

Stanford University Law School

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■ Introduction

Stanford Law School is part of one of the world's leading research institutions, providing plentiful opportunities for interdisciplinary cooperation. Stanford University is a private university located in the heart of Silicon Valley, just 35 miles south of San Francisco. The university's 8,180 acres stretch between the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains and the cities of Palo Alto and Menlo Park, in a part of the country that offers an ideal, Mediterranean climate of dry, warm summers and wet, but temperate winters.

Current enrollment at the university is approximately 16,000 students, of whom about 8,200 are graduate students. The Law School is small, with about 530 JD students, 40 LLM and JSM students, and a faculty of 40-plus permanent members. The school has teaching and research ties with schools and departments across campus. Law School courses are taught in 16 beautiful, recently renovated multimedia classrooms with full wireless Internet connectivity.

Stanford Law School offers a unique combination of the classic and cutting edge in legal education. The school is preparing its students for a rich and varied professional life in an era of great excitement and rapid change—much of it generated by the remarkable innovations in information technology pioneered in Silicon Valley—and for careers in an increasingly global community.

■ Faculty

Stanford Law School has an exceptional faculty, distinguished not only for its scholarship, but also for its commitment to teaching and curricular innovation. The school's unusually low student/faculty ratio creates an intimate, collegial environment that fosters students' intellectual and professional development both in and out of the classroom. Students have many opportunities to work closely with faculty members as research assistants on scholarly projects; indeed, the faculty actively encourage interested students to develop their own scholarship for future academic careers. The relationships formed between Stanford faculty and students often last a lifetime.

Instruction at Stanford takes place primarily in small classes and seminars and through individually directed research. It also takes innovative forms: Stanford is a leader in the development of clinical teaching through simulation and individualized feedback via a diverse range of legal clinics.

The faculty is continually engaged in developing new teaching methods to complement curricular innovations. Case studies, similar to those of business schools, challenge students to consider the interaction of legal and nonlegal factors involved in a given situation. Interdisciplinary research projects allow faculty and students from the law school and other parts of the university, joined by practitioners and policymakers, to engage in applied research in fields such as technology policy and international law.

■ Library and Physical Facilities

Housed within Crown Quadrangle is the Robert Crown Law Library, which holds an excellent collection of print materials and an even richer and growing collection of online resources.

The library and school are configured for wireless access. Popular with the law students are the library's reading rooms, which are flooded with natural light from floor-to-ceiling windows and feature technology-enabled conference rooms, modern decor, and even loaner bicycles. The 28 friendly and service-minded staff members at the Robert Crown Law Library are dedicated to helping students, faculty, and staff with all their research needs.

■ Special Programs

Joint-degree Programs—Stanford Law School is actively expanding its joint-degree programs, leveraging the highly rated graduate schools and academic programs throughout Stanford University. For students with specialized career aspirations, opportunities to customize a joint degree are limitless; the law school reaches out to virtually every Stanford school or department where there's an opportunity for students to work across disciplines. To facilitate interdisciplinary study and scholarship with the wider university and simplify the pursuit of joint degrees, we are adapting the law school calendar to be compatible with those of other Stanford schools and departments.

Established joint-study programs with several other Stanford departments include a JD/MBA with the Graduate School of Business, a JD/PhD with the Department of Economics, a JD/MS with the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Environment and Resources, and a JD/PhD with the Department of Sociology. Joint-degree programs are also offered with Princeton's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University. In addition, the school will consider requests for joint programs on an individually designed basis.

Programs and Centers—Stanford Law School's scholarly programs and innovative centers offer a sophisticated array of options and give students the opportunity for concentrated study and close interaction with faculty. Students may engage in graduate-level research and policy-oriented study through centers and programs such as Stanford Constitutional Law Center; Stanford Criminal Justice Center; Stanford Program in International Law, including the Gould Negotiation and Mediation Teaching Program; Stanford Center on Conflict Negotiation; the Programs in Law, Economics, and Business, including the Arthur and Toni Rembe Rock Center for Corporate Governance; Law, Science and Technology, including the Center for Internet and Society, Center for Law and BioSciences, and Center for Computers and the Law; and International Law, Business and Policy.

Team-taught Courses and Concentration—Embarking on a new educational concept, Stanford Law now offers team-oriented, problem-solving courses, many of which are cotaught by law school faculty and faculty from Stanford's other top-rated schools and departments. Classes are open to students from a variety of disciplines.

Students interested in a particular area of law can specialize by taking a customized selection of law school courses.

Clinical Program—Stanford is a leader in the development of clinical teaching and, through its expanded clinical program, offers students the opportunity to undertake, under the close

supervision of experienced practitioners, the roles and responsibilities of practicing lawyers. Students engage in witness examination, depositions, discovery, negotiations, drafting pleadings and memos, oral arguments, and analysis of tactical and ethical problems. Supervised work with clients may take place in any of Stanford's nine clinics, including our Community Law Clinic, Criminal Prosecution Clinic, Immigrants' Rights Clinic, or Supreme Court Litigation Clinic.

■ Housing

Stanford provides a variety of subsidized on-campus housing options. Housing is guaranteed to all new, matriculated students who apply for housing by the early-May deadline and are willing to live in any graduate residence. The university maintains listings of off-campus housing opportunities. More information about housing is available at the Housing Assignment Services website www.stanford.edu/dept/hds/has/.

■ Student Activities

Fifty-one student organizations enrich the law school experience. Opportunities for scholarly work are provided through the *Stanford Law Review*; *Stanford Journal of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties*; *Stanford Journal of International Law*; *Stanford Journal of Law, Business and Finance*; *Stanford Law and Policy Review*; *Stanford Technology Law Review*; and *Stanford Environmental Law Journal*. Advocacy skills are developed in moot court and mock trial.

Students who are female, Asian, African American, Latino, Native American, Christian, Jewish, bisexual, gay, or lesbian will all find groups with their particular concerns. Other organizations focus on environmental law, international law, law and technology, and public interest law. Local affiliates of the Federalist Society, the American Constitution Society, and the National Lawyers Guild are present.

Applicant Profile

Our admission process takes into consideration many factors besides the undergraduate GPA and LSAT score. A statistical grid, as is typically provided here, only takes into

■ Expenses and Financial Aid

Estimated expenses are as follows: For 2006–2007, full-time tuition was \$37,440, with additional expenses including housing estimated at \$20,268 for single students living on campus and \$23,518 for single students living off campus. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need. The purpose of financial aid is to assist students who would otherwise be unable to pursue a legal education at Stanford. Approximately 80 percent of the student body receives tuition fellowship or loan assistance.

Stanford law students planning public service careers may apply for Public Service Fellowships for their second and third years of school. The school also offers funding to students who dedicate a law school summer to qualified public service work. And for graduates who take low-paying public interest jobs and have substantial educational debt, the school has an excellent Loan Repayment Assistance Program.

■ Career Services

The Office of Career Services helps students find employment. More than 300 employers representing 600 offices worldwide participate in the spring and fall on-campus interview programs. The office also offers counseling and information on traditional and nontraditional careers and employers. The school encourages students to consider public interest and public-sector employment and assists students to secure such positions.

A survey of students graduating in the class of 2005 shows the following employment patterns: law firm associates, 65 percent; judicial clerks, 26 percent; and business (legal and nonlegal), public interest, government, or law teaching, 9 percent.

consideration these two factors. We have chosen not to provide applicants with such a grid because our admission process would not be accurately portrayed.