



On the Doorstep of the Nation's Capital

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## George Mason University School of Law



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*The photo left provides a view of the monument to George Mason, Virginia patriot and statesman for whom the university is named. Dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on April 9, 2002, the monument honors Mason, one of the greatest of the founding fathers and among the least known. The acknowledged leader among those founders pressing for a Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution, Mason persuaded Federalists, such as James Madison, that the new constitution was unacceptable absent amendments safeguarding individual rights.*

*Previously, Mason had helped draft the first constitution for an independent state, his native Virginia, in 1776. The Virginia Constitution begins with the Virginia Declaration of Rights, written by Mason. The Declaration of Rights served as a model for the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, as well as the famous Declaration of the Rights of Man, produced by the French Revolution in 1789.*



## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

If you have decided to attend law school, I invite you to look closely at George Mason University School of Law. As one of the highest-value choices in professional education, George Mason offers the finest in legal education and practical training in an unparalleled location.

### **A DYNAMIC INTELLECTUAL COMMUNITY**

In less than a decade, George Mason has gained recognition as a national law school, as measured by national magazines, surveys, and members of the profession.

George Mason has attracted an accomplished faculty that includes leading legal scholars and consistently ranks in the top 25 for scholarly impact. In fact, fall 2008 brings ten new faculty members to Mason. Four of the new faculty members work in the area of intellectual property law, giving George Mason one of the most talented and interesting groups of young IP scholars in the country. Our outstanding faculty offers each George Mason student a rigorous intellectual challenge, inspiring scholarly debate both in and outside of the classroom.

### **OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL**

George Mason's location—just across the Potomac River from downtown Washington, D.C.—affords Mason students a wide range of professional opportunities unequaled in other areas of the country. Through our clinical and externship programs, students may supplement their studies with practical experience by working for credit in judges' chambers, government agencies, and law firms.

Exposure to a variety of employment opportunities aids students in solidifying their career goals. Our Office of Career, Academic and Alumni Services then helps students reach those goals. We host fall and spring recruiting programs and job fairs. Each student receives the personal attention of a career development counselor. Additionally, as the only law school in Northern Virginia, we enjoy support from the regional and local communities, with many practicing attorneys, government officials, and judges teaching courses and mentoring students on attaining career goals.

### **COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE**

George Mason takes pride in its student body. Receiving over 5,000 applications each year, we are able to select from the best students in the country. We matriculate a small class and offer a close-knit atmosphere where professors know their students by name. We take seriously our obligation to prepare our students for success in all areas of practice.

Our graduates enjoy a high employment rate. They may choose to clerk, work in large national firms, or undertake a career in public service. By keeping tuition rates reasonable, we enable our graduates to pursue their chosen careers without the same education debt constraints that many young lawyers face upon graduation.

George Mason is committed to offering the best that legal education has to offer. We invite you to visit and experience the George Mason community for yourself.

**Daniel D. Polsby**  
Dean



## ON THE DOORSTEP OF THE NATION'S CAPITAL

George Mason University School of Law sits just a few miles from downtown Washington, D.C., the nexus for the creation of the world's most important legislation and jurisprudence. Metropolitan Washington offers students access to hundreds of opportunities and legal resources of tremendous scope and depth:

- ◆ Outstanding instruction from faculty and guest lecturers with significant experience in governmental and public policy organizations such as the White House, the Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- ◆ Year-round employment opportunities with major executive branch agencies, congressional commissions and federal agencies, and the hundreds of private law firms located in the Washington, D.C., area.
- ◆ Access to the “rocket docket,” the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division, which has the fastest trial docket in the United States and adjudicates some of the most complex civil cases in the nation, particularly patent, copyright, and employment cases.



*At right is an image of the region's Metro subway system, which connects Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Mason Law students make frequent use of the system through a stop adjacent to the campus to travel between home and classes, jobs, and internships throughout the Washington area. Travel time to Federal Triangle is a mere 14 minutes from the Virginia Square/George Mason University Metro station.*

# THE LAW SCHOOL OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Northern Virginia offers professional advantages and diverse social, cultural, and educational opportunities unequalled in any other metropolitan region.

Arlington County has vibrant commercial districts that host a number of industry leaders and Fortune 500 companies; the City of Alexandria houses the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and provides a venue for the headquarters of many national associations; Fairfax County, a world center of commerce and trade and the technology hub of the United States East Coast, has offices of more than 4,000 technology companies and national law firms located within its borders.

## **ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY**

George Mason University, established as a branch of the University of Virginia in 1957, gained independent university status in 1972 by act of the Virginia General Assembly. The university is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States. George Mason University is part of the public university system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The university is a living memorial to George Mason, the Virginia patriot and statesman who is best known for having drafted the Virginia Declaration of Rights on which the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution is based.

## **The School of Law**

Founded in 1972 as the International School of Law, the law school became a part of George Mason University in 1979. It is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

During the past decade, the law school has been in the forefront of curricular innovation. Recognizing the rapid changes that are occurring in legal practice and profession, George Mason has pioneered three core competencies—often neglected at more traditional institutions—for its students: (1) specialized substantive preparation for practice; (2) intensive development of legal writing and research skills; and (3) the legal application of economic tools and methods. Our demanding curriculum offers students unique advantages in today's competitive employment market.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/geninfo/about](http://www.law.gmu.edu/geninfo/about)



## A CHOICE OF PROGRAMS

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF A WELL-DESIGNED LAW PROGRAM

George Mason offers a general course of study, which allows students to choose electives as their interests develop. All George Mason Law students are required to satisfactorily complete 89\* credit hours for graduation. Forty of those credit hours are in general courses; 49 credit hours are in elective courses. As part of the 89\* credit hours, students must complete the School of Law's writing requirements.

Students attending George Mason University School of Law may pursue full-time day study or part-time evening study. Unlike many other law school programs, the day and evening programs stand on equal footing, as the courses taught in the day and evening divisions are identical and are taught by the same professors.

### Day Division

In the day division, students take three years to complete the 89\* credit hours required for graduation. Day students take 14 to 15 credits each semester. Day classes are scheduled between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Frequently in upper class years, day students select classes from the evening division.

### Evening Division

In the evening division, students take four years to complete the 89\* credit hours required for graduation. Evening students average 11 to 12 credit hours each semester. Evening classes are scheduled between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. After the first year, evening students may choose to take some of their classes during the day.

### Summer Term

George Mason University School of Law holds a Summer Term each year that typically runs from late May to mid-July. All summer courses are held in the evenings, between the hours of 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

*\*Required credit hours are subject to change.*

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/parttime](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/parttime)

*Howard Chandler Christy's famous depiction of the nation's founders in "Scene at the Signing of the Constitution" does not include a rendering of George Mason, who was one of three delegates to the Constitutional Convention who refused to sign the finished document.*

*The painting hangs in the east stairway of the House wing of the United States Capitol.*





# A CURRICULUM FOR TODAY'S PRACTICE

The School of Law has designed a curriculum that addresses three of the most pressing requirements of contemporary legal practice: a thorough grounding in the fundamental skills of legal research, writing, and analysis; facility with economic and quantitative methods; and the increasing need for specialization.

## LEGAL RESEARCH, WRITING, AND ANALYSIS

Our three-year legal writing program emphasizes continual practice through the development of actual transactions and cases and effective use of technology. Students receive intensive legal research, writing, and analysis training in small sections of 15 or fewer students. Beyond the first four classes, the curriculum requires at least two additional writing courses. Students apply their skills in drafting and editing documents for a variety of cases and transactional disputes, in oral arguments before judges and practicing attorneys, and in client counseling and negotiation exercises.

## ECONOMIC AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS

For the past 17 years, George Mason has integrated economic theory, as well as basic mathematical and financial skills, into our law and economics-oriented curriculum. In the first semester, our curriculum introduces students to legal methods, along with economic and quantitative tools, stressing the application of the nonlegal methods in legal contexts. We reinforce this strategy in other courses at the School of Law, as many of our professors of law are also experts in various areas of economics and quantitative methods.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd)

## SPECIALTY PROGRAMS OF STUDY

The practice of law grows more segmented as the body of law grows in both volume and complexity. The option to pursue specialty programs ensures that Mason graduates can demonstrate depth as well as breadth in their legal education and that they are prepared for practice in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

### Specialty Tracks

◆ *Patent Law*

◆ *Litigation Law*

◆ *Regulatory Law*

With specialty tracks, students may acquire a sophisticated understanding of particular substantive areas of the law usually gained only after years of practice or through advanced legal study. A student pursuing a specialty track will take 24 to 31 credit hours of the 89\* total credit hours required for graduation in the area of specialization *and* write a thesis.

### Specialization Sequences

◆ *Corporate and Securities Law*

◆ *International Business Law*

◆ *Personal Law*

◆ *Criminal Law*

◆ *Legal and Economic Theory*

◆ *Regulatory Law*

◆ *Intellectual Property Law*

◆ *Litigation Law*

◆ *Tax Law*

Students preferring greater freedom in their course selection but desiring some degree of specialization may pursue specialization sequences. To complete a sequence, a student must earn from 14 to 16 credit hours in a particular area.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/lawtrack](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/lawtrack)

For individual course descriptions, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/courses](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/courses)

### Litigation Law Track

The **Litigation Law Track** is designed to prepare students academically and practically for litigation practice or other careers relating to dispute resolution. This track program is based upon a belief that solid professional competence requires a sound understanding of the theory and institutions underlying dispute resolution. Accordingly, the specialized track courses focus on the processes of dispute resolution and lawyers' roles from an analytical perspective, as well as on practical advocacy skills. Approximately twenty-six percent of the 89 credits required for graduation must be in litigation law courses. The remaining seventy-four percent of the course work of the track is outside litigation law.

#### Course Requirements—Litigation Law Track\*

- 40 credit hours in required General Law Program courses (including Professional Responsibility)
- 23 credit hours in litigation law courses
- 26 credit hours in elective courses

\*Track requirements are subject to change at any time.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/tracks/litig\\_law](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/tracks/litig_law)



“My two years on the Jessup International Moot Court team and George Mason’s legal writing classes provided me with a strong legal research and writing foundation. Through these programs, I gained a critical skill set—how to conduct thorough legal research and present a clear, cohesive and organized legal analysis or argument. Now that I’m working in litigation, whether I’m writing a memorandum on a discrete legal issue or drafting an argument for an appellate brief, I find that I use these skills on a daily basis and rely on these skills to produce the best work product possible.”

Jill Maguire  
Class of 2006  
Associate, Steptoe & Johnson LLP

#### Selected Courses

- **Evidence and Trial Procedure**  
*Examines legal rules governing the proof of disputed issues of fact during adversary proceedings.*
- **Federal Courts**  
*Jurisdiction of the federal district courts, including federal question, diversity, and supplemental jurisdiction; appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; federal common law; aspects of the relations of the federal and state courts, including removal, abstention, and the Anti-injunction Act; and state sovereign immunity in the federal courts.*
- **Litigation and Dispute Resolution Theory**  
*Provides the cornerstone of the Litigation Law track. It introduces the theory and practice of litigation and other forms of dispute resolution and draws upon the basic tools of decision theory, game theory, and economic analysis to address some of the key features of the litigation process and its institutions.*
- **Litigation Law Track Thesis**  
*Requires the student to develop, expand, and refine a research paper into an article suitable for publication in a law journal.*
- **Pre-Trial Practice**  
*Designed for students with an interest in pursuing a career in litigation. The class is divided into two law firms that litigate against each other in two cases—a tort case and a contract case. Each firm represents the plaintiff in one case and the defendant in the other.*
- **Proof**  
*Focuses on the analysis of the persuasive value of evidence and the methods of constructing and improving inferential chains of proof.*
- **Quantitative Forensics**  
*Considers the principles of statistics and econometrics and their application to a wide range of legal applications.*
- **Trial Advocacy**  
*Provides training in the preparation and presentation of evidence in jury and non-jury trials.*



# Patent Law Track

The **Patent Law Track** is designed for students who intend to practice in the specialized field of patent law. Approximately twenty percent of the 89 credit hours required for graduation must be in patent law courses. The remaining eighty percent of the credit hours are in courses outside patent law; however, many patent track students will pursue related courses in copyright and trademark law.

## Course Requirements—Patent Law Track\*

- 40 credit hours in required General Law Program courses (including Professional Responsibility)
- 18 credit hours in required patent law courses
- 31 credit hours in elective courses

\*Track requirements are subject to change at any time.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/academics/tracks/ip\\_law](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/tracks/ip_law)



“George Mason is one of the few schools in the country that has such a strong Intellectual Property Law Program. The program offers numerous courses covering most aspects of IP law. What’s more, the courses are taught by faculty who understand the issues not only from an academic perspective, but from a practical perspective. It certainly gave my career a jump start by providing a core knowledge base and has helped me greatly in my day-to-day practice.”

**Naveen Modi**  
Class of 2001  
Associate, Finnegan, Henderson,  
Farabow, Garrett & Dunner L.L.P.

## Selected Courses

- **Patent Law I**  
*Provides an introduction to the basic principles of the law of patents in the United States. Covers the history, origin and function of the patent system; the nature of patents as property and as legal instruments; comparisons with other forms of intellectual property; subject matter eligible for patenting; the conditions for patentability of an invention; and the disclosure requirements for a patent application.*
- **Patent Law II**  
*A continuation of Patent Law I. Focuses on the meaning and function of patent claims as property definitions; patent prosecution, including conduct giving rise to the unenforceability of a patent; post-grant procedures; infringement of a patent, including claim interpretation and acts giving rise to infringement; equitable defenses to a charge of infringement; remedies; patent enforcement; and patent misuse.*
- **Legal and Economic Theory of Intellectual Property**  
*A survey of the legal and economic theory of intellectual property, including the common law premises for the protection of ideas and their embodiments and the evolution of statutory and judge-made law.*
- **Patent and Know-How Licensing**  
*Covers the business and legal criteria necessary to implement and maintain successful patent licensing programs.*
- **Patent Litigation and Dispute Resolution**  
*Builds upon the basic required course in Civil Procedure by teaching the procedure, tactics, and options common to most patent litigation.*
- **Patent Writing Theory and Practice**  
*This course applies principles learned in earlier patent law courses to the writing of applications for patents to accord them their maximum legal effect.*
- **Patent Prosecution**  
*This course builds upon Patent Law I and II by providing an in depth analysis of the substantive and procedural law relating to the prosecution of patent applications in the Patent and Trademark Office.*
- **Trade Secrets**  
*Considers the law and theory applicable to protection of confidential business information ranging from computer programs and manufacturing processes to customer lists.*

## Regulatory Law Track

The Regulatory Law Track prepares students for practice in and before the numerous agencies that regulate business and other activities. Approximately thirty-four percent of the 89 credits required for graduation must be in regulatory law courses. The remaining sixty-six percent of the course work of the track is outside regulatory law.

### Course Requirements for the Regulatory Law Track\*

40 credit hours in required General Law Program courses  
(including Professional Responsibility)

30 credit hours in regulatory law courses

19 credit hours in elective courses

\*Track requirements are subject to change at any time.

For expanded information, visit

[www.law.gmu.edu/academics/tracks/reg\\_law](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/tracks/reg_law)



“My legal training at George Mason continues to enhance my capacity to perform well in my career in public service and to gain a greater understanding of the overall regulatory process. My professor for administrative law sits as a senior judge on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, and I appreciate the lifetime of professional experience and the love for teaching he brings to the classroom.”

**Eric Steiner**  
Law Student and  
Associate Administrator for  
Special Nutrition Programs,  
Food and Nutrition Service,  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

### Selected Courses

- **Anti-trust**

*This course examines judicial doctrines, enforcement guidelines, and policies relating to competition as a means of ordering private economic behavior.*

- **International Trade Law and Regulation**

*Covers trade law, principally American law and the related international regime.*

- **Legal Clinic—Regulatory**

*Students engage in the federal regulatory process, analyzing an active regulation and filing public comments (from a public interest perspective) with a federal agency.*

- **Legislation**

*An introduction for lawyers to public choice and competing theories of legislative behavior.*

- **Perspectives on Regulation**

*Introduces students to regulatory institutions and the political economy of regulatory processes. With this foundation, students will examine current or proposed regulation and the costs, benefits, and incentives they create.*

- **Regulated Industries**

*Surveys the legal and economic foundations of the various forms of regulation. The origin and development of both economic and social regulation are analyzed.*

- **Regulatory Law Track Thesis**

*Requires the student to develop, expand, and refine a research paper into an article suitable for publication in a law journal.*

# SPECIALIZATION SEQUENCE OPPORTUNITIES

For students who wish to develop some expertise in a particular substantive area, but who also seek greater flexibility in terms of taking electives in a broad range of areas, we offer specialized sequence programs. There is no thesis requirement in any of the sequence programs.

Students may choose from sequences in nine legal subject areas, which are listed below along with examples of courses relevant to those sequences.

For expanded information, visit:

[www.law.gmu.edu/academics/lawtrack#Law\\_Sequences\\_2](http://www.law.gmu.edu/academics/lawtrack#Law_Sequences_2)

## Course Requirements for Sequence Programs

### •Corporate and Securities Law Sequence

*Business Associations, Income Tax, Secured Finance, Securities Regulation, Unincorporated Business, Bankruptcy, Corporate Tax*

### •Criminal Law Sequence

*Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Advanced Criminal Procedure, Litigation and Dispute Resolution, Clinical Externship or Trial Advocacy*

### •Intellectual Property Law Sequence

*Copyright Law, Legal and Economic Theory of Intellectual Property, Patent Law I, Patent Law II, Trademark Law, Trade Secrets*

### •International Business Law Sequence

*International Business Economics and Law, International Commercial Transactions, International Law, International Trade Law and Regulation, Conflict of Laws, Comparative Law, Multinational Intellectual Property and Policy Seminar, European Union Law*

### •Legal and Economic Theory Sequence

*Public Choice and Public Law, Litigation and Dispute Resolution Theory or Proof, Legal and Economic Theory of Intellectual Property, Jurisprudence Seminar or Readings in Legal Thought Seminar, Comparative Law or International Business Economics and Law, Perspectives on Regulatory Law or Legislation, Perspectives on the Individual, Family, and Social Institutions or Domestic Relations*

### •Litigation Law Sequence

*Litigation and Dispute Resolution Theory; Evidence and Trial Procedure; Proof; Trial Advocacy; Pretrial Advocacy; Advanced Constitutional Law: First Amendment; Advanced Constitutional Law: Takings; Criminal Procedure; Federal Courts; Legislation; Public Choice and Public Law; Quantitative Forensics*

### •Personal Law Sequence

*Perspectives on the Individual, Family, and Social Institutions; Domestic Relations; Income Tax; Trusts and Estates; Small Business Planning*

### •Regulatory Law Sequence

*Perspectives on Regulation, Regulated Industries, Legislation, Administrative Law, Legal Clinic—Regulatory*

### •Tax Law Sequence

*Income Tax, Corporate Tax, Partnership Tax, Estate and Gift Tax, International Taxation, State and Local Taxation, Tax Policy*



## CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND



“As an evening student working full-time, I found George Mason University School of Law’s part-time program to be immensely comprehensive. The offered evening courses were on par with the day. My classmates were respectful, laid back, and professional. Further, Career Services was instrumental in helping me to secure a federal clerkship and an offer from a national law firm. My overall experience at Mason has been extremely positive and has given me the confidence to embark on my legal career.”

**Sherrie Kim**  
Class of 2008

Clerk to The Honorable  
Lawrence M. Baskir  
U.S. Court of Federal Claims  
(2008-09)

George Mason University School of Law commits to teaching its students to think clearly and critically, to develop sound judgment, and to apply the knowledge they obtain in law school in practical ways that will lead them to success and fulfillment in their legal careers. We strive to prepare our students to achieve their personal professional goals and to become contributing and valuable members of our local, national, and international legal communities.

### OFFICE OF CAREER, ACADEMIC AND ALUMNI SERVICES

#### Services for our Students

The Office of Career, Academic and Alumni Services aids students and alumni in finding permanent full- and part-time employment and summer jobs by serving as a clearinghouse for information on available positions in both the metropolitan Washington area and across the nation. This office provides job counseling to students; conducts seminars on resume writing, interviewing skills, and strategies; and coordinates on-campus interviews and job fairs.

### CLINICAL PROGRAMS

Students may gain practical experience by participating in clinics.

#### Clinic for Legal Assistance to Servicemembers

Students represent clients from all armed services in civil litigation, adjudication, and negotiation regarding consumer-protection, family-law, landlord-tenant, contract, military-law and entitlement matters.

#### Domestic Relations Legal Clinic

Students participate in in-office internships working 12 hours per week with prominent domestic relations attorneys.

#### Legal Clinic

Students have the opportunity to work in judges’ chambers of the Virginia Circuit, General District, or Juvenile and Domestic Relations Courts; the Office of the Public Defender; the Office of the Commonwealth’s Attorney; the Office of Legal Aid; or a private attorney’s office.

#### Law and Mental Illness Clinic

Students are exposed to all aspects of the law concerning the treatment of persons with severe mental illness as they represent petitioners in civil commitment proceedings.

#### Practical Preparation of GMU Patent Applications Legal Clinic

In this working seminar class, students write actual patent applications that will be filed for inventors affiliated with George Mason University.

#### Regulatory Clinic

Students engage in the federal regulatory process, analyzing an active regulation and filing public comments (from a public interest perspective) with a federal agency.

For expanded information on all clinics, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/career/clinical\\_programs](http://www.law.gmu.edu/career/clinical_programs)

### SUPERVISED EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

George Mason’s proximity to Washington, D.C., offers a wide range of supervised externship possibilities to our law students. The supervised externship program is designed to allow students who have completed one-third of their legal education to perform work outside of law school, for academic credit, under the supervision of an attorney.

## JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

A judicial clerkship for one or two years following graduation is an excellent way to bridge the gap between law school and the practice of law. It also can be an extremely valuable step in an attorney's professional development and ultimate career success. Our students have been selected for judicial clerkships covering the full range of state and federal opportunities, including the United States Supreme Court.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/career/clerkship](http://www.law.gmu.edu/career/clerkship)

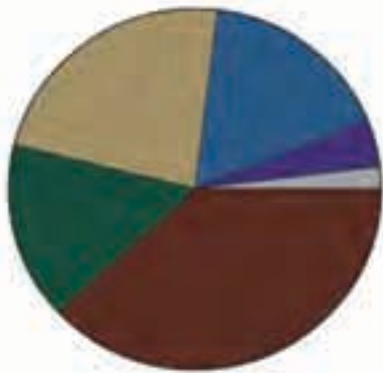
“The law school, and in particular, the Career Services office, provided me with invaluable support and guidance. From helping me to secure placement with a national law firm, to guiding me through the judicial clerkship application process, the Career Services office was instrumental in supporting me as I embarked on my legal career. In this way, as in many others, George Mason sets itself apart.”

**Will Consovoy**  
Class of 2001

Clerk to United States Supreme Court  
Justice Clarence Thomas  
(2008-09)



## CLASS OF 2007 EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS



### Employment Rate 98%\*

**Private Practice 38%**  
**Government 16%**  
**Business 23%**  
**Judicial Clerkship 17%**  
**Public Interest 4%**  
**Academia 2%**

Information is based on data available from surveys and follow-up contact conducted by the Career, Academic and Alumni Services Office from May 2007 through March 2008.

\*2% unemployed includes those not seeking paid positions.

George Mason is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution committed to the principle that access to study or employment opportunities afforded by the university, including all benefits and privileges, be accorded to each person—student, faculty, staff member, or applicant for employment or admission—on the basis of individual merit without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, sex, or age (except where sex or age is a bona fide occupational qualification). George Mason shall maintain a continuing affirmative action program to promote equal opportunity and to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices in every phase of university operations. Furthermore, affirmative action will be taken to ensure that opportunities afforded by the university are fully available to persons with disabilities, women, Vietnam veterans, and minorities. The university will make every reasonable accommodation to enable students or employees with disabilities to undertake work or study for which they qualify.

Inquiries regarding the university's equal opportunity and affirmative action programs may be made to the University Equity Office, Mason Hall, Room D105, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 22030, telephone 703-993-8730.

George Mason University maintains the confidentiality of student education records pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act. Once a student is enrolled, a student's name, address, telephone number, major, and e-mail address are subject to publication in the George Mason University Telephone Directory. Students who do not want to be listed in the campus telephone directory must submit a directory hold form to the registrar's office by 5 p.m. on the Friday of the first week of classes of the fall semester. George Mason University does not sell student contact information. However, because it is published in directory format, it is possible that unauthorized persons could access the information, thereby leading to unwanted solicitations.

George Mason University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action university and employer. Consistent with these principles and in compliance with the Student Right-to-Know Act, George Mason University publishes annual reports that disclose information about the athletic program and campus security. The campus security report includes campus crime statistics and is published annually by September 1. A copy may be obtained by calling 703-993-2816. The athletic reports include athletic participation and graduation rates and are published annually by October 15. A copy of either of these athletic reports may be obtained by calling Intercollegiate Athletics at 703-993-3204.

## A FACULTY WITH AN OUTSTANDING REPUTATION

One of the School of Law's greatest assets is our outstanding faculty. With some of the brightest minds in the legal academy, our faculty possesses significant professional experience in the practice of law and public policy. In the most prominent ranking of faculty scholarship and quality, Professor Brian Leiter of the University of Texas ranks George Mason's law faculty 23<sup>rd</sup> in scholarly impact (April 2006). The School of Law's full-time faculty is complemented by a remarkable adjunct faculty that includes a number of federal and state court judges and well-established practitioners who deal with cutting-edge legal issues on a daily basis.

George Mason's faculty has enabled the school to become not only a fine place in which to receive a traditional education, but also one of the nation's premier centers for the study of economics- and technology-related matters. Because George Mason University School of Law has one of the greatest concentrations of gifted legal scholars in the world, a legal education obtained at George Mason has exceptional value in today's competitive employment market.

To view faculty biographies, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/faculty/directory](http://www.law.gmu.edu/faculty/directory)

*Recently appointed by Pope Benedict XVI to his Pontifical Council of the Laity, an advisory body on matters concerning non-clerical persons, Professor Helen Alvaré has enjoyed a legal career that includes drafting amicus briefs in leading United States Supreme Court cases; lobbying; testimony before federal congressional committees; and hundreds of addresses to university, television, and radio audiences on behalf of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.*

*Professor Alvaré chaired the committee investigating clerical abuse in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, acts as a consultant to the U.S. bishops marriage committee, and is an ABC News correspondent. She teaches Family Law at Mason.*





## A DIVERSE AND TALENTED STUDENT BODY

At Mason we take pride in our student body, whose members come to us from every part of the nation and from many countries throughout the world. Our students range from recent college graduates in their twenties to senior citizens. Our evening program allows many nontraditional students to further their education while pursuing a career. As a result, our law school has a mix of students who are rich in experience, knowledge, and professional background. Students bring varied and interesting perspectives to the classroom, and their association with one another is an enriching experience in itself.

Mason provides its students many opportunities to expand their horizons through a multitude of student organizations and activities, all intended for both day and evening students. For information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs](http://www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs).

With a student body of approximately 750, Mason's School of Law is small enough to allow meaningful interaction among students, faculty, and administrators while large enough to offer a broad spectrum of educational choices and student activities. At Mason, there really is something for everyone.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/students/diversity](http://www.law.gmu.edu/students/diversity)



*Mason Law's fall 2007 entering class of 267 students derived from 147 different colleges and universities across the nation and the globe. Of those students, 176 attended day classes, while 91 attended class in the evening. The average age of students matriculating was 24.6 years, with 42 percent of the students female and 61 percent coming from outside Virginia. The median LSAT for matriculants was 164, and the median undergraduate GPA was 3.62.*

# A COMPREHENSIVE LAW LIBRARY

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

George Mason offers students many ways to enhance their legal educations by becoming active in one or more of our student organizations. These organizations, listed below, not only add to the vitality of the law school, but also create valuable networking opportunities for students with special interests.

Alternative Dispute Resolution Society  
American Bar Association/Law School Division  
American Civil Liberties Union  
American Constitution Society for Law and Policy  
American Immigration Lawyers Association  
American Inn of Court  
Asian Pacific American Law Students Association  
Association for Public Interest Law (APIL)  
Black Law Students Association (BLSA)  
Business Law Society  
Christian Legal Society  
Civil Rights Law Journal  
The Docket  
Environmental Law Society  
The Federalist Society  
Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Law Association  
George Mason Law Review  
Hispanic Law Students Association  
Honor Committee  
Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS)  
International Law Society  
J. Reuben Clark Law Society  
Jewish Law Students Association  
Journal of Law, Economics & Policy  
Law Students for the Second Amendment  
Mason Law Democrats  
Mason Law Republicans  
Mason Sports and Entertainment Law Association  
Moot Court Board  
Muslim Law Students Association  
National Security Law Society  
Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International  
Phi Delta Phi International Legal Fraternity  
Student Animal Legal Defense Fund  
Student Bar Association  
Thomas More Society  
Trial Advocacy Association  
VBA Pro Bono Society  
Women's Law Association

For expanded information, visit  
[www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs](http://www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs)

George Mason's Law Library combines a collection of growing importance with high-technology support to ensure that our students and faculty have optimal access to all the resources they need for their legal studies.

Located on three levels of the law school facility, the library houses more than 300 study carrels and table seats. Almost all of the study carrels and tables are wired with electrical and data connections so that students can plug in notebook computers to access the Internet, e-mail, LEXIS, and Westlaw. In addition, the School of Law has a wireless network that allows students, faculty, and staff members to use a laptop to check e-mail and surf the Web without connecting to a wired, Ethernet port.

The library's collection consists of over 450,000 volumes and volume equivalents. The collection is particularly strong in the areas of law and economics, business, economic theory and history, ethics and philosophy, tax, international law, and banking.

As a participant in the Federal Government Documents Depository system, the library regularly receives administrative decisions, executive agency reports, and other government documents.

The Law Library has 14 full-time staff members, including six librarians, as well as a number of part-time staff and student assistants. The librarians are trained as both librarians and lawyers and can provide students with a high level of assistance in using both print and online materials. Our librarians participate actively in the research component of our Legal Research, Writing and Analysis program. Lab technicians from the university's Division of Instructional and Technology Support Services provide staffing for labs and assist students with the use of computer equipment and software.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/libtech](http://www.law.gmu.edu/libtech)



# THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

## GENERAL INFORMATION

The admissions process at George Mason University School of Law is extremely competitive. The Admissions Committee reviews and considers each application in its entirety. First-year students are admitted only in the fall.

## Early Decision Program

**Students seeking an early decision must submit and complete all of the standard application procedures no later than December 15, 2008.** Early decisions will be made no later than **January 15, 2009**. Applicants who apply but are not admitted through early decision may be considered in the standard admission process, or they may be denied admission.

## Standard Admission Process for First-Year Applicants

**The standard application deadline for fall 2009 admission is April 1, 2009.** Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to matriculate, an applicant must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association of the United States. Alternatively, applicants completing their undergraduate work at an institution outside the United States must have their degrees certified as equivalent to those acquired in an accredited institution.

Application may be made during the final year of undergraduate study, and acceptance is contingent upon award of a baccalaureate degree before matriculation at the School of Law.

All applicants must register with the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS) and take the LSAT.

## TRANSFER ADMISSION

Admission of transfer students is highly selective. Only students who have completed one year at an ABA-accredited law school will be eligible for transfer admission.

## VISITING LAW STUDENTS

The School of Law accepts a number of visiting students each semester and for the Summer Term.

Detailed information concerning the application procedures for early decision and standard first-year applicants, transfer applicants, and visiting applicants is available at [www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/howtoapply](http://www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/howtoapply).

## ADMISSIONS INQUIRIES, TOURS, AND CLASS OBSERVATIONS

Applicants who have questions should contact the Admissions Office at [lawadmit@gmu.edu](mailto:lawadmit@gmu.edu). For tours or class observations, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/events](http://www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/events). Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, during the academic year.

For expanded information, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/admissions](http://www.law.gmu.edu/admissions)

“*I was impressed by the high level of communication I experienced with Mason’s admissions office from the beginning to the end of the process.*”

Jason Braun  
Class of 2008





# FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

## ESTIMATED COSTS FOR 2008-09

With the rising cost of financing a law degree, Mason's lower tuition offers a top value in legal education. For the most current posting of tuition rates for the School of Law, please visit: [budget.gmu.edu](http://budget.gmu.edu), and select *FY09 Tuition and Fees, Law—In-State or Out-of-State*. Fall tuition is updated annually in mid-May by the university's Board of Visitors and is subject to change at any time.

## FINANCIAL AID

George Mason University's Office of Student Financial Aid, located at the Fairfax Campus, provides a variety of services to assist students in financing their education. George Mason University participates in the Federal Direct Loan Program.

Students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year as soon as possible after January 1. To receive priority consideration for available, applicable funds, the FAFSA must be received by the federal processor on or before March 1. Types of financial aid available include Direct Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, privately sponsored education loans, and Federal Work-Study.

Students with questions may call the Direct On-Line Resource System (DOLARS) at 703-993-4GMU, visit the Office of Student Financial Aid on the Web ([financialaid.gmu.edu](http://financialaid.gmu.edu)), or schedule an appointment to meet with a financial aid counselor.

Mason's Title IV school code is 003749.

## SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

A small number of scholarships are awarded to incoming law students each year. All scholarship awards are based upon merit as evidenced in applicants' applications for admission. **No additional or special scholarship applications are required.** All law students offered admission to the law school are considered for scholarship awards.

For a detailed listing of the scholarships that are available, please visit [www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/financing](http://www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/financing) or [financialaid.gmu.edu](http://financialaid.gmu.edu).

## Applicants for the Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty

*Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty* were created through the generosity of Dr. Robert A. Levy, a 1994 graduate of the law school. Through this generous fellowship program, Dr. Levy seeks to encourage young scholars to enter the academic field of law and economics by sponsoring their pursuit of a JD degree. Fellowship grants cover tuition and fees and provide a substantial stipend for up to three years. To be eligible for a Levy Fellowship, an applicant must either (1) have earned a PhD from an accredited university in economics or a closely related field such as finance or political science; or (2) have successfully completed all course work in one of the above fields and have passed the general exam for a PhD from an accredited university. Applicants for full-time, first-year law admission who also are applying for the Levy Fellowship must, in addition to all requirements for first-year applicants, provide a cover letter with the names of three references, a curriculum vitae, graduate school transcripts, and a copy of current research. **The deadline for Levy Fellowship and School of Law applications is April 1, 2009.**

For more information about the Levy Fellowship, visit [www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/levy\\_fellowships](http://www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/levy_fellowships)

**The list below is illustrative of the undergraduate institutions from which George Mason Law has drawn its students in recent years.**

American University  
Arizona State University  
Auburn University  
Barnard College  
Bates College  
Baylor University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Bowie State University  
Brandeis University  
Brigham Young University  
Brown University  
Bryn Mawr College  
Bucknell University  
Campbell University  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Catholic University of America  
Central Methodist College  
Christopher Newport University  
Clarkson University  
Clemson University  
Colgate University  
College of the Holy Cross  
College of William and Mary  
Colorado College  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Davidson College  
Dickinson College  
Drexel University  
Duke University  
Emory University  
Florida International University  
Furman University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
Georgetown University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
Gettysburg College  
Grove City College  
Hamilton College  
Hampden-Sydney College  
Hampton University  
Harvard University  
Haverford College  
Hobart and William Smith College  
Hollins University  
Hofstra University  
Howard University  
Ithaca College  
Jacksonville State University  
James Madison University  
Johns Hopkins University  
Lehigh University  
Lewis-Clark State College  
Liberty University  
Louisiana State University  
Loyola University  
Marquette University  
Mary Washington College  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
McGill University  
Michigan State University  
Mississippi State University  
Morgan State University  
Muhlenburg College  
New York University  
Norfolk State University  
Northeastern University  
Occidental College  
Ohio State University  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Old Dominion University  
Oregon State University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Princeton University  
Providence College  
Purdue University  
Randolph-Macon College  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rice University  
Roanoke College  
Rochester Institute of Technology  
Rutgers University  
San Diego State University  
Seton Hall University  
Skidmore College  
Smith College  
Southern Methodist University  
Spelman College  
St. Lawrence University  
St. Louis University  
Stanford University  
State University of New York  
Syracuse University  
Temple University  
Texas A&M University  
Towson State University  
Trinity University  
Truman State University  
Tulane University  
Union College  
U.S. Air Force Academy  
U.S. Coast Guard Academy  
U.S. Military Academy  
U.S. Naval Academy  
University of Alabama  
University of Arizona  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Davis  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of Chicago  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Colorado  
University of Delaware  
University of Denver  
University of Florida  
University of Georgia  
University of Hawaii  
University of Illinois  
University of Kansas  
University of Kentucky  
University of Maine  
University of Manitoba  
University of Maryland  
University of Massachusetts  
University of Memphis  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan  
University of Montana  
University of Nebraska  
University of Nevada  
University of New Hampshire  
University of New Mexico  
University of North Carolina  
University of North Dakota  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Richmond  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Rochester  
University of San Francisco  
University of Scranton  
University of South Carolina  
University of Tennessee  
University of Texas  
University of the South  
University of Utah  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
University of Western Ontario  
University of Wisconsin  
University of Wyoming  
Utah State University  
Valparaiso University  
Vanderbilt University  
Vassar College  
Villanova University  
Virginia Commonwealth University  
Virginia Military Institute  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
and State University  
Virginia State University  
Wake Forest University  
Washington & Jefferson College  
Washington and Lee University  
Washington University  
Wellesley College  
West Virginia University  
Williams College  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
Yale University



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Admissions: 703-993-8010  
Fax: 703-993-8088  
E-mail: [lawadmit@gmu.edu](mailto:lawadmit@gmu.edu)

[www.law.gmu.edu](http://www.law.gmu.edu)