

William & Mary Law School

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■ Introduction

Established in 1779 at the request of Thomas Jefferson, William & Mary Law School is the nation's oldest. At William & Mary, concern for students' intellectual development is accompanied by concern that they develop the character and values of constructive citizens who will do their part in society. The Law School is small enough for people to know one another by name and large enough to form a critical mass of learning and scholarship. Members of the 2005–2006 student body earned undergraduate degrees from 245 colleges and universities and represent 48 states, DC, and 11 countries. The Law School is located a few blocks from Colonial Williamsburg and within short driving distance of the metropolitan areas of Washington, DC; Richmond; and Norfolk. Visits and student tours are encouraged.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

The library's collection of nearly 400,000 volumes and its service-oriented staff provide an excellent setting for study and research. Legal materials are available in all formats, including an extensive treatise collection covering all areas of law, with particular strengths in constitutional, environmental, public and private international, jurisprudence, legal history, Roman law, commercial, intellectual property, and taxation. Two computer labs are available. The library is undergoing a major expansion followed by a complete renovation of its current space. The project is expected to be completed in Summer, 2007. The Law School employs wireless technology for e-mail and web access throughout the building.

The McGlothlin Courtroom at the Law School is the world's most technologically advanced trial and appellate chamber. The courtroom is designed to permit trials with multiple remote appearances and web-based evidence and offers our students hands-on training in the use of state-of-the-art courtroom technology. It has a wide variety of features, including all available major court record systems, evidence presentation technologies, assistive and foreign language interpretation technologies, and critical infrastructure technologies.

The Law School is located between the National Center for State Courts and William & Mary's graduate apartment complex, where students may live in addition to a wide variety of housing options in the Williamsburg area. For more information about campus housing, visit www.wm.edu/reslife/residenceHalls/graduate.php.

■ Curriculum

The required first-year curriculum includes constitutional law, contracts, torts, civil procedure, property, criminal law, and legal skills. The two-year Legal Skills Program, which begins with a week-long concentrated introduction to the legal system and law study before classes begin, allows students to experience and refine lawyering skills such as interviewing, negotiating, trial techniques, and oral advocacy. This innovative program utilizes simulated law offices, client representation, and mock trials to teach the skills necessary for the practice of law as well as legal research, writing, and professional responsibility. To earn a Juris Doctor degree, students must

successfully complete 86 credit hours through full-time study, all required courses, and a significant paper of publishable quality. Students may choose yearly from more than 100 upper-level courses covering a broad range of contemporary and traditional areas of law. The Law School offers four clinical programs (legal aid clinic, domestic violence clinic, federal tax clinic, and therapeutic jurisprudence) and a wide variety of externships, including externships at the Attorney General's Office, the Department of Employment Dispute Resolution, the Supreme Court of Virginia, the Virginia Court of Appeals, and the Virginia General Assembly. Students can also gain practical experience through the Judicial Clerk Externship, the Non-Profit Organization Externship, the Therapeutic Courts Practice Externship, and the General Practice Externship. In addition, second- and third-year students are encouraged to gain legal experience working in private firms and public law offices.

■ Joint-degree Programs

There are three joint-degree programs: JD/MBA, JD/MPP, and JD/MA in American Studies. The JD/MBA and the JD/MPP combine traditional five-year programs into four years of study with one entire year spent in each program followed by two years of coursework at both schools. Students may complete the JD/MA in either three or four years.

■ International Programs

A summer session in Madrid, Spain, offers a five-week program in which students can earn up to six credits studying various topics in international law. William & Mary professors and prominent Spanish professors and practitioners of law teach the courses in English. In addition, students fluent in Spanish can complete a one-week externship in a Spanish law firm. JD students may also study abroad in Madrid, Spain; Auckland, New Zealand; and Tokyo, Japan, during the academic year.

The Law School also offers an LLM in the American Legal System for students from outside the US who take courses with the JD students and bring the richness of their legal traditions to the classroom.

■ Special Programs

Through the Institute of Bill of Rights Law, the Law School has become one of the preeminent institutions studying the US Constitution's Bill of Rights. The Institute of Bill of Rights Law sponsors lectures, symposia, and publications that entice scholars from around the country to examine important constitutional issues.

Exciting new cocurricular programs at the Law School include: the Human Rights and National Security Law Program, which offers students the opportunity to learn the interplay between national defense and the protection of civil rights and has at its heart the objective of creating citizen lawyers who possess a deep appreciation for national security issues; the Therapeutic Jurisprudence Program, which is devoted to the study of law as a therapeutic agent and focuses on improving the administration of justice so that it has a positive effect on individuals, their families, and the

community; the Property Rights Project, which encourages legal scholarship on the role that property rights play in society and also facilitates the exchange of ideas between scholars and practitioners; and the Election Law Program, which seeks to provide practical assistance to state court judges in the United States who are called upon to resolve difficult election law disputes. Fall 2005 also marked the inauguration of the George Wythe Society of Citizen Lawyers, a program that focuses on constructive citizenship.

The Loan Repayment Assistance Program provides up to \$5,000 in loan forgiveness annually for three years to selected graduates working full-time for a legal aid/legal services organization, public defender, prosecutor, government agency, JAG corps, academic, law-related nonlegal or other nonprofit organization with a public service mission.

■ Student Activities

Legal scholars and practitioners frequently cite articles from our student-managed academic journals. These publications include *William and Mary Law Review*, *William & Mary Bill of Rights Journal*, *William and Mary Environmental Law and Policy Review*, and *William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law*. The Law School has a highly competitive Moot Court Program and National Trial Team. More than 30 student organizations reflect the diverse interests of the student body and include the Asian Law Students Association, the Black Law Students Association,

the Children's Advocacy Law Society, the Christian Legal Society, the Federalist Society, the Intellectual Property Society, the International Law Society, the Jewish Law Students Association, the Lesbian and Gay Law Association, the Military Law Society, the Public Service Fund, the Sports and Entertainment Law Society, Student Legal Services, and the Phi Delta Phi and Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternities.

■ Career Services

Employers from 31 states and the District of Columbia conducted on-campus interviews during 2005. Through our Video Interview Program, William & Mary also used video technology to bring students and employers together. The Office of Career Services posted notices from more than 3,000 nonvisiting employers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and several countries. William & Mary students also had the opportunity to participate in 27 off-campus job fairs with a national employer base, including events in Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, and New York and specialized programs for intellectual property law, public interest and governmental positions, and small regional firms. The Law School awarded 90 fellowships to assist students working in low-paying or nonpaying public service positions during the summer of 2005. Ninety-nine percent of the class of 2004 are employed throughout the US and abroad or pursuing advanced degrees.

Applicant Profile

William & Mary Law School

This grid includes only applicants who earned 120-180 LSAT scores under standard administrations, and represents 99% of the total applicant 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 | |
| 175-180 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 31 | 25 |
| 170-174 | 42 | 42 | 41 | 37 | 58 | 38 | 29 | 14 | 16 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 193 | 133 |
| 165-169 | 188 | 176 | 214 | 155 | 218 | 88 | 129 | 21 | 59 | 5 | 28 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 859 | 447 | |
| 160-164 | 302 | 137 | 333 | 65 | 333 | 27 | 186 | 13 | 101 | 7 | 34 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 1315 | 250 | |
| 155-159 | 160 | 17 | 233 | 7 | 176 | 4 | 130 | 2 | 59 | 2 | 30 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 814 | 33 | |
| 150-154 | 81 | 4 | 102 | 5 | 123 | 8 | 75 | 1 | 49 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 471 | 20 | |
| 145-149 | 18 | 2 | 48 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 34 | 0 | 32 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 213 | 3 | |
| 140-144 | 3 | 0 | 17 | 4 | 23 | 0 | 24 | 1 | 22 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 108 | 5 | |
| 135-139 | 3 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 12 | 0 | 11 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 54 | 0 | |
| 130-134 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 23 | 0 | |
| 125-129 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 0 | |
| 120-124 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | |
| Total | 806 | 387 | 1000 | 279 | 999 | 170 | 629 | 57 | 357 | 18 | 156 | 2 | 65 | 1 | 30 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 40 | 1 | 4089 | 916 | |

Apps = Number of Applicants
Adm = Number Admitted