

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, Yeshiva University

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■ Introduction

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law offers students a stimulating and supportive educational experience. Its curriculum combines practical training in basic skills and legal doctrine, sophisticated study of recent developments in legal theory, and interdisciplinary approaches to the study of law. Courses provide depth and breadth in all the standard subjects of legal study, as well as many more specialized ones, including intellectual property law and alternative dispute resolution. Extensive clinical and externship opportunities allow students to gain practical lawyering experience while performing important community service. A Cardozo education emphasizes ethics and the pursuit of intellectual excellence.

■ Faculty

Professors at Cardozo are vibrant, intellectually curious, accessible to students, and committed to the twin goals of teaching and scholarship. They are an interdisciplinary faculty, curious and serious about how the law relates to other expressions of the human spirit such as philosophy, literature, economics, politics, and history. More than half hold advanced degrees in addition to a law degree; about a dozen hold PhDs as well. The faculty is prolific, writing on both visionary and practical subjects; many of their publications are required reading in law schools across the nation.

■ A Campus in New York City

Cardozo is in an elegant residential neighborhood in the heart of Greenwich Village. It is easily accessible to all points in New York City, including the courts, Wall Street, Midtown, and the art and music centers on the East and West Sides. The school recently completed a \$45 million renovation and expansion of its facilities, including a new moot courtroom, additional library space, new lobby, student offices, faculty offices, and new classrooms. Additional renovations including a new Center for Student Life will be completed within two years.

The Cardozo residence hall is located on a residential, tree-lined street just one block south of the main building. A limited number of studio and one-bedroom apartments—all of which are air-conditioned, attractively furnished, and have full kitchens—are available for incoming students.

■ Career Services

Cardozo prides itself on a sophisticated and professionally staffed career office that offers individual assistance with interviewing techniques, résumé writing, and job search strategies as well as panels and other opportunities for learning about a variety of legal careers. An impressive 97.5 percent of those reporting from the class of 2004 were employed within several months of graduation. Sixty-one percent of these graduates went into private practice at an average starting salary of \$95,000; the average overall starting salary was \$81,000.

■ Curriculum

Cardozo offers a rich curriculum that has been especially recognized for its offerings in Intellectual Property Law (students may receive both the JD and LLM degrees in seven semesters), Alternative Dispute Resolution, Criminal Law, Corporate Law, and International Law. Upper-level courses are elective except for a course in Professional Responsibility, completion of Advanced Legal Research, an upper-level writing requirement, and fulfillment of minimal distribution requirements.

Cardozo offers LLM degrees in Intellectual Property Law, Comparative Legal Thought, and in General Studies. A joint-degree program between Cardozo and the Wurzweiler School of Social Work allows students to earn the JD and MSW in four years of study.

■ Students/Student Activities

The student body at Cardozo is a diverse and impressive group. A typical entering class includes graduates from well over 100 colleges, and from over 35 states and several foreign countries. Twenty-three percent of the class are members of minority groups and about the same percentage is returning to school after spending at least five years in the working world.

More than half of the second- and third-year students participate on one of six student-edited journals or in the Moot Court Honor Society. Journals include the *Cardozo Law Review*, *Cardozo Arts and Entertainment Law Journal*, *Cardozo Journal of International and Comparative Law*, *Cardozo Women's Law Journal*, *Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *Cardozo Public Law, Policy, and Ethics Journal*.

■ Clinical Opportunities/Special Programs

Cardozo offers 20 different clinical and externship programs. In the **Holocaust Claims Restitution Practicum**, students pursue claims made by Holocaust survivors and their heirs; students in the **Criminal Defense Clinic** represent defendants in the Manhattan Criminal Court; in the **Innocence Project**, students represent prisoners whose innocence may be proved through DNA testing; in the **Prosecutor Practicum**, students work in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office; the **Bet Tzedek Legal Services Clinic** provides legal assistance to the elderly and disabled; the **Mediation Clinic** provides training in alternative dispute resolution; the **Human Rights and Genocide Clinic** provides students with the opportunity to design and implement creative solutions to improve the lives of victims of human rights abuses throughout the world; and Cardozo's simulation-based **Intensive Trial Advocacy Program** sharpens student's trial skills. Other clinics include the **Family Court Clinic**, **Tax Clinic**, **Immigration Law Clinic**, and **Securities Arbitration Clinic**.

Externships: The **Intellectual Property Law Program** combines a specialized curriculum with related externships in this burgeoning area of practice; the **Summer Institute for Career Development** offers seminars linked to field placement in specialty areas such as entertainment law, and civil and criminal litigation; the **Alexander Judicial Fellows Program** places outstanding third-year students in clerkships with

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prominent federal judges; and the **Labor and Employment Law Externship** places students in law firms, government agencies, and unions.

Public Service: Cardozo's **Center for Public Service** emphasizes the law school's commitment to serving the greater public good and helping students find meaningful ways to engage in public service. In 2005, through the **Public Service Summer Stipend Program**, 103 students received \$3,500 stipends while working in government agencies, judicial chambers, and with such underrepresented groups as the elderly, the homeless, recent immigrants, and juveniles. A **Public Service Scholars Program** awards scholarships to students who demonstrate an interest in public service through their application for admission.

Panels/Symposia: Intellectual life at Cardozo extends beyond the classroom. The school sponsors numerous conferences,

panels, and symposia that provoke dialogue and critical thought on wide-ranging topics such as constitutional law, communications law and policy, human rights, corporate governance, and legal ethics.

■ Admission/Alternative Entry/Financial Aid

Students may enter Cardozo in September, January, or May. Those entering in January and May complete six semesters of law school in two-and-one-half years. This can be particularly appealing to midyear graduates, juniors in college who wish to jumpstart their graduate education, and returning students.

Both need- and merit-based scholarships are available. Approximately 60 percent of the students receive scholarship aid. Instructions on applying for aid can be found at www.cardozo.yu.edu/admissions/tuition/how_to/guides.html.

Applicant Profile

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This grid includes only applicants who earned 120-180 LSAT scores under standard administrations.

LSAT Score	3.75 +		3.50 - 3.74		3.25 - 3.49		3.00 - 3.24		2.75 - 2.99		2.50 - 2.74		2.25 - 2.49		2.00 - 2.24		Below 2.00		No GPA		Total		
	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	Apps	Adm	
175-180	2	2	5	5	4	4	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	13
170-174	30	28	22	18	39	34	24	19	9	7	2	1	3	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	132	110
165-169	91	85	142	131	114	102	78	60	45	25	24	10	9	3	2	0	1	0	6	4	512	420	
160-164	229	150	314	136	286	95	205	50	86	13	41	1	14	2	8	0	0	0	8	2	1191	449	
155-159	143	23	264	26	278	14	203	12	105	3	40	0	17	0	5	0	0	0	12	2	1067	80	
150-154	78	7	160	12	183	8	166	7	94	1	50	0	19	0	6	0	1	0	13	0	770	35	
145-149	32	0	55	4	102	2	71	0	59	0	40	0	23	0	8	0	1	0	14	0	405	6	
140-144	6	0	20	0	44	0	33	0	38	0	18	0	10	0	5	0	1	0	8	0	183	0	
135-139	4	0	6	0	20	0	14	0	26	0	13	0	13	0	5	0	1	0	4	0	106	0	
130-134	1	0	1	0	6	0	3	0	4	0	6	0	5	0	4	0	1	0	2	0	33	0	
125-129	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	0	
120-124	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	616	295	989	332	1077	259	798	148	469	51	236	12	113	7	46	1	6	0	68	8	4418	1113	

Apps = Number of Applicants
Adm = Number Admitted
Reflects 99% of the fall applicant pool.