

# Here is how you learn from experience

## From the courtroom to the boardroom...

UB School of Law students have several opportunities to gain real-world experience outside of the classroom, advocating for justice and honing their leadership skills.



## Clinical Legal Education

#UBLawResponds Clinics offer diverse upper-class and LL.M. students opportunities to engage in legal practice and policy development under the supervision of skilled and supportive professors and supervising attorneys. Clinical offerings involve cutting-edge issues and complex matters as well as typical legal practice. All student attorneys deploy creativity and innovation to serve clients effectively through deep service learning. Most student attorneys are certified to actually practice law - offering a hands-on, unrivaled opportunity to tackle real issues, for real clients. Through this experience students learn critical lawyering skills while serving clients who otherwise would be without access to justice.

### Civil Rights & Transparency Clinic

This clinic advances justice by litigating constitutional liberties issues like free speech, privacy, and due process. In addition, this clinic aids individuals, investigative journalists, news organizations, and others pressing for more transparency in government.

### Community Engagement Legal Clinic

Our newest clinic has transitioned from addressing legal needs arising from the pandemic to becoming a community centered clinic. Students enrolled in the Community Engagement Legal Clinic will actively participate in the Veterans Legal Project, enabling them to both study and provide essential assistance to the unmet needs of our nation's heroes. Thanks to new funding from New York State's Justice for Heroes grant, our clinical program is expanding its capacity to serve military veterans in areas where our clinics possess extensive expertise. Including family law issues, small business and entrepreneurship needs, public benefits appeals, civil rights & protected status issues, and assisting incarcerated veterans seeking resentencing, parole and post-conviction hearings.

### Criminal Justice Advocacy Clinic

This advocacy-focused clinic provides students with an opportunity to advocate for criminal system reform on behalf of incarcerated individuals and those facing criminal charges in Western New York. Student attorneys also engage in policy work to hold police, and others, accountable.

### Entrepreneurship Law Center Clinic

This clinic provides legal services to entrepreneurs and startups not yet able to engage legal counsel, focusing on diverse companies confronting challenges specific to startups and early-stage ventures. The clinic also supports minority and women-owned business enterprises (MWBs) seeking to break barriers to traditional venture investing.

### Environmental Advocacy Clinic

This clinic focuses on state, national, and international environmental policy issues impacting Western New York. Legal work spans from local lead-poisoning work to high-level policy work and guidance on designations of wet-lands of international importance.

### Family Violence and Women's Rights Clinic

Our oldest clinic invites students to join the fight towards attaining justice and safety while serving the unmet needs of local survivors of family violence. The clinic seeks to ensure victims of violence receive legal representation with family offense petitions, child support, custody and visitation cases, and divorce matters.

### Mediation Clinic

In this clinic, students work on cases referred by local courts or other mediation agencies. Student attorneys help resolve disputes in family law, small claims court, and the community. Through this experience, students hone their mediation skills to an advanced level.

### Puerto Rico Recovery Assistance Clinic

This #UBLawResponds clinic provides a much-needed collaborative effort to empower a resilient Puerto Rico, still recovering from various natural disasters, with vital legal-access and support for environmental and food justice. Some students take a service-learning trip to put their work into action on the ground.



## Externships & Judicial Externships

Externships and Judicial Externships provide law students with unique legal and public service experience as they work in a variety of government and non-profit organizations. The School of Law offers **more than fifty externships and judicial externships** to students each semester for academic credit. These externships provide enriching opportunities for law students to directly observe the real world practice of law.

The externship program teaches **real legal skills** and provides law students the opportunity to **begin creating their professional network** and **develop their careers** prior to graduation.

### Academic Institutions Externships

- Buffalo Board of Education, Office of Legal Counsel
- SUNY University Counsel's Office, Higher Education and Health Law
- University at Buffalo – NCAA Compliance & Policy

### Judicial Externships

Multiple placement options in federal, state, county, and city courts are available only to third-year students.

### Government Externships

- City of Buffalo Law Department
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
- Erie County Attorney
- Erie County District Attorney
- Labor Law Externship, National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)
- NYS Attorney General's Office
- U.S. Attorney's Office
- U.S. Immigration & Customs Enforcement

### Legal Services Externships

- Center for Elder Law & Justice
- Empire Justice Center (Rochester)
- Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo
- Monroe County Public Defender
- Neighborhood Legal Services
- Prisoners' Legal Services
- Volunteer Lawyers Project

**This is a sampling of just some of our past and present placement opportunities at UB Law.**

## New York City Program in Finance in Law

Taking advantage of easy access to New York City, students from the School of Law and the School of Management can spend a semester living in New York while studying finance and law.

The New York City Program draws on the expertise of both our full-time faculty and a group of alumni who are practicing in the finance arena at a high level. Over the semester, students engage with a series of experts presenting on their particular niche in the corporate finance world. Then, with the hands-on guidance of team leaders, students work together to craft a substantive project that hones their abilities and deepens their engagement in corporate finance practice.

## Did you know the School of Law hosts three student-run scholarly law journals?

These journals provide students with the opportunity to develop research and writing skills while making important contributions to legal scholarship. They include:

- Buffalo Environmental Law Journal
- Buffalo Human Rights Law Review
- Buffalo Law Review

## Pro Bono Scholars Program

Students are required to perform 50 hours of pro bono legal service as a prerequisite to admission 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.

## Study Abroad

As a law school located within minutes of an international border, the School of Law keenly recognizes the value of studying law in another country. Our study abroad options provide students with the opportunity to pursue areas of legal study which will complement their Buffalo coursework and improve their understanding of foreign legal systems. Exchange Programs are currently available in **Australia, Scotland** and **Spain**.