

Our Community



Berkeley Law's Clinical Program: Advancing Legal Justice Through Teaching, Service, and Research

It's been a busy year in Berkeley Law's clinical program. We rise to meet the demands of the moment, and across our 14-clinic program our faculty, staff, and 300 students annually are providing direct legal services, litigating cutting-edge issues, and conducting policy-based research. [View our Annual Report](#) to learn how clinical faculty and students are working to advance social justice.

What's New

In Special Mini Courses, Berkeley Law 1Ls Dive Deep and Build Relationships — Remotely

Remote learning is a tough way to do law school, let alone start it. But while this fall's Berkeley Law 1Ls face an unprecedented challenge, they're also getting something extra from the faculty: A special slate of small, one-credit courses. [Read the article here.](#)

Sex, Power, and Corporate Governance

Amelia Miazad '02, director of our [Business in Society Institute](#), probes root causes of gender inequities in the boardroom in "[Sex, Power, and Corporate Governance](#)," a new paper that provides the first detailed account of how they are starting to be upended.

Berkeley Law Helps Governor Seek More Protections Against Racial Bias in Jury Proceedings

Eager to tear down the machinery that drives capital punishment's unequal application to people of color in California, Gov. Gavin Newsom and his legal office asked Berkeley Law Dean Erwin Chemerinsky if he would help write a brief focused on race and the death penalty. [Read more here.](#)

Florida 2000 all over again? Possible, but not likely, Chemerinsky says

Hoping to block Democrat Joe Biden's path to victory, incumbent President Donald Trump is mounting a high-stakes, multi-state legal campaign to challenge votes and voting processes. Could this strategy succeed, allowing Trump to hold on to the presidency? [Read more here.](#)

Alumni News



Big Score: Sports and Music Icons Leigh Steinberg '73 and Jeff Harleston '88 Highlight Conference, Moderated by Jami Floyd '89

Jami Floyd '89, Jeff Harleston '88, Leigh Steinberg '73, and Damion Thomas were among the prominent voices at this year's student-led Sports & Entertainment Conference. Read about the conference [here](#). Recordings of the conference can be seen [here](#) (day one) and [here](#) (day two).

DC Alumni Chapter to Launch in Early 2021

The Regional Engagement Alumni Chapter program (REACH) will virtually launch a Washington, DC alumni chapter in early 2021. REACH focuses on bringing Berkeley Law to alumni in their local markets. Our regional chapters provide opportunities for networking, intellectual engagement, career development, and social interactions. There are currently chapters in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Silicon Valley. Questions? Please contact Doreen de Roque at dderoque@law.berkeley.edu

Reunite All Year!

For alumni in reunion classes ending in 0's and 5's (1970-2015), there is still time to enter your profile in your [Class Book](#). Class Books provide an opportunity to exchange current contact information, share memories from law school, and upload photos from the past and present. Reconnect with your classmates today! Submissions for the [Class of 1970 Memory Book](#) are due by Monday, November 30.

Alumni Who Are Veterans

We are looking to connect the student group Military and Veterans at Berkeley Law with our alumni who are veterans. If you're interested in connecting with these students, please send an email with your class year to edineen@berkeley.edu.

Class Notes

Don't forget to send us your news so it can be included in our twice-yearly alumni magazine, *Transcript*. Email your news to: classnotes@law.berkeley.edu.

Media Highlights



Electoral College in the Spotlight

Professor Bertrall Ross appears on KQED's Forum to discuss the role of the Electoral College and the ongoing debate over its relevance. [Listen to the recording here.](#)

A Look at the Court Battles of the 2020 Presidential Election

Ross also appears on NPR's On Point to discuss the latest litigation around the 2020 presidential election. [Listen to the recording here.](#)



What's the future of bail now?

Professor Jonathan Simon '87 discusses the opportunities for bail reform at the local level, after Prop. 25 fails. [Read the *Sacramento Bee* article: California's far-left activists shocked they beat Prop. 25. What's the future of bail now?](#)



California goes big on criminal justice reform, setting a more progressive path

Dean Erwin Chemerinsky says Californians' attitudes and impulses around incarceration have changed. [Read the *Los Angeles Times* article here.](#)

Visit the [Media Highlights](#) and [News](#) page to view recent headlines and news. And check out the latest issue of Berkeley Law's [Transcript magazine](#).

Faculty Highlights

- COVID-19 has exacerbated concerns that algorithmic decision-making leads to discrimination against people of color. In a paper explaining why efforts to define algorithmic accountability have misfired, [Professor Robert Bartlett](#) and three co-authors offer a workable definition rooted in Civil Rights Act case law addressing statistical discrimination. [Read the article here.](#)
- Visiting Scholar [Nertila Kuraj](#) and her faculty sponsor, Professor [Daniel Farber](#), have been awarded the [2020 Peder Sather Grant](#) for their collaborative research project titled "Towards a Global Summit on Gene Editing for Environmental Purposes? An interdisciplinary debate on risk, uncertainty, and precaution in the new genetic era". [Read more here.](#)
- Did the President's tax returns illegally game the system or deftly navigate the rules? [Professor Mark Gergen](#) assesses some of the revelations about President Trump's tax returns and their broader implications. [Read the article here.](#)
- Analyzing a program that enables federal appellate judges to send Congress opinions that describe possible technical problems in statutes, [Assistant Professor Tejas Narechania](#) and a co-author see room for improvement. Their paper urges judges to send more opinions to Congress, noting that "the judiciary is uniquely situated to identify problematic statutory text." [Read the paper here.](#)
- DNA analysis has transformed forensic science and criminal investigations. A [new book](#) co-edited by faculty member [Eric Stover](#), which includes chapters written by Berkeley Law colleagues [Andrea Roth](#) and [Andrea Lampros](#), tracks the development of modern DNA forensics, its application in courtroom and

Virtual Enrichment Programs

Election Implications: Professors Describe What to Expect in Various Areas of Law

The day following the November 3rd national election, six Berkeley Law professors and [Dean Erwin Chemerinsky](#) provided a roadmap for what may come next in several legal areas. During a livestreamed Berkeley Law Conversations event, Chemerinsky said “there are many reasons to believe this could stretch out for some time.” He noted the potential for recounts, how President Donald Trump’s legal team is pursuing litigation in multiple states, and that in 2000 the election was not decided until December 12, when the Supreme Court ruled on *Bush v. Gore*. [Watch the recording here.](#)

Democracy Town Hall: Lesson of the 2020 Election

Join some of the nation’s top election law experts for a discussion of what we’ve learned from the 2020 election, moderated by Dean Erwin Chemerinsky. The participants: Professor Rick Hasen, Chancellor’s Professor of Law, University of California, Irvine School of Law, Professor Jessica Levinson, Professor of Law, Loyola Law School, Professor Bertrall Ross, Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley School of Law, Professor Franita Tolson, Professor of Law, University of Southern California. [Watch the recording here.](#)

Technology Law as a Vehicle for Anti-Racism

As the killings of Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, Jacob Blake, and others pushed the long-simmering national relationship with racial justice to a new boil this summer, student leaders of the *Berkeley Technology Law Journal* saw an opportunity to advance the struggle to make technology an instrument for social change. The result, a free two-day virtual symposium held Nov. 12-13, aimed to not just ignite a conversation about how to channel tech law and policy to serve the interests of racial justice, but to stoke the flames of action. [Read more here.](#)

Race & Justice Series on YouTube

In case you’ve missed any of this semester’s conversations on Race & Justice, there’s a playlist for that! Access the Race & Justice Series on YouTube [here.](#)



Sustainable Capitalism & ESG Online

Next class opens January 25, 2021 | Registration is now open

Sustainable Capitalism and ESG Online demonstrates how to incorporate environmental, social, and governance considerations into business and investment strategy through a combination of focused lectures and case studies, curated readings, and in-depth interviews with over 50 thought leaders. [Learn more and register today.](#)

Leadership in the Legal Profession

Now accepting applications for the March 2021 cohorts

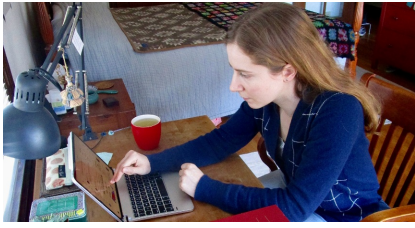
Leadership in the Legal Profession is a ten-week, online business school-style course for legal professionals who want to challenge intuitive approaches to leadership and management, as well as learn new mental models and dynamic leadership skills that can be quickly applied to their practice. Topics include systems thinking, behavioral science, motivation, agile innovation, and decision leadership. The next cohorts begin in March 2021 and we offer an alumni discount. [Learn more and apply today.](#)

Events

[Save the Date! Virtual Shakespeare Trial with Dean Chemerinsky, March 9, 2021.](#)

More information to follow.

Student Spotlight



‘Doomscrolling But With a Higher Purpose’: Student Joins Election Day Social Media Monitoring

Berkeley Law student Clara Dorfman '22 knows what a critical Election Day feels like: In 2016, she worked for Hillary Clinton's campaign in the crucial swing state of Pennsylvania, engaging voters in the Pittsburgh area.

For the 2020 contest — with the stakes again breathtakingly high — Dorfman wanted to get involved. So when she heard about a project the Berkeley Human Rights Center was organizing to monitor social media for evidence of voter suppression and other threats, she eagerly volunteered. [Read more here.](#)

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