

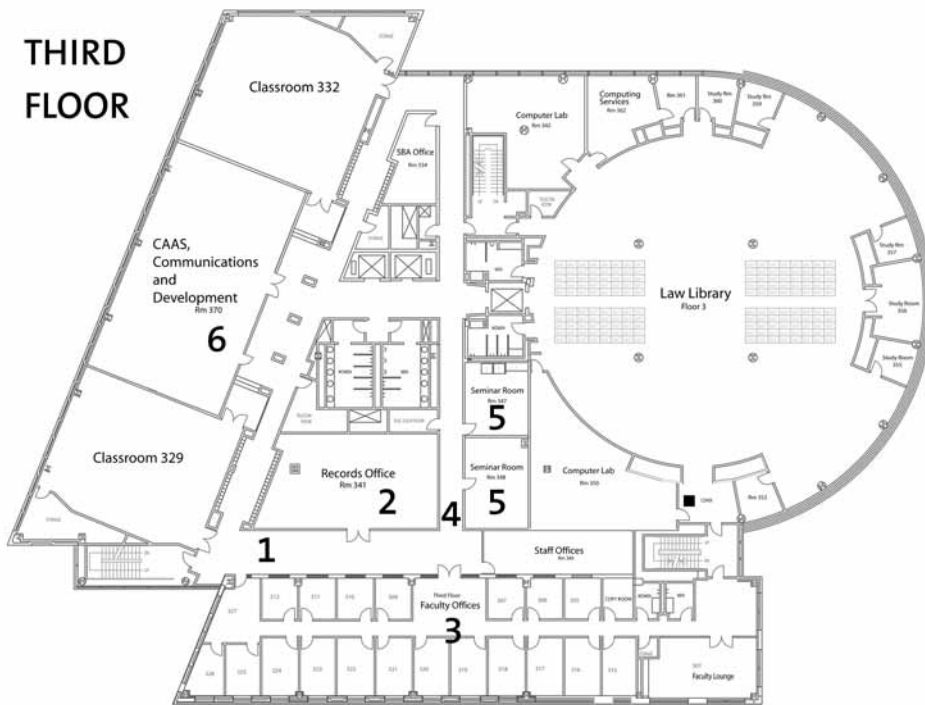
Welcome to George Mason University School of Law

A Self-Guided Tour



Thank you for visiting the George Mason University School of Law! Opened in 1999, **Hazel Hall** is the main law school building. Here you will find the law library, classrooms, faculty, the law school administration, and student support services. We have a student body of approximately 790 students, two-thirds of whom are full-time students.

This tour leaves from the **Admissions Office** on the **SECOND FLOOR** of Hazel Hall, Room 237. The Admissions Office receives over 5,000 applications for admission each year. In the fall of 2010, Mason Law matriculated 303 students, a class that was larger than previous first-year classes. The full-time median GPA was 3.72; the full-time median LSAT score was 164.



Upon leaving the Admissions Office, take a few steps to the right and walk up the stairs to exit on the **THIRD FLOOR**. **Student mailboxes(1)** will be on your left. Each student is assigned a mailbox, where he or she typically receives returned papers from professors, as well as information from student organizations. Many professors also communicate with students via e-mail and online discussion forums, and student organizations often maintain websites to reach out to students.

Across from the mailboxes is the **grade board**. The grade distributions for each course are posted to this board. The curve for all first-year classes, except LRWA, and for all required upper-class must fall between 3.2 and 3.3. For all other courses of 50+ students, the curve is between 3.15 and 3.35; for upper level elective courses with fewer than 50 students, the mean grade may range from 3.05 to 3.45. **Class ranks** are posted on a board to the left of the grade board. Students obtain their individual grades by logging in to *Patriot Web*, our on-line registration system.

Adjacent to the student mailboxes, you will find the **Records Office(2)**. The Records Office staff oversees class registration and exams and produces transcripts for our students. While the Financial Aid Office is located on the Fairfax campus of Mason, a representative from Financial Aid is regularly available in the law school Records Office at the beginning of each semester.

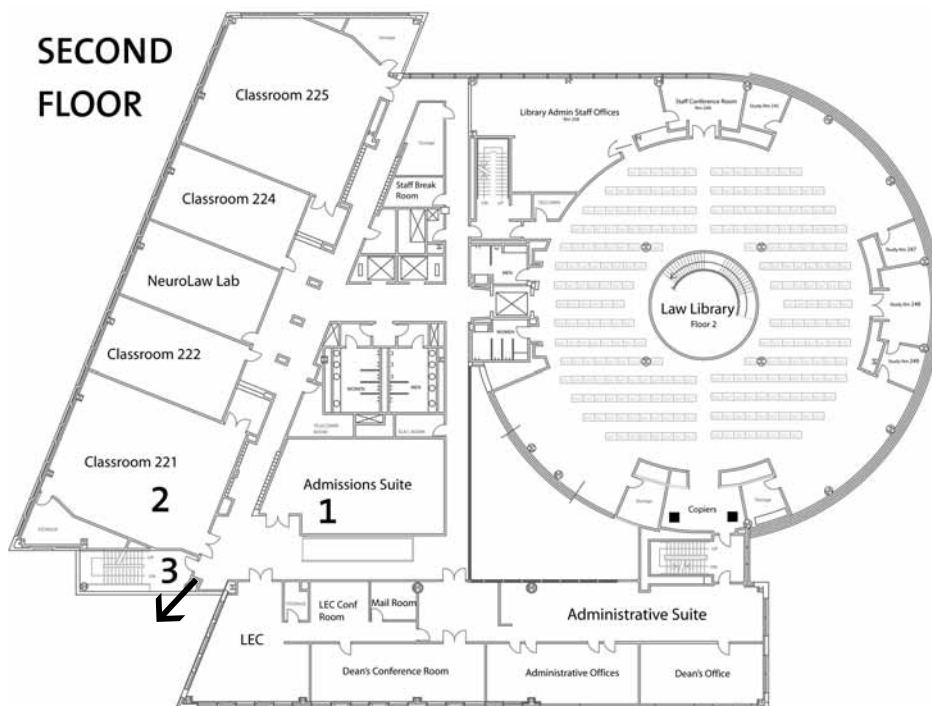
On your right, you will find a **Faculty Suite(3)**, where professors' offices are located. There is an additional faculty suite on the fourth floor, directly above the one in front of which you are standing. Most professors keep office hours that allow both part-time and full-time students to meet with them. Some professors prefer that students e-mail them to schedule an appointment. Mason Law students report that the professors are very accessible to them.

Near the faculty suite entrance, turn left and proceed down the hall. In the hallway there are bulletin boards for our **student organizations(4)**. Mason Law has 41 student organizations that cover a broad and diverse range of interests. The entire list of organizations and the contact information for each group is available on our website at www.gmu.edu/students/orgs.

Mason Law has four law journals. At the end of their second semester, students are eligible to participate in an anonymous write-on competition for membership in the *George Mason Law Review*, the *Civil Rights Law Journal*, the *Journal of Law, Economics & Policy*, or the *Journal of International Commercial Law*. *The Journal of Law, Economics & Policy* also requires student interviews for membership on the journal. Transfer students may participate in a separate, later write-on competition, and there are a number of spots reserved for transfer students on each of the journals.

As you proceed down the hall, on your right you will see two **Seminar Rooms, 347 & 348(5)**. Seminar rooms are spread throughout the building. Most students will take at least two seminar classes while they are at GMU. Many seminars are limited to fifteen students, so these much smaller classrooms are more appropriate for seminar courses.

Once you have finished observing the student bulletin boards and seminar rooms, please turn to the left at the break in the middle of the hall, pass the elevators on your right, and proceed to the **Career, Academic, and Alumni Services Office (CAAS)(6)**. At the end of the first semester, students are assigned a counselor from the CAAS office with whom they will work individually during their time at Mason Law. Within six months of graduation, 99 percent of Mason Law graduates from the class of 2009 were employed. Forty-two percent of graduates entered private practice, while fifteen percent took positions in government. Eighty percent of 2009 graduates passed the Virginia Bar exam on the first attempt. Please feel free to stop in the CAAS office with questions pertaining to career services, fall recruiting, or anything at all!

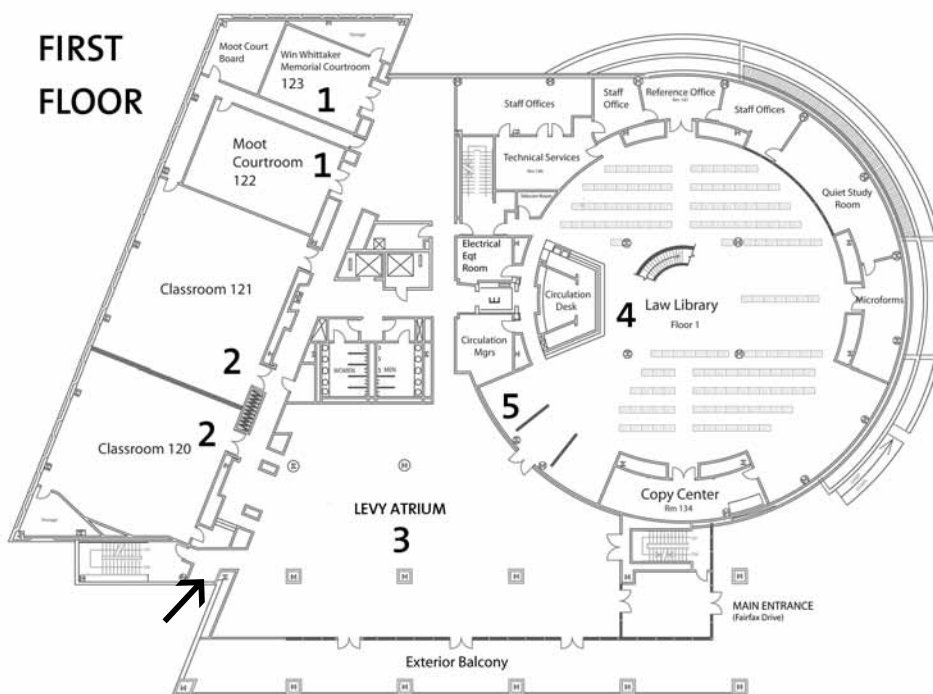


After visiting the CAAS office, please take the elevator to the **SECOND FLOOR**. If you turn right on your way out of the elevator and

then left towards the **Admissions Office (1)**, where you started, you will see **Room 221(2)** on your right. Room 221 is a representative medium-sized classroom. You are welcome to enter the classroom as long as no class is in session. The entire building, including all classrooms, is wireless, and most students take their notes and many exams on laptop computers. Each seat has access to a power outlet and LAN line.

Walk out of 221 through the same door you entered, and to the right you will see a door to enter **Founders' Hall(3)**. Founders Hall is a recent addition to the Arlington campus and includes an auditorium along with many classrooms and study spaces available to Mason Law students. You may want to take a quick walk on the second floor of Founders Hall. You'll pass by a quiet meditation spot on the left, and further on the left you'll pass the building's library. The law school has its own library on the first floor of Hazel Hall, but law students are welcome to use the general library in Founders Hall.

Just to the left of the library entrance, you can take the stairs down to the first floor of Founders Hall. There you'll see the main entrance of Founders Hall and the Arlington Campus Information Desk. If you walk to the right, you will find the Auditorium (Room 136) and the Multi-Purpose Room (Room 125), both used for special events on the Arlington campus. Walking back the way you came, you'll pass by the Einstein Brothers Bagel café and the Arlington campus bookstore on your left before reentering Hazel Hall.



You will reenter Hazel Hall through the **Levy Atrium(3)**, where students relax, catch up, and study in between classes. Additionally, many student organization events and receptions are held in the Atrium. To your right, near the front of the building, you will enter the **Law School Library(4)**. Feel free to explore all three floors. The first and second floors are connected by the spiral staircase in the center of the library, and an interior elevator or stairwell takes you up to the third floor. Study rooms and computer labs can

be found on the second and third floors, but study carrels and tables are located throughout the library for all law students' use. Carrels by the big windows are popular study spots. Mason Law participates in an inter-library loan program with other law schools in the Washington, D.C. area; students may request materials from participating schools that are delivered to the law school.

As you leave the Law School Library, take a moment to examine the bobblehead dolls in the **case(5)** to the right of the exit doors. Produced by *The Green Bag, an Entertaining Journal of Law*, whose editor-

in-chief is Mason's own Professor Ross E. Davies, the bobbleheads represent Supreme Court Justices and their famous legal opinions. These dolls have become quite the collector's item and are hard to get, even on eBay!

Along the back wall of the Atrium, you will find **Classrooms 120 and 121 (2)**, our largest lecture rooms. Many first-year classes are held in these two classrooms. An average first-year section has between 60 and 80 students, with smaller breakout sessions for legal writing.

If you walk to the right from Classrooms 120 and 121, you will see the **Moot Courtrooms (1)** on your left. George Mason has a trial room, updated with the latest electronic court equipment, and an appellate room. We have an active and successful Moot Court Board for students interested in appellate competition and argument, as well as an active Trial Advocacy group for those interested in trial competitions. The Moot Court Board sponsors the First-Year Moot Court Competition. All first-year students participate in this competition, which takes place on a Saturday in the spring semester. Students prepare a motion for argument for the competition, which they present to panels of volunteer judges composed of law school alumni, local judges, and practitioners.

The final round of the First-Year Moot Court Competition is held in the ceremonial courtroom of one of our local courthouses. For instance, the 2011 competition will be held in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Use of these facilities provides our students with memorable experiences.

We hope that you have enjoyed your time at George Mason Law! Please feel free to contact us at 703.993.8010 or via e-mail at lawadmit@gmu.edu with any further questions.



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