

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

WASHINGTON, DC



JD PROGRAM



1

BLOCK FROM THE  
TENLEYTOWN-AU  
METRO STATION



5

LAW JOURNALS

9

BRIEFS



1<sup>ST</sup>

LAW SCHOOL TO BE  
FOUNDED BY WOMEN  
IN 1896



35

SEMESTER AND STUDY  
ABROAD PROGRAMS IN

22

COUNTRIES ON

6

CONTINENTS



30+

STUDENT  
ORGANIZATIONS AND  
AFFINITY GROUPS



LEED

GOLD CERTIFIED CAMPUS



TOP 30

2019 U.S. NEWS AND WORLD  
REPORT DIVERSITY INDEX



**200+**

CONFERENCES, PANELS, AND PRESENTATIONS ANNUALLY ON CUTTING-EDGE LEGAL TOPICS



**80+**

NETWORKING EVENTS HOSTED YEARLY

**94**

FULL-TIME FACULTY

**400+**

ADJUNCT FACULTY



**200+**

STUDENT-ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING CLIENTS THROUGH OUR CLINICS

**11** | IN-HOUSE CLINICS

**5** | COURTROOMS

**21** | GROUP STUDY ROOMS

**60+** | SEAT ATRIUM CAFÉ

**200+** | SEAT DINING HALL

**20,000+**

ALUMNI WORLDWIDE

**6.3:1**

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

**8.5**

ACRE LAW SCHOOL CAMPUS



**847**  
SEATS IN THE 2.5 FLOOR  
PENCE LAW LIBRARY

# Learn to Think Like a Lawyer



**At American University Washington College of Law (AUWCL), we want you to experience the richness of law school while you are here and prepare you for making an impact in your community upon graduation. As educators and legal professionals, our goal is to provide superior education, externships and internships, an expert faculty, administrative support, and career guidance so you can champion what is most important to you.**

**Y**ou will be supported by a uniquely caring and collaborative law school community, as well as by a leading-edge curriculum, personalized academic advising, and unparalleled experiential learning that not only teaches you the law—it allows you to practice law. Learn more about our areas of study below and online at [wcl.american.edu/academics](http://wcl.american.edu/academics).

### **Business Law**

Through the law school's Business Law Program, you can develop a sophisticated understanding of business and financial issues in areas ranging from small business interests to multi-billion dollar acquisitions. The business law curriculum offers courses from corporate and securities law to mergers and acquisitions, commodities regulation, corporate governance, and niche fields of practice, such as real estate, tax, and bankruptcy and commercial law. The *American University Business Law Review*—the only business law journal in Washington, D.C.—the Business Law Society, and the International Trade and Investment Law Society create many options for business-minded students, as do the numerous externship opportunities at agencies, including at the SEC or the Department of State. In addition, a dual JD/MBA is offered in cooperation with AU's Kogod School of Business.

### **Criminal Law**

If you are interested in criminal law, you will find a broad range of opportunities to build the skills needed to become an advocate for criminal

justice, whether as a prosecutor, defender of the accused, or policy analyst. Our Criminal Justice Practice and Policy Institute is devoted entirely to studying, teaching, and reforming the practice of criminal law and justice, both at home and abroad. Leading experts teach our broad range of criminal law offerings, covering the areas of white-collar crime, international criminal law, prosecutor ethics, trial advocacy, pretrial motions practice, and racial justice. As a student you can gain real-world experience as a scholar and attorney in several unique initiatives, such as the Criminal Justice Clinic and the War Crimes Research Office.

### **Environmental and Energy Law**

The Program on Environmental and Energy Law provides a wealth of opportunities to explore issues in animal law, energy law, and environmental law. You are introduced to the practice of environmental law through specialized courses, client-based research projects, internships, and conferences. The law school supports four student-run organizations in this dynamic practice area—the Animal, Energy, and Environmental Law Societies and the *Sustainable Development Law and Policy Brief*—and offers more than 25 courses in domestic and international environmental law. And all of this takes place in a state-of-the-art LEED Gold facility, with Metro access that connects you to a vibrant network of environmental organizations.

## **Gender and the Law**

As the first law school founded by women, American University Washington College of Law has long been a leading center for feminist legal scholarship and teaching. Our Women and the Law Program creates courses and opportunities that will involve you in advocacy for women's rights and gender equality. You can serve as an attorney in the Women and the Law Clinic and Domestic Violence Clinic, become a member of the Women's Law Association, intern at a domestic or international women's rights organization, and write for the *Journal of Gender, Social Policy, and the Law*.

## **Health Law**

Our health law curriculum offers a depth and breadth of health law and policy courses that few law schools can match. Our nationally recognized Health Law and Policy Program includes specialized health law courses tailored to today's practice environment, including Food and Drug Law, Public Health Law and Policy, and topics in global health law and bioethics. Beyond the classroom, you can pursue your interest in health law by joining the student-run *Health Law and Policy Brief*, working with health law faculty on cutting-edge research, and taking advantage of the fantastic internship and externship opportunities that Washington, D.C., provides.

## **Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**

We continually explore the latest international human rights and humanitarian issues. In addition to taking courses taught by some of the world's leading human rights authorities, you will have many opportunities to gain hands-on experience in this area of the law. You can participate in the International Human Rights Law Clinic, Immigrant Justice Clinic, Kovler Project Against Torture, Impact Litigation Project,

*Human Rights Brief*, War Crimes Research Office, and our Academy on Human Rights' Specialized Human Rights Summer Program, to name a few. You will also have educational and research opportunities through the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law workshops, conferences, and outreach projects that promote its goal of supporting human rights initiatives both in the U.S. and throughout the world.

## **Immigration Law**

Immigration law is growing in importance, given the prominence of immigration-related issues in policy spheres, the nexus between immigration law and national security, and the intersections between immigration law and other practice areas. Practicing immigration lawyers find themselves in a broad range of positions, across the non-profit, private, and government sectors. In addition to the immigration-related courses offered, a number of the clinics focus on issues concerning immigration, including the Immigrant Justice Clinic, International Human Rights Law Clinic, Civil Advocacy Clinic, and Women and the Law Clinic. Students can also conduct legal research for the on-site National Immigrant Women's Advocacy Project (NIWAP) which works to benefit immigrant women and children.

## **Intellectual Property and Technology Law**

You will have an unparalleled opportunity to pursue the advanced study of intellectual property law through a full range of intellectual property, communications, and Internet law courses, the nation's first Intellectual Property Law Clinic, and numerous events and projects organized by our nationally ranked Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property. You also can gain IP experience within

a wide variety of student organizations and publications: Intellectual Property Law Society, Media and Communications Law Society, Sports and Entertainment Law Society, and the student-written and edited *Intellectual Property Brief*.

### **International Law**

Our expansive programs in international law have led to a sustained top ranking in this specialty area. Through our scholarship and numerous international programs and projects, we actively contribute to shaping the world and offer superb and specialized training in international law. More than 150 courses and seminars in international and comparative law, 20 programs, and 27 full-time faculty reflect the law school's longstanding commitment to building the world community. Our students network with international attorneys, diplomats, global business leaders, and policymakers on campus, throughout the D.C. region, and abroad.

### **Law and Government**

Our law school has forged a formidable reputation in law and government. You will become proficient, theoretically and in practice, with the key issues at the intersection of law, politics, and government. You will be a Metro ride away from some of the most exciting and unique opportunities in legislative branches, agency headquarters, lobbying groups, non-governmental organizations, and think tanks. And you will learn from our extraordinary faculty and senior affiliates in law and government, professionals who have come from the highest levels of public service back into academia.

### **Public Interest**

The law school's public interest programs are among the strongest in the nation. This vibrant activist community offers unique opportunities



for you to gain legal experience through a broad range of clinical and experiential learning programs. A dedicated Office of Public Interest (OPI) encourages a commitment to social justice among the AUWCL student body through pro-bono projects that help fill the justice gap for the most vulnerable members of society. OPI helps to prepare students for a public interest career, raises awareness about loan forgiveness and repayment programs for public interest lawyers, and facilitates connections between students and public interest alumni. Graduates enter public interest and public service careers at nearly twice the national average.

### **Trial Advocacy**

Our nationally recognized Stephen S. Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program will prepare you for trial litigation. The program emphasizes developing and implementing a winning case theory and narrative, core pretrial and trial skills, professionalism, persuasive communication, and the use of cutting-edge technology in a 21st century courtroom. You will be encouraged to attend trial litigation workshops, panel presentations, and lectures on trial advocacy-related topics, and to become involved in the Mock Trial and Moot Court Honor Societies and the Society on Dispute Resolution, where student teams compete across the U.S. and abroad.

# Destination D.C.

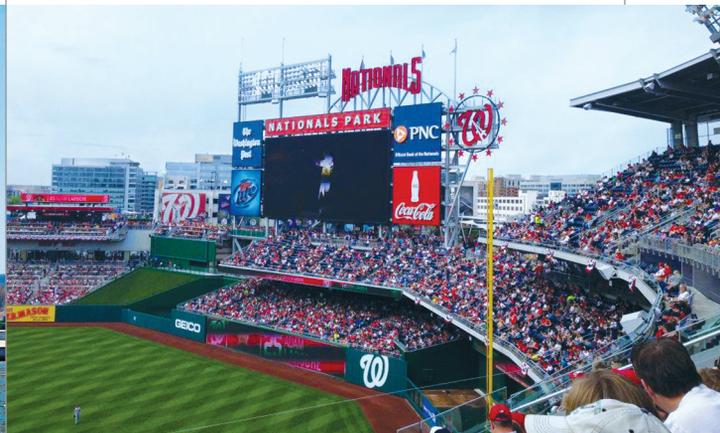
**Washington, D.C., is the nation's legal home, with federal and state agencies, courts, trade associations, public interest groups, corporations, and hundreds of private firms. With a lawyer population of 1 in 12, Washington is a lawyer's city unlike any other. As a law student, you will find countless opportunities for externships, clinics, and independent study.**

**W**e see the nation's capital as another classroom. Washington, D.C., is one of the most dynamic and diverse cities in the world—home to branches of government, the U.S. Supreme Court, international organizations, major law firms, and multinational corporations. The city boasts world-class restaurants, unrivaled museums and venues, and wonderfully diverse neighborhoods, where you can find a place that fits your lifestyle and is an easy commute to our law campus.

You can study the rule of law almost anywhere. But to really learn it, to really dive in from all angles and directions, there is nothing quite like being in the nation's capital. Law school from this perspective is like being on the front lines because

you are on the front lines. Not a week goes by without a member of Congress or the Department of Justice or another federal government agency being here, on campus, speaking or participating in an event or symposium.

Studying in this city also means having opportunities in the forms of externships and clinical programs that are not possible anywhere else. Every year, students are placed in externships in the Department of Justice, the Department of State, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Trade Commission, the World Bank, and more. The opportunity to study and practice law in the very place where laws are made is a unique and rewarding experience.





Gain Real-Life Experience



## Experiential Education: Clinical Program

**O**ur Clinical Program, founded in its current form in 1972, is a fully functioning law firm within the law school divided into 11 in-house clinics. You will represent low-income and under-represented clients or groups in litigation, administrative, and transactional matters.

Unlike internships or other experiential programs where students assist more experienced attorneys in case-related tasks, our student attorneys are primarily responsible for representing their clients. Though you receive guidance and feedback from clinical faculty, as a student attorney you are fully responsible for managing litigation, conducting transactional work, and engaging in issue-based advocacy in collaboration with strategic partners. You also participate in lawyering process seminars and case rounds, where you learn concrete lawyering skills that you will need to handle your cases, address ethical obligations, and gain a better understanding of the social justice concerns and policy issues that affect your clients.

The goal of the Clinical Program is to help you develop the ability to learn from experience now and throughout your professional career.

### Our 11 In-House Clinics

**Civil Advocacy Clinic**

**Community and Economic  
Development Law Clinic**

**Criminal Justice Clinic  
(Defense and Prosecution)**

**Disability Rights Law Clinic**

**Entrepreneurship Law Clinic**

**Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual  
Property Law Clinic**

**Janet R. Spragens Federal Tax Clinic**

**Immigrant Justice Clinic**

**International Human Rights Law Clinic**

**Re-Entry Clinic**

**Women and the Law Clinic**





## Experiential Education: Externships and Trial Advocacy

### Externship Program

Our Externship Program provides more than 350 students a year with the opportunity to gain practical, hands-on legal experience with government agencies, public interest organizations, courts, and law firms engaged in pro bono work. Our location in Washington, D.C., and proximity to governmental and non-governmental organizations ensures that you have a wide variety of exciting and valuable work experiences. You also can take advantage of externships across the U.S. and abroad.

Among the many advantages of studying law in Washington, D.C., is the opportunity to integrate practical experience with theory from the classroom. The law school's Externship Program provides you the opportunity to receive academic credit for substantive legal work and to reflect on your experience through seminars conducted by a broad cross-section of full-time and adjunct faculty.

### Stephen S. Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program

The Stephen S. Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program offers courses that provide practical experience in a learning-by-doing format and oversees the nationally recognized student-run competition teams for mock trial, moot court, and alternative dispute resolution. During the academic year, the Program offers over 20 specialized courses in 40 small sections to more than 450 students. Courses emphasize implementing a winning course theory and narrative, developing pre-trial and trial skills, demonstrating professionalism and persuasive communication, and mastering arbitration techniques.

The Trial Advocacy Program has been consistently ranked in the top 10 by *U.S. News and World Report* for the past four years.

## **Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project**

Named for the late U.S. Supreme Court Justices Thurgood Marshall and William J. Brennan Jr., the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project mobilizes talented second- and third-year law students to teach courses on constitutional law and juvenile justice in D.C. public high schools. Marshall-Brennan Fellows are trained in constitutional law and pedagogy, and subsequently work with teachers, administrators, and lawyers to educate high school students about their rights and responsibilities, the benefits of political participation, and how lawmaking occurs. The Project was founded in 1999 by Professor Jamie Raskin, who was elected to the U.S. Congress in November 2016 to represent Maryland's 8th District. Since the Project's founding, 19 law schools across the country have affiliated with Marshall-Brennan to offer the experience to their students and local high schools, and thousands of Fellows have launched successful legal careers.

**In addition to our programmatic initiatives in experiential education, we have many courses that allow you to learn and practice lawyering skills.**

### **Our Experiential Courses**

**Lawyers and Clients:  
Interviewing and Counseling**

**Alternative Dispute Resolution**

**Practical Aspects of International  
Dispute Resolution**

**Legislative Practice**

**Lawyer Bargaining**

**International Business Negotiation Seminar**

**International Criminal Law and  
Procedure Practicum**

**Legal Drafting (including Family Law Litigation  
and Practice, Commercial, and Contract)**

**Leading and Counseling Non-Profit  
Organizations**



# Think Globally

## International and Comparative Law: At Home and Abroad

**O**ur groundbreaking initiatives and comprehensive international programs make the American University Washington College of Law education a unique experience. You will join an engaged community of faculty, alumni, and scholars, and have opportunities to enrich your legal understanding and broaden your perspective by participating in innovative programs at the law school and abroad. Visit [wcl.american.edu/jd/learnmore](http://wcl.american.edu/jd/learnmore).



### **Kovler Project Against Torture**

The Kovler Project Against Torture is a one-of-a-kind experiential education opportunity through which upper-level students, under faculty guidance, make key contributions to the sessions of the United Nations Committee against Torture (UN CAT). As a Kovler student scholar, you engage in a “deep dive” on the prohibition of torture in international law and on the professional skills instrumental to effective lawyering in international settings. In late fall, you travel with Project faculty to Geneva, Switzerland, to continue your hands-on learning during the UN CAT proceedings.

### **Lawyering Peace Program**

The Lawyering Peace Program offers you an opportunity to develop professional skills and substantively engage in peace negotiations, post-conflict constitution drafting, and transitional justice planning. You work in small teams to provide pro bono legal assistance that has a direct and immediate impact on countries all over the world.

### **International JD Dual Degree**

The International Dual Degree Programs allow a select number of students to obtain a JD from American University Washington College of Law and a JD-equivalent or Master’s degree from Australia, Canada, France, Italy, or Spain. After spending two years at AUWCL, you will spend up to two years at the partner institution. This experience takes studying abroad to a new level, enabling students to go beyond area studies in international or transnational law and become truly transnational lawyers.

### **Semester Study Outside the U.S.**

You can enroll for one semester in a law school outside the United States at one of 33 semester abroad programs in 22 countries to explore new areas of law, build international networks, and gain a new perspective on legal issues. These programs offer students a global view of the legal profession as they are immersed in a different socio-legal culture. The law school’s partnerships with universities across the globe mean new locations are being added each year.

## Summer Programs Abroad

Our specialized summer programs: The Hague, Geneva, and Europe Program (Brussels, London, Luxembourg, Strasbourg, and Paris) allow you to see the law through an international lens, understand different legal systems and cultures, and gain a whole new personal and professional perspective. Programs provide opportunity to visit related courts, tribunals, international and

EU organizations and institutions. Summer course topics include international criminal law, intellectual property, environmental law, international business and trade, and labor and human rights. You can benefit fully from your summer experience by seeking assistance with post-program internships to gain hands-on experience with foreign law firms and international legal organizations.

## Specialized International Programs

**Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**

**Impact Litigation Project**

**Brazil-U.S. Legal and Judicial Studies Program**

**Kovler Project Against Torture**

**Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law**

**Program on Environmental and Energy Law**

**Center on International Commercial Arbitration**

**Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property**

**Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program**

**Program on International Communications Regulation and Policy**

**Immigrant Justice Clinic**

**Summer Abroad Programs in Europe, The Hague, and Geneva**

**International Human Rights Law Clinic**

**International Trade, Investment, and Development Program**

**International JD Dual Degree Program**

**U.S. and International Anti-Corruption Law**

**International Legal Studies Program**

**War Crimes Research Office**

**International Organizations, Law and Diplomacy Program**

**Women and International Law Program**



**LEARN FROM A WORLD-CLASS FACULTY  
WITH A SENSE OF COMMUNITY**





## Faculty, Administration, and Faculty Practice Groups

American University Washington College of Law's rich intellectual life is evident in our faculty's groundbreaking scholarship and its engagement with the community, nation, and world.

Every day, faculty and program directors are connecting you and recent graduates with contacts in their fields, facilitating externships and clerkships, and guiding you in your career choice. The AUWCL faculty partners with the Office of Career and Professional Development to facilitate 11 faculty practice groups that aim to empower you with more subject matter-specific and practice-specific career information and counseling. These groups provide strategic career advice, networking ideas and connections, and substantive academic planning. At American University Washington College of Law, the faculty is actively championing your future from day one.

### 11 Faculty Practice Groups

**Business Law, Tax, Bankruptcy, Commercial Law, Finance, Consumer Law, Real Estate**

**Criminal Law**

**Environmental, Energy and Natural Resources, Oil and Gas, Land Use, Construction Law**

**Family Law, Trusts and Estates, General Practice and Litigation, Elder Law, Children's Law, Personal Injury, Poverty**

**Gender Law and LGBTQ Advocacy**

**Health Law, Food and Drug Law, Life Sciences Law**

**Intellectual Property, Information Technology, Communications and Media Law, Sports and Entertainment Law**

**International Law (Public, Private, Development, Human Rights, Foreign Law, Foreign Practice, Criminal, Humanitarian)**

**Immigration, Asylum, Human Rights, Labor and Employment Law**

**Judicial Clerkships**

**Public Law and Government, Civil Rights and Liberties, Disability Law, Education Law**



Supporting Your Success

## Academic Excellence and Professional Development

Our graduates have successful careers in government, national and international law firms, public and private corporations, and nonprofit agencies. They are elected officials, managing partners, general counsels, commission chairs, entrepreneurs, well-known litigators, and leading educators.

Your career choices are essentially limitless as a graduate of AUWCL. That's why helping you choose your personal path is a responsibility we take very seriously. To us, educating you about your career in the law is as important as teaching you about the law itself.

### Office of Academic Excellence

Our Office of Academic Excellence (OAE) provides students and graduates with tools to excel academically, in law school, on the bar exam, and in the legal profession. To strengthen academic skills for first- and second-year students, OAE staff provides each student with individual academic counseling and an academic resource center administered in conjunction with the Pence Law Library.

We offer the following courses to improve your achievement and bar exam success:

- **ADVANCED LEGAL METHODS:** 2-credit course offered to all second-year students, introduces you to lawyering fundamentals through weekly exercises emphasizing the skills needed to succeed as attorneys while enhancing skills to improve academic and bar exam success.
- **ADVANCED LEGAL ANALYSIS:** 3-credit course offered to all graduating students, designed to prepare students for the bar exam by focusing on the necessary skills for success.

In addition to bar exam boot camps, intensive workshops, webinars, alumni bar exam panels,

and an alumni mentoring program, annually, the office hosts a month-long series of programming to inform students of the costs and requirements for bar exam readiness. For graduates, counselors offer a variety of services including: bar exam essay feedback; bar study breaks; a mock, two-day bar exam; logistical assistance with bar exam accommodations; and a D.C. bar exam hospitality suite during the exam.

### Office of Career and Professional Development

Our Office of Career and Professional Development (OCPD) is staffed by experienced career counselors, all former practicing attorneys from a broad cross section of legal practice and employment sectors, who are committed to helping you discover career opportunities that match your interests. Beginning in your first year, OCPD educates you about the legal profession and the importance of professionalism. The office creates opportunities for first-year students to engage with alumni and other practitioners for the purpose of building professional relationships. These efforts continue throughout your tenure at AUWCL in the form of educational programs, seminars, additional networking events, and webinars we host to expose you to the variety of career options available, and the hiring and decision makers in those fields.

OCPD career counselors will help you explore your true interests and lead you through each phase of the job search process, from self-assessment to deciding on opportunities that use your developing skills. Our goal is to help you discover what you truly champion, and secure fulfilling academic year and post-graduate employment.

# We Value Collaboration

**We are particularly proud that our student body includes people of various ethnicities, races, nationalities, sexual orientations and gender identities—who come together not simply to study law, but to learn from one another. Step on our campus and you'll hear numerous languages. Our students understand that their classmates and faculty, as well as AUWCL alumni, will be their colleagues in the legal profession. We are stronger, smarter, and more informed because of one another.**

## **Office of Student Affairs**

Our goal is to be the first stop for students with any questions or concerns. Our office offers disability support and accommodations assistance in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA); provides wellness programming and mental health counseling; and advises student organizations. Each year, we develop an outreach program with student leaders to facilitate student involvement in law school conferences, seminars, and special activities.

## **Office of Diversity and Inclusion**

Established in 1990 and one of the first of its kind in the nation, our office works with all segments of the law school community to address issues that are important to maximizing the participation of groups in our community who have been the object of historical and, or,

statutory discrimination. Our continuing goal is to develop and engage in programming and activities relevant to admission/retention, academic success, professional preparation, and cultural celebration.

Visit [wcl.american.edu/studentlife](http://wcl.american.edu/studentlife) for more information on student affairs and diversity initiatives.

## **Student Organizations**

In addition to the Student Bar Association, which governs the formulation of student groups and funding of student activities, there are more than 45 active student organizations. Some focus on scholarly research and professional development while others focus on social and cultural activities. You can view the full list at [wcl.american.edu/studentorgs](http://wcl.american.edu/studentorgs).





# Curriculum

Offered in both full-time and part-time options, the JD program at American University Washington College of Law gives you a well-rounded legal education that balances theory with practice. Diverse teaching methods—the Socratic Method, Integrated Curriculum, simulations, and experiential learning—help equip you with the knowledge, skills, and values required by lawyers in an ever-changing world.

While your first year of study is dedicated to learning the concepts, skills, and values that form the basis of the U.S. legal system, you can choose a course from a list of electives. In the second and third years of the program, you can select from courses, seminars, clinics, and journals that will help you focus your legal studies in a particular field.

## Academic Requirements and Opportunities

JD candidates must have satisfactory completion of 86 semester hours, including all required courses and the upper-level writing requirement. JD candidates must fulfill the ABA's Professional Skills requirement, which may be satisfied by successful completion of a course that includes substantial instruction in professional skills.

Additional requirements include:

- Quality point index of 2.0 (C) or better
- In residence for at least three full academic years or the equivalent
- Normally met in six semesters (three academic years) of full-time study or in eight semesters (four academic years) of part-time study, plus two summer sessions
- Recommended for the degree by the faculty

## Dual Degree Programs

You can complement the JD degree by pursuing a dual degree program with a graduate program at American University or with affiliated law schools in Australia, Canada, France, Italy, and Spain.

The domestic programs are open to both incoming and enrolled law students. If you wish to apply for an international dual degree program, you must do so in the spring semester of your first year.

- JD/MA – International Affairs
- JD/MBA – Business Administration
- JD/MS – Justice, Law, and Criminology
- JD/MPA – Public Administration
- JD/MPP – Public Policy
- JD/(Master en Derecho de la Union Europea) (Madrid, Spain)
- JD/Master's in International and European Business Law (Madrid, Spain)
- JD/First Level Master's in International, Comparative, and EU Law (Rome, Italy)
- JD/Master I/Master II (Paris, France)
- JD/JD (Ottawa, Canada)
- JD/JD (Melbourne, Australia)



Immigration Issues: Family & Employment  
 Information Privacy & Data Security Law  
 Internet Law: Law in the Information Society  
 IP & Federal Agency Law  
 IP Licensing & Technology Agreements  
 Law of Elections, Lobbying & Political Advocacy  
 Law, Policy, & American Intelligence Activities  
 Legislation Seminar  
 Legislative Lawyering  
 Legislative Practicum  
 Litigation with the Federal Government  
 Local Government Law  
 Medical Liability & Public Health  
 Presidential Leadership & Individual Rights:  
 Presidential Strategies on Rights  
 Privacy & Health Information Technology  
 Problems in the Democratic Process  
 Public Health Law & Policy  
 Regulation  
 Role of the Federal Prosecutor  
 Securities Regulation  
 Space Law/Satellite Communications  
 U.S. International Taxation  
 Veterans Affairs Law

### **Business and Commercial Law**

Advanced Tax Policy  
 Advanced Topics in Business & Property  
 Antitrust Law  
 Aviation Law  
 Banking & Financial Institutions:  
 US Regulation  
 Bankruptcy  
 Banking & Financial Institutions:  
 Intl Regulation  
 Business Planning & Securities  
 Regulation  
 Business Associations  
 Construction Law  
 Consumer Financial Services Law  
 Corporate Bankruptcy  
 Corporate Compliance  
 Corporate Finance  
 Corporate Governance  
 Drafting Wills & Trusts  
 E-Commerce Law & Drafting  
 Federal Personal Income Tax  
 Financial Literacy  
 Insurance Law  
 International Project Finance  
 International Business Negotiations  
 International Commercial Arbitration  
 Advocacy  
 International Contracts & Sales  
 International Debt Workouts  
 International Law of Foreign Investments  
 Land Transfer & Finance  
 Law & Economics  
 Law & Accounting  
 Law of Nonprofit Organizations  
 Law Practice Management  
 Leading & Counseling Non-profit  
 Organizations

## **Required Courses**

### **Full-Time Program**

#### **FIRST YEAR: FALL SEMESTER**

Civil Procedure (4)  
 Contracts (4)  
 Legal Rhetoric I (2)  
 Writing and Research (2)  
 Torts (4)  
 Total Credit Hours: 14

#### **FIRST YEAR: SPRING SEMESTER**

Constitutional Law (4)  
 Criminal Law (3)  
 Legal Rhetoric II (2)  
 Writing and Research (2)  
 Property (4)  
 Elective (2-3)  
 Total Credit Hours: 15-16

#### **SECOND YEAR: FALL SEMESTER**

Criminal Procedure (3)

#### **SECOND YEAR: SPRING SEMESTER**

Legal Ethics (2)

### **Part-Time Program**

#### **FIRST YEAR: FALL SEMESTER**

Contracts (4)  
 Legal Rhetoric I (2)  
 Writing and Research (2)  
 Torts (4)  
 Total Credit Hours: 10

#### **FIRST YEAR: SPRING SEMESTER**

Civil Procedure (4)  
 Criminal Law (3)  
 Legal Rhetoric II (2)  
 Writing and Research (2)  
 Total Credit Hours: 9

#### **SECOND YEAR: FALL SEMESTER**

Constitutional Law (4)  
 Criminal Procedure (3)  
 Elective (not required) (2-3)  
 Total Credit Hours: 9-10

#### **SECOND YEAR: SPRING SEMESTER**

Property (4)  
 Legal Ethics (2)  
 Elective (not required) (2-3)  
 Total Credit Hours: 8-9

## **Advanced Course Curriculum**

The following elective courses are grouped in topical areas. We recommend you select elective courses from several areas to obtain a broad legal education. We make reasonable efforts to offer all elective courses on a periodic basis, although we cannot guarantee that any course or seminar will be available to every student who wishes to take it. More information on the courses and seminars is in the catalog, available online at [catalog.wcl.american.edu](http://catalog.wcl.american.edu).

### **Administrative Law, Government, and Regulatory Policy**

Administrative Law  
 Advanced Administrative Law: ALR  
 Advanced Administrative Law: Practicum  
 Advanced Topics in Health Law  
 American Courts: Structure, Process, People, & Politics  
 Aviation Law  
 Communications Law & Information Privacy  
 Computers & the Law  
 Constitution in Times of Crisis  
 Contemporary Problems in Administrative Law  
 Contracting & Compliance: Health Care Fraud & Abuse  
 Drafting: Legislation  
 Education Law  
 Elder Law  
 Employment & Labor Law  
 Employment Discrimination  
 Federal Courts  
 Federal Personal Income Tax  
 Federal Public Lands & Natural Resources  
 Food & Drug Law  
 Government Contracts: Formation  
 Government Contracts: Performance  
 Health Care Compliance Practicum  
 Health Law  
 Health Law: Legislative & Regulatory Process  
 Housing Law  
 Immigration & Naturalization

Legal Drafting: Contracts  
Legal Drafting: Corporate  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
Mutual Fund & Investment Adviser  
Regulation  
Negotiable Instruments  
Regulation of Derivatives  
Sales  
Secured Transactions  
Securities Regulation  
Taxation of Business Entities  
U.S. International Taxation  
Venture Capital/Private Equity

## **Constitutional Law and Civil Rights**

Administrative Law  
Advanced Administrative Law: ALR  
Advanced Administrative Law: Practicum  
American Courts: Structure, Process,  
People, & Politics  
Civil Rights & Mental Disability  
Conflict of Laws  
Constitution in Times of Crisis  
Constitutional Law: 1st Amendment  
Critical Race Theory  
Disability & the Law  
Education Law  
Elder Law  
Employment Discrimination  
Federal Courts  
Higher Education Law (Online)  
Housing Law  
Jurisprudence  
Law of Elections, Lobbying & Political  
Advocacy  
Marshall-Brennan Fieldwork  
Marshall-Brennan Seminar  
Poverty Law  
Presidential Leadership & Individual Rights:  
Presidential Strategies on Rights  
Problems in the Democratic Process  
Religion & the State  
Rights of Non-Citizens  
Special Education Law  
Supreme Court Seminar  
U.S. Legal History I  
U.S. Legal History II  
Veterans Affairs Law

## **Criminal Law**

Advanced Criminal Law  
Advanced Trial Advocacy: Homicide  
Prosecution  
Advanced Trial Advocacy: Special  
Witness & Victim Rights  
Alexandria VA Public Defender Seminar  
Anti-Corruption Law  
Appellate Advocacy  
Computer Crime  
Criminal Defense: Theory & Practice  
Criminal Procedure II  
Criminal Trial Advocacy  
D.C. Public Defender Seminar  
D.C. Public Defender Supervised  
Externship  
Directed Research: Juvenile Life Without  
Parole in Maryland

Domestic Violence  
Ethics for Trial Lawyers  
Evidence  
Evidentiary Foundations & Objections  
Feminist Jurisprudence Seminar  
Human Rights & Terrorism  
International Criminal Law  
International Criminal Law & Procedure  
Practicum  
Interviewing & Counseling  
Jurisprudence  
Juvenile Justice Seminar  
Lawyer Bargaining  
National Security Law  
Plea Bargaining  
Pre-Trial Litigation  
Prevention of Genocide  
Prosecution & Defense Ethics  
Race, Crime & Politics  
Remedies  
Role of the Federal Prosecutor  
Scientific Evidence & Expert Testimony  
Torture Prohibition in International Law  
White Collar Crime  
Women, Crime, & the Law  
Wrongful Convictions

## **Environmental Law and Land Use**

Advanced Energy Law  
Advanced Topics in Business & Property  
Agriculture & Sustainability Law  
Animal & Wildlife Law  
Climate Change & the Law  
Comparative Environmental Law  
Energy Law  
Environmental Externship  
Environmental Law  
Environmental Law Practicum  
Environmental Liability & Torts  
Environmental Litigation  
Federal Public Lands & Natural Resources  
Human Rights & the Environment  
International Business & the Environment  
International Energy Law  
International Environmental Law  
Land Use Regulation  
Oil & Gas Law  
Regulation of Energy  
Seminar: Real Estate Planning  
Trade & the Environment  
Water Law

## **Health Law**

Advanced Topics in Health Law  
Bioethics & Human Subjects Research  
Contracting & Compliance: Health Care  
Fraud & Abuse  
Elder Law  
Food & Drug Law  
Global Health Law  
Health Care Compliance Practicum  
Health Law  
Health Law: Legislative & Regulatory  
Process  
Medical Liability & Public Health  
Patent Law

Pension & Employee Benefit Law  
Privacy & Health Information Technology  
Public Health Law & Policy

## **Immigration Law**

Administrative Law  
Asylum & Refugee Law  
Family Law  
Immigration & Naturalization  
Immigration Issues: Family &  
Employment  
International Business & Human Rights  
International Trafficking in Persons  
International Labor and Employment Law  
Labor & Migration in Global Economy  
National Security Law

## **Intellectual Property and Technology Law**

Advanced Copyright Law & Policy  
Advanced Legal Writing: Intellectual  
Property  
Communications Law & Info Policy  
Computers & the Law  
Copyright  
Cyber Flashpoints  
E-Commerce Law & Drafting  
Entertainment Law  
Information Privacy & Data Security Law  
Intellectual Property Law  
Internet Law: Law in the Information  
Society  
Internet Policy & Legislative Advocacy  
International & Comparative Patent  
International Trademark Law  
IP & Federal Agency Law  
IP Practice at the USITC  
IP Licensing & Technology Agreements  
Law & the Visual Arts  
Law of Amateur Sports  
Patent Law  
Patent Litigation  
Patent Prosecution  
Professional Sports Law  
Regulation of Emerging Robotics  
Social Media & the Law (Online)  
Space Law/Satellite Communications  
Trademark Practice & Procedure  
Trade Secrets  
Trademark Law

## **International Public Law and Human Rights**

Admiralty  
Advanced Human Rights Seminar  
Advanced International Law: Law & Peace  
Negotiations  
Advanced Writing Seminar: International  
Law  
Asylum & Refugee Law  
BIT Arbitration  
Climate Change & the Law  
Comparative Environmental Law  
Comparative Law  
Cyber Flashpoints  
EU Law, Policy & Diplomacy

Gender, Cultural Differences,  
Human Rights  
Gender & International and  
Comparative Law  
Global Health Law  
Human Rights  
Human Rights & the Environment  
Human Rights & Terrorism  
Human Rights: Global Disability Rights  
Immigration & Naturalization  
Immigration Issues: Family &  
Employment  
International Criminal Law  
International Criminal Law & Procedure  
Practicum  
International Environmental Law  
International Law  
International Business & Human Rights  
International Humanitarian Law  
International Law Commission Practicum  
International Organizations &  
Multi-National Institutions  
International Trafficking in Persons  
Introduction to Law of European Union  
Labor & Migration in Global Economy  
Law of the Sea  
Law, Policy, & American Intelligence  
Activities  
National Security Law  
Practical Aspects of International  
Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Prevention of Genocide  
Principles of French Law  
Regional Approaches to Human Rights  
Response of International Law to  
Sex & Gender  
Strategic Litigation International Human  
Rights Law  
Torture Prohibition in International Law  
Transnational Crime & the State

## **International Business Law and Trade**

Advanced International Advocacy  
Seminar  
Banking & Financial Institutions:  
International Regulation  
International & Comparative Patent  
International Business & the Environment  
International Business Negotiations  
International Commercial Arbitration  
Advocacy  
International Contracts & Sales  
International Debt Workouts  
International Energy Law  
International Law of Foreign Investment  
International Project Finance  
International Trade Law I  
International Trade Law II  
International Trademark Law  
The United States Trade Regime  
Trade & the Environment  
U.S. Export Controls & Economic  
Sanctions  
U.S. International Taxation  
World Bank, IMF & Other Financial  
Intuitions

## **Employment and Labor Law**

Employment & Labor Law  
Employment Discrimination  
Disability & the Law  
Immigration & Naturalization  
Immigration Issues: Family &  
Employment  
International Labor & Employment Law  
Labor Law: Contemporary Issues  
Labor & Migration in Global Economy  
Pension & Employee Benefit Law  
Sex-Based Discrimination

## **Litigation and the Lawyering Process**

Advanced Civil Procedure: Complex  
Litigation Seminar  
Advanced Legal Analysis  
Advanced Legal Methods  
Advanced Legal Research: Introduction  
to Legal Scholarship  
Advanced Legal Writing: Gender &  
the Law  
Advanced Trial Advocacy: Obligations of  
Prosecutor  
Advanced Trial Advocacy: Homicide  
Prosecution  
Advanced Trial Advocacy: Special  
Witness & Victims' Right  
Alexandria VA Public Defender Seminar  
Alternative Dispute Resolution  
Appellate Advocacy  
Civil Trial Advocacy  
Criminal Trial Advocacy  
D.C. Public Defender Supervised  
Externship  
Drafting: Legislation  
Ethics for Trial Lawyers  
Evidence  
Evidentiary Foundations & Objections  
Environmental Litigation  
Federal Courts  
Interviewing & Counseling  
Lawyer Bargaining  
Legal Drafting: Family Law Litigation &  
Practice  
Litigating in Digital Age: EDiscovery  
Plea Bargaining  
Pre-Trial Litigation  
Role of the Federal Prosecutor  
Scientific Evidence & Expert Testimony  
Trial Advocacy: Litigating in High-Tech  
Courtroom

## **Property**

Advanced Topics in Business & Property  
Construction Law  
Drafting Wills & Trusts  
Federal Public Lands & Natural Resources  
Land Transfer & Finance  
Land Use Regulation  
Oil & Gas Law  
Regulation of Energy  
Seminar: Real Estate Planning  
Wills Trusts Estates

## **Public Interest Law**

Asylum & Refugee Law  
Adoption Law, Policy & Practice  
Advanced Legal Writing: Gender &  
the Law  
American Courts: Structure, Process,  
People, & Politics  
Animal & Wildlife Law  
Children of LGBT Parents  
Civil Rights & Mental Disability  
Climate Change & the Law  
Comparative Family Law  
Conflict of Laws  
Constitution in Times of Crisis  
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Employment Discrimination  
Labor Law: Contemporary Issues  
Family Law  
Federal Courts  
Federal Public Lands & Natural Resources  
Feminist Jurisprudence Seminar  
Gender, Cultural Difference, &  
Human Rights  
Gender and International &  
Comparative Law  
Higher Education Law (Online)  
Housing Law  
Human Rights & the Environment  
Jurisprudence  
Juvenile Justice Seminar  
Immigration & Naturalization  
Immigration Issues: Family &  
Employment  
International Trafficking in Persons  
Labor & Migration in Global Economy  
Legal Drafting: Family Law Litigation &  
Practice  
Marshall-Brennan Fieldwork  
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Poverty Law  
Presidential Leadership & Individual Rights:  
Presidential Strategies on Rights  
Problems in the Democratic Process  
Race, Crime & Politics  
Religion & the State  
Reproduction & the Law  
Response of International Law to  
Sex & Gender  
Rights of Non-Citizens  
Sex-Based Discrimination  
Sexuality & the Law  
Special Education Law  
Supreme Court Seminar  
Veterans Affairs Law  
Women, Crime, and the Law

# Admissions and Financial Aid

Your application is important to us. To assist us in assembling and evaluating your credentials, we advise you to review the detailed admissions and financial aid information including cost of attendance, posted at [wcl.american.edu/jd/admissions](http://wcl.american.edu/jd/admissions).

## JD Application Checklist

- Online application form
- Character & Fitness Addendum (required for each “yes” answer to any of the three Character & Fitness questions on the application)
- Personal Statement (recommended length is 2-3 pages)
- Resume (recommended length is 1-2 pages)
- Diversity Statement (optional) - used to explain how your personal circumstances are of special relevance to your application (recommended length 1-2 pages)
- Addendum (optional) - used to explain information not already addressed in other application materials
- CAS report from LSAC, including your undergraduate GPA and transcripts
- LSAT score(s) within CAS report or official GRE score report from ETS
- Letters of Recommendation (1 required; maximum of 2)
- Early Decision Option Certification Form (required for all EDO applicants)

Please note that we do not conduct interviews as part of our admissions process.

## Important Deadlines

For the full listing of current deadlines and fee, please visit: [wcl.american.edu/jd/requirements](http://wcl.american.edu/jd/requirements).

- March 1: Priority application deadline for General Rolling Admissions
- March 1: Priority Financial Aid Deadline for FAFSA and AUWCL Need-Based Application (only full-time applicants can apply for need-based aid)
- December 31: \$70.00 application fee is automatically waived

## JD Financial Aid Information

AUWCL maintains a variety of financial aid programs to assist you in making law school more affordable. For more details about the programs below, in addition to other financial aid opportunities, please visit [wcl.american.edu/finaid](http://wcl.american.edu/finaid).

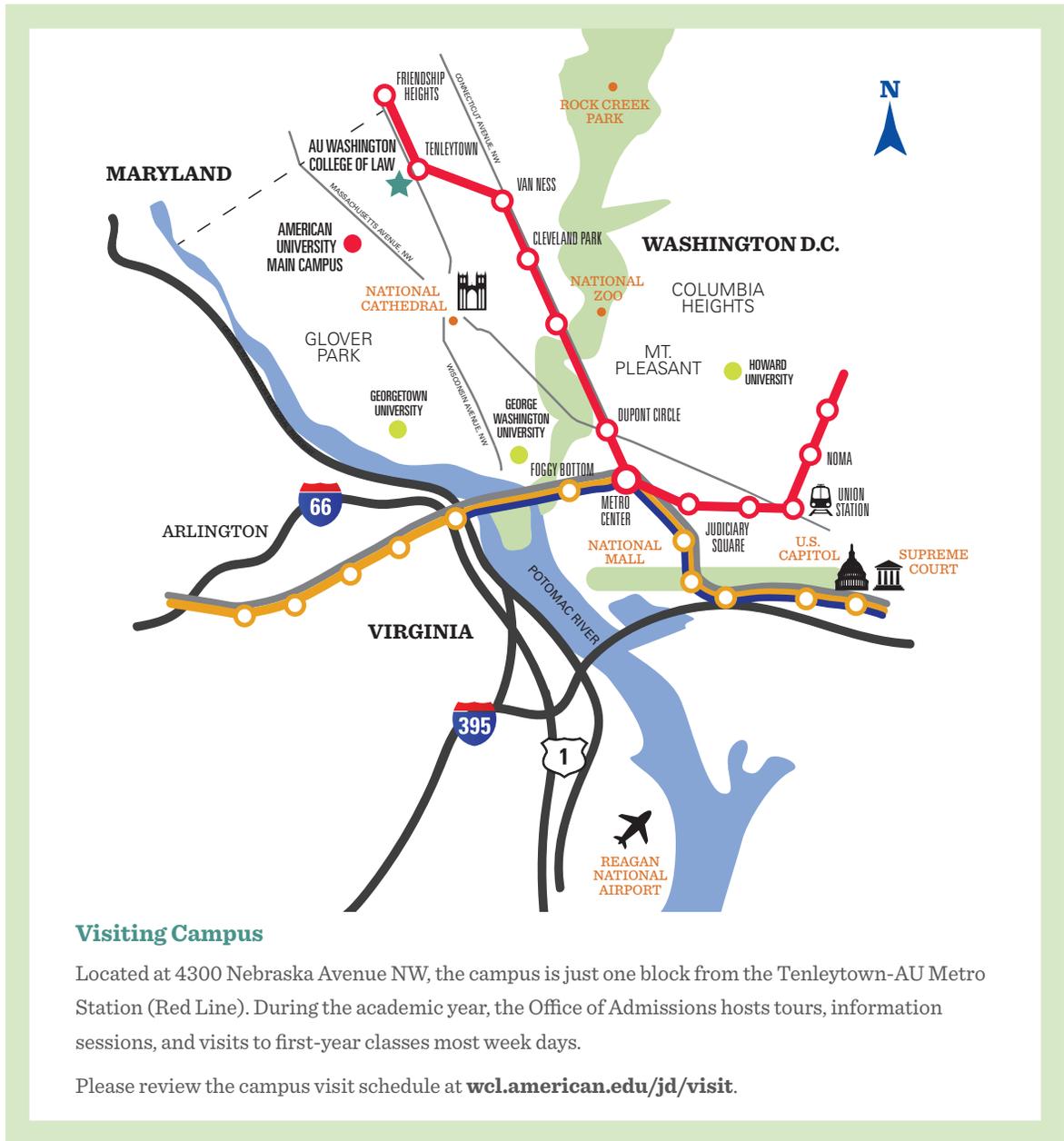
**Merit Scholarships:** The Office of Admissions considers all applicants for merit scholarships following their admission; a separate application is not required. Merit scholarships primarily consider an applicant’s academic indicators (LSAT or GRE and undergraduate GPA). Merit scholarships for JD students are renewable as long as the student maintains good academic standing per the AUWCL merit scholarship policy. For details, please visit [wcl.american.edu/financial-aid/forms/policies-procedures](http://wcl.american.edu/financial-aid/forms/policies-procedures).

**Public Interest/Public Service (PIPS) Scholarship:** These full-tuition scholarships are awarded to incoming full-time JD students who demonstrate a commitment to public interest/public service. This renewable scholarship requires an additional application due in January. PIPS recipients must comply with all program policies to retain eligibility. For more information, please visit [wcl.american.edu/publicinterest/pips](http://wcl.american.edu/publicinterest/pips).

**Need-Based Grants:** AUWCL is committed to assisting a limited number of full-time JD students with demonstrated systemic financial need. To be considered, you must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the AUWCL Need-Based Aid Application by March 1st annually as grants are not automatically renewed. Parental information is required of every applicant for need-based grant support. For more information, please visit [wcl.american.edu/finaid/needbased](http://wcl.american.edu/finaid/needbased).

**Student Loans:** Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford and Direct PLUS Loans are available to qualifying students to cover the cost of attendance minus other financial aid awarded. Credit-based private education loans may be available to international students with a qualifying co-signer. For federal loan application details, please visit [wcl.american.edu/finaid/federalaid](http://wcl.american.edu/finaid/federalaid).

View our ABA Standard 509 required disclosures online at [wcl.american.edu/abadisclosure](http://wcl.american.edu/abadisclosure).





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