FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF LAW
#2 LAW SCHOOL
Florida State is the #2 law school in the nation for best student quality of life, according to Princeton Review (2023).

#7
FSU Law is ranked the nation’s #7 law school for best professors, according to Princeton Review (2023).

8TH BEST
Florida State’s Moot Court Team is the nation’s 8th best according to a 2021 ranking.

15TH BEST
According to a 2021 ranking of the top trial teams, FSU Law’s Trial Team is the nation’s 15th best.
**#8 BEST VALUE**  
PreLaw magazine (2022) ranks Florida State the nation’s #8 best value law school.

**#4**  
According to PreLaw magazine (2021), Florida State is the nation’s #4 law school for government careers and #17 in the nation for public defender/prosecutor jobs.

**56TH BEST**  
U.S. News & World Report (2023) rates Florida State as the 56th best law school in the nation. Florida State’s environmental law program is ranked 19th best nationally.

According to American Bar Association data, Florida State is the nation’s 23rd best law school in terms of 2022 graduates who were employed in full-time, long-term bar passage required or J.D. advantage jobs, or who were pursuing graduate studies on a full-time basis within 10 months of graduation.

**OUR CURRENT STUDENTS REPRESENT 30 U.S. STATES, 33 COUNTRIES, AND 142 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.**
Dean’s Message

MANY FACTORS SHOULD INFLUENCE YOUR CHOICE TO JOIN A LAW SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

I joined this dynamic FSU Law family for many reasons that I think will resonate with you—a primary reason being the world-renowned faculty. Our faculty members are widely recognized for their contributions to legal scholarship and the profession. Their legal scholarship is regularly published in the most prestigious law journals. In addition, our faculty takes pride in teaching excellence and accessibility to students. Graduates consistently tell us that the faculty is the best part of FSU Law.

Another main reason I joined FSU Law is the collegial, welcoming environment. At FSU, you will be part of a collaborative community, where students and professors engage deeply inside and outside of the classroom. Students form life-long bonds as they endeavor to study together, support one another, and celebrate each other’s successes.

Most law schools advertise that they provide a rich and rewarding student experience, so how should you discern which schools are truly exceptional? Look at the breadth and depth of alumni connection to the school. You will want to know whether alumni disappear or choose to give back. Florida State alumni have one of the highest giving rates in the country. Our 10,000-plus alumni are successful in the worlds of law, business, and government, and they are eager to help students. You will have access to alums who visit campus regularly, teach and guest lecture, and mentor students. We have an alumni mentoring network of more than 1,000 lawyers around the world.

Florida State’s location is also a huge strength. Tallahassee, the capital of the third largest U.S. state, is home to 500-plus law firms, state and federal courts, all state agencies, the Governor’s Office, and the Florida Legislature, and most are within a short walk of the law school campus. You will have many unique opportunities to gain classroom knowledge and work experience...
in areas of the law that interest you while strengthening your credentials for long-term employment.

You will also have access to the fabulous professionals in our Career Services and Professional Development Office, who are dedicated to helping students find desired jobs. They work with professors, alumni, and other mentors to help students best position themselves for the legal careers they wish to pursue. Florida State is consistently rated one of the nation’s best in terms of job placement, and everyone here will be committed to helping you launch your career.

Please visit us to learn more about what FSU Law can offer you, including our award-winning advocacy teams, certificate programs, extensive externship and clinical offerings, journals, and other student organizations. Talk to our students and our world-class professors. I look forward to meeting you and hope you will join our vibrant community.

Thank you,

Erin O’Connor
Dean and McKenzie Professor

Connor Salliotte (’24) attended the University of South Florida for undergraduate studies.

“There are so many factors that appealed to me about FSU College of Law. However, the one that meant the most to me and ultimately drove my decision to attend was how student-centered the law school is. On my first tour of the school, I was shown that the faculty offices are in the same corridors where the students walk in between classes. I loved that it was important that the faculty be so accessible to the students. The school truly does all it can to ensure FSU Law maintains an environment in which students can thrive.”
Florida State University College of Law is located in the heart of downtown Tallahassee—the capital of the nation’s third largest state—across the street from the Florida Supreme Court and one block from the Florida Capitol. FSU Law is also a short walk or drive from all state agencies, The Florida Bar, hundreds of law firms, multiple courts, and hundreds of statewide associations and public interest groups. Few other law schools in the nation can compete in terms of location. The unique legal opportunities that accompany being located in a state capital are invaluable. Experiences that FSU Law students have in Tallahassee and around the globe translate into careers all over the world for our graduates in law firms, both large and small, government, and public interest organizations.
The 2022-2023 class of gubernatorial fellows included six FSU Law students.
Tallahassee is the #1 MIDSIZE CITY AND #3 OVERALL BEST CITY in the nation for lawyers to pursue careers, according to a 2022 AdvisorSmith study. This translates into an abundance of job opportunities for law students.
FSU Law students interested in private practice have ample opportunities to gain experience that law firms desire. Students work as clerks for large and small law firms in Tallahassee and elsewhere, participate in clinics and externships that give them a wealth of advocacy experience that they can apply immediately in private practice, and interact daily with some of the nation’s top lawyers, who live and work in Tallahassee.

Many students are interested in state government and the political process, and our location allows us to offer highly specialized classes taught by high-level officials in state politics and administrative law. Many of these classes also feature special guests who are engaged in sophisticated legal practice and policy-related work.

Florida State is ranked the nation’s fourth best law school for government careers and 17th best in the nation for public defender/prosecutor jobs. Because many FSU Law students aspire to work in government and public interest positions, we devote ourselves to making a wide variety of clinical opportunities in these areas available to students. Our location also allows students to easily work at the Capitol and participate in the Gubernatorial Fellows, Legislative Fellows, and Florida Supreme Court Fellows programs—year after year, FSU Law students fill a majority of the fellowship seats.

Many of the experiences available exclusively to FSU Law students translate into opportunities to change the world and advocate for legal reform. We know a great number of our students want to pursue careers related to social justice, so we offer courses and clinical opportunities that position them to be agents of change in their legal careers.

Tallahassee offers a wide variety of clerking and internship opportunities in its more than 500 law firms, numerous state and federal courts, and the legislative and executive branches of government.
ACADEMICS & PROGRAMS
## Comprehensive Course List

### First-Year Courses
- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law I
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Legal Writing and Research I
- Legal Writing and Research II
- Legislation & Regulation
- Property
- Torts

### Second- and Third-Year Courses

#### Administrative Law & Government
- Administrative Law
- Advanced Legal Research in Administrative Law
- Federal Courts
- Florida Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Florida Legislative Practice: From Bill Drafting to the Governor’s Desk
- Gambling and Pari-Mutuel Law
- Space Law
- State & Local Government
- Textualism and Originalism

#### Civil Rights Law & Social Justice
- Children in Prison Project
- Children’s Advocacy Clinic
- Civil Rights Law
- Constitutional Law II
- Consumer Protection Law
- Disability Law
- Election Law

#### Constitutional Law
- Constitutional Law II
- Election Law
- Florida Constitutional Law
- Separation of Powers Seminar
- Supreme Court Role-Play

#### Corporate/Business Law
- Advanced Topics in Corporate Governance Seminar
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Antitrust Law
- Business Ethics
- Business Law & Legislation
- Business Law Clinic
- Business Planning

#### Criminal Law
- The American Jury
- Capital Punishment Seminar
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Criminal Litigation Skills
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
- Criminal Procedure: Police
- Cybersecurity Law
- The Death Penalty and the Supreme Court
- Evidence
- Executive Clemency in Florida
- Federal Criminal Law
- Florida Criminal Procedure
- Gender Justice
- Human Trafficking
- Introduction to International Criminal Law
- Juvenile Justice: Skills Practice
- Postconviction Remedies
- Prison Law & Policy
- Scientific Evidence
- Sentencing Law Seminar
- White Collar Crime

#### Environmental Law
- Administrative Law
- Advanced Legal Research in Administrative Law
- Climate Change Law, Policy & Science
- Coastal and Ocean Law
- Condominium and Community Housing Law

#### Closely Held Business Organizations
- Commercial Law (Sales, Commercial Paper, Secured Transactions, UCC)
- Consumer Protection Law
- Contract Drafting
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Law and Finance Seminar
- Corporate Tax
- Corporations
- Employment Law
- Energy Law and Policy
- Entertainment Law
- Financial Statements Interpretation
- In-House Counsel
- Insurance Law
- International Aspects of Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Sales & Arbitration
- International Trade and Investment Law
- International Trade Transactions
- Introduction to Intellectual Property
- The Law & Business of Investment Management
- Law and Economics
- Law and Risk Management
- Mediation
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Negotiation
- Oil and Gas Law
- Real Estate Finance
- Real Estate Foundations
- Securities Regulation
- Sports Law
- Taxation of Business Entities
- Taxation Policy

#### Trusts & Estates
- White Collar Crime
- Workers’ Compensation
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2023-24 VIEWBOOK 11
WE HAVE AN EXTRAORDINARILY STRONG BUSINESS AND TAX PROGRAM at Florida State University College of Law. We offer our students an extremely sophisticated program to prepare them to enter the worlds of business and finance at the highest possible levels. We offer a full range of doctrinal business courses and additional courses in taxation, law and economics, and game theory for business lawyers. We also offer a Business Law Certificate that allows students to strengthen their degree. Students apply what they learn in the classroom and increase their credentials through numerous business-related externships and our Business Law Clinic.
Core Business and Tax Law Faculty

FREDERICK M. ABBOTT
Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Professor of International Law
LL.M., University of California, Berkeley
J.D., Yale University

SHAWN J. BAYERN
Larry and Joyce Beltz Professor of Torts and Associate Dean for Technology
Closely Held Business Organizations, Contracts, Torts
J.D., University of California, Berkeley

RICHARD M. BENHAM
Entrepreneur in Residence
Business Law Clinic, Contract Drafting, Law & Entrepreneurship
J.D., Florida State University

ELISSA PHILIP GENTRY
Assistant Professor
Health Law, Law and Economics
Ph.D., Law and Economics, Vanderbilt University
J.D., Vanderbilt University

STEVE R. JOHNSON
Dunbar Family Professor
Administrative Law, Business Planning, International Taxation, Tax Crimes, Taxation, Taxation of Business Entities
J.D., New York University

JEFFREY H. KAHN
Harry M. Walborsky Professor and Associate Dean for Business Law Programs
Taxation, Taxation of Business Entities, Torts
J.D., University of Michigan

JAY KESTEN
Associate Professor
Advanced Corporate Governance, Corporate Finance, Corporate Governance, Corporations
LL.M., Harvard University
LL.B., University of British Columbia

TAHIRIH V. LEE
Associate Professor
International Business Transactions, International Trade Simulation
Ph.D., History, Yale University
J.D., Yale University

LAUREN SCHOLZ
McConnaughhay and Rissman Professor
Contracts, Consumer Privacy and Data Security Seminar, Sales & Leases
J.D., Harvard University
Core Business and Tax Law Faculty

JUSTIN T. SEVIER
Charles W. Ehrhardt Professor of Litigation
Behavioral Law and Economics, Closely Held Business Organizations, Evidence
Ph.D., Psychology, Yale University, expected 2023
J.D., Harvard University

MANUEL A. UTSET JR.
William & Catherine VanDercreek Professor and Associate Dean for Juris Master Programs
Corporations, Game Theory for Business Lawyers, Law and Economics, Securities Regulation
J.D., University of Michigan

KELLI ALCES WILLIAMS
Matthews & Hawkins Professor of Property and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Advanced Corporate Governance, Bankruptcy, Corporations, Property, Securities Regulation
J.D., University of Illinois

For more information about our Business and Tax Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/business-law-faculty.
Kelsey Copeland
Kelsey Copeland (’17) clerked at International Speedway Corporation as a student through the FSU Law corporate externship program. She then worked in house at NASCAR and is now senior corporate counsel at the LPGA.

“As a student, working at International Speedway Corporation not only taught me how to thrive in a corporate setting, but my work with ISC/NASCAR has also allowed me to network with some of the biggest and brightest contacts in motorsports! FSU’s Business Certificate and corporate externship programs taught me to dive in and learn the ins and outs of the business, while providing me with the tools to flourish. I enjoy what I do every day, and I am grateful for the programs at FSU that helped get me here.”
BUSINESS EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS REGULATION
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities (Office of the General Counsel)
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Antitrust
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Consumer Protection (Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tallahassee, Tampa, West Palm Beach)
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Florida Department of Financial Services
- Florida Department of Health
- Florida Public Service Commission
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (Atlanta, Miami)

CORPORATE COUNSEL
- AssuredPartners (Lake Mary)
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida (Jacksonville)
- Carrier Corporation (Palm Beach Gardens)
- Florida Housing Finance Corporation (Tallahassee)
- G4S (Jupiter)
- Green Street Power Partners
- Homeowners Choice Insurance (Miami, Tampa)
- JM Family Enterprises/Southeast Toyota (Deerfield Beach)
- Jabil Circuit, Inc. (St. Petersburg)
- L3Harris (Melbourne)
- Mainline (Tallahassee)
- NASCAR (Daytona Beach)
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company (Tallahassee/Juno Beach)
- Office Depot (Boca Raton)
- Paul Davis Restoration (Jacksonville)
- Pure Storage Inc.
- SBA Communications Corporation (Boca Raton)
- Swatch Group (Miami)
- United Soccer League (Tampa)
- White Cap (Atlanta)

COURTS WITH BUSINESS CASES
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Circuit/County Court (Tallahassee, nationwide locations)
- Circuit Court/Complex Business Litigation Court (Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa)
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings
- Florida First District Court of Appeal
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Tallahassee, nationwide locations)
- U.S. District Court (Tallahassee, nationwide locations)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING
- Florida Department of Management Services
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Housing Finance Corporation

TAX
- Legal Services of North Florida Low-Income Tax Clinic (Tallahassee/Quincy)
- U.S. Department of Justice - Tax Division
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Department of Health

BUSINESS ACTIVITIES
- Business Law Society
- Florida State University Business Review
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- Real Estate Law Society

16 FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW
Destinee Campbell Small (’22) practices at Tannenbaum Lemole & Hill in Sarasota.

“As a graduate of FSU Law, a participant in the Business Law Program and a current business attorney, I now know that the program shaped the trajectory of my legal career. The business law program provided insight on topics that are a must-know for any law student interested in pursuing business litigation and/or transactional work. I was able to receive hands-on experience through the Business Law Clinic, where I worked directly with clients, drafted and reviewed legal documents, and learned the ins and outs of corporate law and business litigation. Now, as both a real estate general counsel and litigation attorney, I have used this unique foundation to launch my career as an associate. I recommend the Business Law Program to students looking to pursue a business career or any future attorney who wants an understanding of a necessary function of our society – business and finance.”
BUSINESS COURSES AND SEMINARS

COMMERCIAL LAW
- Commercial Law
- Consumer Protection Law

CORPORATE LAW & FINANCE
- Advanced Topics in Corporate Governance
- Antitrust Law
- Closely Held Business Organizations
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Law and Finance Seminar
- Corporations
- Financial Statements Interpretation
- In-House Counsel
- Insurance Law
- Introduction to Business, Finance and Commercial Transactions
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Securities Regulation

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS
- Global Health & Pharmaceutical Law
- International Aspects of Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Sales & Arbitration
- International Trade and Investment Law
- International Trade Transactions

LAW & ECONOMICS
- Law and Economics

REAL ESTATE
- Florida Real Estate Practice: Beyond the Fundamentals
- Land Use Regulation
- Real Estate Finance
- Real Estate Foundations

TAX LAW
- Corporate Tax
- Estate Planning Seminar
- Tax Drafting

TRANSACTIONAL & SKILLS COURSES
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Business Law Clinic
- Business Planning
- Contract Drafting
- Mediation
- Negotiation

OTHER BUSINESS COURSES
- Business Ethics
- Business Law & Legislation
- Employment Law
- Energy Law and Policy
- Introduction to Intellectual Property
- The Law & Business of Investment Management
- Oil and Gas Law
- White Collar Crime
PROGRAMS FOR J.D. STUDENTS

The Business Law Certificate Program allows students planning careers in business law and finance to receive specialized training in a set of core areas: publicly traded corporations, closely held business entities, corporate finance, law and economics, and taxation. The program carries additional requirements beyond those for the J.D. degree and signals to potential employers that a graduate has advanced training in these core areas. Additionally, J.D. students who are accepted to the graduate program at Florida State University’s College of Business can pursue a joint graduate pathway in law and business (J.D.-MBA).

Business faculty members previously practiced at top firms in NEW YORK CITY, CHICAGO, AND BOSTON, clerked for federal judges, and were high-level attorneys for the U.S. government.

LL.M. IN BUSINESS LAW

The LL.M. in Business Law is open to students with a J.D. degree and to foreign lawyers. It is designed to provide advanced business law and finance training to lawyers in areas of growing demand, such as regulatory compliance, in-house counsel, transactional law, complex business litigation, and financial regulation. Students are matched with program faculty members who mentor them and help them tailor their course of study, based on students’ interests, educational backgrounds, and professional needs. The program is available online or on campus.
Civil Rights & Social Justice

THE COLLEGE OF LAW’S FACULTY AND STUDENTS ARE AT THE FOREFRONT in advocating for civil rights in our state and nation. Students advance civil rights and social justice through courses, clinical programs, The Florida Law Schools’ Consortium for Racial Justice, the FSU Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, and events sponsored by the FSU Institute on Civil Rights, the Public Interest Law Center (PILC), and many student organizations. Internationally recognized FSU Law faculty members are experts on the major civil rights issues of our day, such as mass incarceration, human trafficking, solitary confinement, children in prison, voting rights of previously imprisoned persons, immigration rights, disability rights, and the death penalty. FSU Law is a leader in placing students in major civil rights law firms, governmental entities, and nongovernmental organizations, and many of the school’s graduates are leaders in civil rights and social justice movements.
Civil Rights and Social Justice Faculty

FREDERICK M. ABBOTT
Edward Ball Eminent Scholar
Professor of International Law
Global Health & Pharmaceutical Law
LL.M., University of California at Berkeley
J.D., Yale University

EDWARD B. POLK
Professor of International Law
Children in Prison Project, Children’s Advocacy Clinic, Health Care Access Project, H.E.L.P.
Ph.D., Legal Philosophy, Fordham University
J.D., Florida State University

PAOLO ANNINO
Glass Professor of Public Interest Law
Children in Prison Project, Children’s Advocacy Clinic, Health Care Access Project, H.E.L.P.
Ph.D., Legal Philosophy, Fordham University
J.D., Florida State University

ERIKA NYBORG-BURCH
Clinical Professor
Farmworker & Immigration Rights Clinic
J.D., Yale University

WAYNE A. LOGAN
Steven M. Goldstein Professor
Capital Punishment Seminar
J.D., University of Wisconsin

MICHAEL T. MORLEY
Associate Professor
Election Law
J.D., Yale University

LAUREN SCHOLZ
McConnaughhay and Rissman Professor
Privacy Seminar
J.D., Harvard University

DARBY KERRIGAN SCOTT
Clinical Professor
International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic, International Human Rights of Women
J.D., Florida State University

ALEXANDER TSESIS
D’Alemberte Chair in Constitutional Law
Civil Rights, Constitutional Law, First Amendment Rights
J.D., Chicago-Kent College of Law

CHARQUIA WRIGHT
Assistant Professor
Civil Rights Law, Constitutional Law, Election Law, Race and the Federal System
LL.M., University of California, Los Angeles
J.D., Georgetown University

TERRY COONAN
Executive Director of the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights and Courtesy Professor of Law
Human Trafficking, International Human Rights Law
J.D., University of Cincinnati
BEN CRUMP (‘95)

FSU Law alumnus Benjamin L. Crump (‘95) (pictured at the law school) is one of the nation’s top civil rights attorneys and has represented many high-profile clients, including the families of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and Breonna Taylor. Crump hires FSU Law students and visits campus regularly to engage with students.
Daniela Donoso (‘20) obtained a prestigious Equal Justice Works Fellowship after graduation. She is serving at Legal Services of North Florida, where she is creating a comprehensive immigration advocacy program to serve immigrants who are low income and/or crime victims and establishing immigration protocols, procedures, and resources.

“The human rights and social justice initiatives I was involved with at FSU Law ultimately led to my decision to pursue an Equal Justice Works Fellowship. These initiatives ranged from working at FSU’s Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, enrolling in three PILC clinics, externing with legal service organizations, working as a T.A. for the International Human Rights course, and leading an immigrant rights-focused organization on campus. The mentors I gained from all of these spaces never encouraged me to pursue anything less than my passions and dreams.”
Kelly Kaladeen (’22) attended the University of Florida for undergrad and serves as director of government affairs and assistant general counsel at Florida Association of Health Plans.

“One of the reasons I chose to attend FSU Law was the opportunity to strengthen my skills and become a civil rights and social justice advocate. I was drawn to the opportunity to get involved with PILC. The clinic allowed me to provide family law information to women in prison, create a legal empowerment project, and work on a client’s case. I also value FSU Law’s student organizations for the multitude of guests they bring to campus for us to learn from—they continuously motivate me to be the best advocate I can be.”
CIVIL RIGHTS LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COURSES
- Children in Prison Project
- Children’s Advocacy Clinic
- Civil Rights Law
- Constitutional Law II
- Consumer Protection Law
- Disability Law
- Election Law
- Employment Discrimination
- Employment Law
- Farmworker & Immigration Rights Clinic
- Global Health & Pharmaceutical Law
- Health Care Access Project
- Human Rights & National Security
- Human Trafficking
- Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project (H.E.L.P.)
- Immigration Law
- International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic
- International Human Rights Law
- Juvenile Justice: Skills Practice
- Political Law
- Regional Human Rights Systems
- Special Topics in Human Rights
- Universal Human Rights Systems

CIVIL RIGHTS LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVITIES
- Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- American Civil Liberties Union
- American Constitution Society
- Association for Criminal Justice
- Center for the Advancement of Human Rights
- Florida Justice Association - FSU Section
- The Florida Law School’s Consortium for Racial Justice
- If/When/How
- OUTLaw
- Public Interest Law Students Association
- Trafficking in America Task Force
- Women’s Law Symposium

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER (PILC)
Students acquire real-world work experience and represent clients through the Public Interest Law Center’s clinics and projects. Under the supervision of attorneys, students advocate to empower marginalized communities, including children, human trafficking survivors, persons with disabilities, immigrants, and farmworkers. The center strives for justice and equitable outcomes through litigation, law reform advocacy, and community legal education. The center’s work on children in prison has been cited by the United States Supreme Court and featured by national and international media outlets.

For more information about our Civil Rights and Social Justice Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/civil-rights-faculty.
Florida State’s strong criminal law program offers a wide range of courses to prepare students for a career in the field. Our faculty members are nationally or internationally recognized scholars with deep expertise in the area. Our students can obtain hands-on experience through our Public Interest Law Center and an extensive array of clinical externship opportunities. Students are placed in externships throughout the state, including with state and local public defender and prosecutor offices, the U.S. Attorney’s Office, and the Innocence Project of Florida. Florida State ranks among the nation’s top law schools for public defender/prosecutor jobs. Students can also assist in the work of the university’s Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, with which the College of Law has a close relationship.
Criminal Law Faculty

**PAOLO ANNINO**
Glass Professor of Public Interest Law
Children’s Advocacy Clinic, Juvenile Solitary Confinement Project
Ph.D., Legal Philosophy, Fordham University
J.D., Florida State University

**NADIA BANTEKA**
Gary & Sallyn Pajic Professor
Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Law of Policing
S.J.D., University of Pennsylvania
LL.M., University of Pennsylvania
LL.M., University of Nottingham
LL.B., Democritus University of Thrace

**LAWRENCE S. KRIEGER**
Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs
Criminal Practice Clinic
J.D., University of Florida

**WAYNE A. LOGAN**
Steven M. Goldstein Professor
Capital Punishment Seminar, Controlled Substances: Law, Policy & Enforcement, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure: Police
J.D., University of Wisconsin

**EMILY SPOTTSWOOD**
David and Deborah Fonvielle Professor
Evidence, Scientific Evidence
J.D., Northwestern University

**HENRY ZHUHAO WANG**
Tallahassee Alumni Professor
Evidence
S.J.D., Northwestern University
J.D., Indiana University Bloomington
LL.M., University of Pennsylvania
Kayla Neal (’23).externed at the Office of the Public Defender during the summer of 2022.

“Participating in the Criminal Litigation Skills course has been the highlight of law school. Through the course, I worked at the Second Judicial Circuit Public Defender’s Office. Working in the misdemeanor and juvenile divisions, I litigated and managed my own criminal caseload. I had opportunities to network, practice in front of judges, and aid the local indigent community. I was able to advance my legal skills and make a difference in the world, both in and out of the courtroom.”
CRIMINAL LAW COURSES AND SEMINARS
- The American Jury
- Capital Punishment Seminar
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Criminal Litigation Skills
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication
- Criminal Procedure: Police
- Cybersecurity Law
- The Death Penalty and the Supreme Court
- Evidence
- Executive Clemency in Florida
- Federal Criminal Law
- Florida Criminal Procedure
- Gender Justice
- Human Trafficking
- Introduction to International Criminal Law
- Juvenile Justice: Skills Practice
- Postconviction Remedies
- Prison Law & Policy
- Scientific Evidence
- Sentencing Law Seminar
- White Collar Crime

CRIMINAL LAW EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
- Federal Public Defender, Capital Habeas Unit
- Florida Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel
- Florida Public Defender/State Attorney Offices (Throughout Florida)
- Innocence Project of Florida
- U.S. Attorney’s Office

CRIMINAL LAW ACTIVITIES
- Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- American Civil Liberties Union
- Association for Criminal Justice
- Center for the Advancement of Human Rights

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER (PILC)
Our award-winning Public Interest Law Center conducts cutting-edge juvenile justice work on children in prison. A study published by the center and its director, Paolo Annino, was cited numerous times by the U.S. Supreme Court in a 2010 landmark decision prohibiting the imposition of life without parole on a juvenile offender who did not commit homicide. Students working at the center also provide children full legal representation in criminal cases.

For more information about our Criminal Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/criminal-law-faculty.
Florida State is home to one of the most highly regarded environmental law programs in the country. *U.S. News & World Report* ranks our program 19th strongest in the nation in its 2023 edition of America’s Best Graduate Schools. Our faculty members are among the most distinguished scholars in the fields of environmental, energy, and administrative law. A wide variety of courses and a certificate program provide students a solid foundation in environmental, energy, and land use law. Our Center for Environmental, Energy, and Land Use Law helps provide first-rate education to students who will become leaders in the practice of law, advocacy, and policymaking; it regularly convenes internationally regarded experts for thought-provoking events and produces important interdisciplinary research. Students also can take advantage of offerings in related areas of study at Florida State University, as well as externship opportunities in Florida and Washington, D.C.
Environmental Law Faculty

TISHA HOLMES
Courtesy Professor of Law
Land Use Planning
Ph.D., Urban Planning, University of California, Los Angeles

SHI-LING HSU
D’Alemberte Professor
Climate Change, Cost-Benefit Analysis in Environmental Law, Environmental Law, Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Climate Change: Science, Policy & Law, Natural Resources Law, Property
Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California, Davis
J.D., Columbia University

JAMES PARKER-FLYNN
Director of the Center for Environmental, Energy, and Land Use Law
Environmental Justice, Land Use
LL.M., Environmental Law & Policy, Florida State University
J.D., Georgia State University

TRICIA ANN MATTHEWS
Legal Writing Professor
Animal Law
J.D., Florida State University

ERIN RYAN
Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson Professor and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs
Environmental Law, Natural Resources Law, Negotiation, Property
J.D., Harvard University

MARK B. SEIDENFELD
Patricia A. Dore Professor of Administrative Law
Administrative Law, Legislation & Regulation
J.D., Stanford University

BRIAN G. SLOCUM
Stearns Weaver Miller Professor
Administrative Law
Ph.D., Linguistics, University of California, Davis
J.D., Harvard University

19TH BEST ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM PER U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT
ENVIRONMENTAL COURSES AND SEMINARS

- Administrative Law
- Advanced Legal Research in Administrative Law
- Climate Change Law Policy & Science
- Coastal and Ocean Law
- Condominium and Community Housing Law
- Current Issues in Environmental Law & Policy Seminar
- Energy Law and Policy
- Environmental Crimes Seminar
- Environmental Justice
- Environmental Law
- Florida Environmental Permitting
- Land Use Regulation
- Natural Resources Law
- Natural Resources Law & Policy Seminar
- Oil and Gas Law
- State & Local Government
- Water Resources Law and Policy

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

- Environmental Law Society
- Environmental Moot Court Competition
- Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law

ENVIRONMENTAL EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- City of Tallahassee - Environmental and Land Use
- City of Tampa - Environmental and Land Use (Tampa)
- Earthjustice
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings - Environmental
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Public Service Commission
- Florida Sea Grant (Gainesville)
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company (Juno Beach, Tallahassee)
- Public Trust Environmental Legal Institute of Florida (Jacksonville)
- Southwest Florida Water Management District (Tampa)
- U.S. Department of Justice - Environment and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section (Seattle, Washington, D.C.)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Regional Counsel (Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle)

Professor Erin Ryan took students from her Water Resources Law and Policy class to Wakulla Springs State Park in 2022.
Katherine Hupp (’22) earned the Environmental Law Certificate, was an assistant general counsel for St. Johns River Water Management District, and now practices at Lewis, Longman & Walker.

“With unmatched access to specialized opportunities to work in a variety of settings, FSU Law’s Environmental Certificate Program helps students build the networks and experiences they need to pursue careers in environmental, energy, or land use law. Throughout my involvement in the program, the environmental law faculty quickly evolved into mentors, and other students naturally grew to be friends due to our shared interests. The knowledge I gained and the relationships I established while in the program were crucial in helping me land a job in my field of choice and will continue to benefit my growth far beyond law school.”
PROGRAMS FOR J.D. STUDENTS

Upon graduation, students who successfully complete the Environmental Law Certificate Program receive a certificate along with their J.D. degree. The certificate signals to employers and others that a student has achieved special competency in the fields of environmental, energy, and land use law. Students may select their courses from an extensive menu of curricular and co-curricular offerings, as well as joint graduate pathway programs with other Florida State University departments.

A joint graduate pathway with the School of Urban and Regional Planning (J.D.-M.S.P.) enhances the law school’s ability to provide comprehensive preparation for a career in environmental and land use law. The school is nationally respected and offers a wide array of fields of emphasis. The joint graduate pathway provides an excellent foundation in both the law and the policy of land use. The College of Law, along with the Department of Earth, Ocean & Atmospheric Sciences, also offers a joint graduate pathway in Oceanography: Law and Aquatic Environmental Science (J.D.-M.S.). The joint graduate pathway provides a competitive advantage to graduates interested in environmental science, law, and policy.

LL.M. IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

The College of Law’s LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy gives J.D. holders the opportunity to enhance their knowledge of environmental, land use, natural resources, and energy law. Students are matched with program faculty members who mentor them and help design a curriculum that best suits their interests, educational backgrounds, and professional needs.
To learn more about our Environmental Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/environmental-law-faculty.
International Law

OUR INTERNATIONAL LAW FACULTY MEMBERS HAVE DEEP EXPERTISE IN A VARIETY OF AREAS, including international intellectual property, international trade law, the global pharmaceutical industry, international human rights, comparative law, and Chinese law. Their work has helped shape legal issues all over the world. Our program includes a wide array of specialized courses that reflect the expertise of the faculty, a variety of externship opportunities—both international and domestic in location—and a certificate program for students interested in international law. In addition, Florida State offers four exchange programs and the longest-standing summer law program at Oxford University sponsored by an American law school.
International Law Faculty

FREDERICK M. ABBOTT
Edward Ball Eminent Scholar Professor of International Law
LL.M., University of California, Berkeley
J.D., Yale University

AFRODITI GIOVANOPOULOU
Assistant Professor
American Legal History, Foreign Relations Law, Jurisprudence, Public International Law
Ph.D., International & Global History, Columbia University, in progress
S.J.D., Harvard University
LL.M., Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

DAVID E. LANDAU
Mason Ladd Professor and Associate Dean for International Programs
Comparative Constitutional Law, Conflict of Laws, International Litigation and Arbitration, Public International Law
Ph.D., Political Science, Harvard University
J.D., Harvard University

TAHIRIH V. LEE
Associate Professor
Chinese Law, Comparative Law, International Business Transactions, International Trade Simulation
Ph.D., History, Yale University
J.D., Yale University

DARBY KERRIGAN SCOTT
Clinical Professor
International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic, International Human Rights of Women
J.D., Florida State University

FERNANDO TESÓN
Eminent Scholar Emeritus
Foreign Relations Law, Public International Law, War
S.J.D., Northwestern University
LL.M., Université Libre de Bruxelles
J.D., Universidad de Buenos Aires

TERRY COONAN
Executive Director of the Center for the Advancement of Human Rights and Courtesy Professor of Law
Asylum and Refugee Law
J.D., University of Cincinnati
PROGRAMS FOR J.D. STUDENTS

Florida State’s Certificate Program in International Law recognizes students for a concentration in the area and carries requirements beyond those for a J.D. A certificate signals to potential employers a graduate’s specialization. J.D. students who are accepted to the graduate program at Florida State University’s College of Social Sciences can pursue a joint graduate pathway in law and international affairs (J.D.-M.S.).

DEGREE PROGRAM FOR FOREIGN LAWYERS

Foreign law graduates can pursue an LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers. The LL.M. allows students to gain in-depth knowledge of United States law. In recent years, Florida State has been pleased to host lawyers from countries including Brazil, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, China, Cuba, France, Haiti, India, Iran, Italy, Jamaica, Korea, Moldova, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Slovakia, South Korea, Taiwan, Turkey, and Uzbekistan as candidates for our LL.M. in American Law.

LL.M. students receive personal attention and counseling from a faculty advisor to develop a curriculum to fit their specific needs and goals. They are fully integrated into the College of Law community, taking classes alongside J.D. students. This allows LL.M. students to establish professional relationships with other graduate students from around the world, as well the opportunity to work with FSU’s outstanding faculty and J.D. students.

Under Florida law, students from Latin American and Caribbean countries qualify for the same relatively low tuition rates that Florida residents pay, provided they get a small scholarship. There are a number of scholarships available specifically for this purpose.
Jacob Shapiro (’23)
externed at the International Bar Association in London during the summer of 2022.

“My experience externing at the International Bar Association was fantastic. I had the opportunity to research issues pertaining to contemporary international law and the war in Ukraine. One of the many highlights was working in an office with law students and attorneys from all over the world and learning about their respective legal systems and approaches to international law.”
Katie Mesa (’20),
who earned the International Law Certificate and served as president of the Women’s Law Symposium as a 2L, is now a senior staff attorney at Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc.

“The strength of the international law certificate program was one of the main reasons why I was drawn to FSU Law. I was able to tailor my curriculum to my interest in international law through the Oxford program, the Farmworker & Immigration Rights Clinic, the Journal of Transnational Law & Policy, and the variety of international courses offered. Whether it be in the area of international human rights or international business, I feel prepared to take on the world with my J.D. from FSU Law.”
INTERNATIONAL COURSES AND SEMINARS

- Admiralty Law
- Chinese Law
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Comparative Family Law
- Comparative Law
- Global Health & Pharmaceutical Law
- Human Trafficking
- Immigration Law
- International and Foreign Legal Research
- International Aspects of Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Human Rights Law
- International Sales & Arbitration
- International Trade and Investment Law
- International Trade Transactions
- Jessup International Law Moot Court Course
- Private International Law
- Public International Law
- Surveillance & Intelligence Law
- War

INTERNATIONAL LAW/IMMIGRATION EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

- Americans for Immigrant Justice (Miami)
- Florida Rural Legal Services, Migrant Farmworker Clinic (remote)
- Human Rights First (New York City)
- International Bar Association (London)
- International Justice Mission (Chiang Mai)
- U.S. Immigration Court (National locations)

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Advocates for Immigrant and Refugee Rights
- Center for the Advancement of Human Rights
- Farmworker & Immigration Rights Clinic
- International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic
- International Law Students Association
- Journal of Transnational Law & Policy
- Multicultural Law Students Association

STUDY ABROAD

Students can participate in a summer study abroad program at the University of Oxford in England and in exchange programs with four universities:

- Erasmus University in Rotterdam, the Netherlands
- Griffith University in Brisbane, Australia
- The University of Groningen in Groningen, the Netherlands
- The University of the West Indies, Jamaica

For more information about our International Law professors, visit law.fsu.edu/international-law-faculty.

Savannah Bass ('24) studied at Oxford University during FSU Law’s 2023 program.
LL.M.

FSU Law offers three LL.M. programs for students who wish to further their legal studies. Our LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers program gives those with a law degree from another nation an understanding of the American legal system and the role of law in the United States. Our LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy gives law degree holders the opportunity to concentrate in or enhance their knowledge of environmental law, energy law, and land use law. The LL.M. in Business Law is designed to provide advanced business law and finance training to lawyers in areas of growing demand. In all three programs, LL.M. students receive personal attention and counseling from faculty advisors who help them design a curriculum that best meets their goals. LL.M. students take law classes with J.D. students and are fully integrated into the FSU Law community. Students interested in improving their writing skills can also receive one-on-one training through our writing center.
Cristina Andrea Galeano Bejarano
(LL.M. in Business Law, 2018, Colombia) Contract Manager for Latin America and U.S., Siemens Gamesa

“Being in the Business Law LL.M. Program was one of the best experiences of my life. I was able to work with the best professors and learned a lot about American law. The J.D. students I interacted with were helpful and approachable. Even though English is not my native language, I became friends with many of my classmates, who made my studies and experience greater and easier. Thanks to the resources offered by the FSU College of Law I had the opportunity to find my current job. I work for a multinational company based in the United States with operations in Latin America, where I can use both my Colombian and U.S. law degrees. All of this was possible because of my LL.M. degree and the support I received at the FSU College of Law.”

2022-2023 LL.M. students hailed from countries including Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, India, Jamaica, Nigeria, and Uzbekistan.
Hands-On Legal Experience

Our students have many opportunities to apply what they learn in the classroom in the real world. Florida State’s clinical programs and location in Tallahassee provide students a plethora of options to gain the legal experience that employers desire. Few other law schools in the nation can compete in terms of location. No other law school in Florida can provide the unique legal opportunities that accompany being located in the state capital.

Our law school is within walking distance of the Capitol building, the Florida Supreme Court, the United States District Court for the Northern District of Florida, many government agencies, and hundreds of large and small law firms. Students have a wide variety of externships, internships, clerkships, live-client clinics, and co-curricular opportunities from which to choose.
FSU Law students are not limited to work opportunities in just Tallahassee, though. Many of our more than 100 externship placements are located outside of Tallahassee, throughout Florida, and beyond. Students often utilize the law school’s strong alumni network to obtain work experience and career advice.

Whether students gain experience through part-time employment, clinical programs, or co-curricular organizations, the many opportunities at the law school and in Tallahassee are a tremendous advantage. During the summer, many students also work in major cities throughout Florida and the nation. The College of Law offers online courses, so students can still earn academic credit while working anywhere in the world. Students gain the experience that helps them obtain permanent employment upon graduation and, in many cases, minimize debt.

THE MOOT COURT TEAM IS RANKED THE NATION’S 8TH BEST, AND THE TRIAL TEAM IS RANKED 15TH BEST.
FSU LAW STUDENTS GAIN EXPERIENCE THROUGH:

- EXTERNSHIPS
- LIVE-CLIENT CLINICS
- INTERNSHIPS
  (SOMETIMES REFERRED TO AS CLERKSHIPS OR FELLOWSHIPS)
- PRO-BONO WORK
- JOURNALS & ADVOCACY TEAMS
  (FSU LAW HAS FOUR JOURNALS AND FIVE ADVOCACY TEAMS)

1,100+ HOURS OF PRO BONO SERVICE COMPLETED BY THE CLASS OF 2023
David Akintonde (’23), who served as president of FSU Law’s Student Bar Association as a 3L, externed at Cole, Scott & Kissane in Fort Lauderdale during the summer of 2022.

“If being in the classroom helped shape the foundation of my legal career, participating in an externship served as an opportunity to build upon that foundation. I drafted motions, went to multiple hearings to support my supervising attorney, and spoke with judges, which gave me a real perspective of what it means to be an attorney.”
Externships

APPELLATE PRACTICE
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Criminal Appeals
- Florida Public Defender’s Office - Criminal Appeals

CIVIL – BUSINESS

BUSINESS REGULATION
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Consumer Protection
  (Ft. Lauderdale, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tallahassee, Tampa, West Palm Beach)
- Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
- Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation
- Florida Department of Financial Services
- Florida Department of Health
- Florida Public Service Commission
- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (Atlanta, Miami)

CORPORATE COUNSEL
- AssuredPartners (Lake Mary)
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida (Jacksonville)
- Carrier Corporation (Palm Beach Gardens)
- First American Title (Atlanta)
- First Florida Integrity Bank (Naples)
- G4S (Jupiter)
- Green Point Research (Fort Lauderdale)
- HD Supply (Atlanta)
- Homeowners Choice Insurance (Miami, Tampa)
- JM Family Enterprises/ Southeast Toyota (Deerfield Beach)
- Jabil Circuit, Inc. (St. Petersburg)
- L3Harris (Melbourne)
- Mainline (Tallahassee)
- NASCAR (Daytona Beach)
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company (Tallahassee, Juno Beach)
- Marriott Vacations Worldwide
- Office Depot (Boca Raton)
- Paul Davis Restoration (Jacksonville)
- SBA Communications Corporation (Boca Raton)
- Swatch Group (Miami)
- Trulieve (Tallahassee)
- United Soccer League (Tampa)
- White Cap (Atlanta)

COURTS WITH BUSINESS CASES
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Circuit/County Court (Tallahassee, nationwide locations)
- Circuit Court/Complex Business Litigation Court (Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Tampa)
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings
- Florida First District Court of Appeal
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Tallahassee, nationwide locations)
- U.S. District Court (Tallahassee, nationwide locations)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTING
- Florida Department of Management Services
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Housing Finance Corporation

TAX
- Legal Services of North Florida Low-Income Tax Clinic (Tallahassee/Quincy)
- U.S. Department of Justice - Tax Division
- U.S. Internal Revenue Service

CIVIL – ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE
- City of Tallahassee - Environmental and Land Use
- City of Tampa - Environmental and Land Use (Tampa)
- Earthjustice
- Florida Department of Environmental Protection
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings - Environmental
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- Florida Public Service Commission
- Florida Sea Grant (Gainesville)
- NextEra Energy/Florida Power & Light Company (Juno Beach, Tallahassee)
- Southwest Florida Water Management District (Tampa)
- U.S. Department of Justice - Environment and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section (Seattle, Washington, D.C.)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Office of Regional Counsel (Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle)

CIVIL – THE FLORIDA BAR
- The Florida Bar, Legal Division
- The Florida Bar, Division of Ethics and Consumer Protection

CIVIL – GENERAL GOVERNMENT
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - State Programs
- U.S. Senate (Washington, D.C.)
CIVIL – HEALTH
- Center for Disease Control & Prevention (Atlanta)
- Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
- Florida Department of Health

CIVIL – LABOR/EMPLOYMENT
- Florida Attorney General’s Office - Employment
- Florida Commission on Human Relations
- Florida Department of Corrections - Employment Litigation Section
- Florida Public Employees Relations Commission
- U.S. Department of Justice - Civil Rights Division (Washington, D.C.)
- U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Miami, New York)

CIVIL – LEGAL SERVICES/OTHER PUBLIC INTEREST
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Americans for Immigrant Justice (Miami)
- Community Legal Services of Mid-Florida - Central Florida
- Disability Rights Florida
- Florida Council Against Sexual Violence (Tampa)
- Florida Department of Children and Families
- Florida Rural Legal Services ( Ft. Myers)
- Florida Rural Legal Services, Migrant Farmworker Clinic (remote)
- Guardian Ad Litem (Orlando, Tallahassee, West Palm Beach)
- Jacksonville Area Legal Aid (Jacksonville)
- Legal Aid Society of Palm Beach County (West Palm Beach)
- Legal Aid Society of the Orange County Bar Association (Orlando)
- Legal Services of Broward County (Ft. Lauderdale)
- Legal Services of Greater Miami, Inc. (Miami)
- Legal Services of North Florida – Foreclosure Defense
- Legal Services of North Florida Low-Income Tax Clinic (Tallahassee/Quincy)
- Southern Poverty Law Center (Tallahassee)

CIVIL – LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- Agency for Persons with Disabilities
- Bay County Attorney’s Office
- Brevard County Attorney’s Office
- City of Clearwater Attorney’s Office
- City of Fort Lauderdale Attorney’s Office
- City of Jacksonville Attorney’s Office
- City of Jacksonville Office of the General Counsel Municipal Law Clinic
- City of Miami Attorney’s Office
- City of Orlando Attorney’s Office
- City of Palm Bay Attorney’s Office
- City of Sarasota Attorney’s Office
- City of Tallahassee Attorney’s Office
- City of Tallahassee – Civil Litigation
- City of Tallahassee – Environmental & Land Use
- City of Tampa Attorney’s Office
- City of West Palm Beach Attorney’s Office
- Hillsborough County Attorney’s Office
- Lee County Attorney’s Office
- Leon County Attorney’s Office
- Manatee County Attorney’s Office
- Monroe County Attorney’s Office
- Osceola County Attorney’s Office
- Palm Beach County Attorney’s Office
- Pinellas County Attorney’s Office
- Sarasota County Attorney’s Office

CRIMINAL
- Federal Public Defender, Capital Habeas Unit (Tallahassee)
- Florida Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel
- Florida Public Defender/State Attorney Offices (Throughout Florida)
- Innocence Project of Florida
- U.S. Attorney’s Office

FLORIDA COMMISSION ON ETHICS
- Florida Commission on Ethics

INTERNATIONAL/IMMIGRATION
- Americans for Immigrant Justice (Miami)
- Florida Rural Legal Services, Migrant Farmworker Clinic (remote)
- Human Rights First (New York City)
- International Bar Association (London)
- International Justice Mission (Chiang Mai)
- U.S. Immigration Court (national locations)

JUDICIAL CLERK
- 1L Judicial Externships (nationwide locations)
- Circuit/County Court (nationwide locations)
- Circuit Court/Complex Business Litigation Court (Orlando, Miami, Tampa)
- Florida District Courts of Appeal (Tallahassee, other locations)
- Florida Division of Administrative Hearings
- Florida Public Employees Relations Commission
- Florida Supreme Court
- U.S. Bankruptcy Court (Tallahassee, other locations)
- U.S. District Court (Tallahassee, other locations)
- U.S. Immigration Court (Orlando, Miami, other locations)

LEON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
- Leon County School Board
“While externing at the State Attorney's Office, I was trained by experienced assistant state attorneys who gave me opportunities to represent the state in trials, depositions, and court hearings. I handled a variety of cases in county and circuit court, and I gained invaluable legal and life skills from the challenging workload. The externship was incredibly beneficial to my development as a future lawyer.”
Clinical Faculty Members

PAOLO ANNINO
Glass Professor of Public Interest Law and Director of the Public Interest Law Center and the Children’s Advocacy Clinic
Ph.D., Legal Philosophy, Fordham University
J.D., Florida State University

RICHARD M. BENHAM
Entrepreneur in Residence and Director of the Business Law Clinic
J.D., Florida State University

ERIKA NYBORG-BURCH
Clinical Professor and Director of the Farmworker & Immigration Rights Clinic
J.D., Yale Law School

DAYNICA HARLEY
Clinical Professor, Children’s Advocacy Clinic and HELP Project
J.D., Florida State University

LAWRENCE S. KRIEGER
Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs
J.D., University of Florida

RIMA NATHAN
Clinical Professor and Director of the Claude Pepper Elder Law Clinic
J.D., Florida State University

ADRIA E. QUINTELA
Clinical Professor and Co-Director of Clinical Externship Programs
J.D., Northwestern University

DARBY KERRIGAN SCOTT
Clinical Professor and Director of the International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic
J.D., Florida State University

139 STUDENTS EXTERNEAT 92 PLACEMENTS IN 23 CITIES, INCLUDING ATLANTA, FORT LAUDERDALE, INDIANAPOLIS, MIAMI, NEW ORLEANS, NEW YORK CITY, ORLANDO, TAMPA, WASHINGTON, D.C., AND LONDON DURING THE 2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR.
PUBLIC INTEREST LAW CENTER (PILC)

Founded in 1991, the Public Interest Law Center trains second- and third-year law students in legal advocacy, with an emphasis on mentoring, small group discussions, and role playing. Students are certified by the Florida Supreme Court to practice under the supervision of attorneys. They interview clients, conduct discovery, draft pleadings, and represent clients in a variety of legal forums. Students also advocate before the Florida Legislature and other governmental entities.

Through its live-client clinics and projects—the Children’s Advocacy Clinic, Claude Pepper Elder Law Clinic, Farmworker & Immigration Rights Clinic, International Human Rights Advocacy Clinic, Children in Prison Project, Health Care Access Project, Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project, and Juvenile Solitary Confinement Project—the Public Interest Law Center provides students with practical skills training and management skills that they will continue to use as practicing attorneys. Students also gain a sense of professional responsibility and invaluable work experience.

Florida State’s program is unique among law school clinical programs because of the wide variety of legal services provided. While other law school clinics specialize in one or two types of cases, the Public Interest Law Center handles everything from family law cases to juvenile delinquency cases to immigration advocacy.

The center’s work on children in prison has been cited by the United States Supreme Court and featured by national and international media outlets. The center also has won numerous awards for its work.
Melody Andrews (’22) participated in PILC’s Human Trafficking and Exploitation Law Project and Children’s Advocacy Clinic as a student. She is now an assistant public defender at the Second Judicial Circuit Public Defender’s Office.

“When involved in clinics at the Public Interest Law Center was one of the most helpful and rewarding things that I participated in during law school. PILC helped me find my passion for public interest work and human rights work, while teaching me the practical skills necessary to become a better advocate. I am so thankful for my time in the clinics, and I will take those experiences with me throughout my legal career.”
THE BUSINESS LAW CLINIC: “IN-HOUSE” TRANSACTIONAL LAWYERING

The clinic is part of the College of Law’s comprehensive program in business law, which includes a curriculum with broad offerings in business law, tax, law and economics, and finance, as well as the Business Law Certificate and business externship programs.

Students in the Business Law Clinic learn transactional skills and earn academic credit by helping advise business and social entrepreneurs within the Florida State University community. The clinic teaches students the basic bargaining, drafting, risk-assessment, and legal ethics skills necessary to be an effective and creative transactional lawyer. Students conduct a broad range of legal services and participate in other forms of experiential learning, such as role playing, simulations, and the keeping of transactional journals. Students help with client intake, identifying legal and business issues, and developing bargaining strategies. They also assist in choosing the appropriate type of entity and drafting organizational documents, shareholder contracts, and licensing agreements. Students in the clinic have also made presentations on name, image, and likeness endorsement opportunities to educate FSU student-athletes on their general rights and responsibilities under a Florida statute and new NCAA policy that took effect in July 2021. Florida State students are able to combine traditional classroom learning with hands-on, real-world experience.
Kirsten Nowack (‘21), who attended Florida State for undergrad, is an associate in the Financial Institutions practice group at Bressler, Amery & Ross.

“The Business Law Clinic was a fantastic experience. Even during a pandemic, when classes and clinics had to be remote, Professor Benham was able to bring in knowledgeable speakers who we could network with. My favorite part of the Business Law Clinic was working with clients and seeing their passion for their new business or start-up/invention. We worked on getting our clients’ businesses registered with the state of Florida, helped guide and answer any business law entity formation questions, and offered general advice to maintain a successful business in Florida.”
SPECIALIZED
STUDENT SUPPORT

When you enroll at FSU Law, you join a community where the administration places a high priority on providing individualized support to students. In addition to support from alumni and faculty members, students have personalized advising, mentoring, and counseling resources through several offices on campus.

Our *Career Services and Professional Development Office* meets one-on-one with law students to help them launch their careers. The Career Services team will collaborate with you to create individualized job-search strategies, based on your specific goals and aspirations. Students receive counseling on a wide range of topics, including interviewing, drafting cover letters and resumes, and searching for jobs in desired locations and practice areas. Through advising and professional development initiatives, the Career Services team prepares students to be knowledgeable, confident, and competitive in the legal market.

Our *Academic Engagement & Success Office* develops and manages a wide range of academic enrichment activities designed to maximize students’ opportunities for success in law school and in the practice of law. The office works with FSU Law students from orientation through graduation to offer guidance in all areas related to course selection, academic planning, effective study techniques, and bar-readiness strategies. In addition, they provide personalized advising services and academic coaching specially tailored to students’ individual needs. Through FSU Law’s Writing Center, faculty members and high-achieving academic fellows meet one-on-one with students who want additional guidance on the writing process and perfecting their written work.

The professionals in our *Student Advancement Office* are dedicated to helping students achieve their academic and extracurricular goals by offering a wide range of support and programming. One of the many ways they support students is through our *Raising the Bar Professionalism+ Program*, which was launched in 2018 to assist students as they begin to form their professional identities. An exciting component of the program is that all third-year students may elect to have a professionalism mentor assigned to them—someone who will help them as they transition from law student to new lawyer. This initiative will provide you with many tools to help you thrive in law practice. The office also hosts a wide variety of wellness events for students.
Cristen Chandler (’24) was an undergrad at Auburn University.

“Faculty members are more than some of the most impressive academic minds in the legal field; they are interactive, kind, and helpful. They care about you not only as a student, but also as an individual. They truly want to see you succeed, and that kind of support is rare in most law schools. Also, the Career Services team works tirelessly to ensure that we are employed during the summers and after graduation, and that we have opportunities to learn from guest speakers and prominent legal minds. They are extremely helpful during one-on-one advising appointments and want to see students land their dream jobs.”
Florida State-educated lawyers can be found in almost every U.S. state and around the world. Our 10,000-plus alumni are extraordinarily supportive of our school and students.

One measure of the level of graduate engagement is a law school’s alumni giving rate—ours is among the best in the nation. Alumni who are financially supportive tend to also provide support in other ways.

Our alumni provide a vital network to help our students find employment. They are generous with their time and donate countless hours to helping students perfect their job search skills and learn about practicing law. Alumni in private firms, the judiciary, government service, and nontraditional legal careers regularly visit campus to talk with students about their specific fields of practice, answer students’ questions, and conduct mock interviews. They also host networking meetings with students in their cities. Our alumni provide students clerking and full-time employment opportunities. Alumni regularly interview students on campus and virtually.

Our engaged and helpful alumni are the principal reason why Florida State law graduates have success in the legal job market.
SENATOR MEL R. MARTINEZ ('73)
Former U.S. Senator and retired Chairman of the Southeast U.S. and Latin America, JPMorgan Chase & Co.

CRAIG B. GLIDDEN ('83)
Executive Vice President for Legal, Global Public Policy, Cybersecurity, and Strategic Technology Initiatives, General Motors

THE HONORABLE MARY S. SCRIVEN ('87)
United States District Judge, United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida

BEN ODOM ('04)
Vice President of Business and Legal Affairs, NASCAR

MARKENZY LAPOINTE ('99)
United States Attorney, U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Florida

ALBERTO DOMINGUEZ ('97)
President, Global Walmart & Sam’s Club, The Coca-Cola Company

THE HONORABLE RICKY POLSTON ('87)
Former Florida Supreme Court Justice and Partner, Shutts & Bowen

KATHERINE A. CASTOR ('91)
U.S. Representative, United States House of Representatives

THE HONORABLE JESSICA G. COSTELLO ('09)
County Court Judge, Florida’s Thirteenth Judicial Circuit

SHANNON DEPUY BREAM ('96)
Anchor of FOX News Sunday and Chief Legal Correspondent, FOX News

ROBERT E. RICE ('79)
Founder and Managing Partner, Tangent Capital

BENJAMIN J. GIBSON ('08)
Managing Partner of Tallahassee Office, Shutts & Bowen

MELANIE GRIFFIN ('06)
Secretary, Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation

JOLINDA L. HERRING ('96)
Managing Shareholder, Bryant Miller Olive

ALBERTO DOMINGUEZ ('97)
President, Global Walmart & Sam’s Club, The Coca-Cola Company

MARK S. ELLIS ('84)
Executive Director, International Bar Association

JOSHUA E. DOYLE ('06)
Executive Director, The Florida Bar
Tallahassee offers a wonderful environment and many opportunities for law students. Tallahassee is a relatively small city, which makes it ideal for studying and also translates into a lower cost of living than in larger areas. Despite its size, Tallahassee offers many more unique restaurants and cultural experiences than most comparable cities. If you love being outdoors, Tallahassee and the surrounding areas have many options for hiking, biking, swimming, boating, and canoeing. The closest beach is less than an hour from campus. The city also boasts a wide variety of networking and work opportunities that accompany being located in the capital of the third most populous state in the nation.
Sarai Glaze (’24) was an undergrad at Ohio State University.

“There are countless reasons I decided to attend the FSU College of Law, though I was primarily persuaded by the location and affordability of our program. Not only is our law school located in the capital, but it is mere footsteps from the Florida Supreme Court. I knew the opportunities for networking, clerkships, and externships would be endless. However, my decision ultimately turned on the cost of attendance along with the value of education. Pursuing my J.D. here has not only been the most cost-effective decision, but overall I could not be happier with the culture, resources, and opportunities available.”
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
COMMUNITY

As an FSU Law student, you will have access to a wide variety of Florida State University amenities and programs. FSU is a world-class research university with top programs in areas including political science and business. Being a part of this community allows you the option to participate in one of nine joint graduate pathways offered by the College of Law in collaboration with other FSU colleges and schools.

You will also have access to Florida State’s recreational facility, the Leach Center—a 100,000-plus-square-foot gym featuring an indoor track overlooking a 16-lane indoor swimming pool, extensive cardio, strength, and weight-lifting equipment, basketball and racquetball courts, and more. You can also take advantage of FSU’s 73-acre, lake-front property where you can swim, canoe, kayak, and picnic with friends. Tickets to all FSU sporting events are free for law students, so you can attend the events of Florida State’s 18 NCAA Division I teams at no cost. FSU students also enjoy on-campus facilities for music and comedy shows, bowling and billiards, video games, and movies. The university is also home to the FSU Flying High Circus, one of only two collegiate circuses in the nation.

FSU law students can utilize the University Counseling Center and Health and Wellness Center. The Counseling Center is a welcoming and confidential place to help you overcome challenges that may interfere with your academic progress and emotional well-being. Students may seek couples, group, or individual counseling with no out-of-pocket expense. The on-campus Health Center’s many services include general medical care, women’s health services, nutrition assessments, physical therapy, psychiatry, immunizations, and more.

FSU LAW’S STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION has been honored as the nation’s best nine times since 2008. Our Black Law Students Association has been named National Chapter of the Year four times since 2011.
FLORIDA STATE IS THE #2 law school in the nation for best student quality of life, according to The Princeton Review (2023). Florida State is also ranked the nation’s #7 law school for best professors.

Sofia Azpurua (’23) attended Florida State University for undergrad.

“Just because the College of Law is on the outer edge of main campus does not mean law students are precluded from its activities and resources. All FSU students enjoy free access to health and wellness facilities, libraries, men’s and women’s athletic events, and fine arts performances. Law students can also participate in graduate joint master’s programs offered in conjunction with the Colleges of Business and Social Work, among others. FSU Law is the perfect balance of a small college atmosphere with large university opportunities.”
The College of Law seeks to admit and enroll students who, together, bring to the law school a varied set of backgrounds, interests, personal and professional experiences, and perspectives, who also have a record of academic success and a competitive LSAT score. Other factors considered include exceptional personal talents, interesting or demanding work or service experience, rigorosity of undergraduate course study, leadership potential, graduate study, maturity, and the ability to communicate effectively in writing. An applicant’s responses to the character and fitness questions in the application are also a significant factor in the decision-making process. Although a holistic approach is taken when reviewing applications, most admission decisions are based on the combination of LSAT or GRE score and undergraduate academic performance.

Florida State University encourages applications for admission from qualified students regardless of race, creed, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, veteran or marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, or any other protected group status in accordance with all pertinent federal, state, and local laws on non-discrimination and equal opportunity.

If you have questions about the admissions process or the Florida State University College of Law, please contact the Office of Admissions at 850.644.3787 or admissions@law.fsu.edu.

ELIGIBILITY

An applicant must hold, or expect to receive, a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university before beginning the study of law. Individuals who have previously attended law school are not eligible to apply as a first-time entering student.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

For specific details regarding the checklist items, visit the Admissions section of our website at law.fsu.edu.

REQUIRED ITEMS

- Register with the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) Credential Assembly Service (CAS)
- Online application through LSAC
- Application fee: $30 paid online through LSAC
- Submit transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate coursework completed through CAS
IMPORTANT DATES

SEPTEMBER 1
FSU Law begins accepting J.D. and LL.M. applications. Decisions are made on a rolling basis throughout the cycle.

SEPTEMBER 15
Initial deadline for Seminole Scholars J.D. applicants.

OCTOBER 1
2022-2023 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) applications become available. FSU Law’s school code is 001489.

DECEMBER 15
Deadline to apply as an Early Binding Decision J.D. candidate. Please visit our website for specifics regarding applying as an Early Binding Decision candidate.

JANUARY 15
Early Binding Decision J.D. applicants notified of the decision on their application.

JANUARY 31
Early Binding Decision deposits are due.

MARCH 15
J.D. Fall 2023 priority application deadline. Priority consideration given to the strongest applications completed by the priority deadline.

APRIL 15
Acceptance deadline for J.D. admits—decision statement and $200 non-refundable seat deposit due for applicants admitted through March 31. Deadlines for applicants admitted post March 31 are on a rolling basis.

JULY 15
LL.M. application deadline. International students are encouraged to submit their application for the fall semester by June 1 and the spring semester by November 1. The Online Business Law LL.M. Program also accepts applications for the summer semester, with a deadline of April 1.

JULY 31
Fall J.D. application deadline.
Take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) OR the Graduate Admission Test (GRE)

Note regarding GRE scores: Applicants may submit scores from either the LSAT or GRE as part of their application, but not both test scores. If an applicant has an existing reportable LSAT score, a GRE will not be considered in lieu of the existing LSAT score.

Note regarding LSAT Writing portion: Applicants must take the LSAT Writing portion, which is independently tested, before their LSAT score will be released by LSAC in the CAS report for the application.

Personal Statement
Resume

OPTIONAL ITEMS

Academic Addendum
Diversity Statement
Letters of Recommendation (2)

J.D. INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

Submit foreign transcripts for processing through the LSAC JD CAS.
Submit official TOEFL or IELTS score to LSAC CAS.

The minimum TOEFL score required is a 100 on the internet-based test, 250 on the computer-based test, or a 600 on the paper-based test. The LSAC TOEFL code for the JD CAS is 0058. The law school also accepts the International English Language Testing System (IELTS): The minimum score required is a 7.5 on the IELTS. Questions about the JD CAS can be directed to LSAC at 215.968.1001 or lsacinfo@lsac.org.

TRANSFER ELIGIBILITY

Florida State accepts transfer applicants from ABA-approved law schools in the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Transfer applicants must be in good standing at their current law school and any previous law schools to be eligible for consideration. Academic dismissal from any law school disqualifies a student from being considered for admission.

Transfer applicants must have earned no more than 43 credits to be eligible. The minimum acceptable LSAT score for transfer is a 147.

VISITOR ADMISSION

The College of Law accepts applications from students who have completed their second year of law school at another ABA-accredited institution who would like to be a visiting student at Florida State for one or two semesters of their third year. Students in their second year may be considered on a space-
available basis. Preference will be given to students who have a significant professional or personal reason to attend Florida State University College of Law. Detailed application instructions are available at law.fsu.edu.

3+3 ADMISSION

Under 3+3 programs, students who meet certain admission requirements can complete a bachelor’s degree and a law degree in six years rather than the traditional seven, saving a year of time and costs. We currently have programs with Eckerd College, Florida State University, Saint Leo University, the University of Central Florida, the University of North Florida, and the University of West Florida, and expect to add agreements with additional institutions in the future. Details about requirements for each school are available at law.fsu.edu/3-plus-3.

SEMINOLE SCHOLARS ADMISSION

Students enrolled as undergraduates at Florida State University may be eligible for admission through an alternative admission program authorized the American Bar Association, which permits admission of certain applicants who do not have a reportable graduate admissions test score (LSAT/GRE) under specific conditions. Applicants admitted under the Seminole Scholars option may be awarded a special scholarship. Details about the requirements and application are available at law.fsu.edu/admissions/Seminole-scholars-option.

LL.M. ADMISSION

Florida State offers three LL.M. degrees: the LL.M. in Business Law, the LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy, and the LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers. Detailed application instructions, eligibility information, and application deadlines are available at law.fsu.edu/admissions/llm-procedures.

JURIS MASTER ADMISSION

The Florida State University College of Law Juris Master program is flexible and intended for those who possess a bachelor’s degree and who want to advance their careers with legal studies and training. Details about requirements for the program and the application are available at law.fsu.edu/admissions/juris-master.
Florida State is rated the nation’s 8th best value law school by preLaw magazine. Tuition and fees are established by the Florida Board of Governors and the Florida Legislature and are subject to change each year.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The law school offers a program of scholarship assistance made available through the generous support of alumni and friends. Law school scholarships are awarded to students on the basis of merit and/or financial need. Entering first-year J.D. students are considered for scholarships only after being admitted to the College of Law. Second- and third-year students may apply for a variety of scholarships each spring for the upcoming academic year. For information about financial aid in general, contact Anthony Veus in the FSU Office of Financial Aid at 850.644.6404 or aveus@fsu.edu.

Most students qualify for federal funding through the Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loan and Direct Graduate PLUS Loan programs. Eligibility for federal funding is determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To ensure Florida State University College of Law receives your FAFSA report, you must include our school code (001489) in the application. Students are encouraged to submit the FAFSA as close to the release date as possible for priority consideration.
## COST OF ATTENDANCE (2022-2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>FLORIDA RESIDENT</th>
<th>NON-RESIDENT*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition &amp; Fees (30 credit hours)</td>
<td>$ 20,644</td>
<td>$ 40,656</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room/Board</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books/Supplies</td>
<td>1,700</td>
<td>1,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal (includes health insurance)</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 41,844</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 61,856</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* OUT-OF-STATE STUDENTS Most non-residents are eligible to reclassify as Florida residents for tuition purposes after the 1L year. For information about the reclassification process, contact the law school's Office of Admissions at 850.644.3787 or admissions@law.fsu.edu.

** Online program costs will vary. Visit our website for more information.