2017

Prospective Student Information Booklet (2016-17)

Florida State University College of Law

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Our faculty is 1st in Florida and 35th best nationally according to a survey on the nation’s top law faculties by the influential Brian Leiter’s Law School Reports.


HispanicBusiness (2014) ranks Florida State the nation’s #2 law school for Hispanic students.

Our current students represent 30 U.S. states and territories, 19 countries and 150 colleges.

The 2016 entering class had a median LSAT of 159 and a median GPA of 3.52.
According to ABA data, Florida State is the #1 law school in Florida in terms of the percentage of 2015 graduates employed 10 months after graduation in full-time, long-term, bar passage-required or J.D.-advantage jobs.

Florida State’s graduates continue to excel on the Florida Bar Examination. Our combined bar passage rate for the two most recent administrations of the exam was approximately 80%. By contrast, the combined overall passing rate for first-time test takers was approximately 67%.

Our location in a major state capital provides students many opportunities to gain valuable, real-world work experience while in law school. Tallahassee offers a wide variety of clerking and internship opportunities in its more than 500 law firms, numerous state and federal courts, and the legislative and executive branches of government.
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Marianna Seiler ('17), a University of Notre Dame undergrad, is pursuing the business law certificate and participated in Florida State’s 1L judicial externship program during the summer of 2015.
“THE STUDENT BODY AT FSU LAW IS LIKE NO OTHER. I realized the level of collaborative effort when I was in a car accident my 1L year and had people I had never talked to offering me notes, outlines and well wishes. Additionally, I take comfort knowing I can go to any faculty member for help with a question or a piece of material and knowing their doors are, quite literally, always open.”

Lauryn Collier (’17), a Charlotte, North Carolina native, was on the student team that won first place in the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition at the Southern Region Black Law Students Association Regional Convention in 2015.

HOURS OF PRO BONO LEGAL SERVICE COMPLETED BY THE CLASS OF 2016

10,229
“FOR ME, ONE OF THE MAIN DRAWS TO FLORIDA STATE WAS THE COMMUNITY. This is a school that is highly ambitious, yet also extremely collegial. You don’t find that mix often and that makes FSU very special. Everyone here has high aspirations, but we all collaborate to the benefit of others and not just ourselves.”
Dean’s Message

Many factors should influence your choice to join a law school community.

I joined this dynamic Florida State University College of Law family for many reasons that I think will resonate with you – a primary reason being the collegial, welcoming environment. At FSU, you will be part of a collaborative community, where students and professors engage deeply both inside and outside of the classroom on a vast array of legal topics. Moreover, our students form life-long bonds, as they endeavor to study together, support one another and celebrate each other’s successes.

Most law schools advertise that they provide a rich and rewarding student experience, so how should you discern which schools are truly exceptional? My advice is that you should look at the breadth and depth of alumni connection to the school. Given that money and time are both scarce resources, you will want to know whether the alumni of a school disappear after graduation or choose to give back to the institution. Florida State alumni have one of the highest giving rates in the country, and are among the top three for state universities. Because students enjoy their time at Florida State and they appreciate the support they receive from the faculty and the administration, they stay connected after they graduate. Our 9,000-plus alumni are successful in the worlds of law, business and government, and they are eager to help students. You will have access to alums who visit campus regularly, teach courses and guest lecture, and mentor students who seek to launch their legal careers in Florida and elsewhere. Florida State boasts an alumni mentoring network of 900 lawyers around the world.

Another strength of Florida State is our location in Tallahassee, the capital of the third largest U.S. state. Tallahassee is home to 500-plus law firms, state and federal courts, numerous state agencies, the Governor’s Office and the Florida Legislature, and most are within a short walk of the law school campus. You will have many unique opportunities to gain classroom knowledge and work experience in areas of the law that interest you while strengthening your credentials for long-term employment.

You will also have access to the fabulous professionals in our Placement Office who are dedicated to helping students find desired jobs. They work with faculty, administrators, alumni and other mentors to help students best position themselves for the legal careers they wish to pursue. Because placement is a community-wide effort, Florida State is consistently rated one of the nation’s best in terms of job placement. Everyone here will be committed to helping you launch your career.

Please come for a visit to learn more about what Florida State has to offer you, including our award-winning advocacy teams, certificate programs, extensive externship and clinical offerings, journals, and other student professional organizations. Talk to our students and our world-renowned professors. I look forward to seeing you on campus and hope you will join our vibrant FSU Law community.

Thank you,

Erin O’Hara O’Connor
Dean and McKenzie Professor

Florida State’s alumni network is truly superb, evidenced by our outstanding job placement, extensive mentoring and alumni contribution rates. Hundreds of alumni visit campus each year to meet with our students. Many additional alumni network via video conference.
OUR ALUMNI NETWORK

FLORIDA STATE-EDUCATED LAWYERS CAN BE FOUND IN ALMOST EVERY U.S. STATE AND AROUND THE WORLD.

Our 9,000-plus alumni are extraordinarily supportive of our school and students. One measure of the level of graduate engagement is a law school’s alumni giving rate – ours is among the top 10 best in the nation. Alumni who are financially supportive tend to also provide support in other ways.

Our alumni provide a vital network to help our students find employment. They are generous with their time and donate countless hours to helping students perfect their job search skills and learn about practicing law. Alumni in private firms, the judiciary, government service and nontraditional legal careers regularly visit campus to talk with students about their specific fields of practice, answer students’ questions and conduct mock interviews. They also host networking meetings with students in their cities. Our alumni also provide students clerking and full-time employment opportunities. In addition to visiting campus to interview students, alumni interview students via video conference.

Our engaged and helpful alumni are the principal reason why Florida State law graduates have success in the legal job market. Several of our distinguished alumni are pictured to the right.

MELANIE GRIFFIN (‘06)

is a shareholder in the Tampa and Orlando offices of Dean Mead. She served as president of The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division for 2013-14 and regularly returns to campus to meet with students. She also mentors Florida State law students and recent graduates.
SENATOR MEL R. MARTINEZ (’73)
is a former U.S. Senator from Florida. He currently is chairman of the Southeast and Latin America for JPMorgan, Chase & Co. He has visited campus on numerous occasions and has served as president of our Alumni Association.

ALBERTO DOMINGUEZ (’97)
a senior VP, general merchandise manager at Walmart in Arkansas, has returned to Tallahassee to meet with Florida State law students and established an externship placement at Walmart for students.

MARK S. ELLIS (’84)
is executive director of the International Bar Association. Although he is based in London, he is an active member of our Alumni Board and a frequent visitor to campus. Ellis annually supervises Florida State externs in London.

THE HONORABLE MARY S. SCRIVEN (’87)
is a federal judge for the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida. She hired 2010, 2011 and 2014 graduates as law clerks.

MARKENZY LAPOINTE (’99)
is a partner at Boies, Schiller & Flexner LLP in Miami, where he specializes in commercial and federal criminal litigation and high-risk product liability. He is immediate past president of our Alumni Association.

SHANNON DEPUY BREAM (’96)
is Fox News’ U.S. Supreme Court reporter, as well as the anchor of America’s News Headquarters. Prior to her career in television, she practiced corporate law in Tampa.

BEN ODOM (’04)
is associate general counsel and director of compliance at International Speedway Cooperation. He established an externship at ISC and annually supervises Florida State law students in the program.

JOHN W. FROST, II (’69)
is the founding partner of Frost Van den Boom, P.A. He was the first Florida State law graduate to serve as president of The Florida Bar. He was the featured speaker during our 2013 commencement ceremony and the first donor to name a courtroom.

ALBERTO DOMINGUEZ (’97)

ALUMNI GIVING RATE AMONG THE NATION’S TOP 10

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“Working with the Placement Office through their events, especially the Mach Speed Mock Interviews, really gave me the confidence to pursue a summer internship abroad. I secured an internship at the International Bar Association in London working for the executive director, an FSU College of Law alum, and loved every minute of it. I was even able to build my network of contacts in London through other FSU alumni. It’s great to see Seminoles all over the world!”

Margaret Spicer (’14) interned at the International Bar Association during the summer of 2013. She is now an international trade litigation attorney in Washington, D.C.

“I truly believe FSU Law provides you with two of the most important things for a successful career in the field of law: substantive courses and a network of alumni eager to assist in your development. Through networking with alumni I was able to gain practical experience as a judicial extern at the Third District Court of Appeal in Miami, Florida, and as a summer associate at White & Case, an international law firm. The business courses I took prior to starting at White & Case gave me a strong framework of fundamental concepts that enabled me to work on assignments involving multi-million dollar transactions with some of the largest corporations in the world.”

After her summer job at White & Case, Alejandra Berlioz (’15) received an offer of employment to work at the international law firm.
Alumni Who Met with Students Through Networking Noshes During the 2015-16 Academic Year:

- Laura Atcheson ('11), U.S. Senator John Cornyn of Texas, Washington, D.C.
- Jason Breth ('07), Bryant Miller Olive, Tallahassee
- William J. Cohen ('79), Oakbridge Partners, Atlanta
- Earnest DeLoach, Jr. ('99), Gunster, Orlando
- Sean Desmond ('00), The Law Offices of Sean T. Desmond, P.C. & The Florida Bar Executive Council, Tallahassee
- Ron DiGiacomo ('84), Wells Fargo, San Antonio, Texas
- Alberto L. “Al” Dominguez ('98), Walmart, Bentonville, Arkansas
- Carolyn Egan ('98), Florida State University, Tallahassee
- Tyler Everett ('07), Morgan & Morgan, Tallahassee
- Manuel Farach ('86), McGlinchey Stafford, Fort Lauderdale
- Bryan Gallian ('14), U.S. Marine Corp JAG, Daytona Beach
- Vinette Godelia ('02), Hopping Green & Sams, Tallahassee
- Paul Harden ('75), NFL Jacksonville Jaguars, Jacksonville
- Teeka Harrison ('05), Polsinelli, PC, Atlanta, Georgia
- Paul Hill ('71), The Florida Bar, Tallahassee
- Tom Kirwin ('79), Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Tallahassee
- Melody Lankford ('04), The Lankford Law Firm, Daytona Beach
- Michael Mardis ('01), Home Shopping Network, Saint Petersburg
- Jon Harris Maurer ('12), Hopping Green & Sams, Tallahassee
- Anthony Miller ('00), Florida Lottery, Tallahassee
- Steven M. Millsap ('98), Global Advanced Metals, Waltman, Massachusetts
- Ben Odom ('04), International Speedway Corporation, Daytona Beach
- Andrea Ortega ('11), Florida Rural Legal Services, Fort Myers
- M. Drew Parker ('03), Florida Department of Financial Services, Tallahassee
- Celeste Perrino ('07), Bloomin’ Brands, Tampa
- G. Russell Petersen ('74), G. Russell Petersen, P.A., Vero Beach
- Mike Petrovich ('89), Hopping Green & Sams, Tallahassee
- Kenneth Pratt ('99), Florida Bankers Association, Tallahassee
- Amy Quintana ('03), World Fuel Services, Miami
- Matthew Rearden ('01), SeaWorld, Orlando
- Colin Roopnarine ('95), Florida Office of Financial Regulation, Tallahassee
- Terry Sanks ('98), Beusse Wolter Sanks & Maire, Orlando
- Zach Scharlepp ('10), Coppins Monroe, Tallahassee
- Patricia Sellers ('91), Microsoft, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Vikki Shirley ('91), State University System of Florida, Board of Governors, Tallahassee
- Susan L. Stephens ('93), Hopping Green & Sams, Tallahassee
- Tom Thomas ('90), Florida Department of Transportation, Tallahassee
- Haley Van Erem ('13), United States Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.
- Melissa VanSickle ('02), Clark Partington Hart Larry Bond & Stackhouse, Tallahassee
- Craig Varn ('96), Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Tallahassee
- Stuart F. Williams ('03), Florida Agency for Health Care Administration, Tallahassee
- Jeffrey H. Wood ('03), Balch & Bingham LLP, Washington, D.C.
“FSU LAW STUDENTS ARE AFFORDED VARIOUS OPPORTUNITIES” due to the law school’s unique collaboration with state government institutions. During my 3L spring semester, I was an extern at the Florida Supreme Court, where I received school credit for my time and was mentored by staff attorneys in my chambers. Not only was my externship an amazing experience, but it also prepared me for my post-graduation position at the court as a staff attorney for Justice Pariente, which I would not have secured without the help of FSU Law faculty.”

Melanie Kalmanson (’16), a Florida State University undergrad, is a staff attorney for Florida Supreme Court Justice Barbara Pariente.
HANDS-ON LEGAL EXPERIENCE

OUR STUDENTS HAVE MANY opportunities to apply what they learn in the classroom in the real world. Florida State’s clinical programs and location in Tallahassee provide students a plethora of options to gain the legal experience that employers desire. Few other law schools in the nation can compete in terms of location. No other law school in Florida can provide the unique legal opportunities that accompany being located in the state capital.

Our law school is within walking distance of the Capitol building, the Florida Supreme Court, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, and many government agencies. Students have a wide variety of externships, internships, clerkships, live-client clinics and co-curricular opportunities from which to choose. Our students are not limited to work opportunities in just Tallahassee, though. Many of our more than 100 externship placements are located throughout Florida and beyond. Students often utilize the law school’s strong alumni network to obtain work experience and career advice.

Whether students gain experience through part-time employment, clinical programs or co-curricular organizations, the many opportunities at the law school and in Tallahassee are a tremendous advantage. During the summer, many students also work in major cities throughout Florida and the nation. Especially for those students, the College of Law offers online courses so students can still earn academic credit while working. Students gain the experience that helps them obtain permanent employment upon graduation and, in many cases, minimize the expansion of debt.

WAYS STUDENTS GET EXPERIENCE:

EXTERNSHIP: placement in an off-campus law office or court in which a student earns academic credit by working under the supervision of a practicing lawyer or judge.

LIVE-CLIENT CLINIC: placement in the law school’s Public Interest Law Center or Business Law Clinic in which a student earns academic credit by aiding in the representation of live clients under the supervision of a practicing clinical professor.

INTERNSHIP: placement in a law office for which a student does not receive academic credit. Internships can be paid or unpaid and in either the public sector or the private sector. Some internships are also referred to as “clerkships” or “fellowships.”

PRO-BONO WORK: placement under the supervision of a lawyer that is specifically approved as public service that is credited toward a student’s mandatory pro-bono program.

CO-CURRICULAR OFFERINGS: emphasize written or oral expression, often for academic credit. Opportunities include: Florida State University Law Review, Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law, Journal of Transnational Law & Policy, Mock Trial Team and Moot Court Team.

Paolo Annino
Glass Professor of Public Interest Law and Director of the Children’s Advocacy Clinic at the Public Interest Law Center
Ph.D., Legal Philosophy, Fordham University
J.D., Florida State University

Richard M. Benham
Entrepreneur in Residence and Director of the Business Law Clinic
J.D., Florida State University

Sally C. Gertz
Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs
J.D., Florida State University

Lawrence S. Krieger
Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs
J.D., University of Florida

Ruth E. Stone
Wayne and Pat Hogan Professor of Trial Practice and Director of Family Law Clinic at Public Interest Law Center
J.D., Florida State University
EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN FLORIDA AND ELSEWHERE

THE LAW SCHOOL OFFERS ONE of the most extensive clinical externship programs in the United States. Students earn academic credit while working under the supervision of practicing attorneys. Our program, which has been referred to as a model for the nation, places students in more than 100 offices throughout Florida and elsewhere – far more placement options than many law schools. While many are in Tallahassee – so students can take classes and work simultaneously – we also have placements in cities including Washington, D.C., Miami, New York City, Atlanta, London and Seattle. We have a special judicial externship program for first-year students and we also have several opportunities for students to work in the legal departments of large corporations.

Many of our externships involve the practice of law, which requires students to be certified by the Florida Supreme Court. This certification is beneficial during and after law school. Because our programs provide more academic credit than those at most other law schools, students are more engaged in actual law practice and gain more valuable experience that will benefit them upon graduation.

Available Externship Placements

APPELLATE PRACTICE
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Criminal Appeals
- Florida Public Defender’s Office - Criminal Appeals
- Florida Solicitor General’s Office - Civil Appeals

CIVIL – BUSINESS

BUSINESS REGULATION
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Administrative Law
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Antitrust
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Consumer Protection
  (Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tallahassee, Tampa, West Palm Beach)
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Florida Department of Health
- Florida Public Service Commission
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (Atlanta, Miami)
- U.S. Trustee, Department of Justice

CORPORATE COUNSEL
- G4S (Jupiter)
- Harris Corporation (Melbourne)
- HD Supply (Atlanta, Orlando)
- International Speedway Corporation (Daytona Beach)
- Jabil Circuit, Inc. (St. Petersburg)
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company
- Office Depot (Boca Raton)
- Paul Davis Restoration (Jacksonville)
- SBA Communications Corporation (Boca Raton)
- Southeast Toyota, LLC (Deerfield Beach)

COURTS
- Circuit Court/Complex Business Litigation Court (Miami, Orlando, Tampa)
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings
- Florida First District Court of Appeal - Workers’ Compensation Unit
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Tallahassee, Tampa, Other locations)
- U.S. District Court (Tallahassee, Other locations)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING
- Florida Department of Management Services
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Housing Finance Corporation

TAX
- Legal Services of North Florida Low-Income Tax Clinic (Quincy)
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service

Available Externship Placements continued on page 14
“THROUGH EXTERNING WITH INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION IN THAILAND, I gained firsthand experience in human rights, criminal and immigration law. I am grateful to have had this rich opportunity while earning academic credit through FSU College of Law.”

Courtney McCowen ('14), who is with the U.S. Air Force JAG Corps, externed in Thailand during the summer of 2013.
Available Externship Placements (continued)

CIVIL - ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE
- City of Tampa - Environmental and Land Use
- Earthjustice
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings - Environmental
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Governor’s Office of Budget and Policy - Environmental Unit
- Florida Public Service Commission
- Hillsborough Environmental Protection Commission
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company
- U.S. Department of Justice - Environment and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section (Washington, D.C., Seattle)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (Washington, D.C.)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Environmental Accountability (Atlanta)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Regional Counsel

CIVIL - GENERAL GOVERNMENT
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Corrections Litigation
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - State Programs
- U.S. Senate (Washington, D.C.)

CIVIL - LABOR/EMPLOYMENT
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Employment
- Florida Commission on Human Relations
- Florida Department of Corrections - Employment Litigation Section
- Florida Public Employees Relations Commission
- U.S. Department of Justice - Civil Rights Division (Washington, D.C.)
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Miami, New York)

CIVIL - LEGAL SERVICES/OFFICE PUBLIC INTEREST
- Bay Area Legal Services
- Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida - Central Florida
- Disability Rights Florida
- Florida Department of Children and Families
- Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, Inc. (Miami)
- Florida Rural Legal Services (Ft. Myers)
- Guardian Ad Litem (Orlando, Tallahassee, West Palm Beach)
- Gulf Coast Legal Services (St. Petersburg)
- Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (Jacksonville)
- Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association (Orlando)
- Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County (West Palm Beach)
- Legal Services of Broward County (Ft. Lauderdale)
- Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. (Miami)
- Legal Services of North Florida (Panama City, Pensacola, Quincy, Tallahassee)
- Legal Services of North Florida Low-Income Tax Clinic (Quincy)
- North Florida Center for Equal Justice

CIVIL - LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- Brevard County Attorney’s Office
- City of Jacksonville Office of the General Counsel Municipal Law Clinic
- City of Miami Attorney’s Office
- City of Orlando Attorney’s Office
- City of Tallahassee Attorney’s Office
- City of Tampa Attorney’s Office
- City of West Palm Beach Attorney’s Office
- Leon County Attorney’s Office
- Pinellas County Attorney’s Office

CRIMINAL
- Innocence Project of Florida
- Florida Public Defender/State Attorney Offices (throughout Florida)
- Florida Regional Conflict Counsel
- U.S. Attorney’s Office

JUDICIAL CLERK
- 1L Judicial Externships (Nationwide locations)
- Circuit/County Court
- Circuit Court/Complex Business Litigation Court (Orlando, Miami, Tampa)
- Florida District Courts of Appeal (Tallahassee, Other locations)
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings
- Florida Public Employees Relations Commission
- Florida Supreme Court
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Tallahassee, Other locations)
- U.S. District Court (Tallahassee, Other locations)
- U.S. Immigration Court (Orlando, Miami, Other locations)

INTERNATIONAL
- Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, Inc. (Miami)
- Human Rights First (New York City)
- International Bar Association (London)
- International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (The Hague, The Netherlands)
- International Justice Mission (Chiang Mai)
- U.S. Immigration Court (Orlando, Miami, Other locations)

FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS PARTICIPATED IN JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIPS AROUND THE NATION DURING THE SUMMER OF 2016
The law school’s Advocacy Center is invaluable to students preparing for externships and co-curricular advocacy competitions. The building has five courtrooms – four with jury boxes – of different sizes and configurations. It is the nation’s finest facility for trial and appellate advocacy training. Students utilize the John W. Frost, II Courtroom to prepare for appellate practice.
“WORKING AS A JUDICIAL EXTERN gave me a glimpse into the inner workings of the federal court system. I attended hearings, honed my legal research and writing skills, and had the opportunity to discuss legal issues with the judge and his law clerks. Most importantly, I fostered relationships that I hope to rely on throughout my career.”

“THROUGH ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS AT FSU, I secured an internship with Bankers Financial Corporation, a financial services firm specializing in insurance. Working in the General Counsel’s office at Bankers, I identified and researched legal issues in contracts, employment law, and insurance regulations so that I could recommend the best legal position for the company. I also observed contract negotiations and drafted contractual agreements and legal correspondence.”

Kamryn Deegan ’16, who attended University of Florida for undergrad, worked at Bankers Financial Corporation during the summer after her 1L year. Deegan has secured a prestigious federal clerkship to begin after she graduates.

Through the law school’s 1L Judicial Externship program, Lazaro Fields ’17, who attended Florida State University for undergrad, externed with the Honorable Mark Walker, of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Florida, during the summer of 2015.
“MY EXTERNSHIP WITH NEXTERA allowed me to gain a tremendous amount of legal experience. Through this opportunity I was able to strengthen my legal researching skills, prepare memoranda, observe civil litigation proceedings, and interact with lawyers from around the country.”

Valerie Little (’15), who attended University of Florida for undergrad, externed at NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company during the summer of 2014. Little also completed an externship at the Florida Division of Administrative Hearings during her 3L year.
“PARTICIPATING IN THE CLINICAL PROGRAMS was the best experience I had in law school. The clinical programs allowed me to gain very valuable experience while helping people in need in our community and throughout the state. In addition to gaining valuable experience working with clients, I got the chance to work meaningfully on a resentencing hearing, briefs to the District Court of Appeal, a bill at the legislature, and a federal class action.”

Haley Van Erem ('13) works at the U.S. Department of Justice and clerked for a federal judge and FSU law alumnus upon graduation.
“THE BUSINESS LAW CLINIC was one of the best classes I’ve taken in law school. We received hands-on, practical law experience that prepared me for my summer associate position at a big law firm. I highly recommend it to anyone interested in transactional law.”

Matthew Stock (’16), who attended Truman State for undergrad, worked at Burr Forman in Orlando during the summer of 2015.

THE BUSINESS LAW CLINIC: “IN-HOUSE” TRANSACTIONAL LAWYERING

Students in the Business Law Clinic learn transactional skills and earn academic credit by helping advise business and social entrepreneurs within the Florida State University community. The clinic teaches students basic bargaining, drafting, risk-assessment, and legal ethics skills necessary to be an effective and creative transactional lawyer. Students conduct a broad range of legal services and participate in other forms of experiential learning, such as role playing, simulations, and the keeping of transactional journals. Students help with client intake, identifying legal and business issues, and developing bargaining strategies. They also assist in choosing the appropriate type of entity and drafting organizational documents, shareholder contracts, and licensing agreements. The clinic is part of the College of Law’s comprehensive program in business law, which includes a curriculum with broad offerings in business law, tax, law and economics, and finance, as well as the Business Law Certificate and Business Externship programs. Florida State students are able to combine traditional classroom learning with hands-on, real-world experience.
“THROUGH MY WORK AT THE PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER, I was able to make a real difference in the lives of an amazing family who desperately needed legal help but probably wouldn’t have received it if not for the Center. Through one of the Center’s clinics, I was essentially practicing law during my second year of law school. Working at PILC was very gratifying, but more than anything else, it was an amazing learning experience. It showed me what it means to be lawyer and it is an experience I will not easily forget.”

Oaj Gilani (’12), assistant general counsel at the Florida Department of Health
FOUNDED IN 1991, the Public Interest Law Center trains second- and third-year law students in legal advocacy, with an emphasis on mentoring, small group discussions and role playing. Students are certified by the Florida Supreme Court to practice under the supervision of attorneys. They interview clients, conduct discovery, draft pleadings and represent clients in a variety of legal forums.

Through its two live-client clinics – the Children’s Advocacy Clinic and the Family Law Clinic – the Public Interest Law Center provides students with practical skills training and management skills that they will continue to use as practicing attorneys. Students also gain a sense of professional responsibility and invaluable work experience.

Florida State’s program is unique among law school clinical programs because of the wide variety of legal services provided. While other law school clinics specialize in one or two types of cases, the Public Interest Law Center handles everything from foster care cases to juvenile delinquency cases to dissolution of marriage cases.

The Center’s work on children in prison has been cited by the United States Supreme Court and featured by national and international media outlets.

24/7 ACCESS TO RESEARCH CENTER
First-Year Courses
- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law I
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Legal Writing and Research I
- Legal Writing and Research II
- Legislation & Regulation
- Property
- Torts

Second- and Third-Year Courses

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW & GOVERNMENT
- Administrative Law
- Administrative Law Research
- Appellate Practice: The Florida Solicitor General’s Perspective
- Education Law
- Federal Courts
- Florida Administrative Litigation
- Florida Administrative Practice
- Florida Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Florida Appellate Practice
- Florida Legislative Practice: From Bill Drafting to the Governor’s Desk
- Gambling and pari-Mutuel Law
- Local Government Law
- Topics in Florida Practice
- U.S. Space Law

CORPORATE/BUSINESS LAW
- Advanced Corporate Governance
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Anatomy of a Deal
- Antitrust Law
- Bankruptcy
- Behavioral Law and Economics
- Business Law Clinic
- Business Law Legal Research
- Business Planning
- Closely Held Business Organizations
- Commercial Paper
- Commercial Real Estate Transactions
- Communications Law
- Condominium and Community
  Housing Law
- Consumer Law
- Contract Drafting
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Governance
- Corporate Law and Finance Seminar
- Corporations
- Corporations & The Constitution
- Dodd-Frank Act Seminar
- E-Discovery and Digital Evidence
- Emerging Issues in Energy Law: Renewables and Unconventional Fossil Fuels
- Employment Law Survey
- Energy Law and Policy
- Entertainment Law
- Financial Regulation Seminar
- Financial Statements Interpretation
- Game Theory for Business Lawyers Seminar
- In-House Counsel
- Insurance Law
- Insurance Law & Economics: Theory & Applications
- International Aspects of Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Sales & Arbitration
- International Trade and Investment Law
- International Trade Transactions
- Introduction to Business and Finance
- Introduction to Intellectual Property
- Land Transfer
- Land Use Regulation
- Law and Economics
- Law and Economics Seminar
- Law and Entrepreneurship
- Law and Risk Management
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Negotiation
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Oil and Gas Law
- Products Liability
- Real Estate Finance
- Risk, Public Policy and Law
- Sales and Leases
- Secured Transactions
- Securities Regulation
- Sports and the Law
- Statistical Inference in Law
- Topics in Real Property and
  Contracts
- Topics in Torts, Commercial Paper
  & Secured Transactions
- Transactional Drafting
- White Collar Crime
- Workers’ Compensation

CIVIL RIGHTS LAW
- Civil Rights Litigation
- Disability Law
- Employment Discrimination
- Human Trafficking
- Race and the Law
- Sexuality and the Law

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
- Constitutional Law II
- Corporations & The Constitution
- Election Law
- First Amendment
- Florida Constitutional Law
- Florida Courts and the Constitution
- Race and the Law
- Reform and Revision of the Florida Constitution
- Seminar on Constitution Revision
- Sexuality and the Law
- State Constitutional Law
- Supreme Court Role-Play

CRIMINAL LAW
- Advanced Criminal Law
- Asylum and Refugee Law
- Capital Punishment Seminar
- Comparative Criminal Procedure
- Controlled Substances: Law, Policy & Enforcement
- Counterterrorism Law: National, State, and Local Perspectives
- Criminal Litigation Skills
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
- Criminal Procedure: Police
- Cybersecurity Law
- Environmental Crimes
- Evidence in Criminal Litigation
- Federal Crimes
- Federal Criminal Law
- Florida Criminal Procedure: Pre-Trial
- Florida Criminal Procedure: Trial
- Human Trafficking
- International Criminal Law
- International Criminal Tribunals
- Juvenile Law: Florida Practice
- Nonpunitive Detention
- Postconviction Remedies
- Sentencing Law
- Tax Crimes

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
- Administrative Law
- Administrative Law Research
- Clean Air Act
- Climate Change
- Condominium and Community
  Housing Law
- Current Issues in Environmental Law and Policy
- Emerging Issues in Energy Law: Renewables and Unconventional Fossil Fuels
- Energy Law and Policy
- Environmental Crimes
- Environmental Federalism
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Legal Research
- Florida Administrative Litigation
- Florida Administrative Practice
- Growth Management
- International Environmental Law
- Land Use Regulation
- Law and Policy of Drilling and Fracturing for Fossil Fuels
- Local Government Law
- Natural Resources Law
- Natural Resources Law Seminar
- Ocean and Coastal Law
- Oil and Gas Law
- Practical Skills in Land Use
- Water Law

FAMILY LAW
- Children’s Advocacy Clinic
- Disability Law
- Elder Law
- Estate Planning Workshop
- Family Law
- Family Law Clinic
- Florida Dissolution of Marriage
- Gratuitous Transfers
- Juvenile Law: Florida Practice

HEALTH LAW
- Disability Law
- Elder Law
- Food Law
- Global Health & Pharmaceutical Law
- Health Law and Policy
- Health Reform Seminar
- Medical Malpractice
- Public Health Law
"I really enjoy my work in the area of insurance regulatory law. I speak around the world on the topic, so co-teaching a class on insurance regulation makes sense. As part of the class, we bring in guest speakers. It is especially gratifying to be able to introduce my students to leaders in their respective fields."

Fred Karlinsky ('92), a shareholder at Greenberg Traurig, P.A. and member of our Board of Visitors, is one of many alumni who serve as adjunct professors for the law school.
“INTERNATIONAL SPEEDWAY CORPORATION has not only taught me how to be a successful corporate lawyer, but the company also has allowed me to network with some of the biggest contacts in motorsports! My life-long dream of working in-house in the sporting industry has been realized during my time with ISC and I cannot wait to see what doors this experience opens in my future as a legal professional.”

Kelsey Pincket ('17), who attended University of South Carolina for undergrad, spent the summer of 2015 in Daytona externing at International Speedway Corporation.
We have an extraordinarily strong business and tax program at Florida State University College of Law. Our tax program is ranked the nation’s 23rd best by U.S. News & World Report (2016). We offer our students an extremely sophisticated program to prepare them to enter the worlds of business and finance at the highest possible levels. We offer a full range of doctrinal business courses and additional courses in financial accounting, law and economics, game theory for business lawyers, and statistics for lawyers. We also offer a Business Law Certificate that allows students to strengthen their degree. Students apply what they learn in the classroom and increase their credentials through numerous business-related externships and our Business Law Clinic.

Core Business and Tax Law Faculty


Shawn J. Bayern, Larry and Joyce Beltz Professor of Torts Closely Held Business Organizations, Contracts, Torts J.D., University of California, Berkeley

Richard M. Benham, Entrepreneur in Residence Business Law Clinic, Contract Drafting, Law & Entrepreneurship J.D., Florida State University

Steve R. Johnson, Dunbar Family Professor Administrative Law, Business Planning, International Taxation, Tax Crimes, Taxation, Taxation of Business Entities J.D., New York University

Jeffrey H. Kahn, Harry W. Walborsky Professor Taxation, Taxation of Business Entities, Torts J.D., University of Michigan Law School

Jay Kesten, Assistant Professor Advanced Corporate Governance, Corporate Finance, Corporate Governance, Corporations LL.M., Harvard University LL.B., University of British Columbia

Tahirih V. Lee, Associate Professor International Business Transactions, International Trade Simulation Ph.D., History, Yale University J.D., Yale University
For more information about our Business and Tax Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/our-faculty/profiles/business-law-faculty.
**Business Externship Opportunities**

**BUSINESS REGULATION**
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Administrative Law
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Antitrust
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Consumer Protection (Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tallahassee, Tampa, West Palm Beach)
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Florida Department of Health
- Florida Public Service Commission
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (Atlanta, Miami)
- U.S. Trustee, Department of Justice

**CORPORATE COUNSEL**
- G4S (Jupiter)
- Harris Corporation (Melbourne)
- HD Supply (Atlanta, Orlando)
- International Speedway Corporation (Daytona Beach)
- Jabil Circuit, Inc. (St. Petersburg)
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company
- Office Depot (Boca Raton)
- Paul Davis Restoration (Jacksonville)
- SBA Communications Corporation (Boca Raton)
- Southeast Toyota, LLC (Deerfield Beach)

**COURTS**
- Circuit Court/Complex Business Litigation Court (Miami, Orlando, Tampa)
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings
- Florida First District Court of Appeal - Workers’ Compensation Unit
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Tallahassee, Tampa, Other locations)
- U.S. District Court (Tallahassee, Other locations)

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING**
- Florida Department of Management Services
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Housing Finance Corporation

**TAX**
- Legal Services of North Florida Low-Income Tax Clinic (Quincy)
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service

**Business Activities**
- Business Law Society
- Business Review
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Real Estate Law Society

**Degree Programs for J.D. Students**

The Business Law Certificate program allows students planning a career in business law and finance to receive specialized training in a set of core areas: publicly traded corporations, closely-held business entities, corporate finance, law and economics, and taxation. The program carries additional requirements beyond those for the J.D. degree and signals to potential employers that a graduate has advanced training in these core areas. Additionally, J.D. students who are accepted to the graduate programs at Florida State University’s College of Business or Economics Department can pursue, respectively, joint degrees in law and business (J.D.-M.B.A.) or in law and economics (J.D.-M.S.).
Business Courses and Seminars

COMMERCIAL LAW
› Commercial Paper
› Consumer Law
› Sales and Leases
› Secured Transactions

CORPORATE LAW & FINANCE
› Advanced Corporate Governance
› Antitrust Law
› Bankruptcy
› Closely Held Business Organizations
› Corporate Finance
› Corporate Governance
› Corporate Law and Finance Seminar
› Corporations
› Dodd-Frank Act Seminar
› Financial Statements Interpretation
› In-House Counsel
› Insurance Law
› Introduction to Business and Finance
› Mergers and Acquisitions
› Nonprofit Organizations
› Securities Regulation

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
› Global Regulation of the Pharmaceutical Sector
› International Aspects of Intellectual Property
› International Business Transactions
› International Sales & Arbitration
› International Trade and Investment
› International Trade Simulation

LAW & ECONOMICS
› Behavioral Law and Economics
› Game Theory for Business Lawyers Seminar
› Insurance Law & Economics: Theory & Applications
› Law and Economics
› Law and Economics Seminar
› Risk, Public Policy, and Law
› Statistical Inference in Law

REAL ESTATE
› Condominium and Community Housing Law
› Land Transfer
› Land Use Regulation
› Real Estate Finance

TAX LAW
› Estate and Gift Tax
› International Taxation
› Tax Crimes
› Tax Policy Seminar
› Tax Procedure
› Taxation
› Taxation Legal Research
› Taxation of Business Entities

TRANSACTIONAL & SKILLS COURSES
› Alternative Dispute Resolution
› Anatomy of a Deal
› Business Law Clinic
› Business Law Legal Research
› Business Planning
› Contract Drafting
› Introduction to Business and Finance
› Law and Entrepreneurship
› Negotiation
› Transactional Drafting

OTHER BUSINESS COURSES
› Communications Law
› Emerging Issues in Energy Law: Renewables and Unconventional Fossil Fuels
› Employment Law Survey
› Energy Law and Policy
› Introduction to Intellectual Property
› Oil and Gas Law
› Products Liability
› White Collar Crime

BUSINESS FACULTY MEMBERS PREVIOUSLY PRACTICED AT TOP FIRMS IN NEW YORK CITY, CHICAGO, AND BOSTON, CLERKED FOR FEDERAL JUDGES, AND WERE HIGH-LEVEL ATTORNEYS FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.
“MUCH OF MY SUCCESS IS OWED TO THE DEPTH AND BREADTH OF COURSEWORK I UNDERTOOK AT THE FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE OF LAW.”

John G. Maus, Jr. (’03),
Senior Vice President at
U.S. Trust in New York City

“My business education at FSU stretched far beyond the classroom. Practical courses, such as Anatomy of a Deal, have prepared me with invaluable skills and training that I used every day as an M&A and Global Integration Legal Intern for Schneider Electric. FSU’s business courses laid a strong foundation for my future and I look forward to utilizing all that I learned as I pursue a career in corporate transactional law.”

Trevor Ruff (’15), who is legal counsel at Schneider Electric in Rhode Island, worked for the company while he was a law student. He obtained the position after taking a class taught by the Fortune 500 company’s vice president & lead counsel for global M&A, post-merger integration and corporate governance.
“MY EXTERNSHIP WITH THE U.S. ATTORNEY’S OFFICE has provided me with unique opportunities and allowed me to work with some of the most experienced trial and criminal law attorneys. My externship has left me with a better understanding of federal practice, the role of the U.S. Attorney’s Office in prosecuting federal offenses, and the partnership between the U.S. Attorney’s Office with other government entities.”

Luis Then (‘16), who attended University of South Florida for undergrad, externed at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Tampa during the summer of 2015.
FLORIDA STATE’S STRONG CRIMINAL LAW PROGRAM offers a wide range of courses to prepare students for a career in the field. Our faculty members are nationally or internationally recognized scholars with deep expertise in the area. Our students can obtain hands-on experience through our Public Interest Law Center and an extensive array of clinical externship opportunities. Students are placed in externships throughout the state, including with state and local public defender and prosecutor offices, the U.S. Attorney’s Office and the Innocence Project of Florida. Students can also assist in the work of the university’s Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, with which the College of Law has a close relationship.

Core Criminal Law Faculty

Paolo Annino, Glass Professor of Public Interest Law
Children’s Advocacy Clinic
Ph.D., Legal Philosophy, Fordham University
J.D., Florida State University

Avlana K. Eisenberg, Assistant Professor
Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Professional Responsibility, Prison Law Reform Seminar
J.D., Stanford Law School

Steve R. Johnson, Dunbar Family Professor
Tax Crimes
J.D., New York University

Lawrence S. Krieger, Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs
Criminal Practice Clinic
J.D., University of Florida

Wayne A. Logan, Gary & Sallyn Pajcic Professor
Capital Punishment Seminar; Controlled Substances: Law, Policy & Enforcement, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure: Police
J.D., University of Wisconsin

Samuel R. Wiseman, McConnaughhay & Rissman Professor
Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure: Police, Environmental Crimes
J.D., Yale University

For more information about our Criminal Law faculty, visit law.fsu.edu/our-faculty/profiles/criminal-law-faculty.
Criminal Law Courses and Seminars

- Advanced Criminal Law
- Asylum and Refugee Law
- Capital Punishment Seminar
- Controlled Substances: Law, Policy & Enforcement
- Criminal Law
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
- Criminal Procedure: Police
- Cybersecurity Law
- Environmental Crimes
- Evidence in Criminal Litigation
- Federal Criminal Law
- Florida Criminal Procedure: Pre-Trial
- Florida Criminal Procedure: Trial
- Human Trafficking
- International Criminal Law
- International Criminal Tribunals
- International Human Rights Law
- Jury Selection
- Juvenile Law: Florida Practice
- Nongenitive Detention
- Postconviction Remedies
- Sentencing Law
- Tax Crimes
- White Collar Crime

Criminal Law Externship Opportunities

- Innocence Project of Florida
- Florida Public Defender/State Attorney Offices (throughout Florida)
- Florida Regional Conflict Counsel
- U.S. Attorney’s Office

Criminal Law Activities

- Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Association for Criminal Justice
- Center for the Advancement of Human Rights

Public Interest Law Center

Our Public Interest Law Center conducts cutting-edge juvenile justice work on children in prison. A study published by the center and its director, Paolo Annino, was cited numerous times by the U.S. Supreme Court in a 2010 landmark decision prohibiting the imposition of life without parole on a juvenile offender who did not commit homicide. Students working at the center also provide children full legal representation in criminal cases.
Professor Wayne Logan, pictured with several law students, is one of the law school's nationally recognized criminal law experts. His work has been cited by the United States Supreme Court and he has been quoted in The Wall Street Journal and Newsweek.
Florida State is home to one of the most highly regarded environmental law programs in the country. U.S. News & World Report ranks our program 18th strongest in the nation in its 2016 edition of America’s Best Graduate Schools. Our faculty members are among the most distinguished scholars in the fields of environmental, energy and administrative law. A wide variety of courses and a certificate program provide students a solid foundation in environmental, energy and land use law. Students also can take advantage of offerings in related areas of study at Florida State University as well as externship opportunities in Florida and Washington, D.C.

To learn more about our Environmental Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/our-faculty/profiles/environmental-law-faculty.
“THE FACULTY IN THE FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE OF LAW ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY, AND LAND USE LAW PROGRAM are not only brilliant scholars and professors, but also mentors and advisors for their students. They have gone above and beyond to prepare me for a career in environmental law.”

Robert Volpe (’15), an environmental certificate recipient, is an attorney at Hopping Green & Sams in Tallahassee. He clerked for the firm, which is a statewide leader in the area of environmental law, during his 2L year.
Environmental Courses and Seminars

- Administrative Law
- Administrative Law Research
- Clean Air Act
- Climate Change
- Condominium and Community Housing Law
- Current Issues in Environmental Law and Policy
- Current Issues in Environmental Science
- Emerging Issues in Energy Law: Renewables and Unconventional Fossil Fuels
- Energy Law and Policy
- Environmental Crimes
- Environmental Federalism
- Environmental Law
- Environmental Legal Research
- Florida Administrative Litigation
- Florida Administrative Practice
- Growth Management
- International Environmental Law
- Land Use Regulation
- Law and Policy of Drilling and Fracturing for Fossil Fuels
- Local Government Law
- Natural Resources Law
- Ocean and Coastal Law
- Oil and Gas Law
- Practical Skills in Land Use
- Principles of Oceanography
- River Basin Planning and Management
- Water Law

* Courses offered periodically through other graduate schools on campus

Environmental Externship Opportunities

- City of Tampa - Environmental and Land Use
- Earthjustice
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings - Environmental
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Governor's Office of Budget and Policy - Environmental Unit
- Florida Public Service Commission
- Hillsborough Environmental Protection Commission
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company
- U.S. Department of Justice - Environment and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section (Washington, D.C., Seattle)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (Washington, D.C.)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Environmental Accountability (Atlanta)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Regional Counsel

Environmental Activities

- Environmental Law Society
- Environmental Moot Court Competition
- Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law
Upon graduation, students who successfully complete the environmental certificate program receive a certificate along with their J.D. degree. The certificate signals to employers and others that a student has achieved special competency in the fields of environmental, energy and land use law. Students may select their courses from an extensive menu of curricular and co-curricular offerings, as well as joint-degree programs with other Florida State departments.

A joint-degree program with the School of Urban and Regional Planning (J.D.-M.S.P.) enhances the law school’s ability to provide comprehensive preparation for a career in environmental and land use law. The school is nationally respected and offers a wide array of fields of emphasis. The joint degree provides an excellent foundation in both the law and the policy of land use. The College of Law, along with the Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences, also offers a joint-degree program in Law and Aquatic Environmental Science (J.D.-M.A.E.S.). The joint degree provides a competitive advantage to graduates interested in environmental science, law and policy.

**LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy**

The College of Law’s LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy gives J.D. holders the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of environmental, land use, natural resources and energy law. Students are matched with program faculty members who mentor them and help design a curriculum that best suits their interests, educational backgrounds and professional needs.
“THE INTERNATIONAL LAW CERTIFICATE PROGRAM provided me with the tools I needed to become a lawyer in the U.S. and abroad. Because of the full range of courses the certificate program offers at both Florida State and the Oxford Summer Program, I studied the field of public international law from both an academic and practitioner’s perspective. The program also opened up the opportunity for me to participate with President Emeritus Sandy D’Alemberte and Dr. Mark Ellis’ International Human Rights Law class, and eventually intern for the International Bar Association’s Human Rights Institute in London during the summer of my graduating year.”

Giovanni Bush (’16) served as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Transnational Law & Policy and earned an international law certificate.
OUR INTERNATIONAL LAW FACULTY MEMBERS HAVE DEEP EXPERTISE IN A VARIETY OF AREAS, including international intellectual property, international trade law, the global pharmaceutical industry, international human rights, laws of war, international intervention law, comparative law and Chinese law. Their work has helped shape legal issues all over the world. Our program includes a wide array of specialized courses that reflect the expertise of the faculty, a variety of externship opportunities — both international and domestic in location — and a certificate program for students interested in international law. In addition, Florida State offers three exchange programs and the longest-standing summer law program at Oxford University sponsored by an American law school.

Core International Law Faculty

Frederick M. Abbott, Edward Ball Eminent Scholar
LL.M., University of California at Berkeley
J.D., Yale University

Talbot “Sandy” D’Alemberte, President Emeritus and Professor
Comparative Law, International Human Rights Law
J.D., University of Florida

David E. Landau, Mason Ladd Professor and Associate Dean for International Programs
Comparative Constitutional Law, Conflict of Laws, International Litigation and Arbitration, Public International Law
Ph.D., Political Science, Harvard University
J.D., magna cum laude, Harvard University

Tahirih V. Lee, Associate Professor
Chinese Law, Comparative Law, International Business Transactions, International Trade Simulation
Ph.D., History, Yale University
J.D., Yale University

Fernando Tesón, Tobias Simon Eminent Scholar
Advanced Topics in International Law, Global Justice, Foreign Relations Law, International Criminal Law, International Human Rights Law, Law & the Arts, Public International Law, War
S.J.D., Northwestern University School of Law
LL.M., Universite Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium
J.D., Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Other Faculty Teaching International Law Courses

Terry Coonan, Executive Director of the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights and Courtesy Professor of Law
Asylum and Refugee Law
J.D., University of Cincinnati

More information about our International Law faculty is available at law.fsu.edu/our-faculty/profiles/international-law-faculty.
Degree Programs for J.D. Students

Florida State’s Certificate Program in International Law recognizes students for a concentration in the area and carries requirements beyond those for a J.D. A certificate signals to potential employers a graduate’s specialization. J.D. students who are accepted to the graduate program at Florida State University’s College of Social Sciences can pursue a joint degree in law and international affairs (J.D.-M.S).

Degree Program for Foreign Lawyers

Foreign law graduates can pursue an LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers. The LL.M. allows students to gain in-depth knowledge of United States law. In recent years, Florida State has been pleased to host lawyers from countries including Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Cuba, France, Haiti, Iran, Jamaica, Korea, Moldova, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Slovakia, Taiwan, Turkey and Uzbekistan as candidates for our LL.M. in American Law.

LL.M. students receive personal attention and counseling from a faculty advisor to develop a curriculum to fit their specific needs and goals. They are fully integrated into the College of Law community, taking classes alongside J.D. students. This allows LL.M. students to establish professional relationships with other graduate students from around the world, as well the opportunity to work with FSU’s outstanding faculty and J.D. students.

Under Florida law, students from Latin American and Caribbean countries qualify for the same relatively low tuition rates that Florida residents pay, provided they get a small scholarship. There are a number of scholarships available specifically for this purpose.

International Courses and Seminars

- Admiralty Law
- Advanced Topics in International Law: Global Justice
- Asylum and Refugee Law
- Chinese Law
- Comparative Law
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Drafting Legislation for Emerging Countries
- European Court of Human Rights
- European Human Rights (Oxford)
- Foreign Relations Law
- Global Health & Pharmaceutical Law
- Immigration Law
- International and Foreign Legal Research
- International Aspects of Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Criminal Law
- International Environmental Law
- International Human Rights Law
- International Litigation and Arbitration
- International Sales & Arbitration: A VIS Moot Primer
- International Taxation
- International Trade and Investment Law
- International Trade Simulation
- Jessup International Law Moot Court Course
- Public International Law
- War

Study Abroad

Students can participate in a summer study abroad program at the University of Oxford in England and in exchange programs with three universities:

- Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia
- The University of Groningen in Groningen, The Netherlands

International Law Externship Opportunities

- Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center, Inc. (Miami)
- Human Rights First (New York City)
- International Bar Association (London)
- International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (The Hague, The Netherlands)
- International Justice Mission (Chiang Mai)
- U.S. Immigration Court (Orlando, Miami, Other locations)

International Activities

- Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- Center for the Advancement of Human Rights
- International Law Students Association
- Journal of Transnational Law & Policy
“I’VE HAD THE GREAT HONOR OF SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, of opening an office for a major law firm in Orlando, and serving on a board that settles some of the world’s most important trade disputes. These opportunities are all the result of the excellent legal education I received at Florida State.”

Jim Bacchus ('79), chair of Greenberg Trauig’s Global Practice Group and former chair of the Appellate Body of the World Trade Organization
The Florida State University College of Law Juris Master program is designed for students who want to advance in their chosen field as a non-lawyer and to understand important legal, business and regulatory issues. The one-year program is flexible with few required courses – students can tailor their curriculum for their specific professional advancement goals.

Students can earn the Juris Master degree on either a full-time, one-year schedule or on a part-time basis, with the option to take some courses online. The program’s curriculum includes two courses specifically designed for Juris Master students: Introduction to Legal Studies and Introduction to Legal Research, and at least two courses from the J.D. first-year courses. Beyond those requirements, students may personalize their curriculum by specializing in one of five key areas:

- Business Law
- Administrative Law and Governmental Relations
- Environmental and Land Use Law
- Criminal Law and Justice
- Employment and Human Resources Law

Each specialization has a menu of course offerings – some of which are offered online – designed to afford students a multi-faceted understanding of the laws impacting those areas.

The Juris Master degree is not an LL.M. degree for lawyers. The degree is intended for those who do not intend to become a licensed, practicing attorney and have not completed a Juris Doctorate program.

Benefits of the FSU Juris Master program include:

- Instruction by professors who comprise one of the nation’s top law faculties.
- A broad, innovative curriculum that provides students with a better background for careers in business, finance, banking, government and human relations.
- Access to Florida State’s superb law alumni network, which is comprised of professionals who make it a priority to help students and fellow graduates with their job searches.

More information about the Juris Master program, specializations and admissions procedures is available at law.fsu.edu/academic-programs/juris-master-program.
“THE JM PROGRAM PROVIDES PROFESSIONALS in almost any field an opportunity to expand their education and knowledge to include law. The class selection and scheduling pace can be tailored to each student’s interests or career path and the program has part-time options for working professionals.”

Caroline Arrant (JM ’16), human resources specialist at Prime Meridian Bank
OUR COMMUNITY

AS AN FSU LAW STUDENT, YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO A WIDE VARIETY OF FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY AMENITIES AND PROGRAMS.

FSU is a world-class research university with top programs in areas including political science and business. Being a part of this community allows you the option to participate in one of 10 joint-degree programs offered by the College of Law in collaboration with other FSU colleges and schools.

You will also have access to Florida State’s recreational facility, the Leach Center – a 100,000-plus-square-foot gym featuring an indoor track overlooking a 16-lane indoor swimming pool, extensive cardio, strength and weight-lifting equipment, basketball and racquetball courts, and more. You can also take advantage of FSU’s 73-acre lake front property where you can swim, canoe, kayak and picnic with friends. Tickets to all FSU sporting events are free for law students, so you can attend the events of Florida State’s 20 NCAA Division I teams at no cost.

FSU law students also can utilize the University Counseling Center and Health and Wellness Center. The Counseling Center is a welcoming and confidential place to help you overcome challenges that may interfere with your academic progress and emotional well-being. Students may seek couples, group or individual counseling with no out-of-pocket expense. The on-campus Health Center’s many services include general medical care, women’s health services, nutrition assessments, physical therapy, psychiatry, immunizations, and more.

The larger Tallahassee community also offers many opportunities for law students. Tallahassee is a relatively small city, which makes it ideal for studying and also translates into a lower cost of living than in larger areas. Despite its size, Tallahassee offers many more unique restaurants and cultural experiences than most comparable cities. If you love being outdoors, Tallahassee and the surrounding areas have many options for hiking, biking, swimming, boating and canoeing. The closest beach is less than an hour from campus. The city also boasts a wide variety of networking and work opportunities that accompany being located in the capital of the third most populous state in the nation.

Joint-Degree Programs:

- Aquatic Environmental Sciences and Law, J.D.-M.A.E.S
- Business and Law, J.D.-M.B.A
- Economics and Law, J.D.-M.S.
- Family and Child Sciences and Law, J.D.-M.S.
- Information Studies and Law, J.D.-M.S.
- International Affairs and Law, J.D.-M.S.
- Public Administration and Law, J.D.-M.P.A.
- Social Work and Law, J.D.-M.S.W.
- Sport Management and Law, J.D.-M.S.
- Urban and Regional Planning and Law, J.D.-M.S.P.
“Tallahassee is a great city in which to be a law student because it is the capital of Florida. There are unique opportunities offered to students here that cannot be offered in other cities. For example, during legislative session, law students have the rare opportunity to be fully immersed in the legislative process with Florida’s most successful lawmakers. The opportunities are endless in Tallahassee, and it is a great place to network and build your reputation as a young lawyer. Additionally, Tallahassee is becoming very metropolitan with a lot of great restaurant options, weekend festivals and community events.”

Khari Fischer (17), who attended University of Central Florida for undergrad, worked at the White House and for a federal judge during the summer after her 1L year. During the summer of 2016, she started working for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice as a human trafficking coordinator.

Tallahassee is the nation’s #1 City for African Americans and #6 in the list for best college towns, according to Livibility.com.
“FSU OFFERS A WIDE RANGE OF OPPORTUNITIES” for any student to explore, whether outside or inside the classroom. My classmates look forward to attending events of our school’s successful sports teams or utilizing the campus gym facilities. Inside the classroom I chose to pursue a joint JD-MBA degree which has allowed me to further my education with the help of our business school’s amazing professors, as well as interact with students studying in other areas, broadening my academic exposure even further.”

Clayton Culler (’17), who attended Denison University, served on the executive board of the Student Bar Association during his 1L year.
ADMISSIONS

The College of Law seeks to admit and enroll students who, together, bring to the law school a varied set of backgrounds, interests, personal and professional experiences and perspectives, who also have a record of academic success and a competitive LSAT score. Other factors considered include exceptional personal talents, interesting or demanding work or service experience, rigorousness of undergraduate course study, leadership potential, graduate study, maturity and the ability to communicate effectively in writing. An applicant’s responses to the character and fitness questions in the application are also a significant factor in the decision-making process. Although a holistic approach is taken when reviewing applications, most admission decisions are based on the combination of LSAT score and undergraduate academic performance.

Florida State University encourages applications for admission from qualified students regardless of race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other protected group status in accordance with all pertinent federal, state, and local laws on non-discrimination and equal opportunity.

If you have questions about the admissions process or the Florida State University College of Law, please contact the Office of Admissions at 850.644.3787 or admissions@law.fsu.edu.

ELIGIBILITY

An applicant must hold, or expect to receive, a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university before beginning the study of law. Individuals who have previously attended law school are not eligible to apply as a first-time entering student.

Application Requirements & Checklist

- No application fee
- Create your applicant FSUID and obtain your FSU EMPLID which will be required as part of the law school application. Applicants who attended Florida State University should already have an FSU ID and an FSU EMPLID.
  - Go to https://apps.its.fsu.edu/CreateFSUID/?sponsor=ADMFSUID
  - Enter your email address and follow the prompts to register for an FSUID.
  - After submission of the FSUID Registration form, applicants will receive an email from profilesetup@apps.oti.fsu.edu that contains your EMPLID number.
  - Click on the link to activate your FSUID.
  - Write down the FSUID and EMPLID as they are both required for this application.
- Register with the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) Credential Assembly Service (CAS), lsac.org.
  - Submit transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate coursework completed through CAS.
  - Take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The test should be taken as soon as possible but ideally no later than the February preceding the August for which the applicant seeks admission in order to meet the March 15th priority deadline. Although the June LSAT is accepted for applicants taking the LSAT for the first time or repeating the test, taking an earlier administration puts applicants in a more competitive position for admission and scholarship opportunities. All applicants, regardless of LSAT testing date, must submit an application prior to the final July 15th deadline in order to receive consideration.

Application Deadlines

The College of Law begins accepting applications for fall 2017 entering students on September 1, 2016. Applications are evaluated from October through July by the admissions committee. Decisions are made on a rolling basis and priority consideration is given to the strongest applications submitted by the priority deadline of March 15th. Applications completed after March 15th but by the final deadline of July 15th may not receive a timely decision and limit the opportunity for scholarship consideration. Florida State University College of Law is a full-time, three-year program. First-year students start in the fall semester.
If the LSAT is taken more than once, the highest score will be considered.
Scores older than five years will not be considered.
Submit the application electronically through LSAC online. Detailed application instructions are available on our website at law.fsu.edu or through the LSAC website at lsac.org. In addition to the application, applicants must submit a resume and personal statement. Outside of the required documents, applicants need not submit additional documents or information with the application unless the applicant has character and fitness issues to address with supplemental documentation. Letters of recommendation are not required but are encouraged.
It is free to submit an application to our law school.

**J.D. International Applicants**

- Submit foreign transcripts for processing through the LSAC JD CAS.
- Submit official TOEFL or IELTS score to LSAC CAS.

The minimum TOEFL score required is a 100 on the Internet-based test, 250 on the computer-based test or a 600 on the paper-based test. The LSAC TOEFL code for the JD CAS is 0058. The law school also accepts the International English Language Testing System (IELTS): The minimum score required is a 7.5 on the IELTS. Questions about the JD CAS can be directed to LSAC at 215.968.1001 or lsacinfo@lsac.org.

**Transfer Admission**

Florida State accepts transfer applicants from ABA-approved law schools in the fall, spring and summer semesters. Decisions on transfer applications are made on a rolling basis and priority consideration is given to the strongest applications. Detailed application instructions are available at law.fsu.edu.

**Visitor Admission**

The College of Law accepts applications from students who have completed their second year of law school at another ABA-accredited institution who would like to be a visiting student at Florida State for one or two semesters of their third year. Students in their second year may be considered on a space-available basis. Preference will be given to students who have a significant professional or personal reason to attend Florida State University College of Law. Detailed application instructions are available at law.fsu.edu.

**3+3 Admission**

Under 3+3 programs, students who meet certain admission requirements can complete a bachelor’s degree and a law degree in six years rather than the traditional seven, saving a year of time and costs. We currently have programs with Eckerd College, Florida State University, the University of Central Florida, the University of North Florida, and the University of West Florida, and expect to add agreements with additional institutions in the future. Details about requirements for each school are available at law.fsu.edu/admissions/3-plus-3-procedures.

**DEADLINES**

- J.D. International Applicants: Spring Term: December 1, 2016
  Summer Term: April 15, 2017
  Fall Term: July 31, 2017
- Transfer Admission: Spring Term: December 1, 2016
  Summer Term: April 15, 2017
  Fall Term: July 31, 2017
- Visitor Admission: Spring Term: December 1, 2016
  Summer Term: April 15, 2017
  Fall Term: July 31, 2017
- 3+3 Admission: Details and requirements for each school are available at law.fsu.edu/admissions/3-plus-3-procedures.
LL.M. Admission

Florida State offers two LL.M. degrees: the LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy and the LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers. Detailed application instructions, eligibility information and application deadlines are available at law.fsu.edu.

FALL TERM DEADLINES
LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy: June 15, 2017
LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers: May 15, 2017

Juris Master Admission

The Florida State University College of Law Juris Master degree program is designed for a workforce that is increasingly interested in legal training. The program is intended for those who possess a bachelor’s degree and who want to advance their careers with a year of legal studies and training. The program is flexible with few required courses – students can tailor their curriculum for their specific professional advancement goals. Details about requirements for the program are available at www.law.fsu.edu/admissions/juris-master.

Admitted Students

If admitted, all entering students are required to pay a $200 nonrefundable seat deposit to reserve a seat. The seat deposit deadline will be provided in the detailed information sent to students upon admission to the law school. This deposit will be credited to the admitted student’s tuition upon registration.

Florida State University encourages applications for admission from qualified students regardless of race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other protected group status in accordance with all pertinent federal, state, and local laws on non-discrimination and equal opportunity.

2016 – 2017 Admission Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deadline Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Begin accepting IL applications</td>
<td>Sept. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL application and completion priority deadline</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL application and completion final deadline</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer/Visitor Status Deadlines</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin accepting Transfer/Visitor applications</td>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring application and completion deadline</td>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer application and completion deadline</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall application and completion deadline</td>
<td>July 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental LL.M. Deadlines</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin accepting applications</td>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall application and completion deadline</td>
<td>June 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>International LL.M. Deadlines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Begin accepting applications</td>
<td>Oct. 1</td>
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<td>Fall application and completion deadline</td>
<td>May 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juris Master Deadlines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring application and completion deadline</td>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall application and completion deadline</td>
<td>July 31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Admission of students to Florida State University is within the jurisdiction of the University, but subject to minimum standards adopted by the Florida Board of Governors. Preference for admission for any term will be given to those applicants whose credentials indicate the greatest promise of academic success in their chosen program of study.
Costs and Financial Assistance

Florida State is consistently rated one of the nation’s top 10 best value law schools by preLaw magazine. Tuition and fees are established by the Florida Board of Governors and the Florida Legislature and are subject to change each year.

Financial Assistance

The law school offers a program of scholarship assistance made available through the generous support of alumni and friends. Law school scholarships are awarded to students on the basis of merit and/or financial need.

Entering first-year J.D. students are considered for scholarships only after being admitted to the College of Law. Second- and third-year students may apply for a variety of scholarships each spring for the upcoming academic year. For more information about College of Law scholarship opportunities or financial aid in general, contact the law school’s Student Affairs Office at 850.644.7338 or saffairs@law.fsu.edu.

Most students qualify for federal funding through the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and Direct Graduate PLUS Loan programs. Eligibility for federal funding is determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To ensure Florida State University College of Law receives your FAFSA report, you must include our school code (001489) in the application. Students are encouraged to submit the FAFSA as close to the release date as possible for priority consideration. For 2017-2018, the release date is October 1, 2016.

2016 – 2017 Cost of Attendance

For Fall and spring semesters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>FLORIDA RESIDENT</th>
<th>NON-RESIDENT*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees (30 credit hours)</td>
<td>$20,683</td>
<td>$40,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room/Board</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/Supplies</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>1,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laptop (for 1Ls)</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>1,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$38,883</strong></td>
<td><strong>$58,895</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS Most non-residents are eligible to reclassify as Florida residents for tuition purposes after the 1L year. Using the 2016-17 tuition & fees schedule, if a student were to reclassify and pay in-state tuition for their second and third years of law school, they would pay an average of $27,354 per year for all three years. For information about the reclassification process, contact the law school’s Office of Admissions at 850.644.3787 or admissions@law.fsu.edu.
2016 marks FSU College of Law’s golden anniversary. Members of the Class of 2019 helped celebrate by posing for a 50 photo during orientation. Apply today if you want to be a part of our next 50 years!