. The upper-class curriculum has five concentrated-studies certificates.

The law school also offers practical training through its skills courses and allows students to build legal experience through its clinical internships and judicial externships.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

14.9:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	161-165	3.38-3.72

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	5,982
Number accepted	1,429
Percentage accepted	23.9%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

At Hastings College of the Law, letter grades are awarded for GPA courses, while for non-GPA courses, seminars and independent studies aimed at students' skills training and evaluation, clinics, externships, legal analysis, and certain other courses, grades are not used in the GPA computation.

Hastings College of the Law uses the following grading scale for GPA courses:

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-	1.5
D	1.0
F	0.0

Pass/Fail Courses: First-Year Moot Court shall be graded on a Pass/Fail basis. Independent studies that are not being used by a student to satisfy the writing requirement may be graded on a Pass/Fail basis if both the student and the instructor agree to do so at the beginning of the semester. Credits are also awarded to teaching assistants and research assistants on a Pass/Fail basis.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹⁰

Grades in classes with 30 or more students enrolled at the time of grading: In all classes with 30 or more students the following normalization requirements shall apply: 15 to 25% of grades shall be in the A range (A-, A, or A+); 12 to 17% of grades shall be below B-. The Academic Dean may not waive the normalization requirements of any first-year course. The Academic Dean has the authority to waive normalization requirements for upper-division courses only under exceptional circumstances. It is expected that these waivers will be rarely granted.

Grades in classes with fewer than 30 students enrolled at the time of grading: There are no specific normalization requirements for classes with fewer than 30 students, including legal research and writing, first-year moot court, and legal analysis. The Academic Dean may reject the grade sheet of a class with fewer

than 30 students that do not have a range of grades. Furthermore, if there are multiple sections of a class with fewer than 30 students in a given semester, the Academic Dean shall use her authority to reject grade sheets to ensure a reasonable degree of uniformity across sections.

After satisfaction of the grade normalization requirements set forth above, the distribution of grades of C+, C, C-, D and F is at the instructor's discretion. Student performance that is unsatisfactory must be assigned a grade of C- or lower. Unsatisfactory and substantially below the performance of other students in the class must be assigned a grade of D or F.

At the discretion of the instructor, the grade of A+ may be granted to reward superlative performance. An instructor need not award the grade of A+ in any given class. Only in unusual cases may two such grades be awarded in a given class. No more than two such grades may be awarded in a given class.

Honors¹¹

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	A student whose cumulative grade point average places him or her in the top 10% of all graduating students and who has completed at least 75% of his or her units at Hastings in graded courses is considered eligible for this award
<i>summa cum laude</i>	A student whose cumulative grade point average places the student in the top 1% of students who have achieved a grade point average of 3.75 or higher after completion of all 6 semesters of academic work at Hastings
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Awarded to students whose cumulative grade point averages place them in the top 10% of their graduating class after six semesters of academic work at Hastings and who has achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher, excluding recipients of the <i>summa cum laude</i> award
<i>cum laude</i>	Awarded to students whose cumulative grade point averages place them below the top 30% of their graduating class after six semesters of academic work at Hastings and who has achieved a grade point average of 3.25 or higher, excluding recipients of the <i>summa cum laude</i> and <i>magna cum laude</i> awards

Awards¹²

Name of Award	Description
Milton D. Green Citations	Awarded to the students who earn the 10 highest cumulative GPAs in first-year courses
Section Scholarships	Awarded to the students who earn the highest cumulative GPAs in first-year courses and return to Hastings for the second year of law study

Thurston Society	Awarded to those in the top 5% of the first-year class and in the top 10% of either the second-year class or the third-year class
Valedictorian	Awarded to the student who earns the highest cumulative GPA after the completion of five semesters

Journals

The ***Hastings Law Journal*** is the school's oldest law review, and it has contributed immensely to the advancement of knowledge in legal thinking through scholarly articles written by experts in the legal community. One issue per year is devoted to a symposium. Governed by an editorial board and run by student members, the journal is printed in six issues each year and reaches a large domestic and international audience.¹³

The ***Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly*** is devoted exclusively to constitutional law. It aims to produce an innovative and scholarly review of current domestic and foreign constitutional issues. In addition to publishing four issues per year, the quarterly hosts an annual symposium featuring discussion panels, question and answer periods, and a keynote speaker address on a topical constitutional law issue.¹⁴

The ***Hastings International and Comparative Law Review*** is devoted exclusively to the discussion of contemporary and original issues pertaining to international and comparative law. It is published two times per year and serves as an important forum for the exchange of ideas about public and private international law.¹⁵

The ***Hastings Race and Poverty Law Journal*** encourages and motivates commentary and discourse on topics such as race, poverty, social justice, and applicable law. It examines the legal system and highlights its shortcomings while aiming to generate meaningful dialogue. It specifically seeks to discuss the growing isolation of minority communities from the mainstream culture. At the same time, it aims to tackle the growing concerns of the economically underprivileged segments of contemporary society.¹⁶

The ***Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal*** publishes scholarly articles and student notes on communications, entertainment, and intellectual property law. It is a vital channel providing legal scholarships to eligible individuals in fields of law that will significantly shape society and the economy in the coming decades.¹⁷

The ***West-Northwest Journal of Environmental Law and Policy*** is the foremost regional-level law publication that covers California and the Pacific Northwest. It concentrates on environmental policy and issues that specifically affect this geographical area. Additionally, it features articles by prominent researchers and policy analysts from complementary fields.¹⁸

The ***Hastings Women's Law Journal*** aims to provide a forum for voices outside the traditional scope of legal academic scholarship. It is published twice per year and includes articles on feminism, race theory, multiculturalism, animal rights, disability rights, language rights, international human rights, criminal defendants' rights, and prisoners' rights, among other topics.¹⁹

The ***Hastings Business Law Journal*** is a recent addition to Hastings College of the Law's list of scholarly publications. It contains submissions written by academics, professionals, and law students. The journal explores and critically analyzes international and domestic events as they shape the dynamic interplay between law and business. It illuminates the current state of the law and provides insight for the future.²⁰

The **Hastings Science & Technology Law Journal** (STLJ) is a multidisciplinary journal created to enrich the discourse at the nexus of science, scientific methodology, technology, biotechnology, bioethics, health, public policy, and the law. STLJ is designed to serve both the legal and scientific communities through prompt publication of scholarly works on the basis of originality, insight, timeliness, and elegance, and by providing an open forum for the discussion and interpretation of significant developments in science and law. STLJ is currently part of the Law and Bioscience (LAB) Project.²¹

Moot Court²²

First-year students participate in Hastings College of the Law's moot court program in their spring semester to learn the fundamentals of complex legal research, persuasive legal writing, and effective oral argument. Topics for the program are chosen from real cases pending before an appellate court or a supreme court. The students do research and write an appellate brief on behalf of a client; they then carry out a formal oral argument before a three-judge panel.

Hastings students are encouraged to participate in moot court proceedings. For this purpose, they select their chosen topics from a master list of preferences provided by the Moot Court Board. 2L and 3L students who have successfully completed their appellate advocacy classes are eligible to join the Moot Court Board.

Board members serve as teaching assistants for first-year moot court classes and for appellate advocacy classes. They attend organizational and informational meetings and hold office hours. Students provide personal assistance to students enrolled in Moot Court and Appellate Advocacy. They also serve as coaches for oral arguments.

Hastings College of the Law participates in a variety of inter-college moot court contests. These competitions cover a wide variety of current legal issues. Team members are selected from open tryouts held in the spring on the basis of their resumes, writing samples, five minute oral arguments, and short interviews, receiving two units of credit for their participation.

Clinical Programs^{23, 24}

Students at Hastings College of the Law represent real clients under the supervision of faculty members through the school's clinical programs. Students participating in clinical programs attend accompanying seminars where the discussions feature examples from and brainstorming about client cases.

The law school's **Civil Justice Clinic** (CJC) is the curricular umbrella for three separate courses and a number of subject-matter clinics. The CJC Individual Representation Clinic handles cases in employment law, housing law, and disability law. The school's clinical offerings also include the CJC Community Economic Development Clinic, the CJC Group Advocacy and Systemic Reform Clinic, the CJC Mediation Clinic, and the Refugee and Human Rights Clinic.

Placement Facts²⁵

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$85,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$145,000
Median in public service	\$60,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	69.0%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	97.2%

Practice Areas²⁶

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	68%
Business/Industry	6%
Government	11%
Public Interest Organization	6%
Judicial Clerkship	6%
Academic	1%
Military	0%
Unknown	2%

Externships/Internships²⁷⁻²⁹

Externships

Hastings College of the Law offers two types of externship programs: outplacement clinics and judicial externships.

The school's outplacement clinics give students opportunities to work in governmental and nonprofit law offices under the supervision of practicing attorneys. They include courses taught by faculty members and are focused on substantive law and the development of legal skills.

The outplacement clinics offered at Hastings include:

- The Criminal Practice Clinic
- The Environmental Law Clinic
- The Immigrants' Rights Clinic
- The Legal Externship Program
- The Legislation Clinic
- The Local Government Law Clinic
- The Workers' Rights Clinic

Through the school's judicial externships, students work in state and federal judicial chambers on legal research memos and judicial opinions under the direction of judges. The Hastings judicial externship program helps students improve their analytical, research, and writing skills in a real-life, real-time context that requires them to exercise professional judgment on a daily basis. Judicial externs work full-time or part-time in federal district and appellate courts and in state trial and appellate courts, including the California Supreme Court. While most judicial externships are within two blocks of the Hastings campus, students may extern anywhere in California and with permission may extern out of state.

Internships

The law school offers international summer internship stipend for Hastings JD candidates.

Student Organizations³⁰

- Active Minds
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Armenian Law Students' Association at UC Hastings (ALSA)
- Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association (A/PALSA)
- Associated Students UC Hastings (ASUCH)
- Association of Communications, Sports & Entertainment Law (ACSEL)
- Association of Students for Kids (ASK)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- California First!
- Clara Foltz Feminist Association (CFFA)
- Club for Hastings Intellectual Property Students (CHIPS)
- Employment and Labor Law Students Association (ELLSA)
- Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- General Assistance Advocacy Project (GAAP)
- Hastings Advocates for the Arts (HAART)
- Hastings Ballroom Dance Club
- Hastings Business and Technology Group (HBTG)
- Hastings Business Law Journal (HBLJ)
- Hastings Chinese Law & Culture Society (HCLCS)
- Hastings Client Counseling Organization
- Hastings Communications and Entertainment Law Journal (COMM/ENT)
- Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly (CLQ)
- Hastings Cycling League
- Hastings Democrats
- Hastings Federalist Society
- Hastings Golf Club
- Hastings to Haiti Partnership (HHP)
- Hastings Health Law Organization (HHLO)
- Hastings Homeless Legal Services
- Hastings Hurricane Relief (HHR)
- Hastings In-House Organization
- Hastings Intellectual Property and Cyber Law Society

- Hastings Intellectual Property Organization (HIPO)
- Hastings International & Comparative Law Review (HICLR)
- Hastings International & Comparative Law Society (HICLS)
- Hastings International Human Rights Organization
- Hastings Intramural Basketball League
- Hastings Jewish Law Students Association (HJLSA)
- Hastings Law Journal (HLJ)
- Hastings Legal Vines
- Hastings Outdoors Club
- Hastings OUTLAW
- Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation (HPILF)
- Hastings Race & Poverty Law
- Hastings Race & Poverty Law Journal (HRPLJ)
- Hastings Real Estate Law Association (HRELA)
- Hastings Running Club
- Hastings Science and Technology Law Journal
- Hastings Soccer Club
- Hastings Softball Club
- Hastings Tax Law Student Association
- Hastings Vietnamese American Law Society (VALS)
- Hastings Women's Law Journal (HWLJ)
- Iranian-American Law Students Association (ILSA)
- Japanese Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society, UC Hastings Chapter
- Korean American Law Students' Association (KALSA)
- La Raza Law Students Association
- Law Students' Christian Fellowship
- Law Students for Obama
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Notes
- Middle Eastern Law Students Association (MELSA)
- Military Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
- Othello Club
- Parents at Hastings
- Phi Alpha Delta, Law Fraternity
- Pilipino American Law Society (PALS)
- Resistance Against International Slavery and Exploitation (RAISE)
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Students for Justice in Palestine - Hastings
- Students for Our Own Graduation
- The Diamond Club
- Third Year Class Council, Class of 2009
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Overview²⁻⁴

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 Wake Forest School of Law endeavors to make students tech-savvy by teaching them how to use information technology effectively. 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.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁵

10.3:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-165	3.30-3.70

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,334
Number accepted	678
Percentage accepted	29%

Class Ranking and Grades⁸

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 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. 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. 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.

A student may take certain upper-level, non-required courses on a Pass/Fail basis. 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)^{9, 10}

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.

Minimum Grades Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum grade required to fall within the top 10% of the class	91.0
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 25% of the class	88.5
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 33% of the class	87.7
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 50% of the class	86.1
Minimum grade required to fall within the top 75% of the class	83.3
Minimum grade required for graduation	73.0

Honors¹¹

Honor	Criteria
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

Awards¹²

Name of Award	Description
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Award	Awarded to a student with high professional standards and an interest in family law
American Bankruptcy Institute Award	Awarded to an outstanding student in debtor-creditor law
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State, and Local Government Award	Awarded for the highest grade in each course on local government and land use regulation
James C. Berkowitz Award for Best Oralist	Awarded during the Stanley Moot Court Competition
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Awarded for the highest grade in each course at the law school
Robert Goldberg Award in Trial Advocacy	Awarded to the student or students showing the highest aptitude and ethics in trial advocacy
I. Beverly Lake Award	Awarded for the greatest proficiency in the study of constitutional law
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for 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 Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Awarded to the student in each trial practice section recognized as the "most outstanding advocate"
North Carolina State Bar Student Pro Bono Award	Awarded to an individual who has performed pro bono law-related service for a student while in law school

Order of Barristers	Membership offered to third-year students for outstanding advocacy contributions
James A. Webster Jr. Faculty Award	Awarded for the greatest proficiency in property law
Faris Memorial Award	Awarded for high standards of character and scholarship
Forsyth County Women's Attorney's Award	Awarded to outstanding female graduate
ABA and the Bureau of National Affairs Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of Labor and Employment Law
ABA/BNA Award for Excellency in IP	Awarded for highest grade in Intellectual Property
ABA/BNA Award for Excellency in Labor & Employment	Awarded for highest grade in Labor and Employment

Journals¹³⁻¹⁷

The **Wake Forest Law Review** is a student-managed journal published four times per year. It also hosts a number of lectures, conferences, and symposia that focus on specific topics in the field of 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. The review also conducts several surveys and empirical studies that are of significant use to the legal community. 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 **Wake Forest Intellectual Property Law Journal** is unique in the sense that it is Wake Forest University School of Law's only "subject-oriented" periodical. An advisory board comprised of prominent intellectual property practitioners, professors, and members of the journal staff advise on matters related to content and the journal's overall development.

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. The *Journal of Law and Policy* will issue its first publication in the 2010-11 academic school year.

Moot Court¹⁸

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. A partial list of other appellate advocacy competitions in which Wake Forest students participate includes the

Gabrielli Family Law Moot Court Competition, the International Environmental Law Moot Court Competition, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the Kaufman Memorial Securities Law Moot Court Competition, the Tulane Mardi Gras National Sports Law Moot Court Competition, the National Moot Court Competition, and the Wechsler National Criminal Law Moot Court Competition.

Clinical Programs¹⁹⁻²¹

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 **Community Law & Business Clinic** is a new clinical education program within the Wake Forest University School of Law which launched during the spring 2009 semester. It 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 **Domestic Violence Advocacy Center** offers student volunteers a chance to represent local victims of domestic violence who can't afford to hire a lawyer.

The **Innocence & Justice Clinic** is a new clinical offering at Wake Forest University School of Law commencing in the spring 2009. The I & J 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. This clinic offers a good combination of both civil and criminal law and is a semester-long "lab" experience with a complementary classroom element. Students studying civil law spend the full semester with supervising attorneys who work in private practice, Legal Aid, and corporate general counsel's offices, as well as the US Attorney's Office. Students studying criminal law spend six weeks of a semester in a relevant setting such as the District Attorney's Office, the Federal Public Defender's Office, or a private practice.

Placement Facts²²

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$70,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$115,000
Median in public service	\$48,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	78.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	94.3%

Practice Areas²³

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	70%
Business/Industry	10%
Government	8%
Public Interest Organization	1%
Judicial Clerkship	9%
Military	1%
Academic	0%
Unknown	1%

Externships/Internships²⁴

Externships

In **Children's Law Externship**, students work under the supervision of a staff lawyer at the Children's Law Center of Central Carolina (CLC). This is a one-hour credit course. Students who are enrolled in or who have completed the seminar in Children and Domestic Violence may enroll in the Children's Law Externship.

In the **Judicial Externship Program**, students work as a law clerk for a state or federal judge, observing trials, conferences and hearings; researching law and procedure; and fulfilling the general role of a law clerk.

Student Organizations²⁵

- AAJ Trial Team
- 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
- Innocence Project
- Intellectual Property Law Association
- International Law Society
- Joint Degree Society
- Journal of Law and Policy
- Law and Medicine Society
- Moot Court
- NC Bar Association (NCBA)
- Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Outlaw
- Pan Asian Law Association
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Law Organization (PILO)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Trial Bar
- Teen Court
- The Hearsay
- Wake Forest Intellectual Property Law Journal
- Wake Forest Law Review
- Women in Law
- Youth Advocacy Group

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RANK

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801-422-4277

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

801-422-3685

Overview³⁻⁶

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 450,000 volumes of study materials in a technologically well-equipped environment.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

17.2:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	161-166	3.51-3.88

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	790
Number accepted	241
Percentage accepted	30.5%

Class Ranking and Grades^{10, 11}

At the J. Reuben Clark Law School, all courses, all seminars, and Directed Research are evaluated by numerical grades. Instructors may award a minimum grade of 1.6 for complete non-performance and a maximum grade of 4.0 for particularly exceptional performance.

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	
	2.9	Pass
	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	

Grades are usually based on a single final examination, except in seminars and in problem-solving/clinical courses. The law school's examinations ordinarily consist of general questions based on hypothetical situations. The quality of a student's response is determined not only by evidence of the student's mastery of the subject matter but also by his or her ability to recognize and assign priority to relevant issues, to deal with complex facts and separate the relevant from the irrelevant, to analyze the basis for his or her conclusions, and to express ideas in a clear and orderly fashion. Consideration in grading may also be given to attendance, class participation, and other written work. Students who fail to maintain a grade point average of 2.7 at the end of the second, fourth, and sixth semesters may be terminated from the law school.

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 rankings to the middle of the class in 10% increments, with the remainder of the class listed as being in the bottom 50%. The law school also compiles individual class rankings for students in the top 10% of the class.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹²

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.

Honors¹³

Honor	Criteria
Order of Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 2% or GPA of at least 3.80 (whichever is greater)
<i>magna cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.60 to 3.79
<i>cum laude</i>	GPA of 3.45 to 3.59
Dean List	GPA of 3.45 or higher

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
J. Reuben Clark Public Interest Service Award	Awarded to students who are committed to making a contribution to the community by dedicating part of their legal education to public interest or pro bono causes
Order of Barristers	Membership offered for moot court participation
John S. Welch Awards	Awarded to the winners of the law school's co-curricular writing competition
A.H. Christensen Award	Awarded for oral advocacy
Hugh B. Brown Award	Awarded for class presentation and performance
Achievement and Service Award	Awarded for a variety of criteria
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for contribution to the advancement of women in society
Scholarly Writing Awards	Awarded for superior written work
Foundation Press Award	Awarded for excellence in constitutional law
Margaret Rose Nielson Award	Awarded to the best oralist in moot court competition
International Center for Law and Religious Studies Award	Awarded for service related to international religious freedom
Distinguished Clinical Practice Award	Awarded for exceptional commitment to clinical practice
Schooley Outstanding Mediator Award	Awarded for excellence in mediation
Rex E. Lee Moot Court Awards	Awarded to the best oralist and for the best brief
Woody Deem Trial Advocacy Competition Awards	Awarded to the competition's champion, runner-up, and finalist
Public Interest Law Foundation Award	Awarded for exceptional commitment to public service
Exceptional Service Award - Student Bar Association	Awarded for exceptional service to the Student Bar Association
Stephen L. Richards Scholars	Awarded for superior accomplishment
Edwin S. Hinkley Scholarship	Awarded for an outstanding academic record
Linda Anderson Trial Advocacy Competition Awards	Awarded to the competition's champion, runner-up, and finalist

High Grade Awards	Awarded for excellence in law school
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for a professional project in the bankruptcy area
ABA-BNA Award for Excellence	Awarded for excellence in IP Law
ALI-ABA Scholarship & Leader Award	Awarded scholarship and leadership award
Humor in the Law Award	Awarded to student who has keep their sense of humor

Journals¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

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. Students from both the J. Reuben Clark Law School and the Marriott School of Management review articles addressing complex issues arising in the areas of international law and management. It provides practical insights and solutions to complex issues in international law and management. The review's student editorial staff is made up of law and business management students attending Brigham Young University.¹⁹

Moot Court

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.²⁰

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 eight different competitions around the country. These competitions often focus on specific topics, such as securities law, civil rights, or religious liberty.

The J. Reuben Clark Law School also offers a trial advocacy program that facilitates its students' training in oral advocacy, courtroom procedures, trial practices and techniques, and trial competition performance. This is accomplished through an integrated program that works closely with the law school's faculty, administration, and legal practitioners. The program serves students at all levels of their legal education.²¹

Clinical Programs²²

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 will 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 Facts²³

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$87,000-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$102,500
Median in public service	\$41,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	80.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.5%

Practice Areas²⁴

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	56.6%
Business/Industry	12.5%
Government	7.8%
Public Interest Organization	0.7%
Judicial Clerkship	15.8%

Military	4.6%
Academic	1.3%
Unknown	0.7%

Externships/Internships^{25, 26}

Externships

The law school's externship program aims at providing real-life experience for the school's law students. After the completion of their first two years of law study, 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 Organizations²⁷

- Aggie Law Society
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Legal Society
- Black Law Students Association
- Family Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Government & Politics Legal Society
- International Law Students Association
- Iron Justice Golf
- Jail Outreach
- Latino/a Law Student Association
- Law Partners
- Minority Law Students Association

- Native American Law Students Association
- Natural Resources Law Society
- 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's Law Forum

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RANK

41

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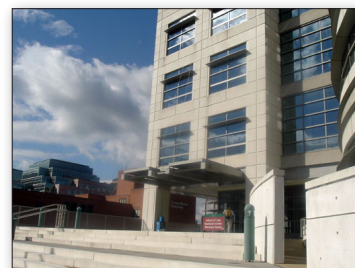
703-993-8015

ADMISSIONS PHONE

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE

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**Overview^{4, 5}**

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 latest addition to the school's list of specialized courses is the Technology Law Concentration, which combines coursework in the fields of technology law, intellectual property law, and business law. 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 Foreign Exchange Program in Law and Economics in conjunction with the University of Hamburg's Erasmus Program in Law and Economics. Through this program, George Mason University law students interested in the economic effects of legal rules are invited to study for one, two, or three terms at the University of Hamburg in Germany.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

14.2:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-165	3.31-3.79

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	4,445
Number accepted	825
Percentage accepted	18.6%

Class Ranking and Grades^{9, 10}

Students are numerically ranked based upon cumulative GPA. A student's class rank is added to his or her transcript only if requested and is shown both numerically and by percentage. Final class rankings for the graduating class—which includes December, May, and July graduates for the academic year—are calculated after summer term grades have been recorded. Each graduate is then mailed an individual rank statement and summary, along with a final, unofficial transcript.

Rankings are calculated 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 numerical-standing listing based on cumulative GPA and a summary of GPA ranges and rank percentages.

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.

All grades on the letter scale except F are passing, and credit is earned for the work completed with such grades. Credit is also awarded for grades of CR. No academic credit is awarded for work receiving a grade of F or NC. Upon withdrawal from a course, approved in writing by the Director, Student Academic Affairs, W is made the final academic disposition in lieu of a grade.

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

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)¹¹

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, and Analysis, trial-level writing, appellate writing, and legal drafting, may range from 2.85 to 2.95. 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 2.8 to 3.0. The mean grade for upper-level elective courses with more than 15 but fewer than 50 students may range from 2.7 to 3.1.

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. The Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may require the instructor in any course with 15 or fewer students to provide a written justification for grades whose mean falls short of 2.7 or exceeds 3.1, and the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs may require the instructor to bring the mean closer to or within that range.

Honors^{12, 13}

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	Number of Students
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 1%	2
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 10%	22
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 25%	57

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
Law School Fellowship and Scholarship	Merit-based
Robert A. Levy Fellowships	Merit-based for students with Ph.D.s in economics or a related field, such as finance or political science
Dr. Lawrence Cranberg Scholarship	Merit-based
George Mason University School of Law Alumni Association Scholarship	Merit-based
Senator Leroy S. Bendheim Scholarship	Merit-based
Scott C. Whitney Writing Prize	Merit-based
Richard S. Murphy Prize	Merit-based
Banner & Witcoff Intellectual Property Law Scholarship	Merit-based
Betty Southard Murphy Awards in Constitutional Law and Labor Law	Merit-based (awarded to up to four students)
Ann Southard Murphy and Cornelius F. Murphy Jr. Tuition Assistance Award	Merit-based
Mary Fischer Doyle Public Service Scholarship	Merit-based
Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox Intellectual Property Law Scholarship	Merit-based
Giles S. Rich Award in Intellectual Property	Merit-based
Smolen Plevy Scholarship	Merit-based
Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt Intellectual Property Scholarship	Assists intellectual property law students
Constitutional Law and Labor Law	Merit-based
Curran & Whittington Scholarship in Trial Advocacy	Merit-based
Venable Foundation Scholarship	Merit and need based
David & Carrie Jolly Scholarship for working professionals	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 politicians, practicing attorneys, and business leaders from across the country.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

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.¹⁸

The **Congressional Record, FantasyLaw Edition** is a new publication of The Green Bag. This publication is published by the law school.¹⁹

Moot Court^{20, 21}

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 such as the National Moot Court Competition. The board sponsors two intramural competitions annually; the Upper Class Moot Court Competition takes place during the fall semester, and the First Year Moot Court Competition takes place during the spring semester.

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 Programs²²

George Mason University School of Law offers the following clinical programs:

- The Clinic for Legal Assistance to Service Members
- The Domestic Relations Legal Clinic
- The Immigration Legal Clinic
- The Law and Mental Illness Clinic
- The Legal Clinic
- The Practical Preparation of GMU Patent Applications Legal Clinic
- The Regulatory Clinic

Placement Facts²³

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$70,000-\$147,500
Median in the private sector	\$110,000
Median in public service	\$55,706

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	96.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	99.5%

Practice Areas²⁴

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	47%
Business and Industry	9.8%
Government	13.5%
Public Interest Organization	9.3%
Judicial Clerkship	12.6%
Military	2.3%
Academic	5.6%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²⁵

Externships

George Mason University School of Law students who have completed one-third of their legal education can take advantage of an array of attorney-supervised externship opportunities. Students at the school secure externships with federal government agencies every year. The externships available to George Mason University law students provide them with the flexibility to work outside the law school and earn academic credit.

Student Organizations²⁶

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
- American Bar Association/Law Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union - GMU Chapter
- American Constitution Society
- American Immigration Lawyers Association
- American Inn of Court: George Mason University School of Law
- Arab Law Students Association
- 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
- Docket
- Environmental Law Society
- Federal Circuit Bar Journal
- Federalist Society
- Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Law Association
- George Mason Law Review
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Honor Committee
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- JLEP (Journal of Law, Economics, & Policy)
- Journal of International Commercial Law
- Law Students for the Second Amendment
- Mason Law Democrats
- Mason Law Republicans
- Mason Law Sports and Entertainment Association
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Student Association

- National Security Law Society
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International
- Phi Delta Phi (Lewis F. Powell Inn)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Thomas More Society
- Trial Advocacy Association
- VBA - Pro Bono Society
- Women's Law Association

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RANK

43

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520-621-7668

Overview⁴⁻⁶

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. 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 University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law Library plays a vital role in fulfilling the college's dual mission of teaching and research.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

12.0:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-164	3.36-3.76

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,242
Number accepted	756
Percentage accepted	33.7%

Class Ranking and Grades^{10, 11}

At the James E. Rogers College of Law, first-year students are not ranked until the end of the fall semester. 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.

Pursuant to the rules of the University of Arizona, the law school employs the following grading system:

A	4	Excellent
B	3	Good
C	2	Fair
D	1	Poor
E	0	Failure

At the end of the semester, the grade I (Incomplete) may be awarded only when a small portion of the student's work is incomplete. Incompletes are not routinely allowed in graded courses. A grade of 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. The law school allows extensions on Incompletes for one semester only. In addition, P means Pass, F denotes Fail, I stands for Incomplete, and W indicates Withdrawal. JD students may only take courses on a Pass/Fail basis that are designated Pass/Fail.

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{12, 13}

The James E. Rogers College of Law's grade normalization curve applies to all courses with an enrollment of 21 or more students. A grades must be given to 25% of students, B grades to 55%, and C, D, and E grades to 20%. However, the faculty in extraordinary situations may deviate by 2.5% from the prescribed mandatory grade curve with due written permission from the associate dean for academic affairs.

For the purposes of evaluating work in assigning grades under the mandatory curve prescribed, a grade of D reflects unsatisfactory work. A grade of E reflects work that is so unsatisfactory as not to merit credit for the course.

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 associate dean for academic affairs.

Honors¹⁴

Honor	Criteria
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>	Top 7%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 7%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 11%
Dean's List	GPA of 3.30 or higher (students with 10 graded units per semester)

Awards^{15, 16}

Name of Award	Description
Ralph W. Aigler Award	Awarded to an 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
Ares Fellows	Awarded to students selected by first-year small-section professors
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	Awarded for academic achievement
William Gordon Moot Court Prize	Awarded to first-year student for moot court
Richard Grand Damages Argument Award	Not provided
Richard Grand Legal Writing Competition Award	Awarded for 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	Not provided
E. Herbert Herlihy Merit Award in Law	Not provided
Bruce R. Heurlin Study of Federal Courts Award	Not provided
Junius Hoffman "Beyond the J.D." Award	Not provided
Jennings, Strouss & Salmon First-Year Law Student Award	Awarded to 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	Awarded to scholars in international and business law
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	Awarded for best the Law Review note
Snell & Wilmer Outstanding Second-Year Law Review Writer Award	Awarded to second-year student for 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.^{17, 18}

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.^{19, 20}

Moot Court²¹

Students at the James E. Rogers College of Law are introduced to oral and written appellate advocacy through the school's moot court program. Second-year students can enroll themselves in the Samuel M. Fegtly Moot Court Competition. Students who excel in the Fegtly 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 Fegtly 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 Programs²²

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:

The **Child Advocacy Law Clinic**, in which students advocate for children in Pima County.

The **Domestic Violence Law Clinic**, in which students aid victims of domestic violence in a supervised learning environment.

The **Immigration Law Clinic**, an in-house clinic that enables students to help people who are undergoing deportation (or "removal") proceedings in Tucson.

The **Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy Clinic**, whose professed goal is to provide domestic and international legal assistance to the indigenous peoples of the world.

Placement Facts²³

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$75,000-\$120,000
Median in the private sector	\$110,000
Median in public service	\$54,500

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	75%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	95.1%

Practice Areas²⁴

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	46%
Business/Industry	5.5%
Government	21%
Public Interest Organization	4%
Judicial Clerkship	18%
Military	1.5%
Academic	2.5%
Unknown	1.5%

Externships/Internships^{25, 26}

Judicial Clerking Program - Judicial internships or externships are available in the state and federal courts in Tucson during the school year and statewide during the summer. Students work with judges (and their staffs) observing courtroom and in-chamber activities, as well as doing research and writing projects.

Externships

Externships for Ad Hoc Credit - Students may apply independently for externships with judges in other states which may be available with or without credit. Credit may be earned under the College's Ad Hoc Internship rules.

California State Court Judicial Externships - In California, students may apply for an externship with the California State Courts for each level of the court system and the requirements for each court vary.

Internships

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 **Umbrella or “Ad Hoc” Internships** in which students who wish to obtain academic credit for unique government-related or government sponsored internships may be able to do so if they meet certain conditions established by the College of Law Faculty.

Student Organizations²⁷

- American Bar Association Law Student Division
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law
- Arizona Law Review
- Asian American Law Students Association
- Association for Family and Child Advocacy
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Community Legal Access Society
- Environmental Law Society
- The Federalist Society
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Just Democracy
- Law Women’s Association
- Latino Law Student Association
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Student Association
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Pride Law Alliance
- Public Interest Law Organization
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Volunteer Lawyers

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RANK

43

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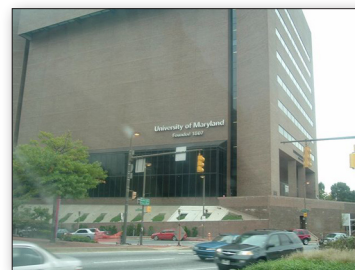
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Overview²⁻⁴

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 engages 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 Ratio⁵

11.9:1

Admission Criteria⁶

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-165	3.37-3.77

Admission Statistics⁷

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,225
Number accepted	469
Percentage accepted	14.5%

Class Ranking and Grades⁸⁻¹¹

Class rankings are not available to first-year students at the University of Maryland School of Law until the end of the academic year. Thereafter, 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:

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 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.

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 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.

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.

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)¹²

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 graduation class)

Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 10% of the class	3.67
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 25% of the class	3.48
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.37
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.23
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	2.98
Median GPA	3.23
Minimum GPA required for graduation	1.67

Honors¹³

Graduates chosen for Order of the Coif, Graduation with Honors, and other prizes and awards are identified in the University of Maryland School of Law Hooding Ceremony program. Graduation with Honors is not noted on the diplomas that students receive at the law school's graduation ceremonies.

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

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
Thomas Prizes	Awarded to the graduate with the first- and second-highest scholastic average
Larry B. Shoda Award	Awarded to the evening student who has demonstrated academic excellence
Joseph Bernstein Fund Prizes	Awarded for the best legal writing in each student journal
Hoffberger Clinical Law Prize	Awarded for outstanding work in clinical law program
Public Service Award	Awarded for the legal work associated with public service

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. Three issues contain scholarly work by professors, practitioners, and judges in the traditional law review format. The final issue is the *Survey of Maryland Law*, which is comprised of student-authored case notes and comments on recent Maryland or Fourth Circuit cases. The review also publishes legal symposia.¹⁵

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.¹⁶

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.¹⁷

The ***University of Maryland Law Journal of Race, Religion, Gender & 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.¹⁸

The ***Maryland Journal of International Law*** (MJIL) is the newest 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.¹⁹

Moot Court

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. The Moot Court Board is comprised of students who have demonstrated exceptional ability in appellate brief writing and oral arguing.^{20, 21}

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.²²

Students who participate in the International Moot Court Competition receive credit for an 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.²³

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.²⁴

Clinical Programs^{25, 26}

The University of Maryland School of Law’s clinical law program covers the integration of theory and practice through legal training combined with classroom teaching and real-life lawyering experiences. In-class and experience-based education in civil rights, consumer protection, criminal, family, intellectual property, and international law, as well as legal theory, legislation, litigation, public interest, tax law, and other areas, provide the basis for a sound legal education, preparing the law school’s graduates for leadership roles in the legal, business, and public policy arenas.

The program’s clinic practice specialties provide a rich variety of experiences focusing on civil and criminal litigation, advice and counseling, and transactional work. Civil practice students can specialize in environmental law, health, housing and community development, juvenile law and children. Criminal practice students often represent clients charged with various criminal offenses in federal and state courts.

Placement Facts²⁷

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$62,500-\$135,000
Median in the private sector	\$82,500
Median in public service	\$45,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	84.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	97.9%

Practice Areas²⁸

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	41%
Business/Industry	10%
Government	15%
Public Interest Organization	7%
Judicial Clerkship	20%
Military	1%
Academic	6%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{29, 30}

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. The law school offers a semester-long externship with public service organizations in South Africa.

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 Organizations³¹

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Group
- American Civil Liberties Union
- 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
- I.S.L.A.M. (Islamic Student Law Association of Maryland)
- Jewish Law Students Association

- Latino/a Law Students Association
- LGBT Law Student Alliance
- Legally Sound - A Cappella Choir
- Maryland Environmental Law Society
- Maryland Intellectual Property Student Association
- Maryland Law Katrina Project
- The Maryland Public Interest Law Project, Inc.
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Security and Law Society
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- The Raven
- Real Estate Association
- The Republican Law Society
- Softball Team
- St. Thomas More Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Health Law Organization
- Student Honor Board
- Students Supporting the Women's Law Center
- The Trial Team
- University of Maryland Association of Legislative Law
- University of Maryland Law Democrats
- Women's Bar Association

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WEBSITE

<http://www.wcl.american.edu>Overview³⁻⁵

The Washington College of Law, founded in 1896, has been part of American University since 1949. It is a member of the Association of American Law Schools and is approved by the American Bar Association. The law school also meets the requirements for preparation for the bar in all states and carries the certification for the United States District Court for the District of Columbia and the New York State Department of Education.

Numerous faculty members at the American University Washington College of Law engage in projects to develop integrated teaching. The college offers a curriculum that provides access to many fields of specialization, as well as sophisticated resources for technology and education. Experiential learning, through clinics and externships, gives students at the school a taste of the practice of law and demonstrates a commitment to the development of the skills and values that are crucial to the legal profession.

Students at the Washington College of Law benefit from externships with governmental and nongovernmental institutions around the world, and the law school offers clinical programs in intellectual property, human rights, government, business, and environmental law. Students can participate as members of the staffs of journals and other publications and benefit from being part of a diverse and proactive student body that constantly seeks fresh challenges and creates new opportunities through Washington College of Law's wealth of student organizations. This diverse community is further enriched by lawyers from all over the world who participate in the school's International Legal Studies Program and Program in Law and Government.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

13.3:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-163	3.17-3.59

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	7,512
Number accepted	1,561
Percentage accepted	20.8%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹

A student's performance in each course at the Washington College of Law normally is expressed in terms of the following letter grades, which have numerical equivalents for computation purposes:

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

A minimum course grade of D or 1.0 is required before credit may be received for a particular course. Students may not repeat courses for which they earned passing grades. Any course for which an Incomplete (I) or In Progress (IP) has been entered must be made up by the end of the next semester or the grade automatically is converted to an F, unless the dean grants an extension. Students on academic probation may not receive Incomplete or In Progress grades.

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{10, 11}

Minimum GPAs Required (Based on May 2008 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	3.61
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 33% of the class	3.55
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 50% of the class	3.45
Minimum GPA required to fall within the top 75% of the class	3.24
Minimum GPA required for graduation	2.00

Students must maintain a cumulative average of 2.0 or greater at the end of their first year of law study or be dismissed unconditionally from the Washington College of Law. The only exception to this policy is the following: a student who maintains a 2.0 or greater average in any semester of the first year but ends the year with a cumulative average of less than 2.0 but greater than 1.9 will be placed on academic probation for one semester. While on probation, the student must raise his or her cumulative average to 2.0 or greater by

the end of that semester or be dismissed unconditionally. Students' cumulative grade point averages are based only upon law school courses taken for letter grades at the Washington College of Law.

Honors¹²

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	Top 3%
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Next 7%
<i>cum laude</i>	Next 30%

Awards^{13, 14}

Name of Award	Description
Administrative Law Review Award	Awarded for the best student work published in the <i>Administrative Law Review</i>
Casto-Southard Award in Constitutional Law	Awarded for the highest scholastic average in constitutional law courses
Clair A. Cripe Award	Awarded to an outstanding student in correctional law
Dean's Award for Professional Responsibility	Awarded to a student who has participated under the third-year practice rule in a clinical program in Maryland, Virginia, or the District of Columbia and who has exemplified proficiency in skills and the high ethical standards of the profession
Edward C. Bou Award	Awarded to the Hispanic student who has attained the highest scholastic average
Energy and Natural Resource Law Fund Prize	Awarded for excellence in the study of natural resource law
Gillett Prize	Awarded for the highest scholastic course average
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Advocacy Award	Awarded to students who demonstrate outstanding ability in courtroom advocacy
Human Rights Brief Award	Awarded for the best work published in the <i>Human Rights Brief</i>
International Law Review Award	Awarded for the best work published in the <i>International Law Review</i>
Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law Award	Awarded for the best work published in the <i>Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law</i>
Lura E. Turley Prize	Awarded for the best work published in the <i>American University Law Review</i>
Mooers Trophy	Awarded to outstanding students in trial practice

Mussey Prize	Awarded to the student with the highest scholastic average during his or her last year of study in both the full-time and part-time divisions
Newman Prize	Awarded to the best student in criminal trial practice
Outstanding Graduate Award	Awarded to JD and LLM graduates selected by the faculty
Outstanding Research and Writing Award	Awarded for outstanding research and writing
Solf Award	Awarded to the LLM graduate in international legal studies who has attained the highest scholastic average
T. Morton McDonald Scholarship Award	Awarded for excellence in the field of legal research
Washington College of Law Alumni Award	Awarded to a student who has substantially contributed to student activities, as well as to the progress of the law school
William, Brinks, Olds, Hofer, Gilson and Lione Award for Excellence in Intellectual Property Law	Awarded for academic excellence in the areas of copyright, trademark, or patent law

Journals

The ***American University Law Review*** is the oldest and largest student-run publication at American University, Washington College of Law. The law review receives articles from outside authors each year and publishes articles from professors, judges, practicing lawyers, and renowned legal thinkers. The law review publishes six bimonthly issues per year. It also publishes an annual issue dedicated to decisions of the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit regarding patent law, international trade, government contracts, and trademark law.¹⁵

The ***American University International Law Review*** publishes articles, critical essays, comments, and case notes on a wide variety of international law topics, including public and private international law, the law of international organizations, international trade law, international arbitration, and international human rights. It also publishes pieces on topics of foreign and comparative law that are of particular interest to the international legal community. The law review also publishes a bilingual Spanish-English issue which is sponsored by the Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law. The American Society of International Law's "Grotius Lecture and Response" is also published annually. The *American University International Law Review* was recently ranked the seventh most frequently cited international and comparative law review published in the US.¹⁶

The ***Administrative Law Review*** is published four times annually by students of the Washington College of Law in conjunction with the American Bar Association's Section of Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice. The journal strives to develop the legal research and writing skills of students while publishing articles that serve both practitioners and academicians. Each issue is a nexus of theory and practice, containing articles by practicing lawyers, judges, and academicians. The *Administrative Law Review* contains student comments and case notes on administrative law issues. In addition, it regularly publishes symposia, conferences, and meetings on current topics in administrative law.¹⁷

The ***Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law***, founded in 1992, provides a forum for those interested in gender issues and feminist legal studies. In 1998, it expanded its mission to include social policy as well as gender issues. By focusing on gender and social policy issues, it creates a dialogue among disparate social, economic, and gender groups.¹⁸

The American Jurist is a student-published monthly newspaper that provides the Washington College of Law community with an open forum in which to discuss issues of contemporary, legal, social, or related interest.^{19, 20}

The ***Business Law Brief*** is a student-run publication devoted to articles discussing the synergy between the legal profession and the business world. It endeavors to showcase the expertise and resources of academic and legal professionals, as well as the expertise and resources of the Washington College of Law, by providing its readers with interesting articles on significant current developments in business law and related fields.²¹

The ***Criminal Law Brief*** is a journal dedicated to the complex and constantly evolving world of the criminal justice system. Its audience includes judges and practicing attorneys, students with a strong interest in criminal law, and professors of varied criminal law disciplines.²²

The ***Human Rights Brief***, a student-run publication of the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, reports on developments in international human rights and humanitarian law and provides concise legal analysis of cutting-edge human rights issues. Established in 1994, it maintains a strong commitment to supporting human rights practitioners and strengthening the community of human rights advocates around the world.²³

The ***Modern American*** is a non-partisan, student-run publication dedicated to cutting-edge issues in diversity and the law. It promotes a provocative, fresh dialogue evaluating legal and social issues influencing minority groups in the United States. *The Modern American* discusses America's legal and social systems' treatment of racial, ethnic, sexual, and other underrepresented groups from a wide range of political and social viewpoints. It examines upcoming legislation, reviews new books and films relevant to minority communities, and interviews influential individuals spearheading change in the United States.²⁴

The ***Sustainable Development Law & Policy Journal*** is a student-run initiative at the Washington College of Law that focuses on reconciling the tensions between environmental sustainability, economic development, and human welfare. It embraces an interdisciplinary approach to provide a fuller view of current legal, political, and social developments. Its mission is to serve as a valuable resource for practitioners, policymakers, and concerned citizens promoting sustainable development throughout the world.²⁵

Health Law & Policy was launched in the spring of 2007 and is dedicated to the rapidly emerging and increasingly prominent field of health law. It was started by a group of three students with a collective interest in health law who worked together to create the publication under the auspices of the Health Law Project LLM Program on Law and Government.²⁶

The ***Legislation and Policy Brief*** is a combination of student-run electronic publication and series of dynamic panel discussions providing bipartisan legal analysis of current legislation and policy issues before federal and state legislatures. It was formally known as "*The Legislation and Policy Roundtable*".²⁷

The Moot Court Honor Society at American University Washington College of Law sponsors a wide range of activities designed to provide students with opportunities to practice their oral advocacy and brief writing skills. It is a student-run organization that coordinates and organizes intra- and inter-school student competitions in appellate and trial advocacy.

Each year, intra-school moot court competitions are held at the Washington College of Law for Washington College of Law students only. These train the school's students to compete in and win national trial and appellate advocacy tournaments that other law schools administer. The Moot Court Honor Society also hosts both the Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Tournament, in which more than 30 law schools from across the nation compete, and the National High School Moot Court Tournament, the first and only such tournament in the country.

The Moot Court Honor Society is under the control and direction of its executive board members, who administer the curricular and extracurricular components of the Moot Court Honor Society, are second- and third-year students at the Washington College of Law, and are elected by their predecessors. First- and second-year students at the law school may serve as assistants to the Moot Court Executive Board.

The Washington College of Law Inter-School Team is made up of 44 students who participate in both regional and national competitions across the country. Below is a list of the moot court competitions the law school hosts and attends:

Washington College of Law Host Competitions

- The Alvina Reckman-Myers First Year Moot Court Tournament
- The Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Tournament
- The Spring Qualifying Moot Court Tournament
- The National High School Moot Court Tournament

Inter-School Competitions held in 2009

- ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition
- Constance Baker Motley National Moot Court Competition
- Gibbons Criminal Procedure Moot Court Competition
- Giles S. Rich Memorial Moot Court Competition (AIPLA)
- NYU Immigration Law Moot Court Competition
- Irving Kaufman Securities Law Moot Competition
- Jerome Prince Evidence Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- Whittier Law School/Center for Children's Rights Juvenile Law Moot Court Competition
- Niagara International Moot Court Competition
- William B. Spong Moot Court Tournament
- R. Vale Interschool Corporate Moot Court Competition
- Vanderbilt/First Amendment Center First Amendment Moot Court Competition
- Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

Clinical Programs

Every clinic at the Washington College of Law has a seminar component. The following law clinics give student attorneys the opportunity to represent real clients with real legal problems, to handle litigation from beginning to end, and to hone their lawyering skills.^{30, 31}

In the one-semester **General Practice Clinic**, students represent low-income residents of the District of Columbia who have a wide range of civil legal problems. The legal issues addressed by the clinic vary but usually involve family law, health law, consumer law, housing law, public benefits, and special education, among other areas of civil law.³²

The **Community and Economic Development Law Clinic** provides transactional legal services to groups involved in the development of neighborhood-based community projects. The clinic represents and helps organize small nonprofits and businesses and tenants' associations in the public and private housing sectors, all of which share the goal of developing resources for greatly underserved urban communities. Students are eligible for this program in either their second or third year. It is a two-semester (fall and spring) program.³³

In the **Criminal Justice Clinic**, 2L and 3L students have the opportunity to participate in the defense or prosecution of cases (or both). This clinic is designed to make students aware of the theory and practice of advocacy in the criminal and juvenile justice systems.³⁴

The **DC Law Students in Court Clinic** is a year-long clinic that started in 1968. It is a successful and highly oriented clinic that works to provide legal aid to the less fortunate. Students in the clinic represent clients in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, primarily in the landlord and tenant and small claims branches. Other cases may be in the civil division and before Washington, DC, administrative agencies. Through participation in this clinic, third-year students learn to become effective advocates and appear in court, provide services to clients, and engage in case preparation as well as other activities that facilitate their progress toward becoming lawyers.³⁵

In the two-semester **Disability Rights Law Clinic**, participating students represent people with mental and physical disabilities in a variety of contexts.³⁶

In the two-semester **Domestic Violence Clinic**, students explore the complexities of domestic violence litigation. They seek civil protection orders and/or self-petitioning to change the immigration status of victims/survivors. A few students are also selected to work at the US Attorney's Office, where they learn about various aspects of domestic violence misdemeanor crimes.³⁷

The **Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Law Clinic** prepares students to be effective practitioners through direct experience with cases drawn from the full range of intellectual property specialties, including copyright, patent, and trademark law. It is a full-year clinic in which students participate in student-managed and faculty-managed projects.³⁸

The **Janet R. Spragens Federal Tax Clinic** is a one-semester clinic in which students work on commercial and business legal matters. It is a litigation clinic and provides legal aid to low-income individuals being audited by the Internal Revenue Service.³⁹

The **International Human Rights Law Clinic** has a general human rights section and an immigrants' rights section. Students participating in this clinic have the opportunity to represent clients before international

and domestic judicial bodies. They represent individuals, families, or organizations alleging violations of recognized or developing human rights norms.⁴⁰

The **Women and the Law Clinic** represents clients in child custody and support, domestic violence, and child neglect cases. The clinic may be taken as a year-long clinic or for the fall semester only, but full-year enrollment in the clinic is preferred.⁴¹

The **Immigrant Justice Clinic** (IJC) provides representation on a broad range of cases involving immigrant communities in the DC area. These include cases of exploited low-wage immigrant workers (e.g., domestic workers, restaurant workers, and day laborers), including trafficked individuals, asylum and non-asylum immigration cases, and language rights cases. Student work with individual clients and client groups, and they gain exposure to immigrant organizing efforts and immigrants' rights policymaking in the DC area. The IJC, formerly a section within the International Human Rights Law Clinic, will be a new clinic offering in 2010-2011.⁴²

Placement Facts⁴³

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$60,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$90,000
Median in public service	\$53,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	87.1%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.3%

Practice Areas⁴⁴

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	53.1%
Business/Industry	12.7%
Government	16.9%
Public Interest Organization	6.7%
Judicial Clerkship	9.6%
Military	0%
Academic	0.9%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships⁴⁵⁻⁵⁰

A **judicial internship/externship** is a full- or part-time position. These positions are available during the summer or academic year. Many federal and state judges in courts throughout the country hire interns/externs. The work assigned to an intern/extern varies depending on the type of court, caseload of the judge, and the judge's own preferences in assigning work.

Externships

Washington College of Law's Supervised Externship Program allows students to learn about the legal profession through law-related fieldwork and at the same time develop their reflective learning skills under close faculty supervision. Students are placed in government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and law firms for pro bono projects, where they work under the supervision of practicing attorneys. In tandem with their field placements, students meet for a weekly seminar led by a faculty member. The seminar draws on the placement work and assists students in reflecting on the work of the lawyer and on their own professional goals. Students also meet frequently in small groups or individually with the faculty member to discuss the progress of the externship.

The school's **International Externship Program** offers students a unique opportunity in American legal education. Students can earn academic credit while performing fieldwork in human rights organizations, non-governmental and governmental organizations, and courts in countries around the world.

In the **US Long Distance Program**, students participate in an intensive seminar for three to four days in May which prepares them for the fieldwork experience. At the end of the seminar, students disperse to their externship sites outside of Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia, where they normally work full-time for seven to 10 weeks. During this period, students communicate regularly with one another via an "Internet classroom." They gather at the Washington College of Law again for three to four days in August for an intensive debriefing of the summer experience.

Internships

A limited number of legal internships in Israel are available to Haifa summer program participants. These legal internships are in law firms, courts, and other organizations. Internships following the end of classes will be awarded to interested participants on a first-come, first-serve basis based on the date of their application to the program. Fluency in Hebrew is not a requirement for an internship placement.

The Secretariat of the ICC International Court of Arbitration annually reserves a space in its internship program for a WCL student. The internship takes place from June 1 to July 31. The International Court of Arbitration of the International Chamber of Commerce is the world's leading organization in the field of arbitration. Interns attend sessions of the Court and participate in the work of the Secretariat.

Student Organizations⁵¹

- Action for Human Rights
- The Administrative Law Review
- The Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
- The American Constitution Society for Law and Policy
- The American Jurist
- American University International Law Review
- The American University Law Review
- The Arab Law Students Association (ALSA)
- The Asian-Pacific American Law Students Association

- The Black Law Students Association
- The Business Law Brief
- The Business Law Society
- The Christian Legal Society
- The Communications Law Society
- The Criminal Law Brief (CLB)
- The Criminal Law Society
- The Environmental Law Society (ELS)
- The Equal Justice Foundation
- The Evening Law Student Association
- The Federalist Society
- The Getting Out Older Club
- The Health Law and Justice Initiative
- Health Law & Policy
- The Human Rights Brief
- The Immigrants' Rights Coalition
- The Intellectual Property Law Society
- The International Law Society
- The LLM Executive Board
- The International Trade and Investment Law Society
- The Islamic Legal Forum
- The Israel & Law Society
- The Washington College of Law
- The Jewish Law Students Association
- The Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law
- The Labor and Employment Law Society
- The Lambda Law Society
- The Latina/Latino Law Students Association
- The Law and Government LL.M. Executive Board
- The Law and Government Society
- The Legislation & Policy Roundtable
- LINK (Linking Communities for Educational Success)
- The Media & the Law Society
- The Mock Trial Honor
- The Modern American
- The Moot Court Society
- The Multicultural & International Student Organization (MISO)
- The National Lawyers Guild
- The National Security and Law Society
- Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International, Louis Dembitz Brandeis Chapter
- Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity
- Poverty Law Society
- The Public Interest Student Coalition (PISC)
- The Washington College of Law (WCL) Republican National Lawyers Association
- The Society for Justice in Palestine/Israel
- The South Asian Law Students Association

- The Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- The Street Law Program
- Student Animal Legal Defense
- Student Bar Association
- Students United
- Sustainable Development Law & Policy (SDLP)
- The Washington College of Law Democrats
- The Women's Law Association

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ADMISSIONS PHONE

504-865-5930

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

504-865-5942

Overview³⁻⁸

Tulane University Law School was founded in 1847 and is the 12th-oldest law school in the country. Its curriculum consists of nearly 125 legal and related courses encompassing a wide spectrum of corporate, commercial, and public law topics. Its course structure is designed to give students a firsthand understanding of a variety of legal problems. Students at the school gain immense experience from this program that is useful to them as a first step toward becoming full-fledged attorneys.

The faculty at Tulane Law School come from diverse backgrounds. This enables the school to offer a wide variety of courses. In addition, the school's academic culture revolves around providing the best teaching to its students.

Students at Tulane Law School engage themselves in a significant number of supplementary activities apart from teaching and academics. More than 35 student organizations and eight journals offer a variety of opportunities to students, as does a moot court program that allows students to take part in intra- and inter-school competitions. More than a dozen teams from various other institutions take part in such competitions. The law school's building is equipped with two courtrooms that are utilized for mock trials and moot court competitions.

The law school further strengthens its academic position by offering a variety of enriching programs in collaboration with several institutes and centers. Its central library, which is also a federal depository for US government publications, features a collection of more than 560,000 volumes.

Students at Tulane Law School are especially encouraged to take advantage of the school's career development office, which provides close assistance regarding a range of career opportunities. This is in addition to the on-campus and off-campus interview programs organized routinely. Tulane Law School's career development office also sponsors several seminars, workshops, and programs on career development and other matters for the benefit of students.

Another attractive feature of Tulane Law School is its variety of summer programs offered abroad. The school offers summer study-abroad opportunities in cities in England, France, Germany, Italy, Greece, and the Netherlands.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁹

15.1:1

Admission Criteria¹⁰

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-163	3.33-3.76

Admission Statistics¹¹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	2,612
Number accepted	931
Percentage accepted	35.6%

Class Ranking and Grades¹²

Tulane University Law School uses the following grading scale:

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

Students who perform exceptionally well may be eligible to receive the degree “with distinction.” Criteria can be obtained from the Director of Academic Services.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹³

Graduate students at Tulane University are not permitted to take any course on a Pass/D/Fail basis. For students who have received law degrees from accredited schools in the United States, “satisfactory completion” requires a cumulative grade point average at Tulane of B- (2.67) or higher. This grade point average must be maintained as of the end of each semester of enrollment.

For students who have received law degrees from approved schools outside of the United States, “satisfactory completion” at Tulane requires a grade of Recommended (R), Very Good (VG), or Excellent (E) in each course taken in satisfaction of the 24 credit hours required for the degree. Students will not receive credit for courses in which a grade of Not Recommended (NR) is received. If a grade of NR is received in two or more courses, the student will be dismissed from the program and will not be eligible to receive the degree unless a petition for readmission is submitted and granted and the conditions of readmission are fulfilled.

Honors¹⁴

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	10%	3.640	24
<i>summa cum laude</i>	2.35%	3.750-4.000	12
<i>magna cum laude</i>	11.74%	3.500-3.749	26
<i>cum laude</i>	19.13%	3.268-3.499	36

Awards^{15, 16}

Name of Award	Description
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Awarded for excellence in the study of bankruptcy law
Civil Law Studies Award	Awarded to the student who has earned the highest GPA in civil law courses
Dean’s Medal	Awarded to the third-year student who has earned the highest GPA
Edward A. Dodd Jr. Award	Awarded to an outstanding candidate for the degree of LLM in Admiralty
Faculty Medal	Awarded to the student who has earned the highest GPA over the entire course of his or her three years at the law school
General Maurice Hirsch Award	Awarded for university and community service
Lemle & Kelleher Award	Awarded to an outstanding graduating JD student who has taken a substantial number of admiralty courses
Haber J. McCarthy Environmental Law Award	Awarded to the student who has earned the highest GPA in environmental law courses
Brian P. McSherry Community Service Award	Awarded to the student who has shown the greatest devotion to the law school’s community service program
George Dewey Nelson Memorial Award	Awarded for the highest grade point average in common law subjects throughout three years of law study
Tulane Tax Institute Award	Awarded for excellence in the study of taxation
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
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State, and Local Government Law Certificate	Awarded to the student who earns the highest grade in the Land Use Planning course and to the student who earns the highest grade in the State and Local Government course
Admiralty Writing Competition Award	Awarded for the best paper on an admiralty subject
Cuthbert S. Baldwin Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Introduction to Civil Law Property
CALI Excellence for the Future Awards	Awarded for each course to the student who earns the top grade in the course
Clark Boardman Callaghan Book Awards	Awarded to the winners of the Senior and Junior Trial and Appellate competitions
Ray Forrester Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Constitutional Law I
Mitchell Franklin Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Contracts I
Rufus C. Harris Award in Torts	Awarded for the highest grade in Torts
David L. Herman Awards	Awarded to the students who have earned the highest grades in Obligations I and Legal Professions
James Cooke Johnson Scholarship	Awarded to the member of the second-year class who has attained the highest average for the year
Samuel Lang Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Labor Law
Law League of Louisiana Award	Awarded to a member of the third-year class who has improved his or her grade point average
Monte M. Lemann Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Conflict of Laws
Cullen R. Liskow Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Oil and Gas
Edwin I. Mahoney Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Criminal Law
Paul Morphy Jr. Memorial Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Civil Law Real Estate Transactions
Leonard H. Rosenson Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in Common Law Real Estate Transactions
Ralph J. Schwarz Award	Monetary award given to the student who receives the highest grade in Remedies
Cicero C. Sessions Trial Advocacy Award	Awarded for the highest grade in each semester of Trial Advocacy
Walter J. Suthon Jr. Award	Awarded for the highest grade in Louisiana Security Rights
Allen Smith Prize	Awarded for the highest grade in Successions, Donations, and Trusts
Joseph Modeste Sweeney Scholarship	Awarded to the student who achieves the highest GPA for his or her first year
West Publishing Company Prizes	Awarded to the top students of the first-, second-, and third-year classes
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Honorary membership offered to a 3L who shows promise of contributing to the advancement of women

Yippy Award	Monetary award given to the student who receives the highest grade in Civil Law Property II
Association for Women Attorneys Award	Awarded to an outstanding student in the Domestic Violence Clinic

Journals

The **Tulane Law Review** was initially established in 1916 as the *Southern Law Quarterly*. Widely circulated internationally, it is published six times per year. The law review is entirely managed and edited by students. Its board is comprised of about 60 upper-class student editors who are chosen based on their excellent scholastic, legal writing, and research abilities.¹⁷

The **Tulane Maritime Law Journal** was first established in 1973 with the assistance of the Maritime Law Society. It was initially named *The Maritime Lawyer*, and its first issue was released in March 1975. Print and online versions of the journal are published on a semiannual basis. The journal incorporates excellent write-ups by various academics, law practitioners, and students. It mainly publishes articles on topics related to admiralty and maritime law. The journal consists of around 40 to 45 members, and its selection criteria include academic performance and a writing competition usually held in the summer. The journal's members have the opportunity to interact with many local, national, and international attorneys from practice areas such as admiralty and marine law.¹⁸

The **Tulane European & Civil Law Forum** explores issues concerning European, comparative, and civil law. It is published on an annual basis with input from faculty editors and students of Tulane University Law School. The journal dedicates itself to providing articles, comments, case notes, and book reviews. Its articles usually concentrate on the civilian tradition and the links between the state of Louisiana and Europe. The journal especially encourages applications from students with foreign language skills.^{19, 20}

The **Tulane Environmental Law Journal** was founded in 1986. It is a biannual periodical that consists of legal and related content and is entirely run and edited by law school students. The journal features articles pertaining to environmental concerns.²¹

Law & Sexuality: A Review of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Legal Issues was founded in 1989 by a group of gay as well as non-gay students. Their motive was to provide a forum for discussion of legal matters pertaining to sexual orientation. Published once per year, the journal focuses on issues related to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. It covers a variety of topics that includes constitutional and corporate law, employment and health law, family law, insurance, and the military. It also features articles and topics related to trust and estate law. Membership on the review is open to all upper-class law students with two years of study remaining at Tulane Law School and is determined through summer and fall writing competitions.²²

The **Tulane Journal of International and Comparative Law** was founded as a dedication to Tulane Law School's historical and traditional academic foray into international and comparative law. Entirely run by students, it focuses on all facets of international law, but it predominantly covers topics related to human rights and transnational commerce. It currently has about 40 members.^{23, 24}

The ***Sports Lawyers Journal*** was established in 1993 and is published annually by the Sports Lawyers Association and law students of Tulane Law School. It is the most widely read and respected legal sports journal in the United States. The journal provides a broad panorama of sports issues as well as a platform for students who wish to have their work published and reviewed by industry peers. Membership is open to second- and third-year students subject to performance in a writing competition.²⁵

The ***Tulane Journal of Technology & Intellectual Property*** was initially published as an activity of Tulane Law School's Technology and Intellectual Property Society. It is an independent, student-run journal that addresses specific legal challenges faced by fields such as constitutional law, intellectual property, privacy, contracts, and torts due to the advancement of technology and the broader implications of technology for society. The journal presents scholarly and practical articles, student comments and notes, and a current developments section focusing on international intellectual property issues. Members are selected based on their successful participation in various writing competitions.²⁶

Moot Court²⁷

The moot court program at Tulane Law School seeks to strengthen the advocacy skills of its students. Students in the program hone their talents at the trial and appellate levels. The moot court program is managed by a board that consists of students with high academic scores. It conducts several events, such as open houses and inter- and intra-school competitions covering a variety of subjects including international law, constitutional law, mediation, corporate law, environmental law, and admiralty law.

Tulane Law School's moot court program also has a Black Law Students Association chapter whose chief role is to sponsor a team for the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition. Additionally, students from the law school's European legal studies program can participate in the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition, which is held in Vienna. Students from other student organizations are also provided with opportunities to participate in important programs and competitions.

2L, 3L, and LLM students are eligible to participate in several programs and inter-school competitions at Tulane Law School. A few intra-school competitions are open to 1L students as well.

Clinical Programs^{28, 29}

Tulane Law School offers the following clinical programs:

- The Civil Litigation Clinic
- The Criminal Litigation Clinic
- The Domestic Violence Clinic
- The Environmental Law Clinic
- The Juvenile Litigation Clinic
- The Mediation Clinic
- Legislative and Administrative Advocacy/The Public Law Center

At Tulane Law School, students are given opportunities to work on actual court cases and lawsuits while interacting with practicing attorneys, which allows them to sharpen and upgrade their practice and trial skills.

These opportunities are provided by seven law clinics that deal with cases on different subjects. The law school has developed a multidimensional clinical program that permits as many as 90 students to participate each year. Most of its clinics limit enrollment to third-year students.

Placement Facts³⁰

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$90,000-\$145,000
Median in the private sector	\$140,000
Median in public service	\$42,400

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	79.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	96.5%

Practice Areas³¹

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	58%
Business/Industry	9%
Government	9%
Public Interest Organization	8%
Judicial Clerkship	13%
Military	1%
Academic	2%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships^{32, 33}

Externships

Tulane Law School offers a judicial externship program that allows selected third-year students to serve as externs to federal district judges, US magistrates, US bankruptcy judges, and Louisiana Court of Appeal judges in New Orleans. Externships are also available with the National Labor Relations Board; with the Office of Administrative Law Judges at the regional office of the US Department of Labor, concentrating on maritime law; and with the Louisiana Capital Assistance Center, which handles cases in the criminal justice system with an emphasis on the civil rights aspects of those cases.

Internships

The law school offers limited internship positions with Paris law firms. The Paris law firms only consider students who can read, speak, and write French fluently.

Student Organizations³⁴

- Alternative Dispute Resolution Law Society
- American Bar Association/Law Student Division
- American Constitution Society
- Asian-Pacific-American Law Students Association
- Association of Trial Lawyers of America
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Christian Legal Society
- Civil Law Society
- Criminal Law Society
- DICTA
- Disability Law Society
- Eberhard P. Deutsch - International Law Society
- Entertainment and Art Law Society
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Foreign Lawyers at Tulane
- Honor Board
- Human Rights Law Society
- Italian-American Law Student Association
- Jewish Legal Society
- La Alianza del Derecho
- Lambda Law Alliance
- Law Women's Association
- Maritime Law Society
- Military Law Society
- Moot Court
- National Lawyers Guild - Tulane Chapter
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Executive Committee
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Real Estate Law Society
- Sports Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Technology and Intellectual Property Society
- Tulane Child Advocates
- Tulane Law ReVieux Performing Arts Society
- Tulane University Legal Assistance Program
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REGISTRAR'S PHONE

N/A

ADMISSIONS PHONE

303-492-7203

CAREER SERVICES PHONE

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Overview³⁻⁶

The University of Colorado School of Law 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."

Students at the law school are free to take almost all second- and third-year courses as electives after a required first-year curriculum. Areas of curricular strength, such as commercial law, natural resources law, or criminal law and procedure, can also be emphasized.

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 is used in many classes, especially during the first year. 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.

The University of Colorado School of Law has been provided with a new building known as the Wolf Law Building which is technologically advanced and was constructed to LEED building certification.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

12.6:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	160-165	3.41-3.79

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	3,000
Number accepted	665
Percentage accepted	22.2%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

For law school purposes only, a numerical system of grading is used in addition to the University of Colorado's letter grading system. Numerical grades are reported to the law school's registrar for recording and relate to the university's letter grading system as shown in the following table:

University Letter Grade	Credit Point Value	Law School Numerical Grade
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

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-72. If the work does not receive a grade of Pass, it is assigned a letter and numerical grade between F-50 and C-71 that the instructor has determined is appropriate.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹¹

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.

Honors¹²

Students in the top 10% of each graduating class may be invited to join the Order of the Coif.

Awards^{13, 14}

Name of Award	Description
ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Awarded for scholarship and leadership qualities
Austin W. Scott, Jr. Award	Awarded for excellence in oral argument in the Rothgerber Moot Court Competition
Rothgerber Appellate Competition Awards	Awarded for brief writing and oral argument in the Rothgerber Moot Court Competition
Journal of Telecommunications and High Technology Law Stephen William Leadership Award	Awarded for leadership qualities
Journal of Telecommunications and High Technology Law Writing Award	Awarded for outstanding writing contributions to the Journal
Don W. Sears Award	Awarded for the greatest contribution to the classroom learning experience in each academic year
Edward C. King Award	Awarded for outstanding leadership and achievement exemplifying the ideals encouraged by Dean King
Irving P. Andrews Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement by a black graduate
Sandgrund Award for Best Consumer Rights Work	Awarded for writings that advance the field of consumer rights
West Publishing Company Book Award	Awarded for the highest scholastic average for the academic year
Courtland H. Peterson Leadership Award	Awarded to a third-year student for outstanding scholarship, leadership, and contribution to the school's law review
Courtland H. Peterson Writing Award	Awarded for an outstanding comment or case note published in the school's law review
James N. Corbridge Initiative Award	Awarded by the members and editors of the <i>Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy</i> to a graduate who has shown outstanding leadership and contributed significantly to the journal

Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy Writing Recognition Award	Awarded by the members and editors of the <i>Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy</i> in recognition of graduates who have made outstanding writing contributions to the journal
Joel H. Greenstein-Colorado Trial Lawyers Association Award	Awarded to graduates of the school's Advanced Trial Advocacy courses for excellence in trial performance
Natural Resources Award	Awarded for outstanding scholarship and service in natural resources and environmental law
Outstanding Asian Pacific American Law Graduate	Awarded to one graduating student who has shown dedication and service to the Asian Pacific American community, a commitment to diversity, and leadership ability
Outstanding Latino/a Graduate	Awarded to recognize a graduating Latino or Latina student who exemplifies characteristics that every person should hope to attain
Women's Law Caucus Award	Awarded to the graduate who contributed most to women's issues during his or her law school career
Student Bar Association Sutcliffe Distinguished Service Award	Awarded for outstanding dedication and service to the law school community
Meritorious Student Award	Awarded to a third-year student for contribution to the law school community during his or her three years at the school
Jim R. Carrigan Cup	Awarded in honor of federal district court Judge Carrigan to recognize his distinguished career and to assist law students chosen to participate in the national trial competition
Legal Clinic Awards	Awarded for outstanding commitment and service to the Clinical Education Program in the categories of criminal and civil programs
Natural Resources Law Center Outstanding Student Award	Awarded for an outstanding contribution to the Center's work
Student Bar Association	Lifetime Achievement Award

Journals¹⁵

The ***University of Colorado Law Review*** is a journal of legal scholarship managed and edited by students and published four times a year and it covers all topics of legal importance.¹⁶

The ***Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law and Policy*** is dedicated to examining the legal and policy implications of international environmental issues. Published thrice per year, it is a student-run publication. The journal's articles tend to focus on such topics as global climate change, transboundary water pollution, protection of biological diversity, and international environmental conventions.¹⁷

The ***Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law*** publishes articles related to telecommunications, technological convergence, intellectual property, and regulatory law. It was founded in 2001.¹⁸

Moot Court¹⁹

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. The student activity fees 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.

Selection of teams varies by competition, and students may earn academic credit for their participation. Some of the moot court competitions include:

- Jim R. Carrigan Trial Advocacy Competition
- Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA) Moot Court
- Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- Saul Lefkowitz National Moot Court Competition
- Mardi Gras National Moot Court Competition
- Constance Baker Motley National Moot Court Competition
- National Moot Court Competition (NY)
- Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) Moot Court Competition
- Pace National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- The Rothgerber Moot Court Competition

Clinical Programs

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.²⁰

The **Appellate Advocacy Clinic**, taught by experienced attorneys from the appellate division of the Colorado Public Defender's Office and the criminal division of the Colorado Attorney General's Office. Each student, under the direct supervision of his or her instructor, is responsible for completing an appellate brief for a case currently on appeal in the Colorado Supreme Court or the Colorado Court of Appeals and for attending the oral argument.²¹

The **Civil Practice Clinic**, in which students render services to low-income clients in a variety of civil law settings, including in family court and in front of administrative judges. Participating students represent real clients in court proceedings.²²

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 County.²³

The **Entrepreneurial Law Clinic**, which provides students with supervised, practical experience in transactional law and offers valuable legal services to local entrepreneurs in need.²⁴

The **Juvenile Law Clinic**, a year-long clinic in which students learn the basics of civil legal practice, including skills pertaining to discovery, motions practice, negotiations, and trial work.²⁵

The **Natural Resources Litigation 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.²⁶

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.²⁷

The **Wrongful Convictions Clinic**, which focuses on the investigation of claims of Colorado prisoners who, despite being convicted, assert that they are innocent. It receives requests for help from inmates and evaluates their claims to see if there are factual and legal grounds for supporting them. These cases are difficult and time-consuming as there are huge structural, factual, procedural, legal, and practical problems standing in the way. However, the students in the clinic find their hard work very rewarding.²⁸

Placement Facts²⁹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$55,000-\$120,000
Median in the private sector	\$90,000
Median in public service	\$45,360

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	82.5%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	93.9%

Practice Areas³⁰

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	42.3%
Business/Industry	5.6%
Government	14.1%
Public Interest Organization	7.0%
Judicial Clerkship	25.4%
Military	3.5%
Academic	3.5%
Unknown	1.4%

Externships/Internships^{31, 32}

Externships

The University of Colorado School of Law's externship program aims to help students develop professional lawyering skills, gain insight into various aspects of the legal system and profession, and cultivate a sense of professional responsibility. It provides students opportunities to gain academic credit for doing substantive legal work with a government agency, a private nonprofit or public interest institution, or another private sector employer, such as a law firm. Externships are also available with the law school's Center for Energy & Environmental Security.

The externship program is overseen by the assistant dean for students & professional programs and professors. This program is also administrated by the experiential learning program coordinator in the office of career development.

Student Organizations³³

- The American Bar Association-Law Student Division
- The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
- The American Constitution Society
- The Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- The Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- The Business Law Association (BLA)
- The Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- The Colorado Law Mediation Program (CLMP)
- The Construction and Real Estate Law Association (CRELA)
- The Disability Law Students Association
- The Diversity Committee
- The Doman Society of International Law
- The Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Juvenile and Family Law Club
- Latino Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Lend-a-Law Student Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- Native American Law Students Association
- Non-Traditional Law Student Association
- OUTlaw
- Phi Alpha Delta - Law Fraternity
- Phi Delta Phi
- Public Interest Students Association (PISA)
- Republican Law Society
- Reuben Clark Law Society
- Space Law (Probationary)

- Sports and Entertainment Law Student Association (SELSA)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Trial Lawyers Association
- Technology and Intellectual Property Society (TIPS)
- Women's Law Caucus

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RANK

45

S.J. QUINNEY COLLEGE OF LAW

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Overview⁴⁻⁶

Established in 1913, the S.J. Quinney College of Law is known for its academic repute, faculty, student-to-faculty ratio, innovative curriculum, and stunning location.

The S.J. Quinney College of Law has launched new projects on critical issues like climate change, conflict and security, health justice, the new frontier of family law, technology commercialization, conservation, addiction, innocence, victims' rights, global mediation, and many others. It has also launched four innovative initiatives in leadership, cross-disciplinary training, smart technology, and global legal education.

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. Each clinic has a related class to prepare for and/or reflect upon the experience.

The library contains over 295,000 volumes and microform equivalents. All basic legal research tools are present. The collection is extensive or complete in codes, digests, reporters, encyclopedias, citators, and journals.

The law library is a partial depository of the Government Printing Office and receives about 20% of all documents made available to depository libraries by the federal government.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁷

9.5:1

Admission Criteria⁸

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	157-162	3.38-3.79

Admission Statistics⁹

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	1,089
Number accepted	346
Percentage accepted	31.8%

Class Ranking and Grades¹⁰

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.

GPA's 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)¹¹

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.

Honors^{12, 13}

Order of Coif	Top 10%
Highest Honors	3.8 GPA
High Honors	3.6 GPA
Honors	3.4 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

The 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.

Awards¹⁴

Name of Award	Description
American Bankruptcy Institute Award	Awarded for academic excellence in a bankruptcy-related course or clinic
CALI Award	Awarded for academic excellence in legal education.
Edwin Brown Firmage Student Award	Awarded for academic achievement and an ongoing commitment to international law and human rights
David T. Lewis Clinical Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement in the clinical program
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding devotion to women in law issues
S.J. Quinney College of Law Outstanding Achievement Award	Awarded for the outstanding achievement in each graded course (other than seminars)
Robert Schmid Natural Resources Writing Award	Awarded for the best paper on a natural resources - related topic
Stephen Pierre Traynor Legal Writing Award	Awarded to advanced student for outstanding writing
Utah Civil Rights and Liberties Award	Awarded for the best research paper on the First Amendment

Journals^{15, 16}

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.

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.

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.

The **Journal of Land, Resources & Environmental Law** 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.

Moot Court¹⁷

The S.J. Quinney College of Law conducts 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 Programs¹⁸⁻²⁰

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 term - summer, fall and spring - 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.

There are six clinics which focus on particular practice areas or service projects where all students in the class are simultaneously doing clinic work:

- Criminal Clinic
- Innocence Clinic
- Civil Rights Practicum
- New Ventures Clinic
- Law Practice Clinic
- Small Business/Non-Profit Clinic

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:

- Legislative Clinic
- Elder Law Clinic
- LGBT Research & Advocacy
- Environmental Clinic
- Health Law Clinic
- Victims Clinic
- International Clinic
- International Environmental Practicum

There are a few clinics that are only available to students who have taken the previously taught pre-requisite. These include:

- Mediation Clinic
- Disability Clinic
- Consumer Law Clinic

There are limited opportunities for student-arranged clinics.

Placement Facts²¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$64,480-\$80,000
Median in the private sector	\$100,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	91.8%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	100%

Practice Areas²²

Practice Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	60%
Business/industry	7%
Government	13%
Public Interest Organization	5.5%
Judicial Clerkship	10%
Military	1.5%
Academic	3%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²³⁻²⁵

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

J. Reuben Clark Law Society Internship Program

Students work approximately 6 weeks (half the summer) providing service and assistance at a public service agency, private non-profit organization, or on a self-initiated, independent service project mutually agreed upon by the recipient and the selection committee.

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.

Student Organizations²⁶

- American Constitution Society
- Business Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Jackie Chiles Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Latter-day Saints Law Student Association
- Law Students Anonymous
- Minority Law Caucus
- Native American Law Student Association
- Natural Resources Law Forum
- OUTLaws
- PALS
- Student Bar Association
- The Persian American Legal Society
- The Public Interest Law Organization
- Sports Law Club
- Women's Law Caucus

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RANK

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SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY

DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW

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214-768-2552

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CAREER SERVICES PHONE

214-768-2797



Overview²⁻⁵

The Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law was established in February of 1925. The law school offers a broad range of specialized courses in the areas of antitrust, bankruptcy, commercial, corporate and securities, employment, environmental, health care, financial institutions, intellectual property, international, litigation (including alternative dispute resolution), real estate, and tax law. Public law is also a vital component of its curriculum, with extensive offerings focusing on administrative, constitutional, criminal, civil rights, and international public law. The law school's clinical programs provide opportunities for students to earn academic credit while engaging in the actual practice of law. Its clinic serves clients from Dallas County in civil, criminal, tax, property, child advocacy, and domestic violence cases.

The Dedman School of Law offers its students a total educational experience including an active Student Bar Association, moot court and mock trial activities, five law journals, a summer program in Oxford, England, a placement and career counseling center, and a broad range of clinical programs, including one in taxation. The career office at the law school provides career counseling and career development services to current students as well as to alumni. These services include one-on-one counseling and coaching, resume-building and job-search workshops, mock interviews, and seminars and speaking events on relevant legal topics, all of which help prepare law students and graduates.

The law school's law quadrangle provides a setting for learning and includes the Underwood Law Library, a modern and comprehensive research facility equipped with state-of-the-art instructional technologies. It houses an eminent collection in the areas of international law, commercial law, oil and gas, securities, taxation, air and space law, and jurisprudence. The Underwood Law Library has more than 600,000 volumes and access to numerous legal databases and private law collections.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁶

15.0:1

Admission Criteria⁷

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class:

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	154-165	3.29-3.85

Admission Statistics⁸

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	1,926
Number accepted	455
Percentage accepted	23.6%

Class Ranking and Grades⁹⁻¹¹

Students at the 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 part-time third-year evening program law class, and (3) the full-time third-year law class and the fourth-year, part-time evening program law class.

Students are graded on a letter scale from A to F. The table below shows the available grades and their numerical equivalents:

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 Incomplete (I) 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 Incomplete grade is 12 months. If the Incomplete grade is not cleared by the date set by the instructor or by the 12-month deadline, it 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 an F or W, each of which is prescribed for other specific circumstances. A grade of I does not authorize a student to attend the course during a later term. Graduation candidates must clear all Incompletes prior to the deadline in the official university calendar, which may allow less time than 12 months. Failure to do so can result in removal from the degree candidacy list.

Grade Normalization (Curve)^{12, 13}

The minimum passing grade is D or 1.00, and an average of C or 2.00 is necessary for graduation. The law school computes the numerical cutoff for the top 10%, top 25%, top 33%, and top 50% for each class following the spring semester of each year. No other information about class standing is calculated or made available to students.

Honors^{14, 15}

Honor	Percentage of Class Receiving	GPA Required	Number of Students
Order of the Coif	10%	3.50	30
<i>summa cum laude</i>	1%	3.80	2
<i>magna cum laude</i>	7%	3.60	16
<i>cum laude</i>	35%	3.20	107

Awards¹⁶

Name of Award	Description
Order of Barristers	Membership offered to selected students
Phi Delta Phi Award	Awarded for the highest grade in a class
Brief Awards	Awarded to recipients nominated by legal research and writing professors
Scholarships	Awarded to recipients selected by the Financial Aid Committee from among the top 20% of students
Dean's List	Awarded to the top 25% of students in each class each semester

Journals¹⁷

The ***Southern Methodist University 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 review is devoted to a survey of Texas law and contains articles by attorneys, law professors, and judges concerning current developments in the law of Texas. All editing is done by student members of the board of editors and the staff. Members of the law review receive academic credit for their work. The review also sponsors the annual Southern Methodist University Corporate Counsel Symposium on current developments in corporate law. Selected papers from the symposium may be published in one of the review's issues. The symposium attracts corporate practitioners from throughout the United States.

The ***Journal of Air Law and Commerce***, a quarterly publication of the Dedman School of Law, was founded at Northwestern University in 1930 and moved to Southern Methodist University 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. Its 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 significantly impact 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 journal sponsors an annual symposium on selected problems in aviation law and publishes selected papers from the symposium in one of its issues. More than 500 aviation lawyers and industry representatives annually attend this symposium.

The International Lawyer is the quarterly publication of the Section of International Law and Practice of the American Bar Association. With a worldwide circulation in excess of 13,000 in 75 countries, it 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. It also sponsors various conferences and symposia.

The ***Law and Business Review of the Americas*** 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. The journal is a quarterly publication produced by the Dedman School of Law in association with the Section of International Law and Practice of the American Bar Association, the Southern Methodist University Cox School of Business, the Southern Methodist University Department of Economics and Political Science, and the Centre for Commercial Law Studies (Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London).

The ***Southern Methodist University Science and Technology Law Review*** is the Dedman School of Law's newest scholarly publication and is published three times per year. The journal is also published on the Internet, allowing worldwide access to its articles. Students from the Dedman School of Law serve as the editorial board and staff members. The journal focuses on national and international technology-based legal issues, including the legal use and limits of hardware and software, as well as patent, copyright, and intellectual property law.

Moot Court^{18, 19}

The Dedman School of Law Board of Advocates coordinates moot court activities at the school, including the Jackson Walker Moot Court Competition for first-year students. The Board of Advocates is an organization led by an executive board and composed of students and a faculty sponsor. It also sponsors teams for various off-campus competitions, including mock trial teams, moot court teams, negotiation teams, client counseling teams, and mediation teams. These competitions are judged by local practitioners and members of the law faculty and provide practical trial and appellate experience for interested students.

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 and Oral Arguments for the William C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court Competition.

Clinical Programs²⁰

The Dedman School of Law runs various legal clinics with an aim to provide legal support to low-income clients. It was one of the first law schools in the nation to sponsor a community legal clinic.

The Dedman School of Law currently offers the following specialized clinics and clinical projects:

The **Civil Clinic**, in which low-income clients dealing with matters ranging from housing disputes to elder advocacy obtain representation.

The **Consumer Advocacy Project**, sponsored by the Texas Office of the Attorney General, which reaches out to the local bilingual Hispanic community, helps resolve consumer complaints with recourse to formal litigation, and focuses on informal advocacy, negotiation, and mediation strategies, as well as community education.

The **Criminal Prosecution Clinic**, in which the prosecution of misdemeanor offenses is conducted in partnership with the Dallas County District Attorney's Office.

The **Criminal Defense Clinic**, through which students gain felony trial experience by representing Dallas County citizens who are charged with offenses and face the possibility of imprisonment. This clinic works with the Dallas Public Defender's Office.

The **Death Penalty Project**, which exposes students to actual death penalty cases and combines classroom teaching with practical experience.

The **Federal Taxpayers Clinic**, which was the first tax clinic in the country with the authority to represent clients before the Internal Revenue Service and the US Tax Court. This clinic represents low-income taxpayers who need to resolve problems with the audit, appeals, and collection divisions of the IRS and before the US Tax Court.

The **Small Business Clinic** introduces student attorneys to the practical application of business formation. It also provides needed representation for small startup companies and individuals developing private nonprofit entities.

The **W.W. Caruth Jr. Child Advocacy Clinic**, which represents children who have been abused and neglected in Dallas County. The clinic is appointed by juvenile district court judges to serve as guardian/attorney ad litem. Interdisciplinary lectures given by psychologists, forensic detectives, child development specialists, and social workers are a significant component of this clinic.

Placement Facts²¹

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$72,500-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$96,800
Median in public service	\$54,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	81.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.1%

Practice Areas²²

Graduates Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	65.80%
Business/Industry	22.68%
Government	4.83%
Public Interest Organization	1.49%
Military	0.37%
Judicial Clerkship	2.23%
Academic	2.60%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships²³⁻²⁶

Externships

Dedman School of Law students serving in externships work under the supervision of faculty for fixed numbers of hours at specific legal offices. Every externship program must be approved by the Curriculum Committee. Law school credit may be received by a student only for one externship program, including the Securities and Exchange Commission Student Observer Program. Students are graded for externships on a Pass/Fail basis.

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. These are

- SMU - Cary M. Maguire and Irby Family Public Interest Internships
- SMU - Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) Margolies and Association of Public Interest Law (APIL) Internships
- SMU - Access to Justice Internship Program
- SMU - Dallas Bar Association Labor & Employment Law Section Internship
- SMU - Nancy Kennedy Criminal Defense Internship

Student Organizations²⁷

- Aggie Law Students
- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Association for Law and Politics
- Association for Public Interest Law
- Black Law Students Association
- 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
- Longhorn Bar Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS)
- Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity
- Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity
- Real Estate Law Association
- Second Amendment Foundation
- Science and Technology Law Review
- SMU Law Review Association
- SMU OutLaw (formally LEGALS)
- Sports & Entertainment Law Association
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- SBA Committee: Activities
- SBA Committee: Barrister's Ball
- SBA Committee: Crawfest
- SBA Committee: Elections
- SBA Committee: Environmental
- SBA Committee: Carnival
- SBA Committee: Follies
- SBA Committee: Golf Tournament
- SBA Committee: Graduation
- SBA Committee: Intramurals
- SBA Committee: Issues
- SBA Committee: Orientation

- SBA Committee: Programs
- SBA Committee: Public Service
- SBA Committee: Publicity
- SBA Committee: Race Judicata
- SBA Committee: Social Events
- SBA Committee: Speakers and Events
- SBA Committee: Sports Spectacular
- SBA Committee: Website
- Texas Trial Lawyers Association (TTLA)
- Women in Law

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RANK

49

BENJAMIN N. CARDOZO SCHOOL OF LAW

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Overview⁴⁻⁷

Established in 1976, the law school is recognized for its innovative academic program that includes exciting and a wide range of practical opportunities.

The law school 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. The law school's clinical program offers experiences in criminal, corporate, family, human rights, and immigration law. Through its internships and externships program, students get hands-on training in the legal skills needed in the courtroom, in the conference room, and with clients. It's nationally known programs--the Innocence Project, Intellectual Property Law Program, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and Holocaust Claims Restitution Clinic--combine intellectual excellence and a visionary edge that is helping to shape the legal landscape. Students get opportunities to work on six student-run journals and the Moot Court Honor Society.

Located on four floors, the Chutick Law Library's collection, which emphasizes legal and interdisciplinary theory, reflects Cardozo's curriculum and current faculty scholarship. With more than 530,000 books, periodicals, microforms, audio and video materials, and electronic resources, the library provides students with the study resources they need.

Student-Faculty Ratio⁸

16.0:1

Admission Criteria⁹

The following LSAT and GPA data pertain to the fall 2008 entering class

	LSAT	GPA
25 th -75 th Percentile	159-165	3.29-3.72

Admission Statistics¹⁰

Fall 2008 admission statistics:

Approximate number of applications	4,207
Number accepted	1,096
Percentage accepted	26.1%

Class Ranking and Grades¹¹

Individual class ranks are not disclosed. After all spring semester grades have been submitted, the Registrar publishes JD percentile rankings, indicating the GPA cut-offs for percentile groupings for each class.

The work of each student in each course is graded on the following basis:

A	Excellent
B	Good
C	Fair
D	Poor
F	Failed
G	Administrative Failure
I	Incomplete
N	No credit
P	Passed (used in special courses or circumstances)
P+ or P-	used only for Advanced Legal Research ("ALR")

The symbol "+" suffixed to the grades of A, B, C, and D and the symbol "-" suffixed to the grades of A, B, and C indicate the upper and lower thirds, respectively, of the ranges covered by those grades.

Grades for all courses that are not completed within a period of 6 months after the end of the semester in which the course was taken will automatically be changed to "F" or "G" (Administrative Failure), unless the student submits to the Registrar written permission from the instructor and the Dean of Students for a further extension.

Grade Normalization (Curve)¹²

The mean grade for JD students in all first-year courses other than legal writing must fall between 3.10 and 3.20.

The mean grade in legal writing, and for JD students in all upper-level courses with 25 or more enrolled JD students, shall fall between 3.10 and 3.33.

The mean grade for JD students in upper class courses with fewer than 25 enrolled JD students shall fall between 3.00 and 3.50.

The grade of A+ is awarded only in cases of extraordinary performance, and no more than one A+ may be awarded in any class smaller than 25 students.

Faculties are requested, where possible, to conform their grades to the following distribution:

A and above	5-10%
A- and above	15-25%
B+ and above	40-50%
B- and below	15-25%
C+ and below	5-10%

Honors^{13, 14}

Honor	Criteria
Order of the Coif	Top 10%
<i>summa cum laude</i>	GPA 3.8
<i>magna cum laude</i>	Top 5% (GPA 3.611)
<i>cum laude</i>	Top 15% (GPA 3.483)

Awards^{15, 16}

Name of Award	Description
Ali-Aba Award	Awarded for the best representation in scholarship and leadership
Andrew S. Zucker Award	Awarded for academic excellence
Cardozo Service Achievement Awards	Awarded for outstanding service to CSL
Cardozo Writing Award	Awarded for best writing work
Cardozo Writing Award	Awarded for excellence in criminal justice
Cardozo Writing Award	Awarded for written work not for publication in a journal
Cardozo Writing Award	Awarded for excellence in civil advocacy
Charles Ballon Writing Award	Awarded for best work published outside Cardozo
Dean's Awards	Awarded for development of outstanding program
E. Nathaniel Gates Award	Awarded for outstanding academic work or public advocacy
Felix Frankfurter Award	Awarded for outstanding academic achievement
Jacob Burns and David Berg Scholars	Awarded for outstanding academic credentials
Jacob Burns Medals	Awarded for achievement in a variety of law school academic/professional activities
James Lewis Award	Awarded for excellence in tax

Jonathan A. Weiss Award For Public Interest Law	Awarded for commitment to public interest law
Louis D. Brandeis	Awarded for outstanding academic credentials
Moot Court Awards	Awarded for outstanding contribution
National Association Of Women Lawyers Award	Awarded for outstanding devotion to women in law issues
New York Bar Association	Awarded for excellence in writing and advocacy
Nysba Law Student Ethics Award	Awarded for ethics
Professor John Appel Award	Awarded for exemplary service to the student body
Samuel Belkin Award	Awarded for exceptional contributions to the continued growth and development of the law school
Stanley H. Beckerman Public Interest Award	Awarded for excellent performance in a clinic
Steven Eric Tanenbaum Leadership Award	Awarded for exemplary service to the Cardozo community
Telford Taylor Award	Awarded for outstanding achievement in the fields of constitutional law (or) human rights
The Archie A. Gorfinkel Award	Awarded for academic excellence criminal law

Journals¹⁷

The following six scholarly journals are edited and run by students.

The **Cardozo Law Review** covers a wide range of relevant, contemporary issues in symposia, articles, and student notes. The law review is a student-run organization, with all editorial and organizational decisions made by student-editors enrolled at the law school. It publishes six issues throughout the year. Its online companion journal, *de•novo* is designed to promote discourse regarding current legal topics, as well as academic matters, through the publication of shorter (10-25 pages maximum) and more targeted pieces.^{18, 19}

The **Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal** addresses topics related to the arts, entertainment, intellectual property, first amendment, sports, media and telecommunications law, and cyberlaw. It is publishing cutting-edge articles by distinguished members of the legal community. The journal is edited entirely by students and published three times per year.²⁰

The **Cardozo Journal of International and Comparative Law** presents articles, case comments, and student notes on an array of issues including corporate law, intellectual property, constitutional law, and human rights. The journal also organizes symposia, creating opportunities for academic debate and discussion on a spectrum of international issues. The editorial board is comprised of third-year students who are elected after serving a full year as journal staff members.²¹

The **Cardozo Journal of Law and Gender** publishes three to four issues per year on a diverse cross-section of topics. The journal covers subjects such as employment law, health care, human rights, family law, and civil rights. In addition, the journal sponsors an annual symposium on a topical issue featuring eminent academics and practitioners. The journal is available on both Lexis and Westlaw.^{22, 23}

The **Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution** features topics in alternative dispute resolution and mediation. The journal aims to explore all aspects of this burgeoning field of law and its relationship to legal practice, scholarship, and jurisprudence. It also sponsors an annual International Advocate for Peace (IAP) Award. It publishes two volumes yearly, containing both articles from scholars and student Notes.^{24, 25}

The **Cardozo Public Law, Policy & Ethics Journal** is a multidisciplinary publication dedicated to discussing and analyzing the policy implications of governmental actions, how lawyers advocate in the public interest, and how the ethical choices of legal workers affect the law and the public at large. It covers issues like constitutional law, family law, legal ethics, criminal law, civil rights law, immigration law, environmental law, civil law, labor law, animal rights law, and sexual orientation law. The journal accepts submissions from philosophers, economists, sociologists, activists, lawyers, and other professionals.^{26, 27}

Moot Court^{28, 29}

The Moot Court Honor Society is a competition-based organization. Competition teams are made up both of oralists, who write competition briefs, and opposing brief writers, who, along with senior staff and faculty, work with the oralists to prepare for oral arguments. Second-year staff members participate each semester, usually once as an opposing brief writer and once as an oralist. Both the oralists and the opposing brief writers travel to the competitions held in places such as Boston, Nashville, Chicago, Malibu, and San Diego where the oralists ultimately compete. The competitions cover many areas of law including constitutional law, evidence, corporate law, criminal procedure, family law, information and technology, intellectual property, international law, privacy law, securities law, and sports law. In addition to participating in approximately six competitions each semester, the organization also hosts the Paulsen Intramural Moot Court Competition in the fall and the popular Cardozo/BMI Moot Court Competition each spring.

The organization is entirely student run and is advised by a professor. Selected students participate in numerous national and regional moot court competitions, writing advocacy briefs for competitions and preparing for oral argument. Members also prepare the problems and bench memoranda for interscholastic and intramural competitions.

Clinical Programs^{30, 31}

The law school offers a variety of clinical experiences. It provides opportunities to represent real clients, under the supervision of expert attorneys, gaining invaluable skills while performing important community service representing the poor, the elderly, and the indigent.

Bet Tzedek Legal Services Clinic: Students represent elderly clients or those with disabilities in civil matters.

Criminal Appeals Clinic: Students receive intensive training in appellate advocacy, learn New York State criminal procedure, and argue an appeal in court.

Criminal Defense Clinic: Representing defendants charged with misdemeanors in the Manhattan Criminal Court, students work with clients from their initial interview through trial and sentencing.

Family Court Clinic: Students are placed for one-semester with a Family Court judge or with an attorney representing clients in Family Court.

Holocaust Claims Restitution Practicum: Students investigate and pursue claims made by Holocaust survivors and their heirs. This is a one-semester clinic.

Housing Rights Clinic: Students assist in providing advice to unrepresented litigants in Housing Court and may work with the clinical supervisor on housing law reform projects, an intensive lawyering experience that includes litigation and public policy.

Human Rights and Genocide Clinic: A one-semester introduction to international human rights litigation and advocacy in coordination with nongovernmental organizations and United Nations offices here and abroad.

Immigration Justice Clinic: In this year-long clinic students represent immigrants facing deportation in immigration court and in the Second Circuit Court of Appeals.

Innocence Project: Students work with prisoners, crime labs, prosecutors, and defense lawyers, and review case histories, including transcripts, medical reports, and appellate briefs. They litigate in trial and appellate courts across the country on complex procedural and constitutional issues that arise when getting access to evidence, testing, and proving innocence. This is a year-long clinic.

Intensive Trial Advocacy Program (ITAP): A two-week intensive practicum in which second- and third-year students learn and practice litigation skills in a simulated courtroom experience.

Labor and Employment Law Clinic: Students in this year-long clinic represent clients of various labor and employment law in matters arising under the wage and hour laws, collective bargaining agreements, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, the National Labor Relations Act, and the Unemployment Compensation Law.

Mediation Clinic: In this clinic, students learn to become problem solvers and develop communication, negotiation, and drafting skills.

Prosecutor Practicum: Students in this full-time internship work as student assistant district attorneys at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office.

Securities Arbitration Clinic: Students serve as advocates for claimants in securities arbitration and mediation cases.

Tax Clinic: Students have primary responsibility in representing clients with tax controversies.

Placement Facts³²

Starting Salaries (2007 Graduates Employed Full-Time)

Private sector (25 th -75 th percentile)	\$75,000-\$160,000
Median in the private sector	\$130,000
Median in public service	\$50,000

Employment Details

Graduates known to be employed at graduation	80.4%
Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation	98.0%

Practice Areas³³

Practice Employed In	Percentage
Private Practice	57.80%
Business/industry	19.27%
Government	7.65%
Public Interest Organization	10.40%
Judicial Clerkship	4.59%
Military	0.31%
Academic	0%
Unknown	0%

Externships/Internships³⁴

Students can obtain credit for substantive legal work under the direct supervision of an attorney or judge at the work site through externships and internships.

Externships

The following programs are available for externships:

Corporation Counsel's Appellate Externship: Under the guidance of a practicing attorney students work in the Appeals Unit of the New York City Department of Law. Students write appellate briefs on a variety of civil matters and observe oral arguments.

Immigration Law Externship: It is a one semester program. Students work on cases involving applications for political asylum and on such issues as permanent residence, change of status, and suspension of deportation.

Intellectual Property Externship: Selected students take an advanced course in copyright, trademark, or patent and receive clinical credit for working 10 to 15 hours a week at a law firm or corporation specializing in related intellectual property issues.

Labor and Employment Law Externship: Students gain practical experience in a law firm, government agency, or labor organization, working 8 to 12 hours a week at the participating employer and up to 2 hours weekly with a faculty advisor for advanced course study and supervision.

Internships

The entertainment law experience enables students to complete legal internships during the school year or the summer with entertainment law employers.

Heyman/ACCA In-house Counsel Internship introduces students to the practice of law in a corporate law department. Second- and third-year students work with in-house attorneys, learning the structure of the corporation from the inside.

Public Sector Internship: Students can pursue their internships in the not-for-profit organizations in the New York area. The Office of Career Services assists students in finding for-credit internships, summer employment, and volunteer legal work. First- and second-year students can receive financial support for uncompensated summer internships working with such under-represented groups as the elderly, the homeless, recent immigrants, and juveniles.

Student Organizations³⁵

- American Constitution Society
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Cardozo Advocates against Cancer
- Cardozo Advocates for Battered Women
- Cardozo Advocates for Kids
- Cardozo Art Law Society
- Cardozo Basketball Club
- Cardozo Business Law Society
- Cardozo Christian Legal Society
- Cardozo Cyberlaw Society
- Cardozo Democrats
- Cardozo Dispute Resolution Society
- Cardozo Environmental Law Society
- Cardozo Federalist Society
- Cardozo International Law Society
- Cardozo Israel Alliance
- Cardozo Jewish Law Students Association
- Cardozo Jurist
- Cardozo Labor and Employment Law Society
- Cardozo NLG
- Cardozo Running and Triathlon Club
- Cardozo Ski Club
- Cardozo Students for Human Rights
- Cardozo Target Shooting Club
- Cardozo Tennis Society
- Cardozo Youth Advocates
- Chabad
- Childrens Rights Institute (CRI)
- Criminal Justice Society
- Family Law Club
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Korean American Law Student Association (KALSA)

- Latin American Law Students Association
- Law Revue Show
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Minority Law Students Association
- OUTlaw
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Public Interest Law Students Association
- Softball Team
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports & Entertainment Law Students Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Tax Law Society
- Unemployment Action Center
- Women Law Students Association
- Yoga Club

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