

A photograph of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., viewed from across the Reflecting Pool. The memorial is a large, white, neoclassical building with a prominent portico of columns. The pool's surface is calm, creating a clear reflection of the memorial and the surrounding trees. The sky is a clear, pale blue, suggesting a bright day. The overall scene is peaceful and iconic.

2012–13



School of Law

Legal Education in a Capital Location

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A Message From the Dean, 1
- Our Location, 2
- Law School of Northern Virginia, 3
- A Choice of Programs, 4
- The George Mason Curriculum, 5
- The LLM Programs, 7
- Career Development Opportunities, 8
- Employment Statistics, 10
- Outstanding Faculty Reputation, 11
- The Law Library, 12
- Diverse and Talented Students, 13
- Student Organizations, 14
- The Admissions Process, 15
- Financing Your Education, 16

George Mason University School of Law



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The photo left provides a view of the monument to George Mason, Virginia patriot and statesman for whom the university is named. Dedicated on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., on April 9, 2002, the monument honors Mason, one of the greatest of the founding fathers and among the least known. The acknowledged leader among those founders pressing for a Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution, Mason persuaded Federalists, such as James Madison, that the new constitution was unacceptable absent amendments safeguarding individual rights.

Previously, Mason had helped draft the first constitution for an independent state, his native Virginia, in 1776. The Virginia Constitution begins with the Virginia Declaration of Rights, written by Mason. The Declaration of Rights served as a model for the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution, known as the Bill of Rights, as well as the famous Declaration of the Rights of Man, produced by the French Revolution in 1789.



"The admitted students' open house was what made me decide to come to Mason, particularly the student panels and reception with professors."

"I've been very impressed throughout the process with all the law school faculty, staff and current students I have met."

"Well organized orientation. Everyone is friendly and helpful."

"When I was on the wait list, I met with [a] Professor...who answered all of my questions about the school and made me want to attend GMU even more."

"Professional, prompt, kind."

—Select comments from 2011 New Student Survey

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

WHY LAW SCHOOL?

Given the rising cost of attending law school and the state of the economy, you may be questioning the value of attending law school. That question deserves careful consideration by all prospective law students. The decision to attend law school should be based on careful self-analysis, accurate information about the lives of lawyers, and realistic expectations about what you will find challenging and rewarding in a career.

If you enjoy analytical thinking and intellectual challenge, then law school may be the right choice for you. As a field of study, law offers a wide range of career options. Each career option involves, to varying degrees, skills developed in law school, including analytical thinking, problem solving, research, writing, counseling, communication, and negotiation.

As you contemplate attending law school, I invite you to consider George Mason University School of Law.

WHY MASON LAW?

Mason is a dynamic, young law school that has gained recognition as a national law school—as measured by national magazines, surveys, and members of the profession—in a very short time. Highly educated in multiple disciplines, the Mason faculty infuses traditional law curriculum with elements of finance, economics, politics and jurisprudence; a perfect blend for today's political and economic climate. As a student, you will receive a rigorous intellectual challenge, inspiring scholarly debate.

For Mason students, opportunities abound in and around the Nation's Capital. Our location—just across the Potomac River from downtown Washington, D.C.—provides a wide range of professional opportunities unequalled in other areas of the country. Through our field placement programs, you may gain practical experience with real cases and real clients by working for credit in judges' chambers, state and federal government agencies, public interest groups, and law firms. Exposure to a variety of employment opportunities can aid you in solidifying career goals, goals which our Career, Academic and Alumni Services Office staff stands ready to help you achieve.

Mason takes pride in its student body and is committed to excellence in legal education. We take seriously our obligation to prepare you for success in all areas of practice. Our faculty and adjunct faculty, which includes practicing attorneys, government officials and judges from the regional and local communities, will mentor you inside and outside the classroom.

COME VISIT AND EXPERIENCE THE GEORGE MASON LAW COMMUNITY FOR YOURSELF

I invite you to visit George Mason University School of Law. Come see why our newest students most frequently cite their "interaction with Mason staff, students, professors, and alumni" as their reason for selecting Mason Law. As one of the highest-value choices in professional education, George Mason University School of Law offers the finest in legal education and practical training in an unparalleled location. Visit us, and see for yourself.

Dean and Professor of Law

LOCATION IS OUR GREATEST ADVANTAGE

George Mason University School of Law sits just a few miles from downtown Washington, D.C., the nexus for the creation of the world's most important legislation and jurisprudence. Metropolitan Washington offers students access to hundreds of opportunities and legal resources of tremendous scope and depth:

- ◆ Outstanding instruction from faculty and guest lecturers with significant experience in governmental and public policy organizations such as the White House, the Congress, the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the U.S. Department of Justice, the Federal Trade Commission, the U.S. International Trade Commission, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
- ◆ Year-round employment opportunities with major executive branch agencies, congressional commissions and federal agencies, and the hundreds of private law firms located in the Washington, D.C., area.
- ◆ Access to the “rocket docket,” the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division, which has the fastest trial docket in the United States and adjudicates some of the most complex civil cases in the nation, particularly patent, copyright, and employment cases.



After college I moved from Utah to Virginia to work for a government contractor. I chose Mason Law because it was close to D.C. and was a bargain compared to other D.C. law schools. While obtaining my law degree, I've had the chance to work for the federal government in D.C. It's been wonderful to be able to do substantive work during the day and quickly make it to classes at night. Whether you're interested in business, government, or public interest work, there is something here for everyone!

KASEY CLEMANS
Class of 2012



An aerial view of Washington's Tidal Basin and Jefferson Memorial showing the Potomac River and the Northern Virginia shoreline a short distance from the School of Law.

At right is the Virginia Square/GMU station of the region's Metro subway system, which connects Virginia, Maryland, and the District of Columbia. Mason Law students make frequent use of the system through its stop adjacent to the campus to travel between home and classes, jobs, and internships throughout the Washington area. Travel time to Federal Triangle is a mere 14 minutes from the Virginia Square/George Mason University Metro station.

THE LAW SCHOOL OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA

Northern Virginia offers professional advantages and diverse social, cultural, and educational opportunities unequaled in any other metropolitan region.

Arlington County has vibrant commercial districts that host a number of industry leaders and Fortune 500 companies; the City of Alexandria houses the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and provides a venue for the headquarters of many national associations; Fairfax County, a world center of commerce and trade and the technology hub of the United States East Coast, has offices of more than 4,000 technology companies and national law firms located within its borders.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

George Mason University, established as a branch of the University of Virginia in 1957, gained independent university status in 1972 by act of the Virginia General Assembly. The university is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools and is a member of the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States. George Mason University is part of the public university system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The university is a living memorial to George Mason, the Virginia patriot and statesman who is best known for having drafted the Virginia Declaration of Rights on which the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution is based.

The School of Law

Founded in 1972 as the International School of Law, the law school became a part of George Mason University in 1979. It is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA)* and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

For more than a decade, the law school has been in the forefront of curricular innovation. Recognizing the rapid changes that are occurring in legal practice and profession, George Mason has pioneered three core competencies—often neglected at more traditional institutions—for its students: (1) specialized substantive preparation for practice; (2) intensive development of legal writing and research skills; and (3) the legal application of economic tools and methods. Our demanding curriculum offers students unique advantages in today's competitive employment market.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/geninfo/about.

*Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association, 321 N. Clark Street, 21st Floor, Chicago, IL 60654
Phone: 312.988.6738
legaled@americanbar.org



I chose Mason for the great faculty and for the chance to attend law school in the D.C. area. While at Mason, I received the opportunities to intern with the Department of Justice and the Department of Defense. I graduated in May and received an appointment to be an United States Air Force JAG officer—my dream job! Mason offers something for everyone, and the faculty and staff at Mason want to help you find *your* dream job, whether it be in the private or public sector.

ASHLEY FINNEGAN
Class of 2012



A CHOICE OF PROGRAMS

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS OF A WELL-DESIGNED LAW PROGRAM

George Mason offers a general course of study, which allows students to choose electives as their interests develop. All George Mason Law students are required to satisfactorily complete 89* credit hours for graduation. Forty of those credit hours are in general courses; 49 credit hours are in elective courses. As part of the 89* credit hours, students must complete the School of Law's writing requirements.

Students attending George Mason University School of Law may pursue full-time day study or part-time evening study. Unlike many other law school programs, the day and evening programs stand on equal footing, as the courses taught in the day and evening divisions are identical and are taught by the same professors.

Day Division

In the day division, students take three years to complete the 89* credit hours required for graduation. Day students take 14 to 15 credits each semester. Day classes are scheduled between the hours of 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. Frequently in upper class years, day students select classes from the evening division.

Evening Division

In the evening division, students take four years to complete the 89* credit hours required for graduation. Evening students average 11 to 12 credit hours each semester. Evening classes are scheduled between 6 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. After the first year, evening students may choose to take some of their classes during the day.

Summer Term

George Mason University School of Law holds a summer term each year that typically runs from late May to mid-July. All summer courses are held in the late afternoon and evening hours, between 4 p.m. and 10 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

**Required credit hours are subject to change.*

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/parttime.



“One thing that I really love about Mason is that the same extracurricular opportunities that are available to the full-time students are also available to the part-time students. The Mason community is considerate of the extra obligations that many part-time students have and accommodates our schedules to allow us to take advantage of the full range of opportunities that are offered.”

VICTORIA WALKER

Third-Year Law Student

*Mid-Atlantic Regional Chair
of the National Black Law
Students Association*



A CURRICULUM FOR TODAY'S PRACTICE

The School of Law has designed a curriculum that addresses three of the most pressing requirements of contemporary legal practice: a thorough grounding in the fundamental skills of legal research, writing, and analysis; facility with economic and quantitative methods; and the increasing need for specialization.

LEGAL RESEARCH, WRITING, AND ANALYSIS

Our three-year legal writing program emphasizes continual practice through the development of actual transactions and cases and effective use of technology. Students receive intensive legal research, writing, and analysis training in small sections.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd.

ECONOMIC AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS

For the past 19 years, George Mason has integrated economic theory, as well as basic mathematical and financial skills, into our law and economics-oriented curriculum. Our curriculum introduces students to legal methods, along with economic and quantitative tools, stressing the application of the nonlegal methods in legal contexts.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd.

A CHOICE OF SPECIALTY PROGRAMS OF STUDY IN THE JD PROGRAM

The practice of law becomes more segmented as the body of law grows in both volume and complexity. The option to pursue specialty programs ensures that Mason graduates can demonstrate depth as well as breadth in their legal education and that they are prepared for practice in the 21st century.

Although George Mason offers a number of structured specialization options, students are not required to specialize in their legal studies. Many students enter law school without a clearly defined area of interest. Those students may pursue a general course of study, choosing electives as their interests develop.

All George Mason law students, whether pursuing a specialty or the General Law Program, are required to satisfactorily complete 89 credit hours for graduation. Forty of those credit hours are in general courses; the remaining credit hours are in elective courses. In addition, students must complete the School of Law's writing requirement.

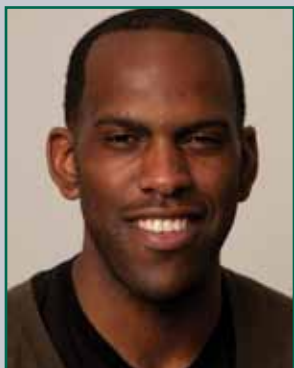
For expanded information on the JD program, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/jd.



“As an evening student who is focusing on patent law, I could have been pushed easily into a particular niche and just gone through the motions of law school. But what distinguishes Mason from other schools with evening programs and IP concentrations is its dedication to including students with full-time jobs and specific interests in the general population of the school. While taking advantage of the outstanding IP professors and experienced adjuncts, I have had the opportunity to be an editor on the law review and an active member of the Moot Court Board. Mason’s broad curriculum and diverse student groups have truly allowed me to customize and maximize my law school experience.”

**LORA BARNHART
DRISCOLL**
Fourth-Year Law Student





Given that I have strong interests in both litigation and regulatory law, Mason's concentrated curriculum within those fields affords me the opportunity to begin specializing while still in law school, a process that strikes me as unique among law schools generally. As a result of this opportunity, I feel as though I have a head start going into my summer position with an energy regulation practice here in D.C.

KYLE HAYES

Third-Year Law Student

SPECIALTY TRACKS

With specialty tracks, students may acquire a sophisticated understanding of particular substantive areas of the law usually gained only after years of practice or through advanced legal study. A student pursuing a specialty track will take 24 to 31 credit hours of the 89* total credit hours required for graduation in the area of specialization *and* write a thesis.

Litigation Law Track

The **Litigation Law Track** is designed to prepare students academically and practically for litigation practice or other careers relating to dispute resolution. This track program is based upon a belief that solid professional competence requires a sound understanding of the theory and institutions underlying dispute resolution. Accordingly, the specialized track courses focus on the processes of dispute resolution and lawyers' roles from an analytical perspective, as well as on practical advocacy skills. Approximately 26 percent of the 89 credits required for graduation must be in litigation law courses. The remaining 74 percent of the credit hours are in courses outside litigation law.

Patent Law Track

The **Patent Law Track** is designed for students who intend to practice in the specialized field of patent law. Approximately 20 percent of the 89 credit hours required for graduation must be in patent law courses. The remaining 80 percent of the credit hours are in courses outside patent law; however, many patent track students will pursue related courses in copyright and trademark law.

Regulatory Law Track

The **Regulatory Law Track** prepares students for practice in and before the numerous agencies that regulate business and other activities. Approximately 34 percent of the 89 credits required for graduation must be in regulatory law courses. The remaining 66 percent of the credit hours are in courses outside regulatory law.

SPECIALTY CONCENTRATIONS

Students preferring greater freedom in their course selection but desiring some degree of specialization may pursue concentrations. To complete a concentration, a student must earn 14 to 16 credit hours in a particular area.

Students may choose from concentrations in the twelve legal subject areas that follow.

- *Communications Law*
- *Corporate and Securities Law Concentration*
- *Criminal Law Concentration*
- *Homeland and National Security Law Concentration*
- *Intellectual Property Law Concentration*
- *International Business Law Concentration*
- *Legal and Economic Theory Concentration*
- *Litigation Law Concentration*
- *Personal Law Concentration*
- *Regulatory Law Concentration*
- *Tax Law Concentration*
- *Technology Law Concentration*

A CHOICE OF SPECIALIZING POST-JD IN OUR LLM PROGRAMS

George Mason University School of Law offers two LLM degrees for JD graduates seeking expertise in the fields of (1) patent, copyright, and trademark law or (2) economic analysis applied in the legal setting.

LLM in Intellectual Property Law

This degree is designed for attorneys who intend to practice in the fields of patent, copyright, and trademark law. The curriculum in the LLM in Intellectual Property program includes courses covering every aspect of intellectual property law, from basic courses in patent, copyright, and trademark, to enforcement, litigation, and dispute resolution, among others.

- **Course Requirements** (minimum 26 credit hours)

*Economic Foundations of Legal Studies; Patent Law I; Trademark Law; Copyright Law; Patent Law II; Multinational Intellectual Property & Policy Seminar; Patent Litigation and Dispute Resolution; Legal and Economic Theory of Intellectual Property; Trade Secrets Law; Patent and Know-How Licensing; Thesis, IP Seminar, or Writing Course; LLM Elective Coursework**

**Intellectual Property electives are chosen from intellectual property or technology law classes.*

LLM in Law and Economics

George Mason University School of Law is one of the nation's leading centers for the study of law and economics. During the past 15 years, George Mason has assembled a distinctive, interdisciplinary faculty, many of whom hold doctorates in economics, philosophy, political science, or related fields. The LLM in Law and Economics provides an opportunity to develop an expertise in the skills of economic analysis as they are applied to a variety of legal settings.

- **Course Requirements** (minimum 26 credit hours)

*Economic Foundations of Legal Studies I; Litigation and Dispute Resolution Theory; Advanced Economic Foundations of Legal Studies II; Public Choice and Public Law Seminar; Thesis, Law and Economics Seminar, or Writing Course; LLM Elective Coursework**

**Law and Economics electives are chosen from law classes such as Advanced Antitrust Seminar, Economics of Private Law, International Business Economics and Law, Law of Investment Management, Legal and Economic Theory of Intellectual Property, Problems in Corporate Law Seminar, Quantitative Forensics, and Regulated Industries.*



As an attorney with a financial regulatory agency, my job involves consideration of strategic goals, objectives, and priorities, including budgetary and financial impacts, and the potential for reputational, operational, and compliance risk. I viewed Mason's LLM in Law and Economics as an opportunity to enhance my skills in economic analysis, skills which I hope to carry back to my job.

JINA HWANG
LLM Student



The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the federal agency responsible for granting U.S. patents and registering trademarks, is located minutes away from the School of Law in the Northern Virginia suburb of Alexandria, Virginia. USPTO headquarters occupies five interconnected buildings and employs nearly 9,000 people whose job is to protect U.S. Intellectual Property rights.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES ABOUND



“Serving as a judicial law clerk can be one of the most valuable experiences in a young lawyer’s career. Despite the extremely competitive nature of the federal clerkship application process, George Mason’s faculty and its Career, Academic, and Alumni Services office assisted me in successfully securing two federal clerkship positions after graduation. CAAS, as well as the law school’s faculty, helped me fine-tune my interview skills, polish my applications, and also connected me with alumni who had previously clerked and who offered me a wealth of useful advice. I am extremely grateful to CAAS and the faculty at George Mason for getting my legal career off to a great start.

GEORGE INGHAM

Class of 2011

Clerk to

The Honorable

W. Harold Allbritton III ,

District Judge,

U.S. District Court for the

Middle District of Alabama

(2010-11)

and

The Honorable

Karen LeCraft Henderson,

Circuit Judge,

U.S. Court of Appeals for the

District of Columbia Circuit

(2012-13)

George Mason University School of Law commits to teaching its students to think clearly and critically, to develop sound judgment, and to apply the knowledge they obtain in law school in practical ways that will lead them to success and fulfillment in their legal careers. We strive to prepare our students to achieve their personal professional goals and to become contributing and valuable members of our local, national, and international legal communities.

OFFICE OF CAREER, ACADEMIC AND ALUMNI SERVICES (CAAS)

Services for Our Students

The Office of Career, Academic and Alumni Services aids students and alumni in finding permanent full- and part-time employment and summer jobs by serving as a clearinghouse for information on available positions in both the Metropolitan Washington area and across the nation. This office provides job counseling to students; conducts seminars on resume writing, interviewing skills, and strategies; and coordinates on-campus interviews and job fairs.

Practical Experience

The law school’s location in Metropolitan Washington, D.C., gives Mason Law students unparalleled opportunities to gain substantial practical experience while in law school. Students work outside the classroom under the supervision of an attorney, receive exposure to various areas of practice, build basic lawyering skills, and obtain valuable networking ties while receiving credit for working in such places as federal and state courts, the Recording Industry Association of America, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Justice, Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Mason offers in-house field placement opportunities, as well:

- ◆ **Domestic Relations**—Assisted by a mentor, students represent clients in obtaining uncontested divorces or other domestic relations matters, preparing for interviews, court filings, and hearings.
- ◆ **Immigration**—Selected students serve as interns to the highest administrative tribunal for the interpretation and application of immigration and nationality law in the United States.
- ◆ **Virginia Practice**—Under the supervision of a local judge, students intern in judges’ chambers, public defenders’ or Commonwealth Attorneys’ offices, legal aid, or a private firm.

Mason provides students an alternative opportunity to earn credit while working on real cases with real clients, applying classroom experience in a practical setting.

- ◆ **Law and Mental Illness**—Students study the history and development of the laws affecting the mentally ill and prepare for and represent petitioners in civil commitment hearings.
- ◆ **Patent Law**—Students work directly with an inventor to draft an actual patent application for submission.
- ◆ **Regulatory Law**—While working with a mentor, students may engage in the federal regulatory process, analyzing an active regulation and filing public comments.
- ◆ **Legal Assistance to Servicemembers and Veterans**—Students provide active-duty members of the armed forces and their families with free representation in civil cases of clear injustice or in which they could not retain counsel without undue hardship.
- ◆ **Supreme Court**—George Mason law students provide *pro bono* legal representation before the Supreme Court of the United States, working closely with Wiley Rein attorneys to identify cases of interest, research legal issues, and draft Supreme Court briefs on behalf of parties and *amici* at both the *certiorari* and merits stages.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/academics/clinics.



Associated Press

Instructors Thomas McCarthy, left, and William Consovoy, right, flank Mason clinic students outside the Supreme Court building after they assisted with a case argued before the Court.

A Supreme Clinical Opportunity at George Mason Law

In the Fall of 2011, George Mason University School of Law, in partnership with Wiley Rein LLP, a Washington, D.C., law firm, launched a Supreme Court Clinic to provide *pro bono* legal representation before the Supreme Court of the United States. The year-long clinic, one of only six like it in the United States, provides George Mason law students with the opportunity to work closely with Wiley Rein attorneys to identify cases of interest, research legal issues, and draft Supreme Court briefs on behalf of parties and *amici* at both the *certiorari* and merits stages. The Supreme Court Clinic is directed by William S. Consovoy and Thomas R. McCarthy, both lawyers in Wiley Rein's Appellate Group and 2001 graduates of George Mason University School of Law. Consovoy previously clerked for Justice Clarence Thomas of the Supreme Court of the United States and Chief Judge Edith H. Jones of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. McCarthy previously clerked for Chief Judge David B. Sentelle of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Judge Frank W. Bullock Jr. of the United States District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina.

In 2011 the Supreme Court Clinic filed an *amicus* brief in *Perry v. New Hampshire* on behalf of the National District Attorneys Association (NDAA) and in support of the State of New Hampshire that contributed to a victory in the high court for the state.

“We are very pleased to partner with such a highly regarded firm as Wiley Rein on the Supreme Court Clinic. Our students eagerly seek field experiences, and this program gives them invaluable opportunities to observe and participate in the business of the highest court in the land.”

DEAN DANIEL POLSBY



The market for summer associate positions at big law firms in Washington, D.C. is very competitive. George Mason's faculty and its Career, Academic and Alumni Services office helped me expand my network and put me in touch with alumni who could share key insights into their firms. Because of the support of the faculty, CAAS, and our alumni, I was able to secure a summer associate position with a big law firm in D.C. I am very grateful for the help I received and look forward to working with CAAS as an alumnus in the future.

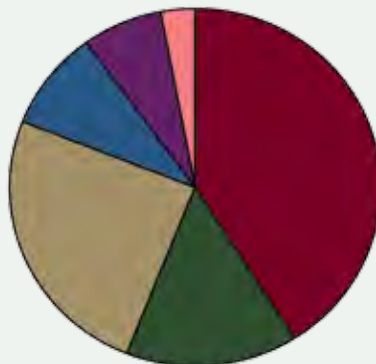
ADAM W. PARK
Third-Year Law Student

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

A judicial clerkship for one or two years following graduation is an excellent way to bridge the gap between law school and the practice of law. It also can be an extremely valuable step in an attorney's professional development and ultimate career success. Our students have been selected for judicial clerkships covering the full range of state and federal opportunities, including the Supreme Court of the United States.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/career/clerkship.

CLASS OF 2011 EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS



Employment Rate

Employed 96%
Seeking and not seeking employment 3.5%
Unknown .5%

Employment Type

Law Firm 41%
Business 15%
Government 25%
Judicial Clerkship 9%
Public Interest 7%
Academia 3%

Employment information is based on data from surveys received for every graduate and from follow-up contact conducted by the Career, Academic and Alumni Services Office from graduation through the following February. Every graduate is required to fill out a survey as a condition of graduation, and George Mason provides employment data to the National Association of Law Placement (NALP), the ABA, and *U.S. News*. For detailed employment information on the Classes of 2009–11, visit: www.law.gmu.edu/career/employment_information. Note that some graduates were employed in positions funded in part or in whole by George Mason at the time data was reported.

A FACULTY WITH AN OUTSTANDING REPUTATION

Over the years, the law school has developed and nurtured in its faculty a diverse group of scholars who infuse a variety of disciplines into the law curriculum. Approximately one-third of members of the full-time faculty hold degrees in economics, and a number of them have held key positions as economists in the past. Our full-time and adjunct faculties boast members who are experienced in such areas as political theory, philosophy, psychology, behavioral science, biology, and jurisprudence. Mason law students reap the benefits of this multidisciplinary approach to legal knowledge.

The law school's faculty has been in existence for only three decades; however, in that period of time, its members have established themselves as intellectual leaders within the academy. Professor Brian Leiter, Joe A. Worsham Centennial Professor of Law at the University of Texas at Austin, gives Mason's law faculty a mean ranking of 21st in scholarly impact among the top 35 law schools in his 2007 study, based on a standard objective measure of scholarly impact: per capita citations to faculty scholarship, generally considered an indicator of faculty quality and reputation.

George Mason Law is ranked in a Social Science Research Network (SSRN) ranking of Top U.S. Law Schools as #20 in new downloads in the last twelve months and #19 for all downloads. In addition, the law school is ranked #3 for total downloads per author in the same rankings.

The School of Law's location adjacent to the nation's capital, in the heart of the East Coast's technology hub, and minutes from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, ensures that its professors bring real-world experience to the classroom. Full-time faculty members possess significant professional experience in the practice of law and public policy, and the law school's full-time faculty is complemented by a remarkable adjunct faculty that includes a significant number of federal and state court judges and prominent practitioners who deal with cutting-edge legal issues on a daily basis. The proximity of prominent legal figures, such as attorneys general and Supreme Court justices, also adds an important dimension to the classroom experience.

To view faculty biographies, visit www.law.gmu.edu/faculty/directory.
For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/about/about_faculty.

Watch interviews with law school faculty members Ross Davies and Helen Alvaré on Mason Law's YouTube Channel, www.youtube.com/user/gmulaw/videos.

MASON LAW IS HOME TO SEVERAL ACADEMIC CENTERS:

Center for Infrastructure Protection
cip.gmu.edu

Information Economy Project
iep.gmu.edu

Law & Economics Center
www.masonlec.org

Neuroeconomics Center
www.neuroeconomics.net



"This place is alive from dawn 'til long after dusk everyday, and it's thrilling. It's a moving river."

PROFESSOR ROSS DAVIES

A COMPREHENSIVE LAW LIBRARY

George Mason's Law Library combines a strong collection of print and electronic materials with a very experienced staff dedicated to ensuring students and faculty have access to the resources they need for their legal education, teaching, and research.

The library's collection consists of more than 476,000 print and microfiche volumes and access to hundreds of electronic journals, treatises, and databases, including LexisNexis, Westlaw, HeinOnline, BNA, and CALI. Law students and faculty have access to thousands of non-legal journals and databases provided through the University Libraries and VIVA, a consortium of academic libraries in Virginia. All electronic services are available both on campus and off. The Law Library is a depository for U.S. Government documents and belongs to the Washington Research Library Consortium, which enables students and faculty to easily borrow materials from the major academic libraries in Washington, D.C.

Spanning four levels of the law school building, the library has more than 300 study carrels and table seats, nearly all of them wired with electrical and network connections so students can plug in their laptops to access online resources. In addition, a wireless network is available in all areas of the building, including the library. The library operates two computer labs that offer students a variety of software, including Microsoft Office. Law students have access to free Lexis and Westlaw printing from both on and off-campus. In addition, there are several laser printers located in the library that students may use with the university's Pay-For-Print system. The university also operates a full-service copy/print center which is located on the entrance level of the library.

The Law Library employs 13 full-time staff members, including six librarians trained as both librarians and lawyers, as well as several part-time evening librarians and a number of student assistants. The librarians also teach legal research classes in the Legal Research, Writing and Analysis program and provide students with assistance in conducting research. Technology support for the law school is provided by three staff members who have offices in the library and work closely with library and university staff to ensure the highest levels of computing services to students and faculty.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/library.



The librarians are here to help students. We teach research skills within the legal writing classes; we help students learn how to use Westlaw, Lexis, and Bloomberg Law; we meet with students writing notes for journals; and we're always available to provide any extra research help needed. All of the full-time reference librarians have a JD and a master's degree in library science. Many of us practiced law before coming to work in the library. We are a great resource, and we truly enjoy working with students.

MELANIE OBERLIN
*Instructional Services
Librarian*



A DIVERSE AND TALENTED STUDENT BODY

At Mason we take pride in our student body, whose members come to us from every part of the nation and from many countries throughout the world. Our students range from recent college graduates in their twenties to senior citizens. Our evening program allows many nontraditional students to further their education while pursuing a career. As a result, our law school has a mix of students who are rich in experience, knowledge, and professional background. Students bring varied and interesting perspectives to the classroom, and their association with one another is an enriching experience in itself.

Mason provides its students many opportunities to expand their horizons through a multitude of student organizations and activities, all intended for both day and evening students. For information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs.

With a student body of approximately 800, Mason's School of Law is small enough to allow meaningful interaction among students, faculty, and administrators while large enough to offer a broad spectrum of educational choices and student activities. At Mason, there really is something for everyone.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/students/diversity.



Mason Law's fall 2011 entering class of 186 students was derived from 107 different colleges and universities across the nation and the globe. Of those students, 154 attended day classes, while 32 attended class in the evening. With an average age of 24.4 years, 54 percent of the matriculating students came from outside Virginia, and 45 percent were female. The median LSAT for matriculants was 164, and the median undergraduate GPA was 3.72.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

George Mason offers students many ways to enhance their legal educations by becoming active in one or more of our student organizations. These organizations, listed below, not only add to the vitality of the law school, but also create valuable networking opportunities for students with special interests.

<p>Advocates for Life Alternative Dispute Resolution Society American Bar Association/Law Student Division American Civil Liberties Union American Constitution Society American Inn of Court Asian Pacific American Law Students Association Association for Public Interest Law (APIL) Black Law Students Association (BLSA) Business Law Society Christian Legal Society Civil Rights Law Journal Criminal Law Association The Docket Environmental Law Society The Federalist Society Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Law Association George Mason Law Review Hispanic Law Students Association Health Law Association Honor Committee Immigration Law Society Intellectual Property Law Society (IPLS) International Law Society</p>	<p>Internet, Telecom & Media Law Association J. Reuben Clark Law Society Jewish Law Students Association Journal of International Commercial Law Journal of Law, Economics & Policy Law Students for the Second Amendment Mason Law Democrats Mason Law Republicans Mason Sports and Entertainment Law Association Military Law Society Moot Court Board Muslim Law Students Association National Security Law Journal National Security Law Society Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International Phi Delta Phi Runnin' Along the Potomac Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Bar Association Thomas More Society Trial Advocacy Association VBA Pro Bono Society Wine Law Society Women's Law Association</p>
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For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/students/orgs.

Learn more about Mason student activities at Mason Law's YouTube Channel, www.youtube.com/user/gmulaw/videos.



Mason's dynamic student organizations provide students ample opportunities to pursue their interests and further develop their talents. In addition to its many clubs and associations, Mason boasts five outstanding academic journals, a nationally recognized moot court board, a trial advocacy association that hosts an annual national competition, and several public service organizations that provide students with the opportunity to give back to the community. Whatever your interest, Mason has a place for you to grow and excel.

KYRA SMERKANICH
Third-Year Law Student
President,
Student Bar Association

Photo courtesy of Elon University School of Law



THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

GENERAL INFORMATION

The admissions process at George Mason University School of Law is extremely competitive. The Admissions Committee reviews and considers each application in its entirety. First-year and transfer students are admitted only in the fall. Applications are available through the Law School Admission Council, www.lsac.org/.

Early Decision Program

Students seeking an early decision must submit and complete all of the standard application procedures no later than December 15, 2012. Early decisions will be made no later than **January 31, 2013**. Applicants who apply but are not admitted through early decision may be considered in the standard admission process, or they may be denied admission.

Standard Admission Process for First-Year Applicants

The standard application deadline for fall 2013 admission is April 1, 2013. Admission decisions are made on a rolling basis.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to matriculate, an applicant must have earned a baccalaureate degree from a college or university accredited by a regional accrediting association of the United States. Alternatively, applicants completing their undergraduate work at an institution outside the United States must have their degrees certified as equivalent to those acquired in an accredited institution.

Application may be made during the final year of undergraduate study, and acceptance is contingent upon award of a baccalaureate degree before matriculation at the School of Law.

All applicants must register with the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS) and take the LSAT.

TRANSFER ADMISSION

Admission of transfer students is highly selective. Only students who have completed one year at an ABA-accredited law school will be eligible for transfer admission.

VISITING LAW STUDENTS

The School of Law accepts a number of visiting students each semester and for the Summer Term.

Detailed information concerning the application procedures for early decision and standard first-year applicants, transfer applicants, and visiting applicants is available at www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/howtoapply.

ADMISSIONS INQUIRIES, TOURS, AND CLASS OBSERVATIONS

Applicants who have questions should contact the Admissions Office at lawadmit@gmu.edu.

For tours or class observations, visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/events. Office hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, during the academic year.

For expanded information, visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions.

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FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

ESTIMATED COSTS FOR 2012-13

With the rising cost of financing a law degree, Mason's lower tuition offers a top value in legal education. For the most current posting of tuition rates for the School of Law, please visit budget.gmu.edu, and select *FY12 Tuition and Fees, Law—In-State or Out-of-State*. Tuition is subject to change at any time.

FINANCIAL AID

George Mason University's Office of Student Financial Aid, located at the Fairfax Campus, provides a variety of services to assist students in financing their education. George Mason University participates in the Federal Direct Loan Program.

Students must complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year as soon as possible after January 1. To receive priority consideration for available, applicable funds, the FAFSA must be received by the federal processor on or before March 1. Types of financial aid available include Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Federal Direct Graduate PLUS Loans, and Federal Work-Study.

For more information, visit the Office of Student Financial Aid on the Web (financialaid.gmu.edu), or schedule an appointment to meet with a financial aid counselor.

Mason's Title IV school code is 003749.

SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS

A small number of scholarships are awarded to incoming law students each year. All scholarship awards are based upon merit as evidenced in applicants' applications for admission. **No additional or special scholarship applications are required.** All law students offered admission to the law school are considered for scholarship awards.

For a detailed listing of the scholarships that are available, please visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/financing or financialaid.gmu.edu.

Applicants for the Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty

Robert A. Levy Fellowships in Law & Liberty were created through the generosity of Dr. Robert A. Levy, a 1994 graduate of the law school. Through this generous fellowship program, Dr. Levy seeks to encourage young scholars to enter the academic field of law and economics by sponsoring their pursuit of a JD degree. Fellowship grants cover tuition and fees and provide a substantial stipend for up to three years. To be eligible for a Levy Fellowship, an applicant must either (1) have earned a PhD from an accredited university in economics or a closely related field such as finance or political science; or (2) have successfully completed all course work in one of the above fields and have passed the general exam for a PhD from an accredited university. Applicants for full-time, first-year law admission who also are applying for the Levy Fellowship must, in addition to all requirements for first-year applicants, provide a cover letter with the names of three references, a curriculum vitae, graduate school transcripts, and a copy of current research. **The deadline for Levy Fellowship and School of Law applications is April 1, 2013.**

For more information about the Levy Fellowship, visit www.law.gmu.edu/admissions/levy_fellowships.

George Mason University maintains the confidentiality of student education records pursuant to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act.

George Mason University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action university and employer. Consistent with these principles and in compliance with the Student Right-to-Know Act, George Mason University publishes annual reports that disclose information about the athletic program and campus security. The campus security report includes campus crime statistics and is published annually by September 1. A copy may be obtained by calling 703-993-2816. The athletic reports include athletic participation and graduation rates and are published annually by October 15. A copy of either of these athletic reports may be obtained by calling Intercollegiate Athletics at 703-993-3204.



With so many law schools in the D.C. area, it's hard not to become overwhelmed when choosing one. The poor economy, coupled with the recent cancelation of subsidized federal loans, has only made the process that much more difficult. For me, D.C. was the right market; but as a future professional in a potentially slow job market, I recognized how important it was to keep my loans at a reasonable level. Not only did my scholarship award from Mason Law allow me to choose a school in my desired market, but it also enabled me to maintain a manageable loan amount.

GERI ROSSANO

Second-Year Law Student

The list below is illustrative of the undergraduate institutions from which George Mason Law has drawn its students in recent years.

American University
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Barnard College
Bates College
Baylor University
Boston College
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Bowie State University
Brandeis University
Brigham Young University
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
Bucknell University
Campbell University
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Catholic University of America
Central Methodist College
Christopher Newport University
Clarkson University
Clemson University
Colgate University
College of the Holy Cross
College of William and Mary
Colorado College
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Drexel University
Duke University
Emory University
Florida International University
Furman University
George Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Gettysburg College
Grove City College
Hamilton College
Hampden-Sydney College
Hampton University
Harvard University
Haverford College
Hobart and William Smith College
Hollins University
Hofstra University
Howard University
Ithaca College
Jacksonville State University
James Madison University
Johns Hopkins University
Lehigh University
Lewis-Clark State College
Liberty University
Louisiana State University
Loyola University
Marquette University
Mary Washington College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Michigan State University
Mississippi State University
Morgan State University
Muhlenburg College
New York University
Norfolk State University
Northeastern University
Occidental College
Ohio State University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Old Dominion University
Oregon State University
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Providence College
Purdue University
Randolph-Macon College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rice University
Roanoke College
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rutgers University
San Diego State University
Seton Hall University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College
St. Lawrence University
St. Louis University
Stanford University
State University of New York
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas A&M University
Towson State University
Trinity University
Truman State University
Tulane University
Union College
U.S. Air Force Academy
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
U.S. Military Academy
U.S. Naval Academy
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado
University of Delaware
University of Denver
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Hawaii
University of Illinois
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of Maine
University of Manitoba
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts
University of Memphis
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Montana
University of Nebraska
University of Nevada
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina
University of North Dakota
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Richmond
University of Rhode Island
University of Rochester
University of San Francisco
University of Scranton
University of South Carolina
University of Tennessee
University of Texas
University of the South
University of Utah
University of Vermont
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Western Ontario
University of Wisconsin
University of Wyoming
Utah State University
Valparaiso University
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Villanova University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Military Institute
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University
Virginia State University
Wake Forest University
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington and Lee University
Washington University
Wellesley College
West Virginia University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Yale University

George Mason is an equal opportunity and affirmative action institution committed to the principle that access to study or employment opportunities afforded by the university, including all benefits and privileges, be accorded to each person—student, faculty, staff member, or applicant for employment or admission—on the basis of individual merit without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, veteran status, disability, sexual orientation, sex, or age (except where sex or age is a bona fide occupational qualification). George Mason shall maintain a continuing affirmative action program to promote equal opportunity and to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices in every phase of university operations. Furthermore, affirmative action will be taken to ensure that opportunities afforded by the university are fully available to persons with disabilities, women, Vietnam veterans, and minorities. The university will make every reasonable accommodation to enable students or employees with disabilities to undertake work or study for which they qualify.

Inquiries regarding the university's equal opportunity and affirmative action programs may be made to the Office of Equity and Diversity Services, Mason Hall, Room D105, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA 22030, telephone 703-993-8730.



School of Law

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