

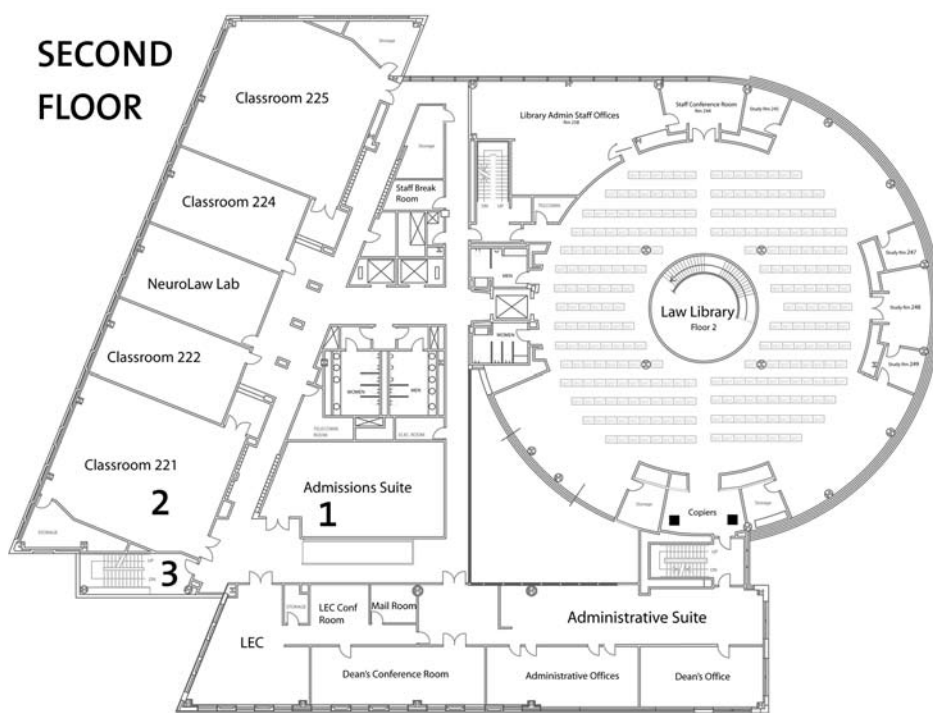
Welcome to George Mason University School of Law

A Self-Guided Tour

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



This tour leaves from the **Admissions Office (1)** 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 2007, Mason Law matriculated 267 first-year students. The full-time median LSAT score was 164, and the full-time median GPA was 3.62.



Upon leaving the Admissions Office, take a few steps to the right where you will see the door to a representative medium-sized classroom, **Classroom 221 (2)**. You are welcome to enter if no class is in session. All of the classrooms, as well as the entire building, are wireless, and most students take their notes and many exams on laptops. Each seat has access to a power outlet and LAN line.

Leave Room 221 by the same door, turn right, and walk through the door into one of our two **stairwells (3)**. Paus-

ing in the stairwell for a moment, you will see, through the window, the three additional buildings of the George Mason Arlington Campus and construction of a fourth.

- What has been a parking lot in the middle of the campus is the future home of **Arlington II**. The new building will be shared by the law school and one of Mason's graduate departments and will include an auditorium and a green space.
- Beyond Arlington II is the **Original Building**, which housed the law school prior to the construction of Hazel Hall. Today law students visit the Original Building to obtain their student ID card and parking permit, to purchase books from the bookstore, to relax in a student lounge, or to study in the general library for the Arlington campus. The School of Public Policy operates from the Original Building.

- To the right of the Original Building, you will see a large, white building with several tiers of parking. **The Foundation Building** provides parking for the law school, leased office space, and 3,000 square feet of retail space. The cost of a parking permit per semester is \$100.

- Finally, to the right of the Foundation Building stands the **Truland Building**, the site of administrative offices for several Mason programs, including the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution (ICAR) and the Critical Infrastructure Protection Program (CIPP). Additionally, Truland hosts several Mason Law programs. The offices of the director and assistant director of the Legal Research, Writing and Analysis

program (LRWA) are located in Truland, as are the offices of the Clinic for Legal Assistance to Servicemembers. Several student organizations, the journals, and the law review have offices in the Truland Building. Students may visit Student Health Services in Truland. Also, additional parking is available below the building.

To continue your tour, walk up the stairs and exit at the next door, entering 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. Across from the mailboxes is the **grade board**. The grade distributions for each class are posted to this board. The curve for all first-year classes, except LRWA, and for all required upper-class courses must fall within a range of 2.85 to 2.95. For all other courses of 50+ students, the curve is between 2.8 and 3.0; for all other classes between 15 and 49 students, the curve is between 2.7 and 3.1. In the LRWA program, the curve is a 3.0. Students obtain their individual grades by logging in to *Patriot Web*, our on-line registration system.

On your left, directly across from the grade board and 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, a representative from Financial Aid is available in the law school Records Office regularly 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.

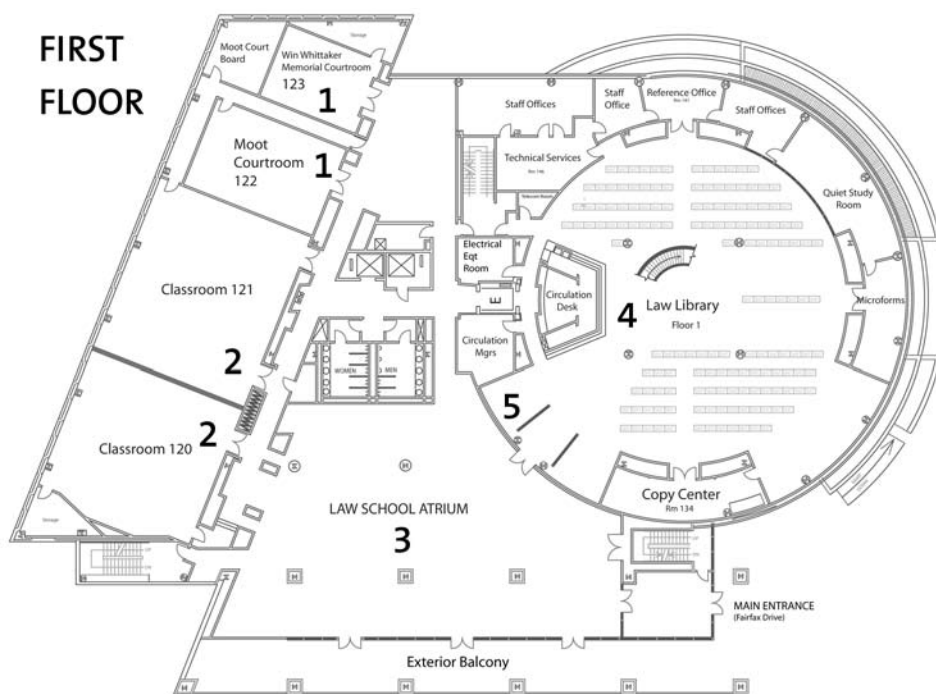
Some professors prefer that students e-mail to schedule an appointment. Mason Law students report that the professors are very accessible to them.

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 37 different 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.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs.php.

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 *Federal Circuit Bar Journal*, or the *Civil Rights Law Journal*. *The Journal of Law, Economics & Policy* has an interview process for its positions. 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 left you will see two **Seminar Rooms, 347 and 348 (5)**. Seminar rooms are spread throughout the building.

Once you have finished observing the student bulletin boards and the 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 2006 were employed. Forty-one percent of graduates entered private practice, while 25 percent took positions in government. Seventy-nine percent of 2006 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 **FIRST FLOOR**, or “G” level.

When exiting the elevator, turn to the right. Turn right again and proceed down the short flight of stairs. You will see the **Moot Courtrooms (1)** on your left. George Mason has a trial room, updated with the latest electronic court room 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 argument for the competition, which they present to panels of volunteer judges composed of law school alumni, as well as 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 2006-07 competition was held in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. The final round of our Appellate Competition is typically held in the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals. Use of these facilities provides our students with memorable experiences.

After exploring the Moot Courtrooms, please turn around and head back down the hallway from which you came. Passing the left hallway that leads to the elevators, feel free to peek inside **Classrooms 121 or 120 (2)** on your right. These are our largest lecture rooms and hold all first-year classes except legal writing. An average first-year section has between 60 and 80 students, with smaller break-out sessions for legal writing.

Walking down the hall and turning to the left, you will enter 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. Recently, the former Governor of Virginia and current Mayor of Richmond, L. Douglas Wilder, addressed the student body at the 20th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Black Law Students Association.

Walking directly across the Atrium, 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 middle 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, which are delivered to the law school.

As you leave the Law School Library, take a moment to examine the bobblehead dolls in the case to the right of the exit doors **(5)**. 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 e-Bay!

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 ques-



3301 Fairfax Drive
Arlington, VA 22201
lawadmit@gmu.edu
703-993-8010