

Georgetown University Law Center

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■ Introduction

Georgetown University Law Center, founded in 1870, is a dynamic and diverse intellectual community in which to study law. Its curriculum includes more courses and seminars than any other law school. Its distinguished full-time faculty is the nation's largest and is augmented by the experience and perspective of outstanding members of the bench and bar. The goal is education in its fullest sense—not only mastery of law—but a sense of the philosophical, political, and ethical dimensions of law. Preeminent in the fields of constitutional, international, and tax law, as well as clinical legal education, the Georgetown faculty is also known for its expertise in civil rights, corporate law, environmental law, family law, feminist jurisprudence, health law, human rights, immigration and refugee law, intellectual property law, legal history, and securities law. The Supreme Court, the Congress of the United States, and the Library of Congress are within walking distance of the campus, forming a unique environment for creative legal thought and learning.

■ Student Body

The student body, one of the most diverse in the nation, is recruited from more than 250 undergraduate colleges and universities and 55 foreign nations. The school actively recruits women and men from diverse ethnic, racial, economic, and educational backgrounds.

■ The Law Center Campus

Georgetown Law Center's campus completion project added two new buildings to the Law Center campus: the Eric E. Hotung International Law Center Building and the Sport and Fitness Center. The construction project was the culmination of a goal set more than two decades ago to create a campus that would nurture students in mind, body, and spirit. The Hotung building brings all the major components of Georgetown's international programs under one roof, and includes the new John Wolff International and Comparative Law Library. The Sport and Fitness Center features a four-lane lap pool and basketball and racquetball courts, as well as a café and lounge with wireless network connectivity.

The Law Center's Edward Bennett Williams Law Library houses the third largest academic law library collection in the nation. The library also provides students access to many web-based services to ensure they have the most advanced research support available.

Georgetown's McDonough Hall, with its lecture halls, seminar rooms, faculty offices, bookstore, student dining area, and lounges, is the academic center of the campus.

Housing for approximately 300 students is available in the Gewirz Student Center. It offers a variety of apartment styles with one, two, and three bedrooms. Apartments designed for students with disabilities are also available.

■ Curriculum

The Law Center offers day and evening programs leading to the JD degree. Entry to both programs is in the fall. First-year

students choose either the A or B curriculum. Students in the A curriculum begin their studies with eight courses, including one elective course in the spring semester. The B curriculum includes courses that emphasize the sources of law in history, philosophy, political theory, and economics. It also seeks to reflect the increasingly public nature of contemporary law. A residency of six semesters is required for full-time students, eight semesters for part-time students.

In the spring of 2006, the Law Center launched an innovative program for first-year students, entitled, "Week One: Law in a Global Context." Involving an intensive week of study of complex problems of international and transnational law, the purpose is to deepen students' understanding of how legal problems increasingly transcend national boundaries and involve more than one legal system.

■ Joint Degrees

Georgetown has established 11 joint-degree programs: JD/Master of Public Policy; JD/Master of Foreign Service; JD/Master of Arts in Arab Studies; JD/Master of Arts in German and European Studies; JD/Master of Arts in Latin American Studies; JD/Master of Arts in Eurasian, Russian, and East European Studies; JD/Master of Arts in Security Studies; JD/Master of Business Administration; JD/Master of Public Health (with Johns Hopkins School of Public Health); JD/Master or Doctorate in Philosophy; and the JD/Doctorate in Government.

■ International and Comparative Law Programs

The Law Center has many highly regarded programs dealing with different aspects of international law.

The Global Law Scholars Program provides a special opportunity for a limited number of full-time JD students to prepare for a law practice in which they regularly encounter problems involving more than one legal system. The program aims to combine language skills and cultural familiarity with rigorous and directed legal training to produce lawyers who are ready to practice in the global legal environment of the twenty-first century.

The Law Center's Institute of International Economic Law offers the opportunity for students to obtain a certificate testifying to special competence in World Trade Organization (WTO) understanding. In addition, the Law Center's International Summer Internship Program offers students opportunities to work abroad with practicing lawyers in law firms, corporations, and government organizations. Georgetown also offers the opportunity to study law during the summer in London with distinguished professors from Europe and the US.

■ Clinical Programs and Public Interest Law

Georgetown Law Center, a pioneer in clinical legal education, offers an unmatched clinical program. Clinical programs are divided into two categories: (1) programs that permit students to represent clients in court or in administrative hearings and (2) programs that enable students to participate

in a nontrial context in federal and local agencies, schools, and other institutions.

The Public Interest Law Scholars Program gives special encouragement, in the form of enriched educational opportunities, career counseling, financial support of up to one-third tuition, and a limited number of summer employment stipends, to eight students per class who are committed to practice law in the public interest.

The Office of Public Interest and Community Service promotes community service projects, provides academic counseling, conducts career-related programs and workshops, and maintains public interest job listings for all students and graduates interested in pursuing public interest employment.

■ Admission

The Law Center evaluates candidates on two scales: academic or objective criteria and personal or subjective criteria. Academic information includes undergraduate records and LSAT scores. Personal factors include extracurricular activities, recommendations, work experience, and diversity of background. Georgetown does not use numerical cutoffs. Early application is encouraged since Georgetown employs a rolling admission process.

■ Student Activities

Students edit and publish 10 scholarly journals. The *Law Weekly*, the school newspaper, is printed under student direction. The

Applicant Profile

Since the Georgetown Admissions Committee takes into consideration a number of factors in evaluating whether a candidate would be suitable for admission, we cannot provide an applicant profile based solely on GPA and LSAT scores. In

Barristers Council is responsible for the many appellate advocacy and mock trial programs. Students participate in the decision processes of the Law Center through the Student Bar Association and student/faculty committees. Over 70 law student organizations support personal, social, and professional interests.

■ Financial Aid

Georgetown offers need-based, three-year financial aid grants to approximately one-third of the entering full-time class. Federal and commercial loans with preferred terms, along with on- and off-campus work-study opportunities, are available. Approximately 85 percent of Georgetown's JD students obtain financial aid.

Recently acknowledged as one of the nation's top programs by Equal Justice Works, Georgetown's Loan Repayment Assistance Program enables JD graduates to pursue careers in public service.

■ Career Services

The Office of Career Services offers a wide range of career counseling and job-related programming. First-year students are assigned a section advisor who works individually with them throughout law school. The on-campus interview program is one of the largest in the country. The office also coordinates the Judicial Clerkship program.

making such determinations, the committee focuses on various aspects of a candidate's background and experience which, in combination with GPA and LSAT scores, give insight into a candidate's suitability for admission.