



Fast Facts

Data as of August 19, 2024

\$26,170

in-state tuition*

\$31,470

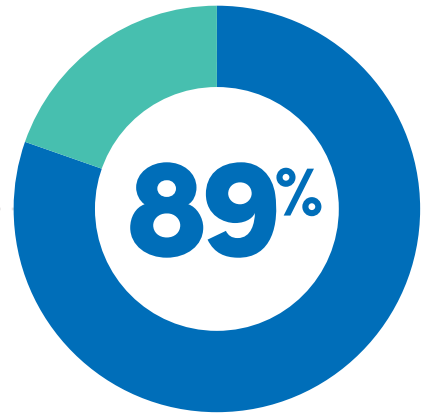
out-of-state tuition*

*Tuition does not include fees
and additional expenses.

6:1



student-to-faculty ratio



of incoming three-year
JD students receive
merit-based scholarships

Named
**A Top School for
Criminal Law**

by preLaw Magazine



Named
**A Best Value
Law School**

by preLaw Magazine

Named
**A Best School for
Practical Training**

by preLaw Magazine

A MESSAGE FROM DEAN S. TODD BROWN

This is an exciting time to pursue a legal education, and Buffalo is a great place to do it. Whether your interests lie in the courtroom, in the corporate world or on the legislative floor, UB School of Law will prepare you to launch a rewarding career in Western New York and beyond. Our graduates work at a wide variety of firms and agencies in Buffalo, New York City, Albany, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and other major cities across the country and around the world.

If you're undecided about your path forward, the breadth and depth of our curriculum, activities and experiential offerings provide avenues for exploring different interests in a supportive and engaging environment. You'll be guided by nationally renowned faculty, dedicated staff, and outstanding alumni and members of the bar who care deeply about the law school and share our commitment to justice.

I invite you to learn more about our innovative programs and the exceptional community at the heart of the State of New York's law school.

Sincerely,



S. Todd Brown
Dean and Professor of Law







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Our Law School

The University at Buffalo School of Law—the only law school in the State University of New York system—is a premier public law school, situated on the campus of a flagship university. As one of the oldest law schools in New York State, UB School of Law draws on more than 136 years of experience and innovation in legal education.

THREE KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Affordability



As a public law school, we are committed to ensuring access to a high-quality education at an affordable price.

Community



Students, faculty, staff, loyal employers and a wide-ranging network of alumni share a distinct sense of place and pride. They go out of their way to ensure that our students achieve more than they ever thought possible.

Outstanding Faculty



Many of our nationally prominent faculty members have a PhD in addition to their law degree, and they offer a wide range of interdisciplinary courses that provide a better understanding of how the law works in society.





Academics

Academic life at UB School of Law is engaging from the start. You'll learn to think like a lawyer thanks to our innovative and intensive Legal Analysis, Writing and Research program, growing your skills and knowledge through one-on-one coaching and small classes. A wide menu of concentrations, curricular programs and dual degrees lets you follow your curiosity, going deep with experts in the field. Creative faculty and teaching assistants will challenge you to see the law in new ways.



DISTINGUISH YOURSELF

Selecting one of our optional concentrations and curricular programs in our JD program will deepen your understanding of the work lawyers do and train you in how to approach complex legal problems. You'll be equipped to work on major problems and transactions from the start of your legal career. Completing the requirements of a concentration or program will distinguish you as someone with an unusual level of knowledge and mastery in your field.

Curricular Programs

Curricular Programs are designated in fields in which the law faculty offers an exceptional degree of strength and expertise and a rich variety of courses. Programs culminate in a small, intensive capstone or senior colloquium course designed to pull together students' knowledge and expertise.

- » Environmental Law
- » Finance and Development

Concentrations

Concentrations consist of a sequence of required and elective courses selected from a substantial menu of course offerings in the chosen field.

- » Advocacy
- » Criminal Law
- » Cross-Border Legal Studies
- » Family Law
- » Intellectual Property and Privacy Law
- » International Law
- » Sports Law

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT EACH CONCENTRATION](#)

DEGREES & PROGRAMS

Three-Year JD

The Juris Doctor degree, the basic U.S. law degree, is held by the vast majority of practicing U.S. lawyers, as well as businesspeople, policy makers, academics and other professionals.

Advanced Standing Two-Year JD for Internationally Trained Lawyers

This innovative program is intended for students who already hold a law degree from a jurisdiction outside the United States and who would like to earn a Juris Doctor degree and seek admission to the New York State Bar.

3+3 Accelerated BA-JD

The School of Law recognizes that qualified undergraduate students are ready and able to complete their undergraduate education and their law degree in less time than the seven years of study typically required. Students can accelerate their course of study by completing their BA and JD in just six years of full-time study.

Dual Degrees

Dual degree programs give you a career advantage and reduce the total time required to earn two degrees by up to a year. Many of our students pursue both the JD degree and a master's degree simultaneously.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT DUAL DEGREES](#)

LLM

Students who already have a first degree in law may pursue a Master of Laws or LLM degree. Our three LLM programs provide highly specialized courses of study designed to match a student's intellectual interests and advance their career to the next level.

- » Cross-Border Legal Studies LLM
- » Criminal Law LLM
- » General LLM

JSD

The Doctor of Juridical Science is the law school's most advanced degree. It makes full use of our creative and interdisciplinary faculty to prepare students for careers as law professors, in judicial and other public offices, as well as in high-level policy positions in international organizations.

MEET OUR FACULTY

UB School of Law enjoys a nationwide reputation as an innovator in the interdisciplinary study of law. Many of our professors have advanced degrees in complementary academic fields, enabling unique perspectives on how the law works in society. But they focus first on great teaching—guiding students through intellectual trials that will change their lives. Meet a few of our extraordinary educators.

Christine P. Bartholomew^(she/her)

Professor; Vice Dean for Academic Affairs

Background:

Professor Christine P. Bartholomew teaches in the areas of evidence, antitrust and civil procedure. Her scholarship focuses on the interplay of these topics, particularly in complex litigation. She is a recipient of the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and is a seven-time winner of the law school's teaching award, the Faculty Award.

"My courses focus on the fundamentals of legal practice. Admittedly, my classes are rigorous. I hold students to a high standard, with the hope that when they achieve, they leave with a passion for this field of study and are well-prepared for the challenges of a career in law."



Luis E. Chiesa^(he/him)

Dr. Teresa A. Miller Professor of Law; Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Director, Buffalo Criminal Law Center

Background:

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Professor Luis E. Chiesa is a highly regarded scholar in criminal law and social justice. He also leads the law school's diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives. His scholarly interests focus on substantive criminal law, criminal procedure, comparative law and animal cruelty law.

"Regardless of the course I'm teaching—be it criminal law, criminal procedure, or contemplative practice, meditation and law—my aim is to offer law students a textured and evocative vision of their chosen field. Through this, I aspire for them to embrace a practice of law that is not merely competent, skillful and excellent, but more important, one that is deeply imbued with soul."





Angelyn McDuff '12 (she/her)

Director of the Legal Analysis, Writing and Research Program

Background:

Professor Angelyn McDuff brings several years of practice to her classroom, including in compliance and regulatory analysis and immigration law. She previously worked as a staff attorney at Journey's End Refugee Services, on Buffalo's West Side. She has taught courses in international advocacy and has coached the law school's team in the Jessup International Moot Court Competition.

"The LAWR Program teaches foundational legal analysis, writing and research skills. Our small class sizes and supportive faculty foster an environment in which students acquire and practice essential skills. From conducting legal research and arguing in front of judges to drafting legal documents and counseling clients, you will be prepared for real-world success in any field of law."

Jorge Luis Fabra-Zamora (he/him)

Associate Professor of Law

Background:

Born and raised in Colombia, Professor Jorge Luis Fabra-Zamora brings to the classroom decidedly global experience and scholarship. With a PhD in philosophy, he explores philosophical questions in legal settings. He teaches torts, conflicts of law, and a new course, Law and Jurisprudence.



"The University at Buffalo School of Law is a supportive community characterized by genuine collaboration, intellectual curiosity and inclusiveness. I'm always available to talk about your research, courses and plans during my office hours. You belong here!"

[CLICK HERE](#) FOR OUR FULL
FACULTY DIRECTORY



Our Kent Research Scholars

UB School of Law's James Kent Faculty Research Scholar Program provides an opportunity for students with excellent academic credentials to serve as research assistants (RAs) for members of the law school faculty.

Many law students find that serving as a faculty RA is among the most valuable experiences of their law school career. These paid positions enable students to explore interesting and important topics under the guidance of law faculty working on the frontiers of legal scholarship and law reform. RAs develop subject matter expertise and skills in legal research and writing.

Moreover, faculty who work with an RA often serve as mentors and provide support and guidance as their RA prepares to enter law practice. Finally, the work schedule for RAs is tied to the academic calendar, so it is often more flexible than most other work options available to law students.



During her 1L summer, **Yvonne Xiaoyi Zhao '26** (she/her), joined Professor Amy Semet as a research assistant. Her time was spent reviewing the factors that influence judicial decision-making in patent law and immigration cases. Her research involved:

- » Assisting in the construction of a database cataloging district court patent law decisions.
- » Cataloging the background and biographies of immigration court judges appointed during recent administrations.
- » Conducting a review of recent studies concerning immigration court decisions.

“Working with Professor Semet has taught me the importance of data analysis in legal research. Handling these large datasets firsthand not only enhanced my ability to discern where relevant data could be collected but also developed my capacity to critically think about the implications of these data factors. This experience has sharpened my analytical thinking, preparing me for the complex reasoning required in my future legal career.”

–Yvonne Xiaoyi Zhao '26

Extending the Classroom



Study Abroad

The practice of law has become increasingly global, with attorney and client often located in different countries. As a law school located within minutes of an international border, UB School of Law keenly recognizes the value of studying law in another country.

Where can you go?

- » Australia: University of New South Wales Law
- » Scotland: University of Glasgow School of Law
- » Spain: Escola Superior d'Administració d'Empreses (ESADE)

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT STUDYING ABROAD](#)



Clinical Legal Education

Our clinics offer diverse and sophisticated practice opportunities to second- and third-year JD and LLM students, all working closely with skilled supervising attorneys. Our clinical offerings involve cutting-edge issues and complex matters in which creativity and innovation play key roles in serving clients effectively.

18,407

CLINIC HOURS PROVIDED
BY THE CLASS OF 2024

Real clients. Real practice. Real impact.

Student attorneys in our clinics work directly with clients and community partners to find solutions to real-world problems. Examples include:

Access to Justice Clinic

- » Students address issues of local, national, and global importance, advocating to advance equal rights and gender justice, especially for vulnerable and underrepresented communities.

Civil Rights and Transparency Clinic

- » In partnership with other local legal services agencies, the Civil Rights and Transparency Clinic created the Western New York Eviction Prevention Program to serve clients in Buffalo Housing Court.

Criminal Justice Advocacy Clinic

- » Student attorneys represent incarcerated individuals seeking resentencing, parole release, and executive clemency, and advocate for reform of New York's criminal legal system.

Entrepreneurship Law Center Clinic

- » For students interested in transactional work, our E-Law Clinic represents entrepreneurs and startups who cannot yet afford counsel and helps Minority and Woman-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBEs) secure traditional venture investing.

Family Violence and Women's Rights Clinic

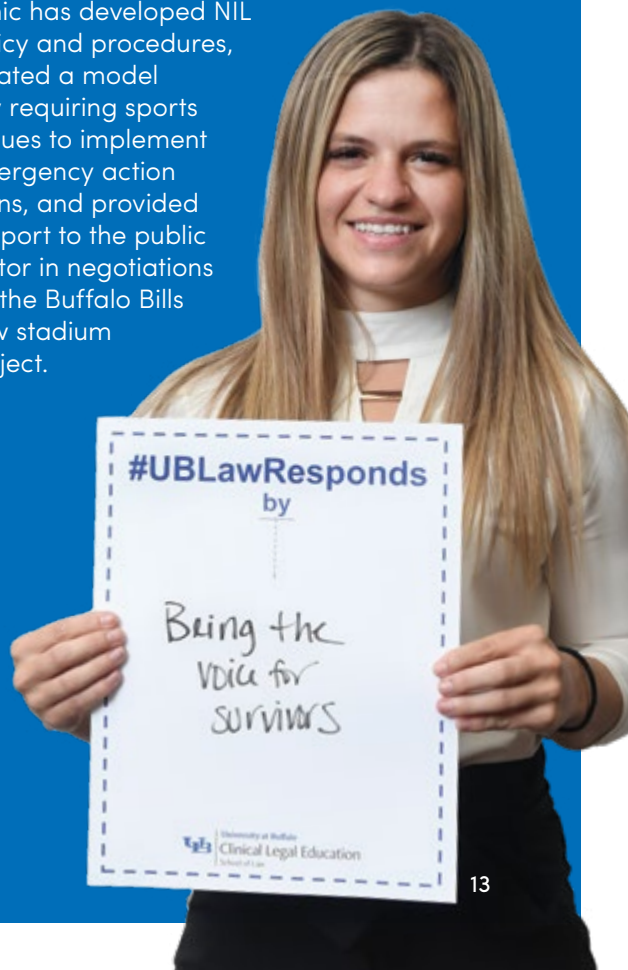
- » Student attorneys work directly with local survivors of family violence and provide legal representation for family offense petitions, child support, custody and visitation, and related divorce proceedings.

Mediation Clinic

- » Working on cases referred by local courts or other mediation agencies, student attorneys help resolve disputes in family law, small claims and the community.

Sports Law Clinic

- » Tackling current issues in sports law and policy, our Sports Law Clinic has developed NIL policy and procedures, created a model law requiring sports venues to implement emergency action plans, and provided support to the public sector in negotiations for the Buffalo Bills new stadium project.



12

MOCK TRIAL
TEAMS

4

MOOT COURT
TEAMS

4

ADR/
MEDIATION
TEAMS

Advocacy Institute

Our Advocacy Institute helps students cultivate the skills, discipline and ethics necessary to become creative and principled litigators. In our popular trial technique classes, students prepare and try a civil or criminal case under the tutelage of highly experienced trial lawyers and judges. Students can test those skills against other law schools in nationwide scrimmages and competitions through our trial advocacy program.

The art of appellate advocacy is taught in an Introduction to Appellate Advocacy class, which includes participation in our intramural Charles S. Desmond Moot Court Competition. Based on that experience, students are selected to represent the law school on teams that participate in prestigious national appellate moot court competitions.

Future practitioners in the growing field of alternative dispute resolution can hone their advocacy skills by taking part in our intramural Representation in Mediation Competition. Select students represent our law school in national and international mediation, negotiation and arbitration competitions.

UB School of Law hosts two national competitions: the Buffalo Niagara Mock Trial Competition, one of the largest in the nation, and the Herbert Wechsler National Criminal Moot Court Competition.



85.48%

PASS RATE FOR UB LAW GRADUATES
WHO TOOK THE JULY 2023 NYS BAR
EXAM FOR THE FIRST TIME.

Practicums

These three to four credit courses are based around hands-on fieldwork assisting and observing practicing attorneys. They explore the related subject area in depth and work on other skills (such as interviewing and counseling clients, access to justice, and writing) through weekly classroom work. Practicums are taught by a team consisting of a full-time professor and experienced practicing attorneys. Students have a chance to observe and reflect on the process of becoming an attorney.

- » Amicus Brief Practicum
- » Asylum Appellate Advocacy Practicum
- » Human Rights Practicum
- » Veterans Law Practicum



Externships

Law students earn academic credit in a variety of placements in the judiciary, government and non-profit organizations. Students learn from practice at their placements, as well as a seminar focused on practice skills, ethics and professional identity formation. Most externships are in Western New York, including Rochester, with select offerings in New York City and Washington, D.C.

100+
EXTERNSHIPS

Pro bono scholars

Students must perform 50 hours of pro bono legal service before they're admitted to the New York State bar. Our highly competitive Pro Bono Scholars Program gives select third-year law students the opportunity to take the New York State Bar Exam in February before they graduate. They then work full time in a pro bono placement during their final semester of law school, exploring access to justice issues while developing their lawyering skills and fulfilling their service requirement. Students may also accrue pro bono hours through credit-bearing clinics and externships, volunteer work with legal services agencies or at court help desks, summer legal service fellowships, and placements as judicial law clerks or at government law offices.

100%

OF OUR 2024 PRO
BONO SCHOLARS
PASSED THE NEW YORK
STATE BAR EXAM.

New York City Program in Business and Law

Let Manhattan be your classroom! Founded in 2006, the New York City Program in Business and Law's innovative curriculum teaches students law and business in context, during a semester spent in the heart of the city. The program is built around immersive conversations with practitioners, guided by UB School of Law professors, that explore and explain leading edge practices and employment possibilities. Students visit Manhattan law firms, investment banks, corporate offices, and other institutions, and have the option to complete externships to sharpen their practical skills. Social events and mentorships provide students with opportunities to network with the professional community and advance their career-building skills.



PARTICIPANTS OF THE NEW YORK CITY PROGRAM IN
BUSINESS AND LAW ARE **3X MORE LIKELY** TO LAND A JOB IN NYC
AND **2X MORE LIKELY** TO OBTAIN A JOB IN THE FINANCIAL FIELD.

GET INVOLVED



Student Government

- » Student Bar Association

Affinity Groups

- » Asian Law Students Association
- » Black Law Students Association
- » Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council
- » First-Generation Law Students Association
- » Italian-American Law Students Association
- » Jewish Law Students Association
- » Latin American Law Students Association
- » Law Students with Disabilities and Neurodivergencies
- » Military Law and Veterans Association
- » Non-Traditional Law Students Association
- » OUTLaw

Moot Court

- » Buffalo Moot Court Board
- » Jessup International Moot Court Board

Special Interest and Social Groups

- » Alternative Dispute Resolution Society
- » American Constitution Society
- » Buffalo Health Law Society
- » Buffalo Public Interest Law Program
- » Buffalo Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- » Domestic Violence Task Force
- » Gaming Regulation and Law Society
- » Intellectual Property Law Society
- » International Law Society
- » Labor and Employment Law Society
- » Law and Business Association
- » Phi Alpha Delta – Alden Chapter
- » Student Animal Legal Defense Fund

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE
ABOUT EACH ORGANIZATION](#)

Law Journals

The School of Law's wide array of scholarly law journals provides students with the opportunity to develop research and writing skills and make important contributions to legal scholarship.

- » *Buddhism, Law & Society*
- » *Buffalo Environmental Law Journal*
- » *Buffalo Human Rights Law Review*
- » *Buffalo Law Review*

Centers

- » The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy
- » Buddhism Law and Society Center
- » Buffalo Criminal Law Center
- » Buffalo Human Rights Center
- » Center for the Advancement of Sport
- » Cross-Border Legal Studies Center
- » Entrepreneurship Law Center
- » Jaeckle Center for Law, Democracy and Government



Student Success

At UB School of Law, your success is our success. Our students enjoy unparalleled support throughout law school, making a rigorous academic journey—from their first day of class to their first professional position—a positive and productive experience.

STUDENT SUPPORT

The Office of Student Affairs (OSA) provides a broad canopy of advising, support, engagement and resources for law students and the law school community.

The OSA team is the first stop for student resources and information at the law school. Their goal is to form a community of belonging and support while aiding each student's academic achievement and helping them navigate their law school experience. The student experience is important to the OSA team, making student support their top priority.

CHECK OUT THEIR SERVICES:

Building a Positive and Diverse Community

Enhancing student experience outside the classroom, the OSA team works to build a positive community of belonging. For example, the Peer-to-Peer Advocate Program matches new students with upper-level students to foster structured and purposeful relationships. The law school's Office of Diversity, Equity and Belonging, and other university partners, are important allies in building an ever more inclusive environment.

Supporting Student Organizations and Events

The OSA team is the law school's liaison to the student government and student organizations. They help students create new organizations, navigate School of Law and university policies, and coordinate events large and small.

Promoting Students' Well-Being

Several important initiatives focus on equipping our students with tools and strategies to maintain the pillars of well-being, with topics including stress management, building connections, financial and career preparation, mindfulness and self-care. The Fall into Wellness and Spring into Wellness series run throughout the semester; Wellness Week focuses on stressors during the week before final exams.

Providing Individual Support

As a go-to resource, the OSA team is available to students who need advice, guidance, referrals, help in managing emergencies, or general support. The OSA also collaborates with university and community partners to make resources, such as our in-house counselor, readily accessible.



"We try our best to enhance the student experience. We hope our efforts throughout the students' law school career will help them feel supported and a sense of belonging in the School of Law and the greater legal community."

—Vice Dean Jamila Lee '15

BECOME CAREER READY



Career Services Office: Inspiring Individuals from Orientation to Bar Admission, and Beyond

The Career Services Office (CSO) educates and empowers students, alumni and employers based on decades of diverse experience, along with genuine compassion and understanding of how to develop long-lasting employment relationships. The CSO takes a mindful approach to career development, collaborating with legal professionals to achieve unparalleled career outcomes for our students and our employers.

THE CSO IS A SOURCE FOR INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE IN PLANNING AND PURSUING SUMMER, ACADEMIC YEAR AND POST-GRADUATION OPPORTUNITIES.

Individual Career Counseling

Every student meets individually with a CSO career counselor at least once per semester and then as often as needed. Each job search is unique, and the CSO provides the highest-quality support by tailoring its services to each student.

Professional Development Programs

The CSO provides many programs to develop our students' professional identities, including lectures from experienced practitioners and new lawyers, career panels with alumni, and in-class career guidance, giving students the inside story about legal jobs across the country.

Mentor Programs

Every member of the first-year class is matched with one of more than 200 mentors who are practicing lawyers or judges, and the relationship grows throughout their law school career.



Student Summer Fellowship Funding

Through the vigorous fundraising of our student-run Buffalo Public Interest Law Program, as well as the support of alumni and friends, a variety of fellowships are available to law students who wish to advocate for justice in a typically unpaid summer internship.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT FELLOWSHIPS](#)

OUR STUDENTS FIND JOBS IN ALL SECTORS BASED ON THEIR SKILLS AND CAREER GOALS. FROM PRIVATE PRACTICE TO GOVERNMENT WORK, THE CSO HELPS STUDENTS FIND THEIR PERFECT FIT.

Judicial Clerkships

Our experienced team of career services professionals includes counselors who have dedicated decades to learning the judicial clerkship process and practitioners who have appeared before judges seeking clerks. Our extensive faculty and alumni connections provide students with access to the best possible opportunities to gain clerkships.

Government and Public Interest Opportunities

As a public law school, we have faculty and students who highly value government and public interest work. Each year, a large percentage of our graduates—43 percent in the Class of 2023—are employed in public interest and government organizations, with several receiving prestigious fellowships from organizations like the New York State Excelsior Office and Immigrant Justice Corps.

Private Practice

Big Law to solo practice, Buffalo to New York City and beyond, our students are placed in desirable positions at a variety of law firms. From summer law clerk experiences that give a sneak peek into the real-life practice of law to postgraduate positions, the CSO team helps find the right fit for you.

In-House Counsel Opportunities

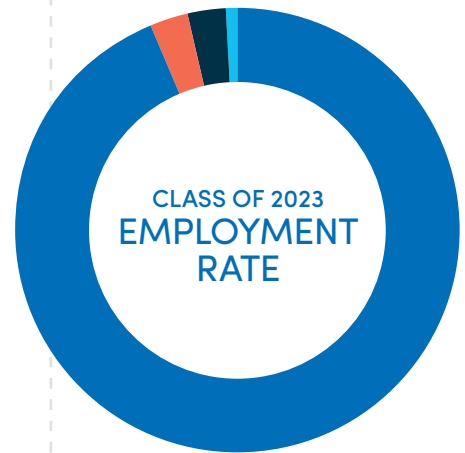
Our students participate in meaningful work with some of the largest employers nationwide, learning what it means to be in-house counsel in roles from corporate and transactional practice to human resources and employment law, to risk management and litigation.

Law-Adjacent Positions

Not everyone who excels in law school wants to be a lawyer. The CSO understands that, and helps students who desire a non-traditional path to find the right work. UB School of Law teaches our students to think like lawyers, and that serves them in every walk of life. From non-profits to politics, we help our students find the right job—even if that job is not as a practicing lawyer.

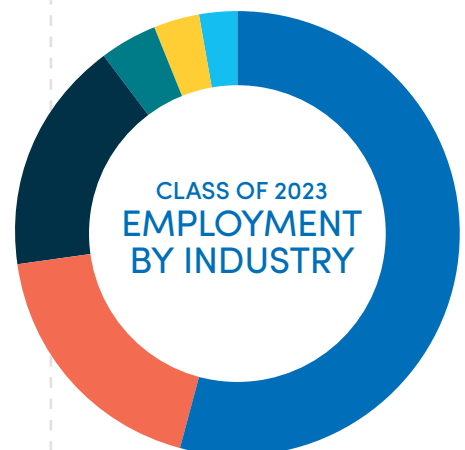
Student Interview Program

The CSO facilitates connections between law students and employers in both on- and off-campus interview programs. Each fall, over 50 employers choose our students to work with them.



- 93.6%** Employed*
- 2.7%** Seeking Employment
- 2.7%** Not Seeking Employment
- 0.7%** Pursued Further Graduate Studies

**92.9% employed in full-time, long-term positions requiring bar passage or JD advantage*



- 54.4%** Private Practice
- 18.4%** Government
- 17.0%** Public Interest
- 4.1%** Judicial Clerkships
- 3.4%** Education
- 2.7%** Business/Industry

MEET OUR STUDENTS

There's no such thing as a typical UB Law student. At Buffalo, people from all sorts of academic and personal backgrounds take the law school journey together—learning from each other in a rich, diverse environment. And many of our students come from careers in other fields. But one thing they all share is being a part of the close-knit, collegial community that's one of our school's greatest strengths.





Dzeneta Begovic '27

(she/her)

Background

Originally from Buffalo, NY, Dzeneta was raised between her hometown and the village of Lepenica in Bosnia. She earned her degree in political science with a minor in management from the University at Buffalo. Her passion for the legal field was solidified by her participation in the School of Law's Discover Law Program in 2022. She is eager to pursue a career in international human rights law, as well as international and business law.

Why did you choose UB Law?

I chose UB Law because of its strong, diverse, and amazing community and outstanding education. UB Law offers exceptional opportunities for clinical experiences that will give me invaluable real-world exposure, aligning perfectly with my aspirations and values. I am confident that UB Law will allow me to immerse myself fully in my chosen field. The wide range of optional programs and concentrations further enhances the learning experience, enabling me to tailor my education to my personal interests and career goals. And I know for certain that this approach will greatly enrich my journey in the legal field.

What motivated you to pursue a career in law?

Being a first-generation Bosnian Muslim American has given me a unique and irreplaceable perspective that deeply influences my desire to enter the legal field. Witnessing and hearing about the injustices faced by my community has fueled my passion for advocating for others. This isn't just a career; it's a commitment to making a difference. My experiences have strengthened my interest in law, revealing it as a powerful way to defend human rights, rectify historical injustices, and actively work to prevent future atrocities.

What are you looking forward to most in law school?

I'm most excited about the chance to participate in clinics, where I can gain hands-on experience, and to explore cases and laws in greater depth! I'm also eager to broaden my perspective by seeing different viewpoints and approaches within the legal profession.

What advice do you have for students preparing to apply to law school?

Don't be afraid to reach out to current students, alumni or professionals in the legal field. Their insights can provide valuable guidance and help you navigate the application process much more effectively.



Michael Barry '26
(he/him)

Background

Michael grew up on the shores of Lake Erie in Angola, NY. He attended Fordham University in New York City, where he completed a BS in chemistry and an MBA in finance. He has worked in a variety of roles in finance, and more recently as a paralegal and a tax preparer. He has lived in New York City and Memphis, TN., and traveled to Asia, Europe, Africa and South America. Buffalo is home for him, and it consistently offers diverse opportunities to grow and expand. The summer before law school began, he discovered his latest passion: sailing with a club on Buffalo's beautiful Outer Harbor.

Why did you choose UB Law?

I am a native Western New Yorker seeking a fulfilling career as an attorney. My mother was a registered nurse and my father was a career firefighter in Buffalo; my hope is to continue my family's tradition of service to our community. I trust that law school will provide me with the knowledge and skills I'll need to make positive impacts and meaningful contributions. UB Law checks all the boxes for me!

What motivated you to pursue a career in law?

My family endured a difficult and tragic time a few years ago when my mom was diagnosed with ALS, a fatal, incurable disease. The attorney we relied on for help guided us through many of the unfamiliar, and frustrating, practical and legal aspects of our situation. He did so with compassion, grace and skill. After Mom passed away he offered me a job as a paralegal, and the opportunity to support other families navigating challenges of their own.

What have been some of your favorite law school courses?

I enjoyed all of my 1L courses, and found the professors, writing fellows, TAs and fellow students to be supportive, kind, and helpful. I worked hard and learned a lot during both semesters of LAWR, which was taught by the exceptionally talented Professor Angelyn McDuff. Torts with Professor Jorge Luis Fabra-Zamora also stands out in my memory as having been engaging and fun.

What professional opportunities have you had at UB Law?

I've attended multiple networking events and career fairs — many of which seemed intimidating! — but these gatherings always left me feeling motivated and valued. Working with local start-up businesses as a student attorney at the Entrepreneurial Law Clinic this summer has been especially rewarding.

Background

Nicia grew up in Buffalo before heading to American University in Washington, D.C., where she received degrees in women's, gender and sexuality studies, and law and society, with a minor in education. Over her summers, she has worked at the Third Circuit Court of Appeals and as a summer associate at Neighborhood Legal Services. During the upcoming academic year, she will be an articles editor for the *Buffalo Law Review* and a senior associate in the Civil Rights and Transparency Clinic.

Why did you choose UB Law?

UB offers several dual degree options, and I will be able to graduate with both my JD and MSW in four years, combining my interests from both fields. Additionally, I was born and raised in Buffalo, and after leaving the state for my undergraduate education, I was excited to come back to my hometown. Law school is challenging, and having familial support was important to me.

What professional opportunities have you had at UB Law?

Even before I started classes, I attended the Diversity Career Fair, meeting with various legal employers and fellow law students. I've also attended numerous networking events throughout my time in law school, including national affinity group conferences. Lastly, my two summer internships allowed me to meet and work with a lot of experienced attorneys.

What has been your best UB Law experience?

Working in the Civil Rights and Transparency Clinic has afforded me the chance to practice with real clients on real cases. Being able to have hands-on experience before graduating is very rewarding and I am excited to continue that during 3L. On a silly note, on the last day of my LAWR class, my entire section surprised our LAWR professor by dressing up as him (bald cap and all).



Nicia Bottini Morales '25
(she/they)

What advice do you have for incoming law students?

Law school is hard for everyone, even if some of your classmates seem like they have it all figured out. You are all learning as you go. Go to office hours. Professors are more than happy to discuss any questions you have, and it's a great way to make connections! Don't be afraid to ask for help. Also, get into a routine early and stick to it. Time management is extremely important during law school.

Our City



BUFFALO IS THE
SECOND LARGEST CITY
IN NEW YORK STATE



LOCATED ON THE
U.S.-CANADA BORDER



AMONG THE TOP 10
MOST AFFORDABLE
CITIES, *FORBES*
MAGAZINE

FUN FACTS:

History Everywhere

Workers flocked here. Inventors thrived here. Tycoons got rich here. What are your plans?





UNDER 90 MINUTES BY
AIR TO NEW YORK CITY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.,
CHICAGO, BOSTON
AND PHILADELPHIA



THE ONLY LAW SCHOOL
WITHIN A TWO-HOUR
DRIVE OF BUFFALO



The Waterfront

The Waterfront—in Buffalo, “the lake effect” means four full seasons of waterfront festivals and cultural events.



Bikes and more bikes

By commute or Slow Roll, cyclists rule 300+ miles of lanes, paths and frozen canals. (Yes, ice bikes are a thing here.)

Our Alumni Community

With alumni connections and newfound confidence, you're poised to be the best. Your connection with the UB School of Law doesn't end at graduation. Our alumni are fiercely loyal to their alma mater, and they want to stay connected, both to the law school and to new alums making their way in the legal world.


Central NY Chapter

Rochester Chapter

Albany Chapter

New York City Chapter

Washington, D.C. Chapter



FIVE WAYS ALUMNI WILL HELP YOU LAUNCH YOUR CAREER

1

A community partnership

UB School of Law graduates make up the vast majority of attorneys in the surrounding county, and they have an active role in your law school experience. They teach skills classes, coach trial teams, and participate in career panels and at student events to connect you from the start to the Western New York legal community.

2

An extensive global network

Our alumni network extends around the world, with graduates who work at firms and agencies in Buffalo, Tokyo, New York City, Washington, D.C., and other major cities. You'll find a UB connection wherever you choose to begin your career.

3

Watch and learn

With easy access to the downtown courts and major law firms, you'll have plenty of opportunities to learn from the best. Many of our students obtain summer positions with our community partners.

4

Meet your match

Every law student is matched with an attorney who will guide you along the way as you prepare for your future as a legal professional. From what to wear at your first interview to what to expect at your first deposition, your mentor will answer the questions you might not ask in the classroom.

5

Guidance from the GOLD Group

Our Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) Group takes a special interest in our newly minted alumni, helping you bridge the gap between school and practice. The GOLD Group organizes social, educational and networking events designed to give you every advantage as you enter your new profession.

MEET OUR ALUMNI

Your UB Law pride doesn't end at Commencement. Our alumni, over 13,000 strong, practice nationwide and across the world, and they're passionate about supporting our school and each other. That means a robust (and fun!) bunch of alumni chapters, as well as practical help in making the connections that lead to professional success.



Mike J.
Hecker '09

Background

Partner and Environmental Practice Leader at Hodgson Russ LLP in Buffalo

Why did you choose UB Law?

The depth of the faculty and the value of the education were two principal considerations. But, perhaps the most important factor was the camaraderie that I witnessed amongst the students when I visited the campus. The combination of these three things really stuck out to me.

How have you used what you've learned in law school?

While there are clearly a number of tangible legal skills that I could reference, I think one of the most important things was developing a network. UB Law has a fantastic community, whether faculty, students, alumni or other supporters. I benefited early on from becoming an active participant in that community and continue to build strong relationships through it to this day.



Sarah
Washington '16
(she/her)

Background

Senior Attorney at National Fuel Gas Distribution Corp. in Buffalo and inaugural chair of the company's Ethnically Diverse Group of Employees (EDGE) Employee Resource Group

Why did you choose UB Law?

I chose UB Law for several reasons. The first was that UB Law has a phenomenal reputation not only in New York State, but internationally as well. The second was that as a non-traditional student with a young child at home, I had the opportunity to pursue my legal career aspirations but also stay in Western New York, where I had family support to help me care for my daughter. Lastly, I choose UB Law because of the cost of attendance. I wanted to pursue a legal degree without taking on a lot of debt, and UB Law made that possible.

What were the most useful skills you developed in law school?

I enjoyed the practical hands-on classes and experiences such as trial team, moot court competitions, my practicum experience with the civil courts, and my federal court externship with the late Hon. Hugh B. Scott. All of those experiences allowed me to be confident as a young litigator in the courtroom. My Legal Analysis, Writing and Research courses during my first and second years and working as a writing fellow to Professor Bernadette Gargano during my third year also equipped me with the skills I needed as a young attorney.



Lucy Shephard '23
(she/her)

Joshua Larmon '23

Meeting in their 1L Legal Analysis Writing and Research (LAWR) class 1L year, Lucy and Joshua tackled law school side by side. They helped each other conquer law school during the COVID-19 pandemic, interned together at the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of New York, and were partners in the Desmond Moot Court Competition, winning the 2021 competition. Now, Lucy and Joshua have made their way to New York City and are working together once again.

Background

Assistant District Attorney, Manhattan District Attorney's Office

Why did you choose UB Law?

My family lives in the Western New York area. When I applied to UB Law, I lived in Albany, and I wanted to move closer to home. UB Law was also one of the most cost-effective options, given that it is New York State's only public law school.

What aspects of UB Law's community or culture had the biggest impact on you

Immediately after arguing my motion for summary judgment during our first-year Legal Analysis Writing and Research (LAWR) class, I knew that I wanted to be a litigator. I won the Desmond Moot Court Competition, along with my co-counsel Josh Larmon, and participated in UB Law's intra-school Trial Technique Competition. I taught students as a LAWR Teaching Assistant and interned with Senior U.S. Circuit Judge for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, Honorable Richard C. Wesley. Through these experiential learning opportunities, I received course credit, honed my legal skills, and determined my next steps after UB Law.

How has your experience been working with a fellow UB Law graduate

Josh is not only one of my colleagues, but he has also become a close friend. Should I say, "partner against crime"? Our current job is difficult, but I continue to remind myself (or Josh continues to remind me) that we can tackle the extremely steep learning curve together. We look forward to another alum joining us in New York City shortly!

Background

Assistant District Attorney, Manhattan District Attorney's Office

Why did you choose UB Law?

I was born and raised in Genesee County, NY, and attended the University at Buffalo for my undergraduate program. My first legal job was at the Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo, so choosing UB Law was a natural fit. As a first-generation law student, I was also very cognizant of the cost of a legal education. After much consultation with friends and alumni, I decided on UB Law because I knew I would get a quality education at an affordable price while remaining in the Buffalo community.

What was your best learning experience at UB Law?

My best learning experience at UB Law was the New York City Program. Being from a small, rural community, I had always wanted to move to a large city. The New York City Program was a tremendous opportunity to live and work in New York City for a semester of my law school career. During that time, I interned with the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, made lasting connections with our New York City alumni base, and got an immersive education on the intersection between finance and the law.

How has your experience been working with a fellow UB Law graduate?

Starting law school together during a pandemic, then learning, competing and graduating together has created a lasting friendship. Getting hired together at the Manhattan DA's Office was a dream come true. While Lucy and I are in different trial bureaus, we frequently talk through our cases and support each other. As much as I love being a prosecutor, the work can be overwhelming and emotionally taxing. In Lucy, I have a friend in whom I can trust and rely. So, in short, it's been great!



You Belong Here

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

Applying for admission can be seamless with the right tools and some advance planning. Start with this helpful checklist and be sure to give yourself plenty of time to prepare your strongest application.



- » Create a free LSAC account at LSAC.org.
- » Register and prepare for the LSAT or GRE.
- » Subscribe to LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (CAS).
- » Send official transcript(s) to LSAC.
- » Secure one to four letters of recommendation (academic and/or professional).
- » Review your Academic Summary Report for errors/inconsistencies.
- » Access our Application for Admission through your LSAC.org account.
- » Prepare and upload required attachments (e.g. personal statement, resume).

Learn more about the law school admissions process by scheduling a meeting with an admissions team member. For information on our Info Sessions and Open House dates, [click here](#).

law-admissions@buffalo.edu | 716-645-2907

The University at Buffalo School of Law prohibits discrimination in its admission of applicants or retention of students on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, age, disability, or military status.

LSAT Prep

The School of Law offers virtual and in-person LSAT Prep Workshop and Practice Test events to help prospective applicants achieve the best LSAT score possible. Our LSAT prep events include instruction with Erin Decker '16, who earned a perfect LSAT score of 180.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



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