

## University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

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### ■ Introduction

Founded in 1912, the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law is a well-established Catholic law school in downtown Detroit sponsored by the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas. Located opposite the General Motors headquarters in the Renaissance Center, the School of Law is within walking distance of federal and state courts, downtown law firms, and Detroit's municipal centers. Windsor, Ontario, Canada, is a five-minute drive by tunnel or bridge across the Detroit River. Metropolitan Detroit not only offers renowned cultural institutions like the Detroit Institute of Art, the Detroit Symphony, and the Detroit Opera House, but also provides a distinctive setting for the study of contemporary legal issues, including urban redevelopment, corporate entity formation, immigration, international trade, and many more.

The School of Law offers a comprehensive legal education through day and evening programs that incorporate a broad array of required and elective courses. The school is approved by the ABA and is a member of the AALS.

### ■ The Kresge Law Library and Law School Facilities

The School of Law's Kresge Law Library is situated within the School of Law and contains comfortable individual and group study, reading, and computer areas. The library houses more than 340,000 volumes and serves as a federal depository. Faculty offices, classrooms, and common areas with wireless access, administrative and student services offices, a bookstore, cafeteria, and student organization offices are all located within the law school complex.

### ■ Curriculum

The School of Law offers a three-year full-time day program, four-year part-time day and evening programs, and a five-year part-time evening program, all leading to the JD degree. Required courses include Contracts, Property, Torts, Civil Procedure, Applied Legal Theory and Analysis, Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Evidence, Professional Responsibility, Taxation, and a senior seminar. Students complete the 90 credits required with elective courses. Courses after the first year integrate legal writing and document drafting as well as ethical and professional responsibility issues with the theoretical study of the law.

The School of Law's commitment to excellence in legal education includes numerous clinical opportunities: the Urban Law Clinic, the Immigration Law Clinic, our new mobile law office, mediation training, an Appellate Advocacy course, and a wide array of externships. With faculty supervision, students in these externships and clinical programs represent clients with a variety of legal problems, including landlord-tenant conflicts, immigration issues, elder law cases, and others.

All students in the School of Law are assigned a faculty advisor to assist them in the development of a course of study. The school's full-time director of academic support also provides individual and group counseling specific to the study of law.

### ■ Special Programs

- **Joint JD/MBA**—The School of Law and the College of Business Administration collaborate to offer an integrated degree program leading to the JD and MBA degrees. Students enrolled in the joint-degree program can earn both degrees in significantly less time than would be required for degrees pursued independently. Students are first admitted to and attend law school. At the end of the first year of law school, students apply to the joint-degree program.
- **JD/LLB**—The School of Law and the University of Windsor Faculty of Law offer a unique JD/LLB program designed to educate students to understand the legal doctrines and cultures of the United States and Canada. A student completes 60 credit hours of coursework at UDM and 44 credit hours of coursework at the University of Windsor. Most required courses taken at both law schools cover US and Canadian law relevant to the subject areas. The program enables the successful student to obtain an American Bar Association-approved Juris Doctor (JD) from the University of Detroit Mercy and the Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree from the University of Windsor.
- **Intellectual Property Law Institute**—Through a consortium with other law schools, the School of Law offers a wide variety of courses in intellectual property such as Copyright Law, Patent Law, Computer Law, Entertainment Law, and others.
- **The McElroy Chair in Law and Religion**—The school's McElroy Chair in Law and Religion hosts an annual lecture and special colloquia on issues related to law and religion. Recent speakers have included John T. Noonan Jr., Martha Minow, and many others.
- **French Scholar Program**—The School of Law participates in a professional exchange program with the University of Clermont-Ferrand. French scholars visiting the law school each spring teach a comparative law course in English while UDM scholars teach at Clermont-Ferrand.
- **Special Summer Program (SSP)**—The School of Law offers this program for applicants who do not meet the minimum standards for admission, but who show potential for the study of law. This seven-week program, beginning in late May, requires students to demonstrate ability in the study of substantive law and in legal writing and research in order to gain admission as a regular student in the fall semester.

### ■ Student Organizations and Activities

The School of Law's students edit and publish the *Law Review*, a quarterly publication of scholarly articles.

A student **Moot Court Board of Advocacy** administers the School of Law's Gallagher and Professional Responsibility competitions; participates in state, regional, and national competitions in first amendment law, ethics, and other areas; and helps to administer the G. Mennen Williams mandatory moot court competition for first-year students.

The **Student Bar Association (SBA)**, affiliated with the Law Student Division of the American Bar Association, plays a significant role in student affairs. As the student government of the school, the SBA authorizes other student organizations, including the Black Law Student Alliance, the Environmental

Law Society, Phi Alpha Delta, St. Thomas More Society, the Women’s Law Caucus, the Arab and Chaldean Law Student Society, the Sports and Entertainment Law Society, and many others. Students also regularly publish a student newsletter, *In Brief*.

## ■ Career Services

The school’s Career Services Office provides students with a wide range of opportunities through which they may explore career paths in law. The office sponsors a Preparing to Practice series for upper-class students that introduces a variety of practice areas and issues. The assistant dean for career services and the national employment counselor provide career counseling services, including résumé and cover letter review. The office administers the school’s annual on-campus interview programs, maintains a job information hotline and newsletter,

sponsors a mock interview program for first-year students, and hosts special events to acquaint students with practitioners.

## ■ Admission

The School of Law encourages applicants to submit an application for admission by April 15. The Admission Committee considers all elements of an application, including undergraduate grade-point average, Law School Admission Test scores, writing skills, leadership and maturity as evidenced by work and service experiences, graduate work, letters of recommendation, and the personal statement. The committee reviews applications as they become complete on a continuous basis and communicates decisions as early as possible. An applicant may accept an offer of admission by submitting the required nonrefundable deposits, which are credited toward tuition. The university and the School of Law adhere to nondiscrimination policies.

## Applicant Profile

### University of Detroit Mercy School of Law

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

LSAT Score	GPA																				Total		
	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			
175-180	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	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
165-169	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	4
160-164	5	5	7	7	7	7	3	3	2	2	3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	5	5	33	31	
155-159	8	8	21	19	22	18	27	23	20	18	20	13	5	5	2	2	1	0	2	2	128	108	
150-154	20	18	34	27	62	55	67	57	46	34	25	19	18	5	10	3	1	0	12	9	295	227	
145-149	20	17	58	48	85	73	89	69	71	35	38	5	20	1	13	0	1	0	7	5	402	253	
140-144	6	2	41	21	44	12	60	3	51	4	27	0	31	1	9	0	4	0	8	0	281	43	
135-139	2	0	8	0	16	0	30	1	20	0	14	0	11	0	8	0	1	0	8	1	118	2	
130-134	0	0	2	0	2	0	5	0	3	0	12	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	31	0	
125-129	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	5	0	14	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	61	50	172	122	240	166	282	156	215	94	145	41	89	12	45	5	9	0	50	22	1308	668	

Apps = Number of Applicants

Adm = Number Admitted

Reflects 98% of the total applicant pool.