

The 2005/2006 BCG Attorney Search Guide

TO CLASS RANKING DISTINCTIONS AND LAW REVIEW ADMISSION AT AMERICA'S TOP-50 LAW SCHOOLS

BALDWIN UNIVERSITY, BOSTON COLLEGE, BOSTON UNIVERSITY, BYU, BROWN CLARK LAW SCHOOL, COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, CORNELL UNIVERSITY, DUKE UNIVERSITY, EMORY UNIVERSITY, FORDHAM, GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY, GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY, HARVARD UNIVERSITY, NORTHWESTERN, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY (NYU), OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, MORITZ SCHOOL OF LAW, SOUTHERN METHODIST, STANFORD, UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA DAVIS, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HAAS/SCLAIR, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES (UCLA), UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, IOWA/CUM GRADUATION, UNIVERSITY OF INDIANA, UNIVERSITY OF IOWA, UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, UNIVERSITY OF UTAH, UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, YALE, YERKES UNIVERSITY, YALE



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THE LAW SCHOOL BIBLE

The goal of this book is to give law firms a “law school bible” in which they can find complete information on individual law schools. To this end, we have gathered as much information as we can from as many sources as possible and organized it so that it is easily found for the Top-50 law schools as identified by the 2006 *U.S. News & World Report* Law School rankings¹. The goal is to demystify the grading and ranking systems for the nation’s Top-50 law schools and provide the reader with an objective and greater understanding of what it means to be a member of the particular journals and law reviews at these schools.

We will address a law school’s geographic location, faculty strength and accessibility, class size, library and study and research facilities, academic honors and awards offered, moot court and clinical programs, student organizations and extra-curricular activities, entering class acceptance percentages and GPA and LSAT scores, OCIP program, post-law school employment statistics, plus an overall sense of the atmosphere existing at each school.

OUR SOURCES

As noted, we started with 2004 law-school rankings provided by the *U.S. News & World Report*. Of all the various guides available on law schools, we concentrated on the Princeton Review’s 2004 Complete Book of Law Schools, The ABA-LSAC Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools and the NALP Directory. Just to be sure, we also checked each of the 50 top law schools’ websites and contacted Admissions Offices and Offices of Career Services. Each law school discussed in this book was given our completed version of information about that school and invited to provide corrections or verification of the data, in order to present the most current and accurate information available to date. Finally, we did our own informal and admittedly random sampling of recent graduates of the top-50 schools, and we used some of these quotes to provide a personal flavor to what otherwise might have been a mere recitation of facts. Upon occasion, there were complaints as to tone, and we made changes when we felt they would not compromise the objectivity we sought.

ONE NOTE

We have done our best to provide you with consistent information for each of the top-50 law schools listed. There were instances when law schools were reluctant to provide the information we requested. In addition, information between guides occasionally conflicted. We have done our best to eliminate such discrepancies, but if any should come to your attention, please let us know.

1. Abbie Willard, Ph.D., a Georgetown University Law Center assistant dean for Career Services, in her article Law School Rankings: Through the Education and Employment Looking Glass, Page 4, found in its entirety on <https://www.nalp.org/schools/rank1.htm>, writes that “U.S. News’ two types of information collection—opinion polls and statistical reporting—are unsatisfactory for different reasons: individual perceptions (of judges and lawyers) are flawed on the one hand, and statistics cannot convey subjective quality on the other. Even the variety of data requested has been challenged because deans and hiring partners disagree among themselves and with one another as to any meaningful and measurable definitions of quality.” But Dr. Willard does not completely dismiss these annual rankings. She adds on the same page that “Although this ranking system has been criticized as not providing a balanced view of what individual law schools have to offer and as being to reliant on subjectively reported data, it has also been praised for modifying its research techniques, more precisely defining its terms, and adapting its analysis and report in response to the needs of the profession.” What Dr. Willard is saying in sum is that although the U.S. News & World Report law school rankings are flawed, they represent, at the present moment, the best relatively unbiased source we have.

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DECODING LAW SCHOOL RANKING SYSTEMS: HOW TO SEPARATE THE BEST FROM THE REST

THE TRANSCRIPT: WHAT IT SAYS AND DOESN'T SAY

Increasingly large numbers of hiring partners are guilty of making hiring decisions based on faulty assumptions that may no longer be true or relevant regarding law schools. This guide diminishes reliance on outdated assumptions and appries law firms of the most up-to-date information on how law school transcripts translate in terms of law student achievement.

For starters, you have probably noticed that law schools often refuse to rank their students: They give all sorts of reasons for this behavior—from asserting that such fine distinctions are meaningless to advancing that their students are selected from the cream of the undergraduate crop, thus leading to a quality candidate no matter what his/her achievement in law school. Indeed, some law schools do not use numerical or letter grading systems, opting instead for a mix of Credit/No Credit and Honors, Pass, Low Pass designations for classes but where the tiers bear no relation to an A, B, or C. This brings us to a dilemma. How does one determine just how well an attorney candidate did vis-à-vis his/her law-school peers at different schools? Here's an oft-experienced hypothetical.

You receive a resume from John Doe. He attended Law School X, which the *U.S. News & World Report* designates as one of America's top ten. You notice that this candidate has a B average. You assume that someone with a B average from a top-ten law school will have placed in approximately the top third of his/her class. What you might not know is that at this top-ten law school, a B is the average grade.

The law school in question, like most others, is merely trying to present its graduates as attractively as possible. Constructing the grading system so that all of them can be B students is but one way this can be accomplished.

Your job as a recruiter for your firm or business is to get the best attorney you can. This usually means selecting someone who has excelled over others, finishing in at least the top half of his/her class. With the tools this book provides, you will be able to do this. You'll have at your disposal the key markers that tell you how well a student has performed relative to his/her peers at any law school.

One way to decipher comparative achievement is to look at honors distinctions an attorney may have earned; namely—*summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, or *cum laude*; or with Honors. We'll tell you what these designations really mean, because they differ from law school to law school. You might also check to see if your candidate was a member of any honors societies, such as Order of the Coif or Law Review. But a caution is in order here. Again, qualifications for law review differ depending on the law school. You must search in this book for the law school in question and check to see what such an honor designates.

LAW FIRM HIRING CRITERIA

Firms seek the best intellectual capital they can buy. This intellectual capital tends, according to popular wisdom, to be concentrated at a handful of law schools—no more than fifteen and perhaps as few as ten. Such schools hold leading positions because they are known to be the toughest to enter, meaning the average grades and LSAT scores of their entering classes are higher than those of competing schools.

HAIRSPLITTING

Within these law schools, Harvard and Yale are widely held in highest esteem, with, say, Stanford, the University of Chicago, and Columbia also highly regarded, but a step behind. Thus, even though the differences between Stanford's 3.73-3.95 median grade point average and Yale's 3.80-3.97 may seem like monumental hair splitting, such distinctions become meaningful in the world of competitive national and international law firms, which like to boast that their high hourly fees are justified because only they can afford to harness the best legal talent available to serve a corporation or individual's needs.

Selection processes in all cultures come down to perception, demonstrated performance, and personal preference. Pre-teens in gym class choose teams based on observed or perceived ability and to a minor degree on gut feeling. Selection processes organized by adults do not vary all that much from the pre-teen model; although in economic entities such as law firms, perceived reputation of a candidate's law school and demonstrated performance in that law school by the candidate, usually trump consideration of a candidate's personal qualities, except in rare instances, such as when the candidate lacks even a modicum of social skills.

Most law firms chose attorneys by entering a bidding war. Big international firms routinely pay the highest salaries, so for the most part, they buy the "best" talent. Everyone else chooses from what is left. This is not to deny that this process bypasses much talent. And it should also not be implied that all attorneys rated highest by law firms decide to work there. Attorneys can and do choose work for the government, in small boutique operations, and in public interest law. They also opt for lines of work other than the law. However, it is still an operable assumption that the best college students end up at the best law schools and will be hired by the most prestigious, highest paying firms, which are working on the highest-profile local, national, and international issues.

No selection process is perfect. Later in this article, we shall introduce new research that raises questions as to how law firms currently make their hiring decisions; but first, we will describe the system currently employed to measure and select the best attorneys.

IDENTIFYING TALENT

So how do law schools identify the "best" talent? And once this talent is trained, how do law firms identify it? There are three parts to this answer: college and law school grades, the Law School Aptitude Test (LSAT) score, and for law firms, the "quality" of the law school attended. Attorneys presumed to have the most talent are those who, in comparison with their peers, have accumu-

lated the highest grades when measured by as many as 60 or 70 different “evaluation events.” These events begin during a student’s freshman year. They continue through four years of college, followed by three years of law school. Results of these “evaluation events” are then averaged out. The resulting number is used to place the student on a scale that starts with perfection (typically, all A’s, based on a 4.0 GPA) and proceeds downward. Students with the best college grades and LSAT scores become eligible for entrance into the best law schools. A student’s GPA in law school determines class ranking (top 10%, 30%, etc.). A high class ranking makes the lawyer eligible for consideration by the highest-paying, most prestigious national and international law firms.

In addition to the GPA, this same attorney talent pool is also measured by a single LSAT score. This one-time “evaluation event” is combined with the cumulative GPA to provide a numerical picture of a newly minted attorney and how he/she compares with others ranked by the exact same criteria.

IT’S ALL ABOUT THE LAW SCHOOL ²

Higher grades and LSAT scores predictably result in admission to a higher ranked law school. As we shall see, the law school an attorney attends may well be the most important factor in talent selection. For example, if a law school boasts of a student population with an average score on the LSAT in the top 2% of that year’s test-taking population, plus a cumulative college grade point average exceeding 3.60, then as a whole, this law school’s students will arguably be more talented than students from a different law school where LSAT scores fall in the top 20-30% range and cumulative college grade point averages are in the area of 3.2. Using this logic, a graduate in the top half of the class at a highly competitive law school will, in the mind of a law firm recruiter, be considered more talented than a graduate in the top fifth of the class at a less competitive law school. This comparison is, of course, somewhat of an oversimplification, and we shall examine the problem with such an assumption in such logic in a moment.

To select a first-year class, law schools use two primary criteria—college grades and LSAT scores. College grades measure ability to excel at intellectual activity over an extended period. In contrast, the LSAT reputedly measures legal aptitude at a given point in time. Some law schools factor in the relative “quality” of the undergraduate university and/or evidence of grade inflation when computing grades. Whereas grades require some subjective evaluation, an LSAT score does not: it stands immutable and is not subject to interpretation and manipulation. Unlike grades, what makes the LSAT such a powerful influence is that once a law school or law firm knows a candidate attorney’s LSAT score, it knows with some certainty how this candidate’s raw “legal aptitude” ranks in comparison with others, regardless of the quality of the student’s undergraduate institution or the relative rigor of the courses taken.

But it is not enough to have a high GPA and a high LSAT score. It is arguably more important to parlay these high scores into admittance to a top law school. Because the highest-paying and most prestigious law firms only interview at the relatively few law schools that contain students with both superior LSAT scores and GPAs.

Thus, if a student has superior scores, but for one reason or another does not attend a top law school, he/she risks being overlooked.

The problem that law schools such as Columbia have is choosing from among so many good students. Columbia could probably choose a law school class filled with 4.0-GPA students with LSATs of 166 or higher. Thus, the selection process requires examination of other factors. These include a student’s outside intellectual interests, such as a doctorate in nuclear physics, and non-intellectual interests, such as presidency of one’s senior class, stature as a college athlete, or some other means of distinguishing one’s candidacy from the typical academically gifted applicant.

2. For anyone interested in an in-depth study of law school comparisons and their inherent flaws, see “Ranking the Law Schools: The Reality of Illusion?” by Scott Van Alstyne, published in the American Bar Foundation Research Journal, No. 3, 1982.

IDENTIFYING THE BEST LAW SCHOOLS

Identifying the best law schools is possible by isolating a number of objective and subjective factors. These factors can include the average GPA of a law school's entering class, the average LSAT of this class, the acceptance rate of the class (what percentage of all applicants actually attended), and library size. Admittedly, these are random choices. They are used because they can be numerically described, although as we shall see, using such statistics does not completely rule out subjective judgment—historical reputation and prestige—which goes hand in hand with a profession that retains an air of aristocracy about its long-standing educational institutions.

Let's concentrate for a moment only on the LSAT score. In the *2006 U.S. News & World Report ranking of law schools*, the game has changed a little. No longer is median LSAT a criterion for ranking; rather, the range of LSAT score from the 25th to the 75th percentile is reported and used for the ranking. When one searches the list using the U.S. News website and enters the filtering criteria as 165 LSAT, a list of 35 schools is generated.

RANK	SCHOOL	LSAT 25TH – 75TH PERCENTILE: E FULL-TIME STUDENTS
27	Boston College	162-166
20	Boston University	162-165
35	Brigham Young University (J. Reuben Clark)	160-166
58	Cardozo-Yeshiva University	161-166
27	College of William and Mary (Marshall-Wythe)	160-165
4	Columbia University	167-173
28	Cornell University	164-168
11	Duke University	162-169
32	Emory University	161-165
27	Fordham University	163-167
41	George Mason University	159-166
20	George Washington University	162-166
14	Georgetown University	166-170
2	Harvard University	169-175
5	New York University	167-172
10	Northwestern University	166-170

3	Stanford University	166-172
39	University of California (Hastings)	160-165
11	University of California--Berkeley	161-168
15	University of California--Los Angeles	163-168
6	University of Chicago	167-171
26	University of Illinois--Urbana-Champaign	160-165
8	University of Michigan--Ann Arbor	164-169
19	University of Minnesota--Twin Cities	160-166
24	University of Notre Dame	162-167
7	University of Pennsylvania	166-171
18	University of Southern California (Gould)	163-167
15	University of Texas-Austin	162-167
8	University of Virginia	166-171
27	University of Washington	159-166
17	Vanderbilt University	164-166
36	Wake Forest University	160-165
22	Washington and Lee University	162-167
24	Washington University in St. Louis	162-167
1	Yale University	168-175

Note that the 165 filter does not reflect a median above 165 but rather, according to the web site, “the search will return schools with LSAT scores that fall in your specified range for the 2004 entering class.”³ As such, regarding the Top-50 schools, University of California-Hastings, ranked 38, makes the 165 LSAT cut, but one must go to Cardozo-Yeshiva University, ranked 58, to find the last school within the 165 LSAT cutoff.

Any law firm partner glancing at this list will bring to it his/her own informal ranking system, and certain old standbys always appear on such lists: schools such as Harvard, Yale, the University of Chicago, Stanford, Columbia, Michigan, and Virginia. These seven law schools may move one or two places up or down, but they are always ranked in the top ten. Other schools, such as NYU, Duke, Georgetown, Northwestern, and Pennsylvania are, for whatever reason, seldom accorded the same respect. This may be the point of the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings—to show skeptics that when certain objective criteria are applied—such as LSAT scores, college cumulative GPA, and other criteria—other schools deserve a fresh look.

Now, if one examines the 25th percentile and uses a 165 LSAT cutoff, one finds that the following schools are listed: Columbia, Georgetown, Harvard, New York University, Northwestern, Stanford,

³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/tools/premium/law_srch_advanced.php#lsat

University of Chicago, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia, and Yale. Accordingly, if one accepts the LSAT as a strong predictor of performance as an attorney, one might wish to look only at those 10 schools, as 75% of their class is above the 165 mark and arguably an opaque grading system would be less of an issue.

Nonetheless, you might argue there is little difference between a 160 and a 165 on the LSAT. The difference could easily be an emotionally good or bad day for the test taker. Yet, such small differences in score become significant when applying to law schools, which know that if they start admitting too many people with just slightly lower test scores than previously, they jeopardize their position in the upcoming year's *U.S. News & World Report* ranking. Indeed, as one scholar has noted a school wishing to move up in the rankings could try and focus on changing their LSAT admission profile so that their 25th percentile was quite high and forgo trying to build a diverse class that includes students with unique experiences and backgrounds, but who may have slightly lower LSAT scores.⁴

What happens when cumulative undergraduate grade point average (UGPA) is factored in? Again, *U.S. News & World Report* provides the range, from the 25th to 75th percentile. As such, using the 25th percentile to sort the list, one finds the following:

RANK	SCHOOL	UGPA 25%	UGPA 75%
1	Yale University	3.79	3.96
3	Stanford University	3.77	3.94
2	Harvard University	3.73	3.94
11	University of California–Berkeley	3.63	3.9
5	New York University	3.57	3.85
18	University of Southern California	3.54	3.76
35	Brigham Young University (J.Reuben Clark)	3.53	3.86
4	Columbia University	3.5	3.83
17	Vanderbilt University	3.5	3.8
8	University of Virginia	3.49	3.82
19	University of Minnesota–Twin Cities	3.48	3.81
6	University of Chicago	3.47	3.78
10	Northwestern University	3.47	3.78
15	University of California–Los Angeles	3.47	3.84
27	University of Washington	3.47	3.84
7	University of Pennsylvania	3.45	3.81

4 In a forthcoming article, *The Interplay Between Ranking Criteria and Effects: Toward Responsible Rankings*, Professor Jeffrey Stake of the University of Indiana Law School-Bloomington, notes that given that the U.S. News & World Report ranking has abandoned using a median LSAT score, schools wishing to improve the LSAT component of their ranking will logically have to move the 25th percentile up and possibly not admit students with a lower LSAT, but an overall more interesting application file.

8	University of Virginia	3.49	3.82
19	University of Minnesota–Twin Cities	3.48	3.81
6	University of Chicago	3.47	3.78
10	Northwestern University	3.47	3.78
15	University of California–Los Angeles	3.47	3.84
27	University of Washington	3.47	3.84
7	University of Pennsylvania	3.45	3.81
20	Boston University	3.45	3.76
20	George Washington University	3.45	3.78
48	University of Colorado–Boulder	3.45	3.84
8	University of Michigan–Ann Arbor	3.44	3.77

Clearly, the old standbys are duplicated in this list: Berkeley, Columbia, Harvard, NYU, Stanford, Virginia, and Yale, along with some that are considered a little less prestigious. But within the top 10 of this breakdown, we find BYU, USC, and Vanderbilt.

Comparing the top-10 LSAT and GPA lists from above, we find that only Columbia, Harvard, New York University, Stanford, and Yale make both lists. Thus, based on raw legal aptitude and cumulative undergraduate grade point averages, these five schools can be presumed to contain the most talent. And yet, note that Chicago, a school that few would argue is one of the best in the country and is 6 on the *U.S. News & World Report* overall ranking, drops out of the top schools when looking only at GPA and median LSAT scores because it chose, for whatever reason, to broaden its GPA standards.

One other parsing of the *U.S. News & World Report* data might be useful here, and that is the selectivity, or to put it another way, how difficult is it to get into a school? Such a question speaks to how “desirable” a school is in the collective mind of law students and law firms in a given year. Here, we get some surprises:

RANK	SCHOOL	04 ACCEPTANCE RATE
1	Yale University	6.50%
3	Stanford University	7.70%
11	University of California–Berkeley	10.00%
2	Harvard University	11.30%
41	University of Maryland	11.60%
15	University of California–Los Angeles	13.60%
24	University of Notre Dame	13.70%
4	Columbia University	14.20%
41	George Mason University	14.20%
7	University of Pennsylvania	15.70%

6	University of Chicago	15.80%
27	University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill	16.00%
10	Northwestern University	16.10%
27	Boston College	16.60%
18	University of Southern California (Gould)	17.90%
20	George Washington University	18.20%
14	Georgetown University	18.40%
8	University of Virginia	18.70%

This list may not be as meaningful as the other two because it assesses only the difficulty of gaining acceptance, but does not take into consideration the “quality” of the applicants applying. As a general rule, applicants tend to apply to law schools where they have a chance of admission (or perhaps where they believe they have a chance of admission), even if this chance seems remote. As such, George Mason may have an inordinate number of applicants and accordingly turns away a large number of them as well. In addition, schools may drop application fees simply to increase the number of applicants, turn away a greater number, and attain a lower acceptance rate.

For instance, we know, based on *U.S. News & World Report* statistics, that the University of Texas ranked 15th overall and had an acceptance rate for its 2004 class of 15.7%—much higher than that of University of Maryland, ranked 41st overall and whose acceptance rate was 11.6%. But George Mason was accepting candidates with much lower scores than was Texas⁵

In addition, logically, schools in the top five (or any cluster of within the ranking) are essentially competing for the same candidates. As such, the number-five school may admit more students simply because it knows an applicant admitted to each institution of the top five, or even one or two schools in the top ten, may choose to attend a bigger-name institution.

Nevertheless, if you consider all three measures—cumulative undergraduate grade point average, LSAT score, and acceptance rate—nine schools made the top ten of all three lists.

LSAT	GPA	ACCEPTANCE RATE
Columbia University	Brigham Young University (J. Reuben Clark)	Columbia University
Georgetown	Columbia University	George Mason University
Harvard University	Harvard University	Stanford University
New York University	New York University	University of California–Berkeley
Northwestern	Vanderbilt University	Harvard University
Stanford University	Stanford University	University of Maryland
University of Chicago	University of California– Berkeley	University of Florida (Levin)

⁵ The grade point range of the 2004 entering class at University of Maryland was 3.31-3.75, and the LSAT score range was 155-162; whereas the University of Texas’ GPA range was 3.40-3.79, and its LSAT score range was 162-167.

University of Pennsylvania	University of Southern California	University of California—Los Angeles
University of Virginia	University of Virginia	University of Notre Dame
Yale University	Yale University	Yale University

This analysis has not focused on any inherent qualities of the law schools themselves, such as who has the most influential faculty, as measured by serious, academic books published and papers authored in prestigious journals. There would also seem to be no way to establish which school has the best pure teaching faculty.⁶ Using only *U.S. News & World Report*, one must rely on its peer-assessment score, which surveys “law school deans, deans of academic affairs, the chair of faculty appointments, and the most recently tenured faculty members [who] were asked to rate programs on a scale from ‘marginal’ (1) to ‘outstanding’ (5).”⁷

Still, one survey provided by Professor Brian Leiter of the University of Texas-Austin, seeks to assess faculty quality by examining citation rates of faculty publications, which Professor Leiter admits may be an “imperfect measure,” but nonetheless “an adequate measure ... as a proxy for impact, as a proxy for reputation or quality.”⁸ In that measure, the top schools remain in the top, yet switch places within the tier, with some notable shifts, including University of Chicago moving up to number one, Yale dropping a spot, and University of California, Berkeley, jumping to sixth from tied for eleventh.⁹

RANK SCHOOL

- 1 University of Chicago
- 2 Yale University
- 3 Harvard University
- 4 Stanford University
- 5 Columbia University
- 6 University of California, Berkeley
- 7 New York University
- 8 Georgetown University
- 9 Cornell University
- 10 University of Michigan

Returning to objective, numerical indicia of quality, we can try one more parsing of the *U.S. News & World Report* statistics—those having to do with law library size. Thorough scholarship in any field can depend on resources at hand. Large research libraries attract scholars and encourage more detailed scholarly inquiry. The average law school listed in the U.S. News & World Report ranking has a library of around 500,000 volumes. Here is a list of the 20 law schools with the largest libraries:¹⁰

6 Reputation counts as well. The University of Chicago and University of Michigan Law Schools missed the cut because their acceptance rates and median GPAs fell a tad behind the others. But most impartial observers would include these law schools among the most prestigious.
7 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/rankings/about/o6law_meth.php
8 http://www.utexas.edu/law/faculty/bleiter/rankings/scholarly_impact.htm
9 http://www.utexas.edu/law/faculty/bleiter/rankings/scholarly_impact.html
10 Numbers taken from National Jurist “How law school libraries stack up,” available at <http://www.google.com/url?sa=U&start=1&q=http://www.nationaljurist.com/filedownload.aspx%3Ff%3DdRo%2Bj7dcIsFOIyG71yDGQ%3D%3D&=7388>

SCHOOL NAME	# VOLUMES
Harvard Law School	2,135,191
Yale Law School	1,082,818
Georgetown University	1,072,789
University of Iowa	1,070,108
Columbia University	1,060,698
New York University Law School	1,046,173
University of Texas	1,001,662
University of Minnesota	970,743
University of Michigan	941,237
University of Virginia	860,812
University of California, Berkeley	858,192
Louisiana State, Paul M Hubert	809,086
University of Pennsylvania	782,893
Ohio State University	765,319
University of Illinois	738,685
Indiana University-Bloomington	726,520
Northwestern University	719,620
University of Chicago	691,516
Cornell Law School	676,660
University of California, Hastings	672,273

When library size is factored into GPA, LSAT scores, and applicant acceptance rate, the only law schools appearing on the top 10 of all four lists were Columbia, Harvard, and Yale.

We have gone through this particular exercise to gain an understanding of how law schools differ based only on numerical comparisons. We have observed that these differences are primarily a function of test scores. Library size did correlate at the highest end of the ranking spectrum, although the correlation did not mirror the ranking hierarchy other than with Columbia, Harvard, Yale, and even in this rarified atmosphere, Yale's grade and LSAT statistics exceeded Harvard's whereas Harvard's library was the larger of the two.

WHO GETS PICKED FROM THE HIGHEST-RANKING SCHOOLS?

Let's assume that you now have a good feel for the pecking order among law schools. You are a recruiter for a law firm so prestigious and high paying that it has its choice of any law graduate from any law school. How does such a law firm separate one candidate from hundreds who on paper, with minor variations, appear equally desirable? Given the fact that the average law firm would love to hire almost any attorney with a Harvard or Yale law degree, the most prestigious law

firms can be even pickier.

The rule of thumb used by such firms is that if you have your choice, you don't want any attorney who can't outperform at least 70% of his/her class. Some international New York law firms go further and routinely select only from the top 10% of graduating classes from at most eight or nine law schools. That way, these firms argue, they hire the best of the very best.

The problem with selecting only from the top 30% or top 10% of a class, as we shall see, is that law schools are not always forthcoming in allowing law firms (or anyone else who might inquire) to learn just where a student ranks. This is done to give every graduate a shot at the best possible job. But there are ways to get this information for some candidates.

SLICING THE ELITE PIE THINNER

LAW REVIEW is offered to a select group of students after completion of their first law school year. The offer is usually based exclusively on grades, and typically only those students in the top 10% of their class are selected. Achieving membership on Law Review at an elite school at the end of one's first year is a likely means to extrapolate that a student finished in the top 10% of his/her first-year class. But at some schools, the rules are different. One can write one's way onto Law Review by publishing or presenting to a committee scholarly writing judged worthy of Law Review membership. At these schools, you can be in the bottom half of your class and, by writing your way on, become a Law Review editor. Law firms seldom check. However, it should be noted that membership in Law Review by any means implies scholarship and the intellectual ability to compete successfully.

A FEDERAL CLERKSHIP is another good barometer of academic performance because these appointments are competitive, especially at the federal level, and the presumption is that federal judges, for the most part, pick students with the best grades, an assumption likely to be true in the vast majority of cases. A federal judge may get 2,000 or more applications to fill just two positions. There is a pecking order here as well. Federal Appeals Court clerkships outrank clerkships sponsored by individual federal judges, and federal clerkships are considered more prestigious than those offered by state court judges. The ultimate clerkship would be serving a justice of the United States Supreme Court. Again, law firms usually don't pry into the niceties of clerkships. An applicant who makes Law Review at a prestigious law school and then receives a federal clerkship is assumed to have finished very high in his/her class.

NEW RESEARCH CHALLENGES TRADITIONAL SELECTION METHODS

Finally, what about the law student at one of the lesser highly competitive law schools? Is a student who finishes in the top 10% of his/her class at, say, Duke or UCLA the equal of a Harvard student who only finished in the top half of his/her class?

Justin N. Bezis specializes in intellectual capital and the American society's strategies for its deployment. In a recent article "An Inquiry into the Implications of Using Percentage Rankings of Heterogeneous Scholastic Populations," Bezis asks how, if comparing two types of law schools—a prestigious national one and a less-prestigious regional one—a law firm can "(1) maximize the chance of selecting a high-skill student and (2) minimize the chance of selecting a low-skill student." This sounds like a simple question, but law firms have differing ways of dealing with this question, says Bezis. One way, Bezis mentions, is for a law firm to interview "about the top 5 to 10% at the regional law school and the top 10 to 20% at the national law school. The logic of this approach is based on the assumption that the top 20% of the national law school is likely to be similar in "quality" to the top 10% at the regional law school. This is where Bezis' research gets interesting.

Bezis assumes for purposes of discussion that both the national law school and the regional law school use just two grades: Exemplary and Pass. He goes on to postulate that “both schools base class rank on the number of Exemplary grades that each student received.” He further assumes that both schools use five evaluation events to determine class rank. “Students in the first strata have all E grades, students in the second strata have four E grades, and students in the third strata have three E grades, etc.”¹¹ Now let’s assume that the law school populations of both the national and the regional law schools are broken into high, medium, and moderate levels, based on college GPA and LSAT scores.

Bezis’ research finds that “...high-level students have an 80% predictability of an E grade in each course and a 20% change of a Pass grade in each course. Medium-level students have a 70% chance of an E and a 30% chance of a Pass grade. Moderate-level students have a 50% chance of an E and a 50% chance of a Pass grade.”

Such predictions fall within the realm of the assumed and for this reason may not seem particularly newsworthy. Bezis notes on page two of his study that one would expect to find “the cream of the crop” rising to fill the top stratum. That would be what conventional wisdom would predict. Instead, what Bezis actually found was that “less than 15% of students in the highest stratum had the highest LSAT and college GPA scores.”¹²

RESULTS

What we learn from the Bezis study is that law firms’ conventional wisdom is both flawed and not flawed. It is flawed in its assumption that students in the top 10% at an elite school are superior to other students in that school. Statistically, Bezis says, the top 10% of any class will not be filled with only the students with the highest LSAT and college GPA scores. When recruiting at an elite school, if you recruit only from the top 10%, you may be missing superior law firm candidate who ranked lower in terms of pure academics.

However, buttressing conventional wisdom, Bezis also notes that a law firm is still statistically better off choosing a medium-performing student at an elite university than it is in selecting a high-performing student at a less prestigious regional school. Why? Because the same dynamics are operative in both elite and regional law schools; namely, the academically top performing students are not always those with the best natural ability and proven track record. But because the elite university will have many more students with high GPA and LSAT test scores who do not rank in the top 10% or 20% of their class.

CULTURAL INFLUENCES AND PREDILECTIONS

Although 90% of a law firm’s hiring decision is based on a candidate’s academic performance in law school and the quality of the law school the candidate attended, there are other factors that enter into the hiring decision.

Each law firm is a microcosm of human society, with its own myths and cultural touchstones. As a result, over time, certain habits and patterns of thought become imbedded and repeated. Such habits and patterns, which may appear strange to outsiders, are honored because they foster uniqueness as well as inclusiveness for members—something every culture seeks—to define its boundaries relative to what it considers outsiders. There are exceptions. A firm can be won over by a candidate during an interview and extend an offer, but this is more the exception than the rule. Generally, in addition to the candidate’s academic credentials, the firm will only choose to interview candidates that meet certain preconceived expectations.

11 Bezis, Justin N., “An Inquiry into the Implications of Using Percentage Rankings of Heterogeneous Scholastic Populations”; Draft article provided to BCG Attorney Search

12 Bezis notes that “High grades and high True Exit Attributes (High GPA and LSAT scores) are correlated, but not coincident because a number of variables—including test design, grading error, and random factors—can cause high-TEA students to have relatively low grades.

Typical examples of a firm’s cultural predilections applicable to this discussion include some of the following. Note that some are considered more legitimate than others. We consider them all here. Whether right or wrong, they exist.

- (1) Managing partners may support law students and alumni from their own law school. Alumni networks are one of the most common networking and recruiting techniques and are a fairly accepted form of a firm’s cultural bias.
- (2) The firm’s unspoken gender or racial biases.
- (3) A firm only hires from the top 20% of the class and only from a handful of “name” law schools;
- (4) A firm is partial to locally bred lawyers.
- (5) A firm likes only tall lawyers.

Given that such extraneous factors frequently enter into a hiring decision, most candidate searches begin with a set of rational considerations that center on the quality of the school, the candidate’s grades, and the honors received.

THE RATIONAL APPROACH

Thomas Cushing, in an interesting article appearing in the September 2003 issue of *The Recorder*,¹³ argues that law firms are going about the process of attorney selection the wrong way. He quotes *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game* by Michael Lewis, a best-selling analysis of how the Oakland Athletics baseball team manages to compete with the New York Yankees despite a payroll and fan base that is dramatically smaller. He writes:

Traditionally, firms have applied a narrow set of criteria to their search process ...law school, rank/honors and years of practice in some area of specialization... points are also given or deducted for those candidates who have moved too much, or not enough; and there is a strong preference for straight-and-narrow careerists... This approach might be deemed the low-risk model.

Cushing cautions law firms to approach the hiring process differently, as does the management of the Oakland A’s. He counsels law firms to ask such questions as What are your most important business drivers? Client service, cost, quality, speed, or specialized expertise? What gets rewarded?” He goes on to suggest, “Next, consider individuals who are particularly successful within the organization... as well as characteristics of any prior incumbents who contributed to successes. What personal attributes most contributed to their performance?”

This kind of approach, Cushing believes, focuses first on the specific need and how it is interrelated within a specific law firm’s culture; and only after “designing” this hypothetical lawyer and the characteristics which define him/her, can attorney candidates be found who fit these identified parameters. What Cushing is saying is that in pursuing a low-risk model—identifying law school, honors awarded, and the like—the law firm is metaphorically putting the cart before the horse.

This chart shows not only the quantifiable academic-performance markers, but intuitive/subjective “cultural” markers as well:

¹³ Cushing, Thomas F., “The Oakland A’s Know Something You Don’t,” *The Recorder*, Wednesday, September 3, 2002, Pg. 4.

QUANTIFIABLE

Law School Ranking
Law School Grades
LSAT
Law School Honors (Law Review,
Order of the Coif, Federal Clerkship, etc.)

INTUITIVE/SUBJECTIVE

“Quality” of law school
Social Intelligence
Personal Appearance
The candidate’s cultural ‘fit’
Other concerns (Nepotism, Ethnic/Religious/
Sexual Preference/Prejudice, etc.)

Now that we have said all this, a return to reality is necessary. Law firms, rightly or wrongly, seek quality first and worry about “fit” later. And because this is so, we have produced this book to demystify the process as best we can. For starters, we shall examine law school quality and how this is presently decided.

LAW SCHOOL QUALITY

We have already covered this subject in some detail, noting year after year, seven or so law schools are always ranked in the *U.S. News & World Report* top ten. These include Yale, Stanford, Harvard, University of Chicago, Columbia, Michigan, and Virginia. As was also noted, even within this list, there are gradations, with Harvard and Yale historically appearing more prestigious than the others.

Yet, each year there are inexplicable changes, dramatic ones such as Emory unaccountably slipping from 23 to 32 in the 2006 rankings; Fordham moving from 34 to 27; Tulane leaping from 56 to 41; University of Connecticut dropping to 49 from 43; University of Washington moving up seven places to 27; and both Washington University in St. Louis and Notre Dame dropping from a tie at 20 to a tie at 24. What happened in the space of one year to cause such dramatic shifts?

There are several possible answers. The admissions committee manages to move the average GPA of its entering law school class from, say, 3.45 to 3.46. Several new judges provide subjective judgments as to law school quality and have a higher impression of the school than the judges they replaced. Regardless, what does seem evident is that the lower you go down the rankings, the more fluctuation you get.

This fact alone somewhat invalidates the rankings when you get beyond, say, the top fifteen. Outside of, the fifteen elite schools, the rankings become less and less definitive, changing due to miniscule changes in the scores achieved in the yearly ranking process.¹⁴

Finally, like the monetary value of the “goodwill” in the business world, law schools build up “goodwill” of their own over the centuries. They gain “mind share,” and once they do this, it is difficult to change the established perception. Thus, Harvard and Yale will always be rated highly, even if the most meaningful and defensible judgment criteria do not rate them as highly as public perception does.

Indeed, Professor Brian Leiter of the University of Texas-Austin Law School has conducted a study, “The Most National Law School Based on Job Placement in Elite Law Firms,” which “aims to assess which of the top schools have the most ‘national’ placement, as measured by hiring by

¹⁴ Indeed, Professor Stake’s article illustrates this point. Professor Stakes notes that if one assumes for the sake of argument that the U.S. News & World Report ranking is accurate in its choice of ranking criteria and the weights accorded to each criteria, one finds that the difference between Yale, ranked number one, and Chicago, ranked number six, is 18 points; yet when one compares Ohio State at 39 and Mercer University at 100, one finds only a 17-point difference.

elite law firms around the country.”¹⁵ The study examines what he terms the “usual suspects for top law schools,” as well as a few others as a check on the results to see which schools had the most placements at the nation’s elite law firms.¹⁶ He found that, in rank order, Harvard, Chicago, Yale, Virginia, Michigan, Stanford, Columbia, Georgetown, Duke, and Penn were the top-ten schools within this analysis.

As such, it may be that despite the *U.S. News & World Report* ranking, law firms are indeed following a bit of their own bias, given that Harvard (ranked number two) and Chicago (number six) come out ahead of Yale (ranked number one). Then again, as Professor Leiter notes, one must consider that students’ selection of which school to attend, and a given school’s class size, in addition to a firm’s bias based on established reputations, affects whether a school feeds top firms.¹⁷

FINAL THOUGHTS

You now have a macro view of law schools, the status system in which they fit, how law firms seek candidates, and the rules by which these law firms are rationally and subjectively guided. The rest of the material in this book takes a micro look at each law school listed in the *U.S. News & World Report’s* 2006 Top-50 Law School Rankings.

We shall go into exhaustive detail about each ranked law school. In the process, you will learn how each school determines who will be offered Law Review membership, information regarding available clinical programs, plus the relative importance accorded to moot court competition by various law schools.

We noted last year, and it is worth reiterating, that many of the law schools we discuss in this book are, to say the least, reticent about their grading systems, class rank, and how they determine who falls within the top fifth, third, or half of the class. We have deliberately dug to uncover such information wherever possible.

Our goal is to help you decode the transcript and resume you receive from a specific law school in order to learn how a student stacks up against his/her peers. In the process, we have scoured a variety of different sources, which we have been careful to footnote should you wish to investigate a particular statistic in more detail.

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DECODING GRADING SYSTEMS AT AMERICA'S TOP-50 LAW SCHOOLS

The assignment of a comparative value to an individual's performance—when parsed by letter grades such as A,B,C,D, and F or numbers 86, 92, etc.—can be very subjective. A paper or an exam considered a B at the University of Virginia could conceivably be an A- at Harvard or an A somewhere else. Some schools grade on a bell curve, and others may give out A's and B's to two thirds of the class. Some schools, like Yale and Berkeley, use words to separate good from average and poor performance. All these different systems for establishing comparative performance create a problem for law firm interviewers when trying to assess an applicant's transcript. What most law firms do to steer clear of such a dilemma to select only students finishing in the top third to top 10% of their class; but the problem with this approach is that many law schools deliberately do not rank their students. As a result, a student with a 3.2 cumulative grade point average could place in the top quarter at one school, but in the top third at a school with a tougher grading system.

STANDARD GPA

The 4.0 GPA model is the most commonly used system for evaluating student performance. Of the Top-50 schools, 25 employ this system, although they do so in different ways. For instance, almost one half of the 50 schools surveyed allow for the highest grade in this system to be a 4.3, or A+. Schools using the 0.0-4.3 scale include Boston University, Emory, Fordham, UCLA, Georgia, Michigan, UNC, Texas, Virginia, and Vanderbilt. Duke and the University of Southern California also award numerical grades above a 4.0, but they are distinct in that they allow for GPAs as high as 4.5 at Duke and 4.4 at USC, even though grades that high are rarely awarded.

Reflecting on all of this, one might assume that schools with a 4.3 GPA system would, on the whole, consistently show higher GPA numbers, but this is not necessarily so, due to the fact that few 4.3 grades are ever awarded and might be earned by no more than one or two students in any particular class. What we did find was that schools employing a 4.3 show grades about one half a grade point higher in their class-ranking cutoffs, meaning a greater percentage of students get slightly higher grades at these schools. Still, everything considered, we have found no meaningful differences in grade point averages between 4.3 and 4.0 schools.

We have determined that any grade fluctuation between schools depends on how an individual law school sets the curve and how rigorously professors are required to adhere to it. A curve for a traditional GPA is usually set anywhere from 2.7 to 3.1, which is the range in which a majority

of students will fall. The difference between a 2.7 and a 3.1 can be significant in terms of the final cumulative placement in either the top or bottom half of a class. At those schools with a hard and undeviating curve, a 2.7 median would translate into the midpoint where students in the 50th percentile of their class would be congregated. But this would rarely happen. Curves are almost always restricted to larger classes, and many schools have rules that only those mandatory classes offered on a consistent basis, such as Property or Contracts, and offered to at least x number of students, will be required to grade according to the curve.

What can be said with some certainty is that the curves in such classes do tend to set the mean in GPAs somewhat and the amount that grades are improved by non-curved classes is fairly consistent. Thus, we can conclude that a school with a 2.7 curve will have lower GPAs on average than a school with a 3.1 curve. The difference would most likely be less than .4, but this is not as insignificant as one might think. For example, the University of Connecticut School of Law sets a B mean, which means a 3.0. Southern Methodist University uses a B- mean which is a 2.7. The difference in cumulative GPAs on the average is approximately .25 higher at University of Connecticut in order to finish in the top 33%. Accordingly, SMU and George Mason's unusually strict B- curves often put their students at a disadvantage against students of other schools whose GPA stratification does not mirror their own, which is bound to be the case. Indeed, because some schools, such as Cornell, have curves as high as B+, a cumulative GPA from Cornell will appear much more impressive than one from George Mason, despite the fact that the lower George Mason GPA might correspond to a higher class standing than at Cornell, i.e., a George Mason 3.3 student may rank higher in his/her class at George Mason than a Cornell 3.6 student does in his/her class.

MODIFIED GPA SCALE

Cornell, New York University, Northwestern, George Mason, George Washington, and the University of Notre Dame all modify the standard GPA system, designating a smaller range of possible grades. All of these schools use a GPA scale that ranges from 1.33 to 4.33 (Or 4.0 in Notre Dame's case). Stanford uses a scale from 2.1-4.3. Such narrower ranges tend to produce grades that are essentially equivalent to the standard scale at the higher ranks, but lower-performing students tend to look as if they have a higher GPA. In Stanford's case, only a .4 difference stands between a fairly respectable B- and failure to graduate.

To further sow confusion, we have found that the University of Arizona uses only the numbers 0,1,2,3 and 4 in its grading system. There are no '-' and '+' gradations. This has both benefits and drawbacks. A grade that might be a B+ at another school becomes devalued under this system. On the other hand, a B- at another school is upgraded to a B at Arizona. Regardless, the cumulative GPA will look the same regardless of the system; as like regular GPAs, the Arizona cumulative GPA is not rounded to the closest whole number.

NUMBER SYSTEM

The second most used GPA system involves giving grades, such as Harvard does, on a 0-8 scale, with 6-8 correlating to the entire A range and 6 being an A- and 8 being an A+. Because 6.013 was the minimum requirement to be in the top 10% of the class, which corresponds to somewhere between an A- and an A, the corresponding letter grades seem a bit higher than the number grades, for no other school has a 3.8 (the traditional A- grade in the 4.0 scale) as the top 10% cut-off grade. The numerical system for the rest of the schools using this type of GPA system is explained in the chart below:

	A+	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D	F
University Of Minnesota	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	5-7	0-4
Ohio State University		100-93			85-82			84-77		76-69	
University of Chicago		80-86			74-79			68-73		60-67	55-59
University of Colorado		100-93	90-92	86-89	83-85	82-80	76-79	73-75	70-72	60-69	50-59
University of Iowa		85-92		80-84	75-79	70-74		65-69		60-64	50-59
Wake Forest University		100-91			81-90			71-80		66-70	66 or below
Washington University	97-100	94-96	91-93	88-90	85-87	82-84		79-81		74-78	70-73
University of Wisconsin		87-95		85-86*	83-84		80-82**	77-79			

*This grade range is classified as an AB.

**This grade Range is classified as a BC

A quick glance at this chart shows how difficult it is to compare GPAs from different schools. For example, note the various designations of what an A means. Ohio State and Colorado say it is 93-100, Chicago indicates 80-86, Iowa 85-92, Washington University of St. Louis 94-96, and Wisconsin 87-95. These differences in how numerically to designate an A can be found with B and C grades as well.

Despite similarities between most of the schools, differences in ranges and their meanings make it at times impossible to do a side-by-side comparison. For example, the University of Wisconsin uses a 77-95 range, with almost half of the range qualifying as an A grade, while the University of Chicago uses a 60-86 range that has a smaller set of numbers for each corresponding letter grade. Despite the differences, these 60-100 scales may be the most clear-cut, understandable grading method. With a larger set of numbers, it is easier to see where students stand vis-à-vis their classmates. For example, a student with an 86 at Chicago and a student with a 60 are on opposite sides of the 77 median curve, just as a student with a 3.7 and another with a 2.5 would be at another school employing a 4.0 grading system.

LETTER GRADES

Three of the Top-50 law schools (Indiana, Florida, and Penn) give out letter grades as their main grading system. This essentially carries the same meaning as the more traditional university GPA, as letter grades are often the basis for the number grades and can be directly translated into a GPA. Florida does things somewhat differently, as it only offers some of the available letter grades to students. It does not offer an A+ grade, and no letter grade comes with a “-.” All of the regular grades—A, B, C, D, and F—still correspond to the standard—4.0, 3.0, 2.0, 1.0, and 0.0—but the grades with an “+” affixed are set at .5 higher than the regular grade (i.e., a B equates to a 3.0 and a B+ to a 3.5), which affects the cumulative GPA. A normal system would put an A- at a 3.8 or a 3.7, and a B+ at a 3.3, but Florida law professors are given only the .5 option. Because the class-ranking charts indicate that Florida requires a 3.55 to rank in the top 10% of the class (this is much lower than what most schools that use the traditional ranking system require), it is more likely that Florida’s professors end up grading harder and are less likely to give out grades with a “+” due to the fact that a “.5” when added makes a greater impact than, say, a .3.

OTHER

Would it surprise you to learn that at least two law schools we know of do not use numerical or letter grades? Actually, this is true of two of the top schools in the nation, Yale Law School and the University of California at Berkeley’s Boalt Hall School of Law. The idea was to take the stress out of the law school experience by eliminating rigid categorizations. Thus, when a law firm glances at a transcript from either of these schools, it will glean a general impression of how the student did, but no precise comparison (top 10%, etc.) is possible.

On a Yale transcript, you will find three passing citations: Low Pass, Pass, and Honors, in addition to the Credit designation for the mandatory first-year classes. Boalt Hall also offers three passing citations: Pass, Honors, and High Honors, plus a Fail citation in instances where the class was not passed. Students are lumped into large, seemingly amorphous categories where the qualitative difference between the best of the group and the worst can have significance. Additionally, a student can miss the next higher category by a proverbial whisker, but the law firm interviewer will have no way of knowing this based on any transcript notations.

One way of decoding such a grading structure is to concentrate on larger classes such as Contracts and Property, where the class sizes are large and the student competes against many others at one time. Here, Honors or High Honors will have more significance. Ergo, the more Honors designations in large, well-populated courses, the greater likelihood the student has finished in the top half or top third of the class.

CONCLUSION

The wish to conceal classing ranking is understandable from several points of view. At the top schools, every student possesses outstanding undergraduate grades and a superior score on the LSAT. These schools argue that because such care is taken to make sure there is quality going in, a law firm can assume quality going out as well. To carry the argument further, when a law school positions its graduates as equally worthy, it assumes that hiring decisions will be focused on the “emotional fit” and the ongoing needs of the firm, not exclusively on grades.

When you come right down to it, the most effective way to gauge the performance of a student is to observe this student’s class ranking in relation to his/her peers. It makes no difference if only large classes such as Property and Contracts are used. Law firms are better off with more precise data. While this article has given you suggestions on how to decipher student performance regardless of the grading system used, the following coverage of Law Review, federal clerkships, and the *U.S. News & World Report’s* Top-50 law schools will give you a more focused and individual insight, which should prove useful in any and all of your future hiring efforts.

WHAT MAKING LAW REVIEW MEANS AT THE TOP-50 SCHOOLS

Making Law Review may not be a sine qua non with the very best law firms, but it comes as close as any requirement can, with the exception of top grades. Why? Because earning top grades, at the majority of law schools, almost automatically translates into being on Law Review. Thus, the employer's assumption that if a candidate made Law Review, that candidate most likely finished in the top 10-15% of the class.

There is another assumption about Law Review; namely, that anybody awarded this distinction knows how to, in a legal sense, write. Moreover, the student's writing has received extensive mentoring and ongoing critique from professors. This two-edged aspect to Law Review membership—top grades and exceptional writing ability—understandably operates as a powerful lure for legal employers everywhere.

This article will delineate the criteria different law schools use to choose Law Review members. Much of this material comes from testimonials provided to us by former Law Review members, and some of it has been given to us forthrightly by individual schools. When this occurs, we identify the school so that you will know.

THE STANDARD LAW REVIEW SELECTION PROCESS

The committee doing the selection first looks at a candidate's first-year grades. In addition, there likely is a spring write-on competition held by present Law Review members. All of this typically takes place after all first-year exams have been completed.

This kind of process has many variations, as you shall see. Some schools wait until the beginning of the second year to start the process. A few have writing competitions only. Some take from the top 15%, whereas others select only from the top 10%. One might argue that regardless of how one makes Law Review—whether by writing one's self on, gaining membership through high grades, or a combination of the two—the accomplishment in itself represents the type of achievement and outperforming of the competition (one's classmates) that will always warrant serious consideration by the hiring committee of any law firm. Such an argument does have merit for many reasons, including the inherent writing experience gained by Law Review participation.

Only seven of the Top-50 schools currently chose new Law Review members based solely on their writing abilities. These are Boalt Hall, Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Stanford, UCLA, and UC-Davis. The most common approach, as indicated earlier, is to select new members based

on grades and a writing competition. Some of these law schools place more importance on a student's writing skills. These law schools include Boston College, Boston University, Brigham Young, Georgetown, Harvard, New York University, Northwestern, Georgia, Michigan, Utah, Virginia, Vanderbilt, Washington & Lee, and Yale.

The remaining 21 schools have devised a variety of criteria for selecting new Law Review members. Washington College of Law gets the overwhelming majority of its class through both the writing competition and grades, but the overwhelming majority are chosen because their grades fall in the top 10% of the class. For example, of its 95 members, 65 of Washington's successful Law Review candidates were admitted through a grade-on process, and the remaining 30 wrote their way on.

BAYLOR UNIVERSITY allows the top 15% to grade-on after the first year. Fourth-quarter students may write on as long as their GPA is 2.5 or higher.

At **WILLIAM & MARY**, half of each new Law Review class comes from ranking in the top 10% of their class, and the other half gains membership based upon a writing competition held late in the first year.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY uses a variety of criteria. A student can write his/her way on to Law Review; be eligible due to a combination of grades and success in the writing competition; or be selected based on grades, writing, and diversity factors. And lastly, there is a publishable notes program held during the fall semester of the second year that allows students another chance at Law Review membership.

CORNELL UNIVERSITY, like Columbia, offers multiple roads to Law Review membership. Those students possessing the top-16 cumulative GPAs in their class are automatically asked to join, provided they finish in the top 10% of the writing competition. The writing competition's top 12 performers are also invited to join without consideration of their grades. Additional students are usually asked to join based on three criteria: their grades, their performance during the first-year writing competition, and the contents of the personal statements they submit. Finally, Cornell often selects a few entering third-years based on grades alone.

DUKE UNIVERSITY relies solely on grades and the writing competition. One third of the 27 members admitted each year are elected solely on their first-year grades, another third solely on the writing competition, and the remaining third on a combination of the two.

EMORY usually fills approximately half of its second-year positions through performers in the top 10% of their class, leaving the rest of the positions open for students who have good GPAs and good writing competition scores.

FORDHAM takes approximately 65% of its students on a grade-on basis, provided that they are in the top 8% of their class (a more stringent cutoff than found at a majority of the Top-50 schools, which typically use 10%). Remaining positions on Law Review are given to students who excelled in the writing competition, but with an important caveat: they must still be ranked in the top 25% of their class.

GEORGE MASON and **GEORGE WASHINGTON** take 80% of their candidates from the top 10% of the class, with the remaining 20% gaining admission through a writing competition.

INDIANA takes 75% of its Law Review members from the top 10% of the class with the rest earning membership through a write-on.

MARYLAND students are selected based on a written petition submitted at the end of their first year for day students and their second year for evening students. Grades play a small role in the

selection. Specifically, 25% of the available positions are determined by a combination of petition scores and grades.

OHIO STATE splits membership 50/50 between grades and the write-on conducted as part of a first-year legal writing class. In addition, there is a writing competition.

KENTUCKY uses a grade and write-on combination where 20 or so spots are filled by the top 15%, while the rest of the class competes in a write-on competition that determines membership for the remaining 11 spots.

SOUTHERN METHODIST invites those students whose grades fall within the top 16% of their class. Remaining positions numbering about 15 are taken by students excelling in the writing competition.

NORTH CAROLINA has 39 positions on its Law Review staff, and approximately one third of those are filled by those with the highest GPAs. The remaining two thirds are split evenly among those who excelled in the writing competition and those with a combination of superior grades and writing skills.

ALABAMA has 71 Law Review positions available and fills about 6% of them with students who grade on. The remaining 40% are selected from the write-on competition. Arizona has a similar breakdown, the only difference being that Arizona selects grade-on candidates only from the top 10% of the class.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA HASTINGS COLLEGE OF LAW offers Law Review to 14 students based on their GPA and to 14 more based on their write-on competition performance. Another 14 students are chosen for their combination of high GPA and write-on ability.

CHICAGO selects about 18 new students yearly for Law Review based both on first-year grades and performance on the first-year write-on competition. Approximately 10 other students are then selected based solely on demonstrated writing skills.

CONNECTICUT uses a writing competition as the main source of Law Review selection; but the possibility to grade on does exist. However, usually fewer than 10 students in a Connecticut class make Law Review in this fashion.

FLORIDA awards the top 5% of each section in its third semester the chance to join; but this, in effect; means membership comes from the top 5% of the class, as all sections are similar in size. Additionally, those who place highly in the writing competition are admitted, along with others nominated by the faculty for exceptional work.

NOTRE DAME splits membership in Law Review evenly among those who stand out in the write-on competition and those who achieve superior grades. Notre Dame takes 13 students a year based on cumulative GPA, 13 students for writing excellence, and 13 for a combination of GPA and writing ability.

PENNSYLVANIA fills half its Law Review membership from results of the write-on and fills the other half with students whose combined write-on scores and grades are the highest.

PITTSBURGH students are selected for membership on the editorial board on the basis of academic achievement or superior writing and analytical ability. Most law students selected are in the top 10-15% of their law school class.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA honors approximately 60 new students each year with the offer of Law Review membership. Fifteen are invited based on first-year grades. Remaining positions are filled based on grades and demonstrated writing ability as demonstrated

in a mandatory first-year course.

TEXAS selects about 40 entering second-year students based both on first-year grades and writing competition scores. Approximately 10 additional students are made offers based on demonstrated writing skills.

WASHINGTON'S Law Review consists of 50 student members, of whom 25 are selected based on cumulative GPA and 25 based on demonstrated writing ability.

WISCONSIN favors students who excel in the writing competition. A full 75% of its Law Review members are elected based on this criterion. The remaining 25% are selected based on their first-year grades.

WAKE FOREST and **WASHINGTON UNIVERSITIES** make offers to those entering second-years who have placed in the top 10% of their first-year class. Those with good write-on scores and GPA make up the rest of the Law Review staff.

CONCLUSIONS

If you have patiently read through all the various permeations for filling a Law Review staff position, you probably have come to some conclusions. Top grades can, in almost all instances, get you on Law Review; and writing ability gives even an average student a chance to attain this coveted status, as does a combination of decent grades and good writing. However, it should be noted that most average students fall into that category because often enough they do not write as well as those students who outperform them in class.

Certainly, any candidate who has made Law Review is going to get strong consideration for a permanent position with a law firm based on this accomplishment alone, for this achievement automatically signals that the candidate has excelled over a significant majority of his/her classmates. Furthermore, any candidate who makes Law Review at a top 10 school has beat out a formidable group of competitors.

I

YALE UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
P.O. Box 208215, New Haven, CT 06520	(203) 432-4992	(203) 432-4995	www.law.yale.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(203) 432-1678	(203) 432-1676	

Yale Law School, ranked Number One on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, finds its home in New Haven, Connecticut. This small but lively coastal city on the Long Island Sound is known for its art and history museums, and for its quality regional theater groups.

With their job options almost endless upon graduation, students at Yale are always pleased to learn how seriously the school takes its role in helping them find top positions. Yale has the highest percentage of students, per class size, employed as judicial clerks among the Top-50 law schools.

The entering class of just 189 students is small enough to allow the school to provide first-year students with plenty of personal attention; the average class size for the school's vast array of courses is under 25 students.¹⁸ The student-faculty ratio of 7.9:1¹⁹ is the lowest among the Top-50 schools; this encourages the free flow of ideas between faculty members and students. Yale provides its students with extraordinary opportunities to study and research the law both inside the classroom and beyond.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/ GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 171²⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 168 - 175²¹
- Median GPA: 3.90²² 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.79 - 3.96²³
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,783²⁴
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 246²⁵
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 6.5²⁶

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/glanc_03027.php.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES: ²⁷

Yale's does not use letter or numerical grades. Instead Yale relies on an Honors/Pass/Fail system. In addition, first year classes are graded on a credit basis. As such one cannot rank students easily and indeed Yale unequivocally does not rank students. Yale insists that this system is designed to provide a congenial learning environment for students, one that fosters legal discourse and cre-

18 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03027.php
 19 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03027.php
 20 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 921
 21 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03027.php
 22 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 921
 23 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03027.php
 24 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03027.php
 25 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03027.php
 26 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03027.php
 27 <http://www.yale.edu/bulletin/pdffiles/law2004.pdf>; National Association for Law Placement. National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 710

activity rather than the cut-throat competitiveness that is usual at most law schools.²⁸ In short it is virtually impossible to distinguish one Yale graduate from another in the traditional sense.

CREDIT	SATISFACTORY
Honors	Significantly superior to the average level.
Pass	Successful performance.
Low Pass	Below the level of performance expected for the award of a degree
Failure	No credit.
Requirement Completed	Indicates J.D. pre-participation in moot court or Barristers Union.

*There is no required or indicative “curve” for grades in Yale Law School classes. Individual rank is not computed.

STUDENT JOURNALS²⁹

Consistent with Yale Law School’s grading system, journal memberships are not based on class rank and there is no discernable competitive criterion for membership, aside from student interest.

- The **YALE JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW** is student-run and has two issues a year. Article topics concern “public and private international law. Published twice a year, the journal is a primary forum for the discussion and analysis of contemporary international legal problems.
- The **YALE JOURNAL OF LAW & FEMINISM** employs a non-hierarchical structure which means “all members can participate fully in editing, screening, and administrative decision-making” as the journal selects and publishes material regarding “women or to feminist theory.” The journal seeks not only articles, notes, and reviews but “artwork, poetry, fiction, autobiography, and interviews.”
- **YALE JOURNAL OF LAW & HUMANITIES** publishes two issues a year. It is student run but maintains an advisory board consisting of scholars from a wide range of fields. In keeping with its interdisciplinary nature, law students as well as Yale graduate students may join the journal. The material published by the Journal “explores the intersections among law, the humanities, and the humanistic social sciences.”
- The **YALE JOURNAL ON REGULATION** focuses on all aspects of regulatory issues and sees itself as “a national forum for legal, political, and economic analysis of current issues in regulatory policy.” It is entirely student run and open to all students who wish to join.
- **YALE LAW & POLICY REVIEW** seeks to publish scholarly material regarding current “American domestic policy.” Students are responsible for publishing the journal and all are welcome to join.
- **YALE LAW JOURNAL** is a traditional law journal with articles concerning a range of academic and professional matters. The journal has eight issues a year and is managed by students. Membership policies vary and are set by each year’s board.
- **THE YALE JOURNAL OF HEALTH POLICY, LAW & ETHICS**³⁰ produces two issues per year and is backed by the schools of Law, Medicine, Epidemiology and Public Health, and

²⁸ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school’s grading system and are explained in the “Ranking and Grades” section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, volunteered on the school’s Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later.

²⁹ <http://www.yale.edu/bulletin/html/law/organizations.html>

³⁰ www.yale.edu/yjhple/31. <http://diana.law.yale.edu/yhrdlj/>.

Nursing. “The journal strives to provide a forum for interdisciplinary discussion on topics in health policy, health law, and biomedical ethics.” Though student-run, a peer-review process is used in determining what to publish.

- The **YALE HUMAN RIGHTS AND DEVELOPMENT LAW JOURNAL**³¹ “is primarily an online publication,” that seeks to provide a material at “the intersection of human rights and development.” It is student-run but engages the advice of law school faculty.
- The **YALE JOURNAL OF LAW & TECHNOLOGY**³² focuses on “the interface between law and technology.” The journal publishes “lectures and written pieces” but also provides an online community for readers to continue the dialogue the pieces initiate.

MOOT COURT³³

Moot Court is not required but students cannot join in until after the second semester of the first year. Students run the Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals where competitors prepare and argue an appellate brief on a current issue. Judges, professors, and professionals serve as judges with final prize arguments held at the end of each semester.

Students may also participate in the Jessup International Moot Court and possibly be part a team of two to five students in the Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition. In that competition students prepare and argue a case in front of a mock International Court of Justice.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS³⁴

Yale offers several clinical programs: Samuel Jacob Non-profit Organizations Clinic, Professional Responsibility Clinic Environmental Protection Clinic, Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, and the Jerome Frank Legal Services Organization, which affords students the opportunity to choose from nine different projects, including Children and Youth Community Legal Services, Housing and Community Development, Immigration, Landlord-Tenant, Legal Assistance for the Urban Poor in Civil Matters, and Prisons, Complex Federal Legislation, and Legislative Advocacy.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS³⁵

Yale Law School’s active student organizations include: Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, Asia Law Forum, Black Law Students’ Association, Capital Assistance Project, Collective on Women of Color in the Law, Jerome N. Frank Legal Services Organization, Greenhaven Prison Project, Habeas Chorus, Latino Law Students’ Association, Law Talk, Morris Tyler Moot Court of Appeals, OutLaws (The Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Law Students), Native American Law Students’ Association, Pacific Islander, Asian, and Native American Law Students’ Association, South Asian Law Students’ Association, Street Law, Student Public Interest Network, Students as Parents Too, Umoja, Women and Youth in Support of Each Other, Yale Entertainment and Sports Law Association, Yale Environmental Law Association, Yale Federalist Society, Yale Health Law Society, Yale Human Rights and Development Law Journal, Yale Graduate Law Students’ Association, Yale Jewish Law Students’ Association, Yale Law and Technology Society, Yale Law Christian Fellowship, Yale Law Republicans, Yale Law Revue, Yale Law Students for Social Justice, Yale Law Women, Yale Student Animal Legal Defense Fund.

³² www.yjolt.org

³³ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 925

³⁴ www.law.yale.edu/outside/html/Academics/acad-clinic.htm

³⁵ <http://www.yale.edu/bulletin/html2002/law/organizations.html>;

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

In addition to journals, clinics, and organizations, Yale Law School students also have the option to learn and develop by participating in the following programs and centers:

Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Law Project, New Initiative for Public Interest Law at Yale, Inc., Thomas Swan Barristers' Union, Yale Law School Workers' Rights Project, Yale Project for Civil Rights, Domestic Violence Temporary Restraining Order Project, Capital Assistance Project, Juvenile Rights Advocacy Project, New Haven Cares, and the Yale Law and Enterprise Forum.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 20036

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 96.737

Percentage of graduates employed nine months from graduation: 98.338

Where the Graduates Go: 39

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 47
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 42
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 2
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 3
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

36 Provided by Yale Law School's Office of Career Services
37 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03027.php
38 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03027.php
39 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03027.php

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
1563 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138	(617) 495-3100	(617) 495-3109	www.law.harvard.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(617) 495-4612	(617) 495-3119	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Harvard will probably always remain one of the nation's most prestigious law schools. It is the oldest continuously operating law school in the country, and from the classical look of its Cambridge, Massachusetts, campus, this is not a surprise.

The Law School stayed at Number Two in this year's rankings in the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, and Harvard graduates know that they will not have difficulty securing top jobs for the remainder of their professional lives.

Harvard's fall 2004 entering class numbers 554⁴⁰ students and has a student-faculty ratio of 11.3:1.⁴¹

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN: 42

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2003 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 170 25th – 75th Percentile: 169 – 175⁴³
- Median GPA: 3.8 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.73 – 3.94⁴⁴
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 7,391⁴⁵
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 834⁴⁶
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 11.3⁴⁷

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from The U.S. News & World's America's Best Graduate Schools 2004 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03072.php.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST: 48

Harvard uses an 8.0 scale for grading purposes and provides student percentile ranks based on GPA, but only upon graduation.⁴⁹

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁵⁰

A+	8	B+	5	C+	N/A	D	I
A	7	B	4	C	2	F	0
A-	6	B-	3	C-	N/A		

⁴⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03074.php

⁴¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03074.php

⁴² 2003 Numbers received via fax correspondence, dated March 25, 2004, between Mark Weber, HLS Office of Career Services, and BCG research staff

⁴³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03074.php

⁴⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03074.php

⁴⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03074.php

⁴⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03074.php

⁴⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03074.php

⁴⁸ Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 163

⁴⁹ http://www.law.harvard.edu/ocs/employers/HLS_Grading_System.htm

⁵⁰ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 162

HARVARD AWARDS THE FOLLOWING DISTINCTIONS AT GRADUATION:⁵¹

<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	GPA 7.20
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	10% after summa
<i>Cum laude:</i>	30% after magna

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁵²

NAME OF AWARD	RECIPIENT
Joseph H. Beale Prize	Member of the graduating class who obtains the highest grade in the Conflict of Law examination.
Addison Brown Prize	For the best essay on maritime or private international law.
Fay Diploma	Highest graduating average.
Yong K. Kim '95 Memorial Prize	Best paper concerning law or legal history of the nations and peoples of East Asia, or issues of law pertaining to US-East Asian relations.
Laylin Prize	Best paper on public international law.
George Leisure Award	For excellence in advocacy (best oralist in Ames competition).
Irving Oberman Memorial Award	Best essay on a current legal subject.
John M. Olin Prizes	Best papers written in the area of law & economics. (2)
Sears Prize	Two first year and second year students with highest average. (4)
Boykin C. Wright Memorial Fund	For the winning and losing teams in the final argument of Ames Competition.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁵³

- **BLACK LETTER LAW JOURNAL⁵⁴** was originally founded in 1983 as an internal publication of the Black Law Students Association, and has now become an annual publication edited by students at Harvard Law School. In recent years, the Journal has expanded its mission to encourage publication of work by minority authors. They are committed to publishing manuscripts that critique traditional constitutionalism and promote civil rights. Publications include cutting edge topics in critical race theory with a focus on civil rights color blind constitutionalism and interdisciplinary approaches to confront the treatment of race, gender and sexuality in legal discourse.
- **CIVIL RIGHTS-CIVIL LIBERTIES LAW REVIEW (CR-CL)** is a highly respected law journal, providing some of the most sought after staff positions among Harvard's varied publications.⁵⁵

51 http://www.law.harvard.edu/ocs/employers/HLS_Grading_System.htm

52 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 163

53 www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/publications.shtml

54 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/blj/>

55 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

This is the nation's leading progressive law journal and was founded in 1966 as an instrument to advance personal freedoms and human dignities. CR-CL seeks to catalyze progressive thought and dialogue through publishing innovative legal scholarship and from various perspectives and in diverse fields of study.⁵⁶

- **HARVARD ASIA QUARTERLY** is a journal of current affairs affiliated with the Harvard Asia Center. It was established in 1997 by students at the Harvard Law School and the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences as an interdisciplinary journal of Asian affairs.⁵⁷
- **HARVARD ENVIRONMENTAL LAW REVIEW (HELRL)**⁵⁸ has been published semi-annually, in winter and spring, since 1976. HELRL publishes articles on a broad range of environmental affairs, such as land use, air, water, and noise regulation; toxic substances control; radiation control; energy use; workspace pollution; science and technology control; and resource use and regulation. HELRL draws upon environmental experts from government, academia, private practice, industry, and public interest groups to cover legal developments at the local, state, federal, foreign, and international levels.
- **HUMAN RIGHTS JOURNAL**⁵⁹ is an annual publication compiled and edited by the students of Harvard Law School. Now in its 16th year, the Journal publishes cutting-edge human rights scholarship by academics and practitioners, as well as students.
- **HARVARD INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL**⁶⁰ founded in 1959, puts out two issues annually and is one of the most prominent reviews of international law in the United States. In 1997, the American Bar Association's International Lawyer magazine ranked it as the best student edited international law journal in the country. As a student run and student edited journal, the Harvard International Law Journal provides a number of outstanding opportunities for law students. All students are welcome to participate. Typically, 1Ls sub cite, tech edit, and galley proof. 2Ls and 3Ls are involved in these activities, as well as in the substantive editing of the articles, the submissions review process, and managerial positions. LL.M. candidates participate in the substantive editing of the articles and in the submissions review process. The Journal encourages all students to become as involved as they can and promotes its members based on student evaluations. However, the editor-in-chief and deputy editor-in-chief positions are decided through elections by the journal members.
- The **JOURNAL OF LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY**⁶¹ is the leading forum for conservative and libertarian legal scholarship and is the most widely circulated student law review in the country. It has a prestigious board of advisors including two U.S. Senators, four U.S. Court of Appeals Judges, and leading conservative and libertarian scholars. The Journal is committed to developing writing, research, and editing skills, in addition to helping students get involved in clerkships and the government.
- **JOURNAL OF LAW AND TECHNOLOGY**⁶² is published by Harvard Law students; however, it is an independent publication which receives no funding from the law school. The Journal includes such topics as intellectual property, biotechnology, e-commerce, cyber crime, the Internet, telecommunications, and evidentiary technology.
- The **JOURNAL ON LEGISLATION**⁶³ is published semiannually (winter and summer) by Harvard Law School students. The Journal specializes in the analysis of legislation and the legislative process. The Journal is especially interested in publishing articles that examine

56 <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~asiactr/haq/about.htm>

57 http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/envir_low_rev/index.html

58 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/hrj/>

59 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/ilj/>

60 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/ilj/>

61 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/jlpp/>

62 <http://jolt.law.harvard.edu/p.cgi/masthead.html>

63 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/jol/>; <http://jolt.law.harvard.edu/p.cgi/subscribe.html>

public policy problems of nationwide significance and propose legislation to resolve them. The Journal also publishes a biannual Congress issue, which includes policy essays written by members of Congress.

- The **LATINO LAW REVIEW**⁶⁴ provides a forum for the scholarly discussion of legal issues affecting Latinos and Latinas in the United States. Recent articles have addressed issues including the impact of appointing a Latino Supreme Court justice, the English-only movement, the paradox of the alien-citizen, and the future of Latino legal scholarship.
- **HARVARD LAW REVIEW**⁶⁵ is published monthly from November through June and is the only independent student-run law journal in the country. This publication's primary purpose is to showcase legal scholarship both from academics and professionals, in addition to its own student editors, who routinely publish their works along with the big name submissions. It limits membership to second and third year law students who are selected on the basis of their performance in an annual writing competition. In recent years, the number of students who complete the competition has ranged from 200 to 220. Of these, between 41 and 43 will be asked to join the Review. Fourteen editors (two from each 1L section) are selected based on a combination of their first-year grades and their competition scores. Twenty-two editors are selected based solely on their competition scores. The remaining editors are selected on a discretionary basis. Some of these discretionary slots may be used to implement the Review's affirmative action policy. The competition consists of two parts: The sub cite portion of the competition, worth 40% of the competition score, requires students to perform a technical and substantive edit of an excerpt from an unpublished article. The case comment portion of the competition, worth 60% of the competition score, requires students to describe and analyze a recent U.S. Supreme Court or Court of Appeals decision.
- **HARVARD NEGOTIATION LAW REVIEW**⁶⁶ is aimed specifically at lawyers and legal scholars. This relatively new publication was launched in spring of 1996 and explored interdisciplinary academic perspectives on such topics as decision analysis, litigation settlement, and the variety of mediator roles, strategies and tactics. Subsequent volumes have expanded on these topics, and included additional discussion of the lawyer's role as a problem solver, reconsideration of legal education in light of negotiation, and a range of case studies of innovative negotiation and mediation systems around the world.
- The **HARVARD WOMEN'S LAW JOURNAL**⁶⁷ has been among the nation's foremost student edited feminist law journals since 1978. This publication is devoted to developing and advancing feminist jurisprudence, and to combining legal analysis with political, economic, historical, and sociological perspectives. In recent years, the Journal has published leading articles by professors, practitioners, and students on varied topics, including domestic violence, sexual harassment, reproductive rights, and women in the military. The Journal encourages writing by its editors and also accepts student submissions.

MOOT COURT⁶⁸

Moot Court is mandatory as part of the first-year lawyering course for HLS students. Students prepare initial and final drafts of memoranda and other documents by becoming familiar with accessing both paper and electronic research materials and by intensive advocacy training in the First Year Ames Moot Court Program. Each student is required to submit one appellate brief and complete one argument. Upperclass students may volunteer in their second year to compete in the

64 <http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/llr/>

65 <http://www.harvardlawreview.org/about.shtml>; <http://www.harvardlawreview.org/membership.shtml>

66 <http://www.pon.harvard.edu/publications/hnlr/index.php3>

67 http://www.law.harvard.edu/studorgs/woman_law_journal/; <http://www.law.harvard.edu/students/orgs/wlj/vol27/subpub.php>

68 www.law.harvard.edu/students/catalog/cat_main.htm; <http://www.law.harvard.edu/academics/fyl/description.php>

Ames Competition in Appellate Brief Writing and Oral Advocacy. This contest continues through the student's third year when two teams remain. First year students may qualify to be on the Moot Court Board. Grades and an interview are part of the initial application procedure, followed by a recommendation to the faculty advisors who approve the final appointments to the board.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁶⁹

Harvard Law School has one of the most extensive clinical programs in the country. Each year Harvard offers over 20 courses with clinical components. The clinical legal education program has three basic components:

- Direct student responsibility for clients in a realistic practice setting.
- Supervision and mentoring by an experienced practitioner.
- Companion classroom sessions in which clinical experience supports and contributes to further discussion and thought.

HARVARD'S MAJOR CLINICAL PLACEMENTS INCLUDE:

- **HALE AND DORR LEGAL SERVICES CENTER** – The Center is a general practice law office providing both free and reduced-fee civil legal assistance and representation in the areas of family law, family mediation, housing law, employment, community economic development, real estate, and trusts and estates.
- **CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE** – CJI is the school's on-campus, curricular-based criminal and juvenile justice defense program. Caseloads vary and include disorderly person charges, drug possession, assault and battery, and juvenile and criminal practice.
- **IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE CLINIC** – Provides free legal services in the areas of immigration, deportation defense, political asylum and includes the Women's Refugee Project.
- **EXTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS** – Clinical placements outside of Harvard. For example, students enrolled in the Government Lawyer Criminal course are placed in the Attorney General's and the United States Attorney's Offices.
- **STUDENT PRACTICE ORGANIZATIONS** – Provides a variety of civil and criminal services such as: Harvard Defenders, Legal Aid Bureau, Mediation Program, Prison Legal Assistance Project, and the Tenant Advocacy Project are also clinical placement opportunities.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁷⁰

Harvard Law School's plethora of student organizations include: the African Law Association, Advocates for Education, La Alianza, Alliance of Independent Feminists, American Constitution Society, Appleseed Center for Electoral Reform, ArtsPanel, Harvard Asia Law Society, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Harvard Association for Law and Business, HLS/KSG Association for Law and Policy, Ballroom Dance Society, Gary Bellows Public Service Award, Big Brother/Big Sister Organization, Black Law Students Association, *Black Letter Law Journal*, Board of Student Advisers, Catholic Law Students Association, Civil Liberties Union, Child and Youth Advocates, Chinese-American Law Students Association, Harvard Law School Christian Fellowship, Committee for Multi-Cultural Unity, Committee on Sports and Entertainment Law, Consortium on Global Leadership, Harvard Law Couples Association, Crew: Men and Women, Harvard Defenders, HLS Democrats, HLS for Choice, Direct Action, Drama Society, Environmental Law Society, Ethics, Law and Biotechnology Society, European Law Association,

69. www.law.harvard.edu/academics/clinical/faq.htm

70. www.law.harvard.edu/academics/clinical/faq.htm

Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy, Interfaith Alliance for Israel, In Vino Veritas: Food and Wine Society, The Forum, Forum on Local Government and Politics, HLS Greens, International Law Society, Interdenominational Alliance for Israel, JD/MBA Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Just Democracy, Justice for Palestine, Korean Association of Harvard Law School, Labor and Employment Project, LAMBDA, Latin American Law Society, Harvard Law School Latter-day Saints Association, Law and Health Care Society, Law and Philosophy Society, Law School Council, Legal Aid Bureau, Lincoln's Inn Society, Mediation Program, Middle East Law Students Association, Multiracial Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association, Parents at the Law School, Prison Legal Assistance Project, The *Harvard Law Record*, HLS Republicans, Roscoe Pound Society, Scales of Justice, Soccer Club, Society for Law, Life, and Religion, The Society of Law and Family Matters, Softball Club, South Asian Law Students Association, Squash Team, Student Activities Council, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Student Funded Fellowships, Student Public Interest Network, Students Organized for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, Summer Associates Initiative for Legal Services, Target Shooting Club, HLS TaxHelp, Tenant Advocacy Project, Tennis Club, Ummah, Veritas!, Veterans Association, Women of Color Collective, Women's Law Association, Women's Law Journal and the Yearbook.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁷¹

Harvard Law School's 18 research programs and centers produce cutting-edge work in a wide range of fields and disciplines. From civil rights law to cyber law, human rights law to law and economics, these "idea laboratories" host lectures, symposia, and conferences that enhance intellectual discourse and debate on campus and beyond. The programs also provide students with valuable research opportunities and the chance to work directly with faculty members on projects at the core of their scholarly agendas.

Berkman Center for Internet and Society

The Civil Rights Project

East Asian Legal Studies Program

European Law Research Center

Fund for Tax and Fiscal Research

HLS History Project

Human Rights Program

International Tax Program

Islamic Legal Studies Program

John M. Olin Center for Law, Economics and Business

Labor and Worklife Program

Program on Corporate Governance

Program on Empirical Legal Studies

Program on International Financial Systems

⁷¹ <http://www.law.harvard.edu/programs/>

Program on Negotiation

Program on the Legal Profession

Ames Foundation

Project on Justice in Times of Transition

Selden Society

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 600+⁷²

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 98.1⁷³

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.4⁷⁴

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁷⁵

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 95.9
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 2.3
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 1.8

⁷² www.law.harvard.edu/ocs/prospective_students/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions.htm

⁷³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03074.php

⁷⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03074.php

⁷⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03074.php

STANFORD

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
559 Nathan Abbott Way Stanford, CA 94305	(650) 723-2465	(650) 723-4985	www.law.stanford.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(650) 723-0994	(650) 723-3924	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Currently ranked Number Three on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, Stanford is in many ways the “Yale of the West Coast.” Many students who completed their undergraduate education on the East Coast or elsewhere in the country actually prefer to try to gain admission to this excellent school located in one of the most picturesque coastal regions of Northern California.

With an entering class size of about 166 students⁷⁶ and a student-faculty ratio of 12.5:1,⁷⁷ Stanford is able to offer the same degree of classroom discussions and access to professors that Yale provides its students.

Stanford receives approximately 5,000 applications most years. This is probably due to the incredible faculty, the proximity to the epicenter of the technology revolution, the marvelous climate, and the strong interest many students have in living near the coast of California for at least part of their lives.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2003 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 168⁷⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 166 - 172⁷⁹
- Median GPA: 3.7⁸⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.77 - 3.94⁸¹
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 5,040
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 390
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 7.7

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from The U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03014.php.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES⁸²

Stanford grades on a four point scale and the classes are generally curved. The mean for all exam courses is 3.4 unless otherwise stated.⁸³

Credit/No Credit is a large part of the Stanford grade system. Stanford uses what it calls the 3K system for classes graded for credit. Students may take all classes in the first term, as Credit/No

76 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03014.php

77 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/about/facts>

78 The Princeton Review, Complete Book of Law Schools, 2004 Edition, page 201

79 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03014.php

80 Id.

81 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03014.php

82 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 342

83 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/admin/ocs/employers/policies.html>

Credit. After the first term they may elect to take two more classes under the system. Note, however, that “There are several courses that are graded mandatory 3K either as a school policy or at the discretion of the faculty member. These grades show on the transcript as KM.”

In addition students are prohibited from disclosing to potential employers their shadow grades in the above “K” system courses. Employers who use the Stanford Law School facilities may not ask students about their shadow grades during on-campus or off-campus interviews.⁸⁴

THE CREDIT/NO CREDIT GRADES OPERATE AS FOLLOWS:

K	4.3 to 2.5 grade point equivalent
RK	2.2 grade point equivalent
NK	2.1 grade point equivalent
KM	Course required to be a Credit/No Credit

Stanford’s Career Services Center advises employers that the law school’s stringent admission policies and the mandatory curve in most classes make grade distinctions among the student body extremely slight and not a good indicator of the individual’s abilities.⁸⁵

GRADING SYSTEM:

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

CLASS RANK:

Stanford does not rank its students.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁸⁶

Order of the Coif, established at Stanford Law School in 1912, has been a long standing and much sought after honor. Even though students don’t graduate cum laude, they may graduate with distinction.⁸⁷

Order of the Coif: Top 10%

With Distinction: Top 33% at graduation

ACADEMIC AWARDS:^{88, 89}

NAME OF AWARD	RECIPIENT
Nathan Abbott Scholar	Highest cumulative GPA at the end of third year.
Urban A. Sontheimer (third year)	Second highest cumulative GPA.
Second-Year Honor	Highest cumulative GPA at the end

84 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/admin/ocs/employers/policies.html#grading>; Additional explanation of “shadow grades” provided via email correspondence between BCG research staff and Susan C. Robinson, Esq., Associate Dean for Career Services.

85 <http://www.law.standford.edu/admin/ocs/employers/policies.html>

86 Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 343

87 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/about/history>

88 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 343

89 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/students/academic/graduation/2004/slsgrad2004-honors.pdf>

	of second year. Frank Belcher Evidence Award Best academic work in Evidence.
Steven M. Block Civil Liberties Award	Best written work on personal freedom issues.
Carl Mason Franklin Prize/ Int'l Law	Outstanding papers in International Law (2).
Olaus & Adolph Murie Award	Best written work in Environmental Law (2).
Hilmer Pehlmann Jr. Prizes	First-year research and writing award (18).
Marion Rice Kirkwood Moot Court	Best oral advocate, best brief, best team, runner-up team (4).
Stanford Law Review	Best editorial contribution to <i>Stanford Law Review</i> .
Public Service Fellowships	Demonstrated commitment to public service.
Lisa M. Schnitzer Memorial Scholarship	Demonstrated commitment to public interest.
Brown & Bain Fellowship in High Technology Law	Best research project in law and high technology.
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition	Best style of legal writing in copyright.
Richard S. Goldsmith Award	Distinguished written work in dispute resolution.
The Ni Prize	Significant contribution to the study of International and Chinese law.
Lawrason Driscoll Moot Court Award	Awarded to officers of the Moot Court Board.
Intellectual Property Writing Award	Outstanding papers in Intellectual Property Law.
Board of Editors Award	Outstanding editorial to the <i>Stanford Law Review</i> .
Irving Hellman, Jr. Special Award	Outstanding student note in the <i>Stanford Law Review</i> .
Special Service Award	Undertaking a difficult project for the <i>Stanford Law Review</i> .
President's Award	Extraordinary dedication to and vision on behalf of the <i>Stanford Law Review</i> .
Jay M. Spears Award (second year)	Outstanding service to the <i>Stanford Law Review</i> .
Deborah L. Rhode Public Interest Award	Outstanding non-scholarly public service

STUDENT JOURNALS⁹⁰

Stanford publishes eight online or printed student-run journals. Stanford is one of the few schools that select journal members entirely based on the school's writing competition.

⁹⁰ <http://www.law.stanford.edu/publications/student/>

- **STANFORD LAW REVIEW**⁹¹ annually publishes one volume, which appears in six separate issues between November and July. Each issue contains material written by student members of the Law Review, other Stanford law students, and outside contributors such as law professors, judges, and practicing lawyers. Law Review participants select, edit, and publish articles and notes on the cutting edge of legal scholarship. The Law Review is a fully self-sustaining enterprise, operated entirely by Stanford Law School students and is independent of faculty and administration.
- The **STANFORD ENVIRONMENTAL LAW JOURNAL (ELJ)**⁹² was founded in 1978 and is now considered one of the best environmental law journals in the nation. ELJ is a semiannual scholarly periodical dedicated to analyses of current environmental legal issues and policies.
- The **STANFORD JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW (SJIL)**⁹³ is a scholarly periodical devoted to analyses of current international legal issues. The student-run biannual prints articles by professors, practitioners, and students on a wide range of legal topics, including public international law, human rights, international trade, and comparative law. The staff of SJIL is composed of approximately 50 members and 20 editors who work closely with authors on the material for each issue. First-year students are encouraged to participate in the spring workshop and can become editors by the end of their second semester.
- The **STANFORD AGORA: AN ONLINE JOURNAL OF LEGAL PERSPECTIVES**⁹⁴ recreates the openness of the Athenian agora by designing the law journal of the new century. Agora seeks to bridge the gap between the law and other academic disciplines by examining central issues in contemporary society via a symposium format that incorporates a broad range of interdisciplinary approaches to law. All law school students are welcome and invited to join Agora, but students with experience in fields outside of law are especially encouraged to bring their input to the journal.
- The **STANFORD JOURNAL OF LAW, BUSINESS & FINANCE (SJLBF)**⁹⁵ is a semiannual publication dedicated to exploring legal issues in the fields of business and finance. Edited and operated by students in all three classes of the law school, SJLBF brings a practical focus to the world of legal scholarship. Furthermore, members of SJLBF are encouraged to assume both editorial and business responsibilities. Ultimately, members who demonstrate excellence and commitment to the SJLBF have the opportunity to assume leadership positions and to join SJLBF's steering committee.
- The **STANFORD LAW AND POLICY REVIEW (SLPR)**⁹⁶ is a non-ideological publication, which in addition to possessing all the components of a fully functional law review, is also a small business. Students are responsible for all aspects of managing and producing this journal. Staffing for SLPR comes from all three law school classes. Students can join as editor candidates during their first year. More experienced editors may become article editors responsible for an entire article. Second- and third-year students may also be selected to sit on the managing board.
- The **STANFORD TECHNOLOGY LAW REVIEW (STLR)**⁹⁷ is an innovative forum for intellectual discourse on critical issues at the intersection of law, science, technology, and public policy. STLR's electronic format allows immediate reader response as well as ongoing Virtual

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

92. <http://elj.stanford.edu/>

93. <http://sjil.stanford.edu/>

94. http://www.law.stanford.edu/agora/index_main.shtml

95. <http://sjlbf.stanford.edu/>

96. <http://slpr.stanford.edu/>

97. <http://stlr.stanford.edu/>

Symposia. Membership in STLR provides students with interests in technology the opportunity to work with noted scholars in their fields of interest, develop strong writing and editing skills, and gain experience with internet publishing technology.

- The **STANFORD JOURNAL OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES**⁹⁸, launched in 2003-2004, focuses on civil rights and race, gender, and orientation theory. The journal endeavors to be innovators of civil rights law and discourse by incorporating and introducing new trends in the field. It analyzes the emerging interrelations between domestic and international civil rights, a focus no other law school publication yet offers.

MOOT COURT⁹⁹

First-year students participate in Moot Court as part of their legal research and writing class. Second and third year students may participate for two units of credit in the intra-school Marion Rice Kirkwood competition, which is administered by a faculty advisor and the Moot Court Board. Board membership is based on previous participation in the Kirkwood competition. Students may also participate in the interschool Moot Court competitions.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁰⁰

The following clinics are available to Stanford law students:

- **CIVIL JUSTICE CLINIC:** The civil justice clinic offers students, from a theoretical and hands-on perspective, the experience of effectively representing individuals and groups facing employment and housing problems.
- **CIVIL RIGHTS CLINIC:** Students work on litigation involving major civil rights issues.
- **CRIMINAL PROSECUTION CLINIC:** Students in this clinic prosecute criminal cases at the San Jose Superior Court under the guidance of both Santa Clara Court prosecutors and a faculty supervisor. Note that Evidence is a prerequisite and that both Criminal Procedure and Trial Advocacy are strongly encouraged.
- **CYBERLAW CLINIC:** Students in this clinic work on lawsuits with public interest issues in the computer and internet contexts.
- **THE EDUCATION ADVOCACY CLINIC:** Provides students with the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of educational rights and reform work, including direct representation of youth and families in special education and school discipline matters, community outreach and education reform litigation, and policy research and advocacy. Students interview and counsel clients, investigate and develop facts, interview witnesses, work with medical and mental health professionals and experts, conduct legal and educational research, create case plans, represent clients in negotiation with school officials, and present oral argument and evidence before administrative tribunals.
- **THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC:** This clinic is operated in conjunction with the Earthjustice. Students provide legal assistance to national, regional, and grassroots nonprofit organizations on a variety of environmental issues, with a focus on complex natural resource conservation and biodiversity matters at the intersection of law, science, and policy. Students formulate strategies, research and develop factual and legal arguments, and prosecute administrative and judicial proceedings.
- **THE IMMIGRANTS' RIGHTS CLINIC:** Offers students the opportunity to represent individual

98. <http://sjcrcl.stanford.edu/>

99. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 342

100. <http://www.law.stanford.edu/students/admits/memos/clinics.html>

immigrants and immigrants' rights organizations. Students participate in all aspects of case development, including interviewing clients and witnesses, investigating facts, writing pleadings, developing case strategies, conducting legal research, and presenting cases.

- **THE SUPREME COURT LITIGATION CLINIC:** Exposes students to the joys and frustrations of litigation before the Supreme Court of the United States. They may draft petitions for certiorari, as well as oppositions, merits briefs, and amicus briefs. They may prepare advocates in clinic-related cases for oral argument, and provide advice to other attorneys appearing before the Court. They are exposed to a wide range of legal areas, ranging from criminal law to civil rights law, constitutional issues to bankruptcy, and they receive immediate and extensive feedback on their legal writing.

ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS¹⁰¹

Stanford University Law School's student organizations include the Advanced Degree Student Association, American Constitution Society, Asian and Pacific Islander Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Building Community Day, Business and Corporate Governance, Center for E-Commerce, Center for Law and the Biosciences, Cyberlaw Clinic, Christian Legal Society, Cultivating Opportunity and Access for College Hopefuls, Drama Society, Environmental Law Society, Environmental Fisheries Policy Project, Federalist Society, Gould Center for Conflict Resolution Programs, International Law Society, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, LLM Programs in Corporate Governance and Practice, LLM Program in Law Science and Technology, Law Association, Law Student Committee for Community Lawyering, Law and Business Society, Lawyers in Social Entrepreneurship, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association, Negotiation and Mediation Program, OUTLAW, Programs in International Legal Studies, Public Interest Law Student Association, Rule of Law Program, Securities Class Action Clearing House, Shaking the Foundations, Stanford BioLaw, Stanford Entertainment and Sports Law Association, Stanford International Law Society, Stanford International Human Rights, Stanford Judicial Review Project, Stanford Latino Law Students Association, Stanford Law and Technology Association, Stanford Law and Wine Society, Stanford Law School Democrats, Stanford Legal History, Stanford Public Interest Law Foundation, Street Law, Technology Law Review, the Theory Workshop and Women of Stanford Law.¹⁰²

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 300+ ¹⁰³

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 99¹⁰⁴

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 99.1¹⁰⁵

Where the Grads Go:¹⁰⁶

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 65
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 27
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 2
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 4
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 0 (1 person went into Academia).¹⁰⁷

102 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03014.php

103 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/admin/ocs/students/index.html>

104 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03014.php; See also <http://www.law.stanford.edu/admin/ocs/students/statistics.html>

105 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03014.php

106 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03014.php

107 <http://www.law.stanford.edu/admin/ocs/students/statistics.html>

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
435 West 116th Street, New York, NY 10027	(212) 854-2670	(212) 854-2670	www.law.columbia.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(212) 854-2670	(212) 854-0652	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Columbia University School of Law has a renowned faculty and a highly regarded moot court program that teaches students how to write excellent briefs. Columbia is currently ranked Number Four on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. Graduates of this school are heavily recruited and their training and writing skills are considered to be among the best in the country.

While some would-be applicants are intimidated by the idea of attending law school in a place as big as New York City, others appreciate the exceptional professional opportunities and abundant resources that the University's international reputation provides. Attending Columbia Law School is a unique experience with the eclectic charm of the Morningside Heights neighborhood, and its cultural life which offers unparalleled activity and diversity in the performing and visual arts.

New York City is a microcosm of the world, and is the home of the United Nations and numerous human rights and civil liberties organizations.¹⁰⁸ It is a center of international business and finance, of world securities and capital markets, and law firms that specialize in corporate law. It is the headquarters of such industries as broadcasting, recording, and publishing.

Though the fall 2004 entering class size of approximately 374 students is rather large,¹⁰⁹ it has made it possible for the school to provide some of the country's finest clinical programs and other unique resources for students. Fortunately, the school has managed to keep the student-faculty ratio to a workable 11.2:1.¹¹⁰

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:¹¹¹

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 171¹¹² 25th – 75th Percentile: 167-173¹¹³
- Median GPA: 3.7¹¹⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.50 - 3.83¹¹⁵
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 8,355
- Number accepted in 2004: 1187¹¹⁶
- Percentage accepted in 2004: 14.7¹¹⁷

108. http://www.law.columbia.edu/prosp_students/jd_prog/about_cl_law

109. http://www.law.columbia.edu/prosp_students/jd_prog/applic_inf/Class_Profile?#rtregion:main

110. *U.S. News & World Report's* America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03104.php

111. http://www.law.columbia.edu/prosp_students/jd_prog/applic_inf/Class_Profile?#rtregion:main

112. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 115

113. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03104.php

114. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 115

115. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03104.php

116. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03104.php

117. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03104.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:

With a resolution passed in December 1994, the Faculty of Law established the grading system of A, B (with plus and minus designations), C, and F. Some courses and clinics offer a grade of CR (credit) as an option, while other courses grade CR or F. Columbia has no class rank or grade distribution.¹¹⁸

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:¹¹⁹

Given the competitive nature of entrance standards, Columbia has decided not to issue any GPA percentile or ranking designations to its students. Two scholarly distinctions, the James Kent Scholars and Stone Scholars, are available to graduates who excel academically. Given that the distinctions are based on achieving certain grade performance, it appears that employers wishing to use grades as a screen may wish to focus solely on those students who have been awarded one of these designations.

JAMES KENT SCHOLARS

A student shall be named a Kent scholar if during an academic year the student has earned at least 15 graded law credits toward his or her degree, and in that year the student has received grades such that all, or all but one are, A+, A or A- (the exception being no lower than B), and if the lowest grade is put aside, at least half of which are A or A+. The Kent Scholar is generally awarded to the top 1-3 percent of each class.

STONE SCHOLARS

Students of all three years are recognized as Stone Scholars for superior academic achievement. A student shall be named a Stone scholar if during an academic year the student has earned at least 15 graded law credits toward his or her degree and the student received no grade lower than B-. The Stone Scholar is generally awarded to 30-33 percent of the class.

ACADEMIC AWARDS:¹²⁰

NAME OF AWARD	RECIPIENT
Alfred S. Forsyth Prize	For a student demonstrating qualities of intellect and selfless dedication to the advancement of environmental law.
Andrew D. Fried Memorial Prize	Best essay in intellectual property published in the VLA Journal of Law and the Arts.
Walter Gellhorn Prize	LL.M. candidate with the highest academic average.
Lawrence S. Greenbaum Prize	Best final argument presentation in the moot court competition.
Carroll G. Harper Prize	Highest achievement in intellectual property studies and writing.

¹¹⁸ http://www.law.columbia.edu/careers/career_services/employers/About_Columbia_/Grading_and_Hon

¹¹⁹ http://www.law.columbia.edu/academics/registrar/Acad_Recog

¹²⁰ www.law.columbia.edu/academics/curriculum_2001_2002/rules/Academic_Recognition.htm

Paul R. Hays Prize	Outstanding first-year student in civil procedure.
Pauline Berman Heller Prize Fund	Highest ranked graduating female student.
Moot Court First-Year Brief Prize	Best brief in moot court competition.
Jane Marks Murphy Prize	For interest and proficiency in clinical advocacy.
John Ordronaux Prize	For general proficiency in legal study, usually determined by academic average.
Simon H. Rifkind Prize Fund	Best overall first year moot court performance.
Samuel I. Rosenman Prize	Awarded to a third year student in a public law course with outstanding qualities of citizenship and leadership.
Emil Schlesinger Labor Law Prize	Student most proficient in the subject of labor law.
Whitney North Seymour Medal	Greatest promise of becoming a distinguished trial advocate.
Young B. Smith Prize	Most proficient first-year student in the law of torts.
Robert Noxon Toppan Prize	Best written constitutional law examination.
Valentin J.T. Wertheimer Prize in Labor Law	For a creative approach to labor, equal employment, or collective bargaining law.
Charles Bathgate Beck Prize	First-year student who submits the best examination paper in the course relating to real property law.
David M. Berger Memorial Prize	Third-year student interested in international law and world peace.
Harold Brown Book Prize	Based on need.
Class of 1912 Prize	First-year student who is most proficient in contracts.
Milton B. Conford Book Prize in Jurisprudence	Student who writes the best original essay on a legal subject.
E.B. Convers Prize	Member of the graduating class who writes the best original essay on a legal subject.
Archie O. Dawson Prize	Awarded for proficiency in advocacy. The recipient studies for several weeks in various federal courts, including the Supreme Court of the United States.
James A. Elkins Prizes	Outstanding first-year law student in each of the following courses: civil procedure, constitutional law, and criminal law.

STUDENT JOURNALS¹²¹

Columbia University School of Law publishes a total of fourteen law journals.

- The *American Review of International Arbitration*, published by the Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law at Columbia University, is a unique quarterly publication. The Review publishes academic articles and case notes on the dynamic field of international arbitration. Students are selected for editorial staff positions on the basis of an application submitted after their first year.
- *Columbia Business Law Review* is published three times annually. Student members edit scholarly articles in business law and write notes. Elected third year members govern the Review whose staff is selected based on first year academic performance and a spring writing competition. Responsibilities for second year members include writing a note on a topic related to business and assisting in the Review's production.
- *The Columbia Journal of Asian Law*, produced under the auspices of the Centers for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Legal Studies, publishes multidisciplinary articles from academics, practitioners, government officials, and student notes. Law student members are selected from applications submitted at the conclusion of the first year. Candidates for LL.M., J.S.D., and Special Students apply in the fall.
- *The Columbia Journal of Gender and Law* is an interdisciplinary journal focused on the interaction of gender and law. The Journal is governed by consensus and members work in teams. Applications from prospective members are accepted each semester. The editorial board is selected each spring from current members.
- *Columbia Human Rights Law Review* is a student-run journal, which produces two publications: the Review and A Jailhouse Lawyer's Manual (JLM). The Review publishes professional articles and student-written notes on domestic and international issues in human rights and civil liberties. Prospective members apply after the completion of their first year. Editorial board members are selected from the second-year staff. The JLM, published in English and Spanish, is a legal reference tool designed to assist individuals in navigating the American legal system.
- The *Parker School Journal of East European Law* publishes scholarly articles, student notes, book reviews and commentaries concerning legal developments in former Soviet republics, Eastern and Central Europe. Applications are accepted at the end of each spring semester and members are selected based on their first year grades. The Journal is governed by a faculty editor-in-chief.
- The *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law* focuses on preserving and improving the environment through law. The Journal student-edited by a board selected annually from second-year members. Applicants are admitted based on writing samples.
- The *Columbia Journal of Law and Social Problems* is a quarterly publication written and edited solely by student members. Selection criteria include first-year academic grades and performance in a spring writing competition. Members of the board of editors are chosen annually from the second-year staff.
- The *Columbia Journal of Transnational Law*, produced three times per year, is one of the oldest and most cited journals of international law. The Journal is entirely student-edited and publishes works by practitioners, academics and students. Student members are chosen based on first year grades and performance in a writing competition.

121 http://www.law.columbia.edu/journals_pubs

- The *Columbia Law Review* is a student-edited journal and one of the few produced eight times per year. Works published in the Review include articles by academics and practitioners, student notes, and book reviews. The Review also hosts symposium and publishes related papers. Student members are selected in one of four ways: performance in the first year writing competition; first year grades and writing competition performance; diversity criteria, writing competition performance, and first year grades; or taking part in the fall Publishable Notes I program.¹²²
- The *Columbia Journal of Law and the Arts* is a student-edited quarterly journal that publishes professional articles and student notes about domestic and international issues in intellectual property, media and the arts. Selection is based on a combination of performance in the spring writing competition and first year grades.
- The *Columbia Journal of European Law* is jointly sponsored by the Columbia University School of Law and the Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law, with the cooperation of the Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven, Belgium. While the Journal focuses on legal issues facing the European Union, it also publishes works on national and regional European topics. Membership is open to all second- and third-year law students, but preference is given to students with a demonstrated interest or experience in European affairs.
- *Columbia Science and Technology Law Review* is an online journal that publishes academic and professional articles concerning the dynamic field of technology and its intersection with the law. Members are selected based on the first year writing competition, expressed interest, past experience and education. While scientific and technical backgrounds are preferred, they are not prerequisites.
- The *National Black Law Journal* publishes articles that focus on current debates on affirmative action, employment law, community development, and the criminal justice system.

MOOT COURT

Moot court competition is required of all first-year students at Columbia. Second-year student editors are selected on the basis of the first-year moot court brief competition. Included are the Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition and the Harlan Fiske Stone Honor Competition.¹²³ The Stone Competition is a three-round elimination competition in appellate advocacy. Prizes are awarded for the best brief, as scored by judges in the final round of 16 and the best oral argument as decided by the bench, based upon the final argument.

The Philip C. Jessup International Moot Court Competition¹²⁴ is open to all first- and second-year students. The Jerome Michael Jury Trials Program¹²⁵ provides a case for jury trial for second- and third-year students. Judges in this competition tend to be sitting state court trial judges. Students are responsible for obtaining volunteers to act as witnesses. Academic prerequisites include having taken Evidence. To qualify, students must participate in one qualifying round in the fall and another in the spring. Qualifying rounds will be ranked by the presiding judge by awarding ranks of “first” and “second” and declaring the best overall performance, taking into account professional comportment, conversance with law and legal principles, and effectiveness in examination and argument.

¹²² <http://www.columbialawreview.org/information/publishablenotes.cfm>

¹²³ <http://www.law.columbia.edu/academics/curriculum>

¹²⁴ <http://www.law.columbia.edu/academics/curriculum>

¹²⁵ <http://www.law.columbia.edu/academics/curriculum>

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹²⁶

Columbia School of Law offers eight clinical programs: Child Advocacy Clinic, Prisoners and Families Clinic, Clinical Seminar in Law and the Arts, Mediation Clinic, Nonprofit Organizations Clinic, Human Rights Clinic, Lawyering in the Digital Age Clinic and the Environmental Law Clinic.

ORGANIZATIONS¹²⁷

The plethora of student organizations at Columbia Law School is a testament to its diversity. Among the school's active organizations are the African Law Students Association, Alma Italian LL.M. Association, Alpine Society, American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Amnesty International, Asian Pacific American Law Student Association, Baha'i Association, Black Law Students Association, Columbia Card Club, Changing Institutional Legal Learning One University At A Time (CHILLOUT), Christian Legal Society, Civil Rights Law Society, Columbia Latin American Business Law Association, Columbia Law Softball Club, Columbia Law Trial Team, Columbia Law Yoga Club, Columbia Law Young Democrats, Columbia Law Women's Association, Columbia Real Estate Law Society, Columbia Society for Internal Law, Columbia Strategic Simulation Society, Columbia Securities Law Association, Columbia Law School News, Criminal Justice Action Network, Dean's Cup, DeVinimus, Domestic Violence Project, Eastern Philosophy and Culture Society, Entertainment, Arts and Sports Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, For Enacting and Humane Drug Policy, Grand CRU, Harlem Tutorial Program, Impact, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, June Foundation, Just Democracy, Koleinu, Latina/o Law Student Association, Law School Soccer Association, Muslim Law Students Association, Native American Law Student Association, Neighborhood Kids, NHK: Japanese Legal Studies Association, Older Wiser Law Students (OWLS), Outlaws, Public Interest Law Foundation, Qanun, Rightslink, Society of Chinese Law, Society for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, Society for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, Society for Law, Health and Bioethics, Society for Law, Science and Technology, South Asian Law Student Association, St. Thomas More Society, Student Senate, Student Alliance for Gender Equality, Tenant's Rights Project, Transfer and Visiting Student Organization, Unemployment Action Center, Youth Justice Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS¹²⁸

In addition to the many organizations affiliated with Columbia's Law School, law students also have the option of participating in any of the following centers and/or programs:

The Center for Chinese Legal Studies

Kernochan Center for Law, Media and the Arts

The European Legal Studies Center

The Center for Public Interest Law

The Center for Law and Economics Studies

The Center for Japanese Legal Studies

The Center for Korean Legal Studies

The Center for Law and Philosophy

126 <http://www.law.columbia.edu/focusareas/clinics>

127 http://www.law.columbia.edu/current_student/student_service/Student_Organiz?exclusive=filemgr.download&file-id=87260&rtcon tentdisposition=filename%3DStudent%20Organizations%20Contact%20Information.pdf

128 http://www.law.columbia.edu/center_program

The Center for the Study of Law and Culture
 Center on Global Legal Problems
 Center on Corporate Governance
 The Center on Crime, Community and Law
 Julius Silver Program in Law, Science & Technology
 Alternative Dispute Resolution Program
 Columbia Program in Law and History
 Public Interest Law Initiative in Transitional Societies
 International Programs
 Human Rights Institute
 Deals
 Advanced Legal Education Programs
 Columbia-Leiden-Amsterdam Summer Program
 The Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law
 Program on Careers in Law and Teaching
 Legal Theory Workshop
 Social Justice Initiatives
 Program on International Migration: Economics, Ethics and Law
 National State Attorneys General Program at Columbia Law School

NUMBER OF FIRMS INTERVIEWING ON CAMPUS MOST YEARS: 550¹²⁹

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 97.8¹³⁰

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 98.5¹³¹

WHERE THE GRADS GO:¹³²

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (e.g., law firms, judicial clerkships, in-house counsel): 99
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 1
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): N/A

129 Provided by the Columbia University School of Law's Office of Career Services
 130 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03104.php
 131 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03104.php
 132 http://www.law.columbia.edu/careers/career_services/employers/About_Columbia_/Students

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
40 Washington Square South, Vanderbilt Hall, New York, NY 10012	(212) 998-6100	(212) 998-6060	www.law.nyu.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(212) 998-6020	(212) 998-6090	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Many students fall in love with NYU's surrounding neighborhood of Greenwich Village, and they appreciate the nearby subway ready to take them all over Manhattan. New York University School of Law has been a pioneer in such programs as clinical education, law and business, public service, interdisciplinary colloquia, and global studies.¹³³

New York University School of Law is the preeminent global law school featuring innovative teaching, research, and intellectual and professional development in a uniquely collegial environment. Like our great city, NYU School of Law is a "melting pot" of legal scholars and practitioners, economists, social scientists, and representatives of the innovation industries.

The NYU School of Law is currently ranked Number Five on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. Its fall 2004 entering class numbered 440 students,¹³⁴ but with a student-faculty ratio of 11.2:1,¹³⁵ faculty and students find plenty of time for personalized learning.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:¹³⁶

following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

-Median LSAT: 169 25th – 75th Percentile: 167 – 172

-Median GPA: 3.75 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.6- 3.9

-Approximate number of applications: 8,220¹³⁷

-Number accepted: 1,628¹³⁸

-Percentage accepted: 19.8

-Number enrolled: 440

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:¹³⁹

NYU law operates on a standard 4.0 grading scale, with a modified bell curve and most student grades fall within a 3.0 range.¹⁴⁰

NYU does not rank its students, nor does it provide cumulative GPA's on transcripts. No official record is kept of a student's GPA and the records office is not authorized to verify any student GPA estimated by the student.¹⁴¹

¹³³ American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 472

¹³⁴ <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/admissions/info/jd/classprofile.html>

¹³⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03110.php

¹³⁶ <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/admissions/info/jd/classprofile.html>

¹³⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03110.php

¹³⁸ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03110.php

¹³⁹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 234

¹⁴⁰ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

¹⁴¹ <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/studentaffairs/publications/handbook/jdregs.pdf>, page 9

A	4.0	B+	3.33	C+	N/A	D	1.0
A-	3.67	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0
		B-	2.67	C-	N/A		

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

First-Year Grade Distribution:¹⁴²

RECOMMEN- DED % BASED ON NYU LAW CURVE	4 - 8% (TARG- ET 6%)	10 - 16% (TARG- ET 13%)	24- 33% (TARG- ET 28-29%)	REMAINDER	4 - 11% (TAR GET 7-8%)	0 - 5%	0 - 5%	0 - 5%
	A /4.0	A- /3.67	B+ /3.33	B /3.0	B- /2.67	C /2.0	D / 1.0	F /0

The guidelines for first-year J.D. courses are mandatory and binding on faculty members. In other cases, the guidelines are strongly recommended but not enforced. They do not apply to any courses with fewer than 28 students.

Other J.D. and L.L.M. Grade Distribution:¹⁴³

RECOMMEN- DED % BASED ON NYU LAW CURVE	4 - 8% (TARG- ET 6%)	10 - 16% (TARG- ET 13%)	24- 33% (TARG- ET 28-29%)	REMAINDER	4 - 11% (TAR GET 7-8%)	0 - 5%	0 - 5%	0 - 5%
	A /4.0	A- /3.67	B+ /3.33	B /3.0	B- /2.67	C /2.0	D / 1.0	F /0

Honors:¹⁴⁴

<i>Order of the Coif:</i>	10%
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	not mandatory and given to a few students at the discretion of faculty
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	10%
<i>Cum laude:</i>	25%
Pomeroy Scholar	Top ten students based on cumulative GPA at end of first year
Butler Scholar	Top ten students based on cumulative GPA after four complete semesters
Florence Allen Scholar	Top 10% students based on cumulative GPA after four complete semesters (excludes Butler scholars)
Robert McKay Scholar	Top 25% students based on cumulative GPA after four complete semesters (excludes Butler and Florence Allen scholars)

¹⁴² <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/studentaffairs/publications/handbook/grades.html>

¹⁴³ <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/studentaffairs/publications/handbook/grades.html>

¹⁴⁴ <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/studentaffairs/publications/handbook/jdregs.pdf>

ACADEMIC AWARDS

More than 50 each year are available.

STUDENT JOURNALS¹⁴⁵

Student journals participate in an annual writing competition to select staff members and editors. Participants have two weeks to complete the competition, which consists of a closed-universe case comment and submission of personal statements to each of the journals for which the participants would like to be considered. The NYU Law Review coordinates the annual competition on behalf of all the journals.

- *The Environmental Law Journal (ELJ)*¹⁴⁶ is one of six student-run publications at NYU Law. The Journal focuses on cutting edge environmental issues as its name suggests, and the selection process gives a great deal of importance to a student's demonstrated interest in the field and writing ability rather than grades.
- *New York University Annual Survey of American Law*¹⁴⁷ is a student-edited journal at NYU Law dedicated to exploring emerging trends and contemporary legal developments in the United States. The Journal features articles by legal scholars who provide interpretation and analysis of cutting edge cases and legislation. The Journal is widely distributed overseas and provides insight into the American legal system for foreign legal scholars and professionals. To gain membership, students must participate in the annual writing contest, and must have acceptable first year grades as well as write a 500 word essay. Students are encouraged to use the essay to describe distinguishing features about themselves or their interest in the subject.
- The *New York University Law Review*¹⁴⁸ founded in 1924, publishes six issues each year. Second-year staff members of the Law Review must research a note on a topic of interest to the staff member, help in the production of journal issues by cite and substance checking, proofreading, evaluating articles and notes submitted for publication, and schedule two three-hour slots per week in the Law Review office. Third-year members of the Law Review take primary responsibility for editing second-year notes as well as articles by outside authors. Third-year members also participate in the management of the journal. The Law Review annually invites between 40 and 45 incoming second-year students to join their staff. All first-year students interested in joining must sign up in late spring for the writing competition, which is held immediately following final exams. The Law Review makes its selections by four methods: the 16-18 students with the highest GPAs (determined on a section-by-section rather than class-wide basis) will be extended an offer of membership, provided that their writing competition scores place them in the top two-thirds of all entrants; the eight or nine students with the highest writing competition scores will be invited to join the Law Review without regard to their GPAs; and the eight or nine students with the next highest writing competition scores will also be invited to join the Law Review, provided that their GPAs place them in the top two-thirds of the entire first year class; 10-12 students will be chosen pursuant to the Law Review's Diversity and Affirmative Action Policy.
- *New York University Journal of International Law and Politics*¹⁴⁹ features articles on international legal topics by leading scholars and practitioners, as well as notes, case comments, and book annotations written by Journal members. Staff members are second-year J.D. candidates who are selected from participants in NYU's annual writing competition. In March of each year, staff editors may apply for executive board positions which become effective

146. <http://www.law.nyu.edu/journals/envtllaw/>

147. <http://www.nyu.edu/pubs/annualsurvey/>

148. <http://www.law.nyu.edu/journals/lawreview/>

149. <http://www.nyu.edu/pubs/jilp/>

on April 1. The executive board is selected by the previous board, and is responsible for the management of the Journal. Article and note editors are third-year students who rigorously edit the piece assigned to them and supervise the cite and substance checking and editing of their staff teams.

- The *New York University Journal of Legislation and Public Policy*,¹⁵⁰ as the name suggests, seeks to provide non-partisan analysis of legislation and public policy. The Journal places greatest emphasis on discussion of legislative issues, including reform and the organizational and procedural factors affecting the efficiency of legislative decision-making. Membership is garnered by a combination of grades and writing.
- The *New York University Review of Law & Social Change*¹⁵¹ is a quarterly publication that focuses on the ability of the concerned law student or attorney to create avenues for social change through law. In addition to publishing the work of NYU students, articles by nationally recognized scholars, legal practitioners, and activists are also published. The Review also provides a venue and network for members to participate in public service.
- *The Journal of Law & Business*¹⁵² began publishing semiannually beginning in the fall of 2004. In addition to the tremendous benefit to the student body, the journal is a valuable source of information to the business community. JLB is firmly committed to establishing meaningful working relationships with members of the legal and business communities, who are integral to this rapidly changing business environment. JLB plans to publish articles covering a wide array of business topics including, but not limited to, corporate governance and market policy, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital and private equity, bankruptcy and restructuring, and capital markets and securities. As a practitioner-oriented journal, JLB will actively seek contributions from established practitioners on contemporary business topics, but academic articles will be strongly considered.
- *The Journal of Law and Liberty*¹⁵³ is dedicated to providing a forum for the critical discussion of classical liberal legal scholarship. It aims to explore issues, such as the nature of rules & order, legal philosophy, theories of rights & liberty, constitutional law, jurisprudence, legal history, and historical & contemporary legislation.

MOOT COURT¹⁵⁴

Moot Court is not a mandatory activity for first-year students at NYU and is an elective organization made up of 60 students. Students must participate in a writing competition in order to become members of the board. The moot court board administers an internal oral/argument/brief writing competition for all second and third year students and sends teams to moot court competitions. Additionally, the board publishes a casebook that is used throughout the country.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁵⁵

New York University Law School has the nation's premier clinical program. Not only is it the largest but it is the most diverse. The clinical program has long been renowned for the quality of its faculty, the variety of its offerings, and the innovative structure of its curriculum. With 16 full-time clinical faculty and 22 clinics, NYU School of Law provides its students with unparalleled experiences in working with clients and communities to address urgent problems, influence public policy, and improve the quality of legal problem solving. What's more, because the full-time clinical faculty is by far the largest in the country, the faculty-student ratio in these courses is extremely low. Typically, a clinical faculty member teaches 8 to 10 students.

150 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/journals/legislation/>

151 <http://www.nyu.edu/pubs/rlsc/>

152 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/journals/lawbusiness/>

153 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/journals/liberty/>

154 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 234

155 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/clinics/index.html>

The following 10 clinics are year-long:

- **BRENNAN CENTER PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCACY CLINIC** The Brennan Center Public Policy Advocacy Clinic is a year-long fieldwork clinic designed to teach advocacy and problem solving, in a non-litigation context, on behalf of those suffering from disparities of power and resources. The Clinic is designed to train lawyers to promote thoughtful public-policy-making. Clinic participants explore, evaluate, and implement various strategies to improve public decision-making, including public education, community organizing, developing and advancing proposals for legislative, executive or administrative action, engaging the media in more thoughtful debate, and creating new or promoting existing organizations.
- **CAPITAL DEFENDER CLINIC** The Law School has two separate Capital Defender Clinics. One of these clinics represents clients on death row in Alabama in post-conviction cases through the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama. The other clinic works with the NAACP Legal Defense Fund's Capital Punishment Project to represent death row inmates in various southern states and to engage in legislative and media advocacy on capital punishment issues.
- **CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES CLINIC** This clinic represents clients in civil proceedings on a wide range of issues, including housing, political asylum, education, Social Security disability benefits, Supplemental Security Income, Medicaid, immigration, public assistance, guardianship, and AIDS-related matters.
- **CIVIL RIGHTS CLINIC** This clinic represents clients in a range of civil rights issues, including gender and racial discrimination in employment, education and housing, first amendment rights, and prisoners' rights.
- **COMMUNITY DEFENDER CLINIC** This clinic explores the challenges involved in introducing community-oriented strategies into indigent criminal defense institutions and practice. Students work closely with local defenders and community activists developing and facilitating their collaborative efforts to exercise greater control over criminal justice issues as they affect low income and of-color communities.
- **FAMILY DEFENSE CLINIC** This clinic represents parents in Family Court neglect and abuse proceedings, proceedings to terminate parental rights, and foster care review proceedings.
- **FEDERAL DEFENDER CLINIC** Students represent indigent clients charged with misdemeanors and petty offenses in Federal Magistrates Court in the Eastern District of New York including hearings and trials. Additional field work includes working with Federal Defenders in the Eastern and Southern District of New York representing indigent clients charged with federal felonies.
- **IMMIGRANT RIGHTS CLINIC** This clinic represents immigrants in New York City with various legal matters, including labor, immigration and healthcare, using both litigation and non-litigation approaches such as media work, legislative advocacy, and community education.
- **JUVENILE/CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC** This clinic represents young persons accused of felony offenses in juvenile delinquency proceedings in the New York Family Court and adults accused of crimes in Criminal or Supreme Court.
- **OFFENDER REENTRY CLINIC** Through their fieldwork placement students enrolled in the Reentry Clinic will work on a variety of legal and policy assignments including advising clients on their legal rights pertaining to employment, how to review and clean up their rap sheets, advocating for the use of alternatives to incarceration, advocating for other policies that facilitate re-entry into the community.

The following clinics are one semester long:

- **CAPITAL DEFENDER CLINIC – ALABAMA** This clinic provides representation to death row prisoners in Alabama post conviction proceedings through the Equal Justice Initiative located in Montgomery, Alabama. Students spend a substantial portion of the semester in Alabama conducting research, case investigation, developing mitigation, interviewing clients, witnesses, jurors and family members. They prepare legal pleadings which are filed in state and federal courts.
- **COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CLINIC** This Clinic provides training in how lawyers, as problem solvers, might work with low-income, of color, and immigrant communities to create and sustain a more democratically inclusive, accountable, and effective vision of economic development. Through closely supervised fieldwork in New York City communities, interdisciplinary readings, and simulated skills training, students will explore ideas about community economic development (how it should be conceived, implemented, and evaluated) to illuminate current conditions and future trajectories. In fieldwork assignments, Clinic students will work closely with the staff of the recently launched Center for Community Problem Solving.
- **COMMUNITY OUTREACH, EDUCATION, AND ORGANIZING CLINIC** Rather than treat outreach, education, and organizing as beyond or beneath lawyers, this Clinic stresses the potential of these dimensions of law practice in helping low-income, of color, and immigrant communities address problems they face. Through fieldwork in New York City communities, interdisciplinary readings, and simulated skills training, the Clinic emphasizes how to collaborate with others, frame problems, identify and pursue strategies, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of interventions, organize and manage resources and institutions, and educate and mobilize communities. Clinic students will work closely with the staff of the recently launched Center for Community Problem Solving.
- **COMPARATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLINIC** Building on a seminar in which students compare and contrast different nations' criminal justice approaches to domestic violence, they work on systemic issues and individual cases involving battered women both as criminal defendants and as victims of crime. Field placements include New York City defense and prosecution offices as well as advocacy groups and non-governmental organizations.
- **CRIMINAL APPELLATE DEFENDER CLINIC** This clinic, which is operated in conjunction with the Office of the Appellate Defender, represents criminal defendants in appeals of their felony convictions to the New York Supreme Court, Appellate Division.
- **ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC** Students work out of the Natural Resources Defense Council, a national, non-profit legal and scientific organization, assisting attorneys in bringing public interest environmental litigation. The students also join in a weekly seminar at which current environmental policy issues, environmental litigation and legal advocacy strategies are discussed.
- **GOVERNMENT CIVIL LITIGATION CLINIC: EASTERN DISTRICT** Students will work closely with Civil Division Assistant United States Attorneys in the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of New York. The U.S. Attorney's Office (EDNY) is committed to providing meaningful opportunities to students to gain experience with and exposure to federal civil litigation by and on behalf of the United States and its agencies in a broad range of affirmative and defensive cases seeking monetary and/or injunctive relief.

- **GOVERNMENT CIVIL LITIGATION CLINIC: SOUTHERN DISTRICT** Students are placed in the Civil Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, where they work with Assistant United States Attorneys representing the federal government on a wide range of defensive and affirmative civil litigation matters.
- **INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC** Students are placed in the United Nations, public interest environmental groups, and industry associations with attorneys practicing international environmental law. The work of students consists of drafting research memoranda and policy papers on international and comparative environmental law issues.
- **INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC** The IHRC explores multifaceted approaches to human rights advocacy in both domestic and international settings. The seminar portion emphasizes practical skills, including investigating and documenting human rights violations and advocacy before the United Nations, and other international human rights organizations. Fieldwork consists of projects for human rights organizations in the U.S. and abroad and intergovernmental human rights experts. Past and current projects include assisting domestic and international NGOs with: interviewing members of the Afghan community to document crimes against humanity in the pre-Taliban era; assisting in the set up of a multilingual legal services referral hotline for immigrant communities in New York City; ensuring that social and economic rights are integrated into international responses to the ongoing political crisis in Haiti; drafting portions of a litigation manual on women's right to health in South Asia; and promoting the inclusion of economic, social and cultural rights in the new Iraq constitution.
- **MEDIATION CLINIC** A new clinic beginning in fall 2004, the Mediation Clinic is designed to foster mediation skills while orienting students to major issues in the intersection between law and informal dispute resolution. Fieldwork mediation study will take place primarily at the New York City Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings ("OATH") although development of other mediation venues is ongoing. After students participate in initial intensive mediation training, they will team with Administrative Law Judges first to observe facilitative mediations and later to co-mediate. Students will contrast facilitative mediation with evaluative mediation of the court-imposed settlement process.
- **PROSECUTION CLINIC** This clinic works out of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, prosecuting defendants in misdemeanor cases in the New York City Criminal Court and second-chairing assistant district attorneys in felony trials.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹⁵⁶

American Constitution Society, Asia Pacific Law Students Association, Battered Women's Project, Black Allied Law Students Association, Christian Legal Fellowship, Class of 2004 Graduation Gift, Coalition for Legal Recruiting, Cuba Legal Studies Group, East Village Mentoring Program, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Health Law Society, High School Law Institute, Intellectual Property & Entertainment Law Society, International Law Society, Islamic Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Just Democracy, Latino Law Students Association, Latter Day Saints Law Students Association, Law and Business Association, Law Democrats, Law Republicans, Law Revue, Law Student Drug Policy Forum, Law Students Against the Death Penalty, Law Students for Human Rights, Law Women, Legal AIDS, Mediation Organization, Middle Eastern Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Older Wiser

156 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/studentorgs/sba/organizations.html>

Law Students, OUTLAW, Practice, Prisoners' Rights & Education Project, Project on Negotiation & Dispute Resolution, Public Interest Law Foundation, Public Service Auction, Real Estate & Urban Policy Forum, Research, Education & Advocacy to Combat Homelessness, Small Business Law Connection, South Asian Law Students Association, Southern Exposure, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Student Bar Association, Student Lawyer Athletic Program, Substantial Performance, The Commentator, Trial Advocacy Society, Unemployment Action Center, West Coast Connection.

PROGRAMS, COLLOQUIA, INSTITUTES, AND CENTERS¹⁵⁷

Drawing upon the extraordinary resources of New York City, the programs, colloquia, institutes, and centers bring faculty and students together with leaders from a vast array of disciplines and provide students with a variety of practical experience. Programs, colloquia, institutes, and centers are designed to foster an environment where intellectual activity can thrive by creating a forum for a wide range of scholastic interests.

PROGRAMS

Academic Careers Program
 Clinics
 Lawyering Program
 Furman Academic Fellowship
 Program
 Global Public Service Law Project

INSTITUTES

Information Law Institute
 Institute for International Law & Justice
 Institute for Law & Society
 Institute of Judicial Administration
 Migration Policy Institute

CENTERS

Hauser Global Law School
 Program
 Tax Programs
 Colloquia
 Constitutional Theory
 Hauser Colloquium
 Globalization and Its Discontent
 Hoffinger Colloquium on
 Criminal Justice
 Innovation Policy
 Law & Business
 Law & Security Colloquium
 Law & Society

Brennan Center for Justice
 Center for Community Problem Solving
 Center for Human Rights & Global Justice
 Center for Law & Business
 Center for Labor & Employment
 Center for Research in Crime & Justice
 Center for the Study of Central Banks
 Center on Environmental & Land Use Law
 Center on Law & Security
 Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy

157 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/pcic/index.html>

Law, Economics & Politics	Furman Center for Real Estate & Urban Policy
Lawyering Theory	Jean Monnet Center for International & Regional Economic Law & Justice
Legal History	National Center on Philanthropy & the Law
Legal, Political & Social Philosophy	Project on Transitional Justice
Tax Policy & Public Finance	Public Interest Law Center

Faculty Workshop

Number of firms interviewing on campus 2004: 557¹⁵⁸

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 97.5¹⁵⁹

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.3¹⁶⁰

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:¹⁶¹

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 70
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 14
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 3
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

158 <http://www.law.nyu.edu/depts/careerservices/recruiting/index.html>

159 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03110.php

160 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03110.php

161 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03110.php

RANK

6

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CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE
(773) 702-9625

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Currently ranked number six on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, the University of Chicago Law School succeeds, year after year, in training critical and socially conscious thinkers and doers.¹⁶² The three cornerstones that form the foundation for the University of Chicago Law School's educational mission are: the life of the mind, participatory learning, and interdisciplinary inquiry. Beyond the classroom many students choose to do clinical work where they represent real clients.¹⁶³

Chicago truly is a city of neighborhoods. The University of Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood provides students with the benefits of a college-town feel, but it is just minutes from downtown's invigorating chaos where you will undoubtedly delight in the city's plethora of cultural, artistic, and culinary events.

The entering class generally numbers about 192 students.¹⁶⁴ This smaller number prevents the first-year students from feeling too overwhelmed, while learning to "think like lawyers." The school has a student-faculty ratio of 10.1:1.¹⁶⁵

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 170¹⁶⁶ 25th – 75th Percentile: 167 - 171¹⁶⁷
- Median GPA: 3.64¹⁶⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.47 - 3.78¹⁶⁹
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 4,737¹⁷⁰
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 750¹⁷¹
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 15.8¹⁷²

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics were taken from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03052.php.

¹⁶² <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/prospective/cornerstones.html>.

¹⁶³ American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 188

¹⁶⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03052.php

¹⁶⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03052.php

¹⁶⁶ <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/OCSBrochure.pdf>

¹⁶⁷ <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/OCSBrochure.pdf>

¹⁶⁸ <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/OCSBrochure.pdf>

¹⁶⁹ <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/OCSBrochure.pdf>

¹⁷⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03052.php

¹⁷¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03052.php

¹⁷² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03052.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:¹⁷³

Chicago Law uses a combination of numerical and letter grades, with an A–F designation corresponding with 180–155 points.¹⁷⁴

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

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

There is a curve for classes of more than 50 students, where the number of A's should approximately equal the number of C's. The median grade for these classes is 177. (Note: The median is the grade for the person in the middle of the class. It is not an average.) The Law School does not rank the students and forbids the students from stating an estimated rank on their resumes; however, the student transcripts provide a rolling average for honors.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:¹⁷⁵

For the Class of 2004, honors were awarded at graduation based on final averages as follows:¹⁷⁶

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
Highest Honors:	182+
High Honors:	180-181
Honors:	178-179

ACADEMIC AWARDS:¹⁷⁷**NAME OF AWARD**

Beale Prize

Barber Prize

Mandel Award

Casper Platt Award

RECIPIENT

Each of the best students in the six research/writing sections.

Students who have made a significant contribution to the life of the law school (1-4).

Students who have made a significant contribution to the work of the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic (1-3).

For outstanding paper written by a student that year.

¹⁷³ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 578; <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/studenthandbook.pdf>

¹⁷⁴ <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/studenthandbook.pdf>

¹⁷⁵ Percentage of class receiving; GPA required; # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 578

¹⁷⁶ <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/files/studenthandbook.pdf>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 578

¹⁷⁷ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 578

STUDENT JOURNALS¹⁷⁸

About one third of the non-first-year students produce publications that feature articles by the world's leading legal minds. The school has three student-edited law journals:

- The *University of Chicago Law Review*¹⁷⁹ issues four times a year and is completely run by students, who also may contribute articles of their own. Membership is gained by either competing in the summer writing competition or through the topic access program. Members gleaned via the writing competition have either demonstrated their ability based on writing alone or a combination of writing and grades. Those who gain membership using the topic access route work with editors who aid in developing a draft of comment and grant membership once the comment achieves publishable quality.
- The *University of Chicago Legal Forum*¹⁸⁰ comes out once a year. The issue focuses on a single, high-interest legal topic (e.g., sex discrimination, information law, etc.) and contains writings by professors, practitioners, and students. Membership is based on a writing competition administered during the summer after the first year of school.
- The *Chicago Journal of International Law (CJIL)*¹⁸¹ is student-edited and addresses international and comparative law and policy matters. CJIL encourages writers to take an interdisciplinary view as they present “timely and concise scholarly work.” The journal publishes a fall and spring issue.

MOOT COURT¹⁸²

The University's required first-year research and writing course incorporates “a substantial Moot Court component.” All second and third year students seeking to develop their appellate advocacy skills may enter the Moot Competition. The four finalists work in teams to brief and argue a case before a panel that includes distinguished sitting federal appellate and Supreme Court judges. The program is very highly regarded among the student body, most of which show up to hear the final arguments.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁸³

Chicago has expanded clinical opportunities by adding adjunct clinical faculty to the Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship, the MacArthur Justice Center (focusing on Constitutional/Criminal Justice issues) and the Mandel Legal Aid Clinic (comprised of Civil Rights, Criminal and Juvenile Justice, Employment Discrimination, and Mental Health Law clinics).

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹⁸⁴

The University of Chicago Law School has more than 60 student organizations allowing students to explore their interest in public service or specific areas of the law, ethnic and religious communities, politics, an expanded social life, community service, or almost any interest they wish to pursue. Organizations include: the Law Students Association, American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Amicus, Apathy, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Bull Moose Society, Chicago Investment Law Group, Chicago Journal of International Law, Chicago Law Foundation, Christian Legal Society, Dallin Oaks Society, The Edmund Burke Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, FeedChicago, Intellectual Property and Entertainment Law Society, International Human Rights Society, International Law Society, Japanese Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Latino/a Law Students Association, Law

178 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/academics/journals.html>

179 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/current/studentorgs/lawreview.html>

180 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/current/studentorgs/lf.html>

181 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/current/studentorgs/cjil.html>

182 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/current/handbook/1.html>; see also National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 577; <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/Life/mootcourt.html>

183 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/current/clinicalprogs.html>

184 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/current/studentorgs.html>

and Internet Forum, Law and Society, Law Review, Law School Democrats, Law School Film Fest, Law School Musical, Law School Republicans, Law Women's Caucus, Lawyers as Leaders, Legal Forum, Middle Eastern Law Students Association, Moot Court, Muslim Law Students Association, Neighbors, OutLaw, Personal Finance Club, Phoenix, Public Interest Law Society, Res Musicata, Scales of Justice, South Asian Law Students Association, Streetlaw, St. Thomas Moore Society, Trivia Contest, Wine Mess, Winston Churchill Gaming Society, and the Women's Mentoring Program.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS¹⁸⁵

In addition to journals, clinics, and student organizations, law students have the opportunity to further enrich their educations by participating in the following centers and programs:

Center for Civil Justice, Center for Comparative Constitutionalism, Center for Studies in Criminal Justice, Chicago Judges Project, Chicago Project on Animal Treatment Principles, International Law, John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics, and the Legal History Program.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 300¹⁸⁶

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 98.1¹⁸⁷

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 98.5¹⁸⁸

WHERE THE GRADS GO:¹⁸⁹

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 99
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 1
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): N/A

185 http://www.law.uchicago.edu/academics/programs_papers.html

186 <http://www.law.uchicago.edu/careerscvcs/overview.html>

187 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03052.php

188 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03052.php

189 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03052.php

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SOME BRIEF FACTS:

The University of Pennsylvania Law School has always been one of the nation's preeminent law schools, tracing its origins from the founding of the republic. In recent years, Penn Law has undertaken academic innovations in response to the profound changes and complex issues facing society. Using a multi-faceted approach that encompasses legal training and knowledge in diverse areas, Penn Law students graduate prepared to properly examine a wide range of issues, from the protection of individual rights to the organization of businesses.

The most important innovation has been the strengthening and broadening of their cross-disciplinary academic programs. The faculty is strong in cross-disciplinary interests, education, and fields of expertise; close to 70% hold graduate degrees in areas such as Communications, Economics, History, Business, Bioethics, Philosophy and other complementary areas. Penn Law has the advantage of being physically adjacent and academically linked to one of the finest arrays of professional schools in the nation, enabling faculty and students to draw on the collective expertise in this Ivy League University.¹⁹⁰

Currently ranked Number Seven (along with the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor) on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, the school continues to attract many of the nation's top undergraduates. The school enrolled 257¹⁹¹ students in its fall 2004 entering class and has a student-faculty ratio of 12.5:1¹⁹². One of the school's innovative requirements is that all of its upper-level students must complete 70 hours of public service legal work before graduation.¹⁹³

Students at Penn Law are not ranked and attempts to rank are discouraged by the school. The Law School maintains that its courses adhere to a strict B-/C curve (for 1Ls only) and that A+/A grades are not always awarded.¹⁹⁴

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:¹⁹⁵

- Median LSAT: 170 25th – 75th Percentile: 166 – 171
- Median GPA: 3.7 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.5 – 3.8
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 5,189
- Number accepted for 2004: approximately 830
- Percentage accepted in 2004: 16

190 <http://www.law.upenn.edu/about/index.html>

191 <http://www.law.upenn.edu/prospective/jd/classstatistics.html>

192 <http://www.law.upenn.edu/prospective/jd/classstatistics.html> (2003-2004)

193 Information provided via email correspondence dated March 31, 2004, between Joan Rose, Director of Career Services, and BCG research staff

194 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

195 2004 admission statistics: <http://www.law.upenn.edu/prospective/jd/classstatistics.html>

- The *University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Economic Law*²⁰⁶ is a multi-disciplinary publication exploring current issues such as “private international transactions, national governmental regulation, and international intergovernmental regulation” and other international economic questions. One-third of the members are selected based on grades and the rest based on the writing competition.²⁰⁷
- The *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*²⁰⁸ is a student-run publication and puts out four issues a year. As its name suggests its focus is on constitutional law and the journal seeks articles taking an “interdisciplinary study of and rigorous analysis of constitutional law.” As part of its exploration of constitutional matters the Journal runs an annual symposium which it makes available in print and electronic formats. In addition the Journal draws on its relationship with the National Constitution Center, Penn’s Political Science Department, School of Social Work, the Medical School, and the Wharton school, to gain a range of perspectives on constitutional matters. The writing competition is the sole way to gain membership on this journal.²⁰⁹

MOOT COURT²¹⁰

2L PROGRAM

Appellate Advocacy II is Penn Law’s second-year intramural Moot Court competition. Participants research and write a brief and then present their case in one or perhaps two rounds of oral arguments before a panel of students, faculty, practitioners, and judges.

3L PROGRAM

The top four students become the Keedy Cup Team, who then work on a new brief in the fall semester, and then argue before a panel of distinguished jurists. The next three students represent Penn Law at the National Moot Court Competition (Bar Association, New York City). The next 14 students become members of The Moot Court Board who are responsible for preparing problems and reviewing the work of the contestants.

In recent years, Penn students have also participated in the National Moot Court Competition (Bar Association, City of New York), the Merna B. Marshall Moot Court Competition (Federal Bar Association, Philadelphia Chapter), The Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition (National Black Law Student Association), and the Jessup Cup Competition (Columbia Law School). All of the competitions are highly regarded.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS²¹¹

The University of Pennsylvania School of Law offers the following clinical programs: Civil Practice Clinic, Legislative Clinic, Small Business Clinic, Interdisciplinary Child Advocacy Clinic, Lawyering in the Public Interest, Mediation Clinic, Externships, and the Criminal Defense Clinic. Students coming out of the program praised the mediation clinic, among others. Others seemed to indicate that, while the experience seems invaluable, the programs are extremely difficult to get into and they are much more difficult and time consuming than normal classes.²¹² In addition, all students must perform 70 hours of pro bono service as in the award-winning Public Service Program as a requirement for graduation.

206 <http://www.law.upenn.edu/journals/jiel/main.html>

207 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 743

208 <http://www.law.upenn.edu/journals/conlaw/>, <http://www.law.upenn.edu/academics/journals.html>

209 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

210 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 743

211 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 742

212 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

213 <http://www.law.upenn.edu/prospective/studentactivities.html>

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS²¹³

The University of Pennsylvania Law School's student organizations include the American Constitution Society for Law & Policy; Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA); Bioethics, Law, and Public Policy Society; Black Law Students Association (BLSA); Business and Law Club; Chinese Legal Studies Association, Christian Legal Society; Clinic for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights; Council of Student Representatives (CSR); Custody and Support Assistance Project; Eminent Refrain (a cappella group); Environmental Law Society (ELS); Equal Justice Foundation (EJF); Federalist Society ; Feminist Working Group; Film, Music & Media Society; Guild Food Stamp Clinic; International Human Rights Club ; International Human Rights Pro Bono Project; International Law Organization (ILO); Jessup International Moot Court Team; Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA); John Marshall Society; Journal of Constitutional Law; Journal of International Economic Law (JIEL); Journal of International Law and Policy Club; Journal of Labor and Employment Law; Journal of Law and Social Change (Hybrid); Just Democracy 2004, Lambda Law; Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA); Law School Light Opera Company (LSLO); LL.M. Association; Muslim Law Students; Older, Wiser, Law Students (OWLS); Penn Advocates for the Homeless; Penn Arab Law Students Society; Penn Biotech Group; Penn Intellectual Property Group; Penn Law Bowling League; Penn Law Boxing Club; Penn Law Dance Troupe; Penn Law Democrats; Penn Law Film, Music, and Media Society; Penn Law for Choice; Penn Law Golf Club; Penn Health Law Club; Penn Law Immigration Clinic; Penn Law Intramurals; Penn Law Real Estate Club; Penn Law Republicans; Penn Law Tennis Club; Penn Law Yoga Club; Penn Litigation Society; Penn National Basketball Association; Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International; PLEAD Forum (Pro-Life Education and Dialogue); Prisoners' Rights Project; Sadie T. Alexander Memorial Conference; Sons of Italy at Penn Law; South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA); Sparer Public Interest Law Conference; Sports and Entertainment Law Society; Spouses and Partners Group; Street Law; Student Animal Legal Defense Fund; Unemployment Compensation Project; United Law Students of Color Council (ULSCC); University of Pennsylvania Law Review; Women's Law Student Network of Philadelphia; and Women of Penn Law Network.

INSTITUTES AND PROGRAMS²¹⁴

Penn Law has a number of institutes and programs in which students may participate to further enhance their law school experience:

- Institute for Law and Economics
- Institute for Law & Philosophy
- Program on Law & the Environment
- Constitutional Law & Related Fields
- Health Law Program
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law
- International & Comparative Law
- Lawyering in the Public Interest

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 300

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 100²¹⁵

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 100²¹⁶

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:²¹⁷

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 69
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 22
- Percent of graduates employed by the government and public interest: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by private business and industry: 2
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

²¹⁴ <http://www.law.upenn.edu/academics/institutes/file/>

²¹⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03140.php

²¹⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03140.php

²¹⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03140.php; See also <http://www.law.upenn.edu/prospective/jd/classstatistics.html>

GRADE	TARGET %	MINIMUM AND MAXIMUM %
A+ and A	10 %	0 to 3 % for A+7 to 11 % for A
A-	15 %	13 to 17 %
B+	30 %	26 to 34 %
B	25 %	21 to 29 %
B-	10%	8 to 12 %
C+	7 %	5 to 9 %
C and below	3 %	0 to 5 % for C 0 to 4 % for C-, D+, D, E
Mean	3.19	3.13 to 3.25

GPA VALUES:

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D+	1.3
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7	E	0.0

In addition, students may receive an E, S, P, I, Y, or H on their transcript. These grades apply to classes taken on a Limited Grade Option and/or apply to incomplete or other special designations. The P, S, H, or Y, grades are not included in “the computation of the honor point average,” but an “E” grade is calculated as part of a student’s honor point average.

These grades are explained as follows:

GRADE	EXPLANATION
E	A 0.0 denotes an incomplete work that has gone beyond the time in which the student was to have finished the incomplete work.
S	In limited graded courses, the equivalent of a C. Note, however, that in the Legal Practice course though an S is equivalent to a C, students in the top 15% of that class may also earn an H. In addition, in clinic classes, an S is the equivalent of a C+ and lesser work is graded from C to D or as an E.
P	In limited graded courses students receive a P for C or better work but may receive a C-, D+, or D
I	Given where an instructor for a course or seminar permits a student to complete the requirements for a grade (e.g., the paper in a seminar) after the grading period for the term, the student will receive an incomplete for that term.
Y	In limited graded courses “A Y is awarded for completion of a course which extends beyond the semester.”
H	Awarded to students in the top 15% of the Legal Practice course.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:

<i>Order of the Coif:</i>	Top 10% of third-year class ²²⁹
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	GPA of 4.00 or higher
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	GPA of 3.700-3.999
<i>Cum laude:</i>	GPA of 3.400-3.699

229 Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 677; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/student-services/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 52; “From time to time, these honor point averages may be revised in order to reflect the desired percentage distributions of honors degrees within graduating classes.” Id.

ACADEMIC AWARDS:²³⁰

NAME OF AWARD

Bates Law Student Travel Fellowship
Jane L. Mixer Memorial Award

Juan Tienda Scholarship

Butch Carpenter Memorial Scholarship

Robert B. Fiske, Jr. Fellowship for

University of Michigan Jean Monnet

Clara Belfield & Henry Bates
Overseas Fellowships

RECIPIENT

Grant to pursue legal studies abroad.

Students who have made the greatest contribution to activities designed to advance social justice.

Student with Spanish-speaking background with commitment to work for the advancement of Spanish-speaking people in the U.S.

Student who has intent to apply legal training to speak development of disadvantaged community.

Students taking post-graduate positions in government Public Service (up to 3).

Students who are researching legal issues of European Research Fellowship immigration.

Students may study or gain work experience abroad.

JOURNALS²³¹

- The *Michigan Law Review (MLR)*²³² is student-edited. First-year editors compose notes and perform cite-checking duties. Second-year editors edit articles and notes as part of their responsibilities in publishing MLR's eight issues a year. Invitation to join the review is predicated on first-year grades and success in a writing competition.
- The *University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform (JLR)*²³³ seeks to give those who shape the law "the tools necessary to influence the evolution of law." During their second year in law school, members of JLR research and write notes about contemporary law reform. Junior staff members are expected to write a publishable student note. Before the start of the fall term, junior staff members spend approximately one week conducting preliminary research for development of their note topic and final topic selection. Junior staff members are also expected to verify citations, correct errors of form, and proofread articles that have been accepted for publication. Members are selected on the basis of writing ability after completion of their first year.
- The *Michigan Journal of International Law (MJIL)*²³⁴ is student-run and "presents cutting-edge articles from scholars and practitioners in international, comparative, and foreign law, as well as research notes written by the student editors." The quarterly journal chooses new members based on "writing ability, international interest and experience, and diversity of perspectives." After Law Review, this is generally considered the best journal on which students can work.²³⁵
- The *Michigan Journal of Gender & Law (MJGL)*²³⁶ has committed itself to "providing a forum where different segments of the feminist community can explore the impact of gender and related issues of race, class, sexual orientation, and culture on the development of law and society" in each of its two issues a year. Members are chosen based on writing skills and once a member each student works on all publishing tasks such as editing, generation of submis-

230 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 674; <http://www.law.umich.edu/CentersAndPrograms/cicl/Fellowships.htm>

231 www.law.umich.edu/JournalsAndOrgs/orgs.htm

232 <http://students.law.umich.edu/mlr/>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/studentsservices/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 39

233 <http://students.law.umich.edu/mjlr/>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/studentsservices/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 40

234 <http://students.law.umich.edu/mjil/>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/studentsservices/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 40

235 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

236 <http://students.law.umich.edu/mjgl/>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/studentsservices/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 40

237 <http://students.law.umich.edu/mjrl/index.htm>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/studentsservices/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 41

sions, layout, and developing student material suitable for publication.

- The *Michigan Journal of Race & Law (MJR&L)*²³⁷ selects its members based on the strength of their writing and a personal statement demonstrating the member's interest in race matters. The journal "serves as a forum for scholars of all races to develop and expand theoretical, critical, and socially relevant approaches to intersections between race and the law." In addition, the journal emphasizes the importance of members preparing publishable notes many of which have the chance to be presented at the Journal's symposia.
- The *Michigan Telecommunications and Technology Law Review (MTTLR)*²³⁸ prides itself as "one of the first law journals to champion the use of interactive media to promote informed discourse about the interrelated legal, social, business, and public policy issues raised by emerging technologies." In keeping with that theme, the journal publishes both online and in print forms. Students wishing to join the journal must show their interest in the field and their writing acumen. If chosen to join the journal, a student must write a note or comment on a topic of their choice.

MOOT COURT²³⁹

Moot court is not required at the University of Michigan Law School. Nonetheless, first-year students prepare and argue one appellate brief as part of the required Legal Practice class. Moot court is open to both second and third year students.²⁴⁰ The University of Michigan Moot Court competitions are as follows:

- **JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT** requires students to first compete in an intramural contest and then proceed to regional and possibly final rounds of competition where the students face students from more than five countries. The teams have a total of five members who prepare briefs on and argue an international law topic.
- **HENRY M. CAMPBELL MOOT COURT** has been held annually for more than 60 years. The competition involves both written and oral persuasive skills as demonstrated in presenting an appellate brief. The school states that "Winning it is one of the highest honors a Michigan law student can achieve."
- **ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL MOOT COURT COMPETITION** takes place at Pace Law School in White Plains, New York. Michigan students who compete in this Moot Court are Environmental Law Society members.
- **BMI/CARDOZO ENTERTAINMENT MOOT COURT COMPETITION** is a national competition in which members of the Entertainment Media and Arts Law Students Association participate.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS²⁴¹

In Michigan's litigation clinics, students represent clients in housing, child advocacy, environmental, criminal, employment, poverty, and asylum and refugee cases. In the transactional clinic, students help develop affordable housing in Detroit. Courses such as Trial Practice, Negotiation and Drafting, and the Evidence Workshop offer practical skills training in simulated practice settings. Finally, the South Africa externship program, Family Law Project, and the Asylum and Refugee Law Project offer valuable experience to students.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS²⁴²

The University of Michigan Law School's student organizations include the Advocates For Animal Rights, American Civil Liberties Union, Armed Forces Association, Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Alliance, Business Law Society, Campbell Competition, Catholic Law Club, Christian Law Students, Criminal Law Society, Critical Race Theory Reading

238 <http://www.mttl.org/>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/student-services/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 41

239 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 673

240 <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/careerservices/pdf/Ndls.pdf>; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/student-services/handbook/handbook2004.pdf>, page 42

241 www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/student-services/handbook/handbook.pdf, page 29; See also www.law.umich.edu/center-sandprograms/clinical; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 673

242 <http://www.law.umich.edu/JournalsAndOrgs/orgs.htm>

Groups, DICTA: Literary Arts Journal, Employment and Labor Law Association, Entertainment Law Students Association, Environmental Law Society, Family Law Project, Federalist Society, First-Year Information Fellows, Headnotes, Intellectual Property Students Association, International Law Society. Jewish Law Students Union, Latino Law Students Association, Law School Democrats, Law School Student Senate, Law Students for Reproductive Choice, Legal Skills Workshop and Competitions, M Law Rec Hockey, Michigan Election Law Project, Michigan Sports Law Society, Minority Affairs Program, Muslim Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association, Orientation Leading and Service Day, Outlaws, Phi Delta Phi Fraternity, Public Interest Group, Republican National Lawyers Association, Res Gestae (Student Newspaper), Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Student Funded Fellowships, Student Network for Asylum and Refugee Law Project, Students Against Racism, Symposia, Tutoring, Volunteer Students Tutoring Association, Wolverine Street Law, and the Women Law Students Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS²⁴³

The University of Michigan Law School also sponsors centers and programs that provide their students with interaction with national and world leaders. Recently, the Law School sponsored workshops and symposiums that featured speakers from the International Court of Justice, former Head of States, and members of U.S. Presidential administrations through the following centers and programs:

- Center for International & Comparative Law
- Graduate Degree & Research Scholars Programs
- Olin Center for Law & Economics
- Michigan Child Welfare Law Resource Center
- Program in Refugee and Asylum Law
- Japanese Legal Studies Program
- Clarence Darrow Death Penalty Defense College
- Institute for Continuing Legal Education
- Dean Acheson Legal Stage Program
- Program for Cambodian Law and Development
- South Africa Externship Program
- Externships
- Europe
- Semester Study Abroad Program
- Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowships
- Michigan Poverty Law Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: more than 700²⁴⁴

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 94.1²⁴⁵

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 98.6²⁴⁶

WHERE THE GRADS GO:²⁴⁷

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 61
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 22
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 6
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 6
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 4
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

²⁴³ <http://www.law.umich.edu/CentersAndPrograms/index.htm>

²⁴⁴ <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/careerservices/ourservices.htm#interview>

²⁴⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03082.php

²⁴⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03082.php

²⁴⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03082.php

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
580 Massie Road, Charlottesville, VA 22903	(434) 924-7349	(434) 924-7351	www.law.virginia.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(434) 924-7351	(434) 924-7349	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Students who are lucky enough to spend their law school years on a campus as beautiful as that of the University of Virginia School of Law have no qualms about admitting that they get one of the “best bang for your buck” legal educations in the country. The law school is located at the foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains in Charlottesville, Virginia, and has a faculty known for its interdisciplinary strength. It offers a reasonably priced education, especially for in-state students. The University of Virginia School of Law is currently ranked Number Eight on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. *American Lawyer* identified it as one of only two law schools in the country with graduates practicing in each of the nation’s top 100 law firms.²⁴⁸

It is no surprise that Virginia Law boasts one of the nation’s highest ratings of student satisfaction. The school has a broad curriculum and is particularly strong in the areas of constitutional law, international law, business law, and environmental law.²⁴⁹ The entering class size of 2004 was 360²⁵⁰ students, and the relatively low student-faculty ratio of 14:1 fosters a friendly environment, where strong bonds are formed between students and faculty.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:²⁵¹

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 169 25th – 75th Percentile: 166– 171
- Median GPA: 3.63 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.49 – 3.82
- Number of applications for 2004: 5,475
- Number accepted 2004: 1,024²⁵³
- Percentage accepted in 2004: 18.7²⁵⁴

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:²⁵⁵

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

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)²⁵⁶

The law school uses a 4.3 grading scale with the lowest numerical value being a 0.0. UVA is known to curve its law school classes to a generous B+ average, which translates into a 3.3 GPA for a great majority of each class.²⁵⁷ There is not a rigid curve, however, as professors need only achieve the mean and may do so by either awarding all high and low grades or by awarding the majority of

²⁴⁸ <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/about.htm>

²⁴⁹ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

²⁵⁰ <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm>

²⁵¹ <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm>

²⁵² <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm>

²⁵³ <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm>

²⁵⁴ <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm>

²⁵⁵ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 820

²⁵⁶ 2004-2005 Course Offering Directory, University of Virginia Law School of Law

²⁵⁷ Id.

grades in the middle range.²⁵⁸ The University provides neither an individual rank nor a cumulative GPA in its law school transcripts.²⁵⁹ Professors who do not wish to give too many C's must limit the numbers of A's as well. On the survey, students responded that there are only one or two A's in a class of 30 and about three or four A's if the class is a large one with 80-100 people. One student pointed out that the system protects the "lazy," as many students who deserve A's do not get them, while those who undeserving of B's are often rewarded.²⁶⁰

CLASS RANK:

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	TOP-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP	N/A	3.48	N/A	3.3	N/A	N/A

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:²⁶¹

Order of the Coif: Top 10%

AWARDS AND HONORS:²⁶²

AWARD	RECIPIENT/DESCRIPTION
Bracewell and Patterson Oral Advocacy Awards	24 outstanding oral advocates
Mortimer Caplin Public Service Award	Graduating student entering public service career and who demonstrates the qualities of leadership, integrity, and service
Mortimer Caplin Public Service Fellowship	Rising third-year student receives funding assistance for third-year and first two years of public service employment
Edwin S. Cohen Tax Prize	Student exhibiting continuing excellence in tax
Hardy Cross Dillard Prize	Best student note in the <i>Virginia Journal of International Law</i>
Charles J. Frankel Award in Health Law	Student attaining distinction in health law
Robert E. Goldsten ('40) Award	Best classroom participation
Eppa Hunton IV Memorial Book Award	Third-year student with displaying high litigation skills and understanding of professional responsibility
Margaret G. Hyde Award	Graduating student "whose scholarship, character, personality, activities in the affairs of the school, and promise of efficiency" merit recognition
Jackson and Walker Award	Student with the highest GPA after four semesters
Robert F. Kennedy Award for Public Service	Graduate who demonstrates dedication to community service

²⁵⁸ Id.

²⁵⁹ Id.

²⁶⁰ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

²⁶¹ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 821

²⁶² <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/awards.htm>.

Herbert L. Kramer Community Service Award	Student who has had most impact on the school community
Law School Alumni Association Award for Academic Excellence	Student who has the most outstanding record
Law School Alumni Association Best Note Award	Student with the best note in the Virginia Law Review
Thomas Marshall Miller Prize	Given to “an outstanding and deserving member of the graduating class selected by the faculty”
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Exemplary graduating woman
John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics	Student who writes best paper using law and economics theory
Mary Claiborne and Roy H. Ritter Prizes	Two women and two men demonstrating character, honor, and integrity
The Rosenbloom Award	Student with strong academic record and who volunteers time to help other law students in need
Shannon Award	Student making major contribution to academic excellence
Earle K. Shawe Labor Relations Award	Student showing potential in as a labor relations attorney
James C. Slaughter Honor Award	“Outstanding member of the graduating class”
Stephen Pierre Traynor Award	Student delivering the best oral argument in the final round of the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition
Roger and Madeleine Traynor Prize	Two students with the best written work
Trial Advocacy Award	Graduating student exhibiting the best aspects of being a trial lawyer
Virginia State Bar Family Law Book Award	Graduating student with the most potential as a family law

STUDENT JOURNALS²⁶³

All the journals use the results of a combination of extensive writing contests, note writing, and statements of interest, and diversity to offer memberships on journal staffs. Student Surveys indicated that although there is no official cutoff for application to the journals, a student should have a GPA of at least 3.3 to be competitive in gaining membership.²⁶⁴

²⁶³ <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/academicjournals.htm>.

²⁶⁴ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- *Virginia Law Review*²⁶⁵ is a journal of general legal scholarship that publishes eight times a year. There are four ways to be invited to join the editorial board of the *Virginia Law Review*: Grade-on, which accounts for the top 25 highest-ranking members of the first-year class and up to five members of the third-year class who meet the minimum qualifications of the previous year; Write-on, which accounts for up to 15 participants from the journal tryout process; Combination which considers grades, journal tryout, and a personal statement regarding how one's attributes would enhance the journal including how one might broaden the diversity of the Review; and Note-on, where those whose note is selected to be published are invited to become members.²⁶⁶ The Law Review is the school's most prestigious publication.²⁶⁷
- *Virginia Journal of International Law*²⁶⁸ lays claim to being "the oldest continuously-published, student-edited law review in the United States devoted exclusively to the fields of public and private international law."²⁶⁹ Positions on the Journal's editorial board are open to all students in the law school and in other schools of the University who successfully complete a written tryout that is conducted every spring and fall.²⁷⁰ Students have indicated that this journal is the school's second most prestigious publication.²⁷¹
- *Virginia Tax Review*²⁷² publishes four times annually and is devoted exclusively [to] tax and corporate topics." It is among the school's most prestigious publications.²⁷³
- *Journal of Law and Politics*²⁷⁴ asserts that it "is the first and only non-partisan publication devoted exclusively to examining the interaction between law and politics." This interdisciplinary publication offers four issues a year with a blend of "articles, essays, and commentaries by scholars, practitioners, and national political leaders."
- *Virginia Environmental Law Journal (VELJ)*²⁷⁵ focuses on publishing material to further the dialogue regarding environmental and natural resource law. Published three or four times a year by the students of the law school, VELJ is a student-run organization with a staff of about 50 second and third year law students who compete in a three day test of writing and analytical skills to gain membership.
- *Virginia Journal of Law and Technology*²⁷⁶ is an e-journal that "provides a forum for students, professors, and practitioners to discuss emerging issues at the intersection of law and technology." Membership is based on a writing competition.²⁷⁷
- *Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law* examines the "intersection of law and social policy issues." As it seeks to investigate the impact "of the law and legal institutions on social conditions," the Journal publishes articles regarding health care policy, civil rights, family law, and many other major social topics as seen in "contending legal, judicial, and political perspectives."²⁷⁸
- *Virginia Tax Review* publishes four issues a year and each issues focuses solely on "matters related to federal taxation." VTR claims that it "is the journal opportunity at the law school most closely related to pure business legal issues."²⁷⁹

265 <http://www.virginialawreview.org/>

266 http://www.virginialawreview.org/page.php?s=membership&p=members_overview

267 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

268 <http://scs.student.virginia.edu/%7Evjil/>

269 <http://scs.student.virginia.edu/%7Evjil/aboutus.html>

270 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 820

271 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

272 <http://www.student.virginia.edu/%7Evtra/>

273 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

274 <http://jlp.law.virginia.edu/about.htm>

275 <http://www.velj.org/about.htm>

276 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/academicjournals.htm>

277 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 820

278 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/academicjournals.htm>

279 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/academicjournals.htm>

MOOT COURT²⁸⁰

Moot court is not a required activity for first year students at UVA Law School. Nonetheless, more than 150 second-year students compete in two-person teams to develop their oral argument skills in the William Minor Lile Moot Court Competition. Federal and state judges preside over the semifinal and final rounds of the competition, which has been designated by students as the most prestigious competition at the school.²⁸¹ Certain student teams may be invited to “represent the School of Law in the national Moot Court Competition and other national competitions. Participation in the upper levels of competition is highly coveted.”²⁸²

CLINICAL PROGRAMS²⁸³

The University Of Virginia School Of Law’s clinical programs include: Appellate Litigation Clinic, Child Advocacy Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, Employment Law Clinic, Environmental Practice Clinic, First Amendment Clinic, Housing Law Clinic, International Human Rights Law Clinic, Patent and Licensing Clinic and the Prosecution Clinic. Students have indicated that the school’s clinical programs have improved greatly over the past few years.²⁸⁴

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS²⁸⁵

The University of Virginia School of Law’s many student organizations include Action for Better Living, Ambulance Chasers Running Club, American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Conference on Public Service & the Law, Criminal Law Student Association, Domestic Violence Project, Environmental Law Forum, Federalist Society, First Year Council, Graduate Law Students, JD/MBA Society, Health Law Interest Group, Human Rights Study Project, Jewish Law Students Association, John Bassett Moore Society of International Law, Just Democracy, Lambda Law Alliance, Latin American Law Organization, Law Christian Fellowship, Law Partners, Law School Co-Ed Soccer, Legal Advisory Workshops for Undergraduate Students, Legal Assistance Society, Legal Education Project, The Libel Show, Migrant Farmworker Project, The Mock Trial Team, Moot Court Board, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association, North Grounds Softball League, Peer Advisor Program, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Pro Bono Criminal Assistance Project, Public Interest Law Association, Rape Crisis Advocacy Project, Rappahannock Legal Services Clinic, Rex E. Lee Society, Saint Thomas More Society, Student Bar Association, Student Legal Forum, Students United to Promote Racial Awareness, Virginia Eagle, Virginia Employment and Labor Law Association, Virginia Environmental Law Forum, Virginia Innocence Project Student Group, Virginia Law Democrats, Virginia Law and Business Society, Virginia Law Families, Virginia Law and Graduate Republicans, Virginia Law Veterans, Virginia Law Weekly (newspaper), Virginia Law Women, Virginia Society of Law & Technology, Virginia Transatlantic Society, Volunteer Income Tax Association, Women of Color.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS²⁸⁶

Center for Environmental Law Studies
Center for the Study of Race and Law
Criminal Justice Program
Health Law Program

280 http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/students/moot_dillard.htm

281 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

282 Id.

283 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/academics/clinics.htm>

284 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

285 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/students/studentorgs.htm>

286 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm>

Human Rights Law Program
International Law Program
Legal & Constitutional History
Program in Law & Business
External Programs
Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Public Policy
John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics
Center for Oceans Law and Policy
Center for National Security Law
Center for Children, Families, and the Law

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 308²⁸⁷

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 95.9²⁸⁸

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.7²⁸⁹

WHERE THE GRADS GO:²⁹⁰

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 76
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 13
- Percent of graduates employed by governments: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 2
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

*Student surveys pointed out that international students are more than likely unaccounted for in the preceding statistics since very few tend to find jobs in the U.S. after graduation from UVA.

287 <http://www.law.virginia.edu/home2002/html/about/factsstats.htm#career>

288 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03162.php

289 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03162.php

290 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03162.php (listing 1% as unknown)

As of the 2000–2001 academic year, all coursework is graded on a 4.33 grading scale. The authorized letter grades and their assigned numerical values are:

A+	4.33	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D	1.00
A	4.00	B	3.00	C	2.00	F	0.00
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	N/A		

Northwestern transcripts may also contain the following designations:

- W - Withdrawal
- CR - Credit
- NC - No credit
- I - Incomplete (Exam not yet taken or research paper not yet submitted)
- IP - In progress (Grade not yet received. Delay approved by faculty and Dean of Students)³⁰³

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

A mandatory curve is applied to all courses with more than 40 students enrolled. A professor in such a course must comply with the following distribution, which uses a minimum and maximum range:³⁰⁴

GRADES	PERCENTAGES MIN.-MAX.
A+	3-7%
A	12-15%
A-	10-15%
B+	15-30%
B	20-35%
B-	10-15%
C+	0-7.5%
C	0-7.5%
D/F	0-7%

CLASS RANK:

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	TOP-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR
NALP ³⁰⁵	*Northwestern does not rank its students.					2.25

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:³⁰⁶

Order of the Coif: Top 10% at faculty’s discretion.
 The Northwestern Chapter has chosen not to award the Order to all 10%, but rather to bestow it on students “who, in the opinion of the voting members of the Chapter, are deemed truly worthy of the honor. The Chapter takes into consideration law school activities contributing to the total legal education of the candidate.”³⁰⁷

As of 2003, Northwestern changed its policy regarding *cum laude* distinctions. For those in the classes of 2001 and 2002, *cum laude* distinctions were awarded as follows:

303 http://www.law.northwestern.edu/mainpages/curriculum/grading_policy.html
 304 http://www.law.northwestern.edu/mainpages/curriculum/grading_policy.html
 305 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 250
 306 http://www.law.northwestern.edu/mainpages/curriculum/grading_policy.html; <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/news/spring04/2004honors.html>
 307 http://www.law.northwestern.edu/mainpages/curriculum/grading_policy.html

As of 2003, Northwestern changed its policy regarding cum laude distinctions. For those in the classes of 2001 and 2002, cum laude distinctions were awarded as follows:

Summa cum laude: at the discretion of the faculty
Magna cum laude: 4.0 GPA, at least top 3% of class
Cum laude: 3.65 GPA, at least top 30% of class

For those graduating in 2003 and thereafter, the following applies:

Summa cum laude: 4.20 GPA
Magna cum laude: 3.97 GPA
Cum laude: 3.65 GPA
Master of Laws with 3.50 GPA³⁰⁸

ACADEMIC AWARDS:³⁰⁹

NAME OF AWARD

RECIPIENT

Lowden/Wigmore Prize

For best written contribution to the three law school journals and to the finalists of the second-year moot court competition (2).

Wigmore Key

Awarded by the Student Bar Association and faculty to the student who has done the most toward preserving the traditions of the law school.

Harold D. Shapiro Prize

Best student in business planning course.

Arlyn Miner Book Award

Members of the first-year class who wrote the best briefs in legal writing classes the previous semester (8).

John Paul Stevens Award

Graduating student with highest GPA.

Adlai Stevenson II Award

For best brief in second-year moot court competition (2).

Academy of Trial Lawyers Award

Best individual speaker in second-year moot court competition.

Senior Research Honors

Students registered in Senior Research who received an A+ on their research paper (4).

Raoul Berger Prize

Best senior research or third-year seminar paper.

William Jennings Bryan Award

Miner Moot Court champions (2)

Joseph Cummins Memorial Scholarship

Most outstanding second-year student in trial advocacy course.

International Academy of Trial Lawyers

Most outstanding third-year student in trial advocacy Award course.

Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition:
 American Society for Composers,
 Authors and Publishers

Best student papers on local government law. (2)

³⁰⁸ <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/news/spring04/2004honors.html>

³⁰⁹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 250

STUDENT JOURNALS³¹⁰

Northwestern University School of Law's journals include the *Northwestern University Law Review*,³¹¹ the *Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*,³¹² the *Journal of International Law & Business*,³¹³ the *Northwestern Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property*,³¹⁴ and the *Journal of International Human Rights*.³¹⁵ All journals utilize a combination of grades and a writing competition, held immediately following first-year spring final exams.³¹⁶ Second-year students may vie for a limited number of spots by writing on to a journal.³¹⁷ However, during the fall semester, write-on candidates must meet the same writing requirements and perform all of the duties of a student with full membership. Upon completion of the fall semester, write-on candidates are notified as to whether they have achieved membership status.³¹⁸

- ***Northwestern University Law Review*** produces four issues per year with topics that cover the spectrum of legal scholarship. This is the premiere publication of Northwestern Law, whose website boasts several notable past editors. Currently, the students are chosen via grades and writing, competing for the most prestigious review membership at this institution.
- ***Journal of Criminal Law & Criminology*** is an interdisciplinary publication produced to reflect on the causes of and responses to crime from the perspective of both law and social science. The members of this journal garner the unique experience of scholarly research in addition to devising practical solutions to the changing dynamics of criminal law in America. The school's website boasts this publication to be one of the most widely distributed in the nation on the topic of criminology. It is used as a reference by legal scholars, legal professionals and social scientists alike.
- ***Journal of International Law & Business*** focuses on transnational issues and how they affect both the private and the public sector. Scholarly articles by academics and professionals regarding their perspectives on important issues of international law as well as case notes and comments by the staff and editors can be found in this journal.
- ***Northwestern Journal of Technology and Intellectual Property*** is a young publication which launched its premiere issue in spring 2003 and will be launching a website by March 2004. The Journal will be published in online format so the newest information will be available as soon as possible. The students who work on this publication learn about the intersection of laws in the field of intellectual property, technology, and the internet. In addition, they are given the chance to work under advisement of practitioners and gain experience in the practice of technology, web design, and website management.
- ***Journal of International Human Rights*** is dedicated to providing a forum for vigorous discussion of human rights and the role of the law. Since the study of human rights moves across different disciplines, this Journal accommodates this fact by using a multidisciplinary approach to its substantive content, which can include social science, ethics, and business among others. The students are selected for this Journal based on the general guidelines aforementioned; in addition, a student's demonstrated interest in human rights law or other related subjects is also given consideration.

310 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/depts/legalpub/>

311 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/lawreview/>

312 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/jclc/>

313 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/jilb/>

314 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/njtip/>

315 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/jihr/>

316 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/depts/legalpub/>

317 Id.

318 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 250

MOOT COURT³¹⁹

First-year students at Northwestern are introduced to appellate brief preparation and argument through the mandatory Arlyn Miner First-Year Moot Court Competition. Second-year students may elect to participate in the Julius H. Miner Moot Court Competition during the spring semester; this competition is administered by third year students, under faculty supervision. Furthermore, students may try out for one of Northwestern's trial teams, which include both national and international teams that compete with other law schools. First-year students are encouraged to prepare briefs on timely international law issues in order to be selected for the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court so they can compete across the fifty states. Additionally, first and second-year students can also compete to be on the William C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court by preparing and arguing briefs about international commercial and business transactions. This contest takes students to a competition in Vienna where students compete at an international level with teams from the United States and abroad.³²⁰

CLINICS, PROGRAMS, AND CENTERS³²¹

The clinical programs at Northwestern train law students to be skilled, ethical, and reform-minded professionals. In addition to learning lawyering skills such as interviewing, counseling, negotiating, writing, and appellate and trial advocacy, students are urged to scrutinize the quality of justice.

- ***The Children and Family Justice Center***— This is a comprehensive children's law center where law students under the supervision of attorneys and clinical professors, represent young people on matters of delinquency and crime, family violence, school discipline, health and disability, and immigration and asylum. We collaborate with communities and child welfare, educational, mental health and juvenile justice systems to develop fair and effective policies and solutions for reform. Law students are taught advocacy skills; how to interview and counsel clients, research of legal issues, and how to prepare hearings and court briefs.
- ***Small Business Opportunity Center*** - The SBOC is a nonprofit, student-based clinical program affiliated with the Bluhm Legal Clinic. Through the commitment of the Northwestern University School of Law, top attorneys and law students, the SBOC provides affordable legal services to entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations focusing on job creation and economic development in the Chicago area. Services provided are: incorporation, trademark registration, franchise agreement, business licensing, copyright protection, zoning requirements, commercial lease, and not-for-profit corporations.
- ***Center for International Human Rights*** - conducts academic and practical work in support of internationally recognized human rights, democracy and the rule of law. A comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach is stressed and participation by other University departments is invited.
- ***Center on Wrongful Convictions*** - is dedicated to identifying and rectifying wrongful convictions and other serious miscarriages of justice. The Center has three components: representation, research, and community services. Center faculty, staff, cooperating outside attorneys, and Bluhm Legal Clinic students investigate possible wrongful convictions and represent imprisoned clients with claims of actual innocence. The research component focuses on identifying systemic problems in the criminal justice system and, together with the community services component, develop initiatives designed to raise public awareness of the prevalence, causes, and social costs of wrongful convictions. In addition, the community services component helps exonerated former prisoners cope with the difficult process of reintegration into free society.

319 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 249

320 <http://www.law.nwu.edu/curriculum/mootcourt.html>

321. <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/legalclinic/>

- ***Fred Bartlit Center for Trial Strategy*** was established to conduct research and teach innovative and technologically advanced trial strategy. The Bartlit Center focuses not on changes in the law, but on changes in the craft brought on by new technologies and compensation approaches which have changed the options available to the profession. The Center sponsors and conducts high-quality academic research on the litigation process; supports teaching skills in the J.D. program; and holds national conferences to explore and teach innovative trial and trial management strategies. The Bartlit Center enhances the Law School's already highly regarded program in the simulation-based teaching of trial skills and builds on the research produced by Northwestern Law faculty. The trial advocacy program was ranked second in the country by *U. S. News and World Report*.
- ***Program on Civil Litigation*** – This Clinic provides litigation projects in the areas of students' and prisoners' rights, the protection of clients from abusive divorce attorneys, and the representation of victims of domestic violence. Students' experience includes advocacy at the trial and appellate levels, including the U.S. Supreme Court as well as in the Illinois legislature. Students work with the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago in a variety of consumer law and landlord/tenant cases. Students perform the roles of lawyers in litigation, including taking depositions, drafting written discovery, preparing and arguing motions, and trying cases. Students also interview clients and make case presentations at the LAFC case acceptance meetings.
- ***Program on Advocacy and Professionalism*** – Students conduct the pretrial process including investigation, interviewing, counseling, discovery, and motion practice. Students are assigned to two or three-person law firms to engage in the simulated litigation of a single case under the supervision of a "senior partner," the students generate a series of litigation exercises by scheduling interviews, meetings, depositions, and motions. The students develop a "theory of the case" and are responsible for effectuating it in accordance with the rules of professional responsibility. This clinic emphasizes student decision-making in a litigation setting.
- ***Negotiation and Mediation Program*** - Northwestern Law students collaborate with students in the Kellogg School of Management, attorneys in the Chicago area, and students from other law schools in actual negotiation proceedings. Working in teams or one-on-one, students cover a wide range of situations, including the purchase of real estate, and the settlement of lawsuits, neighborhood disputes, campus disputes, and labor disputes. The National Center for Conflict Resolution conducts a portion of the skills training. And students who successfully complete the training and meet all of the certification requirements can be certified and conduct actual mediations on behalf of CCR.

EXTERNSHIPS³²²

Combined with classroom work, externships give second and third-year law students the opportunity to gain on-the-job training while earning class credit. They work 10 to 15 hours per week under the close supervision of lawyers, judges, entrepreneurs, corporate counsels, government officials, and public interest professionals. Externships are available in the following areas:

- **JUDICIAL** - Students are placed as law clerks with a United States district court judge or magistrate and work on preparing research memoranda and drafting if opinions.
- **PUBLIC INTEREST** - Students work at a public interest legal organization represent clients in civil matters.

322. <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/legalclinic/externships.html>

- **CRIMINAL LAW** - Students work with either prosecution or defense lawyers in the federal or state criminal justice system, including the U.S. State's Attorney's Office, Federal Defender's Office, Cook County State's Attorney's Office, and Cook County Public Defender's Office.
- **CORPORATE COUNSL** - Students are placed in general counsel offices of businesses and will devote one day a week to the corporate law department. While externs can be called upon to do legal research, the goal is to become involved in the life of the law department by attending meetings, observing negotiations, and gaining an understanding how law is practiced in a business setting.
- **ENTREPRENEURSHIP** - Students are placed with startup companies or entrepreneurs and are introduced to the legal problems they may encountered when starting up or operating a business such as choice of entity, venture capital arrangements, selection of name and trademark, franchise agreements and operating contracts, and licensing requirements, among others.
- **MEDIATION** - Students can become certified mediators and conduct mediations under faculty supervision after completing mediation skills training from the Center for Conflict Resolution.

ORGANIZATIONS³²³

Northwestern University School of Law student organizations include: Advocates for Reproductive Freedom, American Constitution Society, the American Civil Liberties Union, Amnesty International, Animal Legal Defense Fund, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Student Chapter, Association for Private Equity and Entrepreneurship Law, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Diversity Coalition, The D.R.E.A.M. Committee, Environmental Law Society, Epicurean Society, Habeas Chorus, Intellectual Property Law Society, The Federalist Society, Intellectual Property Law Society, International Law Society, Investment Club, JD/MBA Association, The Jewish Law Students' Association, Labor Law Society, Latino Law Students Association, Law School Democrats, Media and Entertainment Law Society, Muslim Law Students Association, Northwestern Law ToastMasters Club, Northwestern University Law Golf Association, The Pleader, Public Interest Law Group, Student Bar Association, Northwestern University Single-Malt Scotch Club, OUTlaw, Phi Delta Phi International Legal Honors Fraternity, Project Finance Society, Small Business Opportunity Clinic, South Asian Law Students Association, Student Effort to Rejuvenate Volunteering, Student Funded Public Interest Fellowships Program, and Women's Leadership Coalition.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: more than 700³²⁴

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 97.7³²⁵

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.1³²⁶

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:³²⁷

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 73
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 16
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 2
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 5
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

323 <http://www.law.northwestern.edu/studentaffairs/orgs/>

324 http://www.law.northwestern.edu/volunteers/Alumni_Interviewer_Handbook.pdf

325 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03050.php

326 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03050.php

327 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03050.php; See also http://www.law.northwestern.edu/volunteers/Alumni_Interviewer_Handbook.pdf, page 20; "Approximately 76% of the class of 2003 accepted jobs with private law firms; 18% accepted clerkships, positions in government, or public interest positions; and 6% accepted jobs in business and industry."

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

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ADMISSION'S PHONE

(607) 255-5141

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.lawschool.cornell.edu

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(607) 255-7190

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

(607) 255-5873

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Located in the small picturesque and somewhat isolated city of Ithaca in upstate New York, Cornell University Law School offers a formidable winter climate that all but guarantees its students will quickly adapt to the heavy study schedule required of them. This Ivy League law school also boasts an intimacy and camaraderie rare at top-tier law schools.

Cornell University Law School is currently ranked Number 11 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The school's curriculum prepares its students for all areas of practice, with particular strength in the area of business/corporate law.³²⁸

Cornell's selective admission standards, which combine grades with strong emphasis on each applicant's achievements, ensure that the student body is made up of people with wide-ranging interests and backgrounds. Cornell's students like the small size of each entering class; there were just 191 students enrolled in the fall 2004 entering class.³²⁹ The excellent student-to-faculty ratio of approximately 11:1³³⁰ encourages stimulating conversations with professors in the classroom and during office hours.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: N/A 25th – 75th Percentile: 164 - 168³³¹
- Median GPA: N/A 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.43 - 3.76³³²
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 4,58³³³
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 879³³⁴
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 19.2³³⁵

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:³³⁶

The law school utilizes a modified 4-point scale with the range being between 4.3 and 0.00. A strict B+ curve is in place with a few deviations. No other ranks or distinctions among the wide percentile ranks are provided or encouraged by the Career Services Center.³³⁷

A+	4.33	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D+	1.33	F	0.00
A	4.00	B	3.00	C	2.00	D	1.00		
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	1.67	D-	.67		

³²⁸ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

³²⁹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03105.php

³³⁶ <https://support.law.cornell.edu/students/forms/handbook/handbook.htm>

³³⁷ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

Cornell states that it does not release class rankings, but does provide the 10% cutoff as follows:³³⁸

Class of 2005 [five semesters]:	10% - 3.69
Class of 2006 [three semesters]:	10% - 3.69
Class of 2007 [one semester]:	10% - 3.74

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)³³⁹

Faculty members are required to grade all courses, including seminars, so that the mean grade for J.D. students in the course does not exceed 3.35. This policy is subject only to very limited exceptions.

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 30%	TOP-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
	3.71 ³⁴⁰	N/A	3.46	3.33	N/A	2.3 ³⁴¹

Cornell institutes a rigorous curve for most classes and the median for this curve has moved to a B+, over the B median it had three years ago. Students have indicated that the above percentile rankings are more or less accurate, although they may vary slightly from year to year. Cornell Law School does not issue a formal class rank, but rather places like-performing students into broader percentage groups, which helps to mitigate the arbitrariness of grades, according to some students.³⁴²

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:³⁴³

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
Summa cum laude:	Special award by faculty
Magna cum laude:	Top 10%
Cum laude:	Top 30% unless receiving other honors
Dean's List:	Awarded on a semester basis top 30% of class ³⁴⁴

PRIZES AND AWARDS: (No specific requirements for earning awards are given though according to the school many are based on academic achievement.)³⁴⁵

American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence
 American Bankruptcy Law Journal Prize
 American Bar Association Prize
 Peter Belfer Memorial Prize
 Boardman Third-Year Law Prize
 Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition
 CALI Excellence for the Future Award
 Arthur S. Chatman Labor Law Prize
 Daniel B. Chernoff Prize
 Cuccia Prize
 Fraser Prize
 Freeman Award for Civil-Human Rights

338 https://support.law.cornell.edu/students/forms/view_grading_explanation_January_2005.pdf

339 <https://support.law.cornell.edu/students/forms/handbook/2004-05%20Student%20Handbook.pdf>; https://support.law.cornell.edu/students/forms/view_grading_explanation_January_2005.pdf

340 https://support.law.cornell.edu/students/forms/view_grading_explanation_January_2004.pdf

341 * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 120

342 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

343 % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 120

344 <https://support.law.cornell.edu/students/forms/handbook/2004-05%20Student%20Handbook.pdf>

345 Id.

Morris P. Glushien Prize
 Stanley E. Gould Prize for Public Interest Law
 Harry G. Henn Prize in Corporations
 Seymour Herzog Memorial Prize
 International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award
 Louis Kaiser Prize
 Marc E. and Lori A. Kasowitz Prize for Excellence in Legal Writing and Oral Advocacy
 Ida Cornell Kerr and William Ogden Kerr Memorial Prize
 Langfan Family Moot Court Fund
 David Marcus Memorial Prize
 Robert S. Pasley Memorial Prize Fund
 Herbert R. Reif Prize
 The Esther and Irving Rosenbloom Prize Fund
 Helen Belding Smith and Henry P. Smith III Moot Court Fund
 New York State Association Law Student Legal Ethics Award
 The Honorable G. Joseph Tauro Dean's Prize
 Frederic H. Weisberg Prizes
 West Publishing Company Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award

STUDENT JOURNALS AND PUBLICATIONS

There are presently three student-run journals at the law school. Submission of a note of publishable quality to any of the four print publications may satisfy a portion of the upperclass writing requirement. In addition, students may work on the *Cornell Law Forum*.

- The *Cornell Law Review*³⁴⁶ is a bi-monthly publication run by upper class law students under faculty supervision. The Law Review is the most prestigious publication at Cornell Law School. In order to become an Associate member of the Law Review, applicants must participate in a writing competition. Members are admitted in one of three ways. The sixteen students with the best grades are automatically admitted, provided their competition performance was satisfactory. The twelve students who earn the highest scores in the writing competition are also selected. The last twelve slots are filled with students who have the highest combined grades and writing competition performance. Non-members may gain admission through submission of a prospective note or by having one of the thirteen highest GPAs in their class by the end of the second year.
- The *Cornell International Law Journal*³⁴⁷ published three times each year, is one of the most prominent international law journals in the country. A minimum of thirty students are admitted to the Journal based on performance in the first year writing competition and academic performance, each weighted equally. A student's writing competition score is primarily based on the writing sample itself, with little weight placed on the editing score. Admission is also possible via submission and publication of a student note on a topic of international law or United States law that has international implications. Transfer and LLM candidates may participate in a fall writing competition but admission is at the discretion of the Journal's board.
- *Cornell Journal of Law and Public Policy* is a relatively new publication which began in 1992 and is published three times annually.³⁴⁸ Admission is primarily based on performance in the annual writing competition.³⁴⁹ Topics include domestic public policy and social matters and their legal implications. The Journal hosts an annual symposium at Cornell and tailors the corresponding issue of the Journal to the topics addressed at the symposium.

³⁴⁶ <http://organizations.lawschool.cornell.edu/clr/pa.htm>

³⁴⁷ <http://organizations.lawschool.cornell.edu/ilj/new%20admissions.htm>

³⁴⁸ <http://organizations.lawschool.cornell.edu/cjlp/large/default.htm>

³⁴⁹ Id.

MOOT COURT³⁵⁰

Participation in moot court programs is entirely voluntary at Cornell Law School. As such, the Moot Court Board is an organization that allows both upperclass and first-year students to practice their oral advocacy and research and writing skills. Each year the Board administers two upperclass competitions and one first-year competition. Upperclass students compete in teams of two, submitting an appellate quality brief and arguing in preliminary and direct elimination rounds. The first-year competition emphasizes oral advocacy and requires only the submission of an argument summary. Student members of the moot court board judge early rounds. Faculty members and members of the federal and state judiciary judge later rounds.

The moot court board also sponsors student participation in external competitions with other law schools nationwide. Students who submit satisfactory briefs in two Cornell upperclass competitions fulfill the second of Cornell's two curricular writing requirements. Students who participate in two competitions are eligible for membership on the Moot Court Board.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS³⁵¹

Cornell Law School's clinical programs include the Capital Punishment Clinic, Public Interest Clinic, Legislative Externships, Judicial Externship, Neighborhood Legal Services Externship, Law Guardian Externship, Women and the Law, Government Benefits Clinic, Youth Law Clinic, Capital Trial Clinic, Wrongful Convictions, and Computer Applications in Law Practice.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS³⁵²

Cornell Law School's organizations and student activities include the American Indian Law Students Association, Asian American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Herbert W. Briggs Society of International Law, Cornell Christian Legal Society, Cornell Criminal Justice Society, Cornell Law Community Volunteer Program, Cornell Law School Chapter of the J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Cornell Law School's Society of Law and the Arts, Cornell Law Students Association, Cornell Prison Project, Corporate Law Society, The Tower (student newspaper), Entertainment and Sports Law Union, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, James R. Withrow, Jr., Program on Legal Ethics, Jewish Law Student Association, Lambda Law Students, Latino American Law Students Association, Law Partners' Association, Moot Court Program, National Lawyer's Guild, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Law Union, Science and Law Student Association and the Women's Law Coalition.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS³⁵³

Cornell offers a variety of programs especially ones focused on international law. In addition, Cornell houses some programs found in no other law school including its respected Legal Information Institute and the Feminism and Legal Theory Project.

The International Law program includes:

- The International Program
- Berger International Legal Studies Program
- Paris Summer Institute on International & Comparative Law
- Clarke Program in East Asian Law & Culture
- International Speakers Series
- International Court of Justice

³⁵⁰ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 119

³⁵¹ Id.

³⁵² <http://www.lawschool.cornell.edu/students/activity.htm>

³⁵³ <http://www.lawschool.cornell.edu/programs/>

Other programs include:

- Legal Information Institute
- Entrepreneurship Legal Services
- Gender, Sexuality, & Family Project
- Empirical Studies Project
- John M. Olin Program in Law & Economics
- Keck Focus on Ethics Program
- Continuing Legal Education

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 425³⁵⁴

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 98.3³⁵⁵

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 98.3³⁵⁶

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:³⁵⁷

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 76
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 12
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 2
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 2
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 2

354 Figure reported in 2002 by Cornell Law School. http://www.lawschool.cornell.edu/career/career_empstats.asp

355 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03105.php

356 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03105.php

357 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03105.php (lists 3% unknown); American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 219

DUKE UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
Science Drive and Towerview Road, Box 90367, Durham, NC 27708	(919) 613-7000	(919) 613-7020	http://law.duke.edu/
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(919) 613-7027	(919) 613-7031	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Though all lawyers like to believe they attended the best law school in the country, Duke seems to have some of the most enthusiastic graduates. This may be due in part to the school's professors who truly enjoy interacting with the students.

Surrounded by thousands of acres of undeveloped woodlands and 50 acres of gardens, Duke University has one of the most beautiful campuses in the world. Durham, North Carolina boasts some of the finest hiking and camping areas which are complemented by beautiful weather. Triangle cities (Raleigh, Durham, and Chapel Hill) surround Research Triangle Park, a 5,000-acre science and technology complex unparalleled in the United States.³⁵⁸ Duke Law School is a leader in technological innovations with web-based teaching materials, "smart" classrooms, and interactive video technology allowing face-to-face interaction between students and renowned international legal scholars.³⁵⁹

Duke University School of Law is currently ranked Number 11 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. Since the entering class size of about 219³⁶⁰ students is small compared to many other top law schools, those who attend Duke often feel they are able to develop stronger bonds with classmates and faculty. Although the student-faculty ratio of approximately 12:4 is a bit high, students quickly discover that professors have an open-door policy consistent with the school's congenial environment.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:³⁶¹

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 168 25th – 75th Percentile: 162 – 169
- Median GPA: 3.67 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.38 – 3.83
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 4,099
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 869³⁶²
- Number enrolled: 219
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 21.2

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:³⁶³

Duke Law School uses version of the 4.0 scale, with grades given as numbers to the first decimal place (3.1, 3.2, etc.). Faculty is permitted to give highly noteworthy performance with grades of 4.1 to 4.3, but may not do so for more than 5% of grades in courses of 40 or more students. Grades of 1.5 and below are failing.

Through the 2003-2004 academic years grades had a median of 3.1 or, in exceptional cases 3.2, for all classes with 40 or more students. As of August 2004, the median grade for all first-year courses and all upperclass courses of 40 or more students is 3.3. The Law School does not release class rank.

358 <http://www.law.duke.edu/admis/dukeTriangle.html>

359 <http://www.law.duke.edu/admis/dean.html>

360 <http://www.law.duke.edu/career/forms/facts.pdf>

361 <http://www.law.duke.edu/admis/factsheet/pdf>

362 *U.S. News & World Report's* America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03117.php

363 http://www.law.duke.edu/career/forms/Grading_Policy2004.doc

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

The following grade distribution percentages for larger classes are guidelines designed to reflect general expectations:³⁶⁴

PERCENTAGE OF CLASS ³⁶⁵	0-5%	20-30%	15-25%	30-45%	15-30%	0-15%	0-5%
							(failing grade)
NUMERICAL GRADE	4.3-4.1	4.0-3.7	3.6-3.4	3.3-3.0	2.9-2.5	2.4-1.6	1.5 or less

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:³⁶⁶

The law school has three levels of graduation honors:

- I. Highest Honors:
The school withholds this distinction and indeed does bestow it every year. Rather it is reserved for “students whose extraordinary academic achievement and contribution through out law school have so distinguished their performance as to justify separate recognition of their superb record and intellectual attainment in law school.”
2. High Honors and Honors:
High Honors indicates that the student is in the top 15% of the class and Honors indicated that the student is in the top 35%.

Honors and High Honors are based on upper-level grade performance and usually require a 3.5 or higher for Honors.

ACADEMIC AWARDS:³⁶⁷

NAME OF AWARD

Justin Miller³⁶⁸

James A. Bell
Neill Blue
J. Paul Coie
Dunspaugh-Dalton
Samuel Fox Mordecai Scholars
Jack Knight Memorial
E.R. Latty
William Louis-Dreyfus
Hunton & Williams
Miller & Chevalier
* 24 additional awards are given annually

RECIPIENT

Outstanding in citizenship, integrity, curiosity, and leadership. (4)
Based on need.
Based on merit.
Based on need/merit.
Based on merit.
Based on merit.
Based on merit.
Based on need/merit.
Based on need/merit.
Based on need/merit.
Based on need/merit.

STUDENT JOURNALS³⁶⁹

The case note competition at Duke Law is a joint effort among all journals. From an administrative point of view, the competition is refereed by the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Publications Office. The logistics are completely at the discretion of the participating journals.

- *Duke Law Journal (DLJ)*³⁷⁰ is published six times per year and is Duke Law School’s most highly coveted academic journal.³⁷¹ DLJ accepts most of its members as rising second-year students. Each year, DLJ extends offers to 27 students. The students in the first-year class that

³⁶⁴ <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so3.html>

³⁶⁵ <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so3.html>

³⁶⁶ <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so2.html#rule2-7>

³⁶⁷ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 154

³⁶⁸ <http://www.law.duke.edu/features/2004/millerawards.html>

³⁶⁹ <http://publications.law.duke.edu/>

³⁷⁰ <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/dlj/>

³⁷¹ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

participate in the case note competition and have the nine highest GPAs automatically receive offers regardless of their case note scores. The students with the nine highest scores in the case note competition also receive offers regardless of their grades.³⁷²

- The *Alaska Law Review*³⁷³ focuses on “legal issues affecting the state of Alaska.” Second and third-year law students run the review but its faculty advisor committee governs the publication in general. Selection is based 50% on GPA and 50% on writing.³⁷⁴
- The *Journal of Comparative and International Law*³⁷⁵ is now 15 years old. The journal publishes two issues a year. Ten to fifteen students gain membership each year either based on a submitted note or selection through a writing competition.
- *Law & Contemporary Problems*³⁷⁶ is the school’s oldest journal and its topics embrace “an interdisciplinary perspective with contributions by lawyers, economists, social scientists, scholars in other disciplines, and public officials.” The Journal occasionally publishes student notes related to past symposia. Selection is based 60% on GPA and 40% on writing.³⁷⁷ The Journal is among the school’s most prestigious publications³⁷⁸
- The *Environmental Law & Policy Forum*³⁷⁹ began as an interdisciplinary journal, but now follows a standard law journal approach, with articles by academics and students’ notes. The Journal is published biannually, and editors are chosen by demonstrated interest.³⁸⁰
- The *Journal of Gender Law & Policy*³⁸¹ was established in 1994 and takes an interdisciplinary approach to the investigation of gender issues related to law and public policy. Editors are chosen based on demonstrated writing ability.³⁸²
- The *Duke Law & Technology Review*³⁸³ is an electronic publication regarding the “intersection of law and technology.” Unlike most journals, which focus primarily on faculty-written articles, the Review focuses on student-written “issue briefs” or “iBriefs,” that keep pace with the changing field. Editors are chosen for their writing abilities.³⁸⁴

MOOT COURT³⁸⁵

Students at Duke can participate in Moot Court Board activities and Moot Court competitions. Moot Court focuses on appellate advocacy, using Supreme Court advocacy as the model. Students may join the Board only by competing. First-years engage in Hardt Cup tournaments. Second and third-years compete in the Dean’s Cup. All may qualify through tryouts for the Jessup competition. Roughly 85% of students gain membership positions in their first-year via the Hardt Cup competition.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS³⁸⁶

The Duke University School of Law offers the following clinical courses and programs: AIDS Legal Assistance Project, Children’s Education Law Clinic, Poverty Law Seminar/Clinic and the International Legal Clinic.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS³⁸⁷

Duke Law School’s student organizations include the Alibi, ABA Law Student Division, American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Asian Law Students Association, Association

372 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 154

373 <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/alr/>

374 <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so8.html#policy8-3.1>

375 <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/djcl/>; <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so8.html#policy8-3.3>

376 <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/lcp/>; <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so8.html#policy8-3.5>

377 <http://www.law.duke.edu/general/info/so8.html#policy8-3.5>

378 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

379 <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/delpf/>

380 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 154

381 <http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/djglp/>

382 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 154

383 http://www.law.duke.edu/journals/dltr/dltr/About_the_DLTR.html

384 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 154

385 <http://www.law.duke.edu/student/act/mootCourt/index.html>

386 <http://www.law.duke.edu/curriculum/clinics.html>

387 <http://www.law.duke.edu/studentaffairs/studentOrganizations.html>

of Law and Economics, Association of Law Students and Significant Others, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Black Law Students Association, Business Law Society, California Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Dispute Resolution Club, Domestic Violence Advocacy Project, Duke Bar Association, Duke Golf Association, Duke Law Baseball League, Duke Law Bowling League, Duke Law for Choice, Duke Law for Life, Duke Law Death Penalty Network, Duke Law Democrats, Duke Law Drama Society, Duke Law Republicans, Education Law and Policy Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Graduate and Professional Student Council, Health Law Society, Hispanic Law Students Association, Innocence Project, Intellectual Property and Cyberlaw Society, International Law Society, J. Rueben Clark Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Judicial Board, Lawyers as Leaders, Male Law Students' Association, Mock Trial Board, Moot Court Board, Native American Law Students Association, OutLaw Parents Attending Law School, Phi Delta Phi, Public Hearing-A Cappella Choir, Public Interest Law Foundation, Refugee Asylum Support Project, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, The Devil's Advocate, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, Wine Tasting Club and the Women Law Students Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS³⁸⁸

AIDS Legal Project; The Center for environmental Solutions; The Center for Genome Ethics, Law and Policy; Center for the Study of the Public Domain; The Center on Law, Ethics, and National Security; Children's Education Law Clinic; Community Enterprise Clinic; Global Capital Markets Center; Intellectual Property; International Programs; Program in Public Law; Public Interest & Pro Bono.

Number of employers interviewing on campus most years: 350³⁸⁹

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 96.7³⁹⁰

Percentage of graduates employed after nine months of graduation: 100

WHERE THE GRADS GO:³⁹¹

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 72
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 19
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 1
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry (legal/non-legal): 3
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

388 <http://www.law.duke.edu/centersprograms.html>

389 2003 statistics received via email correspondence dated March 25, 2004, between Bruce A. Elvin, Assistant Dean of Career Services, and BCG research staff

390 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03117.php

391 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03117.php

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-BERKELEY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
University of California Boalt Hall School of Law Berkeley, CA 94720	(510) 642-1741	(510) 642-2273	www.law.berkeley.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(510) 642-2278	(510) 642-4567	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Just about everyone knows what an excellent legal education is available at this West Coast law school. And, if you must experience the Socratic teaching method, you might as well do it in the Bay Area, which offers some of the best and most varied cultural events, activities, and weekend getaways imaginable.

Currently ranked Number 11 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, the University of California at Berkeley, Boalt Hall School of Law ("Boalt") attracts some of the country's sharpest undergraduates. Many of Boalt's top students find their way to clerkships at the U.S. Supreme Court. Those who participate in the school's exceptional clinical programs often take leading roles and learn early on what it means to make an impact in the real world. The school tends to seek out students with diverse backgrounds, in line with and adding to its already progressive reputation. Students often come from as many as 35 different states to attend Boalt, even though a significant number of seats are reserved for California students.

Although the admissions process for this reasonably priced state school can be highly competitive, once accepted, Boalt students can take a well-deserved sigh of relief. The school's national reputation for excellence, policy-based resistance to ranking students, and laid-back Berkeley vibe environment all contribute to a stimulating and pleasant law school experience, unmarred by cutthroat competitiveness. The small entering class size of 270³⁹² also adds to the congenial environment. It's a rare day that goes by without student organizations hosting some function or mixer in the school's courtyards or at local venues. Boalt students enjoy learning from one another and from some of the most well known legal scholars in the nation. The student-faculty ratio tends to be about 14.4:1.³⁹³

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 165³⁹⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 161 - 168³⁹⁵
- Median GPA: 3.78³⁹⁶ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.63 - 3.9³⁹⁷
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 7,704 7,685³⁹⁸
- Number accepted: 771³⁹⁹
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 10⁴⁰⁰

The class of 2005 had a mean college GPA of 3.77, and a mean LSAT score of 164 (in the 92nd percentile).⁴⁰¹

392 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03016.php

393 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03016.php

394 <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/prospectives/welcome/facts/profile.html>

395 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03016.php

396 <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/prospectives/welcome/facts/profile.html>

397 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03016.php

398 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03016.php; See also <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/prospectives/welcome/facts/profile.html> (listing 7,685 applications)

399 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03016.php

400 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03016.php

401 <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/resources/foremployers/grading.html>

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁴⁰²

A number of lawyers who regularly interview at Boalt Hall have told us that they sometimes have difficulty evaluating the academic records of Boalt students or comparing them with those of students at other schools. Hopefully, the following explanation will help with this dilemma.

As is widely known, UC Berkeley neither ranks nor provides percentiles for its students, and students may not estimate their own rank relative to their class members. Students receive high honors, honors or a pass in each of the courses, or a PC which is a pass but for performance well below the class. About 45% of the class receives one of the honors while the rest of the class is given a Pass or below, however, the curve does not mandate giving substandard passes or failing grades. Essentially, Boalt law grades fall within either one of the A categories or B categories. Boalt career services points out the extreme competition in gaining admission to the school and the miniscule difference between each grade distinction, when competition is among such high achieving individuals⁴⁰³

There are 3 categories of satisfactory grades and these are governed by a curve:

High Honors: (HH) Top 10% of a class; (considered internally as an A)⁴⁰⁴
Honors: (H) The next 30%; (considered internally as an A)⁴⁰⁵
Pass: (P) The remainder

The following unsatisfactory grades may also appear on a transcript:

Substandard Pass: (PC) Credit but the work is below the quality of a Pass

NO Credit: (NC) Assigned when work is unsatisfactory – Student may repeat the course:

Student ranking and percentile ranking are only revealed to the individual student for the limited purpose of applying for judicial clerkships or academic positions. Other those situations students may not request their academic rank and may not estimate their academic rank for any other professional purpose.

Because the grades are highly subjective, and the difference between “Honors” and “Pass” can come down to a point or two, some students responding to our survey felt that their transcripts indicate their work was not as good as it actually was. Conversely, these grades can also indicate a near “sub-standard pass.”⁴⁰⁶

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):⁴⁰⁷

First-Year Large Sections:

Top 10%: HH (A)

Top 30%: H (A)

Remaining 50% of the class will receive either a P (B) a PC (C) or NC (D or F)

First-Year Small Sections:

⁴⁰² National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 565

⁴⁰³ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the “Ranking and Grades” section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

⁴⁰⁴ <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/resources/foremployers/grading.html>

⁴⁰⁵ <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/resources/foremployers/grading.html>

⁴⁰⁶ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁴⁰⁷ <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/resources/foremployers/grading.html>

Small sections are curved using the same calculation as the large sections, however, an instructor may choose to give a greater number of Honors grades including HH or H if such distinction is deserved and this would make the grading more equitable given the size of the class sections. When a grade of Substandard Pass (PC) is awarded to a student in the first semester of Law School, that grade appears on a student's transcript as a regular Pass (P) grade. The student is informed of the Substandard Pass and the grade is counted as a Substandard Pass grade for other academic rules.

Second- and Third-Year Sections:⁴⁰⁸

The grading rules are much more flexible here, where an instructor may (out of the top 45% of the class) elect to give up to 15% HH grades and the rest of the top students may receive H grades. The remaining students receive P, PC, or NC. In seminars of 24 or fewer students, an instructor may give more grades of HH or H than the above distribution if individual performance and equity thus require. A seminar must include a substantial piece of written work, exceeding 30 pages, and a great degree of individual input rather than easily comparable objective examinations.

The following breakdown is provided for the number of additional honors grades allowed in seminars, based on the number of participants.

SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS	ADDITIONAL H OR HH ALLOWED
14 or fewer	4
15-17	5
18-20	6
21-24	7

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁴⁰⁹

Order of the Coif:	Top 10% (usually exceeding a 3.4 GPA) ⁴¹⁰
Dean's List:	Top 30%
Summa Cum Laude:	Faculty votes for exceptional students
Magna Cum Laude:	Top 10%
Cum Laude:	Top 30%

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁴¹¹

NAME OF AWARD	RECIPIENT
Jurisprudence Prize	Highest ranking student in each first-year class section and most graded second- and third-year classes.
Prosser Prize	Second highest ranking student in each first-year class section and most graded second- and third-year classes.
Best Brief Award	For each moot court case, the two first-year students writing the best brief.
Best Oral Argument Award	For each moot court case, the first-year student presenting the best oral argument.
McBaine Honors Moot Court Best Brief and Best Oral Arguments Award	Best brief and best oralist in the McBaine Advanced Moot Court Competition (second- and third-year students).
Thelen Marrin Award for Scholarship	Best GPA from first five semesters.

408 <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/currents/registrar/academic-rules/>

409 Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 418.

410 www.law.berkeley.edu/currents/registrar/ordercoif.html

411 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 418

Thelen Marrin Award for Scholarship	Best published student article.
Thelen Marrin Award for Scholarship	Best published student article.
Stephen Finney Jamison Award	Best student scholar-advocate.
Anthony F. Dragonette Memorial Award	Top third-year student- Civil Trial Practice.
Alvin & Sadie Landis Scholarship	Top student in Local Government Law or Water Law.
Francine Diaz Memorial Award	Third-year minority woman best exemplifying the spirit of public interest law practice.
Class of 1995 Student Service Award	Graduating student who has contributed the most to the Boalt Hall community.
Brian M. Sax Prize	Student who has displayed excellence in clinical advocacy.
Harmon Environmental Law Writing Award	Most outstanding environmental law writing.
National Association of Women Lawyers' Award	The graduating female student who has achieved scholastic excellence and shown a commitment to promoting the welfare of women in society.
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence	Top student in Bankruptcy course selected by the professor.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁴¹²

Boalt Hall hosts 10 student-run and -edited journals with open membership based on student interest in the subject matter. One exception to this policy is The California Law Review, one of the most prestigious on the west coast, which holds a writing competition, consisting of an extensive three part writing, editing and blue booking test. The Law School strongly encourages all first year students to participate in one of the journals, including an attempt to get on the California Law Review.

MOOT COURT⁴¹³

First-year students write briefs and present oral arguments in the spring semester. For each case there are two Best Brief awards, one Best Oral Argument award, and two general advocacy awards. Students who show an aptitude and interest in moot court during their first year are encouraged to enroll in the optional appellate advocacy course in their second year. Those who excel in that course are invited to join the Moot Court Board. The Board assists in the instruction of the first-year Moot Court Program, administers the elective appellate advocacy course, organizes the annual McBaine Honors Competition, and sponsors teams in-state and for the national Moot Court honors competitions.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁴¹⁴

Boalt is known for the strength of its clinical programs. It offers the following clinics: Death Penalty Clinic, International Human Rights Law Clinic, Samuelson Law, Technology and Public Policy Clinic, East Bay Community Law Center, the faculty-supervised Domestic Violence Clinic and Child Advocacy Clinic, Practitioner-supervised clinical, judicial externships, student-initiated field work and research, journal editing and other educational projects.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁴¹⁵

The following is a list of Boalt Hall's numerous student organizations: the Boalt Hall Student Asso-

⁴¹² www.law.berkeley.edu/prospectives/student_life/journals.html.

⁴¹³ <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/studentorgs/mootcourt/First%20Meeting%20-%20General%20Information.pdf>

⁴¹⁴ Ibid.

⁴¹⁵ <http://www.law.berkeley.edu/currents/jrnlorgs/orgs.html>

ciation, American Constitution Society, Amnesty International Legal Support Group, Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Berkeley Business Law Forum, Berkeley East European Law Society, Berkeley Law Foundation, Berkeley Law Student Community Outreach, Boalt Criminal Law Association, Boalt Animal Law Society, Boalt Hall Association for the Study of Chinese Law, Boalt Hall Democrats, Boalt Hall Dinosaurs, Boalt Hall Federalist Society, Boalt Hall International Human Rights Student Board, Boalt Hall Muslim Students Association, Boalt Hall Queer Caucus, Boalt Hall Republicans, Boalt Hall Women's Association, Boalt Jewish Students Association, Boalt org, Boalt Police Review Advocates, Christians at Boalt, Coalition for Diversity, Creative Law Society, Cross-Examiner, Environmental Law Society, Health Care Law Society, International Law Society, Japanese Law Society, Korean American Law Students Association, La Raza Law Students Association, Law in Society, Law Students for Choice, Law Students of African Descent, Law Students for Justice in Palestine, Middle Eastern Law Students Association, Moot Court Board, National Lawyers Guild - Boalt Chapter, Native American Law Students Association, The OC @ Boalt, Parents at Boalt, Pilipino American Law, Prisoners Action Coalition, South Asian Law Student Association, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Students Opposed to Domestic Violence, Transfer Student Coalition, Workers' Rights Clinic, and the Youth and Education Law Society.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

- Berkeley Center for Law & Technology
- Berkeley Center for Law, Business, and the Economy
- Center for Clinical Education
- Center for Social Justice
- Center for the Study of Law & Society
- Earl Warren Legal Institute
- Kadish Center for Law, Morality & Public Affairs
- Robert D. Burch Center for Tax Policy

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 400+⁴¹⁶

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 89.8⁴¹⁷

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 97.7⁴¹⁸

⁴¹⁶ Provided by Boalt Hall's Office of Career Services

⁴¹⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03016.php

⁴¹⁸ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03016.php

⁴¹⁹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03016.php (listing 2% as unknown)

RANK

14

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

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600 New Jersey Avenue, NW
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MAIN PHONE

(202) 662-9000

ADMISSION'S PHONE

(202) 662-9010

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.law.georgetown.edu

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(202) 662-9220

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

(202) 662-9300

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Located within blocks of the U.S. Congress, the Supreme Court, and administrative agencies, Georgetown University Law Center provides a unique vantage point from which to observe the legal process of our nation. This unique community is committed to both academic excellence and service to others.

Georgetown University Law Center is currently ranked Number 14 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The Law Center strives to prepare students to be lawyers who combine the highest analytical ability with ethical sensitivity. The diverse interests of the Law Center's extraordinary faculty and the rich curriculum uniquely equip students for this task. Curriculum strengths include international/commercial law, public interest law, and tax law.⁴²⁰ Many students especially value the ethnic, cultural, and gender diversity of the school. Georgetown places a high priority on welcoming different backgrounds and points of view.

Though some may find the Law School somewhat isolated, as it is set apart from Georgetown University's beautiful main campus, it has its own vibrant community centered around its residence hall and fitness center. There are also a wide variety of activities and opportunities available in D.C. Students rave about the strength of the school's clinical program, and have expressed that involvement in such programs as the extended moot court competitions, and the various journals requires significant dedication of time and effort. Those who thrive in competitive environments will not be intimidated by the school's abundant energy. The entering class size of approximately 453 students is rather large. However, despite the high student-faculty ratio of 14.8:1,⁴²¹ students and professors regularly meet outside normal classroom hours.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 169⁴²² 25th – 75th Percentile: 166 - 170⁴²³
- Median GPA: 3.64⁴²⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.43 - 3.8⁴²⁵
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 11,620⁴²⁶
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 2,143⁴²⁷
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 18.4⁴²⁸

420 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

421 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03032.php

422 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/factSheet/documents/factSheet2005.pdf> (lists 2003 median)

423 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03032.php

424 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/factSheet/documents/factSheet2005.pdf> (lists 2003 median)

425 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03032.php

426 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03032.php

427 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03032.php

428 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03032.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁴²⁹

Georgetown uses an unmodified 4.0 scale⁴³⁰ with a B to a B+ curve for most first-year courses. The Law Center asserts that it “does not provide ranking information with respect to its students’ academic performance, whether in an S.J.D., LL.M. or J.D. degree program.”⁴³¹

*As of 1999 Georgetown University Law Center has been on a 4.0 grading scale. The new system and the old numerical equivalents are listed below:

NEW SYSTEM LETTER GRADE	NEW SYSTEM GRADE	NUMERICAL GRADE	OLD SYSTEM GRADE
A	4.00		12.00
A-	3.67		11.00
B+	3.33		10.00
B	3.00		9.00
B-	2.67		8.00
C+	2.33		7.00
C	2.00		6.00
C-	1.67		5.00
D	1.00		3.00
F	0.00		0.00

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 33%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ⁴³²			
NEW SYSTEM	3.64/4.0	3.57/4.0	2.0/4.0
OLD SYSTEM	10.89/12.0	10.29/12.0	6.0/12.0
BCG* ⁴³³			
NEW SYSTEM	3.57/4.0		
OLD SYSTEM	10.7/12.0		

*Other than the variations referred to, student surveys have indicated that the above-listed grading and ranking systems and the below-listed GPA and percentile figures for Honors are accurate.

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

Student surveys have indicated that Georgetown law center adheres to a B to B+ curve for all classes. Curves for second and third-year courses and seminar courses are more relaxed.⁴³⁴

429 Student surveys; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 203; www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/honors.html

430 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar2/Gradesnew.htm>

431 http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/bulletin/llm_program/attendance_evaluation/; http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/bulletin/jd_program/requirements_policies/

432 Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class and May 2004 class. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 142; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 203

433 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

434 Id.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁴³⁵

<i>Order of the Coif:</i> ⁴³⁶	Top 10% (cumulative average):	GPA
<i>Summa cum laude:</i> ⁴³⁷	By faculty vote	
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	Top 10% (cumulative average):	3.64
<i>Cum laude:</i>	Top 33% (cumulative average):	3.45
Dean's List:	Top 33% (annual average):	3.57
Distinction:	LLM students with 10.29/12 or 3.43/4 (average)	

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁴³⁸

NAME OF AWARD	RECIPIENT
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Health Care Law	This award is presented annually to up to three graduating students with the highest grade point average in a basic health law course or who are otherwise regarded as outstanding in this field.
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Intellectual Property Law ⁴³⁹	This award is presented annually to up to three graduating students with the highest grade point average in a basic intellectual property law course or who are otherwise regarded as outstanding in this field.
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Labor and Employment Law	This award is presented annually to up to three graduating students with the highest grade point average in a basic labor and/or employment law course or who are otherwise regarded as outstanding in these fields.
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence	A medal, certificate, and one year membership in the American Bankruptcy Institute is awarded annually to the graduating student who has achieved academic excellence in the area of bankruptcy law.
American Bankruptcy Law Journal - Student Prize	The American Bankruptcy Law Journal will award a free one-year subscription to the Journal to the student who earns the highest grade in any bankruptcy class at any accredited United States law school.
American Bar Association Section of Urban, State, and Local Government Law Certificate of Recognition	This award is designated to the top student of each section of Land Use and Local Government Law. Each student will receive from the American Bar Association a personalized award certificate in recognition of their academic achievement.

435 % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 142. Student surveys indicated that the listed GPAs for Order of the Coif, Magna cum laude and Dean's List might be slightly high, though the listed percentages were accurate <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/honors.html>

436 http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/bulletin/jd_program/requirements_policies/

437 According to the student surveys, summa cum laude distinction is not definitively given to the top two graduates, but is awarded on a case-by-case basis, usually to one to two students per year.

438 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 203; <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/bulletin/appendices/g/>

439 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/registrar/bulletin/appendices/g/>

The Baker & McKenzie Law Student Assistance Program	Established to assist first-year minority students
The Beaudry Cup	Established in 1952 to honor the best advocates of the first-year class.
The Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition	A monetary award is made each year to the student submitting the best thesis, in the judgment of the dean, on an assigned subject in the field of copyright law. The second place award is also a monetary award.
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Student in each law school course achieving the top grade in the course.
Thomas Bradbury Chetwood, S.J. Prize	A plaque is awarded to graduating students who achieve the rank of distinction and have the highest academic average in each of the following programs: Master of Laws in Taxation, Master of Laws in the Graduate Program for International Students, Master of Laws in International and Comparative Law, Master of Laws in Securities and Financial Regulation, and Master of Laws.
Joyce Chiang Memorial Award	To an evening student with a demonstrable commitment to public service.
The Jeffrey Crandall Award	\$100 annually to the third-year student who best exemplifies the ideals and commitment of Legal Aid and personal dedication to his fellow man.
Dean's Certificate	This honor is presented to graduating students in recognition of special and outstanding service to the Law Center community.
Kathleen Stowe Dixon Visiting Student Prize	A prize of \$100 is awarded annually to the visiting student earning the highest grade point average during his or her year at Georgetown University Law Center.
The Dean Hugh J. Fegan Memorial Prize	\$100 annually to day student with the best overall academic record at the conclusion of the first year.
Michael Feldman Advocacy Award	This is an award given by vote of the students in the Criminal Justice Clinic to the outstanding advocate in the clinic.
Georgetown Club of Metropolitan Washington, DC Award	Annual gift to the graduating JD student from the Metropolitan Washington, DC, area with the best overall academic performance.
Georgetown Law Journal Meritorious Service Award	The Editor-in-Chief recognizes up to four graduating Journal members whose hard work and spirit as non-senior board members made an outstanding contribution to the Journal.

Alan J. Goldstein Memorial Award	An annual cash award to the Criminal Justice Clinic student who best demonstrates the use of intelligence, creativity, and resourcefulness in defending criminal clients and a dedication to criminal law, fair play, and justice.
Greenfield Trial Practice Award	Substantial monetary awards to help defray the cost of student loans are given to several students in the Criminal Justice Clinic who have accepted jobs as prosecutors and as public defenders.
The Nelson T. Hartson Memorial Award	This annual scholarship award is made to a graduating Georgetown University Law Center student in the Juris Doctor program on the basis of scholastic achievement, economic need, or a combination of the two factors.
Deborah K. Hauger Memorial Fellowship Fund	Each year, a recent graduate is selected and is awarded a stipend to facilitate the study of issues in international affairs, specifically in the realm of peacekeeping in developing nations.
Kirby S. Howlett III Memorial Award	A grant is awarded annually to a recent graduate who have participated in the Criminal or Juvenile Justice Clinics, accrued student loans while attending the Law Center and upon graduation accepts employment at a public defenders office.
Howrey & Simon Award for Excellence in Trial Advocacy	Trial Team Advocate who best demonstrates preparedness, creativity and resourcefulness during trial competition, dedication to the Law Center Mock Trial Program and a commitment to the high standards of professionalism and ethics in advocacy.
The International Academy of Trial Lawyers' Award	Each year a plaque is awarded to trial clinic students excelling in the art of advocacy.
The Juvenile Justice Clinic Public Service Award	This cash award given each year to a graduating clinic student who has accepted a job providing service to the community.
The Kappa Beta Pi Prize	A cash award is made annually to the student with the highest academic average upon the completion of the first year.
The Milton A. Kaufman Prize	A cash award and an accompanying plaque are offered annually to the student who does the best work for the year on the Georgetown Law Journal.

The Charles A. Keigwin Award	Best overall academic record at the conclusion of the first year.
John F. Kennedy Labor Law Award	Annual cash award to the graduating senior who has achieved the best overall performance in the field of labor law.
The Leahy Moot Court Prize Argument	The name of the winner of Oral Argument is inscribed on the Leahy Cup and on the Roll of Best Advocates on permanent display outside the Hart Moot Courtroom.
The Francis E. Lucey, S.J. Award	The graduating student who has earned the highest academic average for his or her law school career.
James John McTigue Essay Award	A certificate and a cash prize of \$200 are awarded annually to the author of the best seminar paper for each designated seminar.
The Saint Thomas More Award	An award consisting of a framed certificate will be given to the top three graduating note authors for their outstanding work on the Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics and their names will be added to a perpetual plaque.
National Association of Women Lawyers' Award	Presented to an outstanding graduating student who has achieved academic excellence and contributes to the advancement of women in society.
The John M. Olin Prize in Law and Economics	This prize is awarded annually to the student who writes the best paper in the workshop
Vincent G. Panati Memorial Award	Day or Evening Division students achieving the best combined scholastic record in the courses in Criminal Justice.
Bettina E. Pruckmayr Memorial Award	An annual cash award to the third-year student who best exemplifies a commitment to human rights
The Leon Robbin Patent Award	A gold medallion will be awarded annually to the graduating student who has done the best work in the field of patent law at the Law Center.
The Sewall Key Prize	The prize is awarded annually to the graduating senior who does the best work in the field of taxation at the Law Center.
The Tamm Memorial Award	A prize of \$300 and a plaque are awarded annually as a prize for the best student writing on the Georgetown Law Journal.
Tutorial Program Award	In recognition of the outstanding contributions made to the Law Center's academic program.

The Washington Law Reporter Prize	One-year subscription to the Washington Law Reporter, based on contribution to the success of the Student Bar Association.
West Publishing Company Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Award	First-, second-, third-, and fourth-year law student who achieves the best scholastic record in his/her class.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁴⁴⁰

The Law Center sponsors ten journals. Student surveys have indicated that the most prestigious of Georgetown's Journals are the *Georgetown Law Journal*, the *American Criminal Law Review*, *Law and Policy in International Business and the Tax Lawyer*. Following the first-year write-on competition, a pool of staff members from the various journals score the submissions, and each journal uses a formula to evaluate the write-on score and/or individual GPAs (usually 50% writing and 50% GPA but each journal sets its own standards for the weight accorded the components). The journal editors are given a list of scores for those papers whose authors wish to be considered for membership on that journal. Additionally, some journals give points for class rank, resume, or a personal statement of interest. Applicants indicate their journal preferences and are matched accordingly if they make the cutoff mark for that particular journal⁴⁴¹. Second-year staff duties vary from journal to journal. Each journal will have members complete office hours, including routine administrative tasks, and blue-booking of articles currently in production. The *Georgetown Law Journal* and the *American Criminal Law Review* have their second-year staff rewrite sections of the Criminal Procedure Project and The White Collar Crime Project respectively.

- *American Criminal Law Review (ACLR)*⁴⁴² is the nation's premier journal of criminal law. The ACLR is the most-cited criminal law review in the nation, and it also ranks among the country's 30 most-cited law reviews of any kind. Published four times a year, the ACLR provides timely treatment of significant developments in constitutional and criminal law through articles contributed by leading scholars and practitioners, and through notes authored by the journal's student staff.
- *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*⁴⁴³ is the only student-edited law journal devoted exclusively to the study of immigration law. The Journal publishes articles on timely issues by professors and practitioners, solicits reviews of recent books, coordinates symposia on important topics, and produces student notes.
- **GEORGETOWN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW REVIEW (GIELR)**⁴⁴⁴ publishes information designed for the practitioner and scholar of international and environmental law. GIELR's location in Washington, D.C., also facilitates contact with the key domestic and foreign governmental institutions as well as international and environmental practitioners. The proximity of these resources has led to the development of a close working relationship between GIELR and members of the international and environmental communities.
- *Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law*⁴⁴⁵ is one of the only legal journals to explicitly address the intersection of gender and sexuality. The Journal publishes three issues each year. An applicant may receive a total of 100 points, to be made up of the write-on competition score (50), grades (25), and a required personal statement and resume (25). The staff of the Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law updates their Annual Review.

⁴⁴⁰ www.law.georgetown.edu/journals; <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/faq.html>

⁴⁴¹ <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/faq.html>; Some of this information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁴⁴² <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/aclr/index.html>

⁴⁴³ <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/gilj/index.html>

⁴⁴⁴ <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/gielr/>

⁴⁴⁵ <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/gender/index.html>

- ***Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy***⁴⁴⁶ is published bi-annually with a focus on conservative, libertarian, and natural law thought. Though the bulk of its content will either advocate or critique conservative, libertarian, or natural law positions, its Washington location allows staff to stay abreast of all areas of law and public policy.
- ***Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics***⁴⁴⁷ is published by the students of Georgetown University Law Center. According to student surveys, this journal weighs writing significantly more than grades.
- ***Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy***⁴⁴⁸ is the nation's premier law journal on poverty issues. Part of its mission is to bring an end to the desperate conditions afflicting so many in this wealthy nation. The Journal publishes articles from distinguished law professors and practitioners in poverty-related fields. In addition, the Journal features student research, works from scholars in poverty-related disciplines, and the narratives from persons living in poverty. Furthermore, this publication fosters a unique, comprehensive, and multidisciplinary approach to poverty issues and law. Consistent with its mission, the members of this Journal are actively involved in local community outreach, and work with legal and social service organizations to provide assistance to those in need. This journal does not consider grades when determining membership.⁴⁴⁹
- ***Georgetown Law Journal***⁴⁵⁰ consistently ranks first in prestige according to recent students. The Journal's eight annual issues serve as an important forum for the legal community, with articles on timely issues by professors and practitioners, reviews of recent books, symposia on important topics, and student notes. Students have predictably indicated in surveys that most students rank this journal as their first choice during the selection contest and that a relatively small group is actually selected to participate.⁴⁵¹
- ***Georgetown Journal of International Law***⁴⁵² has over 80 members and is dedicated to the discussion of international business law as well as American foreign economic policy. It is the second oldest journal at Georgetown law and is considered by students to be very prestigious. Membership is granted to students with a strong academic performance and a quality entry into the writing contest.
- ***The Tax Lawyer and The State and Local Tax Lawyer***⁴⁵³ are published by the Taxation Section of the American Bar Association with the assistance of the Georgetown University Law Center and its students.

MOOT COURT⁴⁵⁴

The Appellate Advocacy division of the Barristers' Council runs the Moot Court program. Two competitions are organized each year. The Leahy Competition in the fall is open to all upperclass students. First-year students compete in the Beaudry Competition held each spring. Competitors are asked to write an appellate brief based on a closed packet and then argue their case in front of a panel of judges. Those who advance to a certain level are invited to join the Barristers' Council and represent Georgetown Law in a national Moot Court competition. Finalists argue before a panel of prominent local and federal judges. Law Students participate in 14 National Appellate Competitions, 5 National Trial Competitions, and 4 Intramural Competitions.⁴⁵⁵

446 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/gjlp/index.html>

447 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/ethics/index.html>

448 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/poverty/about.html>

449 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

450 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/glj/index.html>

451 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

452 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/lpib/index.html>

453 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/journals/tax/index.html>

BARRISTERS' COUNCIL⁴⁵⁶

Georgetown Law students can join the Barristers' Council by competing and advancing far enough in one of the school-wide Moot Court, mock trial, or ADR competitions. Generally, students who make it to the semi-finals of a competition are invited to join as advocates. Other high-placing students are offered positions as alternates.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁴⁵⁷

The panoply of hands-on practice offerings at Georgetown includes Appellate Litigation Clinic (civil and criminal appeals in federal courts), Center for Applied Legal Studies (refugees seeking political asylum), Criminal Justice Clinic (indigent criminal defendants before the District of Columbia Superior Court), D.C. Law Students in Court (Civil Division of the D.C. Superior Court), D.C. Street Law Program (instructing D.C. high school students and adult learners law-related subjects), Domestic Violence Clinic (D.C. Superior Court), Family Advocacy Clinic (special education cases, education reform, and government assistance programs in the District of Columbia), Federal Legislation Clinic (researching bills, drafting statutory language, etc), Federal Legislation Clinic-D.C. Division (local advocacy, proposing new legislation affecting low-income people locally), Harrison Institute for Public Law Housing and Community Development Clinic (resident groups and non-profit developers of housing, business, etc), Harrison Institute for Public Law Policy Clinic (analysis of the nonprofit sector and role of the states within the federal system, as well as developing model legislation), Institute for Public Representation (environmental protection, communications law and policy, and civil rights and general public interest matters), International Women's Human Rights Clinic (sexual harassment, domestic violence, polygamy and female genital mutilation), and the Juvenile Justice Clinic (children accused of misdemeanors and felonies). Students have ranked Georgetown's clinical program among the best in the country.⁴⁵⁸

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁴⁵⁹

Georgetown University's huge array of student organizations include the Student Bar Association, La Alianza del Derecho, American Bar Association, American Constitution Society, American Japanese Law Students Alliance, Amnesty International, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Association of Cuban American Law Students, Black Law Students Association, Bridge Club, Caribbean Law Students Association, Catholic Forum, Chinese Development Forum, Christian Legal Society, Committee on National Security, Criminal Justice Association, Delta Theta Phi, Environmental Law Forum, Equal Justice Foundation, Evening Student Association, Evasive Maneuvers, Federalist Society, Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown, Georgetown Bowling Club, Georgetown Chess Club, Georgetown Children's Advocacy, Georgetown Corporate Law Association, Georgetown Gilbert & Sullivan Society, Georgetown Group for Law and Philosophy, Georgetown Golf Club, Georgetown Habitat for Humanity, Georgetown Jewish Law Students Association, Georgetown Law & Arts Society, Georgetown Law Democrats, Georgetown Outreach, Georgetown Securities Law Forum, Georgetown Softball Club, Georgetown Sports & Entertainment Law Society, Georgetown Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, GULC Wine Tasters, GULC Military Law Society, Habeus Comedus, Home Court, Hoya Lawya Runners, Hoyas for Health, Innocence Project, Italian Society, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, James Scott Brown Society for International Law, *Law Weekly*, LL.M. Tax Council, Law Students for Choice, Local Cuisine Coalition, Middle East Law Society, Moral Hazard, Muslim Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Outlaw, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, *Pro Se Magazine*, Players Club, Progressive Alliance for Life, Republican National Lawyers Association, Society for the Study of Eastern Europe and the Newly Independent States, Society of Law,

454 www.law.georgetown.edu/barristers/leahy.html; See also, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 142

455 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/factSheet/documents/factSheet2005.pdf>

456 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/barristers/index.html>

457 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/clinics/OurClinics.htm>

458 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

459 <http://www.law.georgetown.edu/stuaff/orgs.cfm>

Health & Bioethics, South Asian Law Students Association, Space Law, Student Intellectual Property Law Association, Women of Color Collective and the Women's Legal Alliance.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁴⁶⁰

Center for Law and the Public's Health, Center for the advancement of the rule of law in the Americas, Colloquium on Constitutional Law and Theory, Colloquium on Intellectual Property & Technology Law, Gender and Legal History Project, Georgetown Environmental Law & Policy Institute, Georgetown-Hewlett Program on Conflict Resolution and Problem Solving, Global Law Scholars, Institute for the Study of International Migration, Institute of International Economic Law, International Legal Theory Colloquium, Olin Law and Economics Program, Program on International Business and Economic Law, Public Interest Law Scholars, Sloan-Georgetown Project on Business Institutions, Supreme Court Institute

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 600+⁴⁶¹

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 92.9⁴⁶²

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 98.3

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁴⁶³

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 63
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 11
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 2
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

⁴⁶⁰ <http://www.law.gorgetown.edu/academic>

⁴⁶¹ <http://www.law.gorgetown.edu/career/calendar.html>

⁴⁶² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03032.php; American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 291

⁴⁶³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03032.php (listing 11% as unknown)

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(310) 206-1117

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

The students who attend this law school are fortunate to attend classes in a very pleasant, active section of Los Angeles. Located in Westwood, UCLA allows students to take advantage of excellent movie houses, concerts, theater, ballet, opera, and the symphony as well as lectures, forums, and seminars.

The law school is located on the university's main campus which is only about a 10-minute drive from the beach and a 20-minute drive from downtown Los Angeles.

Each year UCLA attracts a lively, talented, diverse, and well-rounded student population eager to begin their law school experience. While the entering class of 2004 was 308,⁴⁶⁴ the student-faculty ratio remained quite reasonable at 11.6:1.⁴⁶⁵ The school is presently ranked Number 15 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:⁴⁶⁶

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 166 25th – 75th Percentile: 163 – 168⁴⁶⁷
- Median GPA: 3.64 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.47 – 3.84⁴⁶⁸
- Number of applications for 2004: 7,260⁴⁶⁹
- Number accepted for 2004: 983⁴⁷⁰
- Percentage accepted for 2004: 13.5%⁴⁷¹

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁴⁷²

UCLA Law grading system is an anomaly among top tier schools, as it fosters little to no grade inflation. The students are graded on a strict curve where most grades fall in the B- to the B+ range. Further, the distribution is based on a strict bell curve, as each A is balanced by a C and each + is balanced by a - even in the B range. Hence, most of the grades, at graduation, tend to fall in the exact B range. Further UCLA curves all bar electives the same way as first-year courses, making most classes taken by students all three years subject to the strict curve.⁴⁷³

A+	4.3 *	B+	3.3-3.69	C+	2.3-2.69	D	1.0-1.29
A	4.0-4.29	B	3.0-3.29	C	2.0-2.29	F	0.0-.99
A-	3.7-3.99	B-	2.7-2.99	C-	1.7-1.99		

*extraordinary performance only

⁴⁶⁴ <http://www.law.ucla.edu/home/index.asp?page=1218>

⁴⁶⁵ Id.

⁴⁶⁶ Id.

⁴⁶⁷ Id.

⁴⁶⁸ Id.

⁴⁶⁹ Id.

⁴⁷⁰ Id.

⁴⁷¹ Id.

⁴⁷² <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~career/gradereporting.html>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 430

⁴⁷³ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

“During the 2002-2003 academic year, approximately 10% of the class of 2005 and the class of 2006 earned a cumulative grade point average at or above 3.65.”⁴⁷⁴

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
STUDENT SURVEY ⁴⁷⁵	4.0-3.6	3.45		3.0-3.01		1.9

As of 1970, the UCLA School of Law does not rank students except for listing the top-ten students in the second- and third-year classes at the end of each academic year.⁴⁷⁶

Student surveys indicated most students find a 3.45 GPA as part of the top range and a 3.2 GPA is still considered well above average and a very respectable GPA upon graduation.⁴⁷⁷

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

The following grade distribution is followed strictly at UCLA Law in first-year classes and upper-division classes with an enrollment greater than 40.

- 20% A+ to A-
- 60% B+ to B-
- 20% C+ or below

Student surveys indicated that the faculty are required to give a C for every A and a – for every + grade they assign, further in the 60% B range, each B+ must be balanced with a B-. Students said that this system results in little or no grade inflation.

Students also said that all required courses with 40 students or more are curved using the above method. Some second and third year elective courses are not curved; however, most students chose to take bar electives, which are curved in the same way as the required courses.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁴⁷⁸

Order of the Coif: Top 10%, usually in the 3.6+ range.

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁴⁷⁹

Name of Award	Recipient
Various prizes, awards and scholarships	With the exception of those awards with specific requirements, a general scholarship application is submitted by the students and the selection is determined by the scholarship committee.

⁴⁷⁴ <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~career/gradereporting.html>
⁴⁷⁵ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.
⁴⁷⁶ <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~career/gradereporting.html>
⁴⁷⁷ Id.
⁴⁷⁸ Information received via email correspondence dated March 24, 2004, between BCG research staff and Linda Linda Kressh, Recruitment Administrator, UCLA Law career services
⁴⁷⁹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 430

STUDENT JOURNALS⁴⁸⁰

All Journals at UCLA Law use either a writing competition or a demonstration of work to determine membership. Work usually involves cite-checking, blue-booking, or editing tasks. Predictably, the UCLA Law Review has the most competitive writing contest; however, grades are not a major factor in selection for any of the Journals. Some highly specialized journals also take into account student interest in, or experience with a certain topic, by using a personal statement or resume in addition.⁴⁸¹

- *Asian Pacific American Law Journal* claims to be “the first law journal in the nation to address the legal, social, and political issues facing the Asian-American and Pacific Islander community.” Its contents cover critical race theory and “more traditional fields.”⁴⁸²
- *Chicano-Latino Law Review* focuses on “scholarly analysis of issues relevant to Chicano and other Spanish-speaking communities.” Members grow their “research, writing, and editorial skills” as they help publish articles “provid[ing] new perspectives on the legal problems of the Latino community.”⁴⁸³
- *Entertainment Law Review* has two issues a year addressing “legal issues affecting film, television, radio, computer, and print media.” Articles and noted cover a range of areas including: “copyright and patent issues, the regulation of the entertainment industry, and labor, constitutional, administrative and antitrust law as they relate to the industry.” Both first- and second- year students may join and contribute to the editorial process.
- *UCLA Journal of Environmental Law and Policy* had its first issue in 1980. Since then the Journal focuses each issues such that it offers multiple perspectives on a “single topic of current environmental interest, such as toxic waste disposal and solar water heating.” The Journal believes it “offers students with an interest in environmental law or policy an immediate opportunity to become involved in editing, planning, and publishing in a field of rapidly growing importance.”⁴⁸⁴
- *Indigenous Peoples’ Journal of Law Culture & Resistance* is UCLA’s “newest journal” and is slated to “focus on the relationship between indigenous peoples and the legal system.”⁴⁸⁵
- *UCLA Journal of International Law & Foreign Affairs* sees itself as an “interdisciplinary publication dedicated to promoting scholarship in international law and international relations” and tries to bring the two disciplines together.⁴⁸⁶
- *UCLA Journal of Islamic and Near Eastern Law* asserts that it is the first journal devoted to this area of the law. Its articles present discussion regarding the “the complex and multifaceted issues of Islamic and Near Eastern law and its applications and effects within and outside of the Near East.”⁴⁸⁷
- *UCLA Journal of Law and Technology* publishes online two to four times a year. It serves as a place to review how the law is attempting to keep up with the constantly changing technology. It attracts a lot of students who are interested in practicing intellectual property litigation as membership provides a good background for attorneys interested in the field.
- *UCLA Law Review* considers itself to be “one of the leading legal periodicals.” The student editors operate all aspects of the review and their membership is based on a competitive writing contest. The Law Review is the most prestigious publication at UCLA.⁴⁸⁸
- *UCLA Pacific Basin Law Journal* touts that “it is the only law review in the country devoted to the study of international and comparative law within the rapidly developing economic

480 <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~admissions/lawreviewsandjournals.html>

481 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book

482 <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~admissions/lawreviewsandjournals.html>

483 Id.

484 Id.

485 <http://www.law.ucla.edu/home/index.asp?page=1404>

486 Id.

487 <http://www.law.ucla.edu/home/index.asp?page=1404>

488 Id.

sphere of the Pacific Basin.” The Journal’s articles come primarily from authors in East Asia and the Americas and relate “to legal issues that directly affect trade flows and international transactions in the Pacific Basin.”⁴⁸⁹

- **UCLA WOMEN’S LAW JOURNAL** issued its first volume in spring 1991. The articles are “dedicated to the scholarly discussion of women in the law and in the legal profession from a feminist perspective.”⁴⁹⁰
- The **DUKEMINIER JOURNAL OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION LAW** publishes a compilation of the best articles on the topic of sexual orientation law published all year. The “Dukeminier Awards” is the official title of the publication, which provides a unique educational experience for UCLA law students, in an annual seminar on “Sexual Orientation Law Scholarship.” The students and faculty in the seminar, work together to review, and then select each year’s articles by choosing the first-level of articles, reducing that number to a smaller group, and “closely reading and analyzing the chosen texts,” and then choosing the final winners.⁴⁹¹

MOOT COURT⁴⁹²

Moot Court is not required at UCLA, but according to student surveys, about two-thirds of the first year class voluntarily participates in the lawyering skills course.⁴⁹³ The Honors Program is open to all second-year students, and Moot Court board members must have participated in the Honors Program during their second year. Participants submit a brief and argue cases before panels of local judges and practitioners. Four finalists are selected for the Roscoe Pound competition. Outstanding state and federal jurists including justices of the U.S. Supreme Court judge the final round. Third-year members are responsible for administering the program and are selected to compete on UCLA’s state and national teams. Students have indicated that participation in the upper levels of the Moot Court Competition is highly coveted, even more so than membership on some of the school’s journals.⁴⁹⁴

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁴⁹⁵

UCLA School of Law offers the following clinical programs: Deposition & Discovery, Public Policy, Interviewing, Counseling & Negotiations, Trial Advocacy (Civil & Criminal), Environmental Law Clinic, Community Outreach, Business in China, Indian Law, Street Law, Renegotiating Business Contracts, Public Offerings and Environmental Business Transactions. Students were impressed with the experience they gained through participation in the school’s clinical programs, and said that all the clinics were highly regarded, however most students lamented that there were not enough clinical opportunities for all the students, thus making an opportunity to participate in the clinics fairly competitive.⁴⁹⁶

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁴⁹⁷

UCLA Law School’s student organizations include: American Constitution Society, Animal Law Society, Asian/Pacific Islander Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Business Law Association, Chicano/Latino Law Review, Christian Legal Society, Democratic Law Students Association, Disability Law Society, El Centro Legal, Entertainment Law Association, Federalist Society, Immigration Law Society, International Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, La Raza Law Students Association, Lesbian, Bisexual Gay & Transgender Alliance, Moot Court Honors, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association,

489 Id.

490 Id.

491 <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~williamsproj/publications/DukeminierAwards.html>

492 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 429

493 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

494 Id.

495 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 429

496 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

497 <http://www.law.ucla.edu/students/studentorgs/>.

Near Eastern Legal Society, Older Wiser Law Students, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Law Fund, Speaking Truth to Power, Sports Law Federation, St. Thomas More Society, Student Bar Association, UCLAW Veterans Society, Women's Law Union, and the Worker's Justice Project.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁴⁹⁸

- Critical Race Studies
- Entertainment, Sports & Intellectual Property Law
- Environmental Law and Policy
- The Externship Program
- Globalization and Labor Standards
- International Law at UCLA
- Native Law Programs
- Program in Business Law and Policy
- Program in Public Interest Law and Policy
- The Summer Program
- The Williams Project on Sexual Orientation Law
- Witness Program

EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS⁴⁹⁹

UCLA School of Law offers a large and comprehensive externship program covering most major legal practice areas.

Civil Litigation

U.S. Attorney's Office, Civil Division, Los Angeles

Criminal Litigation

Federal Public Defender, Los Angeles

U. S. Attorney's Office, Criminal Division, Los Angeles

Communications Law

Federal Communications Commission, Washington, D.C.

Media Access Project, Washington, D.C.

Consumer Protection

Federal Trade Commission, Los Angeles

Environmental

California Attorney General, Los Angeles

Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, San Francisco

Natural Resources Defense Council, Los Angeles

Employment

Department of Justice, Employment Litigation Section, Washington D.C.

Entertainment Law

KCET/Channel 28 Public Television, Los Angeles

See also Labor Law

International Agencies

⁴⁹⁸ <http://www.law.ucla.edu/students/academicprograms/>

⁴⁹⁹ <http://www.law.ucla.edu/~admissions/>

Department of Defense, Washington, D.C.
Office of the Legal Adviser, Department of State, Washington, D.C.
Agency for International Development, Washington, D.C.

Judicial

U.S. Court of Appeals
U.S. District Court and Appeals Court judges in the Los Angeles area

Labor Law

Directors Guild of America, Inc., Los Angeles
United States Information Agency, Washington, D.C.

Municipal

City Attorney's Office, Santa Monica

Public Interest

American Civil Liberties Union, Los Angeles
Asian Law Caucus
Asian Pacific American Legal Center
Mexican-American Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Los Angeles
NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., Los Angeles

Securities

Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, D.C. Academic Support Program

Law Fellows Outreach Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 400⁵⁰⁰
Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 89.2⁵⁰¹
Percentage of graduates employed nine months graduation: 96.5⁵⁰²

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁵⁰³

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 76
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 7
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 7
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 3
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

500 <http://www1.law.ucla.edu/~admissions/employmenta.html>; Correspondence dated January 8, 2003, from Amy Mallow, UCLA Career Services Office, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search.

501 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03018.php

502 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03018.php

503 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03018.php (listing 1% as unknown)

RANK

15

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-AUSTIN

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
727 East Dean Keeton Street Austin, TX 78705	(512) 471-5151	(512) 232-1200	www.utexas.edu/law
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(512) 475-7689	(512) 232-1150	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

The University of Texas Law School, located in the capital city of Austin, lies just east of the state's rolling hill country. It does not take students much time to learn how close the campus is to several beautiful lakes and natural springs, not to mention the proximity of lively downtown 6th Street. The Law School continues to attract some of the country's top legal scholars and offers one of the nation's best "returns on investment" based on a comparison of tuition with median starting salaries.⁵⁰⁴

The University of Texas Law School is currently ranked Number 15 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The law school is one of the oldest in the country, and has been ranked in the top tier of national law schools for over thirty years. It has one of the most prestigious faculties in the nation and identifies strongly with those attorneys and judges. Indeed, one study shows that the faculty is cited more often than their peers and another study found the school to be number one in publishing articles and books for attorneys and judges.

The fall 2004 entering class numbered 425 students.⁵⁰⁵ Though the student-faculty ratio of 17.1:1⁵⁰⁶ is rather high, most of the professors go out of their way to make themselves available during regular office hours. The University of Texas Law School at Austin has continued to affirm its strong commitment to diversity despite recent legal challenges that prohibit the consideration of race in admission.⁵⁰⁷

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertain to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 165⁵⁰⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 160 - 166⁵⁰⁹
- Median GPA: 3.62⁵¹⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.4 – 3.79⁵¹¹
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 6,098⁵¹²
- Number accepted during 2004: 955⁵¹³
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 15.7⁵¹⁴

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁵¹⁵

The school uses a numerical grading scale of 4.3 to 1.3 and adheres to 3.3 (B+) mean for all classes except seminars.

- 504 <http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/admissions/know.html>
- 505 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php
- 506 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03155.php
- 507 <http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/admissions/minorityissues/hopwood.html>
- 508 <http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/admissions/application/quickfacts.html>
- 509 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php; See also <http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/admissions/application/quickfacts.html> (listing LSAT range as 161-167)
- 510 <http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/admissions/application/quickfacts.html>
- 511 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php
- 512 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php
- 513 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php
- 514 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php
- 515 http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/career/handouts/grade_report_2004.pdf; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 793

GRADES:							
A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.7
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	1.3
A-	3.7	B-	2.7				

The school mandates that:

- 1) Professors for first year large sections issue 30-40% A- or better grades and a minimum of 5% of the grades as C+ or lower
- 2) Professors for other classes issue 35% A- or better grades; 55% B- to B+ grades, and 10% C+ or lower grades

In addition professors may award an A+ to a maximum of 6% of the class.

Students listing a GPA on their resume must list a GPA with two decimal points rather than rounded to one decimal point.

Students may choose to list a letter grade average reflecting the chart below.⁵¹⁶

A+	4.30
A	4.00-4.29
A-	3.70-3.99
B+	3.30-3.69
B	3.00-3.29
B-	2.70-2.99
C+	2.30-2.69
C	2.00-2.29
D	1.70-1.99
F	1.30-1.69

CLASS RANK:

The law school neither ranks its students nor allows students to indicate an estimated rank on their resumes.

Although the Law School steers clear of ranking systems, it did provide a percentile rank for its classes in May 2004 consisting of the following percentile breakdown for 2L's and 3L's completing their first or second-year of study, respectively:⁵¹⁷

2Ls	3Ls
Top 25%: 3.66	3.53
Top-50%: 3.36	3.30

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁵¹⁸

<i>Order of the Coif:</i>	10%	3.71 GPA	47 graduates
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	0.5%	4.05 GPA	2 graduates
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	05%	3.85 GPA	21 graduates

⁵¹⁶ http://www.utexas.edu/law/depts/career/handouts/grade_report_2004.pdf

⁵¹⁷ Id.

⁵¹⁸ Percent of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 793

<i>Cum laude:</i>	36%	3.35 GPA	151 graduates
Chancellors	N/A	3.95 GPA	16 graduates

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁵¹⁹

Name of Award	Recipient
Chancellors	Students (who are not already members) holding highest scholastic GPA and having completed 42 hours of coursework. Membership may not exceed 5% of preceding senior class (18).
Order of the Barristers	Outstanding student advocates in moot court and mock trial competition (10).
Dean's Achievement	Highest grade in each course (75-85 each semester).
Niemann Cup	The best advocate in the graduating class
Judge Quentin Keith Endowed Presidential Scholarship	Second-year BOA member for excellence in trial and appellate advocacy.
Stanley P. & Claudie P. Wilson Endowed Presidential Scholarship Award	Second-year BOA member for excellence in trial and appellate advocacy.
Scott, Douglass, Luton & McConnico Litigation Award	Second-year BOA member who has a B+ 3.3 GPA and who has been either (1) a member of an interscholastic mock trial team, or (2) a semi-finalist in an intramural mock trial.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁵²⁰

- *American Journal of Criminal Law*⁵²¹ focuses on current issues in criminal law, has three issues a year, and is widely circulated. Authorship comes from professors, practitioners, and journal members.
- *The Review of Litigation*⁵²² comes out three times a year and runs articles by “scholars and scholar-practitioners as well as student-authored law notes,” to present material taking academic inquiry and seeing where it may have “practical application in litigation.” Membership is based on writing and legal analytical skills.
- *Texas Environmental Law Journal*⁵²³ is published quarterly and focuses on developments in environmental law.
- *Texas Forum on Civil Liberties & Civil Rights*⁵²⁴ “bridges the gap between theoretical and practical issues in the fields of civil liberties and civil rights.” Second- and third-year students compete in a writing competition to gain membership.
- *Texas Intellectual Property Law Journal*⁵²⁵ “is dedicated to all aspects of intellectual property law on the national and the state level.” Articles cover areas such as patents, copyrights, trademarks, entertainment law, and unfair competition. Articles and notes are written by scholars, practitioners, and students. Membership is “based on their writing and analytical skills.”
- *Texas International Law Journal*⁵²⁶ “is the fourth oldest international law journal in the country. The Journal has been publishing important scholarly articles and promoting inter-

⁵¹⁹ <http://www.utexas.edu/law/academics/advocacy/boa/honors.html>

⁵²⁰ <http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/sjou.WBX>

⁵²¹ http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/orjo.WBX?group_code=S02

⁵²² http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/orjo.WBX?group_code=S20

⁵²³ http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/orjo.WBX?group_code=S25

⁵²⁴ http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/orjo.WBX?group_code=S27

⁵²⁵ http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/orjo.WBX?group_code=S29

⁵²⁶ http://utdirect.utexas.edu/loreg/orjo.WBX?group_code=S30

- national symposia since 1965.” It is one of the most competitive journals at the school.⁵²⁷
- *Texas Journal of Business Law*⁵²⁸ distinguishes itself as “the largest business law journal in Texas and one of the largest in the nation with approximately 4,100 subscribers.” The Journal is “the official publication of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Texas.”
 - *Texas Journal of Women & the Law*⁵²⁹ “explores the relationship between women and the law through articles and sponsorship of an annual symposium.” “The Journal takes an interdisciplinary approach to many issues, striving to deepen the relationship between theoretical and practical perspectives on gender and the law.”
 - *Texas Law Review*⁵³⁰ “is devoted to scholarly writings on general legal subjects of national and local interest.” Membership is based on “high academic achievement and demonstrated writing proficiency.” Ten students are invited to join the Review based solely on the strength of the writing competition.⁵³¹ The editorial board annually selects its successors from the members of the staff.
 - *Texas Review of Entertainment & Sports Law*⁵³² aims to offer “the best available scholarship on legal issues that affect the entertainment and sports industries” often running articles regarding “copyright, labor-management/relations, antitrust, and corporate affairs.”
 - *Texas Review of Law & Politics*⁵³³ seeks “conservative articles to serve as blueprints for constructive legal reform.” Articles usually cover “contemporary social issues, including crime, federalism, affirmative action, constitutional history, and religious liberties.”
 - *Hispanic Journal of Law & Policy*⁵³⁴ publishes articles that deal with law and policy affecting Hispanics in the US, especially Texas. All students of the J.D. class are encouraged to apply, with members chosen from among those first-year students who excel in legal research and writing.

MOOT COURT⁵³⁵

First year students are required to take moot court during the second semester of their first year as part of the first-year legal writing program. The students write a brief and participate in oral arguments. In addition, students may participate in one of ten intramural competitions or choose to compete in interscholastic competitions as well.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁵³⁶

The University of Texas School of Law offers the following clinical programs: Capital Punishment Clinic, Children’s Rights Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, Domestic Violence Clinic, Housing Law Clinic, Immigration Law Clinic, Juvenile Justice Clinic, Mediation Clinic, Mental Health Clinic and the Judicial Internships (in the Texas Supreme Court, Texas Court of Criminal Appeals, Third Court of Appeals and U.S. District Courts). The school’s clinical programs are among its major strengths.⁵³⁷

527 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

528 http://utdirect.utexas.edu/lorege/orjo.WBX?group_code=S31

529 http://utdirect.utexas.edu/lorege/orjo.WBX?group_code=S32

530 http://utdirect.utexas.edu/lorege/orjo.WBX?group_code=S34

531 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

532 http://utdirect.utexas.edu/lorege/orjo.WBX?group_code=S38

533 http://utdirect.utexas.edu/lorege/orjo.WBX?group_code=S35

534 http://utdirect.utexas.edu/lorege/orjo.WBX?group_code=S28

535 <http://www.utexas.edu/law/academics/advocacy/boa/competitions.html>

536 Id

537 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁵³⁸

The University of Texas Law School's student organizations include; the American Bar Association Law Student Division, American Constitution Society, Asian Law Students Association, Assault & Flattery, Austin Young Law Students Association, Board of Advocates, Cabinet of College Councils Representative, Chicano/Hispanic Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Criminal Law Society, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity International, Entertainment and Sports Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Health Law Society, Human Rights Law, Intellectual Property Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Law Mentors, LDS Law Students Association, Law Social Society, Legal Research Board, National Lawyers Guild, Order of the Coif, Outlaw (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Law School Alliance), Peregrinus, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International, Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity, Public Interest Law Association, Samsara Yoga Club, St. Thomas More Catholic Legal Society, State Bar of Texas Law, Street Law, Student Division, Student Bar Association, Student Government – SBA, Student Recruitment & Orientation Committee, Survivor Support Network, SBOT Disability Issues UT Chapter, Teaching Quizmasters, Texas Developing Nations Project, Texas Federalist Society, Texas Law Democrats, Texas Law Guanajuato Exchange, Texas Law Fellowships, Texas Law Republicans, Texas Law Writers League, Texas Oil & Gas Law Society, Texas Technology, Science & Law Association, Thurgood Marshall Legal Society, Women's Law Caucus and the Women's Roundtable.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁵³⁹

Center for Law, Business, and Economics
Center on Lawyers, Civil Justice, and the Media
Center for Public Interest Law
Center for Public Policy and Dispute Resolution
Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice
Institute for Transnational Law
Law and Philosophy Program
Visiting Scholars Program
Emerging Scholars Program

Approximate number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 500⁵⁴⁰

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation 94.5⁵⁴¹

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.2⁵⁴²

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁵⁴³

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 92.3
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 0.6
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 5.8
- Percent of graduates employed in positions not requiring training or not part of long-term career: 1.3

538 <http://utexas.edu/law/academics/>

539 <http://www.utexas.edu/law/academics/centers/>

540 Correspondence dated January 9, 2003, from Susana Aleman, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs, University of Texas at Austin Law School to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

541 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03155.php

542 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03155.php

543 Id.

RANK

17

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS

131 21st Ave. South
Nashville, TN 37203

MAIN PHONE

(615) 322-2615

ADMISSION'S PHONE

(615) 322-6452

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.law.vanderbilt.edu/

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(615) 322-0019

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

(615) 322-6192

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Vanderbilt Law School is located just minutes from downtown Nashville, but its campus is also a nationally recognized arboretum. The capital of Tennessee is sometimes referred to as the "Athens of the South." Nashville is listed regularly among the best cities in which to live and work. It is a financial, business, and governmental center that combines the energy and attractions of a major metropolis—professional sports, theater, ballet, and symphony—with the charm of a friendly and hospitable small town.⁵⁴⁴

Vanderbilt Law School is currently ranked Number 17 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. It is known both for its stimulating intellectual environment and for its quality teaching. Vanderbilt offers more than 149 diverse courses in such areas as health law, intellectual property, international law, child welfare, cyberspace, constitutional law, and federal courts.⁵⁴⁵ With just 227⁵⁴⁶ students enrolled in its fall 2004 entering class, a student-faculty ratio of 16:1,⁵⁴⁷ and the faculty's open-door policy, regular interactions between students and professors have become one of the mainstays of the Vanderbilt Law School experience.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 165⁵⁴⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 164 – 166⁵⁴⁹
- Median GPA: 3.63⁵⁵⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.50 – 3.80⁵⁵¹
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 3,770⁵⁵²
- Number accepted during 2004: 763⁵⁵³
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 20.2%

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁵⁵⁴

Vanderbilt Law utilizes a modified 4-point scale with grades ranging from a 4.3 to a 0.0, A+ to F respectively. A recommended bell curve is followed. ^{555*}

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7		

544 <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/nashville.html>

545 <http://law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

546 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/2007fact.html>

547 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

548 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

549 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

550 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

551 Id.

552 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

553 <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/admiss/nutshell.html>

554 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 843

555 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on. *Students felt that traditionally, the mean for each class was set at 3.0 or a B-, but recently, the mean has increased to a 3.3. These statements were not verified by admissions officials at the law school.

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

Vanderbilt is known to adhere to a curve. The grades are distributed as follows: 25% A- or higher, with one or more A+'s possible, 55% B or B+, and 20% B- or lower.⁵⁵⁶

Survey participants have indicated that the curve has recently changed. The old curve was at a 3.0 and the new curve is set at 3.3. Students have also noted that despite the increase in the curve standard some professors continue to adhere to the old 3.0 curve even though they are not required to do so.⁵⁵⁷

CLASS RANK:

Although Vanderbilt Law School does not rank students, the school does distinguish students by bestowing a Dean's list honor on the top 20% of each class for each semester.⁵⁵⁸ In addition the school awards Order of the Coif to the top 10% of the graduating class.⁵⁵⁹

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	TOP 50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ⁵⁶⁰			N/A			2.0 Cum. *effective class of 2001

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁵⁶¹

Order of the Coif: Top 10%
 Dean's List: Top 20% (Each semester)

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁵⁶²

Name of Award	Recipient
Founder's Medal	Student in the graduating class who has attained the highest GPA.
Junius L. Allison Legal Aid Award	Awarded annually to the student who made the most significant contribution to the work of the Legal Aid Society.
The Banks Award	Selected and awarded by the Jessup Moot Court competition team to the member who has made the greatest contribution to the team's overall success during the prior year.
Bennett Douglas Bell Memorial Award	Awarded to the graduating student who is not only well versed in the law, but who embodies the highest conception of the ethics of the profession.
Damali A. Booker Award	Awarded to 3L student dedicated to legal activism and committed to confronting social issues facing the law school and Nashville community.
The Bureau Of National Affairs Award	Member of the senior class judged by the faculty to have made the most scholastic progress during the final school year.

Nathan Burkan Memorial Prize	Awarded annually by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers for the best paper on copyright.
G. Scott Briggs Transnational Legal Studies Award	3L who has exhibited a high degree of scholastic achievement in transnational legal studies and who has made the most significant contribution to the development of international legal inquiry while a student of Vanderbilt Law School.
The Philip G. Davidson III Memorial Award	Student, chosen by the Vanderbilt Bar Association Board of Governors, who is dedicated to the law and its problem-solving role in society, and who provides exemplary leadership in service to the Law School and the greater community.
Weldon B. White Prize	Awarded to the student in the graduating class judged to have submitted the best paper fulfilling the advanced writing requirement.
Robert F. Jackson Memorial Prize	Awarded to “that member of the second-year law class who has maintained the highest scholastic average during the two years.”
LL.M. Research Prize	Awarded for outstanding achievement in the completion of the LL.M. scholarly research and writing project.
Lightfoot, Franklin & White Legal Writing Awards	Awarded annually for Best Brief and Best Oralist in each of the eight sections of the first year Legal Writing & Introduction to Lawyering course.
Archie B. Martin Memorial Prize	Student of the first-year class who has earned the highest general average for the year.
Jordan A. Quick Memorial Award	Student judged to have made the greatest contribution to the quality of life at the law school through his or her leadership with the Vanderbilt Bar Association.
Stanley D. Rose Memorial Book Award	Student who has submitted the best legal writing in the field of jurisprudence or legal history during each academic year.
Carl J. Ruskowski Clinical Legal Education Award	Student who, in his or her representation of clients in the Law School’s clinical program, demonstrated excellence in practice of law and best exemplified the highest standards of the legal profession.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment Law and Practice Outstanding Service Award</i>	Second-year staff member who has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of the Journal.

<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment Law and Practice</i> Outstanding Student Writing Award	Awarded to the student submitting the most outstanding piece of student writing for publication in the Journal.
Vanderbilt Scholastic Excellence Award	Student designated by the professor as receiving the highest grade in all courses except seminars and limited enrollment courses.
West Group Award for Outstanding Scholastic Achievement	Graduating students in recognition of superior research and writing.
Weldon B. White Prize	Student who submits the best written study of an aspect of the law of the state of Tennessee.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Second-Year Staff Award	Second-year staff member who has made the most significant contribution to the advancement of the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year.
<i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> Outstanding Editor Award	Member of the third-year staff selected as having done the most outstanding work on the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the academic year.
Grace Wilson Sims Prize For Student Writing In Transnational Law	Student submitting the best piece of student writing for publication in the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year.
Grace Wilson Sims Medal In Transnational Law	Editorial board member, other than the editor-in-chief, who has done the most outstanding work on the <i>Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law</i> during the school year.
Law Review Candidate's Award	Awarded by the second-year staff of the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> to the third-year staff member, other than the editor-in-chief, who has made the most significant contribution to their development as staff members of the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> .
Law Review Associate Editor's Award	The associate editor among the third-year staff who has contributed most significantly toward the improvement of the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> .
Morgan Prize	A cash award, in honor of Professor Edmund M. Morgan, given to the student contributing the most outstanding piece of student writing published in the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> during the school year. The winner of this prize is ineligible to receive the Dean's Award.
Myron Penn Laughlin Recent Development Award	The student, other than the recipient of the Morgan Prize, who has contributed the best student note published in the <i>Vanderbilt Law Review</i> during the school year.

Bass Berry & Sims Moot Court Competition Award	Semifinalists in the Intramural Appellate Competition.
John A. Cortner Moot Court Competition Award	The two members of the winning team in the Intramural Appellate Competition.
K. Harlan Dodson Moot Court Staff Award	Senior member of the moot court staff, other than the chief justice, who rendered the most outstanding service during the year in all aspects of the moot court program.
National Association of Women Lawyers' Outstanding Law Student Award	Awarded to the student whose law school involvement best fulfills the goals of contributing to the advancement of women in society and promoting women's issues in the legal profession, and who has exhibited tenacity, enthusiasm and academic achievement while earning the respect of others.

STUDENT JOURNALS

- *Vanderbilt Law Review*⁵⁶³ publishes six issues a year. Thirty new first year members join in the spring based on writing and grades. Although officially a combination of grades and writing is considered, students surveyed indicated that grades were weighted more heavily in gaining membership.⁵⁶⁴ Second-year students may write on to the Law Review and all second-year students help in the publication of the review including cite-checking and editing articles.
- *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law* publishes five issues a year and ranks among the top 6 student-run international law journals and among the top 10 of international law journals in general (including faculty edited journals). The Journal participates in the joint competition for members (along with the Law Review and JELP), selecting 30 members from the rising second-year class each year. Half are selected solely on the basis of writing and citation skills, the other half are selected on the basis of grades and writing. Second-year students may also become associate editors by writing notes of publishable quality during their second year of law school.⁵⁶⁵
- *Vanderbilt Journal of Entertainment Law & Practice (JELP)*⁵⁶⁶ focuses on “contemporary legal issues that face the entertainment industry.” Articles cover four subject areas: sports, music, film and television, and the Internet and aims at being a legal guide for the entertainment industry rather than for legal professionals, making it quite unlike most traditional journals.

⁵⁶³ <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/lawreview/about.html>

⁵⁶⁴ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book Per correspondence dated March 26, 2004, between Sue Ann Scott, Asst. Dean for Personnel & Special Projects, and BCG research staff

⁵⁶⁵ Per correspondence dated March 26, 2004, between Sue Ann Scott, Asst. Dean for Personnel & Special Projects, and BCG research staff

⁵⁶⁶ <http://law.vanderbilt.edu/jelp/index.html>

MOOT COURT⁵⁶⁷

Moot court is not required at Vanderbilt. Those who do participate in Moot Court in the fall of their second year are considered for board membership. Participation is a highly prestigious honor; hence most eligible students participate early in their law school career. Moot Court opportunities include Moot Court Board, National Moot Court Competition, National First Amendment Law Moot Court Competition, Jessup International Moot Court Competition, Mock Trial Competition, Vanderbilt Intramural Moot Court Competition, and the Moot Court Traveling Teams.⁵⁶⁹

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁵⁷⁰

Vanderbilt University Law School offers the following clinical programs: Civil Practice Clinic, Criminal Practice Clinic, Juvenile Practice Clinic, Domestic Violence Clinic, Business Law Clinic and Economic and Community Development Clinic. The clinical programs tend to focus on litigation, but those interested in the clinics offered felt that they were given a great deal of responsibility and were able to negotiate, try, and settle cases with little supervision.⁵⁷¹

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁵⁷²

Vanderbilt University Law School's organizations include the Vanderbilt Bar Association, ACLU, American Constitution Society, Amnesty International, Animal Law Society, Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Colloquy, Catholic Law Students Association, Criminal Law Association, Entertainment & Sports Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Foreign Service Legal Society, Gay/Straight Alliance, Health Law Society, Honor Council, International Law Society, INSAFF, Jewish Law Students Association, Law Association for Women, Law & Business Society, Law Partners, Legal Aid Society and Public Interest Stipend Fund, Moot Court Board, Patent & Intellectual Property Student Organization, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Spanish American Law Students Association, Student Plaintiff's Bar Association, Thurgood Marshall Legal Activist Society, Vanderbilt Alternative Dispute Resolution Organization, Vanderbilt Law School Ambassadors, Vanderbilt Law School VENT, Vanderbilt Law Transfer Students Association, Vanderbilt Trial Advocacy Society, and Women Law Students Association.

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 92.8⁵⁷³

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99⁵⁷⁴

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁵⁷⁵

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 66
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 17
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 11
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 2
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 5
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

⁵⁶⁷ <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/student/mootcourt/index.html>

⁵⁶⁸ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 843.

⁵⁶⁹ <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/student/mootcourt/index.html>; <http://www.law.vanderbilt.edu/student/mootcourt/travel.html>

⁵⁷⁰ Id.

⁵⁷¹ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only used this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have included survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁵⁷² Per correspondence dated March 26, 2004, between Sue Ann Scott, Asst. Dean for Personnel & Special Projects, and BCG research staff

⁵⁷³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03147.php

⁵⁷⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03147.php

⁵⁷⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03147.php (listing 1% as unknown)

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
Trousdale Pkwy at Exposition Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90089	(213) 740-7331	(213) 740-2523	http://lawweb.usc.edu
	RE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
		(213) 740-7397	

SOME BRIEF FACTS

The University of Southern California campus is located just south of the Los Angeles downtown business district and courthouses. It is a small, pleasant community unto itself. Currently ranked Number 18 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, the University of Southern California Law School ("USC") remains one of the top California law schools. Instruction seems to strike that fine, though often evasive, balance between the theoretical and practical aspects of the law. USC graduates usually find the types of jobs they are seeking quite easily due, in part, to the school's top-notch placement office.

The student-faculty ratio of 13.1:1⁵⁷⁶ encourages lively interactions with faculty once classroom discussion ends. Though the majority of the students are native Californians, students from approximately 40 other states attend this school.⁵⁷⁷

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 166⁵⁷⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 163 – 167⁵⁷⁹
- Median GPA: 3.66⁵⁸⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.54 – 3.76⁵⁸¹
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 7,677⁵⁸²
- Number accepted during 2004: 1,376⁵⁸³
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 17.9⁵⁸⁴

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁵⁸⁵

The law school has adhered to a 4.4-1.0 grading scale beginning with the class of 2004. The new scale places the Top-50% of the class as receiving a GPA of around 3.20.⁵⁸⁶

Beginning with the class of 2004 (entering in August 2001), USC phased in a new grading system. Each number-grade on the new system has a letter-grade equivalent. The new grading scale includes the following number grades and letter-grade equivalents:⁵⁸⁷

- 576 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03021.php
- 577 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 597
- 578 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/lawmag/departments/deanmsg.html>
- 579 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03021.php
- 580 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/lawmag/departments/deanmsg.html>
- 581 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03021.php
- 582 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03021.php
- 583 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03021.php
- 584 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03021.php
- 585 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 598; <http://lawweb.usc.edu/students/handbook/sec-6.8.html#a>
- 586 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/students/handbook/sec-6.8.html#a>; These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.
- 587 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/enrollment/grades/Standing2002New.htm>

USC Numerical Grade on 4-Point Scale	USC Letter Grade Equivalent
4.1 - 4.4	A+
3.8 - 4.0	A
3.5 - 3.7	A-
3.3 - 3.4	B+
3.0 - 3.2	B

USC NUMERICAL GRADE ON 4-POINT SCALE	USC LETTER GRADE EQUIVALENT
2.7 - 2.9	B-
2.5 - 2.6	C+
2.4	C
2.0 - 2.3	D
1.9	F

To replace the old system of 65-to-90, the new system's grades range from 1.9-to-4.4, with explicit letter-grade equivalents ranging from *F* to *A+*. Although old system grades cannot be converted officially to new system grades, the equivalent grades of the two systems are displayed below:

New System Letter Grade	New System Numerical Grade	Old System Numerical Grade	New System Letter Grade	New System Numerical Grade	Old System Numerical Grade	New System Letter Grade	New System Numerical Grade	Old System Numerical Grade
A+	4.4	90	B+	3.4	80	C	2.4	70
A+	4.3	89	B+	3.3	79	D	2.3	69
A+	4.2	88	B	3.2	78	D	2.2	68
A+	4.1	87	B	3.1	77	D	2.1	67
A	4.0	86	B	3.0	76	D	2.0	66
A	3.9	85	B-	2.9	75	F	1.0	65
A	3.8	84	B-	2.8	74			
A-	3.7	83	B-	2.7	73			
A-	3.6	82	C+	2.6	72			
A-	3.5	81	C+	2.5	71			

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

USC applies a curve to its classes. First year classes “are entered into a computerized normalization program” and have a mean of 3.2. Upper level classes not using the computer system requires that at least 50% of grades are within 0.5 points of the median and 85% are within one point from the median.⁵⁸⁸

CLASS RANK:

USC publishes class rank only for the top 10% of each class. It does so once a year in summer. Ranking on a resume is required to be followed by the student's GPA. In addition, students may list the GPA cutoff for the top 10% but that figure must also be followed by the student's GPA.⁵⁸⁹

⁵⁸⁸ <http://lawweb.usc.edu/students/handbook/sec-6.10.html>

The following statistics pertain to the Class of 2003.

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ⁵⁹⁰	82.14	80.31	79.94	79.15	N/A	70.00

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁵⁹¹

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
Highest Honors:	4.4 GPA
High Honors:	3.9 – 4.3 GPA
Honors:	3.4 – 3.8 GPA

The following chart indicates honor requirements on the new and the old grading systems:

Honors Designation (if any)	Old System Numerical Grade	New System Numerical Grade	New System Letter Grade	Honors Designation (if any)	Old System Numerical Grade	New System Numerical Grade	New System Letter Grade
Highest Honors	90	4.4	A+	None	77	3.1	B
High Honors	89	4.3	A+	None	76	3.0	B
High Honors	88	4.2	A+	None	75	2.9	B-
High Honors	87	4.1	A+	None	74	2.8	B-
High Honors	86	4.0	A	None	73	2.7	B-
High Honors	85	3.9	A	None	72	2.6	C+
Honors	84	3.8	A	None	71	2.5	C+
Honors	83	3.7	A-	None	70	2.4	C
Honors	82	3.6	A-	None	69	2.3	D
Honors	81	3.5	A-	None	68	2.2	D
Honors	80	3.4	B+	None	67	2.1	D
Honors	79	3.3	B+	None	66	2.0	D
None	78	3.2	B	None	65	1.9	F

⁵⁸⁹ <http://lawweb.usc.edu/carserv/students/resume/resume-verify.html>

⁵⁹⁰ * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2003 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 598

⁵⁹¹ Percent of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 598; <http://lawweb.usc.edu/students/handbook/sec-6.8.html>

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁵⁹²

Name of Award	Recipient
American Board of Trial Advocates Award	Third-year student who has excelled in preparation for trial practice of the law.
American Jurisprudence Awards	Highest grade in particular classes.
E. Avery Crary Award	Four finalists in the Hale moot Court Honors Competition.
Deloitte & Touche Foundation Award	Highest grade in Corporate Taxation.
Federal Bar Association Judge Barry Russell Award	Outstanding student in the Federal Courts course.
Warren J. Ferguson Social Justice Award	Best essay on social justice.
Carl Mason Franklin	Excellence in international law.
Kelly Prize	Highest GPA during second year.
James C. Holbrook Award	Most significant contribution to the Southern California Law Review.
The Irmas Fellowship	Postgraduate fellowship to assist in beginning a career in public interest law.
Peter Knecht Memorial	Excellence in contracts, copyright, or entertainment.
Law Alumni	Highest GPA during law school.
Malcolm Lucas	Highest GPA after first year.
Alfred J. Mellenthin	Highest GPA after first and second years.
Dorothy Wright Nelson	For contribution to the improvement of administration of Justice.
Norman Zarky	For excellence in entertainment law.
Shattuck	For leadership.
Miller-Johnson Equal Justice Award	Contribution to assist the poor & under-represented.
Mason C. Brown	Student who excels in trial advocacy and public interest

STUDENT JOURNALS

- ***Southern California Law Review***⁵⁹³ is the major USC Law Journal, which publishes articles on broad legal topics. Membership is competitive and based solely on grades. Each year the top fifteen students in the first year class are invited to participate. The membership for the board is close to sixty. In addition to the general editing and writing student notes, members are also saddled with the daunting task of sifting through almost 1300 unsolicited submissions per issue for about fifteen spots. Each member of the board including editors and staff are involved in selecting articles for publication.
- ***Interdisciplinary Law Journal***⁵⁹⁴ takes on the task of assessing legal problems and issues and attempting to find solutions from both within and outside conventional legal thinking and resources. The Journal boasts a fifty one student membership, with twenty students selected from the first year class on the basis of grades.

592. <http://lawweb.usc.edu/students/handbook/sec-13.html>

593. <http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~usclrev/index.html>

594. <http://www-bcf.usc.edu/~idjlaw/index.html>

- *Review of Law of Women's Studies*⁵⁹⁵ is an interdisciplinary journal which strives to look at the law through a feminist lens. In addition, the Journal attempts to look at issues concerning women and the law from the perspective of other influential disciplines like psychology, sociology, political science and literature. The Journal's goal is to provide a variable framework for law and policy in a distinct and alternative voice. Membership is small, with only twenty eight students on the staff and the board, and staff members are selected on variable criterion where grade cutoffs are inapplicable.

MOOT COURT⁵⁹⁶

All students participate in Introduction to Lawyering Skills during the first year. A small number of students participate during their second year in the Hale Moot Court Honors program. They are chosen based on their first year brief scores and oral argument scores from Introduction to Lawyering Skills. Board members are chosen by third-year outgoing board members and faculty advisors.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁵⁹⁷

- **CHILDREN'S LEGAL ISSUES** – Students represent children in “guardianships for abused and neglected children or for children of single parents with AIDS, school disciplinary hearings, and special-education entitlements for children with physical or emotional disabilities” as well as other issues relating to children’s rights.
- **EMPLOYER LEGAL ADVICE CLINIC** – Working with entities that “promote economic development in low-income communities throughout greater Los Angeles” students provide counsel on local, state, and federal employment law.
- **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CLINIC** – Students directly represent clients “seeking civil restraining orders and other relief, such as child custody, pursuant to the Domestic Violence Prevention Act.” Students appear in court and learn how to prepare filings, argue in court, interview witnesses, and conduct discovery.
- **IMMIGRATION CLINIC** – Students appear in INS and Immigration Court proceedings on “asylum claims by people who fear persecution if returned to their homes, to claims for relief from deportation filed by people held at regional INS detention centers.”
- **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CLINIC** – In this clinic students “engage in patent evaluation and application, the review of technology contracts, litigation involving intellectual property, film clearance work, advising graduate students on website creation and fair use issues, and helping ‘starving artists’ protect their intellectual property.”
- **POST-CONVICTION JUSTICE PROJECT** – This program allows students to “represent actual clients in traditional post-conviction situations, such as parole hearings and habeas corpus petitions.” In addition, students counsel clients on “immigration, civil rights, criminal detainer, and return-of-property matters” as well as attend seminars regarding “substantive law relevant to the case, discussing such subjects as the laws of sentencing and parole, prisoners’ constitutional rights, the use of evidence of battering in criminal cases, gender and racial bias in the criminal justice system, and immigration law.”

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁵⁹⁸

USC’s student organizations include the Alliance for Life, American Constitution Society, Amnesty International Chapter, American Civil Liberties Union, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Corporate Law

595 <http://www-rcf.usc.edu/~rlaws/>

596 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 598

597 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/admissions/curriculum/pages/legalclinics.html>

598 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/enrollment/studentorgs/student-orgs.html>

Society, Criminal Law Society, Diversity Week Planning Committee, Interdisciplinary Law Journal, Sports, Music & Entertainment Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Gay and Lesbian Law Union, Hale Moot Court, Health Law Society, Intellectual Property Society, International Law Society, Islamic Legal Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Just Democracy, La Raza Law Student Association, Law & Technology Association, *Law Street Journal*, (MESALA) Middle Eastern South Asian Law Association, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Pacific Rim Law Society, Public Interest Law Foundation, Round Table Society, Street Law Society, Student Bar Association, Student Law Society, Tax Law Society, Technology and Corporate Law Society and the Women's Law Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁵⁹⁹

Center for Communication Law and Policy
 Center in Law, Economics and Organization
 Center for Law, History and Culture
 Center for Study of Law and Politics
 Pacific Center for Health Policy and Ethics
 Center for Law and Philosophy
 Center for the Study of Law and Politics
 Initiative and Referendum Institute
 Exchange Programs
 Entertainment Practicum

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: "Hundreds"⁶⁰⁰

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 89.8⁶⁰¹

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 99.5⁶⁰²

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁶⁰³

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 70
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 2
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 5
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 4
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 19
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 2

599 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/centers/>

600 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/admissions/carserv/pages/interviews.html>

601 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03021.php; See also <http://lawweb.usc.edu/admissions/carserv/#>; American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 643

602 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03021.php; See also <http://lawweb.usc.edu/admissions/carserv/#>; American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 643

603 <http://lawweb.usc.edu/admissions/carserv/#>; American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 643

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UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-TWIN CITIES

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
229-19th Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55455	(612) 625-1000	(612) 625-3487	www.law.umn.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(612) 625-8595	(612) 625-1866	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

The University of Minnesota Law School is located in the city of Minneapolis, just a short distance from its "twin" city of St. Paul. The school continues to provide a very reasonably priced education for both in-state and out-of-state students. It is currently ranked Number 19 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools.

The school enrolled 270 students⁶⁰⁴ for its fall 2004 entering class and the student-faculty ratio is 14.5:1.⁶⁰⁵ The University of Minnesota's law library is the eighth largest academic law library in the United States and offers an exceptional international collection.⁶⁰⁶

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 163⁶⁰⁷ 25th – 75th Percentile: 160 – 166⁶⁰⁸
- Median GPA: 3.66⁶⁰⁹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.48-3.81⁶¹⁰
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 2,509⁶¹¹
- Number accepted during 2004: 716⁶¹²
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 28.5⁶¹³

GRADES AND CLASS RANK:⁶¹⁴

When evaluating Minnesota students and their academic performance, understanding the unique grading system is important. While acknowledging the competitive environment inherent in a group of high achievers, the Law School faculty imposes a standard distribution for grades in order to prevent grade inflation. Beginning with the Class of 2006, the Law School will convert to a four-point grading system. The Class of 2005 will be marked on the 16-point system. The following table summarizes this change:

604 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03085.php
605 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03085.php
606 http://www.law.umn.edu/uploads/images/1158/Law_Admsion_Info_Brocho4.pdf
607 <http://www.law.umn.edu/prospective/profile.html>
608 <http://www.law.umn.edu/prospective/profile.html>
609 <http://www.law.umn.edu/prospective/profile.html>
610 <http://www.law.umn.edu/prospective/profile.html>
611 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03085.php
612 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03085.php
613 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03085.php
614 <http://www.law.umn.edu/uploads/images/884/2004newgradeswebfinal.pdf>

Old Grading System	New Grading System	Letter Grade Equivalent
16	4.33	A+
15	4.0	A
14	3.67	A-
13	3.33	B+
12	3.0	B
11	2.67	B-
10	2.33	C+
9	2.0	C
8	1.67	C-
7	1.0	D
< 7	0.0	F

CLASS RANK:

The School ranks students but does not use this information except to determine Order of the Coif and in limited situations such as when a student seeks a judicial clerkship or teaching position. The school claims that it “has not released class rank information since 1972.”⁶¹⁵

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ⁶¹⁶	N/A	13.227	N/A	12.536	11.899	8.000

Despite not ranking its students, University of Minnesota Law School does provide quartiles in which students are divided based on Minnesota’s unique numerical grading system. Quartiles are available for the classes of 2003–2005. Complete information for earlier classes from 1995–2004 is available online,⁶¹⁷ and percentages for the class of 2006 are available on request from the Career Services Office. Every instructor of a first year class must calculate grades so that each class has an average grade between 11.4 and 11.8. Upperclass courses with an enrollment of more than 25 must have average grades between 11.5 and 12.5.⁶¹⁸

Final Quartiles for Class of 2004⁶¹⁹

- First: 15.000 – 13.227
- Second: 13.222 – 12.529
- Third : 12.524 – 11.899
- Fourth: 11.895

Current Quartiles for Class of 2005

- First: 15.642 – 13.102
- Second: 13.070 – 12.439
- Third: 12.358 – 11.574
- Fourth: 11.564

Current Quartiles for Class of 2006

- First: 14.778 – 12.630

⁶¹⁵ <http://www.law.umn.edu/uploads/images/884/2004newgradeswebfinal.pdf>

⁶¹⁶ The Law Faculty imposes a standard distribution for grades to prevent grade inflation. Instructors calculate first-year grades so that each class has an average (mean) grade between 11.4 and 11.8. Upperclass courses with 25+ students have an average grade between 11.5 and 12.5. Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 679.

⁶¹⁷ <http://www.law.umn.edu/uploads/images/839/quartilechart2004.pdf>

⁶¹⁸ <http://www.law.umn.edu/cso/gradingwriting.html>

⁶¹⁹ <http://www.law.umn.edu/uploads/images/884/2004newgradeswebfinal.pdf>

Second: 12.593 – 11.852
 Third: 11.815 – 10.852
 Fourth: 10.778

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST⁶²⁰

Order of the Coif: Top 10%
Summa cum laude: 15.00 and above
Magna cum laude: 13.50 – 14.99
Cum laude: 12.00 – 13.49
 Dean’s List with an A: 13.5 and above
 Dean’s List: 11.0 to 13.49

ACADEMIC AWARDS⁶²¹

Name of Award	
Briggs & Morgan Scholarship	Leonard E. Lindquist Scholarship
Frederikson & Byron (joint degree)	Michael McHale Memorial Scholarship
Ava & Russell Lederman Memorial Scholarship	MIPLA Scholarship for Intellectual Property
Russell Lederman Memorial Scholarship	Roger & Violet Noreen Scholarship
Caroline Brede Scholarship	Clarence A. Rolloff Award
Mary Jeann Coyne Scholarship	Melvin C. Steen Scholarship
Faegre & Benson Scholarship	Robert A. Stein Scholarship
Gerald and Elenor Heaney scholarship	Royal A. Stone Memorial Scholarship
Henson & Efron, PA Scholarship	Walter J. Troegner Scholarship
Law Class of 1924 Memorial Scholarship	Judge Betty W. Washburn Scholarship
Law Review Memorial Award	Leonard, Street & Deinard Scholarship

STUDENT JOURNALS⁶²²

- *Minnesota Law Review*⁶²³ is a mainstream journal and has been publishing articles, comments, and notes about current legal matters. The editorial board consists of students who are chosen based on writing though a few may gain membership based on grades.⁶²⁴
- *Law and Inequality: A Journal of Theory and Practice*⁶²⁵ “examine[s] the social impact of law on disadvantaged people” by publishing material authored by “legal scholars and practitioners, law students, and non-lawyers.” Students gain membership through demonstrated writing ability and “their commitment to eliminating inequality.” The editorial board is elected from the membership.
- *Minnesota Journal of Global Trade*⁶²⁶ addresses international economic law and policy matters and embraces interdisciplinary perspectives. The Journal seeks to present theoretical and practical analyses of issues as major public organs change the law and private actors respond to such change. Faculty advisors well known in the field offer student authors their expertise and insight. Membership is gained through a writing competition.
- *Minnesota Intellectual Property Review*⁶²⁷ is dedicated to issues of intellectual property law. The first issue was published in May of 2000. As of December 2004, The Minnesota

620 Id.
 621 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 679
 622 <http://www.law.umn.edu/journals/default.htm>.
 623 <http://www.law.umn.edu/lawreview/index.html>
 624 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 679
 625 <http://www.law.umn.edu/lawineq/index.html>
 626 <http://www.law.umn.edu/globaltrade/>

Intellectual Property Review (MIPR) changed its name and joined The University of Minnesota's Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences and MIPR to create The Minnesota Journal of Law, Science & Technology (MJLST). This new journal employs a peer-review process for articles; addresses social policy aspects of law, science, and technology; but still requires students to write-on for membership. The journal puts out two issues per year.

MOOT COURT⁶²⁸

To fulfill the Law School's unique second-year writing requirement, each second-year student must serve on either a Law Review-caliber journal or participate in Moot Court, which is a year-long academically supervised and graded appellate practice exercise. Students can participate in the Jessup International Law Moot Court, Environmental Law Moot Court, National Moot Court, Wagner Labor Law Moot Court, The William E. McGee Civil Rights Moot Court, Giles Sutherland Rich Intellectual Property Moot Court, the ABA Moot Court Competition Team, and the Maynard Pirsig Moot Court interscholastic competition. First-year law students apply to whichever Moot Court they wish at the end of their spring semester and each program makes an independent determination of whom to accept.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁶²⁹

The University Of Minnesota School Of Law is a leader in hands-on training. It offers an impressive range of 17 clinics, which include: Civil Practice Clinic, Public Interest Law Clinic, Bankruptcy Clinic, Domestic Assault Clinic, Domestic Violence Clinic, Domestic Felony Prosecution Clinic, Housing Law Clinic, Federal Prosecution Clinic, Prosecution and Defense Criminal Clinics, Child Advocacy Clinic, Indian Child Welfare Act Clinic, Immigration Law Clinic, Federal Income Taxation Clinic, Worker Compensation/Social Security Disability Clinic, Legal Assistance to Minnesota Prisoners and the Criminal Appeals Clinic.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁶³⁰

The University of Minnesota Law School's student organizations include the American Bar Association Law Student Division, American Constitution Society, American Indian Law Student Association, Amnesty International, Asian American Law Student Association, Asylum Law Project, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Entertainment and Sports Law Students Association, Environmental Law Society, The Federalist Society, Gamma Eta Gamma, Graduate and Professional Schools Assembly, International Law Student Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Latino Law Students Alliance, Latter Day Saints Student Group, Law and Medicine, Law Council, Law School Recreational Sports, Lambda Law Students Association, Media Law Society, Minnesota Justice Foundation, Muslim Law Students Association, National Lawyers' Guild (UMN Chapter), Property Law Student Association, Student Intellectual Property Law Association, and Women's Law Student Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁶³¹

- Lawyering Skills Program
- Center for Computer-Assisted Legal Instruction
- Human Rights Center
- Institute on Race & Poverty
- Joint Degree Program in Law, Health & the Life Sciences
- Consortium on Law and Values in Health, Environment & the Life Sciences
- Kommerstad Center for Business Law and Entrepreneurship
- Research Institutes

627 <http://mipr.umn.edu/common/index.htm>; <http://mjlst.umn.edu/>

628 <http://www.law.umn.edu/current/mootcourts.htm>

629 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 521

630 <http://www.law.umn.edu/students/groups.htm>.

631 <http://www.law.umn.edu/centers/index.html>

Minnesota Center for Legal Studies
International Exchange Programs
Trial Practice
Law School Public Interest Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 125⁶³²

Number of firms interviewing off campus in New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.: 90

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 90.6⁶³³

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.7⁶³⁴

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁶³⁵

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 52
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 15
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 7
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 13
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

632 Correspondence dated December 26, 2002, from Susan Gainen, University of Minnesota Director of Career Services, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search.

633 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03085.php

634 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03085.php

635 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03085.php (listing 3% as unknown)

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7		

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):⁶⁴⁷

BULS has instituted two separate curves for their larger courses. The first-year courses are slightly stricter than the large second- or third-year courses in terms of the A grades; otherwise, the curves are very similar. First-year courses have a B curve; and while professors who teach second- and third-year courses with less than 25 students do not have to follow the curve, they are advised to stick to a B+ median.

First-year courses with enrollment of 26 or more:

A+	0-5%
A+, A, A-	20-25% (A+ subject to 5% limitation above)
B+ and above	40-60% (subject to limitations on A range above)
B	10-50% (subject to limitations above and below)
B- and below	10-30% (subject to limitations below on ranges C+ and below)
C+ and above	5-10%
D, F	0-5%

Second- and third-year courses and seminars with enrollment of 26 or more:

A+	0-5%
A+, A, A-	20-30% (A+ subject to 5% limitation above)
B+ and above	40-60% (subject to limitations on A range above)
B	10-50% (subject to limitations above and below)
B-and below	10-30% (subject to limitations below on ranges C+ and below)
C+ and above	5-10%
D, F	0-5%

Surveys of students and alumni have indicated that the above information is current and accurate, and that professors adhere strictly to the recommended curve in all first-year courses and most second-year courses. Survey respondents felt that even though the professors stick to the curves, they can use the ranges in a way that creates dramatically varied results in some classes. Further, students stated that professors can refrain from giving any grades below a B- in second- and third-year courses and may also give more grades in the A range.⁶⁴⁸

CLASS RANK:

For students who have completed their first year, the Registrar will inform the top three students in each section of their ranks and provide cutoffs for the top 10%, 25%, and 33% of each section. For students who have completed the second- or third-year, the Registrar will inform the ten top students of their ranks and provide cutoffs for the top 10%, 20%, and 33% of the class, with respect to their cumulative GPAs.⁶⁴⁹

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ⁶⁵⁰	3.75	3.59	3.54	N/A	N/A	2.0

⁶⁴⁷ http://www.bu.edu/law/jd/curriculum/03-04_Academic_Regs.pdf

⁶⁴⁸ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁶⁴⁹ <http://www.bu.edu/law/jd/curriculum/Articles/ArtIX.html#4>

⁶⁵⁰ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 57

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁶⁵¹

<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	Top 1%
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	Top 10%
<i>Cum laude:</i>	Top 33%
Edward F. Hennessey Distinguished Scholars	Top 10%
Edward F. Hennessey Scholars	Top 25%

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁶⁵²

Name of Award	Recipient
G. Joseph Tauro Distinguished Scholar	Top 10% of each first-year section.
G. Joseph Tauro Scholar	Top 25% of each first-year section.
Liacos Distinguished Scholar	Top 10% of second-year class.
Liacos Scholar	Top 25% second-year class.
Hennessey Distinguished Scholar	Top 10% of third-year class.
Hennessey Scholar	Top 25% of third-year class.
Dr. John Ordronaux Prize	Highest cumulative GPA in three-year program.
Faculty Award – Community Service	Exceptional dedication to the ideals of community service.
Faculty Award – Academic Improvement	Most scholarly progress in the senior year.
Melville M. Bigelow Scholarship Award	Members of graduating class who show greatest promise as scholars and teachers in law.
Sylvia Beinecke Robinson Award	Significant contribution to the life of School of Law.
William L. & Lillian Berger Achievement Prizes	Exemplary scholastic achievement.
Albert P. Pettoruto Memorial Award	Excellence in the field of Probate or Family law.
Spencer R. Koch Memorial Award	Outstanding contributions to achieving goals of the Esdaile Alumni Center through alumni outreach.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁶⁵³

Boston University School of Law hosts six student-run scholarly law journals. Selection criteria for new members are first year grades and performance in a post-first-year summer writing competition. Staff members of the publications elect a new editorial board every spring. Student surveys indicated that the journals are extremely competitive and, although grades and writing are officially equally weighted, participants felt that grades are the primary concern in gaining membership. Nine spots are reserved for the top three students in each of the first-year class' three sections and the remainder consists of the top ten percent of the class.⁶⁵⁴

⁶⁵¹ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 57

⁶⁵² National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 57 <http://www.bu.edu/law/com-mencement/awards.html>

⁶⁵³ <http://www.bu.edu/law/jd/journals/index.html>

⁶⁵⁴ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- *Boston University Law Review* has been published since 1921 and is printed five times annually. The Law Review accepts approximately 10% of the first-year class based on grades and a writing competition. Transfer students are given the opportunity to participate in the writing competition in order to garner a place at the journal. The Law Review publishes articles written by practitioners and law professors throughout the world on a broad variety of topics as well as notes written by student members.
- *American Journal of Law & Medicine* is a quarterly journal published in conjunction with the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics since 1975. This journal is interdisciplinary and prints professional articles, student notes, discussions of recent legislative developments in the field, and reviews of books about health law and policy. The Journal of Law & Medicine focuses on legal issues in the medical field, exploring a broad range of issues that relate to health law, policy and ethical concerns.
- *Annual Review of Banking & Financial Law* is sponsored by the Morin Center for Banking and Financial Law and published annually. Articles and notes cover a broad range of topics, including corporate, bankruptcy, banking, securities, commercial, administrative and constitutional law.
- *Boston University International Law Journal* is published biannually. This journal takes pride in forging new ground with the publication of professional articles and student notes. Articles and notes are timely and discuss current topics in international, foreign and trade law. The selection criteria for this journal includes a student's interest in the field of international law and policy
- *The Journal of Science & Technology Law* is a biannual publication. Topics published in this journal include biotechnology, computers, communications, intellectual property, the Internet, technology transfer, and science and technology business. All articles, symposia, notes and updates that appear in each printed edition are also available online. Second-year members edit and check article citations and write a note concerning law and science or law and technology. Third-year members elected to editorial or executive positions are integral in publishing and managing this journal.
- *Public Interest Law Journal* is published three times a year and focuses on scholastic issues in constitutional, criminal and family law. Additional topics include legal ethics, environmental issues, education law and civil rights law. A commitment to public interest is especially important in the selection criterion for membership on this journal.

MOOT COURT⁶⁵⁵

Boston University's School of Law mandates participation in the Newton Esdaile Appellate Moot Court Program by all first-year law students as a part of their second semester research and writing requirement. The law school's advanced moot court programs, which are merit-based and voluntary, allow students to tackle complex cases that demand thorough research and excellent oral and written presentations. Upper-level competitions such as the Trial Advocacy Program, the Negotiation Competition, and the Client Counseling Competitions are open to second- and third-year students who meet the specified requirements. Students have indicated that participation is highly competitive and that oral advocacy skills are the most heavily weighted factor.⁶⁵⁶

The **EDWARD C. STONE APPELLATE COMPETITION** is a competition for second-year students and is open to all who want to participate. Students work in pairs and each pair is responsible for writing a brief and delivering an oral argument. Those sixteen individual students with the highest scores, determined by briefs and oral arguments, win an invitation to participate in the

⁶⁵⁵ <http://www.bu.edu/law/jd/mootcourt/programs.html>

⁶⁵⁶ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book. <http://www.bu.edu/law/jd/mootcourt/>

Homer Albers Prize Moot Court Competition. Participation in the Edward C. Stone Appellate Competition is a prerequisite to becoming a Stone Moot Court Director. Each Stone Moot Court Director is responsible for writing a moot court problem for the Edward C. Stone Appellate Competition, composing a bench memorandum, and helping in the administration of the Edward C. Stone Appellate Competition in the fall.

The **HOMER ALBERS PRIZE MOOT COURT COMPETITION** is open to the top sixteen participants from the Edward C. Stone Competition. Students work in pairs and are judged jointly. Pairs advance together. The quarter final elimination round is judged by law professors from Boston University and the semifinal round is judged by local judges. Pairs that advance to the final round are judged by a panel of three judges from the United States Circuit Courts of Appeals. Past judges in the final round have included several current members of the Supreme Court including Justices Scalia, Bader Ginsburg and Souter. Participation in this competition is a prerequisite to becoming an Albers Director. Albers Directors jointly write the Albers Moot Court problem and bench memorandum and administer the competition. Students surveyed felt that this competition was very competitive and, therefore, very prestigious.⁶⁵⁷

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁶⁵⁸

BUSL offers Clinical Programs in the following areas: Civil Litigation, Legislation Clinics (which allow student drafters to work with state senators and representatives, mayors, city councils, administrative agencies, and public interest groups to create legislative solutions to problems in the general and specialized Health & Environmental and Intellectual Property areas), Criminal Trial Advocacy, Legal Externships, Judicial Internships which give third-year students the unique opportunity to serve as apprentices to trial judges of the Massachusetts Superior Court, and Legislative Internships.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁶⁵⁹

BUSL supports more than 25 student organizations including the Student Bar Association, Arts Law Association, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Student Association, Communication, Entertainment and Sports Law Association, Coffeehouse, Corporate Law Society, Criminal Justice Society, Christian Legal Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Health Law Association, Hockey Team, Intellectual Property Law Society, International Law Society, Jewish Law Student Association, Latin American Law Student Association, Legal Follies, OutLaw, Older, Wiser Law Students, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Project, Science and Technology, Shelter Legal Services, South Asian American Law Students Association, Student Advocates for Ending Domestic Violence and the Women's Law Association.

CENTERS AND INSTITUTES⁶⁶⁰

- Morin Center for Banking Law Studies
- Institute of Jewish Law
- Center for Law and Technology
- Visiting Scholar Program
- Summer Legal Institute in London
- Study Abroad Program

⁶⁵⁷ Id.

⁶⁵⁸ <http://www.bu.edu/law/jd/clinics/>

⁶⁵⁹ <http://www.bu.edu/law/studentlife/organizations.html>

⁶⁶⁰ <http://www.bu.edu/law/admissions/profile/>

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 450+⁶⁶¹
Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 89.3⁶⁶²
Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.7

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁶⁶³

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 89
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 8
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 3

Survey participants felt that the school clearly encourages students to work for large private firms which account for majority of campus interviews.⁶⁶⁴

⁶⁶¹ Provided by Boston University School of Law's Office of Career Services

⁶⁶² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03073.php

⁶⁶³ Id.

⁶⁶⁴ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

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(202) 994-7340

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Located in our nation's capital, George Washington University (GWU) Law School remains a favorite among law applicants with dreams of entering politics after law school or representing private clients whose interests must be regularly negotiated in this city.

GWU Law School is currently ranked Number 20 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. GWU is the oldest law school located in Washington D.C., and claims it was one of the first law schools to create clinical programs to help train its students. It offers many top-notch specialty programs that other schools rarely offer, such as the Consumer Mediation Clinic, the Health Insurance Counseling Clinic, and the Vaccine Injury Clinic.

The first-year class at GWU numbered 393 full time students in 2004⁶⁶⁵ and has a student-faculty ratio of 14.6:1.⁶⁶⁶ The school offers one of the richest curriculums in the nation, which allows students to sample a broad array of legal subjects and to design a program of study that fits their individual interests and career plans.

The law school adheres to a modified 4-point scale with a range of 4.33 to 0.00 from A+ to F. Although the school does not rank individual students or release ranking for students below the 33rd percentile, a graduating average GPA of about 3.0 is apparent from the school's utilization of a fairly standard bell curve.⁶⁶⁷

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 165⁶⁶⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 162 - 166⁶⁶⁹
- Median GPA: 3.62⁶⁷⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.34 - 3.74⁶⁷¹
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 10,086⁶⁷²
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 1,831⁶⁷³
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 18.2

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03072.php.

665 <http://www.law.gwu.edu/apply/jdprofile.asp>

666 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03031.php

667 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

668 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2005, 197

669 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03031.php

670 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2005, 197

671 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03031.php

672 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03031.php (full-time students)

673 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03031.php (full-time students)

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁶⁷⁴

A+	4.33	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0
A-	3.66	B-	2.66	C-	1.66		

CLASS RANK:

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 35%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ⁶⁷⁵	3.649	3.471	2.411	N/A	N/A	1.667

As of the class of 2004, students are only allowed to use the terms “George Washington Scholar” and “Thurgood Marshall Scholar,” and the years in which the honors are bestowed, to designate that they are in the top 1-15% and 16-35% of their classes respectively.⁶⁷⁶

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):⁶⁷⁷

A mandatory B (3.0) curve is instituted and deviations are rare. Survey participants have indicated that about 95% of the classes follow the curve, even after the first-year and that the smaller sections tend to follow the B curve. Among the changes for 2004, is discussion of increase in the mean GPA. It is apparent that a fairly strict bell-curve grade distribution exists, as only about 1-4 A's are given out, with multiple survey participants indicating that 4 appears to be the maximum number of A's in most large sized first-year courses. The balance of the grades falls in the B to B- range, and a relatively large portion of C's are given out as well. The curve does taper down and D's or F's are rarely given out.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁶⁷⁸

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
With Highest Honors:	Students with highest cumulative average of 3.67 or better (not to exceed 3% of class).
With High Honors:	Students with highest cumulative average of 3.33 or better (not to exceed 10% of class when added to total # receiving With Highest Honors).
With Honors:	Students with highest cumulative average of at least 3.0 (not to exceed 40% of class when added to total # With Highest Honors and With High Honors).

⁶⁷⁴ <http://www.law.gwu.edu/acad/jdreg.asp>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 138

⁶⁷⁵ * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 138

⁶⁷⁶ Academic Recognition and Grade Representation Policy the George Washington School of Law Academic Year 2004-2005; http://www.law.gwu.edu/cdo/documents/GradePolicy04_000.pdf

⁶⁷⁷ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book

⁶⁷⁸ <http://www.law.gwu.edu/acad/jdreg.asp>; % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 198

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁶⁷⁹

Name of Award	Recipient
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Excellence in the field of debtor and creditor law.
ABA/BNA Award	Excellence in the field of labor and employment law.
Michael J. Avenatti Award	Excellence in the area of pre-trial and trial advocacy.
Henry F. Berger Award	Excellence in the area of tort law.
Anne Wells Branscomb Award	Highest cumulative average in part-time evening program.
Jacob Burns Award	Winning upperclass Van Vleck Moot Court team. (2)
Clinics Volunteer Service Award	Excellence in volunteering to promote clinic goals.
Michael D. Cooley Memorial Award	Selected by vote of graduating J.D. class.
John F. Evans Award	Outstanding achievement in Law Students in Court.
Ogden W. Fields Graduate Award	Highest overall proficiency in labor law.
Finnegan Prize in Intellectual Property	Best publishable article in intellectual property law.
Willard Waddington Gatchell Award	Top three cumulative averages in graduating class. (3)
GW Alumni Association Award	Demonstrated leadership/dedication to GWU community.
Charles Glover Award	Highest average in third year, full-time program.
Judge Albert H. Grenadier Award	Representing school at regional Jessup Moot Court.
Kappa Beta Pi Award	Highest average in first-year class.
John Bell Lerner Award	Highest cumulative average in J.D. graduating class.
Richard C. Lewis Memorial Award	For dedication to clinical work.
Thurgood Marshall Civil Liberty Award	For dedication to the field of civil rights and civil liberties.
John Ordronaux Award	Highest average in first year, full-time program.
John Ordronaux Award	Highest average in second year, full-time program. (2)
Rosenthal Commercial Law Award	Excellence in commercial law.
Seibel Award in Labor/Employment Law	Excellence in course in labor and employment law.

679 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 198

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

JOURNALS⁶⁸⁰

Students at George Washington have the opportunity to vie for slots on four student journals. The selection criterion for staff members on each of the journals is identical and involves a combination of grades and the results of a writing competition. Grades usually account for 75% of the admissions process, with the writing competition being the other main factor. Even though grades weigh heavily on the selection criterion, a student must participate in the writing contest to be eligible for membership. Student survey participants verified the above information, indicating that even though there is a written component to journal membership, first-year grades are by far the most decisive factor in gaining membership.⁶⁸¹ The editorial board may accept 10% of its staff members based solely on the writing contest. Editorial positions require another competition beyond the writing competition.⁶⁸²

- The *George Washington Law Review* publishes six issues a year, with an emphasis on federal and public law. At least one issue is devoted to recent US Court of Appeals decisions in District of Columbia circuit.
- The *Public Contract Law Journal* is produced jointly by the Law School and the Section of Public Contract Law of the American Bar Association. Considered the premier journal read by practitioners in the field of government procurement law, it is edited and published quarterly by J.D. and LL.M. students. The selection criteria for J.D. staff members are the same as those used by the Law Review.
- The *George Washington International Law Review* produces five annual issues. It is considered the second most prestigious journal at GWU and presents articles and commentaries on public and private international financial development, comparative law, and public international law. Additionally, the International Law Review publishes a Guide to International Legal Research annually.
- The *Environmental Lawyer* is published jointly by the Law School and the American Bar Association's Environment, Energy, and Resources Section.
- The *American Intellectual Property Law Association Quarterly Journal* is a publication of the AIPLA, and is housed at the George Washington University Law School and is edited and managed by an Editorial Board of intellectual property experts and a staff of law students under the direction of Editor-in-Chief, Professor Joan Schaffner. The Journal is dedicated to presenting materials relating to intellectual property matters and is published four times per year. Editorial Board members are selected based upon demonstrated interest and experience and student staff members are selected based on the results of the combined writing competition.

MOOT COURT⁶⁸³

Membership on the Moot Court Board is offered in one of two ways: First-year law students who achieve exceptional performance in the first-year moot court competition, or upperclass students who achieve distinguished performance in one of the interscholastic competitions. GWU hosts a variety of in-house competitions including the Van Vleck Constitutional Law Competition, the Jessup International Law Competition, the Giles S. Rich Intellectual Property Law Competition, the McKenna & Cuneo Government Contracts Law Competition, and the Interscholastic National Security Law Competition every other year for law students from schools across the country. Students ranking within the top 15% of competitors are invited to each competition. The First Year Moot Court Competition enables not fewer than five percent, but not more than ten percent of the first-year competitors to join the Moot Court Board.⁶⁸⁴ Student surveys have indicated that

680 www.law.gwu.edu/publications/default.asp.

681 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book

682 Id.

683 www.law.gwu.edu/stdg/mootct/index.html; See also National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 198

684 www.law.gwu.edu/stdg/mootct/bylaws.html

participation in Moot Court is highly competitive, as a great majority of students try out for Moot Court board every year, with only a few making it on. The Government Contracts Moot Court Competition and the Van Vleck competition were deemed most competitive by those surveyed.⁶⁸⁵

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁶⁸⁶

The George Washington Law School houses a wide variety of clinics: the J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Environmental Law Clinic, Civil Litigation Clinic, Consumer Mediation Clinic, Domestic Violence Litigation Clinic, Domestic Violence/Emergency Department Clinic, Federal, Criminal and Appellate Clinic, Public Justice Advocacy Clinic, Immigration Clinic, Small Business Clinic, Vaccine Injury Clinic, Health Law Rights Clinic, Project for Older Prisoners, and Law Students in Court. Student surveys indicated that most of the clinical programs provide students with a great deal of responsibility and a lot of hands-on experience.⁶⁸⁷

ORGANIZATIONS⁶⁸⁸

The George Washington University Law School's student organizations include the Student Bar Association, American Constitution Society, Amnesty International Legal Support Group, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Association, Corporate Law Society, Criminal Law Society, Domestic Violence Coalition, Entertainment and Sports Law Association, Environmental Law Association, Equal Justice Foundation, Evening Law Student Association, The Federalist Society, Forensic Science and the Legal Profession, GW Law Democrats, Hispanic Law Student Association, International Law Society, Jewish Law Student Association, Lambda Law, Law Association for Women, Law Revue, Muslim Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Nota Bene, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Republican Student Lawyers Association, South Asian Law Student Association, St. Thomas More Society, Street Law, Student Health Law Association and the Student Intellectual Property Law Association.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 500+⁶⁸⁹

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 95.4⁶⁹⁰

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 97.5⁶⁹¹

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁶⁹²

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 90
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 4
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 4

685 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book

686 www.law.gwu.edu/acad/clinics.asp

687 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

688 http://www.law.gwu.edu/students/student_orgs.asp

689 www.law.gwu.edu/cdo/FIPMain.asp

690 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03031.php

691 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03031.php

692 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03031.php

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
299 Boyd Law Building Melrose and Byington Iowa City, IA 52242	(319) 335-9034	(319) 335-9095	www.law.uiowa.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(319) 335-9080	(319) 335-9011	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Currently ranked Number 22 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools, the University of Iowa College of Law is a favorite among those interested in finding a school with a relatively small entering class size and a low student-faculty ratio. There were 248 students enrolled in Iowa's fall 2004 entering class,⁶⁹³ and the ratio of students to faculty is just 13.5:1.⁶⁹⁴ Students choose from approximately 200 employers who participate in the on-campus interview program.⁶⁹⁵

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 160⁶⁹⁶ 25th – 75th Percentile: 156 - 163⁶⁹⁷
- Median GPA: 3.59⁶⁹⁸ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.32 – 3.82⁶⁹⁹
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 1,601
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 494
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 30.9

CLASS GRADES AND CLASS RANKING:⁷⁰⁰

Students who entered the college prior to May 2004 remain on the school's numerical grading system with a range of 92 to 55.⁷⁰¹ The points are associated with alphabetical equivalents from A- F. No + and – grades are given out in any other category except B's. The mean GPA is in the 75 range with a strict first year curve for individual courses which also falls within the B range. As the system is designed to minimize grade inflation, even the top students at Iowa, usually have lower GPA's than those from their counterparts at other top tier law schools.⁷⁰²

	B+	80 – 84		D	60 – 64
A	85 – 92	B	75 – 79	C	65 – 69
		B-	70 – 74		
				F	55 – 59

Students have indicated that in actuality the grading scale ranges from 50 to 90, as scores of 91 or higher are rarely, if ever, given. It was noted that due to the low curve (when compared with most other top tier schools), top students routinely receive grades between 82 and 87 (B+ and A), and

693 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03059.php

694 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03059.php

695 www.law.uiowa.edu/careerservices

696 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/admissions/faq.php#median>

697 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03059.php

698 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/admissions/faq.php#median>

699 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03059.php

700 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>

701 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>

702 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Information verified by the fax correspondence dated March 22, 2004, between BCG research staff and Karen K. Klouda, Director of Career Services. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

the cumulative GPA median is usually in the 65 to 69 range (C level)*. Students in the top 10% of their class are informed of their rank every semester after the end of their first year.⁷⁰³

*Law School administrators stated that the GPA range is 75-77 rather than 65-69 as the student surveys indicated, putting the average in the B instead of a C range.⁷⁰⁴

Students entering the school in May 2004 and thereafter will be awarded a number on a 4 point scale with the highest grade awarded at the College of Law in general being a 4.0. A 4.3 may be awarded, but the school is clear that the level of performance required for the 4.3 grade is not simply having the best grade in class, but rather it is to be reserved to reflect “an extraordinary performance by a student.” The lowest grade awarded is 1.4.⁷⁰⁵

A numerical grade may be translated into a letter grade for purposes of comparison as follows:

A+	4.3-4.1	B+	3.4-3.2	C	2.9-2.5
A	4.0-3.8	B	3.1-3.0	D	1.9-1.7
A-	3.7-3.5	B-	2.9-2.5	F	1.6-1.5

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):⁷⁰⁶

The following strict grading guidelines are provided for the faculty, leading to minimal grade inflation and lower than usual grades for even the top achievers.

The faculty does not apply a mandatory grade curve beyond the first year although generally grades in second- and third-year courses are expected to approximate the curve used in large sections of first-year courses.

For students entering the College of Law prior to May 2004, the median grade is 75 for both small and large sections:

Small sections have the following distribution:

85 and over – 0% to 15%, with a norm of 10%
 84 to 80 – 10% to 25%, with a norm of 15%
 79 to 75 – 20% to 35%, with a norm of 25%
 74 to 70 – 20% to 35%, with a norm of 25%
 69 and under – 15% to 40%, with a norm of 25%

Large sections have the following distribution:

85 and over – 5% to 15%, with a norm of 10%
 84 to 80 – 10% to 20%, with a norm of 15%
 79 to 75 – 20% to 30%, with a norm of 25%
 74 to 70 – 20% to 30%, with a norm of 25%
 69 and under – 20% to 35%, with a norm of 25%

No more than 15% of the grades in either small or large sections may be less than 64.

For students entering the College of Law in May 2004 and thereafter, the median grade is 3.0 for both small and large sections.⁷⁰⁷

703 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

704 Information provided via fax correspondence dated March 22, 2004, between BCG research staff and Karen K. Klouda, Director of Career Services.

705 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>

706 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/fachand/grading.php>; <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>; <http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/registrar/catalog/CollegeofLaw/AcademicPolicies.html>

707 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>

Small sections have the following distribution:

- 3.5 and over - 0% to 15%, with a norm of 10%
- 3.4 to 3.2 - 10% to 25%, with a norm of 15%
- 3.1 to 3.0 - 20% to 35%, with a norm of 25%
- 2.9 to 2.5 - 0% to 35%, with a norm of 25%
- 2.4 and under - 15% to 40%, with a norm of 25%

Large sections have the following distribution:

- 3.5 and over - 5% to 15%, with a norm of 10%
- 3.4 to 3.2 - 10% to 20%, with a norm of 15%
- 3.1 to 3.0 - 20% to 30%, with a norm of 25%
- 2.9 to 2.5 - 20% to 30%, with a norm of 25%
- 2.4 and under - 20% to 35%, with a norm of 25%

RANKING:

Students are not ranked until after they complete their first year of study.⁷⁰⁸ Thereafter, rankings are done at the end of every semester and summer session. The following system of ranking students by their grade point averages is in effect: The top ten percent in each class may be informed of their exact rank; the grade point averages at the 12.5 percentile and 37.5 percentile will be posted; and the above will constitute the entire ranking system.⁷⁰⁹

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁷¹⁰

- Order of the Coif: Top 10% of graduating class; members chosen by faculty after graduation
- Summa cum laude: Top 12.5% of graduating class
- Magna cum laude: Cumulative GPA of 85+
- Cum laude: Top 37.5% of graduating class
- Dean’s List: Top 10% in each class

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁷¹¹

Name of Award	Recipient
Michelle R. Bennett Client Representation Award	Outstanding service in the clinical law programs (1-2).
Donald P. Lay Faculty Recognition Award	Student who has made distinctive contributions to College of Law community or education programs.
Faculty Scholar Award	Student who has made an especially distinctive contribution to the development of written legal scholarship.
Hancher-Finkbine Medallion	Outstanding graduates (2).
BNA Award for Scholastic Progress	For the most improved grades from first to third year.
West Publishing Company Awards	For outstanding scholastic achievement (4).
Philip G. Hubbard Human Rights Award	For outstanding contributions to human rights and equal opportunity, as described in the University’s Human Rights Policy.
Antonia Miller Award for Advancement of Human Rights	For the advancement of human rights in the law school community by a student (1-2).
Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Outstanding advocate in the Roy L. Stephenson Trial Advocacy Competition.
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Student who has distinguished him or herself in appellate advocacy skills.

708 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>; <http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/registrar/catalog/CollegeofLaw/AcademicPolicies.html>
 709 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/gradingpolicy.php>; <http://www.registrar.uiowa.edu/registrar/catalog/CollegeofLaw/AcademicPolicies.html>
 710 These figures apply to students who entered the College of Law in August 1998 or later, figures represent % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 641; <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/academichonors.php>
 711 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 641; <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/academichonors.php>

Iowa State Bar Association Prize	For scholastic achievement and general contribution to the life of the college.
John F. Murray Prize	Outstanding scholastic achievement.
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Third-year law student, chosen by the Organization for Women Law Students and Staff.
Robert S. Hunt Legal History Award	Outstanding contribution in the area of legal history.
Erich D. Mathias Award for International Social Justice	For commitment to international social, economic, and cultural justice.
Iowa College of Law Appellate Advocacy Award	Outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy.
Judge John F. Dillon Prize	Outstanding scholarship in legal history or jurisprudence.
Randy J. Holland Award for Corporate Scholarships	Outstanding scholarly corporate law paper
Russell Goldman Award	Most improved academic performance after 1st year
Dean's Achievement Award	Exemplified, promoted, or contributed to cultural, racial, or ethnic diversity through his/her achievements
ALI-ABA Scholarship and Leadership Award	Outstanding combination of scholarship and leadership
ABA/BNA Award for Excellence in Intellectual Property	Excellence in the study of intellectual property law
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal for Excellence in Bankruptcy Studies	Excellence in the field of bankruptcy
Joan Hueffner and Stephen Steinbrink Real Estate Law and Property Award	Excellence and promise in the field of real estate law

STUDENT JOURNALS⁷¹²

All students, regardless of GPA, are eligible to write for any of the four University of Iowa student-published legal journals. No membership or staff positions for any of the student published legal periodicals are offered on the basis of grades.

- *Iowa Law Review*⁷¹³ students gain membership by taking a write-on test at the end of the spring semester. Students passing the test perform the usual law review tasks such as editing, source citing, and preparing a student note. Once a student has performed those duties, he or she is a permanent member eligible for editorial board positions. The Law Review is the school's most prestigious publication.⁷¹⁴
- *Journal of Corporation Law (JCL)*⁷¹⁵ claims to be "the nation's oldest student-published legal periodical specializing in corporate law." Students must participate in and pass the write-on process to gain membership. As members, students edit, cite check, and write as needed by the journal.
- *Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems*⁷¹⁶ publishes two symposium-based issues a year. Topics focus on current international matters of legal import such "regional trade agreements, global warming, and international arms control." Iowa law students may submit pieces for publication. In addition, the journal runs an annual student writing contest open to students here and abroad. Finally, after finishing the writing and extra hours of work the journal requires, students may become board members, a distinction that earns them school credit and a monetary stipend.
- *Journal of Gender, Race & Justice*⁷¹⁷ has been published since fall 1997 and follows "feminist inquiry and critical race analysis as the touchstones of their endeavor." New writers must prepare one 'Recent Development' piece of 10 to 15 pages in length. Those who seek

⁷¹² www.law.uiowa.edu/journals

⁷¹³ <http://www.uiowa.edu/~ialawrev/student.htm>

⁷¹⁴ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁷¹⁵ <http://www.uiowa.edu/~lawjcl/overview.htm>; <http://www.uiowa.edu/~lawjcl/membership.htm>

⁷¹⁶ <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/journals/tlcp.php>

⁷¹⁷ <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/journals/grj.php>

two credits for their work must prepare a 30 page note or comment; for three credits the page length increases to 50. In addition, all writers must perform at least 30 secondary hours per semester.

MOOT COURT⁷¹⁸

All second-year students must participate in the Appellate Advocacy Program (AA-I). After AA-I, students have the option to participate in AA-II. Students enrolled in Appellate Advocacy II may participate in the Van Oosterhout Competition, of which six finalists are entered into the National Moot Court Competition and/or the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition. Participants in AA-II and intramural competitions may interview for positions on the Moot Court Board, a student-run organization composed of staff writers, judges, and an executive board. Participation in the Moot Court program at Iowa is highly coveted and a significant part of students' law school experience.⁷¹⁹

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁷²⁰

The University of Iowa College of Law offers both clinical and clerkship opportunities. In the clinical program, students represent financially distressed farmers in bankruptcy proceedings, inmates in Iowa correctional institutions involved in habeas corpus and civil cases, clients in the AIDS project, and other clients in a wide range of civil and criminal cases. In the clerkship programs, students act as law clerks to trial court judges. They observe court proceedings, conduct research, and draft legal memoranda and court papers.

EXTERNSHIPS⁷²¹

In addition to its diverse "in house" clinic, the College of Law offers an Externship Program that places students in a wide variety of legal settings. These externships are under the direct supervision of staff attorneys and are also supervised by College of Law faculty members. Students have been placed with U.S. District Court judges, magistrates, and a bankruptcy judge. They have worked in the offices of the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District in Des Moines and Rock Island. Other placements have included the Iowa Attorney General, the Youth Law Center in Des Moines, Student Legal Services in Iowa City, the Iowa City, City Attorney's Office, Iowa City Human Rights Commission, Legal Services Corporations in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, and HELP Legal Services in Davenport. Some students may represent inmates at Iowa correctional institutions involved in habeas corpus and civil cases, and clients in the AIDS project, and other clients in a wide range of civil and criminal cases.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁷²²

The University of Iowa College of Law's student organizations include the ABA/LSD (Law Student Division), Alianza, American Constitution Society, Asian American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Equal Justice Foundation, Environmental Law Society, The Federalist Society, Intellectual Property Law, International Law Society, Iowa Student Bar Association, J. Rueben Clark Law Society, Law Students for Choice, National Lawyer's Guild, Native American Law Students Association, OUTLAWS, Organization for Women Law Students and Staff, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Pro-Bono Society, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Iowa Coalition for Human Rights.

718 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/mootcourt/index.php>

719 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

720 www.law.uiowa.edu/legalclinic.

721 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/legalclinic/practiceareas.php>

722 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/catalog/studentorganizations.php>.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁷²³

Law Health and Policy
Maternal and Child Health Resource Center
Iowa Nonprofit Resource Center
UI Center for Human Rights
E-Book
Trial Advocacy

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 200⁷²⁴

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 81.4⁷²⁵

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.1⁷²⁶

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁷²⁷

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 55
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 13
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 14
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 9
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

723 <http://www.law.uiowa.edu/research/>

724 www.law.uiowa.edu/careerservices.

725 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03059.php

726 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03059.php

727 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03059.php (listing 3% as unknown)

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
Sydney Lewis Hall Lexington, VA 24450	(540) 458-8502	(540) 458-8504	www.law.wlu.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(540) 458-8505	(540) 458-8535	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Lexington, a historic college town of 10,000 nestled between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny Mountains of Virginia, is the home of Washington and Lee University Law School. Though many students enjoy the small town environment, the larger cities of Charlottesville and Roanoke are each just an hour's drive away.⁷²⁸

The school is currently ranked Number 22 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The law school's curriculum is especially strong in the area of business and corporate law.⁷²⁹

The Washington and Lee University School of Law's 2004 entering class is small with just 128⁷³⁰ students. A student-faculty ratio of 11:1⁷³¹ enables students and faculty to have countless opportunities to interact inside and outside of the classroom. Though the school is small, the administration has provided a number of meaningful clinical programs for students to choose from, as well as local research opportunities.⁷³²

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:⁷³³

-Median LSAT: 166⁷³⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 162 – 167⁷³⁵
 -Median GPA: 3.5⁷³⁶ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.14-3.7⁷³⁷

-Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,710⁷³⁸
 -Number accepted during one recent sample year: 713⁷³⁹
 -Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 19.2⁷⁴⁰

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁷⁴¹

The law school currently uses a 4-point grading scale ranging in numerical values from 4.00 to 0.00. Students have noted that larger required courses maintain a 3.0-2.67 (B/B-) average while smaller seminar courses frequently have a 3.3-3.5 (B+ /A-) average.⁷⁴²

⁷²⁸ <http://www.law.wlu.edu/academics/>

⁷²⁹ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁷³⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03163.php

⁷³¹ <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/admissionsquickfacts.asp>

⁷³² American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 760

⁷³³ <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/admissionsquickfacts.asp>

⁷³⁴ <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/admissionsquickfacts.asp> <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/classof2007stats.pdf>

⁷³⁵ <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/admissionsquickfacts.asp> <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/classof2007stats.pdf>

⁷³⁶ Id.

⁷³⁷ <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/admissionsquickfacts.asp> <http://www.law.wlu.edu/admissions/classof2007stats.pdf>

⁷³⁸ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03163.php

⁷³⁹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03163.php

⁷⁴⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03163.php

⁷⁴¹ <http://registrar.wlu.edu/catalogs/2004-2005/Law2004-2005.pdf>

⁷⁴² These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D+	1.33			
A	4.00	B	3.00	C	2.00	D	1.00		
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	1.67	D-	0.67	F	0.0

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

Students surveyed indicated that a strict B- to B curve is in place at Washington and Lee. Only about one or two people per first-year class receive A's. Survey participants observed that only about 20% of any graduating class will receive A grades during their law school career. Further, for electives and seminar courses, the curve is around 3.3 to 3.5 and certain professors adhere to the curve despite having the latitude to refrain from its use.

CLASS RANK:⁷⁴³

Washington and Lee School of Law does not publish individual class ranks. Rather, students may request their GPA and then see where they fall in the school's percentile system which correlates GPA to 5% blocks. Students are permitted to release GPA and percentile information to employers.

As of January 13, 2005, the cumulative means by class are 2005, 3.25;⁷⁴⁴ 2006, 3.22;⁷⁴⁵ 2007, 3.22.⁷⁴⁶ As such, a mean of about 3.2, or just below a B+, appears to be the policy.

The percentiles are set forth below:

2005

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 30%	TOP 35%	TOP 40%	TOP 45%	TOP 50%
GPA ^{*747}	3.711	3.622	3.555	3.495	3.463	3.424	3.412	3.387	3.339	3.288

PERCENTILE	TOP 55%	TOP 60%	TOP 65%	TOP 70%	TOP 75%	TOP 80%	TOP 85%	TOP 90%	TOP 95%	TOP 100%
GPA ^{*748}	3.240	3.202	3.145	3.096	3.051	3.004	2.911	2.860	2.781	2.779

2006

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 30%	TOP 35%	TOP 40%	TOP 45%	TOP 50%
GPA ^{*749}	3.717	3.683	3.545	3.507	3.462	3.385	3.347	3.332	3.267	3.242

PERCENTILE	TOP 55%	TOP 60%	TOP 65%	TOP 70%	TOP 75%	TOP 80%	TOP 85%	TOP 90%	TOP 95%	TOP 100%
GPA ^{*750}	3.222	3.162	3.137	3.085	3.00	2.919	2.888	2.822	2.757	2.730

743 <http://registrar.wlu.edu/catalogs/2004-2005/Law2004-2005.pdf>

744 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2005_3Ls.pdf

745 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2006_2Ls.pdf

746 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2007_1Ls.pdf

747 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2005_3Ls.pdf

748 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2005_3Ls.pdf

749 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2006_2Ls.pdf

750 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2006_2Ls.pdf

2007 (fall semester, 2004 only)

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 30%	TOP 35%	TOP 40%	TOP 45%	TOP 50%
GPA ^{*751}	3.709	3.583	3.438	3.416	3.394	3.354	3.330	3.290	3.229	3.144

PERCENTILE	TOP 55%	TOP 60%	TOP 65%	TOP 70%	TOP 75%	TOP 80%	TOP 85%	TOP 90%	TOP 95%	TOP 100%
GPA ^{*752}	3.103	3.044	3.000	2.961	2.938	2.876	2.835	2.751	2.624	2.564

*Current students have apprised us that the mean GPA for the class falls around 2.9-3.1. Alumni from 2002 have provided that the mean for their graduating class was 2.8.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁷⁵³

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	Top 1%
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	Top 14%
<i>Cum laude</i> :	Top 16.5%

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁷⁵⁴

Name of Award	Recipient
John W. Davis Award (most prestigious according to students)	Graduate with best record for general excellence.
Kirgis International Award	Graduate with most outstanding record in international law.
Academic Progress Award	Graduate with most marked improvement in final year.
Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Award	Graduate with best overall record in courses having litigation orientation.
Calhoun Bond University Service Award	Graduate with significant contribution to the W&L community.
Wilfred J. Ritz Award	Graduate with outstanding contribution to the Alderson Legal Assistance Program.
Roy L. Steinheimer Commercial Law Award	Graduate with outstanding record in commercial law.
Steinheimer Law Review Award	Best article for Law Review publication.
West Publishing Achievement Award	Student having highest average in class.
National Association of Women Lawyers	Outstanding woman law student.
Charles V. Laughlin Award	Outstanding contribution to moot court program.
Randall P. Bezanson Award	Outstanding contribution to diversity in the law school community.

751 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2007_ILS.pdf

752 http://law.wlu.edu/career/Classof2007_ILS.pdf

753 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 865

754 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 868; <http://www.law.wlu.edu/career/activitydescription.asp>

Public Interest Law Grant	Graduates entering practice in the public interest are selected for the grant.
ODK Honor Society	Leadership in campus activities--scholastic & other, from top 35% of the class.
Virginia Bar Family Law Section Award	Graduate/excellence in the area of family law.
American Bankruptcy Institute Medal	Graduate/excellence in the study of bankruptcy law.
Barry Sullivan Constitutional Law Award	Graduate/excellence in the study of constitutional law.
James W. H. Stewart Tax Law Award	Graduate/excellence in the study of tax law.
Gardner Brothers Award	Best academic record throughout law school.
Best Brief Award	Best brief for Davis Moot Court Competition
Charles Laughlin Award	Outstanding contribution to Moot Court program

STUDENT JOURNALS⁷⁵⁵

- *Washington and Lee Law Review*⁷⁵⁶ has four issues a year and is student run. The Law Review is the most prestigious publication at Washington and Lee, and members are selected on the basis of a writing competition and academic achievement.⁷⁵⁷ The writing competition consists of a close research problem which requires students to draft a memorandum to a fictional supervising attorney or client. Each year, some students will be selected for Law Review based solely on the basis of their writing contest submission, without regard to grades.⁷⁵⁸ Some students felt that the true determinant is an applicant's first year grades, which become the primary basis for garnering a position, though the above stated explanation is the official position of the publication.⁷⁵⁹
- *Washington and Lee Journal of Civil Rights and Social Justice*⁷⁶⁰ has one issue a year and the journal concentrates "on legal issues that have an impact on racial and ethnic minorities." The journal seeks to document "developments in both statutory and case law in an effort to monitor their impact on minority communities." This publication is also considered one of the most well respected at the Law School, based on student response. Membership is based on a writing contest.
- *Capital Defense Journal*⁷⁶¹ publishes material written by students in the Virginia Capital Case Clearinghouse at Washington and Lee University. Some students find that this journal exceeds even the Washington and Lee Law Review in terms of prestige and reputation among the law student community and the competitiveness of securing a position. Membership is based on a one page personal statement and an interview; grades are not a significant factor in the selection process.⁷⁶²
- *Environmental Law Digest*⁷⁶³ is entirely student-run and has two main publications, the Environmental Law News which comes out four times a year and covers environmental law

755 <http://law.wlu.edu/publications/>.

756 <http://lawreview.wlu.edu/about.html>.

757 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 868

758 Information received via email correspondence dated March 25, 2004, between Casey Higgins, Career Services Office, and BCG research staff

759 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

760 <http://real.wlu.edu/>

761 <http://law.wlu.edu/news/capitaldefense.asp>

762 Information received via email correspondence dated March 25, 2004, between Casey Higgins, Career Services Office, and BCG research staff.

763 http://eld.wlu.edu/About_the_ELD.htm

issues for the Virginia State Bar, and compendium of environmental case law that comes out twice a year. Members are selected after they compete in a writing competition.

MOOT COURT⁷⁶⁴

Moot Court is not required at Washington & Lee. Of those who do participate, eight may become Moot Court Executive Board members provided they meet the standards for “demonstrated ability in brief writing, oral advocacy, and administration.” Students noted that grades did not play a great role in gaining a position. In contrast, actual performance on Moot Court teams was found to be a significant criterion. Despite the fact that grades are not at issue, students found these positions to be highly competitive.⁷⁶⁵ The Board manages the Client Counseling Competition, John W. Davis Moot Court Competition, Mock Trial Competition, and Negotiations Competition. Success in these endeavors means selection to compete on behalf of the school in regional and national competitions.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁷⁶⁶

The Washington and Lee University School of Law offers the following clinical programs: Legal Aid Society, Black Lung Administrative Law Clinic, Public Prosecutors Clinic (including the Commonwealth Attorney Program and U.S. Attorney Program), Community Legal Practice Clinic Virginia Capital Case Clearinghouse and the Judicial Clerkship Program.

Students commented that the Black Lung Administrative Law Clinic was excellent for those going into administrative law, while the Public Prosecutors clinic is highly coveted among those interested in litigation. The students who answered the surveys did not seem to hold the Judicial Clerkship program in the highest esteem, observing that it was often used as an alternative for those unable to secure a clinical position.⁷⁶⁷

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁷⁶⁸

The Washington and Lee University School of Law’s active student organizations include the Agnostic and Atheist Law Students Organization, American Constitution Society, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Burks Scholars, Student Bar Association, International Law Society, Epicurean Society, Friars Club, Intellectual Property & Tech Law Society, Women Law Students Association, Federalist Society, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, *Res Ipsa*, Intramural Athletics, Irish-American Law Students Association, Law Families, Environmental Law Society, Asian-American Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Virginia Bar Association Law School Council, Pro Bone-O, Public Interest Law Students Association, *W&L Law News*, Shooting and Racing Society, Sports Czars, Students for an Innocence Project, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Toastmasters, GayLaw, Habitat for Humanity, Rutherford Institute, National Lawyers Guild, Phi Alpha Delta and Phi Delta Phi, Tax Law Society.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

- The Frances Lewis Law Center
- The Center for Law and History
- The Study Abroad Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 138⁷⁶⁹

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 72.4⁷⁷⁰

⁷⁶⁴ <http://law.wlu.edu/career/activitydescription.asp>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 867

⁷⁶⁵ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁷⁶⁶ <http://law.wlu.edu/career/activitydescription.asp>

⁷⁶⁷ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁷⁶⁸ Id. <http://law.wlu.edu/career/activitydescription.asp>

⁷⁶⁹ Provided by the Washington & Lee University School of Law’s Associate Dean for Student Services on December 10, 2002

⁷⁷⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03163.php

Percentage of graduates employed nine months from graduation: 96.6⁷⁷¹

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁷⁷²

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 94
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 2
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 2
- Percent of graduates employed in positions not requiring training or not part of long-term career: 2

Survey respondents felt that the above statistics did not account for the 25%-35% of the students who are unemployed from the class of 2003. Furthermore, some students felt that the number attributed to judicial clerkships was higher than they had expected.⁷⁷³

⁷⁷¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03163.php

⁷⁷² American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 759

⁷⁷³ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁷⁸²

		B+	3.333	C+	2.333	D	1.333
A	4.000	B	3.000	C	2.000	F	1.000
A-	3.667	B-	2.667	C-	1.667		

CLASS RANK:

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ⁷⁸³	Notre Dame Law School does not rank its students. ⁷⁸⁴ The mean GPA is usually 3.0.					2.0000
	2.000					

Students have indicated that Notre Dame Law School's refusal to rank its students results in little or no grade inflation.⁷⁸⁵

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁷⁸⁶

Summa cum laude:	3.8 GPA
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	3.6 GPA
<i>Cum laude:</i>	3.4 GPA
<i>Dean's List:</i>	3.6 GPA

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁷⁸⁷

Name of Award	Recipient
Dean's Awards	Highest grade in course. (1 per course)
Col. William J. Hoynes	Based on GPA, leadership.
Dean O'Meara	Based on GPA, leadership.
Farabaugh Prize	Based on GPA, leadership.
Legal Writing	For excellence in legal writing.
Trial Advocacy	Several different awards for excellence in trial advocacy.
Dean Link Award	For outstanding service in social justice.
Dean Konop Award	For outstanding service in the Legal Aid and Defender Associations.
ABA Negotiation Award	Excellence in the art of negotiation.
Dean William O. McLean	For outstanding service to the law school.
Nathan Burke Memorial Award	Best paper in copyright law.
Smith-Doheny Legal Ethics Award	Best paper in legal ethics.

⁷⁸² http://www.nd.edu/~ndlaw/prospective_students/academics/policies_calendar.html; http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/current_students/hoynes/hoynes_code_brochure.pdf; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728

⁷⁸³ Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2000 graduating class, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728

⁷⁸⁴ http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/currentstudents/hoynes/hoynes_code_brochure.pdf

⁷⁸⁵ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁷⁸⁶ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728

⁷⁸⁷ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728

National Association of Women Lawyers	For scholarship, motivation and contribution to the advancement of women in society.
Indiana Bar Foundation	Students intending to practice in Indiana.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES:

JOURNALS⁷⁸⁸

- The *Notre Dame Law Review* is published five times a year. Membership is based on grades and writing skills as shown at the end of a student's first year at the law school.⁷⁸⁹ Membership is highly coveted, as the Law Review is the school's most prestigious publication.⁷⁹⁰ Staff members elect the editor-in-chief who in turn appoints the other officers.
- The *Journal of College & University Law* is published by the Notre Dame Law School and the National Association of College and University Attorneys, and claims to be "the only law review in the United States dedicated exclusively to the law of higher education." Headed by both faculty editors and a student editor, the Journal maintains a staff of 24 students who both process the work of outside authors and contribute their own work for publication. Members are selected through a write-on competition and an evaluation of grades.⁷⁹¹
- The *Journal of Legislation*⁷⁹² is presently one of the country's leading legislative law reviews, a member of the National Conference of Law Reviews, and specializes in articles concerning "statutory, regulatory, and public policy matters rather than on case law."⁷⁹³ The Journal's Web site states that membership is based on writing either a publishable note or an approved, major research paper though grades appear to play a part in the membership process as well.⁷⁹⁴
- The *Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy*⁷⁹⁵ uses a symposium format to explore "law and public policy from an ethical perspective."⁷⁹⁶ Articles are drawn from leaders in the field and cover a wide range of issues such as AIDS, crime, and poverty. It is among Notre Dame's most prestigious publications, and members are selected on the basis of a write-on competition with a minimum required GPA.⁷⁹⁷

MOOT COURT⁷⁹⁸

The Moot Court program covers many levels and types of competitions including intramural and intercollegiate as well as appellate, trial, and international activities. Notre Dame law students prepare and argue at least one appellate case and then may choose to engage in the second-year program of the Notre Dame Moot Court. The highest ranked second-year students are asked to compete on behalf of the Law School "in national competitions in their third year."

Similarly, students may participate in the Notre Dame Law School Trial Competition in the hopes of being invited "to represent the Law School in the annual National Trial Competition." Like many other schools, Notre Dame offers the chance to be part of the Jessup competition which focuses on international law.

⁷⁸⁸ <http://www.nd.edu/~ndlaw/currentstudents/academics/journals.html>

⁷⁸⁹ <http://www.nd.edu/~ndlaw/ndrev/staff.html>; See also National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728 (indicating both grades and writing factored into membership)

⁷⁹⁰ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁷⁹¹ Id. <http://www.nd.edu/~jcul/>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728 (indicating both grades and writing were factored into membership)

⁷⁹² <http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/jleg/index.html>

⁷⁹³ <http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/jleg/index.html>

⁷⁹⁴ <http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/jleg/index.html>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 728 (indicating both grades and writing factored into membership)

⁷⁹⁵ <http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/currentstudents/academics/journals.html#The%20Journal%20of%20Legislation>

⁷⁹⁶ <http://www.nd.edu/%7Endlaw/currentstudents/academics/journals.html#The%20Journal%20of%20Legislation>

⁷⁹⁷ Id.

⁷⁹⁸ <http://www.nd.edu/~ndlaw/currentstudents/academics/moot.html>

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁷⁹⁹

Notre Dame Law School's clinical programs include: Legal Aid Clinic, Appellate Advocacy, Trial Advocacy, Criminal Trial Advocacy, Public Defender program, Immigration Law Clinic, Client Counseling, Moot Court (second and/or third year), Legislative Research Service, and various work-study programs with local agencies.

ORGANIZATIONS⁸⁰⁰

Notre Dame Law school's student organizations include the Asian Law Students Association, Black Law Students of Notre Dame, Christian Legal Society, Client Counseling Competition, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity International, The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies, Hispanic Law Students Association, Intellectual Property Law Society, International Law Society, Italian Law Students Association, Jus Vitae of Notre Dame, Military Law Students Association, Notre Dame Environmental Law Society, Phi Alpha Delta, The Public Interest Law Forum, Social Justice Forum, St. Thomas More Society, Student Bar Association and the Women's Legal Forum.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 200+⁸⁰¹

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 77.7⁸⁰²

Percentage of grads employed nine months from graduation: 96.6⁸⁰³

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁸⁰⁴

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 99
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 0.5
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 0.5

799. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 557

800. <http://www.nd.edu/~ndlaw/student/groups.html>

801. Provided by the University of Notre Dame Law School's Office of Career Services

802. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03056.php

803. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03056.php

804. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03056.php

B	85 – 87	83 – 87
B-	82 – 84	
C+		81 – 82
C	79 – 81	75 – 80
D	74 – 78	70 – 74
F	70 – 73	65 – 69

CLASS RANK:

At the end of each semester the school issues percentile rankings. Otherwise the school does not rank unless a student is within the top 5% of the class.

PERCENTILE* ⁸¹²	TOP 1%	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 33.33%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
CLASS OF 2005	95.01	92.65	91.31	90.62	89.90	89.29	88.83	79.00
CLASS OF 2006 ⁸¹³	95.77	92.85	91.29	90.61	90.20	89.49	88.83	79.00
CLASS OF 2007	96.71	93.43	91.86	91.00	90.57	90.14	89.14	79.00

GRADING METHODOLOGY:

This law school provides extensive information on their grading methodology. Cumulative grade point averages for students are computed as a weighted average by multiplying the numeric grade for each course attempted by the number of credit hours given for the course and dividing the total by the number of numerically graded hours attempted (credit/no credit, transferred hours, and non-law courses are not included in these computations). A “Fail” in a Pass/ Fail course (whether Modified or “pure”) is recorded as a 70 (65, under the grading system in use ending with the class of 2003) and is used to compute the student’s average. A “Low Pass” in a Modified Pass/Fail course is recorded as a 78 (previously, a 74) and also is used to compute the GPA. A “High Pass” in such a course is recorded as a 94 (previously, a 90) and also is used to compute the student’s average, unless the effect would be to lower the student’s cumulative GPA.

Effective last year, the law school no longer releases percentile cutoffs below the top third of the class. Students receive a memo at the end of the semester providing them with the preceding information and their standing within the above system.⁸¹⁴

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁸¹⁵

- Order of the Coif: Top 10% at graduation
- Honor Scholars Awards: Top 10% (yearly average): 20-30
- Dean’s List: Top 1/3 semester average: 70-80
- Order of the Barristers: Ten senior students selected by clinical faculty

812 <http://law.wustl.edu/Registrar/grade.exam.percentile/Fall2004/allclasses.html#2004> (as of Feb. 2005); National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 670; <http://ls.wustl.edu/Registrar/class%20of%202004.pdf>

813 http://ls.wustl.edu/Registrar/grade.exam.percentile/grades_percentiles.html

814 <http://law.wustl.edu/Students/Handbook/2004-2005/grades.html>

815 % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 670

816 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 670

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁸¹⁶

Name of Award	Recipient
Alumni Association Prize	Highest cumulative GPA.
Gary I. Boren Memorial Award	Highest average in graduate tax program.
Breckenridge Scholarship Prize	1st and 2nd highest academic average during third year (2).
Dan Carter/Earl Tedrow Memorial Award	Selected by third-year class.
CALI Awards	J.D. student attaining highest grade in each class
Jack Garden Humanitarian Award	Chosen by Deans and faculty.
Mary Collier Hitchcock Prize	Chosen by quarterly faculty advisor (2).
Charles Trobman Memorial Award	Highest grade in immigration law.
Scribes	Chosen by law review faculty advisors.
Dean's Book Award	Graduating outstanding J.D. leadership and service
Global Studies Law Review Award	Outstanding senior writing on Review
Joseph Kuten Prizes in Bankruptcy & Insurance	Graduating students with highest grades in Bankruptcy and Insurance
Labor & Employment Law Achievement Award	Senior class member demonstrating commitment to Labor and Employment law.
Judge Myron D. Mills Admin. Law Award	Chosen by faculty.
National Association of Women	Chosen by faculty.
Pro Bono Law Association Public Service Award	Chosen by Pro Bono Society (3).
American Bar Association, Section of Urban, State and Local Gov. Law Prize	Highest grade in Land Use and State and Local Gov.
Family Law Award	Highest grade in Family Law.
Charles Wendell Carnahan Award	Highest grades in Conflict of Laws (2).
Phillip Gallop Award	Highest grade in Real Estate Transactions.
Christophine G. Mutharika international Law Prize	Highest grades in International Law (2).
F. Hodge O'Neal Corporate Law Prize	Highest grade in Corporations.
Judge Amandus Brackman Moot Court Prize	Chosen by clinical faculty. (2)
Judge John W. Calhoun Trial Practice Award	Chosen by clinical faculty.
International Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Chosen by clinical faculty. (2)
Milton F. Napier Award	Chosen by clinical faculty. (2)
William M. Pomerantz Trial Prize	Chosen by clinical faculty.(3)
The Order of Barristers	Chosen by clinical faculty. (10)
Judge Samuel M. Breckenridge Practice Court Prize	Chosen by clinical faculty.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁸¹⁷

- The *Law Quarterly* will accept approximately 35 students for membership. It makes offers to those students who are in the top 10% of their first-year class, with grades being calculated after both semesters; and put a good faith effort into the writing competition; and preference the Quarterly. Outside of the top 10%, the Quarterly makes offers based solely on the strength of the writing samples.
- The *Journal of Law and Policy* will accept approximately 30 students for membership. It selects members based on either placement within the top 10% of the class and a good-faith effort in the competition or excellence in completing the case comment and blue booking exercise.
- The *Washington University Global Studies Law Review*⁸¹⁸ is a student-edited, biannual journal dedicated to publishing superior works by renowned scholars in the fields of international, foreign and comparative law. Students are selected for membership on the Review through a writing competition at the end of the first year. Global uses two criteria in select-

⁸¹⁷. <http://www.wulaw.wustl.edu/Publications/Writingcompetition/FAQ.html>

ing members. The first criterion is performance in the writing competition, which accounts for 80% of the total score. The second criterion is an applicant's overall grade point average, which accounts for the remaining 20% of the score. Thus no one can get on this publication via grades alone. About 25 students are admitted each year.

MOOT COURT⁸¹⁹

Washington University has one of the most successful overall inter-school records in skills competitions in the nation. The School's Trial Advocacy teams have won the Midwest regionals and advanced to the nationals in the American College of Trial Lawyers National Trial Competition in 17 of the past 19 years and captured first place twice. The following is a breakdown of the Washington University School of Law's voluntary Moot Court programs:

- Wiley Rutledge Moot Court - Focuses on domestic case law. Judges for the final round are usually federal judges from various circuits in the country. Board selected by faculty advisors based on a statement of interest and/or prior success in competition.
- Environmental Moot Court - Combines the international and political aspects of protecting the environment with the intricacies of administrative and environmental law, the persuasiveness of brief writing, and the oral advocacy skills of a litigator. Board selected by faculty advisors based on a statement of interest and/or prior success in competitions.
- The Saul Lefkowitz Moot Court Competition - Is sponsored by the Brand Names Education Foundation. It focuses on current issues in trademark and unfair competition law. Students try out no board.
- Giles Sutherland Rich Moot Court - Is sponsored by the American Intellectual Property Law Association and focuses primarily on patents and copyrights law issues. Students try out, no board.
- Jessup International Moot Court - Is one of the most prestigious in the world. Each year the team briefs and argues a difficult international law problem. Selection by try outs, no board.
- Supervised Moot Court Board - Initiated by students who wish to participate in a non-school sponsored moot court competition, faculty supervision.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁸²⁰

The Washington University School of Law's clinical programs are ranked fourth in the country.⁸²¹ Its 11 clinical programs include: Congressional/Administrative Law Clinic in D.C., Criminal Justice Clinic, Civil Justice Clinic, Employment Law Clinic, Judicial Clerkship Clinic, U.S. Attorney Clinic, Interdisciplinary Environmental Law Clinic, PreTrial, Trial, ADR, and Advanced Trial Advocacy.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁸²²

The following is a list of the organizations found on the Washington University School of Law's campus: the American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Asian American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Criminal Law Society, Devil's Advocate, Environmental Law Society, Family Law Society, Federalist Society, Gentlemen Jurists, Golf Club, Graduate-Professional Council, Honor Council, Illinois Student Bar Association, Intellectual Property Law Society, International Law Society, Jewish Law Society, Just Democracy, Labor and Employment Law Association, Latin American Law Students Association, Latin American Law Students Association, Law School Republicans, Law Students Pro-Life, National Association for Public Interest Law, OUTLAW, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Social Work and Law Student Association, Pro Bono Jurists, Second Career Law Students, Softball Club, Sports & Entertainment Law Society, Student Bar Association, Student Health Lawyers' Association and Women's Law Caucus.

818 <http://law.wustl.edu/Publications/WUGSLR/index.html>

819 <http://law.wustl.edu/MootCt/>

820 <http://law.wustl.edu/sclearning/clinics.html>

821 <http://ls.wustl.edu/CSO/csforempl.html>

822 <http://law.wustl.edu/Organizations/>

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS⁸²³

Center for Research on Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Center for Interdisciplinary Studies which includes:

Biodiversity, Biotechnology, & the Protection of Traditional Knowledge

Conducting Empirical Legal Scholarship

Human Genome Project: Research, Medicine & Commerce

“Norms and the Law”

Clinical Education Program

Whitney R. Harris Institute for Global Legal Studies

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 110+⁸²⁴

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 87.3⁸²⁵

Percentage of graduates employed nine months from graduation: 97.8

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁸²⁶

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 57.6
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 5.9
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 8.2
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 1.2
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 10.6
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1.8

823 Id.

824 Email correspondence dated March 24, 2004, between BCG research staff and Tomea C. Mayer, Esq., Asst. Dean for Career Services

825 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03163.php

826 American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 763

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
504 East Pennsylvania Avenue Champaign, IL 61820	(217) 333-0930	(217) 244-6415	www.law.uiuc.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(217) 333-9854	(217) 333-2961	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

The University Of Illinois College Of Law is currently ranked Number 26 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The school's faculty members have a reputation for being much more open to lively interactions and casual discussions with students than their counterparts at many other top academic institutions. The low student-faculty ratio of 16.2:1⁸²⁷ directly contributes to this positive situation.

With a fall 2004 entering class of only 228 students,⁸²⁸ the school clearly understands the value of providing small class discussion groups. Students are pleased with the comparatively low tuition cost⁸²⁹ and the diversity of the student body. Students come from as many as 42 different states and two foreign countries.⁸³⁰

Illinois Law uses a standard 4-point scale which is largely unmodified. Illinois is also unique among law schools, as it does not impose a mandatory curve on any of the classes. However, the faculty often refers to a recommended curve for classes with more than 50 students. The exact mean for the recommended curve is not disclosed.⁸³¹

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 163⁸³² 25th – 75th Percentile: 160 - 165⁸³³
- Median GPA: 3.42⁸³⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.12 - 3.64⁸³⁵
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 2,930⁸³⁶
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 676⁸³⁷
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 23.1⁸³⁸

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics were taken from *U.S. News & World Report's* America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03053.php.

827 Email correspondence dated March 25, 2004, between Virginia Vermillion, Assistant Dean for Academic and Student Administration, and BCG research staff

828 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/admissions/more/COLprofile.htm>

829 American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 340.

830 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/admissions/more/COLprofile.htm>

831 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volun teered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

832 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/admissions/more/COLprofile.htm>

833 Id.

834 Id.

835 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03053.php

836 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03053.php

837 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03053.php

838 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03053.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁸³⁹

A+/A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	1.67	D-	0.67
B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D+	1.33	F	0.00

*Only the top 10% students in each class are ranked each semester. In addition, the Registrar's office publishes the cutoff cumulative GPA for the top 10% and top one third of for each class for each semester.⁸⁴⁰

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):⁸⁴¹

There is not a required grading curve on any class. The faculty does however embrace a curve and has resolved to use a recommended curve as follows:

"For all first-year courses: a mean GPA for J.D. students of approximately 3.2, with at least 20% of the J.D. students receiving a grade of **A- OR HIGHER.**"

"For all upper-level courses with at least 20 students enrolled: a mean GPA for J.D. students between 3.2 and 3.4."

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁸⁴²

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	3.75 GPA
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	3.50 GPA
<i>Cum laude:</i>	3.25 GPA
Harno Scholars:	Top 10% of a student's class (During one semester)
Dean's List:	11%-30% (During one semester)

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁸⁴³

Name of Award	Recipient
Harno Scholars	Top 10% for a given semester.
Harker Prize	Top two students in graduating class.
Rickert Award	Outstanding third-years in eight categories (30-40).
CALI Excellence for the Future Award	Highest grade in each course each semester.
West Publishing Company Award	Highest grade in selected courses.
Brinks Hofer Award	Outstanding academic excellence in the areas of copyright, trademark, or patent.
Bell, Boyd & Lloyd Best Advocate Award	First-years for excellence in oral and written advocacy skills.
J. Nelson Young Tax Award	Outstanding academic excellence in tax by third-year students (2-3).
Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal Award	Excellence in Legal Research and Writing
Larry Travis Bushong Award	Best paper addressing Gay and Lesbian legal issues
Neal Gerber & Eisenberg Law Review Writing Award	Best Law Review Note

839 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/courses/pdf/aph2004.pdf>

840 Id., <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/courses/pdf/aph2004.pdf>, page 16

841 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/courses/pdf/aph2004.pdf>

842 % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 637; <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/courses/pdf/aph2004.pdf>, page 17

843 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 637; <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/courses/pdf/aph2004.pdf>

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

JOURNALS⁸⁴⁴

- *University of Illinois Law Review*⁸⁴⁵ presents the legal community with academic articles regarding significant topics in the law and has five issues a year. During the summer between their first and second year of law school, students enter a writing competition to gain membership. Students whose GPA places them in the top fifteen of their class need only have their papers place in the top 75% of submitted papers; 2Ls and transfers can only gain membership via their writing.⁸⁴⁶
- The *Elder Law Journal*⁸⁴⁷ lays claim to being the sole law journal dedicated to the law as it affects older people. It is considered the second most prestigious journal at Illinois and all interested students must take part in the writing competition.⁸⁴⁸ *
- The College of Law's newest journal is *The Journal of Law, Technology, and Policy*.⁸⁴⁹ Working with the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, and Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign the Journal takes an interdisciplinary approach to its articles including the use of peer review of articles submitted for publication. The journal seeks pieces addressing the "intersection of law, technology, and policy." Students are invited to become members after submitting a writing sample and demonstrated interest in intellectual property matters.
- The College also publishes the prestigious *Comparative Labor Law & Policy Journal*,⁸⁵⁰ a "major international forum" for the best scholarship in "labor law, employment policy, and social security issues."
- College of Law students also write *Illinois Law Update*, a column focusing on recent developments in Illinois law, published monthly in the Illinois Bar Journal and read by thousands of practicing lawyers throughout the state. These students are chosen from among the top legal writing students in the College.⁸⁵¹

MOOT COURT⁸⁵²

For second- and third-year students, moot court is an elective. Students choosing to participate select from the following activities: the Frederick Green Moot Court Competition, Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition, Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition, Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, National Hispanic Bar Association Competition or the Environmental Law Moot Court Competition.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁸⁵³

Within the University Of Illinois College Of Law's legal clinics, the student acquire hands-on experience and learn professionalism, preparation and courtroom skills, substantive law, procedure, and ethics. The program is divided into the Civil Litigation Clinic, Transactional and Community Economic Development Clinic, the International Human Rights Clinic, and Employee Justice Clinic.

ORGANIZATIONS⁸⁵⁴

The University of Illinois College of Law's student organizations include the American Bar

844 www.law.uiuc.edu/publications/index.asp.

845 <http://home.law.uiuc.edu/lrev/>.

846 www.law.uiuc.edu/publications/index.asp; and information provided via telephone by Beth Cobb, administrative contact for the law review

847 <http://home.law.uiuc.edu/elderlaw/>.

848 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

*Statements relating to the relative prestige of publications are based purely on student body opinion are not endorsed by the faculty or staff at the law school.

849 <http://www.jltp.uiuc.edu/>

850 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/publications/CLL&PJ/Default.htm>

851 <http://ness2.uic.edu/UI-Service/programs/UIUC365.html>

852 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 637; <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/advocacy/mootcourt.asp>

853 Id. at 481; <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/academics/clinics/index.asp>

Association - Student Division, American Civil Liberties Union - College of Law Chapter, American Constitution Society, American Inns of Court, Asian-American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Chicago Bar Association - Student Division, Christian Law Students Association, Client Counseling Competition, Disability Law Society, Diversity Committee, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Illinois State Bar Association - Student Division, Intellectual Property Legal Society, International Law Society, Intramural Sports, Irish Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Latino/Latina Law Students Association, Law Revue Musical, Military Law Society, Moot Court Competitions/Bench, Muslim Law Students Association, Myra Bradwell Association for Women Law Students, Peer Advisors Program, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Prisoners' Rights Research Project, Public Interest Law Foundation, Sexual Orientation & Legal Issues Society, Sports Law Society, Student Bar Association, Trial Team, Native American Law Students Association, Business Law Society, Law School Republicans, Student Alumni Association, Negotiations Competition, Advancing Legal & Strategic Opportunities, Cinematic Justice, Justinian Society of Law Students, Law School Democrats, Street Law, Law Students for Choice, LRAP Exploratory Committee, Animal Law Society, Health & Biotechnology Law Society.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 100+⁸⁵⁵

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 79⁸⁵⁶

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 99.5⁸⁵⁷

WHERE THE GRADS GO:⁸⁵⁸

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 58
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 13.3
- Percent of grads employed by the government/public interest organization: 11.8
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 11.8
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 3.6

854 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/students/orgs.asp>

855 See www.law.uiuc.edu/career/summer.asp: According to a career services Web page, the University of Illinois College of Law's "on-campus interviewing program . . . draws scores of employers from around the country." www.law.uiuc.edu/career/programs.asp

856 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03053.php

857 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/career/employment.asp>

858 <http://www.law.uiuc.edu/career/employment.asp>

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁸⁶⁸

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	3.79 or higher
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	3.606 - 3.789
<i>Cum laude</i> :	3.4 - Top 33%

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁸⁶⁹

Name of Award	Recipient
James W. Smith Award	Graduating student with highest academic rank.
Susan Grant Desmaris Award	Student with public service achievement & leadership.
William J. O'Keefe Award	For outstanding contribution to law school.
St. Thomas More Award	For intellectual and moral qualities of St. Thomas More.
West Publishing Company Awards	For outstanding scholarship and significant contribution.
Bureau of National Affairs	Student with most satisfactory academic progress.
John F. Cremens Award	Students with most outstanding work in clinical programs.
Cornelius J. Moynihan Award	For scholarship and co-curricular leadership.
Richard S. Sullivan Award	For overall contribution to the law school community.
Lyne Woodworth & Evarts	For outstanding editorial work on publications.
Wendell F. Grimes Award	For achievement in advocacy competitions.
White Inker Aronson Award	For service to the law school and service to others.
John O'Reilly Award	For contribution to the life of the law school & students.
Law School Alumni Association	For scholarship & service to the law school and the legal profession.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁸⁷⁰

Boston College Law offers students considerable opportunities to participate in a journal or review. The school's law reviews and Uniform Commercial Code Reporter Digest are staffed by about 180 second- and third-year students. Students may gain membership on all publications either by being in the top 10 percent of the first-year class or by success in the writing competition.

The law school treats all the reviews equally. Nonetheless, the requirements for each review vary according to each one's needs. Second-year review members complete two written assignments and carry out proofreading and fact-checking. Members must compose "an in-depth, comprehensive article of publishable quality on a topic appropriate to that journal's area of law." Third-year review members take on the editorial work of the journal.

868 Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 52

869 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 52

870 <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/lawreviews/membership/>; <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/lawreviews/bclawreview/>; Additional information provided by Rosalind Kaplan, Manager for Law Review Publications, in a telephone call between Ms. Kaplan and BCG editors on March 23, 2005

- ***Boston College Law Review*** comes out five times a year. Its articles address national legal issues, but do not cover “third-world issues, environmental or international law, out of deference to the other journals.” Second-year staff members write two pieces, a state of the law paper and a student note. Third-years edit articles to be published. The *Review* also organizes, sponsors, and publishes articles from academic symposia. The written requirement, which must be completed the first semester of second-year, takes the form of a note usually based on the student’s state of the law paper.
- ***Boston College Environmental Affairs Law Review*** is the nation’s second oldest law review dedicated solely to environmental law and has maintained a national reputation as one of the country’s leading environmental journals since its inception in 1971. Environmental affairs are defined broadly by the *Review*, and each issue may address a wide range of topics. Its staff consists of approximately 15 second-year and 15 third-year students who publish three issues during the academic year. During the fall semester, each second-year staff member participates in a unique clinical placement program. The Clinic offers students the opportunity to work in an actual practice environment and to become involved in non-academic research and drafting projects. Placements range from governmental agencies to public interest organizations to Boston law firms.
- ***Boston College International & Comparative Law Review*** publishes two issues annually, with articles addressing a variety of international and comparative law issues. The *Review* focuses on far reaching topics that include issues such as money laundering through offshore financial centers, U.S. law and policy on assassination of foreign officials, shark fining in international waters, and bribery in international business and terrorism. Students selected for staff positions are strongly encouraged to register for international and international business law courses. Students also write a small article on international comparative law and a note.
- ***Boston College Third World Law Review*** is published twice annually and covers “issues affecting underrepresented populations, human and civil rights, immigration, women’s’ and children’s’ issues, and issues of disproportionate economic impact” wherever these issues arise and groups are marginalized. Fifteen second-year and 15 third-year students make up the editorial staff. During a member’s first year on the review, he or she begins a book review that is completed during the second year in addition to composing a full-length note in the spring.
- The ***Uniform Commercial Code Reporter Digest (UCCRD)***⁸⁷¹ is a quarterly publication of a national commercial service that summarizes and comments on all reported cases under the Uniform Commercial Code. The Digest staff consists of approximately 14 second-year staff writers and 14 third-year editors. As a prerequisite, each member of the Digest staff must register for Secured Transactions in the fall semester of their second year. Each week, second-year members draft annotations on significant Code cases. The Digest is unique in that it is sold commercially through Matthew Bender and Lexis either in hard copy, CD-ROM, or online formats and yet authored by Boston College law students.

MOOT COURT⁸⁷²

Boston College Law School supports several annual moot court competitions which help students develop writing, courtroom advocacy, and client counseling skills. The moot court competition is an optional activity at Boston College Law School and students who choose to participate write appellate briefs and argue a minimum of four times. The top eight teams go into final rounds. First-year students may take part in the Client Counseling Competition and the Negotiations Competition. Third-year students may participate in the Mock Trial Competition and may be selected for the National Mock Trial Team.

⁸⁷¹ <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/lawreviews/uccrd/>; Additional information provided by Gail Anderson, Digest Administrator, in a telephone call between Ms. Anderson and BCG editors on March 23, 2005.

⁸⁷² <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/services/academic/programs/advocacy/>

The **WENDELL F. GRIMES MOOT COURT COMPETITION**, designed for second-year students, is an internal competition and a required if one wishes to later compete on external teams. The **PHILIP C. JESSUP MOOT COURT** team aims to participate in regional, national, and international competitions as they prepare and argue briefs regarding an appeal that could go before the International Court of Justice. The **NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL MOOT COURT** team prepares an appellate brief and competes in mock oral argument regarding an important environmental issue. **THE J. BRAXTON CRAVEN MOOT COURT** team focuses on issues of constitutional law, at both the regional and national level. The **JOHN J. GIBBONS NATIONAL CRIMINAL PROCEDURE MOOT COURT** team enters a national competition regarding a criminal procedure problem. The **FREDERICK DOUGLAS MOOT COURT** team engages in an inter-school competition that focuses on significant minority issues and is sponsored by BALSAs. **THE SAUL LEFKOWITZ IP MOOT COURT** team prepares and presents cases related to trademark law. **THE CONRAD B. DUBERSTEIN NATIONAL BANKRUPTCY MOOT COURT** employs a mock Supreme Court format as students advocate on either side of a current bankruptcy law issue.⁸⁷³

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁸⁷⁴

Boston College School of Law offers its students what is widely regarded as one of the best clinical curricula in the country in a wide range of practice areas. Its in-house clinics include the Civil Litigation Clinic, which allows students the opportunity to work as practicing lawyers representing actual clients at the Boston College Legal Assistance Bureau (LAB), the Criminal Justice Clinic, Homelessness Litigation Clinic, Immigration Law Practicum, Juvenile Rights Advocacy and the Women and the Law Clinic. The externship programs include the Attorney General Program, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia Program (which offers a unique opportunity to work on-site in The Hague), the London Program (given at King's College), and the Semester in Practice Program. Observational Clinics include the Judge and the Community Courts, which places students in clerkships like fieldwork, and the Judicial Process, which allows students to intern one day per week with a series of Massachusetts Superior Court Judges (Trial Court).

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁸⁷⁵

The Law Students Association (LSA) is the elected student government in the law school. The LSA ensures that students are appointed to important law school committees and presents student interests to the faculty and administration. It also offers a broad range of professional, social and recreational activities for students. The LSA sponsors basketball, hockey, softball, soccer, golf, rugby, and volleyball teams.

Other student organizations include the American Bar Association, Law Student Division, American Constitution Society, Arts, Media, Entertainment and Sports Law Organization, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, BC Law Democrats, Black Law Students Association, Board of Student Advisors, Children's Rights Project, Christian Legal Society, Civil Liberties Union, Domestic Violence Advocacy Project, Coalition for Equality, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Inner City Youth Outreach Tutoring Program, Intellectual Property and Technology Forum, International Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Lambda Law Students Association, Latino Law Students Association, Law for Life, Law Revue, National Lawyers Guild, Owen M. Kupferschmid Holocaust/Human Rights Project, Phi Alpha Delta, Public Interest Law Foundation, Reproductive Choice Coalition, Republicans of BC Law, Shelter Legal Services, Sui Juris, St. Thomas More Society, Veterans Association and Women's Law Center.

⁸⁷³ Id.

⁸⁷⁴ <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/services/academic/programs/clinical/>

⁸⁷⁵ <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/services/studentorgs/>

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 400+⁸⁷⁶

Graduates known to be employed at graduation: 71.6⁸⁷⁷

Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation 97.2

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁸⁷⁸

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 67
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 15
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 8
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 4
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry (legal and non-legal): 6
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

876 <http://www.bc.edu/schools/law/services/career/employers/>

877 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03072.php

878 Id.

COLLEGE OF WILLIAM AND MARY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
South Henry Street 613 South Henry Street P.O. Box 8795 Williamsburg, VA 23187	(757) 221-3800	(757) 221-3785	www.wm.edu/law
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(757) 221-2800		

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

The first college planned for the United States, the College of William & Mary, has a more than 300-year history. Only Harvard University can claim an earlier commencement of classes. Under the guidance of Thomas Jefferson the College introduced the first elective system of study and its Honor System.⁸⁷⁹ The First Chair of Law was established in 1779; it is now located in the heart of historic Williamsburg, Virginia, halfway between Richmond and Virginia Beach, and three hours south of Washington, D.C.

For years, the academic excellence of the College of William and Mary has been widely recognized by the growing raft of magazines and guidebooks that annually rank American colleges and universities. From the *U.S. News and World Report* to Barron's, William and Mary and its programs are listed among the nation's strongest.⁸⁸⁰ The Law School is currently ranked Number 29 in the annual U.S. News & World Report list of Tier One law schools.⁸⁸¹ As the nation's oldest law school, William & Mary continues its tradition of providing a valuable legal education in an environment that fosters the development of character and leadership in its students. The school's curriculum reflects its long-standing dedication to professional responsibility and the honing of legal skills beyond the traditional study of law.

With 206⁸⁸² students enrolled in its fall 2004 entering class, the William & Mary School of Law is small and close-knit, but still competitive.⁸⁸³ The school has a student-faculty ratio of 16.5:1,⁸⁸⁴ and its library is home to 375,000 volumes, including the Thomas Jefferson Collection and other valuable works.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class :

- Median LSAT: 164⁸⁸⁵ 25th – 75th Percentile: 160 – 165⁸⁸⁶
- Median GPA: 3.67⁸⁸⁷ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.36 – 3.82⁸⁸⁸
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 4,243⁸⁸⁹
- Number accepted during 2004: 848⁸⁹⁰
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 19.9%

879. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/historytradition.shtml>

880. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/firsts.shtml>

881. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/rankings/law/brief/lawrank_brief.php

882. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/quickfacts.shtml>

883. Id.

884. http://www.wm.edu/law/prospective/admissions/ipix/oldclassrm_initvp_tn.shtml

885. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/quickfacts.shtml>

886. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03160.php

887. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/quickfacts.shtml>

888. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03160.php

889. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/quickfacts.shtml>

890. Id.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁸⁹¹

The law school uses a modified grading scale of A+ (4.3) to F (0.00). Classes with more than 30 students must adhere to a B+/B curve.⁸⁹² In classes of more than 30 students, professors may assign one A+.

A+	4.33	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D	1.00
A	4.00	B	3.00	C	2.00	F	0.00
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	1.67		

Students' cumulative GPAs are rounded to the nearest tenth; students with the same GPA then "share" the same percentage class rank. These percentage ranks do not necessarily correspond to the quality point equivalents (4.00, 3.67, 3.33, etc.) or to predetermined percentages (top 10%, top 25%, top 33%, etc.).

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):⁸⁹³

Each faculty member must adhere to the following grade curve in all classes with 30 students or more unless an exception is given by the Vice Dean:

A+	1 student
A/A-*	15-25%
B+**	25-35%
B	20-30%
B-	10-20%
C+ or Lower	5-15%

*Some students surveyed felt that the A's were more restricted than indicated by this distribution.

**In calculating percentages within the B range, faculty take into consideration the whole class not the total percentage allowed in the B range.

Second- and third-year courses also adhere to the curve, with the exception of small seminars.⁸⁹⁴

CLASS RANK:

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	TOP 50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ⁸⁹⁵	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	2.0

*The school notes that for each student who has completed his or her first year, the school calculates class rank each semester and provides that information to students. The registrar, however, will not verify the student's information without the student's permission. In addition, student surveys indicated that a 3.0 GPA roughly corresponds to the Top-50%.⁸⁹⁶

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁸⁹⁷

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
Order of Barristers	Superior abilities in oral advocacy selected from the Moot Court National Trial Team

891. 2003 admission statistics provided via email correspondence dated March 23, 2004, between Robert E. Kaplan, Associate Dean, and BCG research staff

892. <http://www.wm.edu/law/academicprograms/regulations/grading.shtml>

893. <http://www.wm.edu/law/academicprograms/regulations/grading.shtml>

894. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

895. Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 91.

896. Id.

897. % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 913

ACADEMIC AWARDS⁸⁹⁸

Name of Award	Recipient
American Bankruptcy Award	Student who has excelled in the area of bankruptcy law.
ABA-BNA Award for Excellence in Health Law	Student excelling in health law.
ABA State and Local Government Award	Excellence in land use and local government law.
Book Awards	Student earning highest grade in each eligible course.
Dean's Certificate	Students who exhibited leadership within the law school.
Drapers' Scholar	Student selected to represent the law school as Drapers' Scholar at Queen Mary & Westfield College of the University of London.
Family Law Book Award	Student showing most promise and potential for practice of family law.
<i>Environmental Law & Policy Review</i> Award	Excellence in scholarship.
Ewell Award	Well-rounded exemplifying a liberal arts education.
Gambrell Legal Skills Award	Top students in Legal Skills (12).
William Hamilton Prize	Top independent research paper in legal history.
Hermann Prize	Student showing most promise in enhancing the administration of justice through technology use.
L'Anson Award	Evidence of great promise through scholarship, character and leadership.
Kaufman & Canoles Writing Award	Students producing the best memoranda in Legal Skills (3).
Kruchko & Fries Award	Performance in labor/employment courses.
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Outstanding in contributing to the advancement of women, promotes issues and concerns of women, exhibits motivation, tenacity, enthusiasm, academic achievement, and earns the respect of the dean and faculty.
Order of Barristers	Excellence in oral arguments (8).
Rachel Carson Award	Student who has excelled in environmental law.
Robert R. Kaplan Award	Student excellence in legal writing.
Spong Alumni Award	Presented to top Gambrell winner.
Thomas Jefferson Prize	Student publishing best note in Bill of Rights Journal.

898. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

Thurgood Marshall Award*	Best exhibits the ideals of distinguished public service.
Virginia Trial Lawyers Award	Best demonstrates skills and integrity of a trial lawyer.
Wythe Prize	Character, leadership, and service to the law school.
Wayne M. Lee Endowed Book Award	Highest GPA for first-year class.
<i>William & Mary Journal of Women & the Law</i> : Outstanding Member	Third-year student who exhibits outstanding dedication and support to the <i>Journal</i> .
<i>William & Mary Law Review</i> : Best Student Note	Most outstanding note published in the <i>Review</i> .

*Student Surveys indicated that the Thurgood Marshall award is considered the most prestigious among the student body.⁸⁹⁹

STUDENT JOURNALS

Membership on William and Mary Journals is based on a writing competition conducted jointly by all four journals at the end of students' first year of law school. The *William and Mary Law Review* uses grades as part of its selection process as well.

- ***William & Mary Law Review*** is published by 70 second- and third-year students and covers a wide array of scholastic topics. The *Law Review* membership is extended to 36 first-year students every year and grades weigh heavily for this particular journal with the top 15% filling the first available slots. Further, first-year students may vie for the remaining spots by participating in an extensive writing competition held toward the end of their first year. Each selection method is used to select half of the students. All interested students must participate in the writing competition, including those invited on the basis of top academic credentials. Promotion to the editorial board is based upon proficiency in legal writing and editing as well as dedication to the *Review*.⁹⁰⁰
- The ***William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal*** was ranked seventh in a recent national empirical evaluation of 285 specialized *law reviews*. It is a scholarly journal of professional and student articles and is edited and operated by students of the William and Mary School of Law. The Journal is published three times per year, in winter, spring, and summer.⁹⁰¹ Membership is determined on the basis of a writing competition. According to the student survey, this Journal is considered about equal in prestige with the *Law Review* due to its great historical reputation.⁹⁰²
- ***William & Mary Environmental Law & Policy Review*** is published three times a year by students of the law school and the public policy program and focuses on current environmental law and policy matters. Students compete to gain membership and if selected second-year law students are expected to complete a note on a topic in the field of environmental law and policy.⁹⁰³ Student surveys indicated that this Journal follows the *Law Review* and the *Bill of Rights Journals* in prestige and it is well-respected.⁹⁰⁴

899. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

900. http://www.wm.edu/law/prospective/studentlife/pub_lawreview.shtml

901. http://www.wm.edu/law/prospective/studentlife/pub_borj.shtml

902. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

903. <http://www.wm.edu/law/publications/elpr/about.shtml>

904. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- *William & Mary Journal of Women & the Law* is a relatively young journal at the Law School with a self-described goal of facilitating discourse on gender-issues as they relate to the law. The Journal attempts to tackle a wide range of substantive legal fields including criminal law, torts, contracts, wills and trusts among others, but does so with the perspective of gender issues prevalent in each topic.⁹⁰⁵ A writing competition is required to gain admittance on this Journal. Founded in the early 1990's, this Journal is a publication that is still building a reputation for itself.⁹⁰⁶

MOOT COURT⁹⁰⁷

William and Mary College of Law purports that their Moot Court program is a great opportunity for students to engage in both trial advocacy and competitive argumentation. The school prides itself on having won several prestigious Moot Court awards. First-year students are required to participate in the Legal Skills program, which provides an opportunity for brief writing and argument. The program is run by the Moot Court Board, which is comprised of third-year students, who have been selected during their second-year to serve in this capacity. Selection to represent William and Mary at a competition is based on a stiff competition which involves the drafting of an appellate brief and argument by around 120 individuals until a winner is selected. Those who achieve outstanding status on Moot Court can be inducted into the Order of the Barristers.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁹⁰⁸

The William & Mary School of Law offers the following eight clinical programs: Attorney General's Externship, Court of Appeals Externship, Department of Employee Dispute Resolution Clinic, Domestic Violence Clinic, Federal Tax Practice Externship, Legal Aid Clinic, and the Summer Governmental/Public Interest Externship. Students have indicated that those desiring to work in Virginia benefit the most from the Court of Appeals externship and the Attorney General's Externship.⁹⁰⁹

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS⁹¹⁰

The William & Mary School of Law's organizations include the American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Amicus Curiae, Asian Law Students Association, Bill of Rights Institute Student Division, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Honor Council, I'Anson-Hoffman American Inn of Court, International Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Law and the Arts Society, Law Republicans, Law Students Involved in the Community, Lesbian and Gay Law Association, Marshall-Wythe Democrats, Military Law Society, National Lawyers Guild, National Trial Team, Negotiation and Client Counseling, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Public Service Fund. Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Student Bar Association, Student Intellectual Property Society, Student Legal Services, Virginia Trial Lawyers Association, and the William & Mary Students for Individual Liberty.

PROGRAMS AND INSTITUTES

Legal Skills Program
 The Institute of Bill of Rights Law
 Summer Abroad Program
 Supreme Court Preview Institute

905. http://www.wm.edu/law/prospective/studentlife/pub_womenlaw.shtml

906. Information provided via email correspondence dated March 23, 2004, between Robert E. Kaplan, Associate Dean, and BCG research staff.

907. <http://www.wm.edu/law/about/quickfacts.shtml>

908. <http://www.wm.edu/law/academicprograms/curriculum/experiences.shtml>

909. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

910. http://www.wm.edu/law/prospective/studentlife/student_orgs.shtml

Number of firms interviewing for Class of 2004: 200-225⁹¹¹
Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 80.4⁹¹²
Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 97.8

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁹¹³

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 46
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 19
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 18
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry (legal/non-legal): 13
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

Students surveyed praised the Career Center at William and Mary for excellent guidance, yet disagreed with some of the statistics above. Students pointed out that many of their fellow classmates were unemployed upon graduation and some believed that a greater percentage took government jobs due to the recently shrinking private sector.⁹¹⁴

911. Information provided via email correspondence dated March 23, 2004, between Robert E. Kaplan, Associate Dean, and BCG research staff

912. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03160.php

913. Id. See also http://www.wm.edu/law/careerservices/grad_profile.shtml

914. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
140 West 62nd Street New York, NY 10023	(212) 636-6870	(212) 636-6810	WWW.LAW.FORDHAM.EDU
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(212) 636-6800	(212) 636-6926	

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Law students at Fordham relish their school's Big Apple location. They are afforded a wealth of opportunity, beginning their legal careers in a city that is home to some of the world's largest law firms, the busiest state and federal courts, a number of state and federal agencies, and Wall Street. The Law School is directly across the street from the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, just blocks from Central Park, within walking distance to Times Square, and a subway ride away from the trendy New York neighborhoods of Greenwich Village, SoHo and Tribeca.⁹¹⁵

Fordham Law School is currently ranked Number 27 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. It has a distinguished, well-published and scholarly faculty. Its strong tradition of public service is evidenced by the annual activities of 700 students who take on pro bono work through the school's nationally recognized Public Interest Resource Center.⁹¹⁶ The fall 2004 entering class numbered 318 full-time students, and 164 part time students⁹¹⁷ and the school has a student/faculty ratio of 16.4:1.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN:⁹¹⁸ **

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 full-time entering class:

- Median LSAT: 165⁹¹⁹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 163 – 167⁹²⁰
- Median GPA: 3.66⁹²¹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.37 – 3.78⁹²²
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 6,449⁹²³
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 1,222⁹²⁴
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 18.9

** All statistics refer to the full-time program.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES:⁹²⁵

Fordham awards grades on both a letter and a 4.3 scale and offers no official class standings. At the end of the 2002-2003 academic year, a student who attained a true weighted average of 3.463 or better made Dean's List for that year. Grades are not rounded up when determining Dean's List or other awards, but GPAs on resumes are often rounded up to the nearest hundredth of a point (i.e., "3.278" can be presented as "3.28").⁹²⁶ The faculty has adopted a numerical equivalent for letter grades, as follows:

915. American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 276

916. <http://law.fordham.edu/pirc.htm>.

917. <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/adm-app.htm>

918. <http://law.fordham.edu/quickjump.ihtml>

919. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 183

920. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03107.php

921. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 183

922. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03107.php

923. <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/adm-app.htm>

924. Id.

925. <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/reg-ar21.htm>, <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/cp-grades.htm>; <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/cp-gsd.htm>; <http://law.fordham.edu/homejump.ihtml?pageid=151>

926. <http://law.fordham.edu/homejump.ihtml?pageid=151>

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0.7
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7		

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE):

The Law School and many students report that Fordham adheres to what is called a “hard curve” most classes are graded with a B average, with some professors adhering to a C curve.⁹²⁷

The school offers the following guide regarding its grade distribution:

3.70 and above	=	Approximately top 5%
3.57 and above	=	Approximately top 10%
3.49 and above	=	Approximately top 15%
3.38 and above	=	Approximately top 25%
3.30 and above	=	Approximately top 33%
3.18 and above	=	Approximately Top-50%

In a survey conducted by BCG, A+ grades were found to be very rarely awarded, with the top student in each class usually given a grade of A.

Fordham’s LL.M. program employs an Honors, Very Good, Good, Pass, Fail grading system that corresponds to letter grades as follows:⁹²⁸

LL.M. Grades	Description	J.D. Grades
Honors	Outstanding Performance	A+, A
Very Good	Above Average Performance	A-, B+
Good	Above Average Performance	B, B-
Pass	Performance Worthy of Course Credit	C+, C, C-
Fail	Performance Worthy of Course Credit	D, F

CLASS RANK:

No official individual rankings are released for students; nevertheless, the Law School provides percentile groupings and for the 2002-2003 academic year a GPA of 3.18 was the cut off for the Top-50%.⁹²⁹ At the time of printing Fordham had as yet to update its information for the 2003-2004 year.

PERCENTILE*	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	TOP 50%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
FORDHAM	3.70 & above	3.57 & above	3.49 & above	3.38 & above	3.30 & above	3.18 & above	1.9

*As Fordham has no official class rankings, the law school offers these percentiles to reflect averages.

927. These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school’s grading system and are explained in the “Ranking and Grades” section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school’s Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

928. <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/cp-llmgrades.htm>

929. <http://law.fordham.edu/careerplanning.htm>; <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/cp-grades.htm>

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:⁹³⁰

Order of the Coif:	10% (> or = 3.542)
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	0.004% (> or = 3.857)
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	10% (> or = to 3.542)
<i>Cum laude</i> :	25% (> or = 3.393)
Dean's List:	25% (3.478)

ACADEMIC AWARDS:⁹³¹

Name of Award	Recipient
West Group Outstanding Achievement Award	Highest GPA per section: second, third, fourth year (day & evening sessions). (4)
Chapin Prize	Highest weighted average throughout the school.
Class of 1911 Award	Best essay in a legal subject designated by the dean.
Joseph R. Crowley Award	Academic achievement and volunteer activities.
Benjamin Finkel Prize	Excellence in bankruptcy law.
Fordham Law Alumni Association Medal in Constitutional Law	Excellence in constitutional law. (4)
Whitmore Gray Prize	Excellence in international law courses.
Edward J. Hawk Prize	LLM (International Business and Trade Law program) with highest cumulative average.
Int'l Intellectual Property Society Prize	Best paper in the area of intellectual property.
Hughes R. Jones Award	Highest combined weighted average in the areas of constitutional law, criminal justice, and professional responsibility.
Eugene Keefe Award	Most important contribution to Fordham Law community.
Walter B. Kennedy Award	Law Review member with an extraordinary service record.
Emmet J. McCormack Award	Highest grade in Admiralty Law.

STUDENT JOURNALS⁹³²

Fordham Law School publishes six journals. *Fordham Law Review*, *Fordham International Law Journal*, and *Fordham Urban Law Journal* are considered the most prestigious, mostly due to their history as the mainstay journals. *Fordham Intellectual Property Media and Entertainment Law Journal*, *Fordham Environmental Law Journal*, and *Fordham Journal of Corporate and Financial Law* are newer publications, providing more niche positions for students interested in specialized practice areas. Students enter into a writing competition to gain admission to all of the journals, including Law Review. A combination of grades and writing is required for all students except the top 35 students of the class who can gain acceptance to *Law Review* through grades alone.⁹³³

930. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 184

931. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 184

932. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications.htm>

933. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- **Fordham Law Review**⁹³⁴ prides itself as “a scholarly journal serving the legal profession and the public by discussing current legal issues.” The review publishes around 40 articles a year and 16 student editors administrate the entire process. The law school sees membership on the review “among the highest scholarly achievements at the law school.”
- **Fordham Urban Law Journal**⁹³⁵ lays claim to being “the second oldest publication at the law school.” Its six issues a year focus on policy matters related to urban areas. In addition, the Journal’s, *ADR & the Law* publication, “is the leading reference guide for alternative dispute resolution.”
- **Fordham International Law Journal**⁹³⁶ has six issues a year carrying articles and other material regarding a wide range of international legal issues. Like the Urban Law Journal, this journal looks beyond its six issues when it contributes to the publication of the Fordham Corporate Law Institute’s annual volume and conference on International Antitrust Law & Policy.
- **Fordham Intellectual Property Media and Entertainment Law Journal**⁹³⁷ explores patent, copyright, and trademark laws as they affect “the news media and the entertainment and sports industries.” The journal publishes the full array of material from articles to notes covering a wide range of subjects such as First Amendment rights, telecommunications and Internet law, and digital copyright.
- **Fordham Environmental Law Journal**⁹³⁸ has three issues a year with articles “addressing topics in environmental law, legislation and public policy.” In addition the journal’s annual symposium presents a forum to explore current theories regarding a specific environmental issue.
- **Fordham Journal of Corporate & Financial Law**⁹³⁹ furthers the discussion of “of business law, including financial law, securities law, banking law, bankruptcy and tax.” The student editors select and edit articles, notes, and other materials for publication. Most members are chosen through the school’s writing competition in combination with an examination of a student’s grades. A few members are given membership through a special fall application process.

MOOT COURT⁹⁴⁰

At Fordham, first-year students participate in Moot Court as part of the legal writing requirement in which the students prepare and argue an appellate matter. After the first year, students may elect to continue in moot court activities and after a full year of membership may be elected to the board.

The board organizes two competitions each year – The Irving R. Kaufman Moot Court Competition, which focuses on federal securities law, and the Metropolitan Mentor Moot Court Competition. The Mentor Competition allows students from nearly forty New York City high schools to compete as appellate court advocates under the supervision of practicing attorneys.⁹⁴¹ For students interested in potentially becoming litigators, positions are coveted and competitive.⁹⁴²

934. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications/index.ihtml?pubid=500>

935. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications/index.ihtml?pubid=400>

936. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications/index.ihtml?pubid=300>

937. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications/index.ihtml?pubid=200>

938. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications/index.ihtml?pubid=100>

939. <http://law.fordham.edu/publications/index.ihtml?pubid=600>

940. <http://law.fordham.edu/htm/mc-home.htm>

941. Email correspondence dated January 10, 2003, from Michael Schiumo, Assistant Dean at Fordham Law School, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search.

942. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS⁹⁴³

Fordham's clinical program has three components: live client clinics ("in-house" clinics), simulation courses and externship courses.⁹⁴⁴ Essentially, the clinical offerings are mainly divided between the four-credit Mediation Clinic, where students mediate cases in small claims court, and the five-credit Securities Arbitration Clinic, which allows students to represent clients in securities arbitration at the New York Stock Exchange and National Association of Securities Dealers. Other clinical options are Civil Rights, Community Economic Development, Criminal Defense, Housing Rights, Immigration Rights, Tax, and The Child and Family Litigation Clinic.⁹⁴⁵ Since clinics are so popular among the students, a very small percentage of the student body actually gets to participate in them.⁹⁴⁶

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Fordham Law School's student organizations include The Advocate, American Bar Association/Law Student Division, American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, American Law Student Association, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Catholic Law Students, Community Service Project, Death Penalty Project, Domestic Violence Advocacy Center, Drug Policy Reform Project, Entertainment Law Students Association, Environmental Law Students Association, Family Court Mediation Project, Fordham Intellectual Property, Media & Entertainment Law, Fordham Law Democrats, Fordham Law Republicans, Fordham Law Follies, Fordham Law Women, Fordham Sports Law Forum, Fordham Student Sponsored Fellowship, Inc., Habitat for Humanity at Fordham Law School, Housing Advocacy Project, Immigration Advocacy Project, Irish Law Students Association, Italian American Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Junta, The, Just Democracy, Latin American Law Students Association, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Law Students Association, Lincoln Square Neighborhood Children's Law Project, Muslim Law Students Association, National Lawyers Guild, Older and Wiser Law Students, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Police Misconduct Action Network, Public Service Law Network Worldwide, Republicans, Sports Lawyers Society, Research, Education and Advocacy to Combat Homelessness, South Asian Law Students Association, Stein Scholars Program in Public Interest Law & Ethics, Street Law Project, Student Bar Association, Student Loan Repayment Group, Common Good, Unemployment Action Center, Universal Jurisdiction, and the Yearbook.

CENTERS, PROJECTS, AND INSTITUTES⁹⁴⁷

Conflict Resolution & ADR Program
Crowley Program in International Human Rights
Corporate Law Institute
European Union Law
Fordham Center for Corporate, Securities, and Financial Law
Interdisciplinary Center for Family and Child Advocacy
Moore Advocacy Center
Public Interest Resource Center
Stein Center for Law and Ethics
Community Service Project
Death Penalty Project
Drug Policy Reform Project

943. <http://law.fordham.edu/homejump.ihtml?pageid=451>

944. <http://law.fordham.edu/hlm/jd-guide7.htm>

945. Email correspondence dated January 10, 2003, from Michael Schiumbo, Assistant Dean at Fordham Law School, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search.

946. This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

947. <http://law.fordham.edu/centers.htm>

Family Court Mediation Project
Fordham Belfast/Dublin Summer Program
Fordham-Ulster Conflict Resolution Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 200-300⁹⁴⁸
Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 82.9⁹⁴⁹
Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 98.8⁹⁵⁰

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO:⁹⁵¹

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 77
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 4
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 2
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 10
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

948. "300 employers representing 200 organizations" interview at Fordham each year; <http://law.fordham.edu/careerplanning.htm>
949. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03107.php
950. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03107.php
951. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03107.php (listing 2% as unknown)

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA-CHAPEL HILL

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
Van Hecke-Wettach Hall 100 Ridge Road Campus Box #3380 Chapel Hill, NC 27599	(919) 962-5106	(919) 962-5109	www.law.unc.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(919) 962-1249	(919) 962-6998	

SOME BRIEF FACTS

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law (UNC) is located just about a quarter of a mile from the main campus. Set in the rolling hills of Piedmont County, Chapel Hill is a highly desirable place to live. This university town is in close proximity to Research Triangle Park, the urban centers of Durham and Greensboro, and the state capital of Raleigh. Each year, a fairly small entering class of about 239 students⁹⁵² arrives for an unforgettable intellectual experience.

At present, UNC is ranked Number 27 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The entering class is comprised of students from approximately 24 different states⁹⁵³. The school maintains a student-faculty ratio of 16.2:1, which allows time for plenty of enlightening office visits with professors. Students graduating from UNC enjoy one of the highest employment rates in the country.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 162⁹⁵⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 157 - 164⁹⁵⁵
- Median GPA: 3.61⁹⁵⁶ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.4 - 3.79⁹⁵⁷
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,835⁹⁵⁸
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 613⁹⁵⁹
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 16⁹⁶⁰

Class Ranking and Grades⁹⁶¹

The University of North Carolina operates on a modified 4-point grade scale, with the range being 4.3 to a 0.0, A+ to F respectively. A fairly stringent B to B+ curve is in place, with the average graduating GPA for most students falling between 3.1 and 3.3. First-year and upperclass courses are also required to adhere to a B curve, with summer courses and small seminars being exempt from the curve.⁹⁶²

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0.0 or below
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7		

952 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03119.php

953 <http://www.law.unc.edu/admissions/profile.html>.

954 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 717

955 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03119.php

956 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 717

957 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03119.php

958 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03119.php

959 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03119.php

960 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03119.php

961 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 718

962 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

CLASS RANK

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
GPA* ⁹⁶³	3.527	3.400	3.357	3.214	2.922	2.0*

*Min GPA for graduation for those entering before 1999 was 1.85.

The average GPA at graduation is 3.1. This GPA is based on grades used to determine rank and does not include summer grades that are not graded on a curve and are widely known as “GPA boosters.” Therefore, the actual GPA that appears on a graduate’s transcript is usually higher. ⁹⁶⁴

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

Student surveys indicated that the first-year courses are graded on a strict 3.0 curve, with deviations only for first-year legal research and writing (which is graded on a pass/fail basis) and a three-hour writing exercise (which has a separate higher curve). After the first year, professors have more leverage in using the curve, and smaller courses and summer courses are not strictly governed by the curve. ⁹⁶⁵

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST ⁹⁶⁶

UNC awards Honors to students with a grade point average in the top third of their class. The faculty *may* bestow High Honors on students who have demonstrated superior legal scholarship and High Honors *may* be awarded to students demonstrating exceptional achievement. ⁹⁶⁷

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%;	3.526 GPA;	23 Students
Summa Cum Laude:	Top 0.4%;	>3.9 GPA;	1 Student
Magna Cum Laude:	Top 4.3%;	3.6 GPA;	10 Students
Cum Laude:	Top 25.6%;	3.305 GPA;	59 Students

ACADEMIC AWARDS ⁹⁶⁸

In addition to the awards listed below each year the school designates a few entering students as Chancellors Scholars based on their “scholastic ability and achievements, promise of distinction in law, evidence of leadership potential, sensitivity to high ethical standards, and written or communication skills.” ⁹⁶⁹

⁹⁶³ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 718

⁹⁶⁴ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁹⁶⁵ Id.

⁹⁶⁶ 2003 GPA for honors distinction received via email correspondence dated March 29, 2004, between Ellen Stark Hill, Deputy Director of Career Services, and BCG research staff.

⁹⁶⁷ <http://www.law.unc.edu/PASStudents/PASStudentsPage.aspx?ID=47&Q=3>

⁹⁶⁸ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 719

⁹⁶⁹ <http://64.245.255.159/CareerServices/Documents/CSOQuickFactso4.pdf>

Name of Award	Recipient
Order of the Barristers	For outstanding achievement in service to moot court.
James E. & Carolyn B. Davis Society	Third-years outstanding in academics, leadership, etc (8).
NC Academy of Trial Lawyers	Third-years in trial advocacy demonstrating improvement.
Block Improvement Award	Third-year with most improvement since first year.
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition	Second-year or third-year; best papers on copyright law each year.
Millard S. Breckenridge	Third-year: by law faculty for excellence in taxation.
Judge Heriot Clarkson Award	Students making highest grades in Professional Responsibility.
Chief Justice Walter Clark Award	Third-years with highest scholastic averages in class (5).
William T. Joyner Awards Fund	Third-years: excellence in writing on <i>Law Review & ILJ</i> (2).
Investors Title Insurance Co.	Second-year with highest average grade in property class.
James W. Morrow III Award	Second-year or third-year: outstanding service to Holderness moot court.
Ferebee Taylor Award	Third-year: outstanding performance, three or more corporate classes.
West Publishing Company Award	All three classes: outstanding scholastic achievement.
US Law Week Award	Third-years: most academic progress in final year.
Certificate of Merit	High grade in each course.

Students surveyed indicated that the Order of the Coif is the most respected award among the student body and the rest of the awards are relatively unknown to the students.⁹⁷⁰

STUDENT JOURNALS⁹⁷¹

The five journals at UNC choose an equal number of students using three different methods. First, the top academic students (the percentages differ for each journal and are stated below) are invited to join. An equal number are then chosen by the writing competition which is administered as a closed book exercise following second semester finals. Another third of the students are chosen by a combination of grades and the writing exercise. Prior to the writing contest, the students are asked to fill out an application ranking their preference for each journal and their interest in the subject matter. After the writing competition, the editors of each of the journals consult and decide, based on scores and stated interests, which students to invite to become members of their journals. Students estimated that about one-third of the class participates on one of the journals.⁹⁷²

⁹⁷⁰ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

⁹⁷¹ <http://64.245.255.159/Welcome.aspx?ID=58&PG=JP>

⁹⁷² This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- *North Carolina Banking Institute Journal*⁹⁷³ seeks to advance “academic discourse in banking law.” The annual issue is an outgrowth of the annual Banking Institute meeting, and includes “top-quality, student-written and edited notes and comments on cutting-edge banking law issues” as well as material presented by nationally prominent speakers at the meeting. Offers are extended to the top 15% of students based on GPA.
- *North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation* focuses on “practical information about public international law and the commercial marketplace.” The Journal offers a full range of content from articles to case notes to book reviews authored by academics, professionals, and students. Offers are extended to the top 15%.
- *North Carolina Journal of Law and Technology (JOLT)*⁹⁷⁴ is a student-edited academic publication at UNC School of Law. JOLT addresses a wide manner of technology-related legal issues. JOLT is published online, in print format and through Westlaw and Lexis-Nexis.
- *North Carolina Law Review* has been in publication since 1922. Its articles examine “current legal problems and significant new developments in the law.” The law review has six issues a year that contain “the scholarship of lawyers, judges, and professors from across the country, [and] also the contributions of student staff members.” It accepts the top 13 students for membership and an additional 13 students through a combination of grades and writing.⁹⁷⁵
- *First Amendment Law Review (FALR)* is dedicated to advancing “rights and freedoms guaranteed by the First Amendment through publishing scholarly writings on, and promoting discussion of, issues related to the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.” FALR publishes both professor and student-authored material in this subject area.⁹⁷⁶

MOOT COURT ⁹⁷⁷

Bench Holderness Moot Court is a competitive and academic organization. The School fields seven successful teams that compete in regional, national and international competitions. The Broun National Trial Teams provide students with the opportunity to gain skills and experience in trial and litigation techniques. Twenty students compete in mock trial tournaments in regional and national competitions. Moot Court consists of seven teams: Client Counseling, International, Invitational, Negotiation, Environmental Negotiation, Environmental Appellate Advocacy and a National Team, each with written and oral advocacy elements. Second- and third-year students compete to gain membership on a team.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS ⁹⁷⁸

The University Of North Carolina School Of Law offers the following clinical programs: Criminal Clinic, Community Development Law Clinic, Civil Clinic, Externship Program, Pro Bono Program and the UNC Nonprofit Leadership Certificate Program. Student surveys indicated that the Externship program is the most sought after among the student body in terms of prestige and quality of experience.⁹⁷⁹

PRO BONO PROGRAM ⁹⁸⁰

Students in the program work with a variety of practicing attorneys to provide high-quality, low-cost legal services to individuals in need.

973 <http://www.unc.edu/ncbank/>

974 <http://www.jolt.unc.edu/>

975 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 718

976 <http://www.law.unc.edu/SearchDetails.aspx?ID=58#fa>

977 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 717; <http://www.law.unc.edu/SearchDetails.aspx?ID=57#hmc>

978 Id.

979 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

980 <http://www.unc.edu/probono/>

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS ⁹⁸¹

UNC's student organizations include: American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Attorney General Staff, Black Law Students Association, Carolina HIV/AIDS Legal Assistance Project, Carolina Intellectual Property Law, Carolina Law Incoming Student, Carolina Law School Republicans Society, Carolina Law Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Carolina Law Young Democrats, Carolina Mediation, Carolina Pro-Life Society, Carolina Public Interest Law Organization, Carolina Street Law, Carolina Teen Court Assistance Program, Center for Civil Rights – Civil Rights Appellate Advocacy Team, Child Action, Christian Legal Society, Community Legal, Conference on Race, Class, Gender, and Ethnicity, Death Penalty Project, Domestic Violence Advocacy Project, Entrepreneurial Law Association, Environmental Law Project, Federalist Society, Feminist6 Action Initiative, First Amendment Law Review, Health Law and Policy Association, Hispanic/Latino Law Students Association, Holderness Moot Court, Honor Court, Immigrants Outreach Project, Jewish Law Association, Just Democracy, Lambda Law Students Association, Latino Legal Initiative, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students, Parents Active As Law Students, Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity, Phi Delta Phi, Prisoners' Rights, Prospective Students Association, Second Careers In Law, Sports and Entertainment Law Association, Trial Law Academy, UNC Innocence Project, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, Women in Law and the Workers' Rights Project.

CENTERS ⁹⁸²

The School of Law currently boasts nationally recognized programs in banking and financial services law, civil rights law, and entrepreneurial law.

Center for Civil Rights

Center for Banking and Finance

Center on Poverty, Work, and Opportunity

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 350 ⁹⁸³

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 67.5 ⁹⁸⁴

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 96.9 ⁹⁸⁵

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO ⁹⁸⁶

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 61
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 16
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 7
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

Students at UNC stated that the preceding numbers were accurate based on their experience and those of their peers.⁹⁸⁷

⁹⁸¹ <http://www.law.unc.edu/academics/curriculum/orgs.html>

⁹⁸² <http://www.law.unc.edu/SearchDetails.aspx?ID=123>

⁹⁸³ Correspondence dated January 10, 2003, from Audrey Ward, Director of Communications, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

⁹⁸⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03119.php

⁹⁸⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03119.php

⁹⁸⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03119.php

⁹⁸⁷ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

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REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(206) 543-0453

SOME BRIEF FACTS

The very same things that make Seattle a wonderful place to live make the University of Washington School of Law an excellent place to study an interdisciplinary field like the law. The diversity of the "Emerald City" and the relaxed and friendly attitude common in the Northwest provide an ideal setting in which to study the practical and ideological facets of law. Despite rumors to the contrary, the perpetual rainy season doesn't turn away too many folks. The school has a long-standing commitment to excellence in teaching, scholarship, and public service and it consistently turns out well-rounded graduates who are both world-class scholars and highly employable practitioners.⁹⁸⁸

The University Of Washington School Of Law is currently ranked Number 27 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. With the fall 2004 entering class size of 180⁹⁸⁹ and the student-faculty ratio of 11:1,⁹⁹⁰ there is easy interaction between students and faculty. In line with the school's reputation of having something for everyone, its situation on the main campus of the University of Washington, with an enrollment of 33,500 students, fosters an abundance of social and extracurricular activities.

The Law School uses a standard 4-point grading system. Most courses follow a B+ median that sits at a generous 3.3. The school ranks only with letter grade quartiles, rewarding 75% of the class with a B or above.⁹⁹¹

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

-Median LSAT: 163⁹⁹² 25th – 75th Percentile: 159 - 166⁹⁹³

-Median GPA: 3.65⁹⁹⁴ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.47 - 3.84⁹⁹⁵

-Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 2,404⁹⁹⁶

-Number accepted during one recent sample year: 502⁹⁹⁷

-Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 20.9

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03167.php.

988 http://www.law.washington.edu/LawSchool/admit/admit_Community.html

989 <http://www.law.washington.edu/Admissions/Statistics.html>

990 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03167.php

991 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

992 <http://www.law.washington.edu/Admissions/Statistics.html>

993 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03167.php

994 <http://www.law.washington.edu/Admissions/Statistics.html>

995 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03167.php

996 <http://www.law.washington.edu/Admissions/Statistics.html>

997 <http://www.law.washington.edu/Admissions/Statistics.html>

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES ⁹⁹⁸

A+	4.0	B+	3.4 (median)	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	E	0.0
A-	3.7	C	2.0		

CURVE

The school states the following as its grade distribution⁹⁹⁹

Grade	Percentage of Class	Numerical Equivalent
A	At least 5% and less than or equal to 15%	4.0
A-	At least 20% minus (% given A) and less than or equal to 40% minus (% given A)	3.7
B+	At least 50% minus (% given A or A-) and less than or equal to 75% minus (% given A or A-)	3.4
B	% Discretionary.	3.0
B-	% Discretionary.	2.7
C	% Discretionary. C or D grades are capped at a total of 5% for first-year courses.	2.0
D	% Discretionary. This grade indicates that the level of performance is below that which on average is required for the award of the degree. C or D grades are capped at a total of 5% for first-year courses.	1.0
E	% Discretionary. No credit. This grade indicates unsatisfactory performance and no credit is given for the course.	0.0

CLASS RANK

The school states that it uses class rank only for internal purposes regarding the determination of awards but does not issue rankings for transcripts. ¹⁰⁰⁰

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST:

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
High Honors:	Top 5% ¹⁰⁰²
Honors:	Top 6-20% ¹⁰⁰³

ACADEMIC AWARDS ¹⁰⁰⁴

Name of Award	Recipient
Honor Graduate	Top student in graduating class.
Carkeek Prize	Best student contribution to Law Review on a point of law of particular interest to Washington lawyers.
Delta Theta Phi Founders Scholarship	Highest academic achievement for first- and second-year students.

⁹⁹⁸ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 824

⁹⁹⁹ <http://www.law.washington.edu/Students/Academics/grading.html>

¹⁰⁰⁰ <http://www.law.washington.edu/Students/Academics/grading.html>

¹⁰⁰¹ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 824.

¹⁰⁰² <http://www.law.washington.edu/Students/Academics/Awards.html>

¹⁰⁰³ <http://www.law.washington.edu/Students/Academics/Awards.html>

¹⁰⁰⁴ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 824

Hugh Miracle Award	Best opening statement in trial advocacy, trial practice, or moot court/mock trial program.
Mary Ellen Krug	Demonstrated interest and proficiency in labor and employment law and related subjects.
Nathan Burkan	Best papers by graduating students on subjects within the field of copyright law. (2)
Judge Lawless Award	Highest academic achievement in first year.
George & Barbara Akers Scholarship	Academic achievement and community service.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES ¹⁰⁰⁵

Journals

- *Washington Law Review*¹⁰⁰⁶ is a quarterly journal comprised of student-written pieces and professional articles on a wide range of legal issues. Membership is competitive and based upon first-year grades, writing competition scores, or a combination thereof.¹⁰⁰⁷
- *PacRim Law & Policy Journal*¹⁰⁰⁸ was founded in 1990 to expand the dialogue regarding East Asian and trans-Pacific legal and policy-oriented issues. The Journal, the only one featuring translations of East Asian law and related academic material, encourages the debate of issues vital to the Pacific Rim. Membership is competitive and based upon writing competition scores and a personal statement.

MOOT COURT ¹⁰⁰⁹

All first-year students engage in moot court competition as part of the school's first-year writing course (Basic Legal Skills). After the first-year competition, students may engage in other competitions. Based on their performance in the first-year and/or other Moot Court events, students are chosen to serve on the Moot Court Honor Board. Students have the opportunity to participate in a range of moot court activities such as intramural, local, regional, national and international moot court competitions.

ORGANIZATIONS ¹⁰¹⁰

The University of Washington School of Law's organizations include the American Bar Association/Law Student Division, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Docket, Federalist Society, Filipino Law Students Association, GreenLaw, Immigrant Families Advocacy Project, Innocence Project Northwest, International Law Society, Labor Law Society, Latino/Latina Law Students Association, Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution, Law Women's Caucus, Lawkids, Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Legal Society, Minority Law Students' Association, Moot Court Honor Board, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Student Association, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Law Association, Sports and Entertainment Law Club, Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington, Student Bar Association, Technology Law Society and the Washington State Trial Lawyer's Association.

¹⁰⁰⁵ http://www.law.washington.edu/LawSchool/admit/admit_StudOrg.html

¹⁰⁰⁶ <http://www.law.washington.edu/WLR/about.htm>

¹⁰⁰⁷ <http://www.law.washington.edu/WLR/membership.htm>

¹⁰⁰⁸ <http://www.law.washington.edu/PacRim/>

¹⁰⁰⁹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 823.

¹⁰¹⁰ http://www.law.washington.edu/LawSchool/admit/admit_StudOrg.html

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 100¹⁰¹¹
Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 73.97¹⁰¹²
Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 98.97¹⁰¹³

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁰¹⁴

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 51.5
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 14.4
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 13.6
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 6.1
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 7.6
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 3.8

¹⁰¹¹ <http://www.law.washington.edu/Career/services.html> (in regard to Fall Interview Program)

¹⁰¹² <http://www.law.washington.edu/Career/Profiles.html> for 2003 graduate profile; See also http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03167.php

¹⁰¹³ <http://www.law.washington.edu/Career/Profiles.html> for 2003 graduate profile; See also http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03167.php

¹⁰¹⁴ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 824

RANK

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CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

SOME BRIEF FACTS

Located just miles from the national business and legal center of Atlanta and within sight of its skyline, Emory University provides a pleasant setting for the pursuit of higher learning. Emory prides itself on "Preparing Students for the Practice of Real World Law."¹⁰¹⁵ With a total enrollment of approximately six hundred students representing most states in the Union, many foreign countries, and just more than 100 undergraduate institutions, Emory sees the "study of law [as] a process of continuing intellectual development."¹⁰¹⁶

Emory University School of Law is currently ranked Number 32 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. Emory has a world-class and readily accessible faculty and a small, diverse student body. The school has a student-faculty ratio of 14:1,¹⁰¹⁷ and the entering class of 2004 was comprised of 215 students.¹⁰¹⁸

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 164¹⁰¹⁹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 161 – 165¹⁰²⁰
- Median GPA: 3.43¹⁰²¹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.27 - 3.62¹⁰²²
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,852¹⁰²³
- Number accepted for 2004: 1,016
- Percentage accepted for 2004: 26.4

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁰²⁴

Emory Law's grades are on a modified A+ to F scale with an A+ being a 4.3 and a GPA of 3.216 being the cutoff for the Top-50%. Only the top 10% are provided with individual rank and the other students are divided into percentile ranks.¹⁰²⁵

Emory University School of Law uses a letter grading system, with grades ranging from A+ to F.

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7		

¹⁰¹⁵ <http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/index.php?id=282>

¹⁰¹⁶ <http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/index.php?id=282>

¹⁰¹⁷ <http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/index.php?id=80>

¹⁰¹⁸ http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/uploads/pics/AboutELS7_03.png

¹⁰¹⁹ <http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/index.php?id=286>

¹⁰²⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03039.php

¹⁰²¹ Id.

¹⁰²² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03039.php

¹⁰²³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03039.php

¹⁰²⁴ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 164

¹⁰²⁵ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

CLASS RANK

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ¹⁰²⁶	3.609	3.454	3.396	3.265	3.040	2.25

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁰²⁷

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
With High Honors:	3.80 cumulative GPA ¹⁰²⁸
With Honors:	3.45 cumulative GPA ¹⁰²⁹
Dean's List:	3.45 semester GPA (36% of class) ¹⁰³⁰

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁰³¹

Name of Award	Recipient
Georgia Association of Women Lawyers	For academic achievement, dignity, integrity, service to the law school community, etc.
CCH Professor's Award in Taxation	Outstanding students in taxation and accounting.
Moffett Litigation Award	Outstanding student in trial preparation and litigation.
The Order of Barristers	Selected from appellate advocacy program. (10)
Attorneys' Title Guaranty Fund, Inc.	Students who have excelled in real estate courses.
State Bar of Georgia Labor and Employment Law	Superior academic performance in labor and employment law.
Barbara S. Rudisill Award	For academic achievement, compassion toward fellow students, commitment to success in legal education, and financial need.

STUDENT JOURNALS ¹⁰³²

The Emory University School of Law publishes three journals: Emory Law Journal, Emory International Law Review, and Bankruptcy Developments Journal. The journals offer membership based on a joint writing competition. The competition is open to all members of the Emory University School of Law who will be embarking on their second year of law school. The same writing sample can be submitted to all three journals for consideration; however, each journal will select candidates based on its own grading and selection process.

¹⁰²⁶ * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 164

¹⁰²⁷ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 164

¹⁰²⁸ <http://www.law.emory.edu/academics/degrees-cat.html>

¹⁰²⁹ <http://www.law.emory.edu/academics/degrees-cat.html>

¹⁰³⁰ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 164

¹⁰³¹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 164

¹⁰³² <http://www.law.emory.edu/students/journals.-home.php>

- *Emory Law Journal (ELJ)*¹⁰³³ is student-run and publishes four issues a year with articles concerning “a broad range of legal topics.” Candidates for the Board of ELJ are selected in two ways. The 14 first-year students with the highest grades receive offers to join the Journal.¹⁰³⁴ The journal also invites up to 14 more students to join based on an evaluation of their grades and writing.¹⁰³⁵ A few may join based solely on their written skills but such offers are discretionary.
- *Emory International Law Review* publishes two issues per year and is dedicated to the scholarly discussion of international law. Candidates are selected on the basis of the writing competition.¹⁰³⁶
- *Emory Bankruptcy Developments Journal* selects candidates on the basis of the writing competition.¹⁰³⁷ Student members are responsible for writing notes and editing articles written by respected attorneys in the bankruptcy field. The Journal is published twice a year.

MOOT COURT¹⁰³⁸

Moot Court is not required at Emory. Rather the school sets several requirements to participate including a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.35. In addition, students must either compete in two intra-school competitions or if chosen to be on one of the “Special Teams” may substitute success on the team for the intra-mural requirement.¹⁰³⁹

The Moot Court Society’s 40 members are selected based on a combination of their brief-writing and oral advocacy scores. The top 18 students from the fall round are chosen to be Special Team Members and then compete in interschool competitions nationwide. The remaining 22 candidates are from the spring round. After completing the candidacy requirements, all 40 candidates become eligible to be members of the Moot Court Society.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁰⁴⁰

Emory offers an extensive and well-supervised field placement program. Its litigation program is especially strong.¹⁰⁴¹ In addition to its Kessler-Eidson Trial Techniques Program, its in-house clinics include the Turner Environmental Law Clinic, the Barton Child Law and Policy Clinic, and the TI:GER Clinic which allows students to work closely with innovators as they develop and then take to market new technologies.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The Emory University School of Law’s student organizations include the Alternate Dispute Resolution Society, American Bar Association/Law Student Division, Asian American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Democratic Law and Policy Research Group, Emory Federalist Society, Emory Gay and Lesbian Advocates, Emory Public Interest Committee, Emory Student Lawyers Guild, Environmental Law Society, Immigrant Assistance Project, Intellectual Property Society, International Law Society, JD/MBA Society, Hispanic Law Student Association, Legal Association for Women Students, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Moot Court Society, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Student Bar Association and Student Legal Services.

1033 <http://www.law.emory.edu/students/elj/index.php>; <http://www.law.emory.edu/students/elj/eljcandidates.html>

1034 <http://www.law.emory.edu/students/elj/eljcandidates.html>

1035 Id.

1036 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 164

1037 Id.

1038 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 163

1039 <http://www.law.emory.edu/students/moot/goals.php>

1040 <http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/index.php?id=401>

1041 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS¹⁰⁴²

Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Religion
Southern Juvenile Defender Center
Law & Religion Program
World Law Institute of Emory University
Trial Techniques Program
Tax Resources at Emory
Technological Innovation: Generating Economic Result

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 126¹⁰⁴³

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 61.7¹⁰⁴⁴

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 95.2¹⁰⁴⁵

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹⁰⁴⁶

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 64
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 11
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 13
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 1
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 10
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

¹⁰⁴² <http://www.law.emory.edu/cms/site/index.php?id=327>

¹⁰⁴³ Correspondence dated January 8, 2003, from Sue McAvoy, Emory University Office of Career Services, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

¹⁰⁴⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03039.php

¹⁰⁴⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03039.php

¹⁰⁴⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03039.php

RANK

32

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WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.law.ucdavis.edu

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(530) 752-4299

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

SOME BRIEF FACTS

The law building of the University of California at Davis is aptly named after the late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., in recognition of his efforts to bring social and political justice to poor and disadvantaged groups.¹⁰⁴⁷ Located just 15 miles west of Sacramento, Davis boasts the second-highest per capita education level of any city in the nation, where residents are active in political, artistic, and community causes. The city is known for its controlled growth, environmental awareness, energy conservation, and excellent outdoor recreational activities.¹⁰⁴⁸ And if that weren't enough, regional travel opportunities abound; San Francisco, Napa, and Lake Tahoe are all within reasonable driving distance.

The UC Davis School of Law is currently ranked Number 32 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. This small school attracts a well-rounded, talented, and diverse student population in part due to its nationally recognized and exceptional teaching faculty. The small entering class size of 194¹⁰⁴⁹ students and student-faculty ratio of 14.3:1¹⁰⁵⁰ create a cozy atmosphere in which to study the law.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 164 25th – 75th Percentile: 162 - 166¹⁰⁵¹
- Median GPA: 3.64 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.46 - 3.77¹⁰⁵²
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 4,339¹⁰⁵³
- Number accepted during 2004: 825¹⁰⁵⁴
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 18.6

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁰⁵⁵

UC Davis uses a standard 4-point grading system, modified to include grades from A+ to F. Fully 75% of the students have a graduating GPA of B- or above, with 50% having GPA's of B or above.¹⁰⁵⁶

A+	4.0	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D+	1.3	F	0.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0		
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7	D-	0.7		

1047 <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/PDFs/ad/linfo.pdf>, pg. 1

1048 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/student_index.asp

1049 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/ad_index.asp

1050 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03017.php

1051 Id.

1052 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/ad_index.asp

1053 <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/PDFs/ad/admissinfo.pdf>

1054 <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/PDFs/ad/admissinfo.pdf>

1055 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 422

1056 www.law.ucdavis.edu/PDFs/ad/linfo.pdf; "Grades, attendance and honor code: The school uses a four-point letter grading

CLASS RANK

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ^{*1057}	B+	B	B	B	B-	C (2.0)

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

For first year sectioned classes (excluding legal research and writing courses) professors issue grades so that 20% of a class receives an A- or better; 60% receives a B+, B, or B-; and the remaining 20% receives a C+ or lower.

Student surveys indicated that about 5% to 10% of the grades in a class are in the A range; the average GPA tends to be around 2.7 (B-). A strict curve is in place for the first-year courses and for large second- and third-year courses.¹⁰⁵⁸

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁰⁵⁹

Order of the Coif: Top 10%

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁰⁶⁰

Name of Award	Recipient
School of Law Medal	Graduating senior with most distinguished academic record after fifth semester.
Patrick Hopkins Law Prize	Outstanding contributor to UC Davis Law Review. Each student in top 10% with matching qualifiers.
Witkin Award for Academic Excellence	Top grade in class.
Order of the Barristers	Based on the number of students annually participating in moot court & mock trial programs. Recognizes graduating students who excel (10).

STUDENT JOURNALS¹⁰⁶¹

The Law School at U.C. Davis hosts five academic publications; membership is garnered solely on the basis of an applicant's performance in the writing competition.¹⁰⁶²

- *Journal of Juvenile Law and Policy*¹⁰⁶³ is a biannual publication that addresses the unique concerns of children in the American legal system. Initially a product of the creativity and activism of a small group of students called the Advocates for the Rights of Children (ARC), the Journal has evolved into a vigorous organization committed to providing practical information regarding current juvenile, family, and educational law issues.
- *Business Law Journal*¹⁰⁶⁴ is the first business law journal in the nation to electronically publish articles written by professionals, academics, and law students using a more concise journalistic style. At this time, BizLawJournal.com offers industry news, reviews of popular business books, useful business law links, a monthly newsletter, and a networking board that allows users to share professional connections and career advice.

1057 * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 422

1058 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1061 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 422

1062 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book

1063 <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/jjlp/default.htm>; http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/j_index.asp

1064 <http://blj.ucdavis.edu/>

- *Journal of International Law & Policy*¹⁰⁶⁵ is a biannual journal produced by King Hall students with an interest in international law. The Journal of International Law and Policy seeks to promote the study of international law and policy through the academic analysis of timely, controversial, and important international issues. Its submissions primarily come from international law scholars and attorneys, but it sometimes publishes works of philosophers, economists, political and social scientists, and others as well. The journal's subscribers include nearly every major law library and many university libraries in the country. Its full text is available in many online databases, including Lexis and Westlaw. The Journal hosts annual symposia on current issues of international significance. Recent symposia have dealt with the following topics: International Criminal Courts, Borders, Trade and Migration, Law and Religion.
- *Environs*¹⁰⁶⁶ is a biannual environmental law and policy journal which supports an open forum for the discussion of current environmental issues. Articles explore environmental issues, particularly those pertaining to the state of California.
- *UC Davis Law Review*¹⁰⁶⁷ publishes four issues annually. Three issues contain scholarly works by professionals and students in the traditional law review format. One issue is a symposium that deals in depth with a selected topic of interest to legal scholars and practicing lawyers. At King Hall, any second-year student may become a Law Review member after successfully completing a competition packet. Acceptance to Law Review is determined by the quality of the work submitted, not by GPA or faculty appointments as in most schools. To become an editor, a student must write a student note or comment of editorship quality, complete twenty-eight office hours per semester, and complete cite-checking assignments.

MOOT COURT¹⁰⁶⁸

King Hall attempts to provide its students with an education that has a unique balance of theory and practice. Virtually every student who graduates from King Hall participates in one or more of the school's trial and appellate advocacy programs. These programs include appellate advocacy, the various moot court competitions, the trial practice classes and the trial practice competition. Such programs are not only important to a student's legal education, but showcase the academic excellence of the UC Davis School of Law, contributing to the school's national reputation and the value of the degrees it confers. The moot court competition, more commonly referred to at UC Davis as "Appellate Advocacy," is a year-long student-run program offered to second-year and third-year law students, it is not a required part of the first year curriculum and is an elective activity for upper-class students.¹⁰⁶⁹

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁰⁷⁰

UC Davis' law faculty provides for the following in-house clinics:

- Family Protection and Legal Assistance Clinic is the newest addition and is funded by a grant from the Domestic Violence Victims' Civil Legal Assistance Grant Program, the Clinic is the only California program to receive one of the fifty-four grants awarded by the Department of Justice. Established in collaboration with the pre-existing Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Center it is the model domestic violence court program created by Judge Donna Petre. Students represent domestic violence victims who would not otherwise be able to afford an attorney. Emphasizing the importance and added effectiveness of addressing a complex problem from different perspectives, the program contains three components: student education, direct client representation, and community education.

1065 <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/jilp/jilp.htm>; http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/j_index.asp

1066 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/j_index.asp; <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/environs>

1067 <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/lawreview>; <http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/lawreview/QuestionsAnswers.htm>

1068 www.law.ucdavis.edu/mootcourt/WHAT%20IS%20MOOT%20COURT.htm

1069 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/ac_index.asp?Query=trialadvocacy

1070 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/cl_index.asp

- **Prison Law Clinic** allows students to use their legal skills to assist prisoners with problems related to incarceration in state prison. Students advocate on their clients' behalf with officials at the institution where the prisoner is housed, as well as by filing formal grievances with the California Department of Corrections. While the skills learned in the Prison Law Clinic would be of value to any law student, the Clinic is probably of most interest to students who wish to learn the art of negotiating and the intricacies of administrative law. The Prison Law Clinic has seen a significant increase in a number of cases where inmates require assistance from Clinic students in order to obtain medical care. Students have recently advocated for a prisoner's right to obtain a diagnosis from a physician based on a physical examination, and students maintained contact to ensure that the prisoner actually received the medical treatment ordered by the treating physician.
- Students also assist inmates by providing them with accurate legal information and analysis necessary for the inmate to effectively advocate on his or her own behalf. Students have obtained transfers to remove prisoners from places where they were in immediate, identifiable danger to places of relative safety, a problem more prevalent as prisons grow increasingly overcrowded. Those transfers have enabled weaker prisoners to escape stronger prisoners, non-violent prisoners to get away from gang members, and mentally retarded prisoners to escape more sophisticated predatory individuals.
- **Immigration Law Clinic** was established in 1981 and the year-round Clinic provides community education and free legal services to low income immigrants who may face one or more of the following problems: Deportation without possibility of cancellation (DWOC), deportation, exclusion upon return, ineligibility for immigration benefits, aggravated felonies, divisible statutes and record of conviction, controlled substances, crimes of moral turpitude, crimes against persons or property, property crimes, crimes against the government, public safety or morals, firearms offenses, state remedies, writs of coram nobis, writs of habeas corpus, immigration remedies, cancellation of removal, waivers, voluntary departure, and withholding of removal.
- **Civil Rights Clinic** is a litigation clinic in which students advocate for the civil rights of prisoners and other indigents. Most clients come to the Clinic by way of judicial referrals after the clients file their claims pro se. Cases have included claims of denial of medical or dental care, correctional officer misconduct, denial of freedom of religion, violation of due process, excessive force, and false imprisonment. Students may do client intakes, meet with clients, draft interrogatories, conference with federal judges and opposing counsel, take depositions, draft and file pleadings, interview witnesses, and research legal issues.

EXTERNSHIPS¹⁰⁷¹

UC Davis law students also gain practical experience in criminal law by working in county, state and federal offices. Students working for county district attorney's and public defender's offices are placed in Sacramento, Yolo, San Francisco, Alameda, Santa Clara, Solano, and Stanislaus counties. Other students are placed with the Office of the State Public Defender or with the Special Assistant Attorney General. Students engage in factual investigation, interviewing, counseling, negotiating, motion practice and trials under State Bar rules.

- **Environmental Law Externship** gives students the opportunity to come face-to-face with the tough issues related to environmental problems like water rights, hazardous waste, jurisdictional questions, superfund cleanup, land use planning, flood control, water rights, and landfills. Recently students have worked with a variety of state and federal laws, including the Endangered Species Act, the Williamson Act, the Fifth Amendment, the California Environmental Quality Act, and the California Fish and Game Code.

1071 http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/cl_index.asp

- **Employment Law Externship** provides students interested in employment discrimination the opportunity to work for California's Department of Fair Employment and Housing or the San Francisco Regional Office of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. Those generally interested in employment law also have the opportunity to work for private firms representing plaintiffs and/or defendants. The majority of students in this externship work at the Department of Fair Employment and Housing in Sacramento. The Department attorneys litigate before the Fair Employment and Housing Commission and in the local Superior Courts. Students review files, draft complaints and prepare for hearings and witness interviews. Students interested in labor law may work at the Department of Personnel Administration, California's Public Employment Relations Board, the California State Employees Association, or the California Correctional Peace Officers Association. There are further opportunities to work for law firms that represent labor or management.
- **Tax Law Clinic** allows students to work for the District Counsel's office of the Internal Revenue Service or Franchise Tax Board on substantive and procedural taxation issues. Students learn a great deal about tax court litigation, collection practice, and bankruptcy practice. Students are given a case file and work up the case from start to finish. They investigate factual issues and may even meet with the taxpayer. Those who work for the IRS advise auditors on audit issues and are involved in collections and litigation. Those who work at the Franchise Tax Board may experience a much broader range of issues, and they have the opportunity to assess the litigation strengths of their cases and argue before the Board of Equalization.
- **Judicial Externship** remains one of the most popular externships. Students work as a part of the staff in state and federal courtrooms and gain the valuable experience of viewing the judicial process from the judge's point of view. They may also work at the State Supreme Court, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the U.S. District Court, the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, the State Court of Appeal, and state trial courts. While students' day-to-day assignments may vary somewhat depending on the court, the judge, and the judge's calendar, a typical judicial externship may involve researching legal issues, evaluating legal arguments, writing judicial memoranda, drafting opinions and orders, and observing trials and law and motion.
- **Legislative Law Externship** is an effective way for law students to learn legislative law partly because it is a twenty-minute drive from the California State Legislature and therefore in the perfect location for students who wish to pursue an interest in the legislative branch of government. Students may work as staffers to legislators or legislative committees or with one of Sacramento's many lobbying organizations. Students also seek out positions that correlate with their pre-law school experience or unique interests. For example, students with previous careers in teaching or law enforcement might seek out a placement with the Senate Education or Public Safety Committees. Someone with an interest in environmental issues may opt for work with the Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee.
- **Public Interest Externship** has expansive placements which range from government agencies, such as the U.S. Attorneys Office, to nonprofit law firms and legal aid offices, like Legal Services of Northern California, California Rural Legal Assistance, Sacramento Child Advocates, and Equal Rights Advocates. Students are involved in direct legal services, community education, litigation, mediation, and lobbying. Students may choose to work with legal aid offices or nonprofit law firms that handle cases such as welfare rights, landlord-tenant issues, CalOSHA regulations, sexual harassment, or the Family Medical Leave Act. Those placed with the U.S. Attorney's Office may work on issues on behalf of the federal government, including flood damage, tax summons enforcement cases, jurisdictional questions, federal tort claims, and employment discrimination.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹⁰⁷²

The UC Davis, King Hall School of Law's student organizations include the Law Students Association, Advocates for the Rights of Children, American Bar Association, Law Students Division, American Civil Liberties Union, King Hall Division, American Constitution Society, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Entertainment and Sports Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Intellectual Property Law Association, International Law Society, King Hall Legal Foundation, Lambda Law Students Association, La Raza Law Students Association, Moot Court Board (Appellate Advocacy), National Lawyers Guild, King Hall Students Chapter, Native American Law Students, Phi Delta Phi, Gibson Inn, and the Women's Caucus.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 200+

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 77.8¹⁰⁷³

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 94.5

Where the Graduates Go:¹⁰⁷⁴

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 55
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 14
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 8
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 6
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 0

*Student survey participants felt the statistics seemed accurate, and a great majority of the graduating class finds employment in the private sector.¹⁰⁷⁵

¹⁰⁷² http://www.law.ucdavis.edu/student_index.asp

¹⁰⁷³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03017.php

¹⁰⁷⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03017.php (listing 12% unknown)

¹⁰⁷⁵ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

RANK

32

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REGISTRAR'S PHONE

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SOME BRIEF FACTS

The University of Wisconsin Law School is genuinely a national law school. Its central location and situation at one of the world's leading research universities attracts students from coast to coast and beyond. The beautiful and affordable city of Madison, with a population of more than 200,000, is consistently named one of the top five cities in the nation for quality of life.¹⁰⁷⁶

The University of Wisconsin Law School is currently ranked Number 32 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The school's "law-in-action" approach, transcending the traditional ideological approach, to teaching and learning the law encourages students to embrace the far-reaching and practical implications of a legal education.

The school takes pride in its long-standing commitment to diversity.¹⁰⁷⁷ Students of color comprise more than 25 percent of the student body. But what may be even more telling is the fact that the school's faculty also reflects diversity in race, sexual orientation, religion, and national origin.¹⁰⁷⁸ The University of Wisconsin's School of Law enrolled 274¹⁰⁷⁹ students in its fall 2004 entering class, and it has a student-faculty ratio of 12.5:1.¹⁰⁸⁰

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 160¹⁰⁸¹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 155 – 163¹⁰⁸²
- Median GPA: 3.38¹⁰⁸³ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.15 – 3.64¹⁰⁸⁴
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,411¹⁰⁸⁵
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 747¹⁰⁸⁶
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 21.9¹⁰⁸⁷

GRADES AND RANKING¹⁰⁸⁸

The University of Wisconsin Law School uses a grading scale that ranges from 65 to 95. The first-year law school courses are curved to 82.5-84 and the upper level courses follow a more liberal curve at 81.5-85. Although the University does not formally rank students, it does provide a table for employers. The top 10% of the class usually has a GPA of around 80 or higher.¹⁰⁸⁹

1076 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/madison.htm>.

1077 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/diversitymain.htm>

1078 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/diversityb.htm>.

1079 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/number.htm>

1080 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03170.php

1081 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/number.htm>

1082 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/stats.htm>

1083 Id.

1084 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/stats.htm>

1085 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/prospective/stats.htm>

1086 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03170.php

1087 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03170.php

1088 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/career/gradesystem.htm>

1089 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/career/gradesystem.htm>

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)¹⁰⁹⁰

The Law School grading system awards a number between 65 at the low end and 95 at the high end. For any class with more than 30 students, including first-year classes, apply a curve. The curve does, however, vary for first-year classes and other classes with first-year classes apply a curve range of 82.5 – 84, and upper level classes between 81.5 and 85. While some seminars and classes with fewer students may be letter graded, these grades are not factored into the student’s GPA. The following table is provided for employers by the University to show equivalents to a letter grading system:

A	95-87
AB	86-85
B	84-83
BC	82-80
C	79-77
D	76-70
F	69-65

CLASS RANK¹⁰⁹²

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ^{*1091}	87.5	86.0	85	84.2	82.0	77.0

The University of Wisconsin does not rank the law students unless they are third-year students in the top ten of their class in which case they are given their rank to aid in applying to judicial clerkships. The school provides the following Class Standing Table for use by employers to evaluate the relative position of a student within the class.¹⁰⁹³

	0-17 Credits	18-30 Credits	31-45 Credits	46-60 Credits	61-79 Credits	80 + Credits
Top	93.0	92.0	92.0	91.8	91.8	91.1
5%	88.5	88.2	88.1	87.7	88.0	87.9
10%	87.3	87.2	87.1	86.9	87.1	87.2
15%	86.8	86.4	86.4	86.5	86.7	86.7
20%	86.3	85.9	85.9	86.1	86.3	86.3
25%	85.8	85.5	85.6	85.6	85.9	85.9
30%	85.3	85.1	85.3	85.3	85.5	85.5
35%	84.8	84.7	84.9	84.8	85.1	85.1
40%	84.3	84.3	84.6	84.5	84.7	84.8
45%	84.0	83.9	84.2	84.2	84.4	84.5
50%	83.5	83.6	83.9	83.9	84.1	84.2
55%	83.3	83.3	83.6	83.6	83.8	83.8
60%	82.8	82.9	83.3	83.3	83.5	83.5
65%	82.3	82.5	83.0	82.9	83.2	83.3
70%	82.0	82.2	82.6	82.5	82.8	82.9
75%	81.6	81.7	82.1	81.9	82.3	82.3

1090 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/career/infoemployers.htm#students>

1091 Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 829

1092 http://www.law.wisc.edu/rtf/rtf4.htm#_Toc77739147

1093 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/career/gradesystem.htm>

80%	81.0	81.2	81.6	81.3	81.9	81.8
85%	80.3	80.5	81.0	80.8	81.4	81.2
90%	79.5	79.9	80.2	79.9	80.9	80.4
95%	78.5	78.6	78.7	78.5	79.9	79.3

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁰⁹⁴

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	GPA of 90+
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	GPA of 87.5+
<i>Cum laude</i> :	GPA of 85.5+
Dean's Honor List	GPA of 85 on 14 new credits

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁰⁹⁵

Name of Award	Recipient
Academic Excellence Award	Student who receives the highest grade in any numerically graded class.
Abe Sigman Award	Scholarship, character, and contributions to the Law School
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Award	Dedication to Family Law
Andre M. Saltoun Award	Special Contributions to <i>Wisconsin Law Review</i>
Mary Kelly Quackenbush Memorial Award	Outstanding student articles in <i>Wisconsin International Law Journal</i>
Mathys Memorial Award	Appellate Advocacy
State Bar of Wisconsin Environmental Law Essay Price	Best essay on environmental top
Ford Motor Company Leadership Award	Outstanding student leadership and dedication to promoting respect for all people

STUDENT JOURNALS¹⁰⁹⁶

- *Wisconsin Law Review* has six issues a year and with many articles focused on addressing legal issues of importance to the state of Wisconsin. Students edit all review's articles which also may cover national and international matters as well as including student-written pieces. Membership is determined through a writing competition administered after the first-year is complete.
- *The Wisconsin International Law Journal* carries articles by academics, professionals, and law students. Since its inception in 1982, student members have been responsible for publishing the journal including editing the journal's articles running an annual conference addressing current issues in international law. All membership is based on demonstrated writing skills.
- *Wisconsin Women's Law Journal*, admits all students who pass a writing test. The journal "combines the University of Wisconsin's 'law in action' tradition with the interdisciplinary nature of women's studies." Entirely student-run, the journal seeks articles covering a range of legal disciplines "including corporate, environmental, and criminal law issues, as well as family law."

1094 http://www.law.wisc.edu/rtf/rtf9.htm#_Toc77739243; % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 829

1095 http://www.law.wisc.edu/rtf/rtf9.htm#_Toc77739231; Email correspondence dated January 2, 2003, from Jane Heymann of the University of Wisconsin Career Services Office to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

1096 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/students/orgs.htm>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 829

MOOT COURT¹⁰⁹⁷

Though it is not required, first- and second-year students may compete to join moot court. It is one of most competitive activities offered by the school and membership is selective.¹⁰⁹⁸ Students in the program then vote to elect Board members. The program develops specific teams such as “Administrative Law, Chicago Bar, Corporate Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Medical Legal Ethics, Jessup International, Pace, Product Liability, Thomas Tang, and Vanderbilt.”¹⁰⁹⁹

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹¹⁰⁰

The University of Wisconsin Law School offers the following clinical programs: Legal Assistance to Institutionalized Persons (LAIP), Innocence Project, Family Law Project, Criminal Appeals Project, Restorative Justice Project, Economic Justice Clinic (Consumer Law Clinic & Neighborhood Law Project), Prosecution Project, Public Defender Project, Center for Patient Partnerships and the Legal Defense Program. In addition to the clinics, the school also offers internships and externships that are similar to the clinics, which include: Judicial Internship Program, Labor Law Externship, Department of Justice Clinical Externship Program, Criminal Appellate Practice Externship, Domestic Violence Externship, Externship in Rural America, Thurgood Marshall Externship, and the Wisconsin Coalition for Advocacy.¹¹⁰¹ Students consider the clinical program to be one of the strongest programs the school has to offer. Clinical programs involving criminal law are particularly sought after, as criminal law is one of the school’s leading fields.¹¹⁰²

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹¹⁰³

The University of Wisconsin Law School’s organizations include the American Bar Association/ Law Student Division, American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Black Law Students Association, Business & Tax Law Association, Children’s Justice Project, Christian Legal Society, Criminal Law Association, Dean’s Cup, Delta Theta Phi, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Indigenous Law Students Association, Intellectual Property Students Organization, Jewish Law Students Association, Korean Law Students Association, Latino Law Student Association, Law Revue, Law School Democrats of UW Madison, Legal Information Center, Legal Education Opportunities Program, Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, South Asian Law Student Association, Mock Trial, National Lawyers Guild, Older Wiser Law Students, PTLaw, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Theta Phi, Praxis Law School Magazine, QLaw (Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Law Students), Student Bar Association, Unemployment Compensation Appeals Clinic, Wisconsin International Law Society, Wisconsin Public Interest Law Foundation, Wisconsin Sports Law Society, and the Women’s Law Student Association.

1097 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 828

1098 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1099 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 828; <http://www.law.wisc.edu/students/orgs.htm>

1100 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/clinics/clinicaleducationskillstraining.htm>

1101 Email correspondence from Carolyn Lazar Butler, Assistant Dean, University of Wisconsin Law School, to BCG Attorney Search

1102 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1103 <http://students.law.wisc.edu/orgs.htm>

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS¹¹⁰⁴

Continuing Legal Education and Outreach
East Asian Legal Studies Center
Frank J. Remington Center
Great Lakes Indian Law Center
Institute for Legal Studies
Resource Center on Impaired Driving
Lawyering Skills Program
Communication and Advocacy Program
Center for Patient Partnerships

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years, on average: 110¹¹⁰⁵

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 77.2¹¹⁰⁶

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 97.4¹¹⁰⁷

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹¹⁰⁸

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 65.4
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 8.3
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 14.3
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 1.8
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 9.2
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

1104

1105 Email correspondence dated January 2, 2003, from Jane Heymann of the University of Wisconsin Career Services Office to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

1106 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03170.php

1107 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03170.php

1108 <http://www.law.wisc.edu/career/salary.htm>

The school adheres to strict medians. All first-year courses use a 3.1 median except Advocacy 1 and 2 where the median is 3.3. Second- and third-year courses have a 3.2 and absent special circumstances such as seminars or an unusually strong or poor class, professors may only deviate from that grade by plus or minus 0.2 of a point.¹¹¹⁹

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR GRADUATION¹¹²⁰

Superior	3.7 – 4.0
Excellent	3.4 – 3.6
High Pass	3.0 – 3.3*
Pass	2.7 **– 2.9
Low Pass	2.2 – 2.6
Failing	1.6 – 2.1

Class ranking and cumulative grade point average is available to students after each semester but the school only discloses ranking in 10% increments up to the Top-50%, leaving the rest as bottom 50%.¹¹²¹

* Brigham Young publishes the annual GPA required to make the top 33% of the class. This GPA ranges from 3.33-3.38, depending on the year.

**Students who fail to maintain a grade point average of 2.7 at the end of the second, fourth, and sixth semesters at the Law School may be terminated from the school.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹¹²²

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	Top 2%
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	3.55-3.79
<i>Cum laude:</i>	3.35-3.54

ACADEMIC AWARDS:¹¹²³

Name of Award	Recipient
Order of the Barristers	For moot court participation.
John S. Welch Award	Winners (10) of the co-curricular writing competition.
A.H. Christensen Award	Oral Advocacy selected by committee.
Hugh B. Brown Award	Class presentation and performance.
Achievement and Service Award	Variety of criteria.
CodeCo Award	For superior writing skills.
Women Lawyers of Utah	Advancement of women in society.
National Association of Women Lawyers	Advancement of women in society.
Utah Bar Foundation	High standards of professional responsibility.
BYU Research and Writing Award	For outstanding papers.
J. Reuben Clark Award	For academic excellence, integrity and service.
High Grade Awards	For excellence in law school.
Little Brown Award	For academic excellence.
Scholarly Writing Awards	For superior written work.
Bureau of National Affairs	For scholastic progress.
West Publishing Award	For outstanding scholastic achievement.
Foundation Press Award	For excellence in constitutional law.
Research Institute of America	For interest and ability in tax law.

1119 <http://www.law2.byu.edu/NewStudent/policies.pdf>

1120 http://www.law2.byu.edu/Admissions/degree_requirements.htm

1121 <http://www.law2byu.edu/NewStudent/policies.pdf>

1122 <http://www.law2.byu.edu/NewStudent/policies.pdf>, pg. 30; Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 67.

1123 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 67

STUDENT JOURNALS¹¹²⁴

All members of the journals and reviews at BYU are selected on a combined basis of grades and writing.

- **Law Review** is a quarterly publication and the selection criterion is stringent. In order to be selected, a student must be in the top 10% of the first year class and place in the top 60% of the writing competition. Second-year law students who remain in the top 10% of their class may also join the Law Review for the following year and need not participate in the write-on competition. The Law Review publishes a broad spectrum of scholarly writings by professionals and BYU law students.
- **Journal of Public Law** is a scholarly publication that focuses on issues in public law, relations between governments and citizens, governmental interaction, and societal implications.¹¹²⁵ Selection is based on a writing competition and class ranking; all those who comprise the top 20% of the first year class may participate. Transfer students may not use their ranking from their former school and are required to participate in the writing competition or to submit a substantial writing sample in order to gain admission.
- **Education & Law Journal** is published biannually and holds the distinction of being the only student-led publication in the nation dedicated to education law. The journal publishes articles submitted by legal scholars, practitioners, and educators. ELJ publishes notes written by BYU law students and those from students affiliated with other institutions.¹¹²⁶
- **International Law & Management Review** is an interdisciplinary journal that publishes articles on an array of management issues and international law. Students and faculty from both the law school and Marriott School of Management run the *Review*.¹¹²⁷

MOOT COURT¹¹²⁸

All students are required to write an appellate brief and give an oral argument as part of the first year curriculum. Moot court membership for second and third year students is by invitation only and is based on performance in the first year competition. Fall competitions determine composition of the law school's National Moot Court teams which travel the country competing. Recent BYU Moot Court teams include a civil rights team, Native American law team, family law team and an intellectual property team. All Moot Court members may participate in the administration, editing, and judging of the first-year competition.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

BYU offers clinical programs in the following areas: Civil Trial Practice, Criminal Trial Practice, Courthouse Assistance Domestic Relations Project, Volunteer Immigration Project, Elder Law Project, Domestic Violence Pro Bono Project, Tuesday Night Bar and Child Advocacy.¹¹²⁹

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹¹³⁰

The law school's extracurricular organizations include the American Constitution Society, Aggie Law Society, Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, Business Law Society, Corporations and Securities Society, Federalist Society, Government & Politics Legal Society, Health Care Law Association, International & Comparative Law Society, International Society of Family Law, Japanese Legal Studies Society, Joint Degree Society, Law & Economics Society, Law Partners, Law Without Borders, Minority Law Students Association, National Lawyers Association, Native American Law Students Association, Natural Resources Law Society, Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Private Practice Law Society, Public Interest Law,

1124 Id. at 34.

1125 http://www.law2.byu.edu/Student_Journals/index.htm

1126 http://www.law2.byu.edu/Student_Journals/index.htm

1127 http://www.law2.byu.edu/Student_Journals/index.htm

1128 <http://www.law2.byu.edu/mootcourt/>

1129 Correspondence dated December 27, 2002, from Mary Hoagland of the Brigham Young University Career Services Office to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

1130 Id.

Spirit of the Law, Sports & Entertainment Law Society, Student Advocates for Traditional Family Policy, Student Bar Association, Student Intellectual Property Law Association, Terry L. Crapo Law Society and the Women's Law Forum.

PROGRAMS AND CENTERS¹¹³¹

American Society of Comparative Law
International Center for Law and Religion Studies at BYU
Foreign and International Law Directory
International Society of Family Law
Marriage and Family Law Research Grant
BYU Law School/Bar Pro Bono Partnership
Society of Biblical Literature - Biblical Law
Symposium on the ALI's Family Dissolution Principles
The Community Lawyer
World Family Policy Center
Academic Success Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 100+

Percentage of 2004 graduates employed at graduation: 84¹¹³²

Percentage employed nine months after graduation: 94.3¹¹³³

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹¹³⁴

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 58.7
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 14.7
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 11.3
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: .7
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry and business: 12.0
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 2.7

1131 <http://www.law2.byu.edu/Organizations./index.htm>

1132 http://www.law2.byu.edu/Career_Services/salary.pdf

1133 Id. Includes part-time employment

1134 Id.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY—BLOOMINGTON

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
211 South Indiana Avenue Bloomington, IN 47405	(812) 855-7995	(812) 855-4765	www.law.indiana.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	C	
	(812) 855-4809		

SOME BRIEF FACTS

Indiana University's campus has been designated as one of the five most beautiful in the country and the *New York Times* has listed Bloomington as one of the nation's top-ten college towns.¹¹³⁵ Bloomington lives up to its motto "close to everything—nearly perfect," of course, this depends on your definition of "everything." Indianapolis, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Louisville are all within reasonable driving distance.¹¹³⁶ Indiana offers a number of outdoor recreational opportunities, and devoted fans of music and basketball will not be disappointed.

Since its founding over 150 years ago, the Indiana University School of Law-Bloomington has prepared students from all across the country and around the world for careers as lawyers in private practice, government, and business, and in academic fields.¹¹³⁷ The Indiana School of Law focuses on providing students with a solid foundation of excellence in the critical skills of reading, listening, reasoning, writing, and speaking with precision, accuracy and persuasive power.¹¹³⁸

The Indiana University School of Law is currently Number 36 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools and it offers a number of important specialty areas including some of the nation's leading programs in environmental, communications and information, global and international law, a strong clinical program, several joint-degree programs, and opportunities for study abroad. The School of Law has an approximate entering class size of 200 students and a student-faculty ratio of 14:1.¹¹³⁹

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

-Median LSAT: 163¹¹⁴⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 158 - 164¹¹⁴¹
 -Median GPA: 3.47¹¹⁴² 25th – 75th Percentile: 2.97 - 3.74¹¹⁴³

-Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 2,724¹¹⁴⁴
 -Number accepted during one recent sample year: 952¹¹⁴⁵
 -Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 34.9¹¹⁴⁶

1135 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/prospective/bloomington.shtml>

1136 Id.

1137 <http://www.law.indiana.edu>

1138 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/prospective/index.shtml>

1139 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/prospective/qanda.shtml>

1140 Id.

1141 Id.

1142 Id.

1143 Id.

1144 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03054.php

1145 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03054.php

1146 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03054.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹¹⁴⁷

Indiana Law adheres to a standard 4.0 grading scale. Generally, the 50th percentile mark falls around a GPA average of 3.15.¹¹⁴⁸

A+	4.0	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D+	1.3
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7	F	0.0

CLASS RANK

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ^{*1149}	3.46	3.31	3.25	3.15	N/A	2.3

* According to student surveys, Indiana University professors adhere to a strict curve with 3.0 set as the median. The only classes where 3.0 is not the required median are seminars, which some students claim can have medians of up to 3.5. Most students feel that grade inflation does not exist at all.¹¹⁵⁰

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹¹⁵¹

Order of the Coif:	Top 10% (20 students)
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	2 students
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	20 students
<i>Cum laude:</i>	60 students
Dean’s List:	180 students

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹¹⁵²

Name of Award	Recipient
Highest Grade Award	Student with highest grade in all classes with more than 10 students. ¹¹⁵³
Scribes Awards	Top first-years in Legal Writing sections.
Merit Scholarships	Merit-based.
Order of the Barristers	Excellence in advocacy.
CALI Excellence for the Future	Top grade in class; faculty choice.
Sig Beck Award	Writing award given to one second-year and one third-year based on an essay contest regarding commercial law. ¹¹⁵⁴
West Publisher’s Award	Top GPA in each class.
Vice President Scholar	Top second-year student.
JUMP Scholars	For academic achievement.
Moot Court Awards	Merit-based.
John Edwards University Fellowship	Top Indiana University student.
Chancellor’s scholarships	Top merit.

1147 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243
 1148 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243
 1149 * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2000 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243
 1150 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.
 1151 % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243
 1152 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243; <http://www.law.indiana.edu/alumni/awards/index.shtml>
 1153 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.
 1154 Id.

Student surveys indicated that the nationally recognized Order of the Coif award is the most prestigious and coveted award at the Law School.¹¹⁵⁵

STUDENT JOURNALS¹¹⁵⁶

Law Students have the chance to serve on one of the school's three journals. Students can either grade on or write on to all three of the journals, with different criteria for each one. Student surveys indicated that the *Indiana Law Journal* is the most competitive and most prestigious with the *Communications Law Journal* second, and the *International Law Journal* was said to be the least reputed.¹¹⁵⁷ All three journals have a note writing competition during second year as well.¹¹⁵⁸

- *Indiana Law Journal*¹¹⁵⁹ is published quarterly and is one of the nation's oldest public university law reviews. The top 10% of the class (approximately 20 people) can automatically grade on, as long as it is their journal of choice. Additionally, students who have exceptional writing ability but are not in the top 10% may be asked to join based on their writing and Blue Book skills. Those students who write on do not have their grades factored in at all. However because of the automatic extension of membership to all those in the top 10%, the write-on spots are rare and highly competitive.
- *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies*¹¹⁶⁰ differs from most law journals in that it is faculty-edited and employs peer review of articles. Its articles address the "intersections of global and domestic legal regimes, markets, politics, technologies and cultures." This is the journal of choice for IU students seeking to practice international law or those with a general interest in the subject. Students gain admittance to this journal through a combination of writing and grades. Students in the top 25% of the class may elect to be on this Journal without having to submit to the writing contest, as long as they choose this Journal as their first preference. The second year writing contest plays a bigger role in deciding the remaining positions, although grades are a factor for everyone who chooses to apply.
- *Federal Communications Law Journal*¹¹⁶¹ is the nation's oldest and most widely circulated communications law journal and it is the official journal of the Federal Communications Bar Association. Students with an interest in communications law and who are in the top 10% of their class automatically qualify for this Journal. Due to the prestige of the journal within communications legal circles, positions are very coveted. The rest of the student staff is chosen through the writing competition, with a lesser consideration for their grades.

MOOT COURT¹¹⁶²

Although participation in moot court is not mandatory at Indiana University for first-year students, almost 75% of the second-year class participates in the intramural Shermon Minton Competition in the fall and spring; both require an oral and a written component. Top students from the intramural competition get to be on the Moot Court Board for the following year where they compete in extramural competitions. Since a large majority of the school chooses to participate, the competition is predictably fierce. The Law School puts a great deal of emphasis on this program making it one of the most successful at Indiana University.

1155 Id.

1156 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/publications/>

1157 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1158 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1159 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/ilj/index.shtml>

1160 <http://ijgls.indiana.edu/>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243

1161 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/fclj/>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 243

1162 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 242; <http://www.law.indiana.edu/webinit/mootcourt/index.shtml>.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

The Community Legal Clinic provides greatly need assistance on a range of family law issues for the indigent of Monroe County, Indiana.¹¹⁶⁴ In the Child Advocacy Clinic, students are appointed as guardians ad litem.¹¹⁶⁵ Several non-client service opportunities allow second- and third-year students to work on real cases under the supervision of members of the faculty, practicing attorneys, or judges.¹¹⁶⁶ Volunteers in the Protective Order Project work closely with a local shelter for battered women and their children. The Inmate Legal Assistance Project requires volunteers to travel to the federal prison in Terre Haute to meet directly with inmates to resolve their problems with the institution. Legal Services Organization Assistance Project provides legal aid to the indigent through the local office of the Legal Services Organization. Lastly, in the Environmental Law Research Group, students work directly with attorneys on environmental problems.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹¹⁶⁷

The University of Indiana School of Law's active student organizations include the American Bar Association, American Constitution Society, Amnesty International, Animal Legal Defense Fund (Student Chapter), Asian Pacific Islander American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Business and Law Society, Christian Legal Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society for Law and Public Studies, Feminist Law Forum, Inmate Legal Assistance Clinic, Intellectual Property Association, International Law Society, Latino Law Student Association, Law Drama Society, Law/SPEA Student Organization, Middle Eastern Law Student Association, Moot Court Board, Older & Wiser Law Students, OUTLAW (Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Law Caucus), Outreach for Legal Literacy, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Protective Order Project, Public Interest Law Foundation, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Student Law Association and the Women's Law Caucus.

CENTERS AND PROJECTS

- Protective Order Project
- Inmate Legal Assistance Project
- Legal Services Organization Assistance Project
- Outreach for Legal Literacy
- Environmental Law Research Group
- Tenant Assistance Project
- Pro Bono Project
- Public Interest Internship Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 81¹¹⁶⁸

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 86.4¹¹⁶⁹

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 98¹¹⁷⁰

1164 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/curriculum/programs/clinical.shtml>

1165 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/curriculum/programs/clinics/cac.shtml>

1166 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/curriculum/programs/clinical.shtml>

1167 <http://www.law.indiana.edu/students/groups/index.shtml>

1168 http://www.law.indiana.edu/careers/general_info/annual_reports/2001rpt.pdf

1169 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03054.php

1170 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03054.php

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹¹⁷¹

- Percent of graduate employed by private firms: 55
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 14
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 9
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 6

Some students surveyed felt that the above statistics were inaccurate and that students could not verify if this employment breakdown was actually representative of Indiana graduates; others indicated that the breakdown does not account for the large percentage of unemployed students.

1171 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03054.php (listing 3% unknown)

RANK

36

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

MAILING ADDRESS

University of Georgia School
of Law
Athens, GA 30602

MAIN PHONE

(706) 542-5191

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(706) 542-5182

ADMISSION'S PHONE

(706) 542-7060

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

(706) 542-7060

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.lawsch.uga.edu

SOME BRIEF FACTS

The University of Georgia, School of Law ("UGA") is currently ranked Number 36 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools.¹¹⁷²

Students get a good deal for their investment at UGA. This reasonably priced state school emphasizes practical training, boasts appellate advocacy prowess as well as trial excellence, and virtually guarantees employment with a 98% placement rate for its 2004 graduating class.¹¹⁷³

The University of Georgia, School of Law enrolled 235 full-time law students for its fall 2004 entering class¹¹⁷⁴ and has a student-faculty ratio of 17.4:1.¹¹⁷⁵

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 162¹¹⁷⁶ 25th - 75th Percentile: 157 - 164¹¹⁷⁷
- Median GPA: 3.65¹¹⁷⁸ 25th - 75th Percentile: 3.35 - 3.82¹¹⁷⁹
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 2,870¹¹⁸⁰
- Number accepted during 2004: 580
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 20.2

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹¹⁸¹

UGA Law uses a modified 4-point scale, with a range of 4.3 to a 0.00 A+ to F respectively. The class mean for first-year classes must fall between 2.9 and 3.1. The class mean for upper-level courses must fall within the range of 2.9 and 3.2. Variations from these rules must be approved by the Dean. All courses and seminars with 20 or fewer students are not subject to this policy.¹¹⁸²

A+	4.3	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D+	1.3
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7	F	0.0

According to NALP, only those students with average GPAs of 3.5 or higher (top 10%) are ranked individually. All other students receive a GPA each semester. Students are placed in grade clusters, which provide employers with the relative standing of individual job candidates. Minimum GPA for graduation is 1.7.¹¹⁸³

1172 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/rankings/law/brief/lawrank_brief.php

1173 <http://www.law.uga.edu/career/statistics/empstatso3.html>

1174 <http://www.law.uga.edu/admissions/jd/profile/index.html>

1175 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03042.php

1176 <http://www.law.uga.edu/admissions/jd/profile/index.html>

1177 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03042.php

1178 <http://www.law.uga.edu/admissions/jd/profile/index.html>

1179 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03042.php

1180

Id.

1181 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/semesters/gradedistfa04.html>

1182 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/handbook/adv.html>

1183 Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National

Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 466

CLASS RANK¹¹⁸⁴

The chart below “represents the distribution of cumulative grade point averages at the end of Fall Semester 2004.”¹¹⁸⁵

Percentile Rankings based on GPA for University of Georgia School of Law ¹¹⁸⁶			
	Class of 2005 n = 202 mean = 3.15 median = 3.18	Class of 2006 n = 247* mean = 3.04 median = 3.04	Class of 2007 n = mean = median =
	Grade Point Average	Grade Point Average	Grade Point Average
Top 10%	3.61 and above	3.67 and above	**
Top 20%	3.46 and above	3.48 and above	**
Top 33%	3.33 and above	3.29 and above	**
Top-50%	3.18 and above	3.04 and above	**
Top 75%	2.90 and above	2.81 and above	**

*Students responding to our survey indicated that the curve, which has a median of a B-, is much stricter during first-year classes than in the following years. Also, grade distributions in smaller classes tend to be more skewed than in larger classes.¹¹⁸⁷

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹¹⁸⁸

- Order of the Coif: Top 10%; 20 students
- Summa Cum Laude: Top 2%; 3.8 GPA; 3 students
- Magna Cum Laude: Top 8%; 3.5 GPA; 17 students
- Cum Laude: Top 35%; 3.0-3.49 GPA; 71 students

NOTE: Per the school’s Web page: “Beginning with the Class of 2005, honors will be distributed on the following basis: top 2% of each graduating class will be awarded the J.D. degree *summa cum laude*; the next 8.5% of the class will be awarded the degree *magna cum laude*; the next 37.5% of the class will be awarded the degree *cum laude*.”¹¹⁸⁹

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹¹⁹⁰

Name of Award	Recipient
MacDougald Award	First Honor Graduate
Meinhard Award	Graduate with highest cumulative GPA
Dean Rusk Award	Best paper in international law field
Class of 1993 Torts Award	Students with highest grade in first-year Torts class (3)
Shinn Award	Student writer of the best legal article
Chaffin Award	Excellence in the study of trusts and estates
Georgia Bankers Association Award	Excellence in the study of bankruptcy
Georgia Municipal Association Award	Excellence in the study of municipal corporation

1184 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/semesters/gradedistfao4.html>

1185 Id.

1186 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/semesters/gradedistfao4.html>

1187 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1188 Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 466

1189 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/handbook/pol.html>

1190 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 466

Donald P. Gilmore Jr. Labor Law Award	Excellence in the study of labor law
William King Meadow Award	All-around excellence
Ellen Jordan Environmental Award	Outstanding performance in environmental courses and activities

STUDENT JOURNALS¹¹⁹¹

Students at the University of Georgia School of Law publish three highly regarded legal journals. Membership on the journals is limited to second- and third-year students who have demonstrated outstanding writing ability. All positions are garnered on the basis of a writing competition, without the possibility of getting on through grades alone.

- *Georgia Law Review* is published four times a year and is devoted to the study and analysis of contemporary legal issues. The Review has been published continuously since 1966 and is edited by second- and third-year law students chosen on the basis of a writing competition.¹¹⁹²
- *Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law* was established in 1970 and is published three times a year. It is generally considered the second most prestigious journal at the Law School.¹¹⁹³
- *Journal of Intellectual Property Law* is the nation's first student-edited law journal devoted solely to the field of intellectual property law, specifically patent law, trademark, trade secrets, copyright, and related topics. The Journal publishes critical and analytical articles from leading academics and practicing attorneys as well as student-written notes on current legal issues. While not as established as the other two journals, its status as the first of its kind makes it highly regarded among students, especially those seeking to practice intellectual property law.¹¹⁹⁴

MOOT COURT¹¹⁹⁵

The moot court program at the University of Georgia has been described as a 'juggernaut.' UGA has twice been named National Champions (1990 & 1991) and it has won 23 regional championships. In the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competitions, UGA has won the International Championship (1990) and it has won four national titles as well. The moot court teams have won one world and nine national championships in the last ten years; the mock trial teams have won one national and five regional and state titles.¹¹⁹⁶ Due to the teams' exceptional success, moot court and all related activities are highly regarded at the school, and equal in prestige to journal membership. First-year students are required to participate in one round of competition. Subsequent rounds are optional. Most moot court teams are selected on the basis of the student's performance during the first-year competition and tryouts during the fall of the second year. Board members are chosen by the outgoing student board at the end of the student's second year of school.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹¹⁹⁷

The University Of Georgia School Of Law's clinical programs complement the classroom curriculum by offering diverse practical experiences in a variety of legal settings and practice areas. Nearly three quarters of UGA's second- and third-year law students gain hands-on experience annually through the law school's clinical programs: Criminal Practice, Legal Aid and Defender Clinic (established in 1967), Prosecutorial Clinic (established in 1970), Civil Practice Externship Clinic, Family Violence Clinic, Public Interest Practicum and the Etowah Practicum (Law and

1191 <http://www.law.uga.edu/academics/journals/index.html>

1192 <http://www.law.uga.edu/galawrev/index.html>

1193 <http://www.uga.edu/ruskcenter/gjiicl.html>

1194 <http://www.law.uga.edu/jipl/>

1195 <http://www.law.uga.edu/academics/advocacy/moot.html>

1196 <http://www.law.uga.edu/admissions/pointsofpride.html>

1197 <http://www.law.uga.edu/academics/clinics/index.html>

Ecology, Upper Etowah Watershed).

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹¹⁹⁸

UGA's student organizations include, Association of American Trial Lawyers, the American Bar Association/Law Student Division, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, Business and Corporate Law Association, Christian Legal Society, Dean's Ambassadors, Environmental Law Association, Equal Justice Foundation, Federalist Society, Gay & Lesbian Legal Network, Georgia League, Georgia Society for International and Comparative Law, Hispanic Law Students Association, Human Rights Society, Intellectual Property Law Association, Jewish Law Student Association, Law Partners, Phi Alpha Delta, Sports and Entertainment Law, Student Bar Association, and the Women Law Students Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS¹¹⁹⁹

Dean Rusk Center of International, Comparative, and Graduate Legal Studies
Georgia Law at Oxford
International Legal Clerkships
London Law Consortium

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 500+

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 71.6¹²⁰⁰

Percentage of graduates employed nine months from graduation: 96.6¹²⁰¹

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹²⁰²

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 61
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 16
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 4
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 6
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 2

1198 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/semesters/studentorganizations.html>

1199 <http://www.law.uga.edu/facstaffstu/students/handbook/contents.html>

1200 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03042.php

1201 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03042.php

1202 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03042.php (listing 1% as unknown)

Letter Grade	Numerical equivalent	*Old grade system
A	100-88	85 – 94
B	88-80	75 – 84
C	79 – 70	65 – 74
D	69 – 66	60 – 64
F	below 66	below 60

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

Wake Forest’s grading scale changed beginning with the class of 1994. Grades are now being measured by a curve of 81 for first-year students and an 83 for classes taken during the second two years of law school. Additionally, smaller classes and some other special cases are exempt from the curve. Students indicated that the requisite curve results in generally low GPAs of around 85-86 even for the top one-third of the class.¹²¹³ Professors may not deviate from the curve except in electives or seminars with fewer than 20 students.¹²¹⁴

CLASS RANK¹²¹⁵

Only students in the Top-50% of their class are individually ranked; all others receive a percentile ranking broken out at 5% break points. In addition, only students may request their class rank and must do so through the Registrar’s Office.

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ^{*1216}	88.1	86.9	86.1	84.1	82.0	73.000

Surveys indicated that students could request their individual rank for employment purposes.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹²¹⁷

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
Order of the Barrister:	Outstanding advocacy by third-year students
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	Cumulative GPA of 91+
<i>Cum laude</i> :	Top 10%
Dean’s List:	Top 10% each semester.

¹²¹³ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹²¹⁴ <http://www.law.wfu.edu/prebuilt/Student%20HB2%202004-2005-Ch5.pdf>

¹²¹⁵ <http://www.law.wfu.edu/prebuilt/Student%20HB2%202004-2005-Ch5.pdf>

¹²¹⁶ * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 658

¹²¹⁷ Percentage of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 858

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹²¹⁸

Name of Award	Recipient
American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Award	Graduating student with high professional standards and an interest in family law.
American Bankruptcy Institute Award	Outstanding student in debtor-creditor law.
American Bar Assn. Section of Urban, State, and Local Government Award	Highest grade in local government and land use regulation.
James C. Berkowitz Award for Best Oralist	Winners of the Stanley Moot Court Competition.
Debbie Parker Moot Court Service Award	Member of the Moot Court Board or a participant in the Walker Moot Court Competition who has a spirit of dedication and service to the School of Law as well as compassion and cooperation with fellow students.
E. Mcgruder Faris Memorial Award	High standards of character, leadership, and scholarship.
Robert Goldberg Award in Trial Advocacy	Highest aptitude and ethics in trial advocacy.
James F. Hoge Memorial Prize	Best student writing in the Wake Forest Law Review
I. Beverly Lake Award	Greatest proficiency in the study of constitutional law.
Law Review Prize	Outstanding note or comment.
Moot Court Board Awards	Board selects most active third-year students to recognize (6).
CALI	Outstanding achievement in legal education to students attaining the highest grade in certain academically accredited, non-seminar courses.
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Academic Achievement, motivation, tenacity, and drive as well as advancement of women in society and the presentation of a personable and professional image.
Phi Alpha Delta Scholastic Excellence Award	Member who graduates with highest cumulative GPA.
West Publishing Company	Scholarly accomplishment.
North Carolina Academy of Trial Lawyers Award	Most outstanding advocate in each section of trial practice.
North Carolina Student Pro Bono Award	Awarded by the North Carolina State Bar.
Edwin M. Stanley Memorial	Open to second- and third-year students to hone their trial advocacy skills; conducted by the moot court board.
James A. Webster Jr. Faculty Award	Greatest proficiency in property law.
Zeliff Trial Competition	Open to second- and third-year students & conducted by the Student Trial Bar. Winner receives cash award and a trophy.

STUDENT JOURNALS

- *Wake Forest Law Review*¹²¹⁹ offers students membership based on grades, writing skills, or a combination of the two factors. The top 10% of first-year students as determined by grades gain an immediate offer to join. Another 10% may join based on grades and writing skills combined with writing accounting for two-thirds of the score and grades as one-third of the score. In addition, those who did not make it on the review in their first year but are in the top 10% of their second year class have the option of joining the review. The members edit and publish four issues a year.
- *Wake Forest Intellectual Property Law Journal*¹²²⁰ has no print edition but rather is only available online. The journal contains the full range of journal material from articles to notes to comments as authored by academics, students, and professionals. A relatively new journal, it is a welcomed addition to the law school for students who seek to practice intellectual property law and those students who feel that one journal option limits them.¹²²¹

MOOT COURT¹²²²

Wake Forest has a mandatory moot court component to its first-year legal writing class which culminates in an appellate brief and argument in the spring. After first year, students may engage in national and international moot court competitions with other law schools and in the Stanley Prize intramural competition. Board membership is determined based on “academic performance, aptitude for supervisory work, and satisfactory completion of the legal writing and research and appellate advocacy courses.”¹²²³ Board members take on responsibility for choosing the issues for argument and in crafting oral arguments. Students who answered the surveys found Moot Court to be a good experience but not overly competitive due to the small size of the school.¹²²⁴

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹²²⁵

Wake Forest University School of Law offers three main clinical programs: Litigation Clinic (with exposure to both civil and criminal law), Clinic for the Elderly, and Judicial externship. Clinics are especially valuable because of the great mentors the students get the opportunity to work with through the program, who were all hand-selected by the highly regarded program director. Students provided that getting a spot on a clinic is not very competitive, though the Criminal and Civil clinics are most highly regarded among the student body.¹²²⁶

EXTERNSHIP¹²²⁷

Students taking Judicial Externships put in 120 hours with a state or federal judge as well as attending class sessions and preparing a final paper.

1219 <http://www.law.wfu.edu/x2057.xml>; <http://www.law.wfu.edu/lawreview/index.htm>; <http://www.law.wfu.edu/lawreview/membership.htm>

1220 <http://www.law.wfu.edu/ipjournal.xml>

1221 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1222 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 857

1223 <http://www.law.wfu.edu/x2095.xml>

1224 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1225 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 857

1226 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1227 <http://www.law.wfu.edu/x342.xml>

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹²²⁸

Wake Forest University Law School's organizations include the American Bar Association Moot Court, Association Against the Death Penalty, North Carolina Bar Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Association of Trial Lawyers of America National Trial Team, Graduate School Rugby Club, JD/MBA Society, Outlaw, Phi Alpha Delta, Criminal Law Roundtable, Public Interest Law Organization, Domestic Violence Advocacy Center, Student Bar Association, Environmental Law Society, Sports and Entertainment Law Association, Federalist Society, Student Trial Bar, Intellectual Property Law Association, *The Hearsay* (student newspaper), International Law Society, Women In Law, Wake Law Civil Liberties Union and the Honor Council.

PROGRAMS

Legal Research and Writing Program
Three International Summer Programs

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 90+¹²²⁹

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 74.5¹²³⁰

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 93.7¹²³¹

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹²³²

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 60
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 16
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 7
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 1
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 11
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 1

1228 <http://www.law.wfu.edu/students/index.htm>

1229 Provided by Wake Forest University Law School's Office of Career Services

1230 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03120.php

1231 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03120.php

1232 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03120.php (listing 1% as unknown)

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹²⁴⁵

Letter Grade	Numerical Grade	Point Value
A	100 – 93	4.0
B	92 – 85	3.0
C	84 – 77	2.0
D	76 – 69	1.0
E	68 – 61	0.0

* Only the top 5% of students are ranked once a year in the spring.¹²⁴⁶ When calculating rankings, first-year grades are not considered as heavily as second- and third-year grades.¹²⁴⁷ First-year classes are all graded on a strict curve with a mandatory grade distribution for each class. A student's grade often depends greatly upon the caliber of other students in the class. Students in a class with academically excellent classmates can often receive harsher grades than those in a mediocre one.¹²⁴⁸

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)¹²⁴⁹

First-year courses:

A's = 25%

B's = 45%

C's = 26%

D's or E's may not be assigned to any more than 4% of the class and may only be assigned with there is a clear lack of effort or progress.

For second- and third-year courses, the faculty is provided with a recommended grade distribution based on patterns in past classes. The faculty may elect to adhere to such distributions, either wholly or in part or merely use them as a reference. Thus, a mandatory curve exists only for the first-year courses.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹²⁵¹

Order of the Coif:	10%
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	Top 3%
<i>Cum laude</i> :	Top 25%

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹²⁵²

Name of Award	Recipient
<i>Ohio State Law Journal Awards</i>	Chosen by faculty advisor & law journal staff (4).
Journal on Dispute Resolution	Chosen by faculty & JDR staff (2).
Moot Court Awards	Chosen by faculty advisor (4).
Leadership Awards	Chosen by dean & faculty (4).
Clinic Awards	Chosen by dean & clinic faculty (2).
Tax Award	Highest average in tax course.
Academic Excellence	Highest cumulative average in each class (10).
Labor & Employment	Chosen by dean & faculty.
Bankruptcy	Chosen by dean & faculty.

¹²⁴⁵ <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/docs/webhandbook.pdf>

¹²⁴⁶ <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/admissions/academics/grading.html>

¹²⁴⁷ <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/admissions/academics/grading.html>

¹²⁴⁸ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹²⁴⁹ <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/admissions/academics/grading.html> <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/docs/webhandbook.pdf>, pg. 21

¹²⁵⁰ Id.

¹²⁵¹ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 363

¹²⁵² National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 363

Dispute Resolution	Best research papers in ADR coursework.
John Marshall Adams Constitutional Law Award	Top student in constitutional law.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

JOURNALS¹²⁵³

- *Ohio State Law Journal*¹²⁵⁴ draws on the top 20 students of the first-year class in addition to students selected through a writing competition for its editorial staff. Ranked 19th in the country, the Law Journal has a wide readership and enjoys considerable prestige in the legal community. The students are encouraged to edit and author works for publication.
- *The Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution (JDR)*,¹²⁵⁵ started by students and run by students, is “dedicated to the exploration of alternative dispute resolution (ADR).” The journal publishes two article issues, a symposium, and an annotated bibliography issue. The top two students in each first-year Legal Writing and Analysis section are invited to join as are students who meet the journal’s requirements for passing the annual summer writing competition, held jointly with the Ohio State Law Journal and open to all students.

MOOT COURT¹²⁵⁶

In the fall of their second-year, students must participate in a mandatory appellate advocacy course. In the spring of their second-year, students may participate in a voluntary moot court competition, which is used to select students for interscholastic moot court teams, a very highly regarded honor. Moritz College sends 46 students on 17 teams to interscholastic competitions, and over 200 students participate in moot court, negotiation and trial advocacy competitions beyond the required course. All intramural and interscholastic lawyering skills competitions are administered by the Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Governing Board. Board members are selected by outgoing Board members through a series of interviews. All board members are third-year students who demonstrate the ability, maturity, and judgment to perform such a vital service for the College and its students. The faculty advisor serves as the director of the Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Competition Program.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹²⁵⁷

The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law offers the following clinical programs: Civil Law Clinic, Prosecution Clinic, Criminal Defense Clinic, Children’s Rights Clinic, Multi-Party, Complex Claims Mediation Clinic, Small Claims Mediation Clinic, and the Legislation Clinic. These clinical programs earned high marks from students responding to our survey, which indicated that they are very hands-on and provide excellent practical experience outside of the classroom.¹²⁵⁸

ORGANIZATIONS¹²⁵⁹

The Ohio State University, Michael E. Moritz College of Law’s students organizations include the Advocates for Children, American Constitution Society, Appellate Advocacy Council, Asian/Pacific-American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Business Law Society, Christian Legal Society, Criminal Law Society, Cyber, Intellectual Property, Entertainment

1253 <http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/students/journals.html>

1254 http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/students/life/student_orgs_full.html#Journal

1255 http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/students/life/student_orgs_full.html#JDR

1256 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 261

1257 Id.

1258 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1259 http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/students/life/student_orgs.html

Law Society, Delta Theta Phi, Dispute Resolution Association, Dispute Resolution and Youth, Environmental Law Association, Federalist Society, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Law Association, Health Law Society, Hearsay, Hispanic Law Students Association, International Law Society, Inter-Professional Council, Islamic Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, J. Reuben Clark, Society, Labor & Employment Law Association, Law School Democrats, Law School Republicans, Law Students for Equal Opportunity Education, Minority Law Outreach Program, Moot Court and Lawyering Skills Governing Board, Moritz College of Law Rugby Football Club, Moritz Community Outreach Project, National Lawyers Guild, Ohio State Journal on Dispute Resolution, Ohio State Law Journal, Ohio State Law Students for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, Ohio State Student Legislation Association, OutLaws, Pro Bono Research Group, Public Interest Law Foundation, Sports and Entertainment Law Association, Street Law, Student Bar Association, Student Chapter of Animal Legal Defense Fund, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and the Women's Law Caucus.

Average number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 125¹²⁶⁰

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 69.3¹²⁶¹

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 94.9¹²⁶²

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹²⁶³

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 59
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 10
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 16
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 11
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 2

1260 Email correspondence dated January 9, 2003, from Ameer McKim, Assistant Dean of Professional Development at The Ohio State University School of Law, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

1261 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03126.php

1262 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03126.php

1263 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03126.php (listing 1% as unknown)

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA-HASTINGS

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SOME BRIEF FACTS

UC Hastings College of the Law is currently ranked Number 39 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. Since its founding by Serranus Clinton Hastings, the first Chief Justice of California, Hastings College of the Law has been at the center of the West Coast's legal community. Hastings graduates, while well-prepared for all kinds of practice, sit as judges on the California bench by a 3-to-1 margin over any other law school's graduates.¹²⁶⁵ Hastings is also well known for its exceptional tax program.¹²⁶⁶

The James Edgar Hervey Skyroom student lounge offers a 360-degree panoramic view of San Francisco's awe-inspiring skyline and serves as a constant reminder of the school's beautiful environs and the vastness of opportunity awaiting its graduates.¹²⁶⁷ Situated in the Bay City's Civic Center, and in the midst of federal and state courts, Hastings succeeds in providing its students with ample professional prospects. The school's fall 2004 entering class was comprised of 427 students,¹²⁶⁸ and it has a student-faculty ratio of 22.7:1.¹²⁶⁹

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 163¹²⁷⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 148 – 180¹²⁷¹
- Median GPA: 3.57¹²⁷² 25th – 75th Percentile: 2.59 – 4.07¹²⁷³
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 7,176¹²⁷⁴
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 1,398¹²⁷⁵
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 19.5¹²⁷⁶

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹²⁷⁷

UC Hastings adheres to a standard 4-point grading system. Each student's class rank is based on his/her prior year's coursework and is available in late July.¹²⁷⁸

A+	4.0	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D	1.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	F	0
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.5		

¹²⁶⁴ http://www.uchastings.edu/quick_01/#Location

¹²⁶⁵ http://www.uchastings.edu/quick_01/#History

¹²⁶⁶ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹²⁶⁷ http://www.uchastings.edu/welcome_01/

¹²⁶⁸ <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=480>

¹²⁶⁹ <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=480>

¹²⁷⁰ Id.

¹²⁷¹ Id.

¹²⁷² Id.

¹²⁷³ Id.

¹²⁷⁴ Id.

¹²⁷⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03015.php

¹²⁷⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03015.php

¹²⁷⁷ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 574

¹²⁷⁸ http://www.uchastings.edu/site_files/StudentServices/2004_stusvcs_student_guidebook.pdf

GRADE NORMALIZATION POLICY¹²⁷⁹

UC Hastings divides its grades between GPA and non-GPA courses, students receive letter grades for both GPA and non-GPA courses but classes such as Legal Writing and others that focus on skills or techniques, and where the grade is not based on an anonymously graded final, are not used in GPA computation.

For GPA courses, 65%-80% of the class receive a grade of B- or higher, whereas 10%-20% may receive a grade of A- or higher. A faculty member may assign a C- only for work that is wholly unsatisfactory, i.e. there is no mandatory grade of C- or lower. D's and F's are only assigned for work that is unsatisfactory *and* falls substantially below other participants in the class.¹²⁸⁰

For Non-GPA courses, 10%-33% may receive an A or higher with the median being a B.¹²⁸¹

CLASS RANK

PERCENTILE	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ^{*1282}	3.467	3.242	3.173	3.050	2.777	2.0

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹²⁸³

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	Student with the highest GPA after six semesters.
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	Top 5%
<i>Cum laude</i> :	Top 15%

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹²⁸⁴

Name of Award	Recipient
Milton D. Green Citation	Student with one of the ten highest cumulative averages in a first-year class.
CALI	Highest grade in every course carrying academic credit.
Section Scholarship	Student attaining the highest cumulative grade point average in the student's first-year section and who returns to Hastings for the student's second year of law study
Thurston Society	Highest 5% of GPAs after first year, and GPA in the top 10% after second or third year.
Valedictorian	Highest GPA after five semesters of academic work.

STUDENT JOURNALS

First-year students with a minimum GPA of 2.2 who have completed Legal Research & Writing and Moot Court are eligible to participate in the Inter-Journal Writing Competition.¹²⁸⁵ The six journals at Hastings select members from participants in the writing competition

1279 http://www.uchastings.edu/regulations_01/PDF/academic_regso3-04.pdf, page 12

1280 http://www.uchastings.edu/site_files/academic_regso3-04.pdf

1281 http://www.uchastings.edu/site_files/academic_regso3-04.pdf

1282 * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class. National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 574

1283 http://www.uchastings.edu/site_files/academic_regso3-04.pdf; % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 426

1284 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 574

1285 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1715>

- **Hastings Law Journal (HLJ)** publishes scholarly articles, essays, book reviews, and student notes on a broad range of legal topics. The Journal publishes six issues annually. Members are chosen in one of six ways: (1) the top three students from each section are asked to join based on grades alone; (2) fifteen students are eligible based on their writing competition scores; (3) twelve students may join based on a combination of writing competition scores and grades; (4) through HLJ's special admissions program based which examines grades, writing competition scores, Legal Writing & Research grades, and a supplemental personal statement; (5) being in the top 15 of transfer students entering the writing competition; (6) student submission and acceptance for publication a note.¹²⁸⁶ Students must generally be in the top 10% of their class to be invited to join.¹²⁸⁷
- **Hastings Constitutional Law Quarterly** lays claim to being “the nation’s oldest law journal devoted to the subject of constitutional law.”¹²⁸⁸ One second-year member will be chosen to sit on the editorial board. The Quarterly chooses second-year members solely on the basis of writing competition submissions. The Quarterly is considered one of the most competitive journals next to the Hastings Law Journal.
- **Hastings International and Comparative Law Review (HICLR)** focuses “exclusively to the discussion of international and comparative law.”¹²⁸⁹ New members are selected four different ways. The top 15% will be selected on grades alone.¹²⁹⁰ The rest are selected based on a combination of grades, performance in the writing competition, and the personal statement.¹²⁹¹ A few students may be selected by submitting a personal statement, a written statement explaining why the student did not participate in the writing competition and a draft of a student note that meets the approval of the editorial board.¹²⁹² Students may also be admitted by performing a minimum of 100 hours of volunteer work over the summer.¹²⁹³ Students must generally be in the top one-third of their class to be invited to join.¹²⁹⁴
- **Hastings Communications & Entertainment Law Journal (COMM/ENT)**¹²⁹⁵ considers itself to be “one of the nation’s preeminent journals covering entertainment, intellectual property, the Internet, telecommunications, biotechnology, multimedia, broadcasting, and constitutional law.” COMM/ENT is published three times annually.¹²⁹⁶ COMM/ENT selects its members by carefully weighing performance in the writing competition, grades, and information volunteered in a personal statement. Students must generally be in the top one-third of their class to be invited to join.¹²⁹⁷ Students with a demonstrated interest in the entertainment and intellectual property law are given favorable consideration.¹²⁹⁸

1286 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1794>

1287 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1791>

1288 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=114>

1289 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1792>

1290 Id.

1291 Id.

1292 Id.

1293 Id.

1294 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1295 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=113>

1296 Id.

1297 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1298 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1790>.

- *Hastings Women's Law Journal (HWLJ)* is published twice annually.¹²⁹⁹ Topics addressed include feminism, race theory, multiculturalism, animal rights, disability rights, language rights, international human rights, criminal defendants' rights, and prisoners' rights. Student members may be invited to join based on performance in the general first year Inter-Journal writing competition. Applicants who desire to apply solely to HWLJ may participate in a writing competition tailored to the HWLJ in mid-summer.¹³⁰⁰ Students are invited to join on the basis of the writing competition only and must demonstrate an interest in issues relating to women and minorities.¹³⁰¹
- *Hastings West-Northwest Journal of Environmental Law and Policy*¹³⁰² examines environmental issues facing California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Hawaii, and neighboring states. The three primary selection criteria for West-Northwest members are writing ability, a demonstrated interest in environmental law, and a desire to be part of this unusual journal.¹³⁰³ The required personal statement is given considerable weight. West-Northwest does not consider grades in the application process.¹³⁰⁴ Students are invited to join on the basis of the writing competition only and must demonstrate a focus on environmental issues.¹³⁰⁵

MOOT COURT

All first year students at Hastings take Moot Court in the spring semester.¹³⁰⁶ Second and third year students desiring to be on the Moot Court board must complete the Appellate Advocacy class and then compete to be on the Board.¹³⁰⁷ In a typical competition, approximately 200 compete for a place on the Board. Once admitted, members are placed in teams of three, including two oral advocates and a brief editor per team.¹³⁰⁸ Moot Court Board members act as teaching assistants and coaches and hold office hours.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹³⁰⁹

Hastings offers several clinics

- The Civil Justice Clinic provides a chance for students to “interviewing, counseling, fact investigation, case planning, negotiation, trial, and hearing practice skills. Participants in this clinic focus on organizational representation that involves a range of lawyering strategies, including litigation, lobbying, public education, media relations, and community organizing.” Typical cases include “de novo trials of wage-and-hour claims in Superior Court and administrative proceedings involving Social Security disability appeals, rent stabilization petitions, and special education placements and services.”
- The Criminal Practice program has both a classroom and field component. The two-week classroom work aims to provide fundamental training in “client interviews, case planning and investigation, plea negotiations, written and oral motion practice, witness examination in hearings, and trials and trial preparation.” In the field, students work a minimum of 32 hours a week either in a prosecutor’s or public defender’s office and acquire courtroom skills by handling “preliminary hearings, motions to suppress, and trial appearances for misdemeanor offenses and juvenile court matters.”

1299 <http://www.uchastings.edu/womenslj/>

1300 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1796>

1301 Id.

1302 <http://www.uchastings.edu/wnw/>.

1303 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1795>

1304 Id.

1305 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1306 http://w3.uchastings.edu/mootcourt_01/

1307 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=2288>

1308 Id.

1309 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=2011>

- The Environmental Law Clinic allows a student to handle a single case at all stages—“client presentation, consultation with experts, negotiation with opposing counsel, commencement of litigation, and final judgment.” Working with government and public interest agencies students learn how to plan litigation strategy, work with experts, and present complex materials in court.
- The Immigrants Rights Clinic enables students to represent clients “facing removal by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, those seeking asylum, and others who wish to become citizens.” Students appear at hearings before immigration judges and research large-scale, policy issues regarding immigration reform.
- The Local Government Clinic “provides students with academic insights and practical experiences in the law departments of local governments, usually in San Francisco, Berkeley, Oakland, and Palo Alto.” The classroom work focuses on understanding local government, the power structures present between federal, state, and local governments; and the professional responsibility duties of government lawyers.
- The Workers’ Rights Clinic serves pro-bono clients in need of employment representation. Under the supervision of attorneys from the Employment Law Center/Legal Aid Society of San Francisco and the private bar, students interview clients, counsel them and refer them to other counsel as necessary. If students represent clients they will handle administrative hearings under the supervision of clinic coordinators. “Issues students are likely to encounter include employment discrimination, wrongful discharge, sexual, or other types of harassment, unpaid wages and benefits, polygraph and drug testing, whistle blowing, retaliation, health and safety concerns, denial of unemployment compensation, layoffs, and plant closings.”

EXTERNSHIPS

Hastings offers semester-long Judicial Externships “with judges in the U.S. Court of Appeals, U.S. District Courts, U.S. Magistrate Court, California Supreme Court, California Court of Appeal, and San Francisco Superior Court.”

Hastings’ Global Experiences Externship allows five students in its international law concentration to work within the War Crimes Prosecutor’s Office in The Hague, Amnesty International’s National Refugee Office Detention Project in San Francisco, the International Labor Organization in Geneva, Switzerland, and Southern African Environmental Project in Rondebosch, South Africa.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The UC Hastings College of Law’s student organizations include the American Bar Association/Law Student Division, American Civil Liberties Union, UC Hastings Chapter, American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, Amnesty International, Hastings Chapter, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Association of Students for Kids, Associated Students at UC Hastings, Association of Communications, Sports & Entertainment Law, Black Law Students Association, Clara Foltz Feminist Association, Employment and Labor Law Students Association, Environmental Law Society, Filipino Bar Association of Northern California Hastings Chapter, General Assistance Advocacy Project, HastingsIL Students Association, Hastings Aikido Society, Hastings Association of Muslim Law Students, Hastings Business and Commercial Law Society, Hastings Chinese Law & Culture Society, Hastings Christian Fellowship, Hastings Democratic Caucus, Hastings Disability Law Society, Hastings Federalist Society, Hastings to Haiti Partnership, Hastings Health Law Organization, Hastings Ice Hockey Club, Hastings Intellectual Property Organization, Hastings International & Comparative Law Society, Hastings Internet & Technology Venture Group, Hastings Intramural Basketball League, Hastings Jewish Law

1310 <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=2013>
 1311 http://www.uchastings.edu/orgs_01/

Students Association, Hastings Koinonia, Hastings Law News, Hastings Motorcycle Riders Club, Hastings Outdoor Club, Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation, Hastings Snowboarding & Ski Club, Hastings Soccer Club, Hastings Surf, Hawaii Law Caucus, Hui Ikepono:Hastings Hawaii Club, Japanese Law Society, Korean American Law Students Association, La Raza Law Students Association, Legal Vines: Hastings Wine Appreciation Club, Law Students for Choice, Middle Eastern Law Students Association, The National Lawyers Guild – Hastings, Native American Law Students Association, OUTLAW, Phi Alpha Delta International Law Fraternity - Temple Chapter, Prisoner Action Coalition at Hastings, Silenced Right – National Alliance Pro-Life Group at UC Hastings College of Law, South Asian Law Student Association, Students Raising Consciousness at Hastings, Third Year Class Council - Class of 2003, UC Hastings Tax Law, UC Hastings Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, UC Hastings “Tenderloins” Ultimate Club, and the Vietnamese American Law Society.

CENTERS AND INSTITUTES¹³¹²

- The Center for Gender and Refugee Studies
- The Center for Negotiation and Dispute Resolution
- The Center for State and Local Government Law
- The Public Law Research Institute
- The Expedited Removal Study

Number of firms interviewing on campus for 2004: 400¹³¹³

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 56.8¹³¹⁴

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 94.8¹³¹⁵

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹³¹⁶

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 69
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 9
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 6
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 2

Students surveyed pointed out that the percent employed was lower for 2003 than other years, with most people going to private firms. Also some indicated that the breakdown did not account for those starting their own practice.¹³¹⁷

¹³¹² <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=55>

¹³¹³ http://www.uchastings.edu/site_files/CSO/2004_fall_recruiting_handbook.pdf; pg. 3

¹³¹⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03015.php

¹³¹⁵ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03015.php

¹³¹⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03015.php (listing 4% as unknown)

¹³¹⁷ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book. <http://www.uchastings.edu/?pid=1913>

RANK

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SOME BRIEF FACTS

George Mason University Law School is currently ranked Number 41 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. Located in Arlington, Virginia, George Mason University is just a few miles from downtown Washington, D.C.

Among the many advantages of George Mason's location are year-round employment opportunities with federal government agencies, "such as the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Department of State, and the Federal Communications Commission."¹³¹⁸ In addition, the school's faculty and numerous guest lecturers are drawn from nearby organizations such as the White House, the Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.¹³¹⁹ Besides access to government resources given Fairfax County's emergence as a leading center for the East Coast's technology industry, students have direct access to high-tech and global industries and the law firms working with the industry. For the pure litigator, George Mason offers an excellent change to learn about complex litigation handled on the Eastern District of Virginia's "Rocket Docket."¹³²⁰

The George Mason University School of Law prides itself on training students in three main skills: "The legal application of economic tools and methods, intensive development of legal writing skills, and specialized substantive preparation for practice."¹³²¹

George Mason Law School's fall 2004 entering class was comprised of 138 full-time day students and 71 part-time evening students, and its student-faculty ratio is 14.6:1.¹³²²

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 165¹³²³ 25th – 75th Percentile: 159 – 166¹³²⁴
- Median GPA: 3.62¹³²⁵ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.01 – 3.85¹³²⁶
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 4,353¹³²⁷
- Number accepted during 2004: 617¹³²⁸
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 14.2%

¹³¹⁸ <http://www.law.gmu.edu/geninfo/about.html>

¹³¹⁹ Id.

¹³²⁰ Id.

¹³²¹ Id.

¹³²² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03159.php

¹³²³ <http://www.law.gmu.edu/admission/2004profile.php> (full- and part-time students)

¹³²⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03159.php (full-time students)

¹³²⁵ <http://www.law.gmu.edu/admission/2004profile.php> (full- and part-time students)

¹³²⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03159.php (full-time students)

¹³²⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03159.php (full-time students)

¹³²⁸ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03159.php (full-time students)

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹³²⁹

The Law School operates on a 4.33 to 0.00 A+-F scale, with a strict bell curve for most classes, resulting in a GPA that is close to 3.1 for most graduating students.

A+	4.33	B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D+	1.33	F	0.00
A	4.00	B	3.00	C	2.00	D	1.00		
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	1.67	D-	0.67		

Grade Distribution

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ¹³³⁰	3.503	3.321	3.238	3.058	2.821	2.15
BCG ¹³³¹		3.000		2.914	2.711	

*Student survey responses indicated that George Mason University strictly adheres to a mandatory bell curve for both first-year and non-seminar second- and third-year courses. The mean GPA is less than 3.0 for most class years, resulting in little or no inflation of grades. Further, students indicated that there are fewer than 15% A's in most classes.¹³³²

CLASS RANK¹³³³

George Mason ranks based upon cumulative GPA at the end of the fall and spring semesters. That ranking appears on a student's transcript only if the student requested its addition, in which case both the numerical and percentage ranking information appears.¹³³⁴

"Final class rankings for the graduating class are done after summer term grades have been recorded. Each graduate is then mailed an individual rank statement and summary, along with a final, unofficial transcript. Final ranks are not posted at the Law School."¹³³⁵

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹³³⁶

- Summa cum laude:* Top 1% (2 students)
- Magna cum laude:* Top 10% (24 students)
- Cum laude:* Top 25% (59 students)

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹³³⁷

Name of Award	Recipient
Law School Fellowship & Scholarship	Merit-based (granted to up to 20 students).

1329 www.gmu.edu/departments/law/academics/regulations.html. At George Mason students are numerically ranked, based upon GPA at the end of each semester; www.gmu.edu/departments/law/academics/records-FAQ.html#3a.; Class rank is added to a student's transcript only if requested; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 134

1330 * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 193

1331 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1332 Id.

1333 <http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/records-FAQ.html#3a>

1334 <http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/records-FAQ.html>

1335 <http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/records-FAQ.html>

1336 Percent of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 193

1337 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 193; <http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/convocation2004.html#honors>

Robert A. Levy Fellowships	Merit-based for students with Ph.D. in Economics, Finance, or Political Science (granted to up to 2 students).
Dean Engle Memorial Scholarship	Merit-based.
George Mason University School of Law Alumni Association Scholarship	Merit-based.
Bendheim Scholarship	Merit-based (awarded to up to 4 students).
Dean's Service Award	Merit-based (awarded to up to 2 students).
Scott C. Whitney Writing Prize	Merit-based.
Richard S. Murphy Prize	Merit-based.
Greg Bedner/Perot Systems	Merit-based.
Sterne, Kessler Intellectual Property Law Scholarship	Merit-based.
Mary Fischer Doyle Public Service Scholarship	Merit-based.
Giles S. Rich Award in Intellectual Property	Merit-based.
Betty Southard Murphy Award in Constitutional and Labor Law	Merit-based (awarded to up to 4 students).
Ann Southard Award Murphy & Cornelius F. Murphy Jr. Tuition Assistance Award	Merit-based.
C. Young & S. Keisler Scholarship	Need/merit-based

STUDENT JOURNALS¹³³⁸

There are four student-edited journals at George Mason. Upon completing their first year of school, students are eligible to join the journals based on grades or a writing competition.

- ***George Mason Law Review***¹³³⁹ is a traditional student-edited law review published quarterly. It provides students with the opportunity to develop research, writing and editing skills. Students completing their first year of law school are eligible for membership as long as their GPA is equal to the mean for that year. Those meeting the GPA criterion are allowed to participate in the writing competition for a spot on staff.¹³⁴⁰ Further, the top 10% of the first-year class is given an invitation to join without the writing competition and transfer students, who are in the top 10% of their original ABA approved school, may also join after an abbreviated writing competition.¹³⁴¹ The *Law Review* is the most prestigious of the Law School's publications, and is most well-known for law and economics.¹³⁴²
- ***Civil Rights Law Journal (CRLJ)***¹³⁴³ is a student-run publication that is published bi-annually. The CRLJ publishes articles that span a wide spectrum of issues relating to civil rights. Recent articles have addressed issues on race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, free speech, abortion rights, cruel and unusual punishment, search and seizure, voting rights, and rights of the disabled. Membership is extended to the top 20% of the first-year class,

¹³³⁸ www.gmu.edu/departments/law/pubs/index.html; <http://www.law.gmu.edu/pubs/index.php>

¹³³⁹ <http://law.gmu.edu/gmulawreview/>

¹³⁴⁰ <http://law.gmu.edu/gmulawreview/constitution.html>

¹³⁴¹ Id.

¹³⁴² This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹³⁴³ <http://www.law.gmu.edu/gmucrlj/index.html>

further those who are not in the top 20% but possess at least a 2.5 GPA after their first year may become members through the writing competition.¹³⁴⁴ CRLJ is the second most prestigious publication at the George Mason University School of Law.¹³⁴⁵

- ***Federal Circuit Bar Journal (FCBJ)***,¹³⁴⁶ the official journal for the Federal Circuit Bar Association and the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, is a national and quarterly publication which carries a subscriber base of over three thousand judges, professors, attorneys and law students. The Journal provides a unique opportunity for students to work with practicing attorneys and former editors and hence provides a more practical education. The scope of the FCBJ consists of all issues within the jurisdiction of the Federal Circuit. The Student Editorial Board consists of 31 students—20 staff members and 11 student editors.¹³⁴⁷ This publication is most widely known for its treatment of intellectual property issues.¹³⁴⁸
- ***The Journal of Law, Economics & Policy***¹³⁴⁹ (JLEP) is the School of Law's newest journal. As outlined in their mission statement, the JLEP plans to publish two "innovative, thought-provoking journals on law, economics and policy that will appeal to both academia and the practicing legal community" a year. Student editors will work with a highly distinguished Board of Advisors to review pieces before publication. Of the two issues one issue will cover material from a symposia regarding legal and economic policy, and the other will be a peer-reviewed compendium of articles submitted by individual authors.

MOOT COURT¹³⁵⁰

First-year students are introduced to the art of oral advocacy through the Moot Court Competition. The first round of the competition is mandatory and is part of the legal writing curriculum. However, students may voluntarily participate in the advancing rounds. According to student surveys, a student's performance in the mandatory exercise is the most heavily considered criteria in acquiring a position on the Moot Court Board.¹³⁵¹

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹³⁵²

Students gain practical experience by participating in one or more of the following clinical programs: the Legal Clinic (where students work in judges' chambers or another legal office), Law and Mental Illness Clinic (where students locate, interview and represent mental health clients), Public Interest Law Clinic (in conjunction with the Washington Legal Foundation), Telemedicine Clinic (which is an intersection of advanced communications technologies and health care regulation), and the Board of Immigration Appeals Clinic. Student surveys have apprised us of the inception of a new clinic, called the Homeland Security Center, designed to deal with the emerging issues related to this contemporary issue.¹³⁵³

1344 <http://www.law.gmu.edu/gmucrlj/pm1.html>

1345 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1346 <http://www.law.gmu.edu/fcbj/fcbj.html>

1347 <http://www.law.gmu.edu/fcbj/index.shtml>

1348 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1349 <http://www.gmu.edu/org/jlep/>

1350 <http://www.gmu.edu/org/mootcourt/>; See also National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 193.

1351 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1352 http://www.law.gmu.edu/career/clinical_prog.html

1353 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

EXTERNSHIPS¹³⁵⁴

George Mason “students have undertaken externships in such varied places as the Executive Office of the President, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the Alexandria Commonwealth Attorney’s Office, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, and the U.S. Department of Justice.”

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹³⁵⁵

The George Mason University School of Law’s student organizations include the Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, American Bar Association/Law Student Division, American Constitution Society for Law and Policy, American Inn of Court, Asian Pacific-Asian Law Students Association, Association for Public Interest Law, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Black Law Students Association, Business Law Society, Christian Legal Society, Criminal Law Association, Delta Theta Phi International Law Fraternity, Environmental Law Society, The Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy, Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Law Students Association, Honor Council, Intellectual Property Law Society, International Law Society, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Jewish Law Students Association, Juris Master Society, Law Students for the Second Amendment, Law and Economics Society, Moot Court Board, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity International, Phi Delta Phi (Lewis F. Powell Inn), Sports, Entertainment, and Art Law Society, Student Bar Association, Technology and Critical Infrastructure Protection, The Law and Economics Society, Thomas More Society, Toastmaster International, Trial Advocacy Association, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program, and the Women’s Law Association.

CENTERS AND PROGRAMS

- Law and Economics Center
- Center for the Study of Neuroeconomics
- The Tech Center
- Intellectual Property Program
- Law and Economics Program

Number of firms interviewing on campus for 2004: 70

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 97.7¹³⁵⁶

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 99.4¹³⁵⁷

WHERE THE GRADUATES GO¹³⁵⁸

- Percent of graduates employed by private firms: 49
- Percent of graduates employed as judicial clerks: 10
- Percent of graduates employed by the government: 18
- Percent of graduates employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of graduates employed by private industry: 15
- Percent of graduates employed in an academic position: 5

¹³⁵⁴ <http://www.law.gmu.edu/career/externship.html>

¹³⁵⁵ <http://www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs.html>

¹³⁵⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03159.php

¹³⁵⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03159.php

¹³⁵⁸ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03159.php

RANK

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SOME BRIEF FACTS

While much of any law student's time is spent attending classes and studying here in Cajun Country, Tulane law students quickly realize that the Law School is a place where things are always happening, both inside and outside the classroom. There are more than 30 student organizations, any of which may be holding business meetings or substantive programs on any given day. Eight different journals offer students writing and editing opportunities, and the Moot Court program oversees both intra-school competitions and as many as 12 teams participating in inter-school competitions. All of that, plus the appealing setting of New Orleans, has earned Tulane its way into the Top-50 Law Schools this year, at Number 41.

Few weeks go by without special programs presented by distinguished scholars or practicing attorneys. Both the Professional Development Office and the Dean of Students regularly host events of interest to students. But there are also ample parties, crawfish boils, softball games and picnics, canoeing expeditions and more. A quick look at the calendar confirms this. In sum, student life at Tulane Law School is dynamic and diverse—much like the student body itself.

In almost no other American city do the past, present, and future co-exist and enrich one another as in New Orleans. New Orleans is the most European of American cities, exuding a continental ambience. Deservedly a popular destination for tourists, New Orleans is regularly the site of Super Bowls and Final Four basketball tournaments. Major conventions and other events are held here almost every day.

With 1.3 million residents, the New Orleans metropolitan area encompasses a third of Louisiana's population. It is the state's banking, judicial, medical, and cultural center. Located on the Mississippi River 50 miles above the Gulf of Mexico, New Orleans is one of the world's largest ports. The shipping industry has been the greatest contributor to the prominence of New Orleans as a center of admiralty law and international trade. As the South's port of call for 200 years, New Orleans has developed as a city of rich ethnic traditions.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 full-time entering class:

-Median LSAT: 160

-Median GPA: 3.50

-Approximate number of applications for 2004: 4,126

-Number accepted during one recent sample year: 1,055

-Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 25.6

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

Many students report that Tulane adheres to what is called a “hard curve.” Most classes are graded with a B average, with some professors adhering to a C curve.

Reports indicate the following statistics for Tulane’s grade distribution:

- 3.70 and above = Approximately top 6%
- 3.57 and above = Approximately top 12%
- 3.49 and above = Approximately top 15%
- 3.38 and above = Approximately top 24%
- 3.30 and above = Approximately top 33%
- 3.18 and above = Approximately top 51%

In a recent survey conducted by us at BCG Attorney Search, A+ grades were found to be very rarely awarded, with the top student in each class at Tulane usually given a grade of A.

Tulane’s LL.M. program continues to grow. The one-year programs leading to the degree of Master of Laws (LL.M.) are offered to eligible candidates already holding the first law degree (J.D. or LL.B. or equivalent). The General LL.M. and four specialized LL.M. programs are offered in Admiralty, American Business Law, Energy and Environmental Law, and International and Comparative Law. Tulane typically receives 400 applications for 75 places in the various LL.M. programs.

Tulane Law School also offers a small number of exceptional candidates the opportunity to pursue the Ph.D.

CLASS RANK

No official individual rankings are released for students; nevertheless, the Law School provides percentile groupings, and for the 2003-2004 academic year, a GPA of 3.18 was the cutoff for the Top-50%. At the time of printing, Tulane had as yet to update its information for the 2004-2005 year.

PERCENTILE*	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
TULANE	3.70 & above	3.57 & above	3.49 & above	3.38 & above	3.30 & above	3.18 & above	1.9

*As Tulane has no official class rankings, the law school offers these percentiles to reflect averages.

How the Best Are Separated from the Rest:

Order of the Coif: Top 10%

- Summa cum laude:* 0.004% (> or = 3.857)
- Magna cum laude:* 10% (> or = to 3.542)
- Cum laude:* 25% (> or = 3.393)
- Dean’s List: 25% (3.478)

GRADUATION AWARDS AND HONORS

These awards and honors are conferred each spring in connection with graduation. We have included descriptions for some of the more prominent awards offered by Tulane.

American Bankruptcy Institute Medal for Excellence in Bankruptcy Studies

Civil Law Studies Award

- Established in 1983 by the Louisiana State Bar Association, this award (consisting of a cash award and plaque) is presented to the graduating student who has the highest grade point average in civil law courses.

Dean's Medal

Edward A. Dodd Jr. Award

Faculty Medal

- This award is presented by the Tulane Law School faculty to the graduating student who attains the highest grade point average in the entire course of three years in the School.

Lemle & Kelleher Award

Haber J. McCarthy Environmental Law Award

Brian P. McSherry Community Service Award

George Dewey Nelson Memorial Award

Order of the Coif

- The Order of the Coif is a national law school honor society. The faculty selects its members from the top 10 percent of each graduating class.

Tulane Tax Institute Award

John Minor Wisdom Award

James A. Wysocki Award

LAW REVIEW

Published six times each year, the *Tulane Law Review* is a student-run and student-edited legal periodical with a sizable international circulation. The total circulation of the Tulane Law Review places it among the top ten American law reviews, and it was recently ranked 16th in the country, based on total citations by all courts. The journal is one of only ten American law reviews on the list of minimum holdings for law libraries in the United Kingdom. Annually, more than 1,000 articles are received for 20 available slots.

The Board of Student Editors of the Tulane Law Review is composed of approximately 55 upper-classmen chosen for their outstanding scholastic records or demonstrated ability in legal research and writing.

JOURNALS

Tulane Maritime Law Journal

Beginning its 24th year of publication, the *Tulane Maritime Law Journal*, formerly the *Maritime Lawyer*, is the preeminent student-edited admiralty law journal in the world. The *Journal* has a circulation of more than 1,000, spanning 38 countries on six continents and including private law firms, marine insurance companies, shipping lines, federal agencies, federal judges, and the United States Supreme Court. Members of the journal have the opportunity to interact with local, national, and international admiralty attorneys.

The *Journal* publishes two issues each year consisting of practical and scholarly works written by academics, practitioners, and students. The *Journal* recently began publishing student works in an electronic format, which is accessible via the Internet. Members of the *Journal*, numbering between 40 and 45, are selected on the basis of a summer writing competition and academic performance.

Tulane European & Civil Law Forum

The *Tulane European & Civil Law Forum* is a journal devoted to topics related to European, comparative, and civil law. Manuscripts are selected by faculty editors and edited with the assistance of student editors, who are chosen by the faculty based on demonstration of interest in the area. Historically, the board has included a student editor-in-chief and five or six student editors. The *Forum's* circulation is both national and international, and as of 2002, 17 volumes have been published. Those students with foreign language skills are especially encouraged to apply. The *Forum* has published translations of new works by distinguished European and civil law scholars and has a prestigious board of 70 contributing editors from Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Israel, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Scotland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Tulane Environmental Law Journal

Founded in 1986, the *Tulane Environmental Law Journal* is a student-run and student-edited law review devoted to environmental issues. It is published twice each year and has a national circulation. The *Journal* publishes articles by scholars and practitioners, as well as student work. Past volumes of the *Journal* have focused on topics such as hazardous waste and coastal zone management. The *Journal* has also sponsored symposium and colloquium issues on toxic torts, fisheries, biodiversity, and developments in international environmental law. Members of the *Journal* are chosen through a summer writing competition and have both editorial and writing responsibilities.

Law & Sexuality

Law & Sexuality: A Review of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Legal Issues was founded in 1989 by a group of gay and non-gay students to provide a national forum for discourse on legal matters related to sexual orientation. It is the first and only student-edited law review in the United States to be devoted to issues of concern to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community. This journal is published every year and has a broad, national circulation. The review publishes articles by scholars and lawyers on a wide variety of subjects, including constitutional law, corporate law, employment law, family law, health law, insurance, military law, and trusts and estates. The review also publishes traditional student writing.

Membership on the review is open to all second- and third-year law students. Members are chosen through summer and fall writing competitions. The responsibilities of the staff members include editing articles and student work and writing comments and recent developments material on any subjects related to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender legal issues.

Tulane Journal of International & Comparative Law

This journal comprises over 40 members and focuses predominantly on current topics in international law. Because of Tulane Law School's ability to offer both common and civil law courses and its international academic reputation, the *Journal* is in an enviable position to receive scholarly and practical articles from authors around the world. Past issues have included articles on the jury trial in Russia, Chinese foreign investment laws, the role of the UN Security Council in protecting human rights, the UNIDROIT principles, international efforts to combat money-laundering, the Central American Bank for Economic Integration, and international regulation of the Internet.

Sports Lawyers Journal

The *Sports Lawyers Journal* was first published in 1993, primarily through the efforts of Professor Gary Roberts, who serves as the journal's faculty advisor. Published annually by the Sports Lawyers Association (SLA) and edited by Tulane law students, the SLJ is the most widely read legal sports journal in the United States. All officers and directors of the SLA serve on the journal's advisory board, and each member of the SLA—currently more than 1,000 practicing attorneys, agents, law faculty, students, and other industry professionals—receives a copy of the journal. The *Journal* provides a unique view of sports issues and an excellent opportunity for students to have their writing published and recognized by industry professionals.

The *Journal's* editorial board includes up to ten Tulane students, with a slightly larger junior staff. Junior membership is granted to upper-level law students on the basis of a brief submitted during the summer or fall write-on competition.

MOOT COURT

The Law School's moot court program is designed to develop students' advocacy skills at both trial and appellate levels. The program is organized and directed by the Moot Court Board, students with superior scholastic standing and demonstrated skill in oral and written advocacy. The Board oversees both intra- and inter-school competitions, as well as non-competitive "open events."

The Moot Court Board organizes teams for inter-school competitions in a variety of trial and appellate areas, including international law, constitutional law, mediation, corporate law, environmental law, and admiralty law. Our BLSA chapter sponsors a team at the Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition, our European Legal Studies program sends a team to a commercial arbitration competition in Vienna, and other student organizations also send teams to special-interest competitions. The Moot Court competitive teams have historically brought great pride and prestige to Tulane and have had considerable success at the national level.

Participation in inter-school competitions is open to 2L, 3L, and LL.M. students. 1L participation is limited to intra-school competition the second semester (on an uncredited basis).

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

The following are only a few examples of the types of student organizations available to different students at Tulane:

Alternative Dispute Resolution Law Society
American Bar Association/Law Student Division
American Civil Liberties Union, Tulane Chapter

American Constitution Society
Asian-Pacific-American Law Students Association
Association of Trial Lawyers of America
Black Law Student Association
Business Law Society
Criminal Law Society
Cuban Detainee Program
DICTA
Eberhard P. Deutsch - International Law Society
Entertainment & Art Law Society
Environmental Law Society
Federalist Society
Foreign Lawyers at Tulane
Honor Board
Human Rights Law Society
Jewish Law Students Association
La Alianza del Derecho
Lambda Law Alliance
Law & Philosophy
Law Women's Association
Maritime Law Society
Military Law Society
Moot Court
Phi Alpha Delta
Phi Delta Phi
Project for Older Prisoners
Public Interest Law Foundation
Real Estate Law Society
Schoolmates
Sports Law Society
Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
Student Bar Association
Technology and Intellectual Property
Tulane Child Advocates
Tulane Italian-American Law Student Association
Tulane University Legal Assistance Program

* All information gathered from <http://www.law.tulane.edu>

RANK

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www.law.ua.edu

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(205) 348-4870

SOME BRIEF FACTS:

Established in 1872, the University of Alabama School of Law is the only public law school in the state of Alabama. For over 120 years, the school has educated leaders in the legal profession, business, and government. The University of Alabama School of Law is currently ranked Number 41 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools and ranked among the Top 17 public law schools in the nation.¹³⁵⁹

Tuscaloosa is a friendly, beautiful, and relatively inexpensive place to live; and its almost 100,000 residents enjoy small-town quaintness along with big-city activities, culture, and entertainment.¹³⁶⁰ Alabama provides its students with a nationally recognized, progressive legal education.¹³⁶¹ The Law School offers a diverse curriculum, including traditional courses, cutting-edge classes in emerging areas of the law, and skills training. Alabama has two international programs, ten trial and appellate advocacy teams, six clinical programs, numerous externships, and three endowed lectures-one that brings U.S. Supreme Court justices to lecture at the Law School.¹³⁶²

Alabama's professors are actively engaged in scholarly research and writing, but give priority to teaching and advising as they remain accessible to students outside of the classroom.¹³⁶³ There were 171 students in the school's fall 2004 entering class,¹³⁶⁴ and the student-faculty ratio is 12:1.¹³⁶⁵

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 162 25th – 75th Percentile: 159 – 163¹³⁶⁶
- Median GPA: 3.5 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.1 – 3.7¹³⁶⁷
- Approximate number of applications for 2004: 1,339¹³⁶⁸
- Number accepted during 2004: 319¹³⁶⁹
- Percentage accepted during 2004: 23.8

¹³⁵⁹ <http://www.law.ua.edu/admissions/>

¹³⁶⁰ <http://www.law.ua.edu/admissions/tusc.html>

¹³⁶¹ American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, *Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools*, 2003 Edition, 84

¹³⁶² <http://www.law.ua.edu/prospective/info.php?re=dean>

¹³⁶³ <http://www.law.ua.edu/deansmessage.html>

¹³⁶⁴ <http://www.law.ua.edu/info.php?re=quickfacts>

¹³⁶⁵ Id.

¹³⁶⁶ <http://www.law.ua.edu/info.php?re=quickfacts>

¹³⁶⁷ Id.

¹³⁶⁸ Id.

¹³⁶⁹ Id.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹³⁷⁰

The University of Alabama uses a standard 4-point GPA scale, with a recommended B curve for most large courses. Even though the curve is not mandatory and only a recommendation, a majority of the class grades adhere to such a curve, as the mean graduating GPA tends to fall in the B range, with 3.1 being at the 50th percentile mark.¹³⁷¹

A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0
A-	3.67	B-	2.67	C-	1.67	F	0.0
B+	3.33	C+	2.33	D+	1.33		

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)¹³⁷²

The faculty at the University of Alabama has adopted recommended norms and ranges, i.e., such curves are not mandatory in the strict sense of the word. The following curve is followed for all first-year and other required courses, with a slightly modified version for electives with 40 students or more.

First-Year Curve

Grade	Norm (% of students receiving grade)	Range (% of students who may receive this grade)
A = 4.0	5%	2.5%-5%
A- = 3.67	7.5%	7.5%-10%
B+ = 3.33	12.5%	10%-15%
B = 3.00	15%	12.5%-17.5%
B- = 2.67	20%	15%-25%
C+ = 2.33	15%	12.5%-17.5%
C = 2.00	12.5%	10%-15%
C- to F = 1.67-0.00	12.5%	0%-15%

Classes of 40 or more

Grade	Norm (% of students receiving grade)	Range (% of students who may receive this grade)
A = 4.0	5%	2.5%-5%
A- = 3.67	7.5%	7.5%-10%
B+ = 3.33	12.5%	10%-15%
B = 3.00	15%	12.5%-17.5%
B- = 2.67	20%	15%-25%
C+ = 2.33	15%	12.5%-17.5%
C - F = 2.00-0.00	25%	15-30%

¹³⁷⁰ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 394

¹³⁷¹ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

¹³⁷² <http://www.law.ua.edu/students/handbook.pdf>, pg. 11

CLASS RANK

The University of Alabama School of Law does rank its students, but in the National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, the school's entry does not reflect the ranking breakdown. Employers may ask the career services office to see and/or verify a student's grades and/or ranking but the office will not verify unless the student signs a release form.¹³⁷³

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹³⁷⁴

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	Top 5%
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	Next 10%
<i>Cum laude</i> :	Next 25%

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹³⁷⁵

Name of Award	Recipient
Dean M. Leigh Harrison	Top 5% of class after fifth semester of law school.
Hugo L. Black Scholar	Top 10% of each class section after third semester of law school.
West Publishing Company Scholastic Achievement	First in second- and third-year class sections (4).

STUDENT JOURNALS¹³⁷⁶

The University of Alabama publishes three law journals:

- ***Alabama Law Review*** is nationally recognized, and it is edited by students; it examines both national and state issues. The student staff and 13-member editorial board edit and manage the publication. The top 10% of students beginning their second year of law study are automatically eligible for membership. Students in the top half of their class at the beginning of the second year may compete in a write-on competition for membership on the *Law Review*.¹³⁷⁷
- ***Law and Psychology Review*** has been and continues to be a pioneer in the intersection of law and behavioral science, having "received national and international acclaim for its legal-psychological analyses." Subjects covered by the review include "the jury's decision-making process, consent to treatment, capital punishment, psychological aspects of expert testimony and character evidence, and the rights of juveniles."¹³⁷⁸
- ***Journal of the Legal Profession*** claims title as the country's first journal addressing legal ethics and problems confronting the profession. In operation for more than 25 years, the journal draws its staff from the top 25% of students after their first year in law school. The journal enjoys an international readership.

MOOT COURT¹³⁷⁹

First-year moot court is required in the second semester for all students. In addition, second-year students may elect to participate in the John A. Campbell Moot Court Competition. From this competition, 24 are selected to be members of the next year's John A. Campbell Moot Court

1373 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 532
1374 Student Handbook, available at <http://www.law.ua.edu/students/handbook.pdf>; % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 532
1375 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 532
1376 <http://www.law.ua.edu/pubs.html>
1377 <http://www.law.ua.edu/pubs.html>; March 22, 2005, phone call between Gray Borden, Editor-in-Chief, and BCG editor
1378 <http://www.law.ua.edu/pubs.html>, <http://www.law.ua.edu/lawpsychology/about%20our%20journal.htm>
1379 <http://www.law.ua.edu/students/courses.pdf>

Board. These students conduct the next year's competitions and assist the legal writing lecturers in the first-year moot court class. The Frederick Douglas Moot Court Competition Team participates in an intra-law school appellate competition sponsored annually by the Black Law Students Association. Teams compete in the Duberstein Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition, Mugal Tax Moot Court Competition, Robert F. Wagner National Labor and Employment Moot Court Competition, and the National Environmental Law Competition. The School of Law's team for the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition has enjoyed much recent success. In the last eight School of Law's team for the Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition has won four regional championships, advanced to the international rounds of the competition, and merited several Best Brief awards and numerous individual honors. In 2000, the Law School's team won the prestigious Baxter Award for the Best Applicant Memorial in the World

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹³⁸⁰

The University of Alabama offers six clinical programs, including Disability Litigation Clinic, Elder Law Clinic, Children's Rights Clinic, Public Defender Program, Pension Counseling Clinic, and the Student Legal Clinic. The university's clinical program was started in the early 1970s to provide legal assistance to low income clients while at the same time providing students with an opportunity to obtain practical experience before graduation from law school.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS¹³⁸¹

Alabama Public Interest Law Association, Bench and Bar Legal Honor Society, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Civil Rights Law Students Association, Criminal Law Association, Defense Lawyers Association, Dorbin Association, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Future Trial Lawyers Association, Intellectual Property Society, International Law Society, Law Democrats, Law Republicans, Law Spouse Club, Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity, Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Student Farrah Law Society, Student Honor Court, Tax and Estate Planning Law Association

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 80¹³⁸²

Percentage of graduates employed at graduation: 70.2¹³⁸³

Percentage of graduates employed nine months after graduation: 97.5¹³⁸⁴

Where the Graduates Go:¹³⁸⁵

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 91
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 4
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 5

1380 <http://www.law.ua.edu/clinics.html>

1381 <http://www.law.ua.edu/careers/StudentOrgs.pdf>

1382 <http://www.law.ua.edu/cso/oci.html>

1383 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03001.php

1384 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03001.php

1385 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03001.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹³⁹⁴

The University of Arizona, School of Law uses a five scale grading system with the numerical values assigned as follows:

Letter Grade	Numerical Value
A	4
B	3
C	2
D	1
E	0

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

A	*25%	*The school applies the preceding grade curve for classes of 21 or more. The faculty is not permitted to deviate more than 2.5% above or below the grade curve points displayed on the left, except in extraordinary circumstances. ¹³⁹⁵
B	55%	
C	20%	
D		
E		

In addition, for classes with fewer than 21 students, unless the class is for a substantial paper, the mean GPA must not be more than 3.5¹³⁹⁶

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹³⁹⁷

Order of the Coif:	Top 10% of the class with 75% of the courses graded
<i>Summa cum laude</i> :	Top 7%
<i>Magna cum laude</i> :	Next 7%
<i>Cum laude</i> :	Next 11%
<i>Dean's List</i> :	GPA of 3.30 (for full-time students with 10+ graded units per semester)

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹³⁹⁸

Name of Award	Recipient
Ralph W. Aigler	The senior student who has made the most significant scholarly and professional contribution to the school.
Order of the Barrister	Top 8-10 students in graduating class who have excelled in advocacy.
Ares Fellows	Selected by first-year small section professor based on writing ability, academic achievement, and interpersonal skills. Ares Fellows act as teaching assistants for first-year research and writing programs.

35 other academic achievement awards are offered in the following areas: Trial Advocacy, Damages Argument, Advocacy, First-Year Student, Outstanding Minority Student, Tax, Service, Public Interest, International and Business Law, Outstanding Senior, Public Service, Best Law Review Note, Second-Year Law Review Writing Award, and Outstanding Law Review Editor/Writer.

¹³⁹⁴ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 541

¹³⁹⁵ <http://www.law.arizona.edu/Students/pdf/StudentHandbook.pdf>

¹³⁹⁶ <http://www.law.arizona.edu/Students/pdf/StudentHandbook.pdf>

¹³⁹⁷ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 541; <http://www.law.arizona.edu/Students/pdf/StudentHandbook.pdf>

¹³⁹⁸ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 541

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journals

- *Arizona Law Review*¹³⁹⁹ is printed quarterly and is ranked number 26 out of 122 nationally ranked law reviews. The publication covers topic of general interest to legal scholars, professionals and students. Top 10% of the class is automatically invited to join one of the two Journals at UAL, the Law Review, being the more prestigious of the two is more readily chosen. Aside from the automatic invitation, students may compete in a writing competition to gain a spot on this journal.
- *Arizona Journal of International & Comparative Law*¹⁴⁰⁰ covers a wide array of topics relating to comparative law, including issues of Indian tribes and tribunals. The Journal uses the same method as the Law Review for membership however; a greater number of the top 10% of the students chose the Law Review, making the writing competition a greater factor in gaining membership on this journal.

MOOT COURT¹⁴⁰¹

All upper-level students may participate in the moot court program held each spring. There is no official moot court requirement. The College also offers extensive pre-trial and trial practice course offerings in a nationally ranked program designed by Professor Tom Mauet.¹⁴⁰²

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁴⁰³

The College of Law currently operates four in-house legal clinics in: Child Advocacy, Domestic Violence, Immigration, and Tribal Law, and sponsors several programs involving placements with lawyers in the public sector and trial court judges, including the Criminal Prosecution Clinic and the Criminal Defense Clinic. The clinics served more than 450 clients during the 2001-2002 school year.¹⁴⁰⁴

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁴⁰⁵

The following is a list of the University of Arizona College of Law's student organizations: Community Legal Access Society, Law Women's Association, American Trial Lawyer's Association, Native American Law Student Association, Black Law Students Association, La Raza Law Students Association, Asian American Law Students Association, Lesbian and Gay Rights Activists, Environmental Law Society, International Law Society, Public Interest Law Organization, Parents at Law School, Justice Project, American Civil Liberties Association, The Federalist Society, The American Constitution Society, National Lawyers Guild, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, American Bar Association - Law Student Division, Christian Legal Society, Jewish Law Students Association and the Business Law Society.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 100+¹⁴⁰⁶

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 68.5¹⁴⁰⁷

Percentage employed nine months after graduation: 93.3¹⁴⁰⁸

1399 <http://www.law.arizona.edu/Journals/ALR/default.htm>

1400 <http://www.law.arizona.edu/journals/ajicl/>

1401 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 397.

1402 Correspondence dated January 9, 2003, from Toni M. Massaro, Dean of the James E. Rogers College of Law, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search

1403 www.law.arizona.edu/academic/welclinic.html

1404 Correspondence dated January 9, 2003, from Toni M. Massaro, Dean of the James E. Rogers College of Law, to A. Harrison Barnes of BCG Attorney Search.

1405 www.law.arizona.edu/admissions/studorg.html.

1406 <http://www.law.arizona.edu/Career/NewWeb/forupperclassjd.htm>; (listing "over 140 law firms, corporations, and governmental agencies" participating in on-campus interviews.

1407 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03004.php

1408 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03004.php

Where the Grads Go¹⁴⁰⁹

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 43
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 22
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 24
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 5
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 2

1409. http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03004.php

RANK

41

UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA, LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS

Levin College of Law
P.O. Box 117620
Gainesville, FL 32611

MAIN PHONE

(352) 392-9238

ADMISSION'S PHONE

(352) 392-2087

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.law.ufl.edu

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(352) 392-2337

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

SOME BRIEF FACTS

Founded in 1909, the University of Florida, Levin College of Law, considers itself to be “one of the nation’s most comprehensive public law schools.”¹⁴¹⁰ The school offers numerous certificate programs (Intellectual Property, Family Law, Environmental and Land Use, and International and Comparative Law, Estates and Trust Law), more than 30 joint-degree programs, and post-J.D. programs for Taxation and Comparative Law for foreign lawyers.¹⁴¹¹

The University of Florida, Levin College of Law, is currently ranked Number 41 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The school has a reputation for academic excellence and takes pride in its impressively large and diverse teaching faculty and distinguished alumni. The school had previously divided its enrollments into fall and spring but is phasing this system out. As such, for the 2005-2006 academic year the school has enrolled 200 students for the fall term and 100 students for the spring term but the spring students will be part of an accelerated program such that by the fall of 2006 they will be second-year students.¹⁴¹² The school intends to enroll 400 students in fall 2006.¹⁴¹³ The student-faculty ratio is 15.9:1.¹⁴¹⁴

The College of Law is housed in two buildings on the west side of the University of Florida campus. The well-endowed university and surrounding city offer ample opportunities for outdoor recreation, intercollegiate athletics, and world-class cultural events. Gainesville, with a population of about 100,000, is consistently rated as one of America’s most livable cities.¹⁴¹⁵

The College of Law uses a standard 4-point grading scheme with slight modification. E’s are given instead of F’s and there is no capacity for A+. However, “+” grades are given in all other grade categories, but no “-” grades are given. The courses are curved based on a standard bell curve. Originally, the curve was a low 2.8, making the mean somewhere between a C+ and a B. Starting with the class of 2003, the curve has been raised several points to a 3.15-3.25 range, raising the mean between a B and a B+ average. Florida Law provides percentile rankings up to the top 33rd percentile with individual ranks available to the top 15% by request.¹⁴¹⁶

¹⁴¹⁰ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/about/about.shtml>

¹⁴¹¹ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/about/about.shtml>

¹⁴¹² <http://www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/>

¹⁴¹³ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/>

¹⁴¹⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03037.php

¹⁴¹⁵ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/information/about.shtml>

¹⁴¹⁶ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school’s grading system and are explained in the “Ranking and Grades” section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school’s Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:¹⁴¹⁷

- Median LSAT: 160 25th – 75th Percentile: 156 – 162
- Median GPA: 3.69 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.43 – 3.85
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,782¹⁴¹⁸
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 504¹⁴¹⁹
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 13.3¹⁴²⁰

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/glanc_03037.php.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁴²¹

A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0
B+	3.5	C+	2.5	D+	1.5	E	0.0

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

Beginning in 2003, the University implemented a new mean grade of 3.15-3.25 (the old mean was 2.85) for all course sections. Student surveys indicated that A grades are a rare occurrence, with 5-10 A grades per 100 students in a curved course and some professors refraining from handing out any at all.¹⁴²²

CLASS RANK

The University of Florida provides percentile rank based on the overall grade point averages of students. Each entering class is subject to a separate rank. Additionally, students in the top 15% of their class may request their individual numerical rank within their class.

The following statistics were reported after spring 2003 grades:¹⁴²³

PERCENTILES FOR THE FALL 2002 ENTERING CLASS AFTER FALL 2003 GRADES REPORTED

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%
U.FLORIDA	3.79	3.66	3.57	3.48	3.43	3.36

PERCENTILES FOR THE SPRING 2003 ENTERING CLASS AFTER FALL 2004 GRADES POSTED

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%
U.FLORIDA	3.72	3.64	3.55	3.52	3.46	3.42

PERCENTILES FOR THE FALL 2003 ENTERING CLASS AFTER FALL 2004 GRADES REPORTED

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%
U.FLORIDA	3.76	3.66	3.58	3.51	3.46	3.37

¹⁴¹⁷ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/>

¹⁴¹⁸ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03037.php

¹⁴¹⁹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03037.php

¹⁴²⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03037.php

¹⁴²¹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2003-2004, 462; UFLAW 2003-2004 Prospectus, at <http://www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/pdf/0405prospectus.pdf>, page 6

¹⁴²² This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹⁴²³ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/students/percentiles.shtml>

PERCENTILES FOR THE SPRING 2004 ENTERING CLASS
AFTER FALL 2004 GRADES REPORTED

PERCENTILE	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 15%	TOP 20%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%
U.FLORIDA	3.68	3.59	3.53	3.50	3.46	3.40

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁴²⁴

Order of the Coif:	Top 10%
Highest Honors:	3.9 GPA ¹⁴²⁵
High Honors:	3.7 GPA ¹⁴²⁶
Honors:	3.3 GPA ¹⁴²⁷
Dean's List:	3.1 ¹⁴²⁸

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁴²⁹

Approximately 25 awards are given based on various factors, including grades and writing competitions, among others. Survey participants pointed to the Book Award, which is given for the best grade in the class to be among the most well known honors.¹⁴³⁰

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journals¹⁴³¹

- The *Florida Law Review*¹⁴³² publishes five times yearly. All editing and production is undertaken exclusively by students. Articles either are solicited by the Law Review Staff or submitted in hopes of publication by legal scholars and practitioners. Staffers generally provide the case comments and notes. Unlike other Florida law journals, only the top 5% of each first-year section is offered an editorship. Invitations to join come at the beginning of a student's third semester. It is also possible to do a write-on: Authors of the best papers get invited. Law Review candidates must complete three major projects during the second year, one of which is a case comment of publishable quality (Case comments written for the Open Writing Competition satisfy this requirement.) During the first two semesters on Law Review, candidates are given short trials working on each specific phase of Law Review editing and production. During the second full semester of the second year, candidates write a scholarly note exploring a topic pertinent to legal questions and concerns currently at the forefront of legal research. Recently, candidates have had the option to write such a case note during their entire first year on the Review instead of writing a separate case comment and note. The Florida Law Review is generally acknowledged to be the most prestigious journal, although for unknown reasons, Florida law students seem to take a more casual approach to the school's journals than at other top universities. Anecdotally, students have told us that The Review is famous for publications related to Taxation.¹⁴³³

¹⁴²⁴ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 613

¹⁴²⁵ UFLAW 2003-2004 Prospectus, at <http://www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/pdf/0405prospectus.pdf>, page 5

¹⁴²⁶ UFLAW 2003-2004 Prospectus, at <http://www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/pdf/0405prospectus.pdf>, page 5

¹⁴²⁷ Id.

¹⁴²⁸ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 613

¹⁴²⁹ Per Associate Dean for Students, Professionalism & Community Relations, Gail Sasnett, provided by Linda Calvert Hanson, Esq., Assistant Dean of Career Services, via email correspondence dated March 26, 2004

¹⁴³⁰ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹⁴³¹ UFLAW 2003-2004 Prospectus, at www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/pdf/0203prospectus.pdf, page 23

¹⁴³² <http://www.flr.law.ufl.edu/membership.html>

¹⁴³³ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- The *Florida Journal of International Law (FJIL)*¹⁴³⁴ Whereas law review membership is known by law firms around the world as one way of identifying a law student who has excelled academically in relationship to his peers, these same law firms, in the case of the Florida Law School, probably would be unaware that there are two highly impressive law journals at the school, Law Review being just one of them. The other is FJIL. Only the top 10% of Florida's first year class is eligible for this Journal's editorial board in addition to the winners of the open writing competitions held at least twice a year. FJIL publishes one volume of two issues each year.
- The *Journal of Law & Public Policy*¹⁴³⁵ devotes itself to interdisciplinary study and analysis of contemporary legal and social issues. An Open Writing Competition gives second, third, and fourth semester students the opportunity to become candidates for membership. To participate, competitors must be in good academic standing (GPA of 2.0 or higher) and have received a grade of S or S+ in Legal Research & Writing.
- The *Journal of Technology Law and Policy*¹⁴³⁶ is a forum for discussing relevant technology issues involving patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, antitrust, and computer law. Outstanding academic achievement or demonstrated writing ability is a membership prerequisite, as is a "Book Award" earned in one four core courses needed to receive an Intellectual Property Certificate. Students also can compete for a write-on slot by submitting a case comment. Students earn up to three graduation credits by their acceptance to and subsequent participation in this journal.

MOOT COURT¹⁴³⁷

The Justice Campbell Thornal Moot Court Team competes in intramural as well as in state and national appellate competitions. Participation is optional, but membership remains highly competitive (surveyed students said about 10 to 15% of those who try out make it), coveted by students who wish to eventually be litigators and ranks with Law Review as a prestigious accomplishment. Students in Appellate Advocacy attend Moot Court Final Four competition judged in the fall by Florida Supreme Court Justices and in the spring by federal DCA judges.¹⁴³⁸

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁴³⁹

The Florida Law School prides itself on the variety of different clinical program opportunities available for students. These include the Conservation Clinic, one of two Public Defender and State Attorney sections of the Criminal Law Clinic, and the Virgil Hawkins Civil Clinics (Full-Representation, Gator TeamChild Juvenile Law, Mediation, or Pro Se Clinic). Unlike in many other law schools, each of these clinics is generally competitive to get into as there are not enough slots for every student who applies. Because of this, students have been known to defer graduation and place themselves in what is called 'externship status' in order to gain admittance to a specific clinic. The downside is that this situation forces many students to graduate without any clinical work if they do not participate in an externship opportunity.¹⁴⁴⁰

1434 <http://lic.law.ufl.edu/~fjil/>

1435 <http://grove.ufl.edu/~jlp/about.htm>; <http://grove.ufl.edu/~jlp/competitionlaw.htm>.

1436 <http://dogwood.circa.ufl.edu/~techlaw/>

1437 UFLAW 2002-2003 Prospectus, at www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/pdf/0203prospectus.pdf, page 23; See also National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools.

1438 Linda Calvert Hanson, Esq., Assistant Dean for Career Services, via email correspondence dated March 26, 2004

1439 <http://www.law.ufl.edu/centers/>; See also UFLAW 2005 Prospectus, at www.law.ufl.edu/admissions/pdf/0203prospectus.pdf, pages 10-11.

1440 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁴⁴¹

They are as follows: Association for a Barrier-Free Legal Environment land use, American Bar Association/Law Student Division, Asian/Pacific American Law Student Association, Association for Public Interest Law, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Corporate Law Society, Council of Ten Criminal Law Association, Entertainment, Arts, and Sports Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Estates, Trusts and Elder Law Society, The Federalist Society, Florida Intellectual Property Group, Health and Law Association, International Law Society, Intellectual Property and Technology Law Association, Internet and Computer Law Association, Jewish Law Student Association, John Marshall Bar Association, Law Association for Women, Law College Council, Law School Democrats, Law School Republicans, Litigator, Mediation and Negotiation Association, OutLaw, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Real Property Group, Spanish American Law Student Association, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance, Animal Law Group, Areion, Association of Future Litigators, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, CaribLaw, Drug and Alcohol Law Student Association, Ethics Group, Family Law Society, Labor and Employment Law Alliance, Lambda Legal Alliance, Law Student Network Association, Military Law Student Association, National Lawyers Guild, St. Thomas Moore Society, and Toastmasters.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 200+¹⁴⁴²

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 65.1¹⁴⁴³

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 95.8¹⁴⁴⁴

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁴⁴⁵

The school groups by job types.

- Percent of graduates employed in positions requiring or anticipating a J.D. (firms, judicial clerks, corporate counsel): 88
- Percent of graduates employed in positions preferring a J.D. (corporate contracts administrator, government regulatory analyst): 3
- Percent of graduates employed as professionals where a J.D. is not required or preferred (accountant, teacher, business manager): 3
- Percent of graduates employed in positions not requiring professional training or not intended to be part of a career: 2

¹⁴⁴¹ <http://www.law.ufl.edu/students/organizations/>; Per Associate Dean Sasnett, provided via email correspondence with Linda Calvert Hanson, Esq., Assistant Dean for Career Services, dated March 26, 2004

¹⁴⁴² <http://www.law.ufl.edu/career/>

¹⁴⁴³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03037.php

¹⁴⁴⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03037.php

¹⁴⁴⁵ Id.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
500 West Baltimore Street Baltimore, MD 21201	(410) 706-2070	(410) 706-3492	www.law.umaryland.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(410) 706-2045	(410) 706-2080	

SOME BRIEF FACTS

The University of Maryland School of Law is notable among first-tier law schools, in that it permits students to enroll either as day or evening students. Both categories of acceptance are based on the same rigorous median LSAT and GPA admissions criteria. The school prides itself on offering only a J.D. degree, so as to provide a concentrated effort into producing lawyers.¹⁴⁴⁶

The law school made its appearance on the rankings last year and this year moves up to number 41. Maryland boasts an exceptionally favorable student/faculty ratio of 11.1:1,¹⁴⁴⁷ which facilitates a lot of one-on-one time between individual students and their professors. Even the large first year courses only contain 50 to 75 students. Further the Law School provides several specialization programs with a Healthcare law program that ranks third in the nation and an Environmental law program which ranks fourth nationally.¹⁴⁴⁸

University of Maryland School of Law uses a modified 4-point scale with a range of 4.3 to 0.67, A+ to F respectively. The Law School releases an individual rank for each student, which is available upon request, and the 50th percentile falls at 3.14, squarely in the middle of a B and B+.¹⁴⁴⁹

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 160¹⁴⁵⁰ 25th – 75th Percentile: 155-162¹⁴⁵¹
- Median GPA: 3.56¹⁴⁵² 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.31 – 3.75¹⁴⁵³
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 3,782¹⁴⁵⁴
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 438
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 11.6

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2005 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03072.php.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁴⁵⁵

A+	4.33-4.17	B+	3.49-3.17	C+	2.49-2.17	D+	1.49-1.17	F	0.49 and below
A	4.16-3.84	B	3.16-2.84	C	2.16-1.84	D	1.16-0.84		
A-	3.83-3.5	B-	2.83-2.50	C-	1.83-1.50	D-	0.83-0.50		

¹⁴⁴⁶ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/deansmessage.asp>

¹⁴⁴⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03071.php

¹⁴⁴⁸ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/deansmessage.asp>

¹⁴⁴⁹ These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

¹⁴⁵⁰ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 659

¹⁴⁵¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03071.php

¹⁴⁵² National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 659

¹⁴⁵³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03071.php

¹⁴⁵⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03071.php; See also <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/admissions/profile.asp> (listing full- and part-time numbers as 4,303 applied, 497 resulting in a 11.5% acceptance rate)

¹⁴⁵⁵ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/osa/documents/policies/handbook.pdf>; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 660

Though professors have discretion in awarding grades the school encourages them to “strive to maintain both a grade distribution pattern and an average grade consistent with those being employed by others grading examinations in similar courses.”¹⁴⁵⁶ The school emphasizes this point regarding required and multi-section courses.¹⁴⁵⁷

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ¹⁴⁵⁸	3.59	3.35	3.26	3.11	2.90	1.67

Although Maryland does not publish a class rank on the transcript, students may request their individual class rank from the registrar after all first year grades are recorded. Students may also list such a rank on their resume if they desire.¹⁴⁵⁹ In addition, students may list their rank as a percentile i.e., a student ranked 19 out of 100 would be able to state a percentile of 20.

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁴⁶⁰

Order of the Coif:	Top 10% (usually 3.56 and above)
<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	N/A
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	N/A
<i>Cum Laude:</i>	Top third (usually 3.00 and above)

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁴⁶¹

Name of Award	Recipient
Thomas Prizes	Students graduating #1 and #2 (2).
Larry B. Shoda Award	Evening student demonstrating academic excellence.
Joseph Bernstein Fund Prizes	Best work in each student journal.
Hoffberger Clinical Law Prizes	Students excelling in Clinical Law Program (4).

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journals¹⁴⁶²

The number, quality, and diversity of journals associated with the University of Maryland is exceptional. Generally, students are chosen based on their written petitions submitted at the end of their first year for day students and their second year for evening students. The process is entirely grade blind for two of the journals—Margins and the Journal of Health Care Law and Policy. Grades do impact the choice of editors for The Maryland Law Review and The Business Lawyer. Approximately 25% of all available positions are determined by a combination of petition scores and grades.¹⁴⁶³

- *The Maryland Law Review* is published quarterly and is arguably the law school’s major legal publication. One issue annually is dedicated exclusively to Maryland law. The editorial board typically numbers 60-70 at one time, and is responsible for both layout and content. Leading scholars and practitioners provide most if not all of the content, although the issue featuring Maryland law contains comments and case notes by students as well as professionals.

¹⁴⁵⁶ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/osa/documents/policies/handbook.pdf>, pg. 60

¹⁴⁵⁷ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/osa/documents/policies/handbook.pdf>, pg. 60

¹⁴⁵⁸ * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2001 graduating class, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 506

¹⁴⁵⁹ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/osa/documents/policies/handbook.pdf>; pg. 30

¹⁴⁶⁰ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/osa/documents/policies/handbook.pdf>; pg. 63; % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 507

¹⁴⁶¹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 507

¹⁴⁶² www.law.umich.edu/journalsAndOrgs/orgs.htm; <http://www.law.umich.edu/currentstudents/student-services/handbook/handbook.pdf#page=46>

¹⁴⁶³ Journal admission standards provided by Tricia O’Neil, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, by way of email correspondence dated April 2, 2004, between Mary Alice Hohing, Operations Manager, and BCG Staff.

- *The Business Lawyer*, an official journal of the ABA's business law section, is also edited and produced by Maryland law students. It claims its print run of over 58,000 is the largest of any law journal/review in the world. (By comparison, Harvard Law Review is estimated to distribute approximately 8,000 copies.) Its subscribers include practitioners, academics and judges nationwide. The journal publishes articles by legal practitioners and academics, with materials submitted directly to the ABA. Students have published work on this journal after entering an ABA contest to find publishable student works.
- *The Journal of Health Care Law and Policy (JHCLP)* offers attorneys, law students and others high-level policy dialogue and a platform for interdisciplinary discussion concerning health policy and is known to be one of the more cited journals in this field.
- *Margins Law Journal* focuses on cultural issues of class, gender, race and religion, their interplay within American culture and the legal questions raised as a result of this interplay. The Journal's focus tends to gravitate more to the impact of law on individuals and communities with marginal status than it does on traditional case and statutory analysis.

MOOT COURT¹⁴⁶⁴

Competition for Moot Court Board membership is only for 2nd and 3rd year students achieving exceptional Appellate Advocacy scores or top 20 Moot Court competition scores. The board of upper class law students that oversees the Moot Court competition is chosen based on grades which typically fall in the top 10% of the class, appellate-brief writing ability plus demonstrated superior oral advocacy. Two internal competitions are held in which second-year day and evening students compete for membership.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁴⁶⁵

The University of Maryland's clinical program ranks 7th on The *U.S. News & World Report* list of top clinical training programs.¹⁴⁶⁶ The University of Maryland's Clinical Programs is exceptional, boasting 24 different and distinct clinical opportunities and thus allowing every student an opportunity to participate in at least one clinic during his or her Law School years.¹⁴⁶⁷ For starters, the Environmental Law Program includes a leading-edge curriculum of standard courses plus seminars taught by leading experts. The *U.S. News & World Report* Annual Survey ranks this clinic as one of America's best. Another nationally recognized clinical program is Law and Health Care (L&HCP), which began in the late 1980s in response to problems encountered by health-care professionals struggling to make sense of a myriad of national and state statutory and other laws regarding health care in general. Students tackle sophisticated issues and analyze them from legal, interdisciplinary, and cultural perspectives. Finally, the Law Asper Fellowship Program gives study credit for supervised work with state and federal judges, government attorneys, and not-for-profits. The Program is exceptionally rigorous: Students must perform 140 hours in a semester to fulfill their obligations to this clinical program. The Classroom component of the program brings attorneys and judges from the field in for lectures and discussions regarding the issues students face in their projects.¹⁴⁶⁸

¹⁴⁶⁴ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/mootcourt/>

¹⁴⁶⁵ http://www.law.umaryland.edu/specialty_program.asp

¹⁴⁶⁶ <http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/rankings/law/premium/specialties/lawsp02.php>

¹⁴⁶⁷ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/deansmessage.asp>

¹⁴⁶⁸ <http://www.law.umaryland.edu/dept/career/fellowships.asp>

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁴⁶⁹

As was true with journals and clinical programs, the choice of special-interest campus organizations on campus is considerable, to include: Asian/Pacific American Law Students Association, Black Law Students Association, Criminal Law Association, Intellectual Property Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Latino Law Students Association, Law Students for Animal Rights, Literary and Debate Society, several fraternities, the Student Bar Association, the University Student Government Association and the Women's Bar Association.

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 73.9¹⁴⁷⁰

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 97.4¹⁴⁷¹

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁴⁷²

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 36
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 25
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 18
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 3
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 15
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 3

¹⁴⁶⁹ http://www.law.umaryland.edu/osa_studorg.asp

¹⁴⁷⁰ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03071.php

¹⁴⁷¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03071.php

¹⁴⁷² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03071.php

RANK

47

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY (WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW)

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
4801 Massachusetts Avenue NW Washington, DC 20016-8192	(202) 274-4101	(202) 274-4101	www.wcl.american.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE	
	(202) 274-4080	(202) 274-4101	

SOME BRIEF FACTS

Washington, DC, the center of the nation's legal institutions, is also the nation's legal home, with federal and state agencies, courts, trade associations, public interest groups, corporations, and hundreds of private firms. With a lawyer population of 1 in 12, Washington is a lawyer's city unlike any other.

Washington is without peer as a law student's city. As a law student in Washington, you will find countless opportunities for externships, clinics, and independent study. Many of your classes will address contemporary national issues, and your professors represent the entire spectrum of the profession, public as well as private.

Washington is also an international center. Legal education today has to prepare you for practice well into the twenty-first century, including the need to work increasingly across national boundaries. Our institutions and communities offer unparalleled opportunities to study international and transnational issues.

The American University is located in the northwest edge of Washington, DC, near the Maryland state line. The law school is 15 minutes from the White House, yet it is set within the green boundaries of a residential neighborhood. In short, American offers the best of Washington, DC.

American University makes its 2006 appearance on the *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools at Number 47. There were 1,193 students enrolled full time as of fall 2004,¹⁴⁷³ with a faculty-to-student ratio of 15.4:1.¹⁴⁷⁴

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: N/A 25th – 75th Percentile: 159-162
- Median GPA: N/A 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.22-3.61
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 8,159
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 2,002
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 24.5

*Unless otherwise cited, the above statistics come from http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03029.php.

¹⁴⁷³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/stude_03029.php
¹⁴⁷⁴ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/rank_03029.php

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁴⁷⁵

Approximate Class Rank after Fall 2004 Grades

Third Year	Students	Second Year	Students
Top 10%:	3.66	Top 10%:	3.67
Top 25%:	3.54	Top 25%:	3.53
Top 33%:	3.48	Top 33%:	3.47
Top-50%:	3.39	Top-50%:	3.32

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁴⁷⁶

<i>Summa cum laude:</i>	Top 3%
<i>Magna cum laude:</i>	Top 7%
Cum laude:	Remaining 30%

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Law Review¹⁴⁷⁷

The American University Law Review is both the oldest and the largest journal at American University's Washington College of Law. For more than fifty years, the Law Review has made valuable contributions to both the law school and the larger legal community. Each year, the Law Review's approximately one hundred student team publishes six books that are distributed nationwide and abroad to law school libraries, private law firms, public legal organizations, and individual subscribers. The Law Review is also accessible on Westlaw® and Lexis®.

Rather than focus on a particular area of law, the Law Review publishes articles, essays, and student notes and comments on a broad range of issues. Recent years, we have addressed a broad range of topics, including First Amendment freedom of speech; the death penalty; ERISA; electronic copyright infringement; attorney-client privilege; immigration law; international trade law; and a host of other timely legal issues. Also, the American University Law Review is the only journal in the nation to publish annually an issue dedicated to decisions of the Federal Circuit Court of Appeals regarding patent law, international trade, government contracts, and Native American law.

MOOT COURT¹⁴⁷⁸

The Moot Court Honor Society at American University Washington College of Law ("WCL") sponsors a wide-range of activities designed to provide students opportunities to practice their oral advocacy and brief writing skills.

Each year the Moot Court Honor Society administers intra-school Moot Court Competitions, held at WCL for WCL students only, and trains WCL students to compete in and win national trial and appellate advocacy tournaments other law schools administer. The Moot Court Honor Society also hosts both the Burton D. Wechsler First Amendment Moot Court Tournament, at which over 30 law schools from across the nation compete, and the National High School Moot Court Tournament, the first and only such tournament in the country.

¹⁴⁷⁵ <http://www.wcl.american.edu/registrar/classrank.cfm>

¹⁴⁷⁶ <http://www.wcl.american.edu/registrar/regs.cfm>

¹⁴⁷⁷ <http://www.wcl.american.edu/journal/lawrev/about.cfm>

¹⁴⁷⁸ <http://www.wcl.american.edu/org/mootcourt/>

The Moot Court Honor Society is under the control and direction of its Executive Board Members. The Executive Board Members administer the curricular and extracurricular components of the Moot Court Honor Society, are second and third year students at WCL, and are elected by their predecessors. First- and Second-year students at WCL may serve as Assistants to the Moot Court Executive Board.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁴⁷⁹

Civil Practice Clinic, Community & Economic Development Law Clinic, Criminal Justice Clinic, D.C. Law Students in Court, Domestic Violence Clinic, Intellectual Property Law Clinic, International Human Rights Law Clinic, Federal Tax Clinic, and Women and the Law Clinic

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁴⁸⁰

Administrative Law Review, Alternative Dispute Resolution Society, American Constitution Society for Law & Policy, American Jurist, Asian-Pacific American Law Students Assoc., AU Int'l Law Review, AU Journal of Gender, Social Policy & the Law, AU Law Review, Black Law Student Assoc., Business Law Brief, Central & East Europe & Newly Independent States Student Org., Christian Legal Society, Criminal Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Equal Justice Foundation, Evening Law Student Assoc., Federalist Society, Hispanic Law Students Assoc., Human Rights Brief, Intellectual Property Law Society, International Law Review, International Law Society, Islamic Legal Forum, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, Jewish Law Students Assoc., Labor & Employment Law Society, Lambda Law Society, Law & Government Society, LINK, LLM Association, Modern American, Moot Court Society, Multicultural & International Student Org., National Lawyers Guild, National Security & Law Society, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, South Asian Law Students Assoc., Sports & Entertainment Law Society, Street Law Program, Student Bar Assoc., Student Health Law Assoc., Students United, Sustainable Development Law & Policy, UNROW Human Rights Impact Litigation Clinic, Women's Law Assoc.

Graduates known to be employed at graduation: 83.9¹⁴⁸¹

Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation: 97.41428

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁴⁸²

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 43
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 11
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 18
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 21
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 2

¹⁴⁷⁹ <http://www.wcl.american.edu/clinical/>

¹⁴⁸⁰ <http://www.wcl.american.edu/org/>

¹⁴⁸¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03029.php

¹⁴⁸² Id.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁴⁹⁵

Colorado Law School employs a grade point system but uses an internal 100 point scale as well.

Grades	Grade Point	Internal Number
A	4.0	93-100
A-	3.7	90-92
B+	3.3	86-89
B*	3.0	83-85
B-	2.7	80-82
C+	2.3	76-79
C	2.0	73-75
C-	1.7	70-72
D+	1.3	66-69
D	1.0	63-68
D-	0.7	60-62
F	0.0	00-59

*Effective summer 1994, the faculty recommended an 84 median grade in each law school class.

Class Rank

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP* ¹⁴⁹⁶	89.55	87.51	86.65	84.64	82.46	72.00

GRADE NORMALIZATION (CURVE)

Professors must grade on a curve with a median of 84 and it is recommended that professors not hand out grades higher than a 96.¹⁴⁹⁷ Unlike other schools that have hard curves, the median grade at Colorado seems to fall almost exactly in line with the 50th GPA percentile or a B with only 10% of the class receiving A's.¹⁴⁹⁸ All classes with over 20 students are graded on the B curve, even second and third year courses. This could be an indication that there is less grade inflation than at other schools and perhaps the grading curve is more universal and not for core classes only.¹⁴⁹⁹

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁵⁰⁰

Order of the Coif:	Top 10% of graduating class
Dean's List:	Top 10% each semester

¹⁴⁹⁵ <http://www.colorado.edu/law/about/rules/Rules10-1-04.htm#3-3-4>

¹⁴⁹⁶ * Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2000 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 588

¹⁴⁹⁷ <http://www.colorado.edu/law/about/rules/Rules10-1-04.htm#32>

¹⁴⁹⁸ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹⁴⁹⁹ Id.

¹⁵⁰⁰ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 588

Academic Awards¹⁵⁰¹

Name of Award	Recipient
Austin W. Scott Award	Appellate advocacy oral argument award.
Chase Fellowship	Commitment to human rights issues
Colorado Int'l Environmental Law Journal	Leadership and writing awards (2).
DeSouchet Award	Best individual performance in trial advocacy.
Don W. Sears Award	Greatest contribution to class learning experience.
Dufford & Brown Writing Comp. Award	Outstanding legal writing
Edward C. King Award	Outstanding leadership and achievement.
Irving P. Andrews Award	Outstanding achievement by black graduate.
Jim R. Carrigan Cup	Trial advocacy awards (2).
Joel H. Greenstein Award	Outstanding students in trial advocacy.
Law Review Awards	Scholarship, leadership and contribution/outstanding comment.
Legal Aid and Defender Award	Outstanding service and commitment to program.
Meritorious Student Award	Contributed most to law school community.
Natural Resources Law Center Award	Outstanding scholarship and service in natural resources.
Outstanding Latino Graduate	Outstanding graduating Hispanic student.
Sutcliffe Distinguished Service Award	Outstanding dedication and service to law school community.
West Publishing Book Award	Highest scholastic average for academic year.
Women's Law Caucus Award	Contributed most to women's issues during school.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journals¹⁵⁰²

Students surveyed indicated that law review membership is fairly competitive, with 8-100 applicants vying for about 30 spots available on Law Review. Applicants are scored on five different criteria for the write-on submissions. Students ranked in the top 10% of their class have their lowest scores dropped. The selection process for the other journals mirrors the Law Review, except the other journals also require a statement of interest. Students predictably responded that Law Review gets the first pick of students wishing to get journal membership, with those not making the cut writing on the other journals.¹⁵⁰³

¹⁵⁰¹ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 588

¹⁵⁰² <http://www.colorado.edu/law/students/journals.htm>

¹⁵⁰³ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

- The *University of Colorado Law Review*¹⁵⁰⁴ comes out four times a year. The students editors handle the entire operation of the journal “including editing, writing case comments and reviews for books and faculty articles.” This is the main publication of the school and encompasses broad topics of legal interest. The students gain membership through a writing competition, and or on the basis of their class standing. Transfer students may also participate by entering a writing competition.
- The *Colorado Journal of International Environmental Law & Policy*¹⁵⁰⁵ focuses on “examining the legal and policy implications of international environmental issues.” Read by many in the field, the journal addresses serious issues in this area including “global climate change, trans-boundary water pollution, protection of biological diversity, and international environmental conventions.” Second- and third-year students operate the journal and see that its two issues a year are published.
- *The Journal on Telecommunications and High Technology Law (JTHTL)*¹⁵⁰⁶ is the most recent addition to the school’s tradition of student publications. JTHTL is connected to the University of Colorado’s Silicon Flatirons Telecommunications Program and “is committed to providing a meaningful experience to students who have an interest in telecommunications, technological convergence, intellectual property, and regulatory law.”

MOOT COURT¹⁵⁰⁷

Moot Court competition is a voluntary program for second- and third-year students. Practice course requirement is fulfilled through either Trial Advocacy or the Legal Aid and Defender Program. Appellate Court Advocacy is required for first-year students. Due to the amount of time and effort participants have to put in, as well as the prestige involved, many students feel that this is an option for students who did not want to be on a journal and that few students could handle both.¹⁵⁰⁸

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁵⁰⁹

The University Of Colorado School Of Law offers the following clinical programs: Legal Aid and Defender Program, Natural Resources Litigation Clinic, American Indian Law Clinic, Legal Negotiation and Dispute Resolution, Trial Competition, Trial Advocacy, Advanced Trial Advocacy, Motions Advocacy, Appellate Advocacy Clinic, Entrepreneurial Law Clinic and the externship program. Clinical programs received high praise from almost all of the students responding to our survey.¹⁵¹⁰

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁵¹¹

The University of Colorado, Boulder School of Law’s student organizations include Ageless, the American Bar Association, ACLU, Asian American Law Students Association, Association of Law Students and Their Partners, Black Law Students Association, Business Law Association, Christian Legal Society, Doman International Law Society, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society for Law and Public Policy Studies, Latino Law Student Association, Lend-A-Law Student Association, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Student Association, OUTLAW, Phi Alpha Delta, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Student Association, Student Bar Association, Student Trial Lawyers Association and the Women’s Law Caucus.

1504 <http://www.colorado.edu/law/lawreview/index.htm>

1505 <http://www.colorado.edu/law/cjelp/index.html>; <http://www.colorado.edu/law/studentorg.html>.

1506 <http://www.colorado.edu/law/jthtl/index.htm>

1507 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 587

1508 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1509 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 587

1510 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1511 <http://www.colorado.edu/law/studentorg.html>

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 85-100^{1512*}

* The exact number of firms is not released, but the law school continually hosts on-campus interviews each year, upon request from employers.

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 65¹⁵¹³

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 92.3¹⁵¹⁴

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁵¹⁵

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 42
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 24
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 16
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 5
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 10
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 3

1512 Phone conversation with Tony Bastone, Assistant Dean of Career Services, on March 16, 2004

1513 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03023.php

1514 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03023.php

1515 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03023.php

CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY

MAILING ADDRESS

11075 East Boulevard
Cleveland, OH 44106-7148

MAIN PHONE

(800) 756-0036

ADMISSION'S PHONE

(800) 756-0036

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.law.case.edu/

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(800) 819-3280

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

(800) 856-6353

SOME BRIEF FACTS

Case Western Reserve School of Law prides itself on creating a community of learning in which students and faculty can study and learn in comfort, have easy access to resources, and interact with each other not only in the classroom, but also casually in common areas devoted to student use.

Our facility itself fosters an atmosphere of collegiality. Built in 1971, enhanced in 1994 with a 20,000-square-foot addition, and remodeled in 2000, the law school is spacious, inviting, and comfortable. The older classrooms have been updated and all now offer outstanding acoustics, lighting, electrical outlets for laptop computers, and seating. Throughout the building, there is a feeling of openness and hospitality that enhances learning and the exchange of ideas. Students and faculty are often seen chatting over a cup of coffee on “The Bridge” or in one of our student lounges.

The law school is located on the north side of our university campus, which encompasses 128 acres in University Circle, a 450-acre farm in Hunting Valley, 2 astronomy observatories, and 87 buildings. University Circle, home to Case Western Reserve University, is an intellectual, scientific, cultural, and health care district—the concentration of institutions within its one-square-mile, park-like setting is unsurpassed in the world.

Case Western Reserve makes its debut appearance on the *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools at Number 49 in the 2006 rankings. There were 689 full-time students enrolled at Case Western Reserve in the fall of 2004,¹⁵¹⁶ with a faculty-to-student ratio of 14.2:1.¹⁵¹⁷

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: N/A 25th – 75th Percentile: 157-161
- Median GPA: N/A 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.04-3.53
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 2,851
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 808
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 28.3

*Unless otherwise cited, the above statistics come from http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/grad/admis_03123.php.

¹⁵¹⁶ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/stude_03123.php

¹⁵¹⁷ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/rank_03123.php

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁵¹⁸

In an effort to recognize excellence, an abundance of awards are available to students.

The Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers presents an award to a student who has excelled in family law. The American Bankruptcy Institute Medal of Excellence is awarded for outstanding performance in bankruptcy studies. The Anderson Publishing Company book award is presented to the top graduating student in selected courses. The Jack Cronquist Award goes to the student in the Milton A. Kramer Law Clinic who demonstrates outstanding performance and commitment to clients. The Richard A. and Brandon S. Collier Law-Medicine Award honors outstanding achievement in the law-medicine curriculum. The Duvin, Cahn & Hutton Labor Law Award goes to a student who has excelled in the study of labor and employment law. The West Group presents its Corpus Juris Secundum Award to the top student in each section of Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Criminal Law, Property, and Torts. The Federal Bar Association Award is given by the Cleveland Chapter to the top student in each section of Constitutional Law I. The Sherman S. Hollander Award is presented to the student who earns the highest grade in each section of Evidence. The Arthur E. Petersilge Award is presented to students who have excelled in the study of wills and trusts. The Frederick K. Cox Service Award is given to the top students in Trial Tactics. The International Academy of Trial Lawyers presents an award to the outstanding student in the trial advocacy program. The William H. Wallace Award is given to a student demonstrating excellent litigation skills. The Outstanding Scholastic Achievement Book Award is presented by the West Group to the graduating student with the highest overall grade point average.

WRITING COMPETITIONS

The following awards and prizes are based on written essays. Most awards are determined by a faculty committee. Some include first, second, and third prizes. Cash prizes vary from year to year. In addition to awards established or administered at this law school, we also have information about many other writing competitions across the country. New competitions are announced almost every week and are added to a database maintained in the Career Services Office. Updated lists are posted regularly outside that office, and full information on all competitions is maintained in a notebook. All students enrolled in the law school and in good standing are eligible to compete for these awards. Papers prepared for a seminar or for the writing requirement may be submitted. The Stanley I. and Hope S. Adelstein Environmental Law Award is presented to the student who prepares the best essay in the field of environmental law. The Nathan Burkan Award is presented by the American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers to the student who writes the best paper on copyright law. The essay is entered in the national competition. The Lesbian and Gay Law Alliance Award goes to the student who prepares the best paper on gay/lesbian issues. The Sindell Brothers Tort Prize is presented to the student who prepares the best essay on tort law. The Student Note Award, established by the editorial board of the Law Review, honors excellence in legal scholarship.

1518 http://www.law.case.edu/admissions/admitted/pdfs/Entering_Students_Manual_2005.pdf

MISCELLANEOUS OTHER AWARDS

The Case School of Law Leadership Award is presented to those students, as determined by the Student Bar Association, who have demonstrated leadership in making significant contributions to student organizations and to fostering community within the school. Cum Studiiis tum Moribus Principes, the Society of Benchers Award, goes to a member of the graduating class who, in the opinion of the faculty, has shown eminence in academic work and character. The Stanley I. and Hope S. Adelstein Environmental Law Grant is awarded to a rising second- or third-year student who is committed to working in environmental public interest law during the summer. The Ruth and Jack Grant Day Family Award is presented to a second-year student who will work during the coming summer for a local chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. The Diane Ethics Award is presented to the graduating student who has demonstrated (in academic, professional, and extracurricular activities) the best understanding of the ethics and ideals of the legal profession. The Shelley Halpern Memorial Award goes to the student who ranks the highest in the first-year class. The John Wragg Kellogg Prize goes to the highest-ranking student in the first-year class. The Martin Luther King Award, established by the Student Bar Association, is given to a student who, in the judgment of classmates, follows in character and conduct the spirit of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. The Student Bar Association presents the Student of the Year Award to the graduating student who, in the judgment of classmates, best exemplifies outstanding scholarship and excellence in extracurricular activities. The Dean's Community Service Award goes to a graduating student and to a student organization whose commitment to enriching the lives of others in Greater Cleveland serves as an example to those within and outside the legal profession. The Outstanding Woman Law Graduate Award is presented by the National Association of Women Lawyers to a woman graduate who has achieved academic distinction and promises contribution to society and to the profession.

MOOT COURT AND MOCK TRIAL AWARDS

Mock Trial tryouts are held in the spring prior to the next academic year. The Order of Barristers, a national honor society, honors students for excellence in advocacy and for their overall contribution to the school's moot court and advocacy programs. The Jonathan M. Ault Prize is given to the team whose overall performance is judged best at the National Mock Trial Team Night. The William E. Davis Prize goes to the team judged second. The following awards are given to participants in the Dean Dunmore Competition: Dean Dunmore Award for best overall performance; Dean's Brief- Writing Award, A.E. Bernsteen Award for best oral advocate; Dean Dunmore Tournament Award; Dean Dunmore Distinguished Advocate Award to the 16 competition finalists.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Law Review¹⁵¹⁹

The Case Western Reserve Law Review (cite as CASE W. RES. L. REV.) is a student edited, scholarly publication dealing with subjects of general interest in the legal profession. It is published by the Case Western Reserve University School of Law. Originally founded in 1895, the Law Review was subsequently reorganized in its present form as the Western Reserve Law Review in 1949. The Law Review publishes one volume, comprised of four issues per year. In addition to the publication of general interest issues, the Law Review publishes topic-specific symposia.

Those who have demonstrated interest and ability are invited to become associates of the Law Review at the beginning of their second year. They write a scholarly paper on a topic of their choice, honing their legal analytical and writing skills while deeply exploring their interest in legal issues. In addition, they help select and edit articles submitted by judges, scholars, and other authorities.

¹⁵¹⁹ http://www.law.case.edu/student_life/journals/content.asp?id=113

Health Matrix: Journal of Law-Medicine is the only student-edited health law journal in the country. It publishes two issues per year dedicated to thematic topics. Students contribute articles and work with submissions from outside authors representing such professions as law, medicine, and social work.

The Journal of International Law devotes three issues per year to timely and appropriate global themes. Second-year students are eligible to become associates, taking an active role in the editorial process.

MOOT COURT AND MOCK TRIAL¹⁵²⁰

Our Moot Court Board sponsors both intramural and interschool competitions. Interested students refine their brief-writing and oral advocacy skills through second-year competition; the most outstanding candidates represent the school in national competition during their third year.

Those interested in litigation receive intensive training in trial procedure and tactics by competing for membership on the Jonathan M. Ault Mock Trial Team. The team represents the law school in several interscholastic formats, including the National Mock Trial Competition. In 2001, our Niagara moot court team achieved tremendous success, winning half of all awards at its tournament in Windsor, Ontario.

Both of these co-curricular activities offer intense simulations of real-life cases under the guidance of faculty and experts from the legal community, further allowing students to develop the skills that will be so vital to their success as practitioners.

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁵²¹

ABA Law Students' Division, American Civil Liberties Union, American Constitution Society, Asian Pacific American Law School Association, Ault Mock Trial Team, Big Buddies, Black Law Students Association, Business Law & Litigation Society, Canada - US Journal, Death is Different, Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, Environmental Law Society, F.L.A.G. Law, Federalist Society, Health Matrix, Hispanic Law Students Association, Internet Law Journal, J. Reuben Clark Law Society, JD/MBA Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Journal of International Law, Journal of Law & Politics, Law Review, Law School Ambassadors, Law School Democrats, Law School Golf Organization, Law Students for Choice, Married Students Association, Moot Court Board, Multi-Cultural Irish Council, National Italian American Bar Association, National Lawyers Guild, Phi Delta Phi, South Asian Law Students Association, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Street Law Program, Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, Student Bar Association, Student Health Law Association, Student Intellectual Property Law Association, Student International Law Society, Student Public Interest Law Fellowship, The Docket, Women's Law Association

Graduates known to be employed at graduation: 76.5¹⁵²²

Graduates known to be employed nine months after graduation: 98.81469

¹⁵²⁰ http://www.law.case.edu/student_life/content.asp?id=126

¹⁵²¹ http://www.law.case.edu/student_life/student_orgs.asp

¹⁵²² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03123.php

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁵²³

Percent of grads employed by private firms: 58
Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 5
Percent of grads employed by the government: 11
Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 5
Percent of grads employed by private industry: 12
Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 4

¹⁵²³ Id.

RANK

49

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

MAILING ADDRESS

45 Elizabeth Street
Hartford, CT 06105

MAIN PHONE

(860) 570-5100

ADMISSION'S PHONE

(860) 570-5130

WEB SITE ADDRESS

www.law.uconn.edu

REGISTRAR'S PHONE

(860) 570-5136

CAREER SERVICE'S PHONE

SOME BRIEF FACTS

All law schools have their own unique ways of differentiating the legal education they offer. The University of Connecticut School of Law, founded relatively recently in 1921, hangs its hat not just on its competitive entry standards but also on a philosophy that maintains that legal minds are best stimulated and refined by high quality civil discourse among students and faculty conducted in small and intimate settings.¹⁵²⁴ Thus, the focus at Connecticut is on small class size and the presumption that as a result, professor-student dialogue will indeed not only be encouraged but enhanced. In a perfect world, this results in free-flowing, collaborative dialogue in which professors, by example, teach and train the mind to think in rigorous legal fashion. There is strong evidence that Conn Law goes a long way towards attaining this vision. For example, the entering class at Conn Law is comprised of 204¹⁵²⁵ students. (The student-faculty ratio is an impressively low 12.3:1,¹⁵²⁶ which, in line with the University of Connecticut Law School's stated objective, facilitates the intense dialogue desired. In fact, the school, due to this relatively low student-faculty ratio, is able to offer many of its courses in seminar format, with 70 percent of advanced courses conducted with 20 or fewer students.¹⁵²⁷

The University of Connecticut School of Law is currently ranked Number 49 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* 2006 list of Tier One law schools. The school's recently completed law library is likely among the largest legal and research technology centers in the world, housing more than 480,000 volumes in a 120,000-square-foot space.¹⁵²⁸ Another advantage the school offers is proximity to the Connecticut State Capitol, courts and agencies, and Hartford's numerous law firms and corporations.¹⁵²⁹

The Law School utilizes a standard four-point grading system with an A being a 4.0, no A+ grades are given. A standard B curve is in place for all mandatory courses and other courses with over 19 students. Individual ranks are provided for the top quartile, while the rest of the class is ranked by quartiles only¹⁵³⁰

1524 <http://www.law.uconn.edu/about/>

1525 <http://www.law.uconn.edu/admissions/admsfin/profile.html>; See also http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03026.php (listing 126 full-time and 64 part-time students).

1526 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/acad_03026.php

1527 American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, *Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools*, 2003 Edition, 216

1528 Id.

1529 <http://www.law.uconn.edu/about/>

1530 These statements are designed to provide an overview of grading at University of Connecticut Law School. Information is received from a combination of sources, including the school Web page, student surveys, and the NALP directory. Statements are elaborated upon in the Grades and Ranking section and each assertion footnoted to the exact source.

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁵⁴⁰

Name of Award	Recipient
Allstate Foundation Scholarship	Outstanding scholarly achievement in Contracts & Torts.
Honorable Herbert Barall Family Law Award	Excellence in the academic study of family law.
Honorable M. Joseph Blumenfeld Prize	Outstanding service as an advocate as part of a clinic (2).
Nathan Burkan Memorial Competition	First/Second place awards for essay on copyright law.
Ralph Colucci Award	Highest grade in Arts and the Law or Copyright Law.
CBA Labor & Employment Law Section Award	Outstanding achievement in Labor or Employment Law.
CBA Real Property Section Award	Outstanding contribution to legal writing in Real Property (2).
CT Conference of Municipalities Prize	Greatest contribution of excellence to Municipal Law.
CT Law Review, Alumni Association Award	Best case note or comment in Connecticut Law Review.
Joseph Glick Prize	Excellence in the academic study of international law.
Grotius Prize	Distinguished scholarship in international studies.
Hartford County Federal Bar Foundation Award	Outstanding achievement in Federal Law.
Milton W. Horowitz Memorial Prize	Academic excellence in Torts.
Flemings James, Jr. Award	Academic excellence in Labor Law.
Aaron Nassau Award	Academic excellence in Property.
National Association of Women Lawyers Award	Outstanding achievement and advancement of women.
Joseph F. Noonan Memorial Award	Outstanding legal scholarship and commitment to public service.
Alvin Pudlin Memorial First Amendment Award	Excellence in the academic study of the First Amendment.
George & Lorraine Schatzi Award	Outstanding service to the school of law.
Milton Sorokin Award	Excellence in the study of First Amendment Rights.
William F. Starr Fellowship Award	Highest GPA in graduating class.
Gerald F. Stevens Award	Academic excellence in Environmental Law.
Cornelius W. Wickersham, Jr. Award	Excellence in Constitutional Law.
Women Law Students Association Award	Community legal service that promotes women's interests.
Thomas F. Gallivan, Jr. Memorial Prize	Outstanding scholastic achievement in Property.

¹⁵⁴⁰ The University of Connecticut School of Law has chosen not to list awards by name in the National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006 edition. As such, the editors have included the list and descriptions from the National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 446.

Edward L. Stephenson Memorial Prize	Outstanding scholastic achievement in Civil Procedure.
Honorable M. Joseph Blumenfeld Fellow	Recognition for student research.
J. Rene Frechette Memorial Fellow	Recognition for student research.
Isabel & John R. Jewett '68 Fellow	Recognition for student research.
Law School Foundation Awards	Outstanding service to school.
Exceptional achievement in scholarship.	
*27 scholarships and 7 additional prizes and awards are presented annually.	

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journals

The University of Connecticut School of Law has another interesting distinction. All four of the journals it publishes—*Connecticut Law Review*, *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal*, and *Connecticut Journal of International Law*—hold write-ons to determine membership. Students wishing to participate in the *Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal* submit a separate entry which addresses an approved aspect of public interest law.¹⁵⁴¹ Students can also submit writing to join any of the three remaining journals. Most students rank the *Connecticut Law Review* first, followed by other two journals based on their individual interests. What follows is a brief description of the journal choices available:

- *Connecticut Law Review*¹⁵⁴² is the oldest, largest, arguably most prestigious and most active student-run organization. Members handle the entire production process from article selection and editing through the layout of the final copy.
- The *Connecticut Insurance Law Journal*¹⁵⁴³ is the world's only known academic law review focused exclusively on the airing of original research on law relating to insurance, risk, and responsibility. As with the Law Review, students write and edit their own notes and commentaries.
- The *Connecticut Journal of International Law*¹⁵⁴⁴ is committed to scholarly work on aspects of international, transnational, and international commercial law. Second- and third year law students at the School of Law serve as members and editors. Publication occurs twice annually.
- *Connecticut Public Interest Law Journal*¹⁵⁴⁵ is a peer-reviewed scholarly journal designed to focus from a legal perspective on furthering discussion of public interest issues relating to the many crucial political, economic, and social issues facing what are defined as 'underrepresented people.'

MOOT COURT¹⁵⁴⁶

Every first-year student must join the moot court program during four-weeks in the Spring Semester. Later, and if they wish, students can apply for membership on the Connecticut Moot Court Board. This membership is predicated on outstanding performance in the board's Alva P.

¹⁵⁴¹ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have included survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹⁵⁴² <http://connecticutlawreview.org/>

¹⁵⁴³ <http://www.insurancejournal.org/frames.html>

¹⁵⁴⁴ <http://www.law.uconn.edu/journals/cjil/>

¹⁵⁴⁵ <http://www.law.uconn.edu/journals/cpilj/>

¹⁵⁴⁶ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2002-2003, 445

Loiselle Competition and William H. Hastie Memorial Competition. The Board annually fields teams for a number of interscholastic contests, including the National Moot Court Competition and the Willem C. Vis International Moot Court Competition.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁵⁴⁷

A wide and interesting assortment of clinical programs are available: Civil Rights, Criminal Law, Civil Appellate Advocacy, Health Law, Tax, and Women's Rights, Administrative Law, Environmental Law, Poverty Law, Children's Advocacy, Mediation, Judicial Clerkship, Legislative Process, Urban Problems, Intellectual Property Law and Political Asylum. The work can be somewhat daunting. Students work with their own clients and do whatever research and planning is required on a case-by-case basis.¹⁵⁴⁸

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁵⁴⁹

As was true with the clinical programs, the choice of interest-focused organizations is also impressively large. Organizations can and do pop up and disappear depending on how many new and existing students are interested. What follows is a list of those who have been around awhile: Academic Careers Society, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Amnesty International, Armed Forces Association, Arts, Entertainment & Sports Law Society, Asian-American Law Students Association, Athletic Association, Black Law Students Association, Christian Legal Society, Computer Law Society, College Democrats of America, CT Alliance of International Lawyers, CT Client Advocacy Board, CT Unemployment Action Center, Criminal Defense Lawyers' Association, Eastern European Club, Environmental Law Society, Federalist Society, Golf Club, Health Law Interest Group, Hellenic Association, Intellectual Property & Technical Law Society, International Law Students Association, Irish American Law Students Association, Jewish Law Students Association, Labor & Employment Law Society, Lambda Law Students Association, Latino Law Students Association, Maritime Law Society, Married Law Students Association, National Italian-American Bar Association, National Lawyers Guild, Native American Law Students Association, Older and Commuting Students, Outing Club, Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, Phi Delta Phi, Public Interest Law Group, *The Public Forum* (newspaper), Student Bar Association, Tax Law Society, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program and the Women's Law Students Association.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 70+¹⁵⁵⁰

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 65.7¹⁵⁵¹

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 95.3¹⁵⁵²

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁵⁵³

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 49
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 19
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 11
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 4
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 16
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 1

¹⁵⁴⁷ Id.

¹⁵⁴⁸ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have included survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹⁵⁴⁹ Id.

¹⁵⁵⁰ <http://www.law.uconn.edu/careersvcs/employer-list.htm>

¹⁵⁵¹ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03026.php

¹⁵⁵² http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03026.php

¹⁵⁵³ http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03026.php

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH, S.J. QUINNEY COLLEGE OF LAW

MAILING ADDRESS	MAIN PHONE	ADMISSION'S PHONE	WEB SITE ADDRESS
332 South 1400 East, Rm. 101 Salt Lake City, UT 84112	(801) 581-6833	(801) 581-3682	www.law.utah.edu
	REGISTRAR'S PHONE	CA	
	(801) 581-7475		

SOME BRIEF FACTS

Founded in 1913¹⁵⁵⁴ and recently renamed, the University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law, offers a nationally recognized and progressive legal education in a collegial, surprisingly cosmopolitan, and historically rich setting. Located only minutes from downtown Salt Lake City, the College of Law is ripe with diverse professional and social opportunities. Salt Lake City was recently voted one of the country's most livable cities and the University of Utah hosted the 2002 Winter Olympics.¹⁵⁵⁵

The University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law, is currently ranked Number 49 on the annual *U.S. News & World Report* list of Tier One law schools. The law school has a curriculum that emphasizes all practice areas, but is particularly strong in the area of environmental law, with a solid certificate program in environmental law and natural resources.¹⁵⁵⁶

The College of Law takes pride in its modern facilities, the diversity of its student body, and the friendlier, less hectic "Western lifestyle" that permeates the Utah experience.¹⁵⁵⁷ There were only 132 students enrolled in the school's Fall 2004 entering class,¹⁵⁵⁸ and with a student-faculty ratio of 13:1,¹⁵⁵⁹ the strong sense of community between faculty and students is a given.

Law school classes abide by a grading scale between 4.0 and 1.0. The top 10% of a recent class received GPA's of 3.56 or higher.¹⁵⁶⁰

WHAT IT TAKES TO GET IN

The following LSAT/GPA data pertains to the fall 2004 entering class:

- Median LSAT: 161¹⁵⁶¹ 25th – 75th Percentile: 156 - 162¹⁵⁶²
- Median GPA: 3.65¹⁵⁶³ 25th – 75th Percentile: 3.37 - 3.78¹⁵⁶⁴
- Approximate number of applications for one recent year: 1,263¹⁵⁶⁵
- Number accepted during one recent sample year: 321¹⁵⁶⁶
- Percentage accepted during one recent sample year: 25.4¹⁵⁶⁷

1554 <http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/profile.html>

1555 American Bar Association and Law School Admission Council, Official Guide to ABA-Approved Law Schools, 2003 Edition, 724

1556 2003 student statistics received via fax correspondence between BCG research staff and Reyes Aguilar Associate Dean of Student Services, S.J. Quinney College of Law, on March 24, 2004

1557 http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/why_utah.html

1558 <http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/profile.html>

1559 <http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/profile.html>

1560 These statements are designed to provide an overview of the school's grading system and are explained in the "Ranking and Grades" section in detail. Unless otherwise indicated, the information is received via a combination of student surveys, or volunteered on the school's Web page, or found in the NALP directory. Each assertion is explained and fully footnoted later on.

1561 <http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/profile.html>

1562 <http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/profile.html>

1563 Id.

1564 <http://www.law.utah.edu/prospective/profile.html>

1565 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03157.php

1566 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03157.php

1567 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03157.php

*Unless otherwise footnoted, all the above statistics come from U.S. News & World Report's America's Best Graduate Schools 2006 Report at http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/admis_03155.php.

CLASS RANKING AND GRADES¹⁵⁶⁸

	B+	3.3	C+	2.3	D+	1.3	E	0.0
A	4.0	B	3.0	C	2.0	D	1.0	
A-	3.7	B-	2.7	C-	1.7	D-	0.7	

CLASS RANK

PERCENTILE	TOP10%	TOP 25%	TOP 33%	Top-50%	TOP 75%	MIN GRADE REQ FOR GRAD
NALP ^{*1569}	3.6	3.354	3.289	3.151	2.974	2.0

The school states that it does not rank students.¹⁵⁷⁰ The school maintains a book with median course grades and mean averages, but it is available only to students.¹⁵⁷¹ In addition, the fall semester GPA distributions for the classes of 2005-2007 show that the variance between the bottom third of a given class versus the top third is small on the four point scale: .231 for the class of 2005, .289 for the class of 2006, and .367 for the class of 2007.¹⁵⁷²

HOW THE BEST ARE SEPARATED FROM THE REST¹⁵⁷³

Leary Scholar: Top 20% (each semester for 2Ls and 3Ls, each year for 1Ls)
 Order of the Coif: Top 10%

ACADEMIC AWARDS¹⁵⁷⁴

Name of Award	Recipient
Outstanding Achievement Award	Student with most outstanding performance in a specific course.
Various writing awards	For submitted papers.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Journals¹⁵⁷⁵

- The *Utah Law Review*¹⁵⁷⁶ is a journal of critical analysis and commentary on current legal problems. A writing competition and the student's cumulative law school GPA determine selection at the completion of the first year. The Law Review is the school's most prestigious publication.¹⁵⁷⁷
- The *Journal of Law & Family Studies (JLFS)*¹⁵⁷⁸ publishes pieces using empirical and doctrinal analysis to examine "topics concerning families, family relationships and the law." JLFS publishes a minimum of two issues a year and students gain membership via a writing competition.

¹⁵⁶⁸ http://www.law.utah.edu/pdf/current/student_handbook.pdf, pg. 38

¹⁵⁶⁹ Minimum grade required to attain, based on May 2004 graduating class; National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 811

¹⁵⁷⁰ http://www.law.utah.edu/pdf/current/student_handbook.pdf, pg. 40

¹⁵⁷¹ http://www.law.utah.edu/pdf/current/student_handbook.pdf, pg. 40

¹⁵⁷² http://www.law.utah.edu/pdf/registrar/gd_class05_fallo4.pdf; http://www.law.utah.edu/pdf/registrar/gd_class06_fallo4.pdf; http://www.law.utah.edu/pdf/registrar/gd_class07_fallo4.pdf

¹⁵⁷³ % of class receiving; GPA required (if calculated); # of students in each category, National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 811

¹⁵⁷⁴ National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 811

¹⁵⁷⁵ <http://www.law.utah.edu/programs/journals/>

¹⁵⁷⁶ <http://www.law.utah.edu/programs/journals/utahlawreview/index.html>

¹⁵⁷⁷ This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

¹⁵⁷⁸ <http://www.law.utah.edu/programs/journals/jlfs.html>

- The *Journal of Land, Resources and Environmental Law (JLREL)*¹⁵⁷⁹ comes out twice a year with articles seeking to “stimulate innovative thinking in the areas of energy, natural resources, and the environment.” Students may join the journal only by competing in a writing evaluation. The Journal is the school’s second-most prestigious publication.¹⁵⁸⁰

MOOT COURT¹⁵⁸¹

The S.J. Quinney College of Law’s Moot Court offerings provide “a comprehensive program in appellate litigation and trial advocacy.” Students take a required first-year writing program which incorporates a moot court component and later may engage in the Traynor Moot Court Competition, the National Moot Court team competition, Advanced Appellate Litigation, and Trial Advocacy. Participation in the upper levels of the competition is highly coveted.¹⁵⁸²

CLINICAL PROGRAMS¹⁵⁸³

The S.J. Quinney College of Law offers the following clinical programs: Mediation Clinic, Environmental Clinic, Criminal Defender & Criminal Prosecutor Clinic, Judicial Clinic, Legislative Clinic, Health Clinic and the Civil Clinic.

ORGANIZATIONS¹⁵⁸⁴

The S.J. Quinney College of Law’s active student organizations include the Student Bar Association, Federalist Society, Phi Delta Phi, International Law Society, LDS Law Student Association, Minority Law Caucus, Native American Law Student Association, Public Interest Law Organization, Women’s Law Caucus, Gun Rights Advocates, Natural Resources Law Forum and the American Constitution Society.

Number of firms interviewing on campus most years: 40¹⁵⁸⁵

Percentage of grads employed at graduation: 83.9¹⁵⁸⁶

Percentage of grads employed nine months after graduation: 96.4

WHERE THE GRADS GO¹⁵⁸⁷

- Percent of grads employed by private firms: 55
- Percent of grads employed as judicial clerks: 9
- Percent of grads employed by the government: 17
- Percent of grads employed by a public interest organization: 2
- Percent of grads employed by private industry: 17
- Percent of grads employed in an academic position: 1

1579 <http://www.law.utah.edu/programs/journals/jlrel.html>

1580 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1581 <http://www.law.utah.edu/programs/moot.html>

1582 This information was gathered from a survey of current students and recent graduates of the law school. In all instances, we at BCG have only included this information if the responses we received to our survey warranted their inclusion in some form. We have used survey responses in 37 of the 51 schools we discuss in this book.

1583 National Association for Law Placement, National Directory of Law Schools 2005-2006, 810.

1584 <http://www.law.utah.edu/current/orgs.html>

1585 Provided by the University of Utah, S.J. Quinney College of Law’s Office of Career Services

1586 http://www.usnews.com/usnews/edu/grad/directory/dir-law/premium/carer_03157.php

1587 Id.

