WELCOME TO

The University of Chicago Law School
Seven Chicago Law students served as Supreme Court Clerks in the same term. Here they are on the Supreme Court steps.
This is a place where great achievement is expected.
Where ideas are everywhere.
where it is comfortable to be smart.

This is a place where faculty teach students in beautiful new classrooms and in their living rooms.
Where the study of law is seen as collaborative, not competitive.
Where we care about doing good, not just doing well.
Join our family of law students and teachers.
Message from the Dean

Applying to law school is a journey where you can learn at least as much about us as we learn about you.

You will confirm our reputation as an intellectual place where ideas fill the air, and you will also discover that we are a place that is fun and much loved.

You will learn of rich and varied career opportunities, about the outstanding university and city around us, and about the extraordinary teaching that goes on here. There is no other faculty that takes its students’ education as seriously and personally. This is not a place where great teachers are absent. This is a place where they compete to teach you and look forward to chatting with you over coffee, at our Wine Messes, in many workshops, and at informal events from dinners to bridge games.

Our approach is interdisciplinary; our faculty is amazingly productive; our library is formidable, as well as high-tech and hospitable; and our buildings and surroundings have been renovated even as we fill them with great teachers and classmates for you. Our graduates go on to clerk for leading judges, to build businesses, to teach, and, of course, to practice law. We take special pride in our Chicago Public Policy Initiatives that will aim to involve you in our putting forth solutions to social problems and in our Hormel Public Interest Program which assists students and graduates who work in public service. But the most important and difficult asset to convey is the day-to-day quality of our classroom, lunch-time, and hallway experiences.

If I were in your place, I would want to study law here more than anywhere else. I would want to be a part of the University of Chicago Law School and its inspiring traditions.

Saul Levmore
The University of Chicago Law School is committed to the lively exchange of ideas inside—and outside—our newly renovated classrooms. Our students are from diverse backgrounds, study with leading scholars and teachers, and are trained to think independently, critically, and creatively about the law. We are part of the world-class intellectual community of the University of Chicago, and we believe that ideas turned into action is one of the most satisfying ways to practice law.

“Ours is an intimate and enthusiastic learning environment. Our students make the most of this community and their time in it. They are independent thinkers who speak openly and provocatively both in class and informally in the Green Lounge; at the same time, they support each other in their pursuit of different interests and ideas, and they form lifelong friendships through their participation in student organizations and activities.”

Michele Baker Richardson
Dean of Students
“I remember how I loved the experience, the mental gymnastics of locking up with a Posner or Sunstein. I don’t think there is anyplace else in the world where one learns so well how to think and process information, to look at all aspects of any situation and think about it on multiple levels, from the highly theoretical to the utterly human.”

STEVE LIPSCOMB, ’88
FOUNDER AND CEO, WORLD POKER TOUR

“I have been amazed by the diversity of ideas and viewpoints among my professors and classmates. No idea is unwelcome here, but no idea goes unchallenged. And that makes Chicago an exciting place to study law.”

STEVE LIPSCOMB, ’88
FOUNDER AND CEO, WORLD POKER TOUR

NATHAN CHRISTENSEN, ’08
FAVORITE PROFESSORS
Douglas Baird and David Strauss
UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTION
Stanford University
EXPERIENCE BEFORE LAW SCHOOL
Atlanta Public Schools Fourth Grade Teacher, Teach for America; Consultant, Boston Consulting Group

LAW SCHOOL EXPERIENCE
Comment Editor, University of Chicago Law Review
SUMMER EXPERIENCE
U.S. Attorney’s Office, Chicago (1L); Munger Tolles & Olsen, Los Angeles, and Perkins Coie, Portland, OR (2L)
Ideas matter—to our students, to our faculty, to our alumni. Chicago students enjoy their classes. Chicago faculty enjoy teaching them. Chicago alumni never forget them.

Our students crave rigor. They work hard—and play hard. They challenge their teachers and each other on all things logical, legal, and political. They master a lawyer’s most powerful skills: researching, writing, and presenting well-reasoned legal arguments. But they also enjoy over fifty student organizations ranging from the Federalist Society to the American Constitution Society, from StreetLaw, which teaches law to high school students, to the women’s intramural football team, which has won the campus championship seven times in a row. Students even fill the classrooms during lunchtime to hear faculty and other speakers discuss the issues of the day, and to enjoy a free lunch.

Chicago students are confident. They are involved. They come from diverse backgrounds and hail from across the country and around the globe. They are ready for the next challenge. They go on to head law firms, become CEOs of companies, clerk for Supreme Court Justices—and become judges themselves.

"Contrary to the cutthroat reputation of other law schools, Chicago is truly supportive, diverse, and collegial. I’m challenged by my professors and my peers."

**Students**

*EBBA GEBISA, ’08*

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**Favorite professor**
Cass Sunstein

**Undergraduate institution**
University of Wisconsin

**Summer experience**
Schiff Hardin LLP, Chicago (1L); Weil, Gotshal & Manges, LLP, New York (2L)

**Law School activities**
Black Law Students Association, American Constitution Society, Women’s Mentoring Program, intramural basketball and soccer

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Contrary to the cutthroat reputation of other law schools, Chicago is truly supportive, diverse, and collegial. I’m challenged by my professors and my peers. “
“Chicago professors challenge us daily with their thought-provoking and innovative ideas. Yet they always make time for us outside the classroom as well—to answer our questions or share a meal.”

SUJEAN LEE, ’09
Favorite professors
Jacob Gersen and Richard Epstein
Undergraduate institution
Harvard University
Summer experience
Skadden Arps, Los Angeles (1L)

Experience before Law School
Special Assistant to the Attorney General, Department of Justice; Assistant Staff Secretary, The West Wing, The White House; President of the Harvard Undergraduate Council

STUDENT STATS

200 undergraduate institutions represented
30 percent Latino/a, Asian-American or African-American
48 states represented
20 foreign countries represented
10 percent with graduate degrees
100 percent of LLM students are foreign-trained lawyers

24 median age at matriculation
30 median age at matriculation
Faculty

Learning the law at Chicago is collaborative. Faculty do not simply lecture—they engage students in a dialogue. They ask questions about tough legal concepts and principles, challenging students to articulate and think about the law for themselves. Chicago faculty know that complex social and legal problems have no easy answers. Our graduates need to think on their feet in the courtroom, the legislative chamber, and the boardroom—and the Socratic Method teaches them to do that.

Because the Law School believes in interdisciplinary inquiry, our faculty are not just leading law scholars. They are also economists, feminist scholars, historians, and philosophers. They are clinical practitioners, dedicated to teaching and advocacy. Together with our faculty, visiting faculty and lecturers drawn from government and private practice teach over 170 courses and reflect a breadth and depth that are hard to match.

"One of the pleasures of teaching here is knowing our students as individuals. I have lunch with my 1L Elements of the Law class as often as I can so that students can talk about puzzles that interest them."

CASS SUNSTEIN
Karl N. Llewellyn Distinguished Service Professor of Jurisprudence

Degrees
JD, Harvard Law School; BA, Harvard College

Research
Constitutional law; law and human behavior; environmental law

Selected courses
Elements of the Law; Constitutional Democracy; Law, Behavior, and Regulation

On the Law School
"This is a phenomenal place—the ideas are diverse, the faculty is creative, and the students are smart, so it's not like work at all."

Because the Law School believes in interdisciplinary inquiry, our faculty are not just leading law scholars. They are also economists, feminist scholars, historians, and philosophers. They are clinical practitioners, dedicated to teaching and advocacy. Together with our faculty, visiting faculty and lecturers drawn from government and private practice teach over 170 courses and reflect a breadth and depth that are hard to match.

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Selected courses
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On the Law School
"This is a phenomenal place—the ideas are diverse, the faculty is creative, and the students are smart, so it's not like work at all."
“I had so many great teachers that I couldn’t begin to name them all. The Law School gave me the best general education I could have and a set of intellectual skills that I could apply—and have applied—in a job far removed from law.”

RICHARD WEIL, ’89
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PACIFIC INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT COMPANY

“Some students and faculty here are liberal, some conservative, and some wouldn’t be happy in either category. The Law School is simply more balanced than other schools.”

EMILY BUSS
Professor and Kanter Director for Policy Initiatives

Degrees
JD, BA, Yale University

Research
Children’s and parents’ rights

Selected courses
Civil Procedure, Adolescence and the Law

On teaching at Chicago
“The students here are terrific: engaged, prepared, and filled with good ideas.”

On the Chicago Policy Initiatives
“The Initiatives identify serious social problems and devote attention to innovative solutions. My project aims to improve the fate of teenagers aging out of foster care, who are often poorly prepared to function as adults.”
Lee Fennell
Professor of Law

“At Chicago, intellectual exchange is not partitioned into single-serving classes and workshops, but rather pervades the atmosphere. Ideas spill over into hallway and lunchtime conversations and flow across doctrinal and methodological boundaries, creating incomparable opportunities for learning.”

Lee Fennell’s research focuses primarily on property and land use. Other areas of interest include tax policy, local government, and social welfare.

Publications
“Properties of Concentration”
“Taking Eminent Domain Apart”
“Revealing Options”

Bernard Harcourt
Julius Kreiger Professor of Law and Criminology, Faculty Director of Academic Affairs, and Director of the Center for Studies in Criminal Justice

“The University of Chicago is the most intense intellectual community in the field of legal studies today. We care deeply about ideas and seek out the strongest critiques of our own positions and theories.”

Bernard Harcourt’s scholarship focuses on crime and punishment from an empirical and social theoretic perspective.

Publications
“Guns, Youths, and Crime”
“Strapped Tight: Making Ethical Choices in Law and Social Science”
Illusion of Order: The False Promise of Broken-Windows Policing

Anup Malani
Professor of Law

“Chicago students are special because they are very engaged, yet civil, in classroom discussion. They enjoy complex reasoning and often do their own outside reading, so class is a good learning opportunity for me, too.”

Anup Malani’s principal interests include valuation of legal reforms, public health law, medical trials, nonprofit firms, medical malpractice liability, compensation for mass torts, and executive compensation.

Publications
“Habeas Settlements”
“Identifying Placebo Effects with Data from Clinical Trials”
“The Political Economy of State Property Exemption Laws”

Eric Posner
Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law

“What distinguishes Chicago from other law schools is the great intellectual seriousness of both students and faculty.”

Eric Posner’s primary research interests are contract law, bankruptcy law, international law, and the relationship between law and social norms.

Publications
“Law and Social Norms”
Chicago Lectures in Law and Economics

Lior Strahilevitz
Professor of Law

“The standard undergraduate classroom experience is a lecturing professor and student stenographers. Our 1Ls experience something completely different. Most of us use the Socratic Method, which means we hear ideas from everyone in the class; the structure of every class is heavily dependent on what the students say and find interesting; and we have a collective conversation about why the law is going where it’s going, instead of professors trying to hand down wisdom from Mount Olympus.”

Lior Strahilevitz writes about real property, intellectual property, privacy, and the relationship between legal rules and human behavior.

Publications
“How's My Driving? for Everyone (and Everything)?”
“Information Asymmetries and the Rights to Exclude”
“The Right to Destroy”

David A. Weisbach
Walter J. Blum Professor and Director of the Program in Law & Economics

“The students and faculty here are never afraid to ask difficult questions, to push harder, to try to get to the bottom of important issues—which makes the school’s influence on the law and in how we think about the law unparalleled.”

David Weisbach is primarily interested in issues relating to federal taxation.

Publications
“The (Non)Taxation of Risk”
“Corporate Tax Avoidance”
CHICAGO POLICY INITIATIVES

The Law School is committed to making big contributions to topics of national interest—health care, animal rights, immigration policy. The Chicago Policy Initiatives encourage faculty members and students to work together, think hard about important social problems, and propose solutions.

The Chicago Judges Project
Professor Cass Sunstein headed this survey of the voting patterns of federal judges, finding that judges are as strongly influenced by their fellow panelists on the bench as by the political party of the person who appointed them.

Chicago Project on Animal Treatment Issues
Students and faculty examine best practices and develop disclosure guidelines for the treatment of animals in various industries. The economic forces that affect animal treatment are also the subject of this ongoing project.

Chicago Project on Foster Care
Professor Emily Buss and several Chicago students have researched the ways that law could provide better social and financial support to teenagers leaving the foster care system. The project has convened two conferences and will culminate in a symposium to release the project’s recommendations.

Chicago Project on Parental Leave
Dean Saul Levmore has initiated a project in which students research similarities and differences in parental leave policies across disciplines, professions, and cultures. The project will result in an examination and discussion of best practices and their economic ramifications.

“The education is different here. We first teach you the law, and then we teach you how to think about the law. After that, you’re pushed to defend your own ideas.”

ANUP MALANI, ’00
Associate Professor

Research
Health law, bankruptcy, torts

Selected courses
Health Law, Bankruptcy and Reorganization, Corporations

On being a lawyer
“We train lawyers to be innovative. Being innovative and creative, yet practical, is good for the client—and it’s more fun for you.”
CLINICAL PROGRAMS

The Law School pioneered clinical legal education when it opened the very first legal clinic at a law school. The Mandel Legal Aid Clinic continues to serve the people of Chicago to this day.

Second and third year students working in the clinic learn litigation, legislative advocacy, and transactional skills by representing clients while under the close supervision of clinical teachers.

**Edwin F. Mandel Legal Aid Clinic**

The Mandel clinic includes seven projects, each managed by one or more clinical professors and staffed by up to twenty students.

Appellate Advocacy assists in the representation of clients appealing convictions in the criminal-justice system.

Civil Rights and Police Accountability Project provides assistance to indigent victims of police abuse in federal and state civil rights cases.

Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project provides quality legal representation to juveniles accused of a crime and works to improve the juvenile justice system.

Employment Discrimination Project seeks to obtain relief for clients from race, sex, national origin, and disability discrimination in the work place.

Irwin Askow Housing Initiative represents housing developers, tenant groups, and other parties in the creation of affordable housing.

Mental Health Project works to improve the quality and quantity of community mental health services for persons with serious mental illnesses.

Social Service Project promotes effective interdisciplinary collaboration between social workers and attorneys.

**The Immigrant Children’s Advocacy Project**

This human service and policy advocacy program is dedicated to advocating for the best interests of immigrant and refugee children who are alone in the United States.

**Institute for Justice Clinic on Entrepreneurship**

The institute is devoted principally to expanding economic liberties by providing a range of legal services for start-up businesses in economically disadvantaged communities.

JOURNALS AND CENTERS

The Law School publishes six professional journals, three of which are run and edited by students.

**Student-edited Journals**

- The Chicago Journal of International Law
- The University of Chicago Law Review
- The University of Chicago Legal Forum

**Faculty-edited Journals**

- The Journal of Law & Economics
- The Journal of Legal Studies
- The Supreme Court Review

The Law School is also home to several centers where faculty research topical issues and present findings to students in lectures and seminars. Areas studied include Civil Justice, Comparative Constitutionalism, Criminal Justice, and Law and Economics.

GREENBERG SEMINARS

Chicago students love the Greenberg Seminars, intimate and quirky five-week classes that take place in a professor’s living room. Students have discussed graphic novels with Professor Cass Sunstein, Shakespeare with Professor Martha Nussbaum and Judge Richard Posner, and American foreign policy with Professor Eric Posner. One student said that the seminars, which change yearly, enhance the Law School’s “reputation for professors’ accessibility, and take the open-door office hours policy several steps farther than any law school I know of.”

Several times a year, faculty host roundtable dinners, a popular discussion series for students. Twenty students gather at a faculty member’s home to talk about topics not covered in classes—from who has property rights over the final out ball of the Red Sox World Series game, to the exposure of children to the Internet, to racial profiling and gerrymandering.
Careers

Our graduates take on the most demanded and demanding professional opportunities. One-quarter of Chicago graduates secure some of the most sought-after judicial clerkships, including clerkships with Justices on the United States Supreme Court. The country’s top 200 law firms, Fortune 500 companies, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations all actively seek out Chicago graduates.

CAREER EDUCATION

Seminars, workshops, and five professional career advisors are dedicated to helping you find the job that will fit you best. Practice interviews and coaching are available to all students, and you can research your future using office publications, online databases, proprietary survey data, clippings, and recruiting materials available at our wired and wireless Career Resource Center. Regular programs teach job seeking and interview skills, as well as allow you to hear directly from alumni at top firms, government agencies, and public interest organizations.

Clerkships

Chicago is one of the two most successful law schools in placing graduates in Supreme Court clerkships. Over the past ten years, twenty to twenty-five percent of each class has clerked for federal or state judges. An increasing number of alumni are clerking after a few years of experience in the public or private sector.

“The Law School provided me with a very sound, intellectual foundation which has been instrumental in my career. Classes in law and economics, accounting, and corporate finance all encouraged me to look beyond a career as a lawyer.”

DAN DOCTOROFF, ’84
Deputy Mayor, City of New York

Responsibilities
Oversees the planning and implementation of policies affecting the economic health of New York City

Previous experience
Managing Partner, Oak Hill Capital Partners; Investment Banker, Lehman Brothers

Law School connections
Hired at Lehman Brothers partly due to a Law School classmate
“Chicago is an exciting and fun environment that gives its students skills that are keys to success, regardless of the path they take.”

**Leslie Shad, ’85**
CARE USA, former General Counsel

**Responsibilities**
Advising CARE on such issues as intellectual property, federal and state compliance issues, and trusts and real estate matters

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**Careers by the Numbers**

- $165,000 median salary at graduation
- 75% percent take jobs in the private sector
- 99% percent of graduates receive offers of employment
- 20–25% of graduates receive a judicial clerkship
- 7 court clerks in 2005
- 8,500+ on-campus interview opportunities per year
- 9 percent of Chicago Law alumni are professors
- 75% percent of Chicago graduates receive a judicial clerkship
- 99% percent of graduates receive offers of employment
- 20–25% of graduates receive a judicial clerkship
- 7 court clerks in 2005
- 8,500+ on-campus interview opportunities per year
- 9 percent of Chicago Law alumni are professors
- 75% percent of Chicago graduates receive a judicial clerkship
- 99% percent of graduates receive offers of employment
- 20–25% of graduates receive a judicial clerkship
- 7 court clerks in 2005
- 8,500+ on-campus interview opportunities per year
- 9 percent of Chicago Law alumni are professors
“A law degree from the University of Chicago gives you tremendous access to opportunities. Everywhere I go there are Chicago alums, which helps form an instant bond. A degree from the Law School provides a seal of integrity in a field not always known for it.”

James L. Tanner Jr., ’93
Partner, Williams & Connolly

“The Law School, especially the law and economics perspective, provided a strong foundation for intellectual analysis of complex legal issues.”

Jeryl A. Bowers, ’93
Partner, Kirkpatrick & LockhartNicholson Graham, LLP
Los Angeles

Previous experience
Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel at MediaLive
International Holdings; General Counsel at PETSMART.COM

Mergers and acquisitions
The Law School

The Law School is different from other schools. Our faculty members are driven teachers and prolific scholars, engaged with social problems and real legal issues. Our students value academic thought, compassionate clinical work, and contact with one another and their teachers. Our graduates distinguish themselves with their intellect, skepticism, sense of purpose, and taste for the tough questions.

Classes are small, allowing for intimate exchanges of ideas. The Law School fosters community by organizing students into research and writing sections of about thirty students, taught by fellows known as “Bigelows.” These students get to know each other well, and work together all year.

By the second and third year, students become leaders, heading organizations that delve deeper into law or that broaden social horizons. Our students sing in a cappella groups, act in the Winter Quarter Musical, play softball, and volunteer for community service. A student favorite is the weekly Friday Wine Mess, where students socialize over wine and cheese. On Wednesday mornings, faculty and staff drop by the Green Lounge for Coffee Mess, where they talk with students over donuts and bagels.

Here you will find a unique intellectual community with a wide array of courses, excellent clinical programs, a parade of absorbing speakers, an engaged and accessible faculty who are committed to teaching as well as scholarship, and constant opportunities to challenge and be challenged by classmates and teachers alike.”

GEOFFREY STONE, ’71
HARRY KALVEN, JR. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE PROFESSOR, FORMER UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO PROVOST, FORMER DEAN OF THE LAW SCHOOL
The University of Chicago

The University of Chicago is known for its more than seventy Nobel laureates and its world-changing ideas, but it is also a friendly place to work and play. The heart of the University campus, known as the Quads, is a 211-acre botanic park. Students study by the ducks in Botany Pond, relax on the swing in the Social Science quad, or take a quiet walk through the cloisters near the Divinity School. Not only is the campus bisected by the spacious green belt known as the Midway—where there are many pick-up soccer games and an outdoor ice-skating rink—but it is also surrounded by Chicago parks, which include an 18-hole golf course one-half mile from campus, a swimming pool, romantic lagoons, and a bustling marina on Lake Michigan.

The Ratner Center, named for Law School alumnus Gerald Ratner, ’37, is the University’s new sports complex. It is an ideal place to work out, whether you choose to swim in the Olympic-sized pool, run on the indoor track, or use the exercise machines in the cardio rotunda. Students can also take in lectures all over campus, attend nightly viewings of new and classic films in Ida Noyes’ award-winning, Dolby-equipped theater, stretch out in a dance class, or go to a play produced by the Court Theatre, the University’s acclaimed professional theater company.
Hyde Park

Swim at the sandy beach near Promontory Point Park. Ice skate on the Midway just 200 feet from the Law School’s front door. Get involved with local politics. Browse through thousands of hand-chosen titles at the warren-like 57th Street Books. Buy some cotton candy at the Hyde Park Art Fair or fresh vegetables at the weekly Harper Court farmer’s market.

Hyde Park, nestled next to Lake Michigan and long considered the jewel of Chicago’s South Side, is a diverse, close-knit, and highly intellectual community. Many of the University professors live nearby on “Professors’ Row,” and residents greet each other in the Hyde Park Co-Op grocery store or outside the Medici, a popular burger joint. They walk their dogs in Nichols Park to the squawk of the monk parakeets that fly through the trees there. They attend raucous community meetings on zoning and development, often enriched by the views of economics and sociology professors. Chicago faculty and students are so much a part of the community that alumnus David Auburn wrote his 2001 Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning play *Proof* about a Chicago professor and his daughter living in Hyde Park.

Students who live in Hyde Park will find a range of some of the most affordable housing in the city, from full-service buildings with a pool and a doorman, to family- and pet-friendly apartments owned by the University, to the collegial New Grad dormitory, which is just a short walk from the Law School.

Chicago students have the best of both worlds—a college town within a sparkling city.
Chicago

Chicago is a cosmopolitan, diverse, yet affordable city. Chicago is also the birthplace of modern architecture and sketch comedy, the home of the Chicago Marathon on Columbus Day weekend, and a showplace for world-class museums like The Art Institute of Chicago and the Field Museum of Natural History. It’s a city where there is something new to do every day and night: go to Navy Pier to take in Shakespeare and a ferris wheel ride; visit Devon Street to buy a sari or Pilsen to admire the public murals and eat Mexican food; dance at hundreds of nightclubs; feast at thousands of restaurants; take in an art film, a rock concert, or a street fair.

Our students plan outings to see our major league sports teams, the Bulls, the Bears, the Blackhawks—and of course the Cubs and the White Sox. Many of the 250 local theater ensembles and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra offer student discounts. Some students particularly like getting a drink at legendary jazz and blues clubs like the Green Mill and Hyde Park’s own Checkerboard Lounge.
THE PROGRAM

Compelling

sDP - Rational

8th Amdt - Proportion

1st Amdt - Speech
Curriculum

At Chicago, you learn the law—and you learn how to think, which is even more important. The Law School discourages narrow specialization. The law will change while you are in law school, and so we train our students for the future.

You will get to know your professors and each other because classes are small and the people are friendly. First-year students take a core sequence covering contracts, torts, property, criminal law, and civil procedure, as well as one interdisciplinary course, Elements of the Law. Every student in the first-year class at some point takes a class with every other 1L student.

All of the University is open to you in the second and third years, when you can choose not only from more than 170 classes per quarter within the Law School, ranging from Health Law and Policy to Telecommunications, from Feminist Jurisprudence to Public International Law, but also from hundreds of courses in other schools and departments.

You will find that the curriculum is deep and diverse, emphasizing careful analysis infused with interdisciplinary perspectives, drawing on the faculty’s extensive backgrounds in fields such as economics, history, philosophy, political science, and sociology.

The Law School also offers shorter, more intensive courses such as Criminal Justice Policy and Financial Accounting to spic up the curriculum with skills training and distinguished visitors—and without a major time investment.

For a complete list of courses, see www.law.uchicago.edu/courses/.
“Life should be about striving, progress, and improvement. For me, this is the place where that can happen.”

ADAM SAMAH
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW

BREAK OUT OF THE BOX

Elements of the Law, a class designed at Chicago, examines legal issues from diverse standpoints. You’ll learn how political scientists, economists, psychologists, sociologists, and moral philosophers think about legal questions. And you’ll learn about the basic reasoning behind all laws: why we reason from precedent; what consent, coercion, and voluntary choice mean; how we choose between rules and discretionary standards; and how to think about interpreting statutes and other authoritative texts that may not have been written with today’s problems in mind.

JOINT AND CONCURRENT DEGREES

The Law School encourages interdisciplinary work—all students may take twelve hours of coursework anywhere in the University. Students may also apply for three formal joint degree programs either at the same time they apply to the Law School or in their first year. They may also work with Law School and University staff to arrange concurrent degrees.

The formal joint degree programs reduce time and expense by allowing candidates to count course work in each area for both degrees. For students working on concurrent degrees, the Law School is flexible, giving students leaves of absence so that they may register full time in other areas of the University.

Formal joint degree programs:
The Graduate School of Business (MBA, PhD)
The Harris School of Public Policy (MPP)
The Committee on International Relations (MA)
1. Professor Douglas Baird at the annual auction, which raises money for students working at nonprofit organizations for the summer. 2. Students performing in the Winter Quarter Musical, an annual parody of law school life. 3. The locker area in the renovated classroom wing. 4. Wednesday morning Coffee Mess. 5. Studying in the library. 6. On line for a free lunch before a noon time lecture. 7. A foosball game in the Green Lounge, the Law School’s social hub. 8. The first-year student BBQ in the Law School courtyard.
Apply

How to Apply to the University of Chicago Law School

Ready to join us? Submit an application in one of two ways:

• Paper application, which may be downloaded at www.law.uchicago.edu

• Law School Data Assembly Services (LSDAS) electronic application, available at www.lsac.org

When to Apply

The Law School starts accepting applications after September 1. You may apply Early Decision or Regular Decision.

Early Decision

If you want to apply Early Decision, the application and all supporting materials must be received by the Admissions Office by December 1. Admission during Early Decision is binding on applicants. Indicate your intention to apply Early Decision on your application and return the signed Early Decision Agreement with your application. We will let you know by the end of December whether your application is accepted, denied, or held for further review. Applications that are held will be considered in the Regular Decision cycle and admission will no longer be binding.

Regular Decision

If you are applying Regular Decision, submit your application and all supporting materials so that the Admissions Office receives them by February 1. We consider applications as soon as they are completed and review them in the order they are completed.

APPLICATION AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS

Application

To apply, complete the two-page application and provide the supporting materials, detailed below.

Law School Admission Test

Your Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) score must be less than five years old. Submit all scores received on the LSAT.

Academic History

Please provide us with a complete history of your academic performance, both undergraduate and graduate, through the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS).

Resumé

Describe your principal extracurricular and community activities, as well as any full- or part-time employment, in your resumé.

Letters of Recommendation

You must send us two letters of recommendation, but we will accept up to four. We strongly recommend that you send at least one letter from an academic instructor who is very familiar with your academic ability. Please submit your letters through the LSDAS letter of recommendation service.

Personal Statement

Your personal statement is an important, required part of your application that gives us insight into the non-academic contribution you would make to the class and helps us to know you better. A statement that focuses on some personal attribute or experience is helpful to the Admissions Committee.

The application fee is $75.

The application, detailed information, and instructions regarding each of the application requirements may be found at www.law.uchicago.edu.
Financial Aid

Your Chicago legal education is an investment in your future. Chicago provides generous financial aid in the form of loans and scholarships for those who would otherwise not be able to attend.

Tuition for the Law School for 2007–2008 is $39,198 for the nine-month academic year. During the 2007–2008 academic year, the average budget, including tuition, for a single student is $61,167. An additional $1,500 loan is available to all students to cover the cost of a laptop or other computer.

Over half of the students at the Law School receive scholarships. Approximately eighty percent of students receive government-backed and private loans. The total amount available through government-backed loans is $20,500 annually, and students are able to borrow up to the full student budget through private loans.

Hormel Public Interest Program and First Year Public Interest Support
The Law School offers support for students who choose to work in public interest for a summer or for a career. For more information, please visit www.law.uchicago.edu/financial/loanforgive.html or www.law.uchicago.edu/financial/summer.html.

Deadlines and Procedures
To apply for need-based aid, complete the candidate and parent questionnaires (and if applicable the spouse questionnaire) on the Need Access Application at www.needaccess.org by March 1.

Open Houses for Prospective Students
Visit us! Attend a class, meet with students, faculty, and administrators, and tour the Law School at one of our open houses for prospective students. Try to visit during the academic term so you can see the school in action.

Open Houses begin in October and continue through December. Daily tours begin after New Year’s Day. Please check our website for additional information.

Questions?
Call us at 773-702-9484, visit www.law.uchicago.edu or e-mail us at admissions@law.uchicago.edu.

Financial Aid

Your Chicago legal education is an investment in your future. Chicago provides generous financial aid in the form of loans and scholarships for those who would otherwise not be able to attend.

Tuition for the Law School for 2007–2008 is $39,198 for the nine-month academic year. During the 2007–2008 academic year, the average budget, including tuition, for a single student is $61,167. An additional $1,500 loan is available to all students to cover the cost of a laptop or other computer.

Over half of the students at the Law School receive scholarships. Approximately eighty percent of students receive government-backed and private loans. The total amount available through government-backed loans is $20,500 annually, and students are able to borrow up to the full student budget through private loans.

Hormel Public Interest Program and First Year Public Interest Support
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“It’s a truly unusual place, one of genuine intellectual ability—not just tokenism—where you have significant figures on the faculty who engage in substantive conversation and disagreement—not name-calling and political posturing, but serious discussion of serious issues.”

MICHAEL W. MCCONNELL, ‘79
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Seven Chicago Law students served as Supreme Court Clerks in the same term while they are on the Supreme Court steps.
WELCOME TO

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