

University of Wisconsin Law School

975 Bascom Mall

Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 608.262.5914; Fax: 608.263.3190

E-mail: admissions@law.wisc.edu; Website: www.law.wisc.edu

■ A Preeminent Law School, A World-class University, A Beautiful City

The UW Law School is one of the most intellectually exciting law schools in the country, attracting students from around the world. Students represent a variety of backgrounds, ages, interests, races, nationalities, and life experiences, encouraging a robust exchange of ideas.

Top students are drawn to the UW Law School because of its tradition of excellence, its beautiful setting in the heart of one of the world's leading research universities, and its *law-in-action* philosophy, an approach that differentiates it from other law schools.

The UW Law School is located in Madison, an affordable city strategically and conveniently situated in the middle of a triangle formed by Chicago, Minneapolis, and Milwaukee. As the state capital, Madison is home to many courts and state and federal government agencies—all within walking distance of the Law School.

■ A Commitment to Diversity and Community

A major indicator of the strength of any law school is its student body. The fall 2007 entering class of 264 students represents 32 states and 112 undergraduate institutions. Annually, approximately 40 percent of our students are from outside of Wisconsin; close to half are women; and more than 25 percent are students of color. The UW Law School's admission policies enhance the diversity, vigor, social concern, and academic ability of the student community. There is a special feeling of community in the school and an informal, supportive atmosphere, reflecting a strong commitment by faculty and administrators to student learning, morale, and well-being.

■ The Faculty: Leading Scholars and Outstanding Teachers

The UW Law School's nationally recognized faculty come from a wide range of backgrounds and offer students strong role models and a variety of experiences. They are leading scholars who are also actively involved in the law. They advise on stem cell issues, represent clients on death row, work with congressional staffers to draft legislation, and provide legal advice to poor farmers in the South. They are interesting lawyers doing interesting things, but first and foremost, they are excellent teachers who are committed to their students. A superb clinical faculty and an experienced adjunct faculty provide additional teaching resources.

■ The Curriculum: Law in Action

Students at the UW Law School have many opportunities to experience *law-in-action*. An extensive curriculum places an emphasis on the dynamics of the law (how the law relates to social change and to society as a whole) while at the same time emphasizing skill development, particularly legal analysis and writing. The first-year small-section program teaches the fundamentals of legal analysis and reasoning in a supportive setting. In the first semester, two of a student's five classes—a

substantive law class and a legal research and writing class—are small sections. Students receive individual feedback, and it is easy to form study groups and friendships because students from these small sections take all of their other classes together.

In the second and third years of law school, students have time both to explore the curriculum and to develop the lawyering skills they need. The UW Law School is a national law school that prepares students to practice wherever they choose. Students choose courses from an extraordinary breadth and depth of offerings, affording them the opportunity to explore cutting-edge legal issues in the classroom and to apply their knowledge in one of the many clinical programs.

■ Dual-degree Programs

Renowned for its interdisciplinary approach, the UW Law School offers many opportunities for students to combine the study of law with a graduate degree in another subject. There are many existing dual-degree programs. If one of the existing programs does not meet a student's academic needs, the Law School will help create an individualized curriculum.

■ Clinicals and Skills Training: Hands-on Learning

The UW Law School is committed to practical experience as a part of legal education. With one of the largest clinical programs in the country, the UW Law School offers a wide variety of hands-on lawyering experiences with real clients and excellent supervision. From representing low-income clients, to teaming up with medical students as advocates for newly diagnosed cancer patients, or assisting inmates in state and federal prisons, these experiences are invaluable opportunities. Judicial internships, externships, and our innovative lawyering skills program provide additional hands-on learning experiences.

■ Going Global: International Law and Study Abroad

Ten professors devote their scholarship and teaching primarily to international or comparative law, and many others integrate analysis of foreign legal developments into their domestic law courses. The Law School hosts international students and professors, bringing diverse international perspectives to the classroom, and the university has one of the largest groups of international students in the country. Students can also study with one of the nine foreign law faculties with which the Law School has exchange agreements or participate in foreign study programs of other US law schools. Additional international opportunities are available through the Law School's East Asian Legal Studies Center, established to formalize and increase the Law School's interaction in East and Southeast Asia.

■ Student Activities

More than 30 organizations provide outstanding opportunities for students to pursue their talents and interests. Several moot court competitions at the UW Law School enable students to gain experience with brief writing and oral advocacy, and three

student journals—*Wisconsin Law Review*, *Wisconsin International Law Journal*, and *Wisconsin Journal of Law, Gender, and Society*—give students an opportunity to contribute to the Law School’s scholarly publications and gain invaluable training in legal research and writing.

■ Career Opportunities

Leading law firms, government agencies, businesses, and

public interest organizations seek to hire UW Law School graduates. A broad range of legal employers from many major cities participate in the on-campus interview program. The Law School also participates in nine off-campus job fairs each year in New York; Washington, DC; Los Angeles; Chicago; and Minneapolis. Our students receive assistance from many of our more than 12,000 alumni throughout the country, and our graduates typically accept jobs in more than 20 different states from New York to California.

Applicant Profile

Admission to the University of Wisconsin Law School is competitive. The most recent entering class had a median LSAT score of 161 and a median GPA of 3.58. The Law School does not provide a profile chart because its admission decisions involve many factors that are not represented by undergraduate GPA and LSAT scores. The UW Law School

Admissions Committee looks at an applicant’s credentials taken as a whole. While candidates with higher grades and scores tend to be admitted at higher rates, GPA and LSAT scores alone are not necessarily good predictors of admission decisions on individual applications.