

University of Florida, Fredric G. Levin College of Law

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■ Introduction

The University of Florida Levin College of Law was founded in 1909, has been a member of the AALS since 1920, and was approved by the ABA in 1925. It is among the nation's top 20 public and top 50 overall law schools, and efforts such as its recently completed \$25 million expansion and renovation are steadily enhancing its already strong programs and reputation.

The college's faculty are highly accomplished scholars, practitioners, and educators whose broad knowledge base and teaching skills challenge each student to reach new heights of intellectual achievement. Many are authors of treatises, casebooks, or major books used by law schools and practitioners throughout the nation, and author hundreds of articles in law reviews and specialty journals.

The law school also is known for graduating state and national legal, political, business, government, and educational leaders, and for nurturing a strong alumni network. UF law graduates include 5 of the last 30 ABA presidents, numerous federal and state judges, partners in major national and international law firms, members of Congress and the Cabinet, governors, and state legislators. Alumni support has built the endowment into one of the largest in the country for public law schools. This, combined with the state's financial assistance, allows the college to remain affordable while its academic quality rivals many of the best-known private colleges.

The University of Florida is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities and is recognized as one of the nation's leading research universities by the Carnegie Commission on Higher Education. UF is one of the nation's largest and most comprehensive universities. The campus occupies 2,000 acres, mostly within Gainesville's 118,000 population urban area in North Central Florida. The area is consistently ranked among the best places to live in America, with extensive educational, cultural, and recreational offerings.

■ Programs and Curriculum

The Levin College of Law offers students the best of two worlds in academic preparation—strong fundamentals and a diverse offering of specializations and interdisciplinary options. The activities and scholarship of approximately 80 full-time faculty allow for interesting programs and curricular concentrations. More than 80 courses and 15–20 seminars are offered each semester, including traditional courses on law and legal analysis, skills training, international law, and seminars on contemporary legal issues.

In addition to a three-year post-baccalaureate curriculum leading to the JD, the school offers one of the top taxation programs in the United States—leading to an LLM in Taxation, LLM in International Taxation or SJD in Taxation—as well as an LLM in Comparative Law for foreign law students. Students can earn a certificate in Estates and Trusts Practice, Intellectual Property Law, Environmental and Land Use Law, Family Law, or International and Comparative Law. The Levin College of Law also offers one of the most extensive joint-degree programs of any US law school. Among the more popular joint-degree tracks are Business Administration, Public Health, Accounting, and Health Administration.

Semesters begin in August and January, and the summer term begins in May. The first-year curriculum is required, as is a second-year drafting course. All students must complete a major senior-year research and writing project.

■ Special Programs

The college's innovative centers and institutes include the Center for Estate and Elder Law Planning, Center for Children and Families, Institute for Dispute Resolution, Center for the Study of Race and Race Relations, and Center for Governmental Responsibility. UF also is a major hub for international legal programs and has decades of experience and relationships in Latin America, Asia, and Europe. Students can gain hands-on experience in litigation, negotiation, mediation, client relations, and government service at the highest levels through a broad array of study abroad opportunities, externships, pro bono work, and clinical programs.

■ Student/Extracurricular Activities

More than 40 active extracurricular organizations at the law school help students develop valuable skills and professional contacts as well as make a positive difference in the community. Students can earn credits and polish their legal skills through cocurricular organizations such as *Florida Law Review*, *Florida Journal of International Law*, *University of Florida Journal of Law and Public Policy*, *Journal of Technology Law and Policy*, and trophy-winning US and international moot court and trial teams.

■ Library and Facilities

Following completion of a major expansion and renovation project, the Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center (LIC) is now the largest academic law library in the Southeast and among the top 20 in the nation in terms of space. The expanded LIC offers study areas, reading rooms, computer training labs, multimedia workstations, and reference rooms for use by students and faculty. Two three-story education towers completed in fall 2004 feature spacious, state-of-the-art classrooms equipped to offer the latest in teaching technology, including desktop outlets for laptop use, wireless Internet access, and "smart podia."

■ Career Services

Professional counselors in the college's Center for Career Services offer a wide variety of services and programs to help students plan a self-directed career search and develop marketing skills that will serve them for many years to come. They help students develop legal credentials, capitalize on their diverse strengths and experiences, explore legal and nontraditional career paths, and link with alumni, practitioners, and the community. They assist students in finding summer internships/externships or clerkships and permanent postgraduation employment, and bring 200-plus employers to recruit on campus each year. Resources include workshops and seminars on practical career skills, individual career and job search counseling, networking events on and off campus, and a

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web-based job bank with downloadable handouts, samples, and forms.

■ Admission

Students must have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Applications for fall 2007 are due by January 15. The LSAT and LSDAS are required. Only full-time students are enrolled. Applicants must provide a personal statement and résumé, and up to four evaluation letters are requested. Early completion of applications is strongly recommended (but not more than one year in advance). Applicants must take the LSAT prior to the application deadline (December). The law school seeks to enroll approximately 400 students each fall.

The admission staff and the faculty admission committee base their selection on the applicant's academic credentials, including LSAT score, UGPA, level of writing skills, breadth of studies, and on other criteria including but not limited to the applicant's work and other life experience, leadership experience, depth of particular interest, and any other aspect of an applicant's background suggesting a suitability for the study and practice of law. Students may transfer in August, January, or May from ABA-approved law schools, but only applicants who have completed the required first-year full-time curriculum before enrolling at UF and who are in the upper one-third of their class will be considered. A letter of good standing from the dean is required and no more than 29 semester hours will be transferred. The college places great

importance on obtaining a diverse class, and actively recruits minority students. To arrange a meeting or tour of the law school, contact the admissions office.

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

The 2005–2006 semester credit-hour fees were \$300 for Florida residents and \$945 for nonresidents. Additional expenses are around \$12,440 for books, supplies, computer (required), clothing, room, board, transportation, and insurance. Merit-/need-based scholarships and grants (FAFSA required) and short and long-term loans are available to qualified students. To qualify for merit-/need-based scholarships, an applicant must show high achievement, return the Application for Need-Based Scholarships and Need-Based Grants after they have received their acceptance letter, and have the electronic FAFSA results on file with the Levin College of Law by March 15 for fall entrants. The application can be downloaded online, and also is sent out by the admissions office following acceptance. Address inquiries to: Office of Admissions, University of Florida Levin College of Law, PO Box 117622, Gainesville, FL 32611-7622, or admissions@law.ufl.edu.

■ Housing

Housing is available for single students in dormitories and for families in university apartments. Plentiful off-campus housing is available. New and current UF law students may access the UF College of Law Roommate Referral System online.

Applicant Profile

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This grid includes only applicants who earned 120-180 LSAT scores under standard administrations. Data reflects 99% of the fall candidate pool.

| 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 | | Apps | Adm | |
| | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm | Apps | Adm |
| 175-180 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 6 |
| 170-174 | 8 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 29 | 22 |
| 165-169 | 43 | 40 | 53 | 49 | 43 | 40 | 24 | 16 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 183 | 152 |
| 160-164 | 128 | 124 | 134 | 91 | 124 | 54 | 100 | 23 | 45 | 2 | 15 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 557 | 299 |
| 155-159 | 162 | 94 | 235 | 46 | 211 | 22 | 141 | 14 | 62 | 6 | 30 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 859 | 184 |
| 150-154 | 143 | 34 | 180 | 20 | 186 | 13 | 136 | 10 | 83 | 7 | 40 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 3 | 793 | 89 |
| 145-149 | 45 | 6 | 72 | 5 | 97 | 11 | 67 | 10 | 44 | 1 | 24 | 0 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 366 | 35 |
| 140-144 | 11 | 2 | 24 | 1 | 35 | 1 | 29 | 2 | 22 | 0 | 21 | 2 | 10 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 159 | 8 |
| 135-139 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 53 | 2 |
| 130-134 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| 125-129 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 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 | 543 | 308 | 716 | 220 | 716 | 147 | 511 | 77 | 280 | 23 | 147 | 10 | 58 | 4 | 19 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 24 | 7 | 3017 | 797 |

Apps = Number of Applicants
Adm = Number Admitted