

Golden Gate University School of Law

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■ Introduction

Founded in 1901, Golden Gate University School of Law is located in the heart of San Francisco's legal and financial district. The law school is noted for integrating practical skills training with legal theory. Golden Gate has a distinguished faculty who share a strong commitment to both excellence in teaching and accessibility to students. The school is approved by the ABA and is a member of the AALS.

The curriculum at Golden Gate University School of Law is designed to lay the foundations of modern legal theory but also to foster those practical skills necessary to be a successful lawyer. For example, because writing is the lawyer's basic tool, the school trains students to master the skills to draft a wide array of legal documents.

■ Program Options

The law school offers both full-time day and part-time evening programs. The full-time program normally involves three years of study; the part-time program takes four years. Golden Gate also offers midyear admission, allowing students to begin law school in January (full-time program only).

■ Honors Lawyering Program

In addition to the standard law school curriculum, Golden Gate offers the Honors Lawyering Program. Honors Lawyering students spend two semesters working as apprentices in law offices. They attend two intensive summer programs in simulated law firm settings to learn substantive law and prepare themselves for their apprenticeships. In this way, the program integrates classroom theory, skills, values, and practice. Honors Lawyering students still complete law school in three years, pay the same tuition, and take the same number of units as students in the standard curriculum.

■ Public Interest Law

At Golden Gate, the law curriculum and programs integrate public interest law and service to the community. Students may earn a public interest law certificate of specialization by completing 14 credits of approved elective courses, a 150-hour public interest practicum, and 25 hours of work for a campus or community organization. Some students are selected to be part of the Public Interest Law Scholars Program, which provides students with scholarships, a summer employment stipend, and mentoring.

■ Joint Degrees and Certificates of Specialization

Students may earn the following joint degrees: JD/MBA and JD/PhD in Clinical Psychology.

Golden Gate also offers JD students the opportunity to earn specialization certificates in Business Law, Criminal Law, Environmental Law, Intellectual Property Law, International Law, Labor and Employment Law, Litigation, Public Interest Law, Real Estate Law, and Taxation. Requirements for the areas of specialization vary, but students generally complete coursework and clinical practice to earn a certificate.

■ Clinical Programs

Golden Gate University has one of the most extensive clinical programs in the country, offering students opportunities to earn academic credit while working closely with practicing attorneys.

The law school has two on-site clinics. In the Women's Employment Rights Clinic, students represent low-income women with employment-related problems. Through the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic, students assist northern California communities in protecting their environmental interests.

In field-placement clinics, students work under the supervision of faculty and outside judges and attorneys in government agencies, law offices, and judges' chambers. These off-site clinics include Civil Practice Clinic, Criminal Litigation Clinic, Environmental Law Clinic, Family Law Clinic, Immigration and Refugee Policy Clinic, Judicial Externships, Landlord-Tenant Law Clinic, Public Interest/Government Counsel Clinic, Real Estate Clinic, and Tax-Aid Clinic.

■ Summer Programs

Students in our study abroad programs take courses covering a number of international topics currently of interest in the legal world. The curriculum combines introductory courses on the host country's legal systems and comparative law courses. Students also benefit from learning under the guidance of faculty from Golden Gate University School of Law, from faculty and practitioners at other ABA-accredited law schools, and from faculty and practitioners in the host country. During the 2006 summer, programs will be offered in Bangkok, Thailand and Paris, France.

■ Graduate Programs

Golden Gate University School of Law offers five LLM programs: Environmental Law, Intellectual Property Law, International Legal Studies, Taxation, and US Legal Studies. It also offers an SJD program in International Legal Studies.

■ Law Library

The law library houses the largest law collection in the San Francisco financial district—more than 350,000 volumes. Its holdings include a comprehensive series of case law reporters, statutes, digests, encyclopedias, periodicals, and treatises dealing with American law; a strong tax collection; a microforms collection; and a growing body of work in environmental law, law and literature, and international law. International law holdings target selected Pacific Rim countries and English, Canadian, and Commonwealth materials. Students in the Law Library have access to the Internet and a variety of Internet-based legal databases.

■ Career Services and Placement

The Law Career Services (LCS) Office helps students prepare for a successful legal career by providing many services throughout law school and beyond. LCS helps students to

research the legal market, develop contacts, and build skills through jobs and internships. For first-year students, LCS provides an online *Job Search Guide* and workshops on résumés and cover letters. For continuing students, LCS offers print and online job listings, talks by graduates about their career experiences, individual and small-group career counseling, job search skills workshops, panels, and events highlighting the career paths of Golden Gate alumni and other attorneys, special recruitment programs, and more. Many of these services continue after graduation.

■ Student Activities and Research

The law school has more than 20 student organizations ranging from groups representing minority students to groups focusing on specific areas of the law. An active student government represents the law school student body on important issues facing individuals, student organizations, and the law school. A student editorial board publishes three issues annually of the *Golden Gate University Law Review*. The law school also publishes the *Annual Survey of International and Comparative*

Law. Students have opportunities to participate in programs and attend lectures hosted by a variety of organizations and groups. These opportunities enrich the law school and learning experience, and students are strongly encouraged to participate at all levels.

■ Admission and Scholarships

Golden Gate University School of Law awards scholarships to both entering and continuing students. All students are reviewed for scholarships as part of the admission review process. Scholarships awarded to entering students are awarded on a three-year basis. Students maintain their full tuition Dean's Scholarship or their partial tuition Faculty Scholarship by earning a 3.0 required course GPA. Students not receiving a scholarship at the time they are admitted will have the opportunity to receive a scholarship at the end of their spring semester. Students who receive a 3.0 required course GPA are eligible for a merit scholarship. To maintain a merit scholarship students must continue to earn a 3.0 required course GPA.

Applicant Profile

Golden Gate University School of Law

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

LSAT Score	GPA																						
	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	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
170-174	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
165-169	1	1	7	7	7	7	7	5	4	3	8	6	3	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	40	33	
160-164	12	8	25	22	47	42	23	18	11	11	16	13	6	4	4	3	0	0	4	1	148	122	
155-159	28	22	66	58	83	73	103	94	90	69	49	29	19	6	5	1	1	0	6	3	450	355	
150-154	52	49	123	101	186	139	192	100	143	45	97	16	38	6	16	1	4	0	18	6	869	463	
145-149	27	14	86	21	157	22	196	15	155	7	113	3	51	2	13	0	4	0	11	6	813	90	
140-144	13	1	47	1	67	1	103	1	72	0	65	0	33	0	22	0	0	0	11	0	433	4	
135-139	4	0	5	0	23	0	30	0	26	0	40	0	22	0	11	0	5	0	7	0	173	0	
130-134	0	0	3	0	7	0	5	0	8	0	7	0	7	0	3	0	3	0	3	0	46	0	
125-129	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	13	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	
Total	137	95	362	210	578	284	663	233	514	137	398	68	180	22	79	6	18	0	60	16	2989	1071	

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 99% of the total applicant pool.

This chart is a general guide only. Nonnumerical factors are strongly considered for all applicants. "No GPA" includes applicants who received their undergraduate degrees from foreign institutions and/or US institutions in which letter grades are not utilized or calculated.