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# the National Jurist

THE MAGAZINE FOR LAW STUDENTS

WINTER 2017 VOL. 26, NO. 3

## Why the Bar Exam blues?

With pass rates as low as 25% at some schools, the ABA is cracking down on schools with low entering LSAT scores. But does that make sense?



### Plus:

- 38 best law schools for bar exam preparation
- Arizona Summit's epic challenge



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## Public service honor roll: Community protectors p. 20

Topping the list, University of District of Columbia's students gave an average of more than 360 legal hours each last year. Hannah Lieberman leads clinic programs.



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# Will Trump make Supreme Court more diverse?

President-elect Donald Trump could make the Supreme Court far more diverse, at least when it comes to geography and law school alma maters.

All eight of the current Supreme Court justices went to school at either Harvard Law School or Yale Law School. (Ruth Bader Ginsburg transferred to Columbia Law School after two years at Harvard.)

But, there's a good chance the Harvard-Yale monopoly will come to an end when Trump nominates the next Supreme Court justice.

Trump's 21 potential nominees come from 17 schools, including many that have never produced a Supreme Court justice, such as Brigham Young University and University of Miami.

Still, five on his list went to Yale or

Harvard.

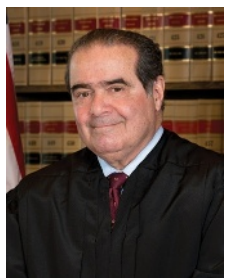
"There are 200 law schools in the United States, and many of them are better and less left wing than Harvard and Yale," said Steven G. Calabresi, a professor at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. "I hope President-elect Trump picks a new Supreme Court justice who went to some law school other than Harvard or Yale."



Calabresi said Trump's list was "truly superb," and not just because it includes an alum from his school. Calabresi is co-founder of The Federalist Society and a former clerk to Antonin Scalia.

"Anyone on that list would be great," Calabresi said. "I hope the president-elect reaches outside the beltway for a nominee, ideally to the Midwest, which has no representation on the current court."

## Antonin Scalia's name bumps up enrollment



When George Mason University announced it was naming its law school after the late Justice Antonin Scalia, many questioned the effect it would have on enrollment.

Turns out the

rebranding is paying off, perhaps because of the increased exposure. The 2016 entering class is both larger in size and higher in caliber than those of the past three years.

The fall 2016 class has 179 students, who have a median undergraduate GPA of 3.66 and a median LSAT score of 162. The 2015 entering class had 159 students with a median GPA of 3.59 and median LSAT of 161.

## Trump's short list for the Supreme Court

Keith Blackwell	University of Georgia School of Law
Charles Canady	Yale Law School
Steven Colloton	Yale Law School
Allison Eid	The University of Chicago Law School
Neil Gorsuch	Harvard Law School
Raymond Gruender	Washington University School of Law
Thomas Hardiman	Georgetown University Law Center
Raymond Kethledge	The University of Michigan Law School
Joan Larsen	Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law
Thomas Lee	The University of Chicago Law School
Mike Lee	Brigham Young University - J. Reuben Clark Law School
Edward Mansfield	Yale Law School
Federico Moreno	University of Miami School of Law
William Pryor	Tulane University Law School
Margaret Ryan	Notre Dame Law School
David Stras	The University of Kansas School of Law
Diane Sykes	Marquette University School of Law
Amul Thapar	University of California, Berkeley, School of Law
Timothy Tymkovich	University of Colorado Law School
Don Willett	Duke University School of Law
Robert Young	Harvard Law School

### Current Supreme Court Justices

Samuel Anthony	Yale Law School
Alito Jr.	
Stephen G. Breyer	Harvard Law School
Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Harvard Law School/ Columbia Law School
Elena Kagan	Harvard Law School
Anthony M. Kennedy	Harvard Law School
John G. Roberts	Harvard Law School
Sonia Sotomayor	Yale Law School
Clarence Thomas	Yale Law School

### BY THE NUMBERS

**50.8%**

The percentage of female law school applicants, though women obtain 57.1% of all college degrees.

Source: "The Leaky Pipeline for Women Entering the Legal Profession"

**16%**

How many more law school applications there would be if women applied at the same rate as men.

**\$15,000**

The bonus for Class of 2016 lawyers at Cravath Swaine & Moore this year. That's on top of a starting salary of \$180,000.

**43%**

The bar passage rate in California for the July 2016 exam. That's the lowest in 32 years.



# The death of Indiana Tech Law School

Indiana Tech Law School's future seemed doomed from the time it opened in 2013.

It was the state's fifth law school and the 26th in the Midwest. That's a lot for a region that has struggled economically. Plus, nationwide enrollment numbers were already beginning to decline.

The school had trouble attracting students. Its inaugural class had only 27 students, and seven transferred to other schools after Indiana Tech failed to gain accreditation from the American Bar Association (ABA) in 2015.

The ABA granted provisional accreditation in March 2016, allowing the remaining 20 students to take the bar exam. Of the 12 who sat for the bar exam this past summer, only two passed, for a pass rate of 16.7 percent. (Across Indiana, 508 people took the July bar exam, and the pass rate was 68 percent.)

That, it seems, was the final nail in the coffin. The school, whose current enrollment is 71, will close at the end of this school year.

"Our law school faculty and staff have made commendable efforts in serving our students," Indiana Tech President Arthur Snyder said in a statement. "Despite their many positive achievements, we have not seen enough of a corresponding increase in demand by prospective students to enable the school to continue in operation."

The school was losing nearly \$20 million a year and had already undergone leadership changes.

## Will other law schools close?

Robert Zemsky, a professor of education at University of Pennsylvania, said 10 to 15 law schools could close if the cur-



rent trend continues. Zemsky recently analyzed 171 law schools and found that enrollment dropped by 21 percent at private law schools and by 18 percent at public schools between 2011 and 2015.

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**Ranked 5th in nation in dispute resolution** by *U.S. News & World Report*

# Energy fuels dynamic legal career

BY RICHARD L. HERMANN

**E**nergy law has been a job-creating engine for 70 years, and it shows no signs of stopping.

The practice area deals with everything associated with exploration, development, distribution, pricing, regulation and litigation, and it is evolving to keep pace with the times.

Energy independence, oil price volatility, the revival of the nuclear industry, renewables, and climate change all affect energy law. It also touches other practice areas. For example, exploration and development often require the securing of surface and subsurface rights and oil and gas tracts via government auctions.



HERMANN

While employment in the area has had its ups and downs, the 21st century is different because of the expansion of sources and supplies, energy independence, growing global demand and new technology.

Since 2008, clean tech has seen more investment than fossil fuels. Solar energy is expected to grow by 600 percent between 2010 and 2020, and wind energy could increase by almost 300 percent. That growth is expected to continue. Meanwhile, dependence on oil and gas will remain, even when renewables become cost-competitive, because it will take years for the necessary renewable infrastructure to be built.

Fracking will continue despite its environmental impact. Nuclear industry legal hiring is up for the first time in a generation. Geothermal technology is making inroads in the heating of homes and other buildings.

The future for energy law is bright.

### Why energy law is hot

- 1. Attorney supply and demand.** With alternative energy fields expanding, the need for energy lawyers is currently trending up.
- 2. Number of opportunities.** Fracking, globalization and renewables have expanded job opportunities.
- 3. Sustainability.** Energy is one of life's essentials.
- 4. An upward curve.** Demand is also directly proportional to population growth.
- 5. Geographic scope.** Twenty states now have robust fossil fuel industries, and renewables are a nationwide phenomenon.
- 6. Relative ease of entry.** You can learn what you need to know from law school classes along with a certificate or comparable program to supplement your J.D. A few things that could make you a more attractive candidate include a master's degree in Energy Regulation and Law from Vermont Law School, the five-day International Nuclear Law Essentials course from OECD Nuclear Energy Agency, a free online energy seminar from Stanford University and an online Graduate Renewable Energy Certificate from University of Nevada, Reno.
- 7. Ever-changing.** Energy law keeps throwing new issues at practitioners, such as new drilling technologies and the unleashing of oil exports.

**8. Distinctive value proposition.** If you understand the industry and its legal structure, you bring value to an employer. Both generalists and specialists thrive.

**9. Threat analysis.** There is no danger of artificial intelligence replacing energy lawyers. Too much judgment is involved, grounded in experience that cannot be "binaried." Fossil fuel lawyers should be wary of renewables. Coal industry attorneys are under siege.

**10. Compensation.** Energy attorneys are well paid, as are those in J.D.-advantage jobs. These jobs are found primarily where shale oil and gas reserves are abundant (North Dakota, Texas, Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and West Virginia). Jobs in renewable energy, especially wind and solar, include compliance enforcement analyst, energy regulatory affairs professional, landman (oil and gas) and mineral appeals analyst.



### Who hires?

Almost every major law firm has an energy practice. Smaller firms and sole practitioners also find energy practice attractive. Boutique firms in this field are growing rapidly.

Of course, energy companies, which number in the thousands, also have legal jobs.

Government practice focuses on regulation and industry "stimulation." More than 80 federal law offices practice energy law. Also, every state has at least one energy regulatory agency, plus a utility commission.

A large number of energy trade and professional associations employ attorneys in their law and government affairs departments.

Energy advocacy and public interest organizations have law departments. Almost all have an environmental bent.

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*Richard Hermann's new 21st Century Legal Careers series analyzes the hottest jobs and careers for law grads. Each booklet covers: why the field is hot; the work; who hires; where jobs are located; positioning yourself for success; future prospects; and more. The series is available at [www.nalp.org/bookstore](http://www.nalp.org/bookstore).*

# Cover letter tips

You've perfected your resume and may even have multiple versions, depending on the jobs you're applying for. But, you can't (at least, you really shouldn't) send the same cover letter to each employer. It has to be personalized. What makes you a good fit for that particular position? What skills will you bring to the company or organization? This is your chance to introduce yourself and provide specific examples from your previous jobs.

law students. Hillary Mantis is director of the pre-law advising program at Fordham University and author of "Alternative Careers for Lawyers." Richard Hermann is the author of nine books, including "Managing Your Legal Career." We also invited Cliff Jarrett, assistant dean in the Office of Career Strategy at Washington and Lee University School of Law. The school was recognized earlier this year for its efforts to improve the employment rates of its graduates.

We asked job-search experts to critique real cover letters from

**Callout 1 (Top Left):** No need to repeat the full name in the salutation, Jarrett said. Mr. Last Name is fine. Mantis said it's always best to do research so you can address your letter to a specific person, but if you cannot, Hermann suggests using "Dear Sir or Madam" instead of "To Whom It May Concern."

**Callout 2 (Top Right):** Be concise. You can just say, "I am applying..." Or, consider structuring the first paragraph like this: "I am a second-year student at [name of school] seeking a Summer 2017 internship with [name of company]. My extensive professional experience and legal and accounting education make me an excellent fit for your company." — Hermann

**Callout 3 (Middle Left):** Rather than using your cover letter to restate information in your resume, elaborate on one or two experiences. Share specific examples of something you did, and explain how that makes you a good fit for this particular job. For instance, what were some of the "intellectual property matters" you worked on? Also, try to tie your experience into what the employer does. —Jarrett

**Callout 4 (Middle Right):** Use the active voice. Strengthen your statements by saying "I research" rather than "I assist in researching." — Hermann

**Callout 5 (Bottom Left):** Use the first sentence of each paragraph to introduce the experiences or skills you're about to discuss. — Jarrett

**Callout 6 (Bottom Middle):** This sounds a little impersonal. Hermann and Jarrett suggest trying "your legal team" or "your organization."

**Callout 7 (Bottom Right):** Proofread carefully. The first sentence in the second paragraph is missing key information. — Hermann

**Callout 8 (Bottom Far Right):** Break long paragraphs into shorter ones. Remember that employers are reading a lot of cover letters. Dense text may make it harder for them to focus on your skills. — Mantis

**Callout 9 (Bottom Far Left):** It's not necessary to write "Enclosures" after the signature. — Mantis

**Sample Cover Letter Text:**  
 21, 2016  
 Stephen T. Freeland  
 Assistant General Counsel  
 PrimeLending, a PlainsCapital Company  
 1000 Ross Road Suite 900 Dallas, TX 75252  
 Re: Summer 2017 Intern  
 Dear Mr. Stephen T. Freeland,  
 I am a second-year student at SMU Dedman School of Law, and I write to bid for an opportunity to interview for a position as a summer intern for the summer of 2017. I know that my extensive professional experience and legal education would make me an excellent fit within the PrimeLending.  
 Currently, as an intern with the Dallas Community Prosecutor, I assist in researching public actions and work with city code officials in determining the best method to current residential discrepancies. I also currently volunteer with Advocates for Community Transformation where I am responsible for managing case files and using my discovery skills to improve the safety of residents in our targeted neighborhoods within west Dallas. During the summer of 2016, I was a safety intern uploading personnel data into a training database and researching health and safety work practices with the Army Corps of Engineers. During the summer of 2015, as a 1L intern with Hewlett-Packard Company, I was exposed to e-filing pro bono cases, drafting subpoenas, and a wide array of intellectual property matters. I feel that my extensive work product proves that I could be a valued asset to the excellence that PrimeLending strives for.  
 Before HP, I was able to develop my leadership skills and cultural awareness while in the US Navy. That experience helped me learn how to take my directives and apply whatever means I had to ensure my tasks were completed in a timely and safe manner. Previously, as an accounting major at Florida A & M University, I developed my accounting skills and attention to detail. I know the importance of developing a precise work product. I would love the opportunity to continue to grow my legal knowledge within your organization. I know the value of hard work, and my willingness to dedicate my time toward becoming excellent would make me an instant addition to the staff within PrimeLending.  
 Enclosed please find my resume, transcript, and writing sample for your review. Thank you, in advance, for your time and consideration.  
 Sincerely,  
 [Signature]  
 Enclosures



# 4 ways to make your resume stand out

BY HILLARY MANTIS

**W**hether you are a first-year or a third-year, you want to find ways to be competitive in the job market. How do you attract attention — particularly using your resume, which is what potential employers see first? Once you have created a good, all-purpose resume, it's time to be strategic and think of ways to make it really stand out. Here are four ideas:

**1. Don't use the same resume for every job listing.** Craft several versions of your basic resume so you can show more specialized experience when applying for certain jobs. Law students typically have one basic resume — and it may be good, but it is not specialized. Take a page from practicing lawyers, who often use different versions of their resumes. You can create a specialized resume for a particular practice area, for example, by including all of your law school coursework that was in that practice area.

**2. Don't use one heading for all of your experience.** You don't have to list all of your jobs and internships under the generic "Experience" heading. You can break your experience into more than

one heading to emphasize particular practice areas. For example, if you are looking for a position in entertainment law, you can break your experience into "Entertainment Law Experience" and "Additional Legal Experience." This lets a potential employer focus on your entertainment law experience. It also allows you to go out of chronological order and bring your entertainment law experience to the top.

**3. Don't present every position the same way.** Your resume should emphasize your most relevant experience, so put the focus on those specific positions by writing more detailed descriptions for them. I have seen a lot of resumes in which the student gave each and every job the same amount of space, whether the job was recent or five years ago, relevant or not. Focus on the jobs you have held that are most relevant to the position you are applying for now. Give them more space and more bullet points so the employer can really focus on those experiences.

**4. Use a "Professional Affiliation" section to build experience.** What if you want to go into entertainment law but don't have any experience in it? Join the bar association's student entertainment law committees. You can list the committees and any projects you are working on under a separate section toward the bottom of your resume titled "Professional Affiliations." Practicing lawyers will often do this to list bar association committees, professional affiliations, boards they are on, professional activities and pro bono work. Even though you are a student, you can use this method too. It will help compensate for a lack of paid experience or coursework in a particular area.

**Remember:** Whatever you choose to focus on when you write your resume is what the employer will focus on when he or she reads it.

---

**Hillary Mantis** consults with law students, pre-law students and lawyers about career and admissions issues. She is director of the pre-law program at Fordham University and author of "Alternative Careers for Lawyers."

## Alternative legal career ideas

People ask me this question all the time: What are the most popular alternative legal careers? While the list of potential careers is endless, a few come to mind that fit well with the times we live in.

**Web design and technical support for law firms:** Law firms are businesses, and businesses need to market themselves. For every smart-looking website that attracts new clients, there is a person behind the scenes who designed it. And who would know best how to describe a firm than a lawyer — especially one who is good with technology and familiar with how law firms work.

**Post-election jobs in federal government:** Are you interested in politics and government? There's a new president in town, and we've already seen a lot of turnover in the federal government. People leave, and new people come in. Not just in Washington, but in federal government jobs all over the country. For lawyers, this can mean opportunities in both traditional legal jobs and quasi-legal positions. Keep your eyes open for new openings for staff members and internship opportunities.

**Non-legal professional positions in law firms:** In this competitive market, firms increasingly need to compete to garner the top clients and the best lawyers. They need qualified administrators to help achieve their goals. Legal recruiting, legal marketing and professional development departments often hire lawyers as administrators. It's the best of both worlds: You can work in a law firm, with top lawyers, but not have to deal with billable hours. For the right person, it can be a great fit.



# Externships for pay and credit

Since the ABA lifted a ban on students receiving academic credit for paid externships, some schools are allowing pay and others are considering it.

BY KATIE THISDELL

**T**his fall, 10 lucky students at University of Denver Sturm College of Law got paychecks for externships — as well as academic credit.

More than 38 students will take home both pay and credit this spring.

Wait! How can that be?

The American Bar Association lifted its long-standing ban this past summer and said schools could decide whether to allow both payment and academic credit for externships.

University of Denver was one of the first schools to change its policy. Since the ABA decision came after years of debate, the school's clinical education team, knowing it wanted to put students first, was already prepared to handle the change.

"It's so new, but I think the financial debt of law school is real and quite crippling," said Alexi Freeman, director of externships and public interest initiatives at University of Denver. "We want students to be able to chip away at that debt if they can, and maybe a paid externship can help. I feel good [that] we can contribute to that, provided the academic requirement is still as robust."

The school already had a strong academic structure in place for externships, she said, so the addition of compensation only required a few policy changes.

Other schools that have decided to allow paid externships include Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law; University of Toledo College of Law; and Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. A new policy is in the works at University of Cincinnati College of Law as well, provided the externship meets other academic requirements.

The vast majority of law schools are examining the issue, but most say it will be spring before anything is decided. Some are forming committees to study the



issue, while others must bring the change to a faculty vote.

A survey by one professor showed that just over half of the 97 responding schools were currently studying the issue. Seven percent of those surveyed had decided not to permit credit for paid externships, while 3 percent said they will permit it.

"Lifting the ban was a great idea because it enables each law school to consider the advantages and disadvantages for their students," said Nancy Staudt, dean at Washington University School of Law. "[We] will certainly consider this new opportunity, but we will not make a decision until we have explored all the nuances of a policy change."

University of California Davis School of Law does not currently allow students to receive both pay and credit, but administrators say a change hasn't been ruled out.

"We understand the importance of the issue to students," said Hollis Kulwin, senior assistant dean for student affairs. "We also want to ensure that the edu-

cational goals of an externship are not diluted by inserting an employer-employee relationship into what traditionally has been a teaching and mentoring relationship."

She said the school will review the issues with students, faculty and onsite placement supervisors, "with an eye to possibly revising our policy later on."

Freeman said University of Denver vets externship supervisors to make sure ABA requirements will be met. Last year, the school placed 343 students in more than 400 externships, working with 246 attorneys.

Of the 10 University of Denver students who were in paid and for-credit externships this fall, four worked in the public sector and six worked in the private sector.

School officials believe the number of paid externships will increase in the future. The school does not determine how, or how much, students are paid. Compensation may be in the form of a stipend, an hourly wage or a grant.

# A road map to career success

A new book's step-by-step instructions take a holistic and moralistic approach to job hunting, helping students match their skills to employer needs.

BY LORI TRIPOLI

Law professors didn't used to think much about the job market. When it came to interviewing, networking and landing a job, students were on their own, with maybe a little help from the school's career services office.

But then the market crashed, law firms cut positions and employment prospects fell. Law school graduates were left bewildered, and schools began to re-examine the role of the law professor.

Neil W. Hamilton, a professor at University of St. Thomas School of Law – Minneapolis, was interim dean in 2012.

“When you get a surprise as big as what happened in that period, it was a great time to reflect on my whole model of legal education,” Hamilton said. “There are many students whom I can help toward their goal of meaningful employment, and I want to help them.”

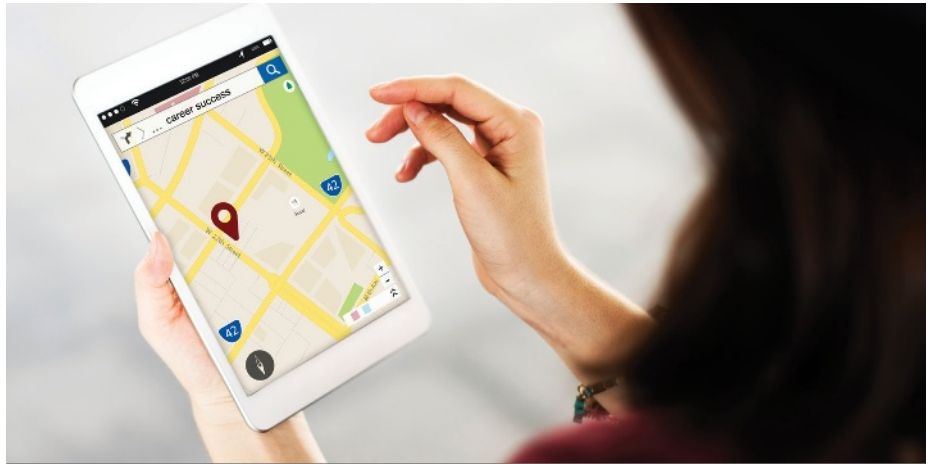
To do that, Hamilton has written “Roadmap: The Law Student’s Guide to Preparing and Implementing a Successful Plan for Meaningful Employment,” a 2015 recipient of the American Bar Association’s E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award.

The book presents a plan for students — starting in their first year of law school — to identify employment options and gain the skills employers want.

Hamilton merged the book into University of St. Thomas’ curriculum. Thanks to this and a strong effort by staff in the career and professional development department, the school’s weighted employment rate rose from 65 percent in 2013 to 78 percent for the Class of 2015.

Those results have spurred several other law schools to incorporate career planning into their curriculum.

“It provided me the tools necessary to build a pathway to a career after graduating,” one St. Thomas Law grad wrote in an Amazon review, referencing both the book and Hamilton’s course. “In addition to landing a job in health care compliance



### 1L Spring Semester

- Complete a Roadmap Template: [ambar.org/roadmap](http://ambar.org/roadmap).
- Forge a relationship with a professor who can write letters of recommendation.
- Run for an executive position of an on-campus organization.

### 2L Spring Semester

- Revisit your Roadmap.
- Check in with your school’s career and professional development office.
- Set milestones for how many new contacts to make each semester.
- Apply for summer positions.

after graduation using my road map, I used it as a foundation for discussion with my supervisor upon my first promotion.”

Hamilton, co-director of the Holloran Center for Ethical Leadership in the Professions, said that getting an early start on thinking about and pursuing career goals can help students’ morale immensely.

Many students are disappointed by low grades in their first semester. Others struggle with low initiative, little experience, undeveloped interviewing skills, or a combination of all. These are not reasons to quit; they’re reasons to get going, he said.

Hamilton said first-semester law students should take concrete steps toward developing their future careers. To get a meaningful, long-term law job, Hamilton says you have to differentiate yourself.

“What unique strengths and skills do you have that will help your most promising legal employers and clients be more successful?” Hamilton asks in the book.

Hamilton outlines six major components: 1) Define a value proposition before beginning; 2) perform a self-evaluation; 3) explore potential areas of employment; 4) define a value proposition for the most promising employment options; 5) plan remaining time in law school; and 6) communicate your value. None of these are done overnight, however. Each is a process.

For example, second-years should be implementing their networking plans and setting benchmarks for how many new contacts to make each semester. Third-years should update their networking plans, apply for the bar exam, and meet with a career adviser.

The book also focuses on how to develop the competencies one needs to stand out in the job market. For instance, Hamilton focuses on the importance of trustworthiness and how it can help build lasting professional relationships.

Danny DeWalt, associate dean for



administration at Pepperdine University School of Law, said his school used the book and its self-awareness and strengths assessments in a pilot program. It was so successful that it's being built into the school's professional formation program.

"Even students who thought they knew what they wanted to do after law school found the process meaningful in confirming or changing their direction," DeWalt wrote in an Amazon recommendation.

## A holistic legal education

Pepperdine University and University of St. Thomas are not the only schools to adopt the book and its approach.

Regent University School of Law is also taking a more holistic approach to legal education and is using "Roadmap" as part of its focus on professional identity.

Students in the spring semester of their first year will take a one-credit, pass-fail course on foundations of practice, said L.O. Natt Gantt II, associate dean of instructional and curricular affairs and co-director of the Center for Ethical Formation and Legal Education Reform.

"We're excited about the opportunity to use the road map, but also to have a course like this where we can educate students not just on black-letter law and practical skills but on professional development skills," Gantt said.

The course designers wanted to "expose students to some of the literature on why it is important to take moral development seriously," he said. Regent, like University of St. Thomas and Pepperdine, is a religiously affiliated school.

In the second part of the course, students focus on character and moral development and what they mean to professional development. Full-time faculty serve as mentors to help students develop their individual road maps.

Gantt said he will track his school's efforts to determine whether they enhance employment prospects. He will not just be looking at whether graduates are employed as lawyers. He is hoping they will find careers that are in alignment with their passions and interests.

This past fall, Texas A&M University School of Law rolled out a full-year course for first-years on professional identity. Focusing on character, values, judg-

ment, resilience and the like, students are assigned the "Roadmap" book along with other readings, said Vice Dean Aric Short.

Students contemplate what they might want to accomplish in a law practice and

identify skills they will need.

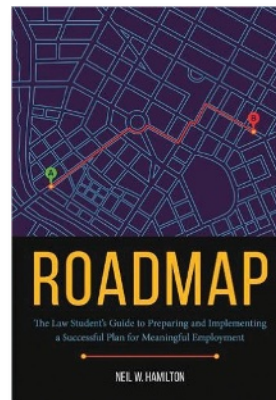
"We see the development of students including not just the hard skills of lawyering but also ... a strong moral core," Short said.

## Roadmap steps to demonstrate professional development

BY NEIL HAMILTON

### A. ASSESSMENT OF YOURSELF

1. What are your strengths?
2. What are the characteristics of past work/service experience where you have found the most meaning and positive energy? Are there particular groups of people whom you have served where you have drawn the most positive energy in helping them? What specific strengths and competencies were you using?
3. How do you self-assess your trustworthiness? How do others who know your past work assess it?
4. Looking at the competencies that clients and legal employers want, how do you self-assess what are your strongest competencies? How do others who know your past work/service assess these?
5. How do your strengths from Question 1 and strongest competencies from Question 4 match up with the competencies that legal employers and clients want?
6. Think creatively about the changing legal market and possible entrepreneurial responses to those changes. Could you demonstrate some innovative ideas and differentiating competencies to help potential employers and clients to be more successful in this changing legal market?



### B. ASSESSMENT OF YOUR MOST PROMISING OPTIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT

7. Can you create a list of the most promising options for employment where you see the best match among your strengths, the characteristics of past work that have given you the most positive energy, and the com-

petencies that legal employers want?

8. What is your value proposition to demonstrate to these potential employers that you can add value beyond the standard technical legal skills to help clients and the employer be more successful?

### C. YOUR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

9. How do you plan to use your remaining time in law school to gain good experience at your most promising options for meaningful employment so that you can confirm or eliminate (or add to) your list of most promising employment options? What metrics will you create to assess whether you are implementing your plan?
10. How do you plan to use your remaining time in law school, including the curriculum and all the other experiences, most effectively to develop the competencies that support your value proposition?
11. What evidence are you collecting to demonstrate to potential employers your development at your differentiating competencies? What evidence do you want to develop going forward?
12. How do you plan to develop long-term relationships based on trust with other lawyers, particularly senior lawyers and judges who can give feedback on your employment plan, help you with experiences to implement it, and help provide evidence that you have developed a competency?
13. What is your biggest fear or roadblock holding you back?

### D. PERSUASIVE COMMUNICATION

14. How will you most effectively communicate your value to potential employers?

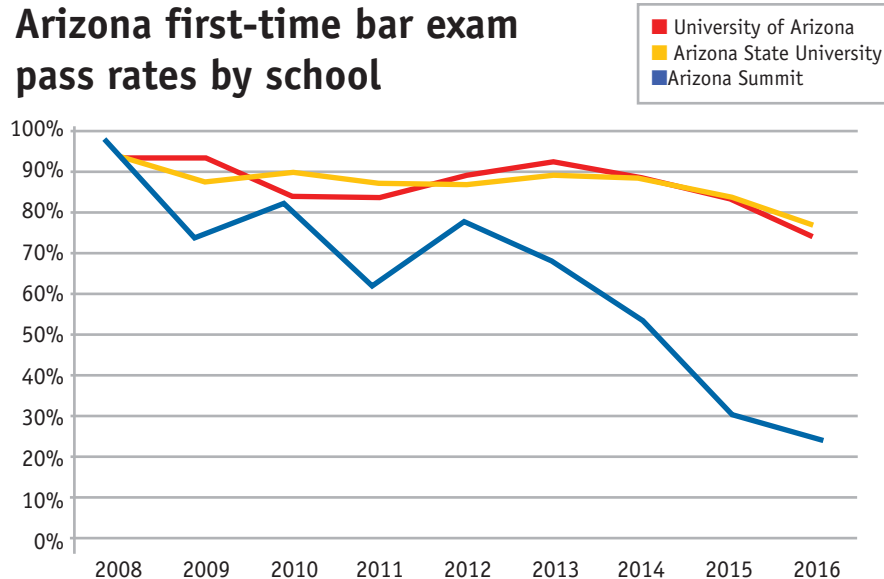
*Excerpt edited for space constraints.*

# Arizona Summit's epic challenge

The for-profit law school has been under intense criticism for its 25 percent bar passage rate. But, the school says it is taking action to improve that number while helping more minorities become lawyers. **BY MIKE STETZ**



## Arizona first-time bar exam pass rates by school



Source: State of Arizona Committee on Examinations

**A**rizona Summit Law School may well be the epicenter of a growing debate regarding bar passage rates and minorities. It is one of the most diverse law schools in the nation, but it struggles with one of the worst bar passage rates.

In October, students and faculty at Arizona Summit had to face a stark reality: Less than 25 percent of the Class of 2016 had passed the July state bar exam.

As shocking as that figure was, it was the second year in a row that the school had recorded a passage rate below 31 percent on the Arizona exam.

While most law schools have reported declining passage rates during the past three years, Arizona Summit's fall is perhaps the most dramatic in the nation. Just eight years ago, it reported a 96.7 percent passage rate on the Arizona exam, highest in the state. By 2013, that figure had dropped to 67.7 percent. The wheels came off the cart in July 2015, when its passage rate plummeted to 30.6 percent.

"We own our first-time bar results,"

said Shirley Mays, dean at the Phoenix law school. "They are low."

Arizona Summit is not sitting idly by, hoping the numbers improve on their own. It is taking decisive action, including instituting a mock bar exam that students must pass to be eligible for graduation. And Mays said 76 percent of graduates pass the bar exam within a five-year period; that figure is likely based on older data.

The American Bar Association (ABA) requires the ultimate bar passage rate for any school to be 75 percent, a standard that Arizona Summit is meeting. But, it also requires that the first-time rate be within 15 percent of the state average, and that's where Arizona Summit is falling short. It is 40 points below the average.

The dismal showing for first-time takers has fueled criticism of the 10-year-old school, one of three for-profits law schools owned by The InfiLaw System. InfiLaw's other schools — Charlotte School of Law and Florida Coastal School of Law

— have also seen passage rates drop. The ABA placed Charlotte on probation in November, in part because of its poor pass rates.

Charlotte peaked at 84 percent for the Class of 2010, but its pass rate has dropped for each class since then. The Class of 2014 saw a passage rate of 57.93 percent. Only 35 percent of its graduates passed the Winter 2016 exam, and 45.2 percent passed in July.

The downward spiral for these schools is happening, in part, because the schools are accepting more at-risk students. Arizona Summit and Charlotte reported a median LSAT of 151 in 2009, and Florida Coastal had a 150. Five years later, those scores had fallen to 144 for Arizona Summit, 142 for Charlotte School of Law and 143 for Florida Coastal.

"The admissions process at the InfiLaw schools is now close to a fully open-enrollment system," Paul Campos, a professor at University of Colorado Law School and a

harsh critic of legal education, wrote in *The Atlantic* magazine in 2015.

Only four other law schools in the U.S. have incoming LSAT averages of 144 or lower. One of them, Ave Maria School of Law, was recently found to be out of compliance with ABA standards. Two of the other schools — Southern University Law Center and North Carolina Central University School of Law — are historically black colleges.

Arizona Summit believes its challenges are similar to those schools, which cater to minorities. Lower LSAT scores alone can't explain its low bar passage rates. A study by *The National Jurist* shows that, based on LSAT scores alone, it should have had a 58 percent passage rate this year. Instead, less than 25 percent of the Class of 2016 passed.

But Arizona Summit has a tradition of offering legal education opportunities to minorities who would not be able to get into traditional law schools, said Donald



**Donald Lively**, Arizona Summit's president, said plans are progressing for the school's affiliation with a larger institution, which could also provide financial support.

Lively, the school's president.

Law remains the least diverse of all white-collar professions, he said. According to U.S. Census figures, 81 percent of those

in law are white.

While the nation is becoming more diverse, with nearly 40 percent of the population made up of minorities, the legal field isn't matching that demographic trend, Lively said.

Law schools shy away from taking a significant number of minorities because they fear it will hurt their rankings, he said. Minorities, particularly blacks and Hispanics, don't do as well on key tests, such as the LSAT.

Only 12 percent of African-Americans achieve an LSAT score of 153, which is the median for whites.

"Many are in catch-up mode," Lively said of minority students. They may have come from underprivileged backgrounds and endured sub-standard education as children and young adults.

If not for schools such as Arizona Summit, people of color would be shut out of law school, he said.

"If fulfilling our mission of helping to



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“If fulfilling our mission of helping to diversify the legal profession in Arizona and elsewhere requires an extra semester of support for some students — at no additional tuition or fees and with significant support and investment from Arizona Summit — then so be it.”

—SHIRLEY MAYS,  
DEAN, ARIZONA SUMMIT

diversify the legal profession in Arizona and elsewhere requires an extra semester of support for some students — at no additional tuition or fees and with significant support and investment from Arizona Summit — then so be it,” Mays told the ABA Journal in August.

Arizona Summit is the most diverse law school in the nation, as ranked by pre-Law magazine, a sister publication of The National Jurist. It reports that 45.5 percent of its students are minorities.

Kyle McEntee, founder of the legal education watchdog group Law School Transparency, doesn't buy Lively's argument.

“They do not diversify the profession when they enroll students who do not pass the bar exam,” McEntee said.

Yes, society needs more minorities to become lawyers, he said, adding that there are plenty of qualified students out there; they're just choosing other professions.

“This largely has to do with price,” McEntee said, noting the high cost of law school tuition.

Arizona Summit's full-time tuition is \$45,354, about \$20,000 more than Arizona's two state schools — The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University and The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law.

Arizona Summit maintains that it accepts only students it believes will succeed. Yes, the school is taking less-qualified students compared to many other law schools, but it puts time and energy into

helping them overcome their educational hurdles.

Mays noted that many of her students face other challenges as well. They may be heads of households or single parents. They may have more time constraints than other students. That means they can't prepare for the bar as effectively as others.

While these students face more challenges, most — 75 to 80 percent — eventually pass the bar exam, and the school's student loan default rate is 1.2 percent, meaning the graduates are paying off their debts.

“It's a superior rate,” Mays said.

The larger challenge for Arizona Summit may be its close proximity to Arizona State University, which is just three blocks away.

Arizona State is on something of a roll. It moved to its new \$129 million law school building in downtown Phoenix at the start of this academic year; it has a higher median LSAT than it did in 2009; and it continues to rise in U.S. News & World Report's annual rankings. It currently is 25th in the nation.

All of that has acted as a magnet for Arizona Summit's best students.

“ASU is the No. 1 poacher of our students,” Mays said.

Forty-seven — about 15 percent of Arizona Summit's first-year class — transferred to Arizona State in 2015. The year before, 44 made the move.

Those students represent the students who are most likely to pass the bar exam.

For Arizona State University, it's not that risky. They get students who are likely to

pass the bar exam and those students' LSAT numbers don't count toward the U.S. News & World Report ranking.

Douglas Sylvester, dean at Arizona State, said his school does not recruit Arizona Summit students.

“We take far fewer than apply,” he said. “Students go there [to Arizona Summit] looking to leave. That's not a good model. If they gave them a good reason to stay, they would stay.”

Arizona State University has seen a drop in its bar passage rate as well, from 92 percent in 2013 to 76.8 percent in 2016. Sylvester said the school is investigating why. He said one possibility is that Arizona law schools went to a Uniform Bar Exam two years ago.

But other states, including New York, have seen bar passage rates rise since they adopted the UBE.

Arizona Summit, meanwhile, is looking to affiliate with a larger institution, which could help. Having another avenue of financial support would be a positive. Lively said plans are progressing but gave no details.

And, Charlotte School of Law is taking action to improve its situation.

“We are extremely disappointed over the news,” Jay Conison, dean of the school, told The Charlotte Observer. “We have an obligation to make some improvements. And we have a very, very comprehensive plan that we are very confident in.”

Conison predicted the school would be back in ABA compliance within two years.

# Best schools for moot court

We look at schools that have excelled in moot court competition since the Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship began tracking them seven years ago. **BY LORI TRIPOLI**

**P**erforming well in court takes smarts, skills, dedication and perseverance. But it doesn't require a high LSAT score or a degree from an Ivy League law school. Just ask the schools that consistently take home moot court honors.

"I constantly tell my students, 'We don't beat other schools because we're better or smarter than they are,'" said Robert Sherwin, director of advocacy programs at Texas Tech University School

of Law in Lubbock. "We beat them because we work harder. That's really the secret. We just out-work and out-hustle everybody else."

Texas Tech is one of only five schools whose moot court programs have been ranked in the top 16 every year since 2011 by University of Houston Law Center's Blakely Advocacy Institute.

Every year, the institute identifies the top schools using a scoring method that assesses the quality of the competitions a school participated in, the size of the competitions, and the school's performance in those competitions. The institute then invites the top 16 from the prior year to participate in what it calls "the best of the best" — the Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship. Last year, Georgetown

University Law Center won the competition.

Texas Tech University School of Law is ranked first going into the January 2017 competition. It has never entered the competition ranked below eighth. But three other law schools outpace Texas Tech when it comes to performance during the past five years.

South Texas College of Law Houston has garnered more points than any other school during the past five years, placing it first. It is followed by University of California Hastings College of the Law and Florida Coastal School of Law.

Only two schools in the moot court top 20 — Georgetown University Law Center and Columbia University — are ranked high by U.S. News & World Report. But while a good litigator can

come from almost any law school, it takes a school that invests in moot court programs and experiential education to do well in moot court.

"I arrived at the law school in 2008, and in the first few years we probably increased our budget by 65 to 75 percent," Texas Tech's Sherwin said. "Since then, we've maintained it even though our student body size has dropped. I think that's a real testament to our dean, who recognizes that our program is one of the crown jewels of our law school and something that our students and alumni value."

The fact that few prestigious schools appear on the list does not surprise Antony Kolenc, faculty

## Best moot courts of this decade

Using data from University of Houston Law Center, National Jurist analyzed seven years of scores and rankings, starting with 2009-2010. The Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship is held each January.

1	South Texas Houston
2	UC Hastings
3	Florida Coastal School of Law
4	Texas Tech Law
5	Georgetown University
6	Stetson University
7	Chicago-Kent College of Law
8	Loyola University Chicago
9	Seton Hall University
10	Baylor University
11	George Washington University
12	University of Georgia
13	Columbia Law School
14	University of Miami
15	Pepperdine University
16	Michigan State University
17	University of Houston Law Center
18	University of Oklahoma College of Law
19	New York University School of Law
20	Mississippi College School of Law



**Practice makes perfect.** Darnesha Carter and fellow Stetson University students practice for a moot court competition. The school placed first in the 2015 Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship.

adviser on moot court at Florida Coastal School of Law, which has placed in the Top 16 for seven years running, including two consecutive first-place rankings.

“We have always focused on being practice ready,” he said of the law school’s educational approach.

Florida Coastal has invested more in its moot court program in the past decade, and students have competed in more competitions in the past five years than they did previously.

Having students with a passion for moot court helps.

“Advocacy is addictive,” said T. Gerald Treece, vice president and associate dean at South Texas College of Law Houston. The school has been in the top five for six of the past seven years.

Indeed, what litigator hasn’t relished the adrenaline rush associated with a court appearance?

But slow down.

“A student needs to pound away at the books before they start doing this,” Treece said. “Nobody gets into varsity moot court until they go through the



Texas Tech Law



Stetson University

## Top 16 moot courts of 2015-16

The top 16 moot court teams are invited to the 2017 Andrews Kurth Moot Court National Championship in January. Washington University will be replaced by University of Georgia School of Law, ranked 17.

1	Texas Tech Law
2	Chicago-Kent College of Law
3	Stetson University
4	Georgetown University
5	Regent University
6	SMU Dedman School of Law
7	South Texas Houston
8	UC Hastings
9	Liberty University School of Law
10	St. Mary’s University School of Law
11	Michigan State University
12	Ohio State University
13	Baylor University
14	University of Oklahoma
15	Florida Coastal School of Law
16	Washington University

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\* *apply by:* **MARCH 31**



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW



appellate advocacy class.”

Moot court competitions are also not for the faint of heart.

“My wife doesn’t understand why I am so mean to these students in moot court practice,” said Treece, sounding ever so slightly like the intimidating professor Charles Kingsfield in “The Paper Chase.” Of course, he is just playacting the angry judge role.

“Our theory is, if you can handle our intense scrutiny, you can handle a client’s case,” he said.

In a very competitive hiring landscape, students who perform well in moot court may get noticed by prospective employers.

“The general consensus of hiring partners at law firms is that moot court is a valuable experience and a great teacher for research and writing,” said Jim Lawrence, director of the Blakely Advocacy Institute.

In one moot court, a Florida Coastal School of Law competitor made such a good impression that a judge handed her his card and volunteered to provide her with a recommendation should she need one.

Students at Stetson University also have used the program to launch their careers.

“When I was a student, I competed in Belgium, Vienna and all over the world, and probably argued no less than 40 times in front of everyone from practicing attorneys to actual federal and appellate court judges,” said Jason Stearns, who graduated from Stetson in 2008.

Today, Stearns is a complex commercial litigation attorney in Tampa, Fla. He volunteers to coach students and prepare them for competitions.

Florida Coastal School of Law’s Kolenc said a background in moot court helps lawyers even if they never go to court.

“As lawyers, students are going to be put on the spot to have to give an answer, whether in front of partners, in a courtroom or at a mediation,” he said. “I view moot court as a place where the students, more than they might get in a regular law class, learn how to be advocates, learn how to think like lawyers, learn how judges think, learn how to argue both sides of an issue, and learn advanced research skills with the amount of practicing they do.”

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- |  |  |
|--|--|
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| CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW              | STETSON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW                  |
| FLORIDA COASTAL SCHOOL OF LAW            | TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW                |
| GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER         | THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY OF MORITZ COLLEGE OF LAW |
| LIBERTY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW         | UC HASTINGS COLLEGE OF LAW                         |
| MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW | UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA SCHOOL OF LAW                |
| REGENT UNIVERSITY                        | UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA COLLEGE OF LAW              |
| SMU DEDMAN SCHOOL OF LAW                 |  |
| SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE OF LAW HOUSTON       |  |

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# Most influential people in legal education 2016

BY KATIE THISDELL



The past few years have been quite a time for law schools.

They've offered buyouts to tenured faculty as student body sizes have continued to shrink. Bar passage rates are dropping, and jobs are hard to come by in some areas of the country.

But, there's also been lots of innovation as law schools try to survive the shake-ups and reinvent themselves. The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law's experiment to accept GRE scores to broaden the applicant pool could change the application pro-

cess. Georgetown University Law Center's low bono clinic is providing jobs for graduates and helping a segment of the population that's been priced out of legal assistance in the past. Schools are also increasing diversity, putting more resources into bar preparation, and launching incubators.

This year's list of the Most Influential People in Legal Education recognizes leaders who are shaping the future of law schools. They've pushed for more practical training, lowered debt and improved employment numbers.

As in years past, we sought nomina-

tions from U.S. law schools, narrowed the list to 46 names and then asked the law dean and one randomly selected faculty member from each school to rate the influence of the nominees.

Six new faces join our list this year; three of them are new to their positions. They replace some long-time stalwarts, including Claudio Grossman, who stepped down as dean of American University Washington College of Law after a 21-year run, and David Yellen, who stepped down as dean of Loyola University Chicago School of Law to be president of Marist College.

■ **Eugene Volokh** is a nationally recognized First Amendment scholar who is frequently cited by the federal judiciary.

But the UCLA Law professor is best known for The Volokh Conspiracy, a popular blog carried by the Washington Post since 2014. The blog gets more than 22,000 unique visitors per weekday and has been cited in U.S. Supreme Court rulings. Volokh wrote one of the first constitutional challenges to the Affordable Care Act on his blog.

Los Angeles Magazine wrote about his global influence last year: "Although he describes himself as 'a libertarianish conservative or a conservativish libertarian,' Volokh rarely toes any party lines. He was one of the legal architects of Proposition 209, which changed the state constitution to eradicate affirmative action in 1996, yet he's also a robust free-speech advocate who supports the right to burn the American flag. He's an atheist who agreed with the Supreme Court's decision to allow Hobby Lobby to refuse, on religious grounds, to pay for its employees' contraceptives. He supports same-sex marriage. He's skeptical of gun control."

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  | <b>1. Erwin Chemerinsky</b><br>Dean, University of California, Irvine School of Law                              |
|  | <b>2. Kelye Testy</b><br>Dean, University of Washington School of Law  |
|  | <b>3. Paul Caron</b><br>Professor, Pepperdine University School of Law   |
|  | <b>4. William Henderson</b><br>Professor, Indiana University Maurer School of Law - Bloomington                  |
|  | <b>5. Brian Leiter</b><br>Professor, The University of Chicago Law School  |
|  | <b>6. Blake Morant</b><br>Dean, The George Washington University Law School                                      |
|  | <b>7. Eugene Volokh</b><br>Professor, UCLA School of Law   |
|  | <b>8. Marc Miller</b><br>Dean, University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law                              |
|  | <b>9. Michael Hunter Schwartz</b><br>Dean, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, William H. Bowen School of Law |
|  | <b>10. JoAnne Epps</b><br>Dean, Temple University - James E. Beasley School of Law                               |

■ Could the GRE increase the applicant pool? That's what **Marc Miller** and Arizona Law hoped when they allowed this year's entering students to submit GRE scores in lieu of LSAT scores. The law school was the first in the country to accept the GRE.

The American Bar Association (ABA) says law schools must use a standardized test that "is a valid and reliable admission test" to select students. Miller has said the test doesn't need to be the LSAT, which is offered only four times a year and only on paper.

This is a move that could shape the future of law school admissions. About 150 law school deans wrote in a letter to the Law School Admission Council: "Experimentation benefits all of us. We all expect to learn from The University of Arizona's experiment."

Twelve students enrolled this fall based on their GREs, and now more schools are interested in opening up the admissions process. The ABA is also creating a path for alternative tests to be evaluated on a national basis.



■ Why leave a ranked school for an unranked one? **Darby Dickerson** was asked that when she was being interviewed for dean of The John Marshall Law School in Chicago.

Her reply: Being a “functional president” at an independent school is appealing, and the school is known for producing “practice-ready” attorneys, she told Crain’s Chicago Business. She also said she saw potential to expand graduate offerings and fundraising.

■ A trio of Georgetown University Law Center faculty created the D.C. Affordable Law Firm (DCALF) last year, increasing access to legal services for those who do not qualify for free legal aid but cannot afford the prices lawyers usually charge. DCALF is headed by Professor **Peter Edelman**, Vice Dean **Jane Aiken** and Dean **William Treanor**.

Georgetown University took the lead for the low bono law firm after it was suggested by Judith Sandalow, executive director of Children’s Law Center. The school, which partnered with law firms DLA Piper and Arent Fox, gave 15-month stipends to six Georgetown Law graduates and offered them a free LL.M. program in advocacy. The firm served its first clients in December 2015, and it is planned to continue for three years.

“DCALF presents a replicable economic model that rewards doing what’s right,” Aiken and Treanor wrote in a column in The Washington Post. “The hope is that it will inspire law firms and law schools across the country to launch their own low bono firms organized like DCALF.

“If the model catches on, more and more talented young lawyers will devote an early stage of their career to communities in need. They will get great hands-on experiences as they start their careers — the legal equivalent of a medical residency. And they will make a difference, especially for the thousands of lower- and lower-middle-income Americans who face a staggering injustice.”

■ **Camille Nelson** took the reins at American University Washington College of Law this summer after a five-year stint as dean at Suffolk University Law School.

“She has our full confidence in her ability to lead a dynamic faculty, staff and student body to the next level of impact in legal education,” American University Provost Scott Bass wrote.

A widely published scholar and sought-after speaker, Nelson is an

Dickerson, the new dean at John Marshall, was previously dean at Texas Tech University School of Law. Prior to that, she was dean at Stetson University College of Law. She also is on the executive committee of the Association of American Law Schools.

“Her dynamic style and deep knowledge of skills-based learning stood out to all who met her during the process,” said Paula Hudson Holderman, who served on John Marshall’s search committee.



**11. Maureen O'Rourke**  
Dean, Boston University School of Law; Chair-elect of ABA's Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar for 2016-17



**12. David Yellen**  
President, Marist College; former dean, Loyola University Chicago School of Law



**13. Michael Simkovic**  
Professor of Law, Seton Hall University School of Law



**14. Darby Dickerson**  
Dean, The John Marshall Law School; former dean, Texas Tech University School of Law



**15. Kyle McEntee**  
Co-founder, Law School Transparency



**16. Professor Peter Edelman, Vice Dean Jane Aiken, Dean William Treanor**  
Georgetown University Law Center



**17. Susan Westerberg Prager**  
Dean, Southwestern Law School



**18. Martin J. Katz**  
Professor, University of Denver Sturm College of Law; former dean of the school



**19. Jerry Organ**  
Professor of Law, University of St. Thomas School of Law - Minneapolis



**20. Camille Nelson**  
Dean, American University Washington College of Law; former dean, Suffolk University Law School



**21. Brian Tamanaha**  
Professor of Law, Washington University School of Law



**22. Patricia White**  
Dean, University of Miami School of Law



**23. Mary Lu Bilek**  
Dean, CUNY School of Law



**24. Paul Marcus**  
Professor of Law, William & Mary Law School



**25. (tie) Catherine Carpenter**  
Professor of Law, Southwestern Law School



**25. (tie) Joan Howland**  
Associate Dean, University of Minnesota Law School

■ **Mary Lu Bilek** said CUNY Law stole her heart decades ago when she helped develop its curriculum and led it through the accreditation process.

Now, 25 years later, she’s back as the school’s dean.

One nomination said she “led two public schools effectively with vision and passion in a difficult time.”

Bilek had been dean of University of Massachusetts School of Law Dartmouth since 2012. Under her leadership, applications increased 150 percent while applications nationally declined 20 percent. The school increased its diversity, adopted a requirement for a clinic or internship for all students, added a required legal research project course and launched an incubator.

■ **Paul Marcus** has held nearly every major position in legal education and has influenced not only the legal profession in general but also thousands of students, lawyers, judges and professors.

This year, the professor at Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary could have an even greater impact as president of the Association of American Law Schools. One of his main focuses is to encourage law schools to play an active role in making sure needy individuals receive affordable legal services.

Colleagues have praised Marcus as the perfect fit to lead the association during these challenging times for law schools.

He’s also one of the most prominent criminal law scholars in the nation, having authored dozens of influential books and articles.

expert on the intersection of critical race theory and cultural studies with particular emphasis on criminal law and procedure, health law and comparative law.

At Suffolk, she led the creation of the school’s first strategic plan and was a significant fundraiser. She also increased student and faculty diversity, established the first program concentration in legal technology and innovation, and helped the school launch an accelerator.



# COMMUNITY PROTECTORS

Many law schools go above and beyond in providing legal services for the underserved in their communities. We honor schools that are contributing the most.

BY MIKE STETZ

Cities and towns need a number of key institutions to keep them safe, healthy and vibrant.

Some are obvious, such as hospitals, police and fire departments. A thriving arts community elevates the hipster factor. Colleges are vital.

However, there's one institution — also educational — that often flies well below the radar when it comes to its effect on the community.

That would be a law school.

Yes, a law school.


Law schools offer more than just nice libraries. They attract bright, ambitious people, many of whom are willing and eager to augment the local legal community while they learn their profession. Indeed, a big part of the law school mission is to offer low-cost legal services through clinics, externships and pro bono work.

Look at West Virginia University College of Law, for example. It's the only law school in a state that's been hit hard economically because of a drop in the demand for coal. Only 53 percent of West Virginia's adults are in the work force — the lowest percentage in the nation.



Hannah Lieberman says University of the District of Columbia wants its students to make a meaningful contribution to their community. They gave an average 363 hours each year.

PHOTO BY BRUCE BUCKLEY

**WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY**  
has found that clinical experiences are rewarding and memorable for graduates. The work may be helping others, but it inspires students, too.

**Schools with the greatest community impact**

	Total Hours	Student body size	Hours per student	Population region
University of Idaho	50,600	343	148	38,000
West Virginia University	40,200	326	123	102,274
Washington and Lee University	22,208	314	71	29,000
University of Kansas	18,725	362	52	114,000

Is there a need for legal help for the poor? You bet. During the 2015-16 school year, West Virginia University’s law students and faculty served more than 500 clients or client groups through its nine clinics. Students also worked a host of pro bono cases and externships.

They put in more than 40,000 hours — for an average of 123 hours per student.

“We’re a public university and a land grant one at that,” said Dean Gregory Bowman. “Our mission is to serve the public. We take that very seriously.”

The National Jurist magazine felt such work should be recognized. Law schools have been judged harshly in the past few years, with critics pouncing them for graduating too many students — many of whom are deep in debt — into a crowded job market.

However, law schools do remarkable work in their communities. And, if anything, the recent push toward more practical training has increased legal education’s local effect.

So, here we recognize schools that are excelling at serving their local communities. We break our honor roll into three categories: 1) Contribution to the local

community based on hours per resident; 2) Contribution to the local community based on hours per student; and 3) Contribution to the local community based on overall hours contributed.

It’s not a ranking. It’s an honor roll, one which every law school could argue — and convincingly so — that it belongs on. After all, there is no law school that doesn’t do some measure of good work in its surrounding community. Our goal is to bring attention to some of the most outstanding examples.

**Contribution to the community based on hours per resident**

Nearly all of West Virginia University’s free legal work has a direct effect on the surrounding community. It helps people in Morgantown, where the school is based, as well as those living in the surrounding county and state.

You may remember the horrible flooding that hit southern West Virginia last year. More than 1,200 homes were flooded, and 26 people were killed. Students in the school’s Land Use and Sustainable

Development Law Clinic took part in the initial recovery efforts, helping people apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) assistance.

The school’s General Practice Clinic is gearing up to help residents with FEMA appeals and debt relief. Bowman said his students will be working with flood victims for years as they try to restore their lives.

In the past year, the school’s Immigration Law Clinic won three grants of asylum. That means three people who were facing deportation got to stay. What that means to them — and their families — cannot be measured.

The school’s West Virginia Innocence Project helped reverse a murder conviction for a client serving a 40-year sentence.

The law school also helped a host of lower-income people in a wide variety of legal matters, from tenant-landlord disputes to obtaining affordable health care. In addition, the school helps veterans, domestic violence victims, the elderly, juveniles and more.

Its Entrepreneurship and Innovation Law Clinic provided the equivalent of nearly \$300,000 in billable services.

“We’re actually helping to create jobs and rebuild communities,” Bowman said, noting how difficult it can be for new companies to get through the regulatory process today. His students help do that. One company that received assistance now has 20 employees.

This work inspires students as well, he added. They see what it means to be a lawyer. Indeed, many former students — some as much as 20 years removed from law school — tell him how memorable and rewarding their clinical experience was, he said.

West Virginia University is far from being an exception among law schools.





## NORTHEASTERN

All first-years take part in a yearlong social justice program in which they represent and assist a nonprofit or advocacy organization in solving problems involving diversity and social justice.

Many are deeply embedded in their communities. Some have been there for more than a century, so the connections they have forged are significant.

Take Washington and Lee University School of Law in Lexington, Va., which was founded in 1850. It also made our honor roll.

School officials estimate that 100 percent of the students' work takes place in Lexington and the surrounding counties. The school has six legal clinics, including one that assists coal miners and their families in getting black lung benefits. It has helped nearly 200 people since it was founded 10 years ago.

The University of Kansas School of Law has a clinic that helps Native Americans. It's called the Tribal Judicial Support Clinic. On the school's website, Zach Boggan, Class of 2015, explains the importance of a guardian code, which he developed for a tribe relocating to the region.

"Guardianship is very important to Indian tribes because the federal government has gone so far as to forcibly remove Indian children from their families and place them with white families to assimilate them to white culture," Boggan said. "A guardianship code allows tribes to keep their children in a way that not only serves the child's interests but serves the tribe's interests in terms of allowing them to keep their culture, to keep their tribe together."

Another school making our honor roll is University of Idaho College of Law. It has two campuses: one in Moscow; the other in Boise.

That means the underserved in rural parts and urban parts of the state receive legal help. Again, this work runs the gamut. The school's Economic Development Clinic, for instance, is involved in mitigating wildfire risks in Idaho.



### Schools with the most community service hours per student

	Total Hours	Student body size	Hours per student	Population region
University of the District of Columbia	110,000	303	363	6,097,000
Northeastern University	145,876	455	321	4,628,000
UC - Irvine	71,407	334	214	3,000,000
CUNY School of Law	73,547	359	205	20,200,000

### Contribution to the community based on hours per student

Not all law schools are the same. Some are known for producing Big Law-ready attorneys. Some have become leaders in specific fields, such as environmental or tax law.

And some were created to train lawyers to give back, to enhance society, to help those most in need. One example of this would be University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law.

As the school notes on its website: "UDC-DCSL is committed to the public interest, using the law to help those in need and reshape our community. Each year, our faculty and students provide more than 100,000 hours of essential legal services to D.C. residents."

That works out to 363 hours per student, the most of any law school. The school has the largest clinical requirement of all the nation's law schools. Each student has to do 700 hours of clinical work.

Much of that work takes place in the Washington, D.C., area.

The cases these students face can be heartbreaking. Take this one, from the school's General Practice Clinic:

"John Lui, Class of 2016, and Elizabeth Rekowski, Class of 2016, filed a petition for standby guardianship on behalf of their

client, a single mother with stage 4 cancer. Prior to drafting and filing the petition, the students conducted research on various legal options available to the client, who wanted to ensure that her daughter would be cared for after her death. Anticipating that the father would not be located, the students reviewed court rules and case law providing a legal basis for requesting substitute service, and they filed a motion for service. At a hearing, the judge granted the motion and signed the order granting joint standby guardianship to the client's best friend and the client's brother. The guardians' legal authority will commence when the client is unable to provide care for her daughter due to incapacity or death."

"We want our students to make a meaningful contribution," said Hannah Lieberman, associate dean of Experiential and Clinical Programs, noting how the school even requires first-year students to do 40 hours of pro bono work.

Overall, students are required to do 700 hours of hands-on clinical work during their law school careers. That's to make certain that when they enter the workforce they are prepared to be social-change lawyers, she said. Most gravitate toward public service, given the school's mission. However, that field is quite broad and can include jobs in government, nonprofits or



traditional legal aid, to name but a few.

“We like to have our students thinking broadly,” she said.

Students with clinical experience are much better equipped, once they graduate, to handle client legal issues, problem solve and deal with unexpected dilemmas than lawyers who have not had the experience, she said.

A law school offers many benefits, one of which is that it “shines a light on a community that is often unseen and ignored,” Lieberman said.

Other schools have similar community service commitments. Northeastern University School of Law in Boston is also on this honor roll. Students there average 321 hours of public service a year.

The school is known for its Cooperative Legal Education Program, which guarantees students a year of full-time work experience. Through that program, 90 percent of the students get at least some public-interest experience.

A core mission of University of California, Irvine School of Law, one of the nation’s newest law schools, is also public interest. And it shows. Its students average 214 hours of public service through a variety of school programs.

With a 92 percent student participation rate, UCI Law has provided more than 50,000 hours of pro bono legal services for the poor and underserved since the school opened in 2009, “making our pro bono program among the most robust in the country,” the school notes.

City University of New York School of Law is another school that was founded to train lawyers for public service. From that school: “Our entire curriculum is designed to serve students who plan to carry out our motto, practice ‘Law in the Service of Human Needs.’”

And that’s what they do. CUNY Law students average 205 hours of such work.

### Contribution to the community based on overall hours

**W**hen Jane Aiken became Georgetown University Law Center’s vice dean and associate dean for experiential education, a tally was done to see how many hours students were logging in the school’s many programs.

The number was in the 400,000-hour range. Aiken was in disbelief. “I said, ‘This can’t be true,’” she said.

It was. During the 2015-16 academic

year, the school continued to be in that range. Georgetown University leads all law schools in the number of hours students serve.

“It’s been a real source of pride,” she said.

Yes, it helps that Georgetown University has the nation’s largest student body, with 1,966 students. But, that still averages out to about 200 hours of work per student.

Service is part of the school’s Jesuit tradition, Aiken said. The school stresses the importance of students having a positive influence in the community while they are in school and throughout their careers.

“That’s part of being a lawyer, after all,” she said.

Also, since students reap the benefits of living in the community, they have an obligation to help it thrive, Aiken said.

And their help is much needed. Georgetown University is located in the nation’s capital, where there is a huge demand for legal services. Not only are there pockets of poverty but also many national organizations that serve the underprivileged are based there.

The students make a real difference, Aiken said. This is not training for training’s sake. The long-standing narrative is that the nation has too many lawyers, but many of the underserved don’t have access to them, she noted. They can’t afford to pay for legal help.

“It’s a huge number of people,” Aiken said.

The work the students do can be life-changing for them, as well. Many come from elite backgrounds and have little idea how prevalent and debilitating poverty is. “They need to know that before they walk out of law school,” she said.

Additionally, the students get a chance



#### Schools with the most community service hours overall

	Total Hours	Student body size	Hours per student	Population region
Georgetown University	378,722	1,966	193	6,097,000
Harvard Law School	164,251	1,767	93	4,628,000
Fordham Law School	122,716	1,151	107	20,200,000
George Washington University	129,256	1,706	76	6,097,000



#### GEORGETOWN LAW

may have the nation’s largest student body, but students also average nearly 200 hours of community service. For instance, they offer services to many of the underserved in the nation’s capital who don’t have access to lawyers.



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AFFILIATE

to do actual legal work rather than simply studying theoretical situations in the classroom. “When you’re a student, you’re a student,” Aiken said. “When you’re in a clinic, it’s more, ‘Oh, I’m a professional. I have judgment. I can help people.’”

She has seen this transformation many times. “It’s joyous,” she said.

Another school making our honor roll for most hours is a little-known school in the Boston area called Harvard Law School. Its students totaled 164,241 hours of service in 2015-16.

Yes, even top-tier schools such as Harvard have this tradition of service. The school offers remarkable opportunities, such as a clinic called Making Rights Real: The Ghana Project. As part of that, students go to Ghana.

However, most of the school’s work — nearly 75 percent — is concentrated in the communities around Harvard. The school notes that its programs “served low-income clients (defendants, students, children, employees, immigrants, refugees, tenants, domestic-violence survivors, nonprofit organizations, artists, taxpayers, veterans, prisoners, entrepreneurs) in the greater Boston area.”

The George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., took honors as well. Its students tallied nearly 130,000 hours. The list of government and public-service agencies that students worked for ran into the dozens. Among them: The Mid-Atlantic Innocence Project; Hogar Immigrant Services; the D.C. bar’s Small Business Brief Legal Advice Clinic; Volunteer Income Tax Assistance; and the Animal Legal Defense Fund.

Another school atop the list is Fordham University School of Law in New York. Its total number of hours of public service for the Class of 2016’s law school career was 122,716. School officials believe that number is a reliable indicator of what the total student body did during the 2015-16 year. Much of this, between 85 and 90 percent, took place in the New York metropolitan area.

The work matches the school’s very motto: “In the service of others.”

As noted earlier, many other law schools perform such worthy work. The list is hardly limited to the schools we honored.

Check out your local law school. It’s most likely doing such work — maybe even more.

Georgetown’s Aiken summed it up this way: “Communities are better off with a law school.”

# You are not your grades

BY PAULA FRANZESE

**T**he way law schools test and evaluate students leaves much to be desired. In an environment where traditionally there is little feedback, how you happen to do on one three- or four-hour exam can take on undesired importance.

Some students take their grades to be the final word on their abilities and opportunities, but nothing could be further from the truth.

Your grades, whatever they happen to be, are an indication of how well you were able to apply your learning to a narrow, often peculiar format, and they are determined by someone else's arbitrary and subjective judgment.



FRANZESE

In this imperfect system, injustices are inevitable. People who studied hard may not do as well as they should have. People who hardly studied may excel. The course that you thought you aced becomes your worst grade. The exam that you thought you bombed turns into your best grade. And so on.

Let your grades inform your life, not define, diminish or exalt it. They are simply feedback, letting you know whether you have figured out how to play the exam-taking game. If your grades aren't what they should be, take the offensive. Seek out people and resources to help you improve your exam-taking skills. Consult with each of your instructors. Find a tutor. Speak with students who have done well in the courses you are taking now. Take practice exams, and ask your teachers for feedback on those practice runs.

And, remember that you have the power to dilute the significance of your grades by demonstrating your excellence in other ways. Whatever you do, be of service. The surest way out of your own struggles and pain is to help others out of theirs. Look around and wake up to the sea of need right in your midst. Then, do what you can with the time and resources you have. Do it for the sake of the people you help. Do it for your own sake. What you do for others, you do for yourself. Then, as life rises up to meet you, doors will open, and the meaning that's been missing will be found.

As you do everything you can to succeed in school, and in life, try to keep matters in perspective. Remember that the race is long and that to finish the race is to win the race. Pace yourself, and know that time is on your side. Be aware and appreciative of the strides you are making. Know that every step, however small, puts you closer to your goal.

You are not your grades, nor are you your standardized test scores, your resume or your summer job. These things are simply information. They don't have the power to define you or limit your possibilities unless you give them that power. Don't! Do not surrender the song in your heart to teachers, employers, colleagues or classmates. That song is there for a reason, and it is yours to sing. The world needs your voice.

Only you can create the reality of which your grades are only one indicator. View them as an opportunity for learning,



Remember that the race is long and that to finish the race is to win the race. Pace yourself, and know that time is on your side.

self-knowledge and growth. Keep your head high. Do not be cruel to yourself. Aside from healthy discipline, be gentle with yourself. Hold tight to your dignity, integrity and belief in yourself. You are precisely where you should be. You have succeeded before. You are succeeding now.

Think, act and react as a successful, prosperous and intelligent person would. Remember that what you think about most expands. What you think about most is what you move toward. Success is more attitude than aptitude. With the right thoughts and attitudes, you can write your own ticket.

*Paula Franzese is the Peter W. Rodino Professor of Law at Seton Hall University School of Law. She is the author of "A Short and Happy Guide to Being a Law Student."*

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# Why the Bar Exam blues?

**With pass rates as low as 25% at some schools, the ABA is cracking down on schools with low entering LSAT scores. But does that make sense?**



When the American Bar Association (ABA) warned Ave Maria School of Law this summer that it was not in compliance with accreditation standards, it caught many by surprise.

Yes, Ave Maria has struggled with its incoming class profiles and bar exam passage rates in recent years, but so have many schools. In fact, 11 law schools reported bar passage rates lower than Ave Maria's 59.1 percent for the Class of 2015.

At the time it gave the warning, the ABA was under intense scrutiny from the U.S. Department of Education. A federal panel that oversees higher education accreditors warned that it would strip the ABA of its accrediting power unless it got serious about accountability.

Bar passage rates nationwide dropped from 79 percent for the Class of 2011 to 70 percent for the Class of 2015. And, with

entering credentials for current classes lower than those for the Class of 2015, many fear bar passage rates could drop even farther.

In November, the ABA placed Charlotte School of Law on probation and censured Valparaiso University Law School. The ABA standards require schools to not admit applicants who don't "appear capable of satisfactorily completing (their programs) of legal education and being admitted to the bar."

But what does that mean? Many feel it boils down to the fact that these three schools have begun admitting students with lower LSAT scores.

Ave Maria had one of the lowest entering-class LSAT profiles in the country in 2013, with a 25th percentile score of 141. That tied for last with six other U.S. law schools, including Charlotte School of Law, Valparaiso University Law School and

Arizona Summit Law School.

That class graduated in May and took the July bar exam. Only 25 percent of Arizona Summit's Class of 2016 passed the Arizona bar exam. But for Ave Maria, 66.7 percent passed the Florida bar exam, better than five other Florida law schools.

Still, the ABA seems to be focused on incoming LSAT scores as a predictor of success for the bar exam.

Just days before the ABA called out Ave Maria, it announced it would not approve accreditation for University of North Texas at Dallas College of Law, saying it wanted the public school to place more focus on incoming LSAT scores during the admissions process.

Erica Moeser, president of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, the nonprofit that develops the multiple-choice test that's part of most state bar exams, has said the

## 11 schools have had their median LSAT fall below 145 in the past five years

	Class of 2014	Class of 2015	Class of 2016	Class of 2017	Class of 2018
Appalachian School of Law	144	146	145	144	146
Arizona Summit Law School	148	145	144	144	143
Ave Maria School of Law	150	148	146	143	148
Charlotte School of Law	148	146	144	142	142
WMU-Cooley	146	145	145	145	141
Florida Coastal School of Law	147	146	144	143	144
North Carolina Central	148	147	145	144	145
Southern University	145	145	144	144	143
Texas Southern University	147	145	144	145	143
Thomas Jefferson School of Law	151	148	146	145	144
Valparaiso University Law School	149	149	143	145	145

drop in bar passage rates is related to lower LSAT numbers.

But many disagree with Moeser, pointing out that the LSAT is designed to measure the potential for success in law school, not success on the bar exam.

A 2013 study by a professor at Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law found that law school GPAs had the strongest correlation with bar passage, while LSAT scores had a weaker connection, and undergraduate GPAs had no relationship.

Jon McClanahan, assistant dean for academic excellence at University of North Carolina School of Law, has seen this firsthand.

“From what I have experienced, the LSAT score is moderately predictive of success in the law school classroom,” McClanahan said. “I’ve also seen that success in the law school classroom is extremely predictive of bar exam passage. The difficulty is that once you put those things together, LSATs are not as predictive of bar exam passage. It doesn’t account for the other skills needed in succeeding on the bar exam.”

For instance, the LSAT doesn’t test the time management skills and discipline needed to prepare for the bar.

Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law has never been able to show that its entering LSATs are statistically significant to bar passage.

“The highest correlation is where they finished in their class,” Sha Hinds-Glick, director of bar programs at Campbell Law, said about what the school has determined from its internal studies. “Students in the bottom quartile are most likely to fail the bar. Class rank becomes the biggest thing to

predict bar passage or not.”

But of course, the LSAT and the bar exam are similar in that both are standardized, multiple-choice tests.

“It is somewhat of a predictor, but you have to be careful,” said Christian A. Johnson, dean of Widener University Commonwealth Law School. “When a student doesn’t score as high as he could have, was it because he wasn’t mentored as well as someone else? Or he didn’t prepare as well? And, a lot of it depends on how well they understand the questions.”

Richard Gaffney, director of bar services at Duquesne University School of Law, who sits on his school’s admissions committee, said any student who is admitted should be able to pass the bar, and if they don’t, “it’s not because they’re not bright enough.”

It might be because of what he calls the three Ds: Lack of discipline; distractions; and unavoidable disasters, such as illness, injury or a death in the family.

“Give me a student with a 148, and I

can get them to pass the bar if they’re disciplined,” Gaffney said.

But a student who lacks discipline may come in with an LSAT score of 169 and still fail the bar, he added.

Duquesne Law’s median LSAT scores have remained at about 152 for six years running. Based on predictions, the school’s bar passage rates should stay at about 77 percent. But in the past four years, there have been peaks and valleys.

In 2013, about 82 percent of Duquesne’s first-time test-takers passed. In 2014 and in 2016, the passage rate jumped to 91 and 92 percent, respectively. But something happened in 2015, and just 75 percent of Duquesne’s test-takers passed.

The composition of the classes of 2015 and 2016 were nearly identical, Gaffney said. So what happened?

“When we saw that 75, we were scared to death,” he said. “We worked really hard.”

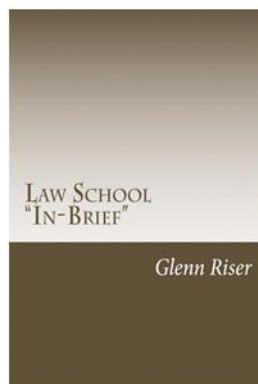
Perhaps the Class of 2015 saw the high passage rate from the previous year’s graduating class and didn’t think they’d need to work as hard, Gaffney said. Also, the MBE test underwent changes that year, with a seventh subject added but no additional time. He said the test was also poorly crafted that year, and average scores for Duquesne graduates fell four percentage points, meaning that students who had been just above the line to pass were now below.

In response, the school adjusted its bar preparation to include civil procedure.

“When we see changes in the bar exam, we’re going to react to that and make changes in our upper-level classes,” Gaffney said.

—Katie Thisdell and Jack Crittenden

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# Best schools for bar exam preparation

Some schools' grads perform far better on the bar exam than their incoming LSAT scores would predict. What do these schools have in common?

By Katie Thisdell

When Caitlin Goforth applied to Campbell University, Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law, she was focused on getting into law school and didn't think much about the school's bar exam success rate.

But after she was accepted and began to share her plans with others, she realized Campbell Law's stellar bar exam performance was one of the school's biggest strengths.

"Why would you want to take a chance on a school that is underperforming on their bar exam results?" Goforth asked. "You're putting your future in their hands."

Goforth passed the bar on her first try in July 2015 and is now an associate attorney at Poyner Spruill LLP in Raleigh, N.C.

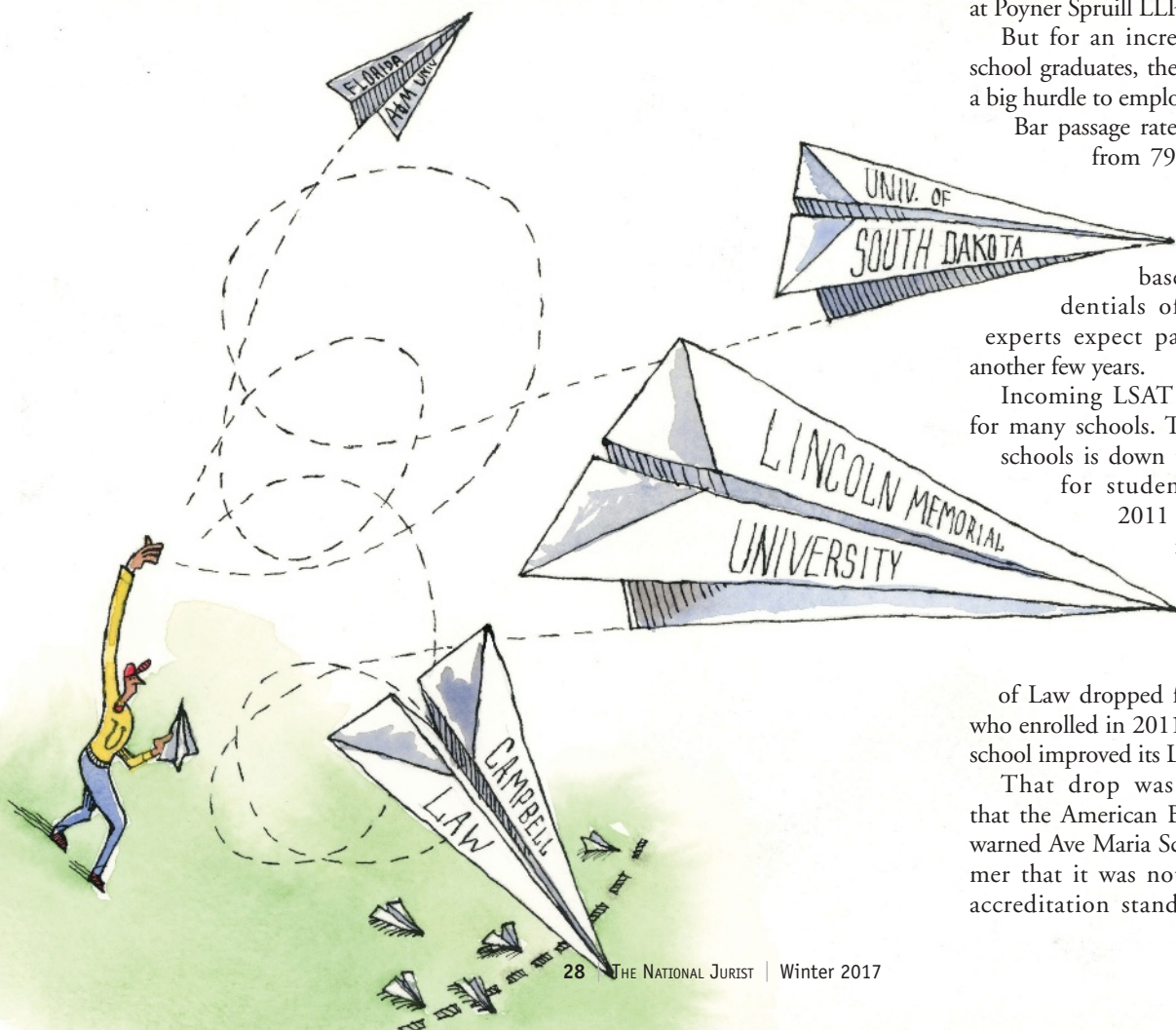
But for an increasing number of law school graduates, the bar exam has become a big hurdle to employment.

Bar passage rates nationwide dropped from 79 percent for the Class of 2011 to 70 percent for the Class of 2015. And, based on incoming credentials of new classes, many experts expect pass rates to drop for another few years.

Incoming LSAT scores have dropped for many schools. The median of all law schools is down two points, from 156 for students who enrolled in 2011 to 154 for 2015. But for some schools, the numbers are more dramatic. For example, Ave

Maria School of Law dropped from 150 for students who enrolled in 2011 to 143 for 2014. The school improved its LSAT in 2015 to 148.

That drop was significant enough that the American Bar Association (ABA) warned Ave Maria School of Law this summer that it was not in compliance with accreditation standards. The ABA tells





schools they must not admit applicants who don't "appear capable of satisfactorily completing its program of legal education and being admitted to the bar."

But does the LSAT predict bar exam success?

While studies show that first-year grades are the best predictors of bar exam performance, LSAT scores correlate strongly with Multistate Bar Examination (MBE) performance, which accounts for half of the grade on most bar exams.

Erica Moeser, president of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, the nonprofit that develops the multiple-choice test that's part of most state bar exams, told the ABA Journal she isn't surprised that bar passage rates are dropping.

"What would surprise me is if LSAT scores dropped and bar pass rates didn't go down," she said.

Law school applications began to decline in 2011, and median LSAT scores dropped along with them. So, if you do assume LSATs correlate with bar passage rates, then it makes sense that bar passage rates would drop with the Class of 2014. (See previous story for more on this.)

Since incoming LSATs are the most readily available data point, that's what The National Jurist used to predict bar passage rates for prior and future years. We used a regression model fitting a quadratic relationship with median LSAT scores and a linear relationship with state bar pass rates.

Based on this analysis, bar exam pass rates will drop less than 1 percent between now and 2018. But, that does not mean all law schools will see pass rates level off.

The National Jurist looked at pass rates on a school-by-school basis and compared the actual pass rates for 2014 and 2013, the most recent data available, with the predicted pass rates to find the residual, or the difference between the two.

The result: Some law schools produced far better bar passage rates than their LSAT scores would indicate.

Campbell Law is the top performer when looking at the classes of 2013 and 2014. Its graduates passed at an average rate of more than 12.49 percentage points higher than predicted.

Lincoln Memorial University John J. Duncan Jr. School of Law reported a higher residual, 15.7, but data was only available for the Class of 2014.

## Students at these schools outperform on the bar exam based on their LSAT scores

	Predicted Pass Rate 2013, %	Actual Pass Rate 2013, %	Predicted Pass Rate 2014, %	Actual Pass Rate 2014, %	Average Difference
Lincoln Memorial University*		81.08	62.85	78.57	15.72
Campbell Law	71.36	82.44	71.80	85.71	12.49
University of South Dakota	84.29	97.83	67.14	75.44	10.92
Florida A&M University	65.28	73.14	60.92	73.25	10.09
Widener Law Commonwealth	74.52	83.33	69.76	81.05	10.05
Wayne State University	68.78	78.38	72.92	82.78	9.73
North Carolina Central Univ.	59.79	65.63	58.56	72.12	9.70
Louisiana State University	63.83	73.42	74.89	84.42	9.53
Duquesne University	77.46	82.18	76.48	90.75	9.49
Stetson University	78.58	89.25	72.74	79.92	8.93
University of Nebraska	80.07	86.32	79.19	90.36	8.71
NSU's Shepard Broad Law	70.25	81.63	64.62	70.37	8.57
Capital University	81.58	86.59	73.56	84.72	8.09
South Texas College of Law Houston	81.99	88.10	75.48	83.64	7.14
Florida International University	77.34	84.81	72.74	79.43	7.08
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles	79.10	84.70	75.54	81.72	5.89
Arizona State University	83.20	87.89	82.63	89.47	5.77
University of Tulsa	83.62	86.95	82.24	90.41	5.75
UC Davis School of Law	79.10	82.89	78.46	86.00	5.66
UNC School of Law	79.58	82.42	79.99	88.20	5.52
University of Florida	83.88	87.17	81.38	89.05	5.48
New England Law	80.97	89.19	74.33	77.03	5.46
Western State College of Law	67.98	77.58	61.57	62.68	5.36
Baylor University	91.53	96.99	85.62	90.83	5.34
University of New Hampshire	78.15	84.78	80.42	84.28	5.25
Georgia State University	89.89	94.38	85.70	91.58	5.18
Penn State Law	83.17	89.16	84.49	88.38	4.94
UC Berkeley School of Law	83.14	85.71	80.80	87.85	4.81
Stanford Law School	86.96	91.92	85.48	90.06	4.77
Northern Illinois University	84.28	87.38	78.65	84.88	4.67
Southern Illinois University	85.92	88.79	80.41	86.67	4.57
USC Gould School of Law	82.77	85.98	81.10	86.83	4.47
University of Akron	82.94	83.78	76.56	84.43	4.36
University of Toledo	80.90	81.18	75.27	83.70	4.35
Texas A&M Law	80.63	86.67	73.92	76.59	4.35
University of Kentucky	86.63	90.20	84.75	89.81	4.32
University of Baltimore	78.27	84.93	77.65	79.62	4.32
Villanova Law	88.93	88.32	85.66	94.77	4.25
Seton Hall University	81.52	87.78	81.01	83.01	4.13
University of Missouri - KC	87.74	91.67	85.06	89.34	4.11

\*Lincoln Memorial's ranking is based on only one year of available data.

Note: The state of Wisconsin does not require the bar exam, so Marquette University and University of Wisconsin were excluded from our list.

Other top performers included Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University College of Law, Widener University Commonwealth Law School and Duquesne University School of Law.

While it is hard to identify what the top performers have in common, a close look shows that they all work hard to ensure bar exam success for their students.

## First-year classes introduce bar testing concepts

Schools whose graduates overperform on the bar exam don't wait until the final summer for bar review. They start preparing students as soon as they get to campus.

"Our philosophy is that for bar prep itself, that window between May, June and July is really too late in the game for many students," said Jon McClanahan, who wears many hats at University of North Carolina School of Law, including assistant dean for academic excellence. "We see bar prep and preparation for practice beginning at the start of students' first year of law school. That does not mean students are taking classes geared for the bar exam, but those skills that students need to be successful on the bar and practice in law, we start working on those skills quite early."

Pass rates for UNC School of Law graduates have averaged about 82.8 percent for the past four years, and the school placed 22nd among 201 law schools for bar performance compared to expectations. In 2013 and 2014, the passage rates were, on average, about five percentage points higher than our analysis predicted they should have been based on incoming LSAT scores.

Campbell Law had incoming LSAT scores averaging 155 and 156 for the two years in this analysis. (That figure has dropped to 152 for the last three incoming classes, and the bar passage rate has fallen — but it is still higher than our prediction.)

At Campbell Law, preparation includes exams that are a mix of essay and multiple choice questions, which helps build familiarity with the bar exam format. The school also tries to identify any weaknesses long before summer bar review programs begin.

Sha Hinds-Glick, director of academic support at Campbell Law, is quick to point out that the school doesn't teach to the bar, but faculty are very aware of the areas students will be tested on, and they will adjust course material to help strengthen any skills or knowledge that appear to be lacking.

If that helps students pass the bar, then that helps them become practicing attorneys too.

"Campbell's mission has always been: We want to develop lawyers who are ready to practice when they leave," Hinds-Glick said.

First-year students at Loyola Law School, Los Angeles must take midterm exams, so their early law school grades aren't based on a single test, said Susan Bakhshian, director of bar programs.

At Loyola Law School, Los Angeles and Duquesne Law, which both placed well in the study, students struggling at the lower end of their class are enrolled in an academic success program, which includes general support as well as bar preparation assistance.

Richard Gaffney, director of bar services at Duquesne University, said an upper-level course that reviews black letter law is required for the bottom third of first-year students. However, it has proved to be popular with their classmates as well. Last year, almost every Duquesne Law student took the course.

## Learning to write for the bar

Practicing lawyers certainly have to work under time pressures, but do they ever have to write essays in situations quite like what the bar exam forces on test-takers?

Most likely, no.

Bakhshian at Loyola Law School, Los Angeles said the timeframe is unrealistic. It's important that test-takers grasp legal principles and cohesively argue points — but doing so in 90 minutes presents unnecessary pressure.

She said the school builds some bar preparation — particularly writing skills — into the curriculum because students have limited time to add no-credit workshops to their schedules.

"Everything is designed around the goal of making sure students feel supported and prepared," Bakhshian said.

The majority of Loyola's student body enrolls in a Fundamentals of Bar Writing class, though it's only required for those in the school's academic success program. The school has found the class to be statistically significant in helping graduates pass the bar on the first try, Bakhshian said. As a result, there is huge demand for this course, as well as essay workshops. The class itself is

straightforward. "It doesn't have to be complicated as long as you start early," she said.

"Students very much want to be prepared for this exam. It's high stakes."

Receiving feedback on their writing can have a huge influence on students' readiness for the bar.

After working to familiarize students with the test format during their three years of law school, Campbell Law hones in on their writing skills during an intensive summer course.

"Our investment in a student doesn't stop when they graduate," Hinds-Glick said. About 90 percent of graduates participate, and they write 26 essays in true, timed conditions. Hinds-Glick and adjunct professors assist with grading, and they track a student's progress through the summer.

## Summer programs emphasize skills

Most students enroll in a private bar review course that guides them through the two months leading up to the bar, but some schools, such as Campbell Law, offer additional support.

Duquesne Law's summer kick-start program features professors lecturing in their areas of expertise, along with individual meetings for students.

"I make them do the work, and if they do the work, they pass the bar," Gaffney said. "There's just no substitute for it."

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles hosts a bar exam lunch about 10 days into bar review programs. Offering the two-hour, question-and-answer session early in the program allows students to make adjustments that will help them stay on track, Bakhshian said. Questions at the luncheon, as well as during one-on-one counseling sessions, are less focused on the content of the exam and more focused on how to prepare and overcome anxiety.

Widener Law Commonwealth helps offset students' bar review costs, which sometimes can exceed \$1,000. The school hopes this will cause students to have less anxiety about costs and be more likely to complete a bar review program.

"We don't see there's any magic bullet to make the students start passing at higher rates," said Dean Christian A. Johnson. "We see it as a process that we've been doing over a decade to make students successful."



# Study abroad dreams

With 116 programs in 33 countries, law students have plenty of options for learning, exploring and traveling this summer.

By Nadine Goff

Studying abroad is a great way to learn about new cultures, sightsee, sample local cuisine and earn a few credits. But the experience can also provide much more.

“I’d really recommend this summer program abroad as a once-in-a-lifetime experience,” said Kate VonDeBur, who studied English law during a Valparaiso University study abroad program in London and Cambridge last summer. “People think they will have a chance to travel later, but they should grab this chance now.”

VonDeBur was in England on June 23, when U.K. voters decided to leave the European Union.

“We were there during the Brexit vote and experienced the politically tumultuous atmosphere,” VonDeBur said. “There’s a lot to be said for going outside your comfort zone and listening to their point of view.”

In addition to watching the historic event unfold, VonDeBur studied comparative constitutional law and family law in small, intimate class settings. She also took advantage of opportunities outside the classroom.

“One of our professors, who has connections in England, provided us with opportunities to visit Parliament and have tea with a lord,” she said. “We also interviewed partners at a top legal firm.”

This summer, 116 programs will be available in 33 countries. An additional 39 programs will be offered in the fall. The programs are spread across the globe, with Europe being the most popular destination.

The National Jurist has compiled

its annual study abroad guide, with details on application deadlines, program dates, tuition and whether there are externship opportunities. More details on these programs are available at [www.NationalJurist.com](http://www.NationalJurist.com). But we only include information on open-enrollment programs — programs that accept students from other schools.

The number of programs that don’t accept students from other schools increased this year after the American Bar Association (ABA) passed a new rule stating that such programs did not need to be accredited.

The ABA decided that since there are so few credits involved, these programs don’t justify the time and resources it would take to review them. “New programs have many excellent examples to follow in setting up their operations,” the ABA said.

However, the ABA said there is a continued need for oversight of open-enrollment programs, mainly to provide assurance to other schools that a program meets ABA standards. So, that has prompted several programs to stop accepting students from other schools.

Still, there are plenty of options around the globe, and students will have plenty of opportunities to explore.

Justin Bendana, for example, lived in a hostel near Bondi Beach, one of Australia’s most popular tourist destinations. Although his program packed a lot of activity into a few short weeks, Bendana said the pace felt refreshing after his first year of law school.

And while students should remember the “study” part in study abroad, it’s not all work. You can add fun to your educational experience.

Jake Minster took some time to travel before starting Tulane University’s program in Berlin. He arrived in Ireland two weeks before classes began and traveled to Latvia and the Czech Republic. During his time in Berlin, he visited museums and lots of castles.

“When I get a big-boy job, there won’t be time to travel,” he said.



Kate VonDeBur



# Africa & The Middle East



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## Africa & The Middle East

Law schools offer summer programs in just three countries in Africa and the Middle East — and they are quite different from one another.

Take Fordham University's summer program in Ghana's capital, Accra. The country has the reputation of being the friendliest in Africa. It's been an important center of trade for centuries, and it's rising in prominence as a model and leader in West Africa. The national language may be English, but the culture and traditions are diverse, as its population of 25 million is made up of several ethnic groups, who speak a wide variety of dialects of numerous indigenous languages.

Course options this year include international human rights law and international oil and gas law. Students can also stay an extra five weeks for an internship in the Ghana legal system.

Then there's Whittier Law School's Tel Aviv program, the only one to operate in Israel for 10 years running. Students can explore the modern and the ancient in Tel Aviv, which offers beaches, clubs and museums. Jerusalem is a 45-minute bus ride away. There, students can explore the site of the Old City, the Western Wall, the Church of the Holy Sepulchre and the Garden of Gethsemane.

The third destination in this region is Cape Town, South Africa. Two schools offer programs there: Howard University School of Law and University of Missouri School of Law.

Crystal Nwaogu attended Howard University's program in Cape Town as a way to learn more about South Africa's constitution.



## Tel Aviv, Israel



“It’s less than 30 years old,” said Nwaogu, a second-year student at the Washington, D.C., law school. “I’m older than the constitution.”

The summer program helped her gain insights into the political and legal changes that have occurred in South Africa since it held its first democratic elections in 1994 and established a new constitution in 1996.

“Many of my classmates were people who were part of both the old apartheid system and the new system,” she said. “They were the best people to ask about pre- and post-experience.”

Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>Africa &amp; the Middle East</b>							
<b>Ghana</b>							
Accra	Fordham University	Int'l & Comp. law	May 20 - June 4 (Intern: June 5 - July 7)	April 15	\$3,750/3 cr \$6,500/6 cr	3 or 6	✓
<b>Israel</b>							
Tel Aviv	Whittier Law School	Int'l & Comp. Law	June 5 - 16; June 19-30; June 5 - 30	Rolling	\$3,900 - \$5,100	Up to 6	✓
<b>South Africa</b>							
Cape Town	Howard University		May 31 - July 7	April 3	\$6,290	Up to 6	✓
Cape Town	University of Missouri	Comp. Law	June 1 - July 9	March 15 or until full	\$4,200	6	✓



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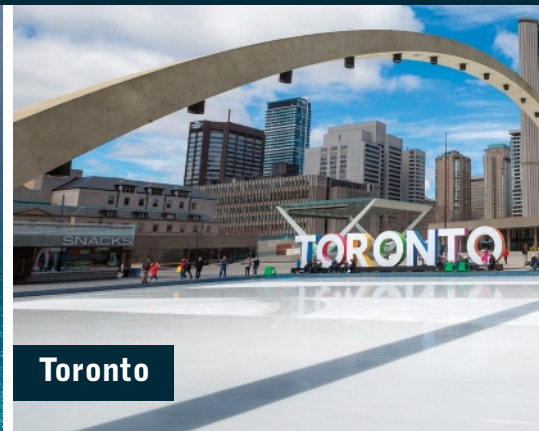


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# Americas



Barbados



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## Americas

Want to see if you're really fluent in Spanish — or if you could be? Go to South America or Central America for the summer.

The Inter-American Summer Program in Guatemala, hosted by University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law and University of Denver Sturm College of Law, describes itself as “a truly bilingual

and inter-cultural approach to legal education.” Substantive law classes are taught in Spanish and English, and students learn side by side with Latin American law students and lawyers.

This is just one of 10 summer study abroad programs in the Americas. There are additional semester-long programs in the fall.

Like other study abroad programs around the globe, many courses in the

Americas focus on international and comparative law. But there are a large number of programs that cover human rights as well.

Brittany Delbridge attended one of those programs. The Santa Clara University School of Law student participated in her school's program in San Jose, Costa Rica.

The Inter-American Court of Human Rights is in San Jose, and students in



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**Santiago, Chile**

Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>Americas</b>							
<b>Barbados</b>							
St. Michael Parish	Washburn University School of Law	Comp. Constitutional & Trade Law	May 19 - June 30	April 15	\$5,200		
<b>Brazil</b>							
Rio de Janeiro	Tulane University	Human Rights	June 4-24	May 31	\$4,000	5	✓
<b>Canada</b>							
Toronto	WMU-Cooley	Int'l & Comp. law	May 17 - June 7; June 8 - June 29	April 1	TBD	Up to 6	
<b>Chile</b>							
Santiago	California Western School of Law	Int'l & Comp. law	May 16 - June 25	March 30	\$710/cr	6 to 8	
<b>Costa Rica</b>							
Heredia, San Jose	DePaul University	Human Rights	July 24 - Aug. 15	May 1	\$4,900; Fee: \$690		
San Jose	Santa Clara University	Human Rights	May 22 - June 9 (Intern: June 12-July 21)	March 24	\$1,000/cr		✓
San Jose	University of Florida	Int'l & Comp. Enviro. Law	May 22 - June 19	March 24	\$3,485 (r); \$6,253 (nr)	5	
<b>Guatemala</b>							
Antigua	University of Denver and McGeorge School of Law	Comp. Law in Latin America	May 23 - June 16	March 1	\$5,896	4; (4)	✓
<b>Mexico</b>							
Guanajuato	Texas Tech University, University of New Mexico, Southwestern Law School	Comp., Int'l & Mexican Law	May 29 - June 11; June 12 - 25 (Extern: June 27 - July 8)	May 15	\$1,800/3 cr	3-6	✓
<b>Panama</b>							
Panama City	Loyola University New Orleans	Comp. & Int'l law	July 16 - July 29	N/A	\$900/cr	4	

*Credits in parentheses are for externships*

Santa Clara Law's three-week program take advantage of the court's proximity by participating in hearings. Courses are taught in English, but participants can take Spanish language instruction and a cultural immersion program at no additional charge.

Delbridge said some of the lessons she learned while in Costa Rica could not have been learned in a classroom, including one about wardrobe choices.

"You have to be able to adapt to the communities you're serving," she said "You don't need to wear a suit in the rain forest."

Western Michigan University Cooley Law School offers the only summer program in Canada, with a program in Toronto.



**San Jose, Costa Rica**



# Asia & Australia



Sydney, Australia



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## Asia & Australia

There are 17 summer study abroad programs offered in Asia and Australia, with five in Beijing alone.

The Asia-Pacific region is home to three of the largest international legal markets: Hong Kong, Sydney and Tokyo. It makes sense, then, that many of the study abroad programs there focus on international business.

St. Mary's University School of Law Institute on Chinese Law and Business specifically prepares students for the challenges of representing clients doing business with Chinese partners. Through business-related courses and field trips, students get an introduction to the Chinese legal system.

Mississippi College offers a 24-day program in four cities in China and South Korea, with courses focused on jurisprudence. University of Akron's Japan program focuses on cross-border law and skills.

University of Akron is introducing a new program this year that will be split between Seoul, South Korea; Tokyo; and Nagoya, Japan.

Other programs explore comparative law, environmental law and human rights law.

While living in that hostel near Bondi Beach, Bendana was participating in Santa Clara University's program in Australia, the only summer program offered in that country. He took a class in human rights that focused on forced migration law and international environmental law, and he worked for an Australian solicitor



Justin Bendana and class in front of the Darlinghurst Courthouse alongside Sydney's Oxford Street.



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Beijing, China

who handled federal appeals cases for a legal aid group.

“A lot of what I learned in Australia will help me with handling criminal defense cases,” said Bendana, who is set to graduate in 2018 and has worked as a law clerk for a county public defender in California.

He said he learned that refugee law “is about listening to stories,” a useful skill for criminal defense attorneys.

Bendana said he had the opportunity to see a different way of life. He met people from a variety of backgrounds, as well as getting the chance to visit an Australian wildlife park.

Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>Asia &amp; Australia</b>							
<b>Australia</b>							
Sydney	Santa Clara University	Refugee & Human Trafficking Law	May 22 - June 9 (Intern: June 12 - July 21)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	4; (4)	✓
<b>China</b>							
Beijing	Brooklyn Law School, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles	World Legal Systems, Intro to Int'l Bankruptcy	May 21 - June 3	Feb. 24	\$850/cr; \$350 fee	1-3	
Beijing	IU McKinney School of Law		May 19 - June 3; May 19 - June 17	March 1	set by home school	2 or 5	✓
Beijing	John Marshall Law School	China IP Summer Program	June 4 - June 30; July 2 - July 28	March 9	\$1,517/cr	Up to 6	
Beijing	St. Mary's University	Int'l business law & China	May 22 - June 25	March 31	\$1,120/cr	5	✓
Beijing	University of Missouri - KC	China Summer Law	May 13 - June 4	April 1	\$4,395/4.5 cr	4.5 to 6	✓

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**Law, Cultural Heritage, & the Arts**  
Siena, Italy  
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**Protection of Human Rights in New Democracies and Emerging Markets**  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
June 4 - June 24

**Refugees, Migration, and the Legal Future**  
Cambridge, U.K.  
July 16 - July 29

**European Legal Studies**  
Paris, France  
June 25 - July 13

**ADR: Negotiation, Mediation, & Arbitration**  
Berlin, Germany  
July 31 - August 12

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Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
Chengdu, Xi'an, Beijing and Seoul, South Korea	Mississippi College	Jurisprudence	May 17 - June 9	March 15	\$3,300	4	
Hangzhou	Thomas Jefferson School of Law	Int'l & Comp. Law	May 15 - June 4	March 25	\$3,000	4	
Nanjing	Whittier Law School	Business Law, IP & Family Law	July 18 - 29; July 9 - 29; June 4 - July 29	Rolling	\$3,900 - \$8,430	Up to 7	✓
Shanghai	Santa Clara University	Doing Business in China	May 22 - June 9 (Intern: June 12 - July 21)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	4; (4)	✓
<b>Japan</b>							
Kyoto	Michigan State University	Public & Private Int'l Law	May 15 - June 13	March 30	\$1,100/cr	5	
Tokyo	Santa Clara University	Doing Business in Japan; IP	May 29 - June 20 (Intern: June 26 - July 28)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	4 to 5; 4*	✓
Tokyo, Nagoya & Seoul	University of Akron	Cross-Border Law & Skills	July 16 - Aug. 12	April 15	\$800/cr	6	
<b>Singapore</b>							
Singapore	Santa Clara University	Business in SE Asia; Human Rights	May 22 - June 9 (Intern: June 12 - July 21)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	4; (4 to 5)	✓
<b>South Korea</b>							
Seoul	Stetson University, Charleston School of Law, Mercer School of Law, Nova Southeastern, Roger Williams University, Oklahoma City University, University of Tulsa	Int'l Business & Trade Law	July 2 - 28	March 15	\$5,676/4 cr	4	
Seoul	Fordham University	Int'l & Comp. law	June 2 - 24 (Intern: June 26 - July 28)	March 9	\$2,500 - \$6,500	2, 4 or 6	✓
Seoul and Chengdu, Xi'an, Beijing, China	Mississippi College	Jurisprudence	May 17 - June 9	March 15	\$3,300	4	
<b>Vietnam</b>							
Ho Chi Minh City	Touro Law Center	Emerging Vietnam	I: May 23 - June 23; II: June 12-23	March 13	\$6,300/6 cr (Incl. housing)	Up to 6	

\*internship

# Summer Law Programs

## SUMMER 2017



**Berlin, Germany**  
*Global Workplace Law & Holocaust and the Law*

**May 22 - June 24, 2017** | Courses/Credits: 6 Credits Maximum

*Session 1: (May 22-June 8)*  
• Workplace Law in Global Context (3 credits)

*Session 2: (June 8-24)*  
• Holocaust and the Law (3 credits)

The program includes a bus tour of Berlin and a tour of the German Parliament. Berlin is a dynamic and metropolitan city with numerous connections to all parts of Europe.



**Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam**  
*Emerging Vietnam*

**May 23 - June 23, 2017** | Courses/Credits: 6 Credits Maximum

*Session 1: (May 23-June 7)*  
• Selected Topics in International Human Rights (3 credits)

*Intersession: Optional Cambodia Trip (June 7-11)*  
Visit Court trying Khmer Rouge leaders, Angkor Wat temple ruins

*Session 2: (June 12-23)*  
• Comparative Criminal Justice (3 credits)



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# Europe



London, England

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[www.law.georgetown.edu/london-summer-program](http://www.law.georgetown.edu/london-summer-program), or contact the Office of Transnational Programs at [lawtransnational@georgetown.edu](mailto:lawtransnational@georgetown.edu).



GEORGETOWN LAW

## Europe

Europe is the most popular destination for summer law study, with London topping the list. There are 12 programs in London alone, and seven in Oxford.

The United Kingdom is one of the most comfortable places to study, since it's the most similar to the U.S. One of the major pluses: You don't have to learn another language. Of course, that comfort comes with a high price tag. The United Kingdom is among the most expensive countries in the world.

Many schools with programs in the British Isles and across Europe offer courses in comparative law, while some focus on specialties such as media and entertainment law, human rights and international business.

Among the longest running U.K. programs is Ohio State University's at University of Oxford. It will celebrate its 30th year in June with courses ranging from comparative legal professions to global business negotiations.

At the other extreme, University of Denver will have its first program in Sorrento, Italy, this summer.

Many students who study in Europe are able to travel to other areas while they are abroad. That's what Brett Schweinberg did during a summer in Siena, Italy.

The second-year student at Tulane University Law School spent his time outside the classroom exploring Tuscany.

"It's nice that Siena is centrally locat-



Brett Schweinberg

ed, so you can take day trips or weekend trips by bus," he said. He spent a weekend backpacking on Elba, the island off the coast of Tuscany where French Emperor Napoleon lived in exile in 1814.

When fellow Tulane law student Jake Minster participated in his school's pro-



Classmates and Jake Minster at the Brandenburg Gate



# EXPAND YOUR LEGAL EDUCATION IN EUROPE OR SOUTH AMERICA



GALWAY



LONDON



PRAGUE



MALTA



SANTIAGO DE CHILE

## GALWAY

*June 18 - July 7, 2017, and July 10-28, 2017*

Located in one of the most beautiful parts of Ireland, this six-week international and comparative human rights law program is taught by experts from Ireland and the U.S. at the National University of Ireland, Galway. You will visit Irish courts, attend social events, and enjoy a trip to the Aran Islands on a dinner cruise.

## MALTA

*May 19 - June 15, 2017, and June 19-30, 2017*

South of Sicily, the Mediterranean Islands of Malta combine rich historical traditions with modern sensibilities, providing a unique setting for the study of international and comparative law at the University of Malta's Valletta Campus. Two long weekends allow for travel to nearby destinations.

## PRAGUE

*May 19 - June 15, 2017, and June 19-30, 2017*

Situated along the banks of the river Vltava, Charles University Faculty of Law hosts a summer program featuring a variety of international and comparative law courses. Spectacular architecture and a wealth of artistic and cultural treasures await your discovery. Two long weekends allow for travel to nearby destinations.

## LONDON

*July 4-13, 2017*

International Business Transactions:  
Doing Deals across the World

*July 17-27, 2017*

Comparative Criminal Law:  
From the Crime to the Courtroom

***Students may register for one or both sessions.***

The enchanting city of London provides an optimal environment to study international

and comparative law featuring two outstanding courses taught by U.S. and British teachers. Classes are four days a week, providing long weekends to experience the rich culture of London.

## SANTIAGO DE CHILE

*May 18 - June 24, 2017*

This summer program is part extreme sport, workplace action, corporate meeting, with a bit of performance art and street protests thrown in. In Santiago, a city of more than six million people, students will experience the reform process first-hand with leaders from the legal sector, including human rights advocates, senior law enforcement officials, corporate leaders, and members of the judiciary. There is an optional Spanish for Lawyers course to upgrade your language abilities. There are excellent ski resorts, thermal baths, wineries, coastal getaways, and top-end hiking treks within a ninety-minute drive from Santiago.



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**Vienna, Austria**

gram in Berlin, it inspired him to pursue employment in Germany. He also had the opportunity to observe Europe's refugee crisis.

"You can hear about it on the news, but it's not the same as seeing it firsthand," he said.

Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>Europe</b>							
<b>Austria</b>							
Innsbruck	St. Mary's University	Contemporary Global Legal Issues	July 3 - Aug. 4	April 1	\$1,200/cr	Up to 6	
Salzburg	McGeorge School of Law	Int'l Legal Studies	July 2 - July 21	March 1	\$975/cr	2 to 4	
Vienna	Loyola University New Orleans	Comp. & Int'l Law	July 2 - July 15	N/A	\$900/cr	3	
Vienna	Santa Clara University	Doing Business in the EU	May 22 - June 9 (Intern: June 12 - July 14)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	4; (4)	✓
Vienna	Wake Forest University	Int. Financial & Property Law	July 3 - July 27	May 1	\$4,000	5	
<b>Croatia</b>							
Opatija	Michigan State University	IP & Communications Law	July 13 - Aug. 31	April 16	\$1,100/cr	4	
<b>Czech Republic</b>							
Prague	South Texas College of Law Houston, California Western School of Law, Mitchell Hamline, New England Law/Boston	Comp. & Int'l Law	May 19 - June 15; June 19 - June 30	March 20	\$3,000/4 cr; \$4,500/6 cr		
<b>Denmark</b>							
Copenhagen	American University	Various subjects	Fall and Spring semesters	Fall: March 1; Spring: Sept. 1		4 to 6	
<b>France</b>							
Agen	Northern Illinois University		May 27 - July 7	April 1	\$6,700 (Incl. housing)	6	
Clermont-Ferrand	Florida Coastal School of Law	Comp. law	May 24 - July 1 (approx)	March 30	\$983/cr	4 to 8	
Lille	Mississippi College	Int'l & Comp. Law	June 27 - July 22	April 27	\$4,400	4	
Lyon	Louisiana State University	Various Int'l & Comp. law topics	July 12 - July 22	May 1	\$3,500 to \$6,500 (r)	Up to 7	
Nantes	Drake University	Summer in France	May 23 - June 28	March 20	\$6,450 (Incl. housing)	6	
Nice	Thomas Jefferson School of Law	Int'l & Comp. Law	June 25 - July 22	April 17	\$3,000	4	
Paris	Cornell Law School	Int'l & Comp. Public & Private Law	June 26 - July 29	Rolling	\$4,750/up to 6cr	Up to 6	
Paris	Tulane University	European Legal Studies	June 25 - July 13	May 31	\$3,200	4	✓
Paris	University of San Diego	Public Int'l Law	June 6 - July 1	May 31			
Paris & Arcachon	University of Iowa	Comp. & Int'l Law	May 17 - June 17	March 1 (Incl. housing)	\$7,500	6	
<b>Germany</b>							
Berlin	DePaul University	Intersectionality & Human Rights	July 17 - Aug. 10	May 1	\$4,900; \$495 fee	5	✓
Berlin	Mississippi College	Comp. health law	June 12 - June 23	April 21	\$3,300	3	
Berlin	Touro Law Center	Privacy, Workplace & Human Rights	May 22 - June 23	March 23	\$4,000/6 cr	Up to 6	
Berlin	Tulane University	ADR	July 31 - Aug. 13	May 31	\$2,400	3	✓
Hamburg	UC Hastings	Int'l. IP transactions	July 10 - July 28	May 1	€800	5	
Munich	George Washington University	IP law	May 29 - June 9	April 30	\$1,250/cr	up to 2	
Munich	Santa Clara University	Comp. IP Law	May 29 - June 23 (Intern: June 26 - July 21)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	5; 3*	✓
Nuremberg, The Hague, Auschwitz	Creighton University	Int'l Criminal Law & The Holocaust	July 2 - July 28	March 1	\$4,500	6	

\*internship



Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>Greece</b>							
Rhodes	Tulane University	Maritime Law	May 29 - June 16	May 15	\$3,400	4	✓
Spetses Island	Loyola University New Orleans	Comp. & Int'l law	June 18 - July 1	N/A	\$900/cr	Up to 3	
<b>Ireland</b>							
Dublin	Quinnipiac University	Irish & Comp. Law	May 22 - June 23	April 1	\$825/cr	Up to 6	
Dublin	University of Tulsa	Institute in European & Int'l Law	June 2 - July 2	April 1 or until program fills	\$3,730		✓
Dublin, Belfast	Duquesne University	EU Law; Int'l arbitration & dispute resolution; human rights	May 20 - June 10	Jan. 30	\$7,390 (incl. housing, airfare)	4.5	
Dublin, Belfast	Fordham University	Int'l & Comp. law	May 28 - June 17 (Intern: June 19 - July 28)	April 8	\$3,750	3	✓
Dublin, Dingle, Ireland & Bangor, Wales	University of Missouri - KC	EU Law	May 14 - June 11	April 15	\$5,200	6	
Galway	New England Law   Boston	Int'l Human Rights Law	June 18 - July 28	April 1	\$6,350 (incl. housing)	Up to 6	
<b>Italy</b>							
Bologna	Brooklyn Law School, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles	Int'l & Comp. Law	May 21 - June 3	Feb. 24	\$850/cr	3	
Florence	Gonzaga University	Social justice & Int'l human rights	May 21 - June 16	Feb. 15	\$5,140	4	
Pisa	Hofstra University	Int'l & Comp. law	May 21 - June 14	April 7	\$2,948/3cr; \$4,913/5cr	3 or 5	
Rome	Loyola University Chicago	Intl Lw; IHR; IBT	June 5 - July 18	March 7	\$750/cr	4	
Rome	St. John's University	Various EU subjects	May 28 - June 28	April 1	\$5,100	6-7	
Rome	Temple University	Int'l & Comp. law	May 24 - June 23	March 1	\$3,350	up to 6	✓
Siena	Tulane University	Int'l Law, Cultural Heritage & Arts	May 28 - June 22	May 31	\$4,000	5	✓
Sorrento	University of Denver		May 22 - June 16	March 10	\$975/cr + \$675 fee	6	✓
Venice	Vanderbilt University	Public & private Int'l law	May 22 - June 9; June 13 - June 30	May 1	\$6,100/8 cr	up to 8	✓
<b>Lithuania</b>							
Kaunas	Texas Tech University	Int'l & EU Law	May 27 - June 12	March 15	\$2,400/3 cr	3 to 6	✓



**American University Washington College of Law's 2017 programs include:**

**European Law and International Business Law** – London, Paris, Brussels, Luxembourg

May 28 – June 25 | 6 credits

**International Criminal Law and International Legal Approaches to Terrorism** – The Hague, Netherlands

May 28 – June 25 | 6 credits

**International Organizations, Law and Diplomacy** – Geneva, Switzerland

June 26 – July 14 | 4 credits

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## Valetta, Malta

Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>Malta</b>							
Valletta	South Texas College of Law Houston, California Western School of Law, Mitchell Hamline School of Law	Comp. & Int'l Law	May 27 - June 23; June 27 - July 8	March 20	\$3,000/4 cr; \$4,500/6cr		
<b>Netherlands</b>							
Delft	St. Thomas University	Water Law course	May 16 - May 24	April 30	\$1,700; fee for housing	1	
The Hague	American University	Int'l Criminal Law	May 28 - June 25	Rolling; Priority: March 31	\$11,136/6 cr (Incl. housing)	6	
The Hague	Santa Clara University	Int'l Criminal Justice	May 29 - June 9	March 24	\$1,000/cr	3	
The Hague	Stetson University, Charleston School of Law, Mercer School of Law, Nova Southeastern, Roger Williams University, Oklahoma City University	Int'l Courts & Tribunals	July 2 - 28	March 15	\$5,676/4 cr	4	
<b>Poland</b>							
Bialystok	Michigan State University	EU/US Comp. Law	May 29 - June 24	April 15	\$1,100/cr	5	✓
Cracow	Catholic University	Int'l Trade & Business	June 10 - July 12	March 12	\$1,000/cr	3 to 6	✓
<b>Scotland</b>							
Aberdeen	University of Baltimore, University of Maryland	Int'l & Comp. Law	July 10 - Aug. 4	April 30	\$3,250	6	
St Andrews	Baylor University	Trial & Appellate Advocacy	July 30 - Aug. 6	Rolling	\$7,670 (incl. fees)		
<b>Spain</b>							
Barcelona	Whittier Law School	Sports & Entertainment; IP Law	July 1 - July 29	Rolling	\$5,100	Up to 6	✓
El Escorial	St. Thomas University	Int'l & Comp. law	May 27 - June 27	April 30	\$5,975	6	
Granada	Stetson University, Charleston School of Law, Mercer University, Nova Southeastern, Oklahoma City University	Int'l Animal & Food Law	June 4 - June 30	March 15	\$5,676/4 cr	4	
Madrid	DePaul University	EU Human Rights, Business & Commercial	May 18 - June 9	April 15	\$4,900, \$475 fee	5	✓
Madrid	Saint Louis University	Int'l & Comp. Law	May 22 - July 3	Early: Jan. 15 Reg: March 27	\$4,900/6 cr	Up to 6	
Madrid	Seattle University	Study Law in Madrid	July 10 - 21	March 4	\$3,075; Program fee: \$285	3	✓
Madrid	University of New Mexico	EU Law & Int'l Law	May 28 - June 24	May 19	\$740/cr	5	
Seville	Florida International University	Comp. Criminal & Property Law	May 29 - July 5	April 15	\$4,500 /6 cr	6	
<b>Switzerland</b>							
Geneva	American University	Law of Int'l Organizations, Int'l Trade, IP	June 26 - July 14	Rolling; Priority: March 31	\$7,424/4 cr (Incl. housing)	4	
Geneva	Duke University	Comp. law	June 25 - July 25	June 2	TBA	Up to 6	
Geneva	Santa Clara University	Int'l Law & Human Rights	June 12 - July 7 (Intern: May 22 - July 28)	March 24	\$1,000/cr	5; 3-5*	✓



Location	School	Program Subject	Program Dates	App. Deadline	Tuition	Credits	Ext.
<b>United Kingdom</b>							
Cambridge	Tulane University	Refugees, Migration	July 16-29	May 31	\$2,400	3	✓
Cambridge	University of Mississippi, University of Nebraska, University of Arkansas Fayetteville, University of Tennessee	Int'l & Comp. Law	June 26 - Aug. 4	April 1	\$3,995	5 to 7	
Cambridge	University of Richmond	Int'l & Comp. law	July 2 - Aug. 6	April 1	\$3,170	6	
London, Paris, Strasbourg, Luxembourg	American University	Int'l business & EU law	May 28 - June 25	Rolling; Priority: March 31	\$11,136/6 cr (Incl. housing)	6	
London	Georgetown University		July 2 - Aug. 1	April 1	\$5,000	3 to 6	
London	Mitchell Hamline School of Law	Int'l Arbitration	June 19 - July 21	April 15	\$750/cr	6	
London	Mitchell Hamline School of Law	Deals & Disputes Across the Atlantic	July 4 -13 and/or July 12 - 27	March 24	\$750/cr	6	
London	New York Law School	Int'l Law (Business, IP, Finance)	May 24 - June 15	April 3	\$5,450	4	✓
London	Southern University	Affordable London	June 26 - Aug. 6	April 20	\$4,495	6	
London	Southwestern Law School	Entertainment & Media Law	June 11 - July 14	Rolling	\$8,750 (Incl. housing)	3 to 6	
London	Syracuse University	Legal internship placements	May 18 - July 8	Feb. 10	\$11,100	6	✓
London	University of Notre Dame	IP Law	July 18 - Aug. 5	April 1	\$4,000	3	
London	University of San Diego	Int'l Business Law	July 3 - July 29	April 28			
London	Wake Forest University	Common Law & Civil Litigation	May 29 - June 22	May 1	\$4,000 (r); \$4,500 (nr)	5	
Oxford	Florida State University		June 26 - Aug 3	May 3	\$8,990 (Incl. housing)	4 to 6	
Oxford	George Washington University	Intellectual Property Law	July 10 - Aug. 6	April 1	\$7,705	5	
Oxford	Ohio State University	Comp. Law	June 25 - July 30	March 15	\$7,400	6	
Oxford	Santa Clara University	Tutorials in Comp. law	June 28 - July 28	March 24	\$1,000/cr	5	
Oxford	Stetson University	Comp. Trial Advocacy	July 30 - Aug. 12	March 15	\$4,257/3 cr	3	
Oxford	University of Oklahoma		May 19 - June 3; May 19 - June 17	April 17	\$3,950	4 to 6	
Oxford	WMU-Cooley	Int'l & Comp. Law	July 3 - Aug. 4	April 1	TBD	6	

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# 6 tips on extracurriculars

| Which groups to join, when, and how much to be involved.

*Editor's note: Every issue, we ask seasoned law students to pass along what they have learned.*

I recommended being 100 percent dedicated to books and studying during your first year. I wish I would have known that first-year grades carry you through your entire law school career. I spent too much time networking and attending events. My grades are not what they should be, and my networking does not make up for that. After grades are released, students should try to join groups that fulfill their professional curiosities. I recommend students get involved in one legal-related club indirectly linked to their school. I have been a member of a public-service-oriented group since the beginning of my second year. While [it helped] me fulfill my pro bono requirement, I have been exposed to my surrounding city and different attorneys in a way that goes deeper and further than just the regular law school exposure.



*Olutomi Odukoya  
Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, 2017*

During your first year, as important as it is to study, outline and be prepared for class, make time to engage in extracurricular activities offered by different student body organizations at your school or bar organizations in your area. Engaging in these activities helps you to stay abreast of new developments in the legal field and simultaneously network with individuals who are interested in similar topics. These networking relationships will last you for a long time after your law school graduation.



*Lauren Johnson  
Brooklyn Law School, 2017*

I would caution first-year law students to assess their adjustment to the law school life, and then determine if getting involved with any student organization would inter-

fer with their studies. The first year of law school is filled with so much excitement and new challenges. If you feel you can properly manage your studies, classes and be involved in an organization, then by all means, join.



There are a lot of student organizations that are ethnically titled — Black Law Students Association, Asian Law Students Association, Hispanic Law Students Association, etc. Join those organizations that are of your ethnic background, but also explore and join those organizations that are not of your ethnic background. All of the student organizations have bylaws that are targeted toward the development and refinement of law students. Take advantage of the opportunity to work with all of your peers.

*Shunee D. Sabbath  
Arizona Summit Law School, 2016*

Take part in student organizations devoted to areas of the law that interest you or have values and affiliations close to your heart. Not only will you meet upper-level law students who can help support you by providing outlines, study tips or borrowed books [but also] you will have access to a network of former members turned attorneys that may be able to assist you with career development.



I joined the Latino/a Law Student Association and the Student FBA (Federal Bar Association) my first year of law school and am now involved in both organizations' leadership. They helped me find a community of people that support my ambitions and that have provided me with valuable mentorship (through the Hispanic Bar Association) and with an opportunity to extern with a respected federal magistrate judge.

*Amy Mattson  
Mitchell Hamline School of Law, 2018*

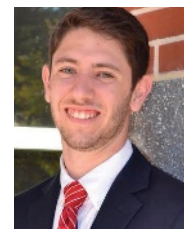
Although it is great being involved in organizations or extracurriculars you enjoy, it is very important that you are also getting something in return. Be involved in things that will give you exposure to others in the profession and put you in a position to work on your skill sets. As a law student, time is extremely valuable, so it is important



that you are involved in things that will ultimately benefit you in the long run. I joined one organization the second semester of my first year. At that time, I felt I had a good handle on my classes and participating would not be too overwhelming. As a member of an organization, you have to ensure that you are fully capable of being a dedicated member, and that is hard to manage if you are still not fully adjusted to law school.

*Alexandria Epps  
Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law, 2017*

I would recommend joining organizations as early as possible. Many organizations utilize 1L representatives to spread the word about upcoming events. 1L representatives are responsible for posting in their section groups and addressing their peers before classes begin to announce important information. Participating in an organization as a 1L representative helps to establish relationships with students outside the secluded section you were assigned to for



your first year. In addition to building personal relationships with other students, being a 1L representative helps prepare you for a leadership position. If you're interested in taking on a larger roll, join the organization as soon as possible in order to familiarize yourself with its operations and the types of events that it holds throughout the year.

*Jeremy Sokol  
University of Florida Levin College of Law, 2017*





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- Afternoons and 3-day weekends to explore and travel
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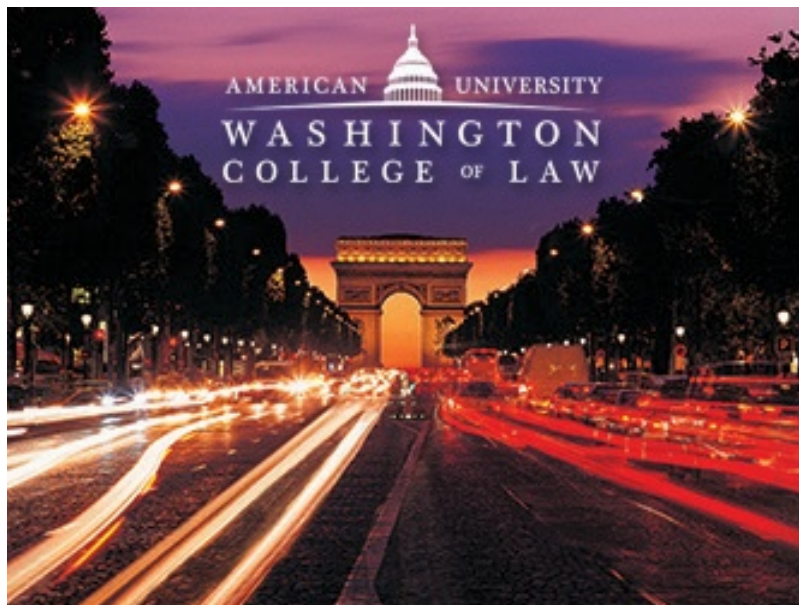
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The Moritz College of Law and the University of Oxford have teamed up to run the Summer Law Program since 1987, educating law students in a variety of comparative and international law topics. This year the program will offer courses in Comparative Legal Professions, Comparative Sentencing and Punishment, European Union Law, Comparative Election Law, and Business Negotia-



tions in a Global Environment.

In addition to the regularly scheduled classes, the program features at least six lectures by prominent scholars in their respective fields and numerous educational and cultural side trips.



Santa Clara University's School of Law has one of the biggest and longest running law study abroad programs in the country. Running programs since the 1970s, SCU currently has 10 programs and internship opportunities in 32 locations. Programs cover the following areas of law: human rights, business, intellectual property, and environmental. There is also the opportunity for Oxford Classic Tutorials.







## SOUTHWESTERN LAW SCHOOL

Los Angeles, California ■ [www.swlaw.edu](http://www.swlaw.edu)

With a long-standing emphasis on diversity, public service and innovative programs, and a mid-city campus featuring a world-renowned Art Deco landmark, Southwestern Law School reflects the vibrancy of Los Angeles and provides an ideal setting for law study. Founded more than 100 years ago as an independent, nonprofit, nonsectarian institution, Southwestern is fully approved by the ABA and is a member of the AALS. It is the only law school to offer four JD courses of study that differ in scheduling and instructional approach, including full- and part-time programs, as well as a unique two-year accelerated curriculum. Concurrent three- and four-year JD/MBA programs are also offered.



**School Bio:** Based in Philadelphia, PA, Temple University Beasley School of Law is a top-tier law school with nationally ranked programs in international law, trial advocacy, and legal research and writing. Temple's rigorous curriculum and groundbreaking experiential programs prepare graduates for practice in any field, while our study abroad, summer abroad, and foreign exchange programs prepare them to practice anywhere in the world. For those who want to continue their legal education beyond the J.D., Temple also offers a variety of dual-degree programs as well as LL.M. programs in Asian Law, Transnational Law, Tax, an LL.M. for Foreign-



Trained Lawyers, and an LL.M. program in Beijing, China. For a legal education that can take you anywhere, the place to begin is Temple Law.

Contact Info: Tel. 800-560-1428; email: [lawadmis@temple.edu](mailto:lawadmis@temple.edu)



**TOURO COLLEGE**  
**JACOB D. FUCHSBERG LAW CENTER**  
*Where Knowledge and Values Meet*

Established in 1980, Touro Law Center offers full-time, part-time day, and part-time four- and five-year evening programs as well as a two-year accelerated program. And, students may begin law school in January at Touro. Concentrations are offered in four areas including Aging and Longevity Law, Criminal Law, Land Use & Sustainable Development Law, and Solo & Small Practice Law.

The Law Center is located in Central Islip on the south shore of Long Island at the center of what is arguably the nation's first integrated law campus, comprising a US courthouse and federal building and a New York State court center, with supreme, family, and district courts.

The cutting-edge curriculum expands the scope and quality of legal education by focusing on the



development of legal professionals, from prelaw through postgraduation. Additionally, Touro is a leader in bridging the gap between law school and legal practice, and between the classroom and the courtroom.



UNIVERSITY of  
**DENVER**

STURM COLLEGE OF LAW

Through Denver Law, students can choose to participate in our study abroad programs in Sorrento, Italy or Antigua, Guatemala. The latter is through a partnership with the University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law and in affiliation with Gonzaga University School of Law. These programs provide law students with an introduction to the legal institutions of another country and the option to take courses that are outside the standard law school curriculum.





"The Madrid Summer Law Institute is a four-week, five-credit summer law program in Madrid, Spain. The program is open to law students, graduate students, and legal professionals from around the world. Classes meet only on Mondays through Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., giving students ample opportunity to experience life in Europe."



UNIVERSITY OF THE  
**PACIFIC**  
McGeorge School of Law

McGeorge was a pioneer in overseas summer law school programs. The law school's long-standing Summer Program on International Legal Studies has been operating continuously in the beautiful city of Salzburg, Austria since 1975. Join us this summer and enroll in a course co-taught by U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, and comparative law courses taught by European and American scholars, professors, and practitioners! Salzburg is located at the geographic and historic crossroads of Central Europe. Classes are held in the Law Faculty building of the University of Salzburg, located in a renovated 16th Century palace in the heart of Salzburg's historic Old Town, a cultural landmark, which is on the UNESCO World Heritage List. #McGeorgeSalzburg

Enjoy guided walks and visits to District Court Salzburg Stadt and Salzburg State Parliament.



**WASHBURN**  
UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF LAW



Spend an exciting summer in the Caribbean learning about Comparative Constitutional Law and Comparative Trade Law. Join Washburn University School of Law's Summer Study Abroad Program at The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, from May 19 to June 30, 2017. This unique joint U.S.-Caribbean program is open to all U.S. law students and is ABA accredited. Apply by April 15!

Excursions vary by year, but include:

- Two excursions to legal institutions, which in the past have included Parliament and the Caribbean Development Bank
- Full-day Island Safari, including an adventure jeep tour and a catamaran cruise