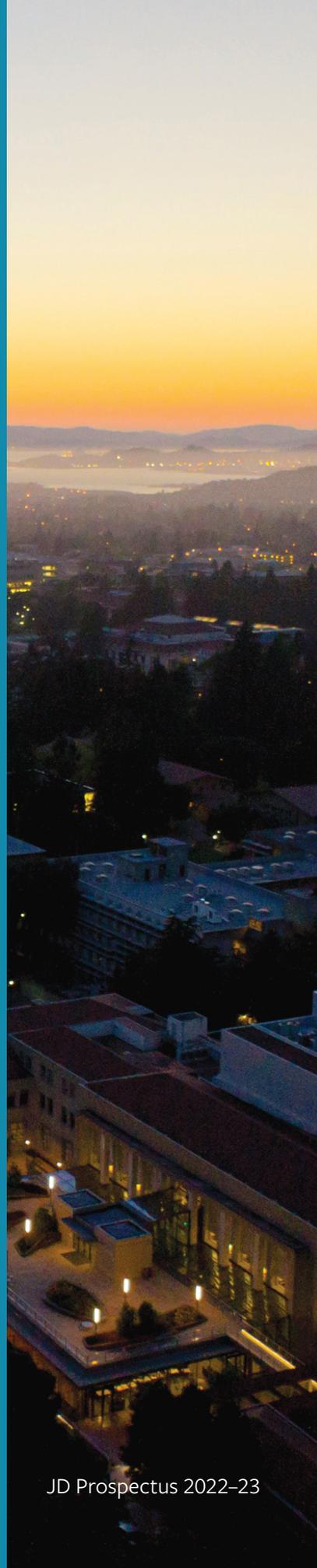


WHERE
WILL
YOU GO?

Berkeley Law

JD Prospectus 2022-23



OUR MISSION

1

Through teaching, Berkeley Law provides students with first-class training in legal theory, doctrine and practice, exposure to the political, social, and economic forces that shape the law, and the opportunity for community service.

2

Through research, Berkeley Law supports faculty members who are leaders in their fields of scholarly inquiry, striving to expand and deepen legal and interdisciplinary thought while engaging students in rigorous academic and intellectual work.

3

Through service, Berkeley Law tackles some of the most important, challenging, and timely problems facing the state, nation, and world, harnessing our excellence in teaching and research to improve government, business, and society.

WELCOME	3
WHO WE ARE	4
EXPERIENCE	6
CLINICAL PROGRAMS	9
PRO BONO PROGRAM	11
FIELD PLACEMENT PROGRAM	15
ADVOCACY PRACTICE	16
RESEARCH	19
CURRICULUM	22
LOCATION	26
CAREER DEVELOPMENT	28
FINANCIAL AID	30
TUITION	31
APPLYING	32
BY THE NUMBERS	34

Land Acknowledgment

UC Berkeley sits on the territory of xučyun, the ancestral & unceded land of the Chochenyo-speaking Ohlone people, successors of the sovereign Verona Band of Alameda County.

Nondiscrimination

The University of California, in accordance with applicable federal and state law and University policy, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or service in the uniformed services.



Berkeley Law



WHAT SETS US APART

I am often asked what makes Berkeley Law special. First, it is an excellent law school by every measure. The quality of any educational institution is a product of its faculty, students, and programs. Berkeley Law has a terrific faculty. They are top scholars in their fields; many have written the books used in law school classes across the country. They are also great teachers. Our students are superb and diverse in every way, with over half coming from outside California. And Berkeley Law has centers and programs doing cutting-edge work in every area of law.

Second, there is a deep commitment to public service. Almost 95% of first-year law students do pro bono work. Fellowships are provided to every student doing public service work during the summers of law school so long as they have done pro bono work during law school. There are post-graduate fellowships and a loan forgiveness program. The commitment to using law to improve society and the world animates the work of our clinics and centers and the teaching in our classrooms.

Finally, Berkeley Law is a very special community. It is a warm, collegial environment, not a competitive one. It is the most intellectually exciting law school that I have been part of, with a plethora of speakers and programs and symposia every week. It is part of a superb and beautiful campus in a great location.

I feel very proud to be the dean of Berkeley Law and am excited for you to learn more about it.

Warmly,



Erwin Chemerinsky
Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law

*Dean Erwin Chemerinsky
welcomes students
during orientation.*

*Student Activities Fair
Where student organizations
will give you more informa-
tion about what they do and
how to get involved in their
organizations, including
Student-Initiated Legal
Services Projects (SLPS),
journals, and affinity groups.*

EXCELLENCE, PUBLIC MISSION, & COMMUNITY

At Berkeley Law, we admit people, not numbers.

As part of our holistic review, we ask: Can you do the work and be successful? Will you contribute something (other than being capable and smart) to our classrooms, conversations, the study of law, the legal profession? Who are you? Are you a good fit for our community? Do you have a sense of what Berkeley Law offers and why/how you value those things?

You don't need to wait until your second year to make a difference.

Our 40-plus Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects let you dig into legal work in your first year — from the Tenants' Rights Workshop, to the Homelessness Service Project, to the Clean Energy Leaders in Law. You can also join 12 of our 13 journals during your first year, or try out for one of our advocacy competition teams.

We were among the very first law schools to recognize the need for a First Generation Professionals student organization. This group offers community, alumni mentorship, social events, and support from faculty who are first-gen themselves.

The Berkeley Law faculty is second to none, and their doors are always open. “The faculty here are extraordinary — I was not expecting to get lucky with such approachable, down to earth, professors. There's never been a point at all in my two semesters where I've felt concerned or nervous about going to introduce myself to a professor or to go to their office hours or to ask them a question, they've always been incredibly welcoming.” — Ryan Campbell '24

We believe that law school is tough, but it doesn't have to be brutal.

Our non-traditional grading system means students are focused on doing their best work, not doing better than their classmates.

Berkeley at a glance

Berkeley Law is **#9** overall in the 2023 *U.S. News* rankings, with a whopping nine specialty areas in the top 10 — including three ranked **#1**.

No other law school has more programs ranked among the **top 10** than Berkeley Law.

#1

Intellectual Property

#1

Environmental Law

#1

Business/Corporate Law

#2

Criminal Law

#7

Contracts/Commercial Law

#7

International Law

#8

Constitutional Law

#8

Clinical Training

#10

Trial Advocacy



WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Our experiential education programs are designed for effective, responsible, and reflective participation in the legal profession. The skills you'll gain are taught within simulated and/or live-client courses and scenarios.

We offer a wide range of courses explicitly designed to introduce you to the theory and practice of professional lawyering. Our programs offer you the opportunity to roll up your sleeves, work with real clients, and put legal theory into human practice.

Key skills you will develop

- Legal Research and Professional Writing
- Counseling
- Interviewing
- Litigation
- Transactional
- Negotiation
- Mediation
- Legal Drafting
- Legal Problem Solving
- Legislative Drafting & Lobbying
- Other Legal Practice

Environmental Law Clinic students on a field trip in Richmond, CA. From left to right: Gracen Evall, Chris Mullaney, Lily Ginsburg & Jamie Wolf. All class of '24.

Photo credit: Brittany Hosea-Small







Experience Spotlight

WHERE TECHNOLOGY MEETS JUSTICE

The Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic is pushing on several fronts. Just two examples: Forcing the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Justice Department to disclose records about their monitoring of confidential attorney-client emails, and advocating for the removal of copyright restrictions on California’s jury instructions.

Megan Graham, a supervising attorney at the clinic, and students are working with public defenders to help them better advocate for their clients on technology issues, running tech-specific trainings for public defenders and defense attorneys. She and students have also provided tailored advice, templates, and tools to public defenders on issues that come up often, from device searches to facial recognition to challenges over the Stored Communications Act.

“So much of the use of technology in the criminal legal system is secret that it can be daunting to try to spot — let alone litigate — tech issues,” Graham says. “The trainings and the students’ clinical work aim to close the gap.”

Samuelson Clinic supervising attorney Megan Graham (top left) confers with students Paymaneh Parhami ’20, Jason Francis ’21, Amanda Almeda ’20, and Harrison Geron ’21 about their project on search warrants for electronic devices and social media accounts.

“

The Samuelson Clinic has broadened my horizons and brought alive many hidden passions for other areas of the law — particularly related to technology and justice — which I hadn’t spent much time thinking about before.

— Harrison Geron ’21

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

We currently have 14 live-client clinics and a variety of practicums in areas such as mediation, Ninth Circuit litigation, and veterans law. Designed to provide hands-on experience and first-rate legal services, our clinical and practicum programs are directed by faculty members who are highly regarded experts in their fields.

You'll learn the foundational law by participating in a companion seminar, and receive intensive one-on-one supervision throughout.

The Death Penalty Clinic offers students a rich opportunity for meaningful training, seeks justice for individuals facing the death penalty by providing them with high-quality representation, and exposes problems endemic to the administration of capital punishment. [Student participation helped the clinic successfully litigate to obtain documents revealing that death penalty charging decisions in a major California county were unconstitutionally made on the basis of race and ethnicity for at least 15 years.](#)

The Environmental Law Clinic bolsters our environmental law program by providing live-client experience to students in litigation, administrative agency practice, legislation, and policy analysis. [Student participation helped win a legal ruling that forced a California agency to release guidelines on the risks of cell phone radiation and ways to mitigate exposure, and helped a Bay Area city draft an ordinance to keep toxic chemicals out of the compost stream.](#)

The New Business Community Law Clinic connects students with business start-ups and low-income entrepreneurs who cannot afford legal consultation, offering students the chance to develop skills in transactional law. [Student participation helped address poverty in rural communities in the Central Valley by offering free legal services to new business owners during twice-monthly visits.](#)

The International Human Rights Law Clinic designs and implements creative solutions to advance the global struggle to protect human rights. Students work on individual cases and cutting-edge campaigns in California and globally. [Student participation helped hold the U.S. accountable for the illegal killing of a migrant before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, investigate repression of human rights defenders, and strengthen the UN's response to the adverse human rights impacts of anti-terrorism measures.](#)

The Policy Advocacy Clinic uses teams of law and public policy students who pursue non-litigation strategies to address systemic racial, economic, and social injustice. [Student participation helped win campaigns to repeal regressive and racially discriminatory fees charged to families with youth in the juvenile system in eight states.](#)

The Samuelson Law, Technology & Public Policy Clinic gives students an opportunity to tackle the complexities of technology-related law. The clinic's mission is to support the public interest in technology law and policy and to teach students through work with real clients. [Student participation helped produce a report on juvenile electronic monitoring programs across California that impose significant burdens on families.](#)

The East Bay Community Law Center is the community-based component of our Clinical Program, and trains students to provide legal services and policy advocacy that are at once innovative and responsive to the needs of low-income communities. There are eight clinical practice groups: **Clean Slate Clinic, Community Economic Justice Clinic, Consumer Justice & General Clinic, Education Advocacy Clinic, Health & Welfare Clinic, Housing Law Clinic, Immigration Law Clinic, and Youth Defender Clinic.**



“

Black and Brown people are often referred to as 'system impacted' when in fact they are 'system intended.' Most of EBCLC's clients are women of color, heads of households, aged 25-44 years old, and women with ambitions to launch their own businesses, organize movements, build homes, and lead full thriving lives. It is our honor to work on their team and, in doing so, work towards our collective liberation.

— Zoë Polk, Executive Director, East Bay Community Law Center



Pro Bono Highlight

FULFILLING A PURPOSE

Jamilah McMillan '24, the national runner-up in BARBRI's One Lawyer Can Change the World scholarship competition, "witnessed how the criminal justice system disproportionately impacts Black and Brown people" after a family member was incarcerated.

She went to law school to pursue a career helping low-income communities get adequate representation. "I thought doing

pro bono work would keep me grounded and constantly remind me of my purpose for being here," she says.

McMillan volunteers with Berkeley Law's Tenants' Rights Workshop, which strives to keep area residents safely housed. She also worked with the Berkeley Law Afghanistan Project through CNECT, which offered legal support to people fleeing persecution in Afghanistan, supported women's legal rights advocates there, and documented evidence of human rights violations. "Helping a client work through the process to submit an Afghan loved one's asylum packet was definitely a meaningful moment for me," McMillan says. "I learned so much about being an advocate."

“

Helping a client work through the process to submit an Afghan loved one's asylum packet was definitely a meaningful moment for me.

PRO BONO PROGRAM

Some schools have a pro bono requirement. Berkeley Law has a pro bono culture. Case in point: our 41 Student-Initiated Legal Services Projects (SLPS) that let you gain client experience beginning as early as your first semester.

These projects are initiated and led by students who have identified a legal need, secured supervising attorneys, and enlisted classmates to help meet that need in an underserved community. The projects address issues such as human trafficking, reproductive justice, housing and employment law, refugee assistance and other immigration issues, and criminal justice.

Want to pursue pro bono work outside of the Bay Area? Try BLAST! Our Berkeley Law Alternative Service Trips allow students to spend their spring break serving clients in different regions of the country. Past trips include Alaska, Atlanta, Central Valley, Hawaii, Mississippi, South Texas, and Tijuana. Students will engage in a short but intensive week of service on issues ranging from immigrants rights to environmental justice.

Another way students can engage in pro bono legal services is through Call for Necessary Engagement in Community & Timely Response (CNECT). These projects are initiated by our community partner legal services organizations, which identify legal needs students can respond to as they arise throughout the year.

Some Recent Projects:

- Animal Law and Advocacy
- Arts and Innovation Representation
- Berkeley Abolitionist Lawyering Project
- Berkeley Immigration Group
- Berkeley Law Anti-Trafficking Project
- Berkeley Law and Organizing Collective
- California Asylum Representation Clinic
- Clean Energy Leaders in Law
- Consumer Protection Public Policy Order
- Contra Costa Reentry Project
- DA Accountability & Participatory
- Defense Project
- Digital Rights Project
- Disability Rights Project
- East Bay Dreamers Project
- Environmental Conservation Outreach
- Food Justice Project
- Foster Education Project
- Family Defense Project
- Gun Violence Prevention Project
- Homelessness Service Project
- International Human Rights Workshop
- International Refugee Assistance Project
- La Alianza Workers' and Tenants' Rights Clinic
- Legal Automation Workshop
- Legal Obstacles Veterans Encounter
- Name and Gender Change Workshop
- Native American Legal Assistance Project
- Palestine Advocacy Legal Assistance Project
- Police Review Project
- Reentry Advocacy Project
- Reproductive Justice Project
- Startup Law Initiative
- Survivor Advocacy Project
- Tenants' Rights Workshop
- Wage Justice Clinic
- Workers' Rights Clinic
- Workers' Rights Disability Law Clinic
- Youth Advocacy Project



“

Berkeley has a lot of great opportunities for you to get involved, right when you start your first year.

I think one big one would be the student-initiated pro bono project. Basically it's pro bono projects that 1Ls can get involved in right away. And a lot of them are either tied to the Bay Area community, or they're student-driven and student led. You're getting involved in the Berkeley Law community right away. I thought it was great. It was a great way to meet other Berkeley Law students from all different years, within your first week or two. And also depending on your project, a great way to interact with the wider Berkeley community.

— Julia Bennett '23

Alumni Spotlight

When Thelton Eugene Henderson graduated from Berkeley Law in 1962, he was one of just two black students in his class. It was a launching pad for a legendary career: As the first black attorney at the U.S. Justice Department's Civil Rights Division in the early 1960s, he routinely faced dangerous, racially-charged situations while confronting unjust voting rights practices in the Deep South, alongside everyday citizens and visionaries like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In 1980, President Jimmy Carter appointed him to the federal bench, where he championed transformative justice for nearly four decades.

Berkeley Law students eager to aid the disadvantaged — and continue his legacy — gravitate toward the Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice, home of the school's active, diverse, and ever-growing social justice community.

“

From every great struggle great leaders emerge.

— Honorable Thelton E. Henderson '62

Former Chief Justice of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California



EMILY CHUAH

I am a rising 2L, an incoming leader of the Berkeley Immigration Group (BIG), and a Henderson Center Scholar. I am also an East Bay Area native, the daughter of immigrants, and the first person in my family to be born in the U.S. Part of my motivation in attending Berkeley Law was to serve the immigrant community that raised me, and I am so grateful to be able to do that through Berkeley Law's Pro Bono Program.

As a student in BIG, I partook in a project that serves immigrants who are incarcerated in federal prison. BIG consists of a couple of different projects that serve detained immigrants. We work with Centro Legal de la Raza to ask ICE to not detain our clients once they completed their sentences. This is important as immigrants generally have a much greater chance at successfully fighting their deportation cases if they are not detained. Additionally, clients that are released can live on the "outside" after spending years in prison and can be reunited with their children and family

members after years of separation. Organizations like Centro Legal de la Raza have been submitting these release requests to ICE for years. I was encouraged to see that the years of activism that lawyers at Centro and other organizations that saw little success still mattered because it compounded at the right moment to create better futures for our clients.

Coming into law school with the desire to do public interest can be difficult because so many aspects of our legal systems disenfranchise and punish the disadvantaged. However, my work with BIG portrayed to me that it can pay to hope and to fight for just results. A quote that connects me to this work comes from Proverbs 31:8: Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves; ensure justice for those being crushed.

That's why BIG's work is important to me, and I am so excited to lead BIG next year. I am particularly thrilled to partner with legal organizations devoted to the abolition of immigrant detention centers, to create a community for 1Ls who are passionate about immigrant rights, and to continue to work to convince ICE to liberate our clients. I loved that I got to participate in pro bono work during my first semester of 1L because it grounded me in the reasons that I came to law school. I hope that my leadership for this upcoming year can provide a similar experience for 1Ls who are either interested in immigration pro bono work or who are committed to doing this work beyond law school.



“

I loved that I got to participate in pro bono work during my first semester of 1L because it grounded me in the reasons that I came to law school.

Experience

GO GLOBAL



“

I want to work at the intersection of technology, international law, and human rights law, so UNHR seemed like a great fit to explore my interests further.

— Marta Rocha '21

Among several options to work internationally is the UNHR Program. This full-year program includes a 1-unit fall course on UN Human Rights Law & Practice taught by a former U.S. diplomat, followed by a spring semester spent in Geneva working as a student legal advisor to a UN delegation from a developing country.

Field Placement student Ian Good '22 at the UN Nations Gate to the Palais des Nations in Geneva.



FIELD PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Second- and third-year students gain experience, academic credit, and key connections in our Field Placement Program. Students work with supervising attorneys in public interest organizations, government agencies, and judicial chambers. Going global? Away Field Placements offer international opportunities in addition to ones across the U.S.

Civil Field Placements: These placements offer legal experience in many areas, including civil rights, consumer protection, domestic violence, employment, environmental, health, housing, human rights, immigration, poverty, and women's rights.

Judicial Externships: Students conduct full-time or part-time legal work for local, state, or federal judges, and in chambers throughout the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

Criminal Field Placements: Students engage in criminal legal work for district attorney offices, public defender offices, and criminally-related nonprofits and government agencies, under the supervision of an attorney.

Away Field Placements: Students receive up to 12 units of academic credit during a semester for legal work with approved NGOs/nonprofits and government agencies across the country and around the world.

UCDC Law Program: This full-semester externship in Washington, D.C., allows students to gain legal experience in person and remotely (for part-time opportunities) with all three federal government branches, regulatory agencies, and advocacy nonprofits. The externship is in conjunction with a course component comprised of guest speakers, readings, and topics relevant to the federal government.



Domestic Examples

- ACLU
- California State Courts: CA Supreme Court, CA Court of Appeal, and County Superior Courts
- Disability Rights California
- Federal, state, and local government offices: U.S. Attorney, CA Attorney General, County Counsel/ City Attorney Offices
- Federal, state, and local criminal law offices: Prosecutors and Public Defenders
- Federal Trade Commission
- Legal Aid at Work
- Pac-12 Conference
- Sierra Club Environmental Law Program
- Transgender Gender-Variant and Intersex Justice Project
- U.S. Department of Justice
- U.S. Federal Courts: U.S. Courts of Appeals, Ninth Circuit and U.S. District Court, Northern District of CA
- U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission

International Examples

- Centro de los Derechos del Migrante, Inc.: Mexico
- China International Economic & Trade Arbitration Commission: China
- Constitutional Court of Korea: South Korea
- Earth Rights International: Peru
- Human Rights Now: Japan
- Iniciativa de Sostenibilidad Legal Corporativa: Chile
- International Maritime Organization: London
- International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals: The Hague
- Legal Resources Centre: South Africa and Ghana
- Reprieve: London
- Toronto International Film Festival: Canada
- UN Global Compact: Australia

ADVOCACY PRACTICE

Want to build your professional advocacy abilities outside the classroom? Consider our wide variety of advocacy competitions available to students as early as their 1L year. Students develop key skills as they step into the shoes of a lawyer in these hypothetical legal scenarios.

Internal Competitions

Introductory and advanced opportunities are available! Designed for Berkeley Law students exclusively, these experiences provide a space to hone your skills in the areas of appellate law, negotiations, and trial advocacy.

Regularly Offered

- Bales Trial Competition: an introductory tournament designed for 1Ls and focused on criminal law
- Halloum Business Competition: an advanced transactional tournament that pairs Berkeley Law students with Berkeley Haas MBA students
- Halloum Negotiation Competition: an introductory tournament designed for 1Ls and focused on a complex business deal
- McBaine Honors Moot Court Competition: an advanced appellate tournament designed to test and hone students' written and oral appellate advocacy skills
- Pahlke Internal Trial Competition: an advanced trial tournament for Trial Team members
- Pircher, Nichols & Meeks Joint Venture Challenge: a simulated real estate deal negotiation with Berkeley Law, Haas MBA, and Environmental Design students

External Competitions

Students who want to expand on their skills can participate in our external competitions program through the student-run Board of Advocates. These teams travel across the country and receive extensive coaching from professors, practitioners, and fellow students. Our students frequently thrive at regional, national, and international events and consistently out-perform other top law schools.

Recently Attended

- ABA Representation in Mediation Competition
- ABA Negotiations Competition
- National Sports Law Negotiation Competition
- INADR International Law School Mediation Tournament
- CLA Environmental Negotiations Competition
- Jeffrey G. Miller Pace National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition
- ABA National Appellate Advocacy Competition
- National Moot Court Competition
- Roger J. Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition
- National Civil Trial Competition
- TYLA National Trial Competition
- AAJ National Student Trial Advocacy Competition
- Top Gun National Mock Trial Competition
- NBTA Tournament of Champions

Miles Jasper '23 (right) makes a point during the Tulane Professional Basketball Negotiation Competition in New Orleans. Jasper (named Best Advocate at the event), Nilam Faqhir '23 (left), and Andrea Zachrich '22 (center) won the team championship.



Advocacy Competitions Spotlight

SLAM DUNK: BERKELEY LAW STUDENT TEAM BESTS 43 OTHERS TO WIN PRO BASKETBALL NEGOTIATION COMPETITION

The UC Berkeley Advocacy Competitions Program recently took home first-place honors at The Negotiation Challenge (international), Tulane Pro Basketball Negotiation Competition (national), and Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition (state).

“

This competition completely altered my career trajectory as I've been able to break into the basketball operations side, I have a job offer with an NBA team under their salary cap/basketball strategy group next school year, with the potential for a full-time offer. Now the pro sports and big law pathways are both available to me, which I'm truly grateful for.

— Miles Jasper '23

HOW CAN SCHOLARS MAKE AN IMPACT?

The Berkeley Center for Law and Business is a crucial bridge linking academia, government, civil society, and boardrooms — helping decision-makers spearhead progress that advances our whole society. It’s the leading venue for conversations and executive education about corporate governance, equity and inclusion, financial fraud, mergers and acquisitions, venture capital, startups, and important business policy issues.

The center moves global business forward with unparalleled convening power, interdisciplinary faculty, and practical scholarship. BCLB initiatives address the impacts of #MeToo, racial injustice, COVID-19, and much more.

During the earliest weeks of the COVID-19 pandemic, BCLB faculty and students stepped up to provide hands-on guidance and groundbreaking research. Professor Robert Bartlett, a BCLB faculty co-director who represented startup companies before joining the academic world, set out to help small businesses understand how to get assistance

amid a cratering economy through a massive government aid package.

Through two videos and a page on the center’s website, Bartlett spelled out what every small business owner needed to know. When students in his Corporate Finance class heard about it, they jumped in to help. The center ultimately trained more than 160 law students and helped 300 struggling small businesses, from 25 states, navigate applications for federal stimulus funds.

“Helping companies solve cash flow challenges is at the heart of corporate finance,” Bartlett said. “So it’s a great opportunity for students to learn while helping small businesses weather the storm.”

Later, Bartlett and a co-author from UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business delved into the economics of the pandemic and its impact on local businesses. Using survey data from Oakland businesses, they found that “microbusinesses” with five or fewer employees had a better chance to survive because of the government’s loan program and more generous unemployment benefits, but that boost was less useful for larger businesses.

Ping Liu ’20, who led the effort to mobilize students to help businesses through the portal BCLB set up, said she wanted to find a way to pitch in despite being confined in her apartment in the spring of her 3L year.

“This opportunity seems like a great way to alleviate others’ stresses while staying indoors,” she said. “I hope that my contributions towards this project can better prepare small businesses to land back on their feet once the global health crisis passes.”



“

I have met some of the smartest, most passionate, most caring people I have ever met in my life at Berkeley Law. They motivate and inspire me to be the best version of myself and be the best advocate I can for my communities.

— Alyssa Kewenvoyouma ’22, Berkeley Center for Law and Business Scholar and JD/MBA student

Research Centers & Programs

At Berkeley Law, research is part of our DNA. Berkeley Law hosts more than 25 research centers and initiatives where faculty and researchers seek solutions to wide-ranging challenges, from developing business strategies to combating climate change to safeguarding intellectual property in the global economy. Outside of our centers, faculty regularly tackle a wide array of socially important issues.

Anglo-American Studies Program

The underlying purpose of this program is to widen and deepen campus interest and knowledge of British affairs and their implications for the United States.

Berkeley Center for Consumer Law & Economic Justice

This center works to ensure safe, equal, and fair access to the marketplace.

Berkeley Center for Law and Business

BCLB is the hub of Berkeley Law's cutting-edge research and teaching on the impact of law on business and the United States' and global economies.

Berkeley Center for Law & Technology

BCLT promotes the understanding and guides the development of intellectual property and related fields of law and policy as they intersect with business, science, and technology.

Berkeley Center on Comparative Equality & Anti-Discrimination Law

A group of scholars, activists, and legal professionals from six continents, joined together by an interest in the study of comparative anti-discrimination law and working together to address the equality issues of the day.

Helen Diller Institute for Jewish Law and Israel Studies

The institute develops opportunities for research, programming, visiting scholars, colloquia, and classes to strengthen academic inquiry and discourse related to Jewish and Israeli topics across the Berkeley campus.

Berkeley Judicial Institute

The institute's mission is to build bridges between judges and academics and to promote an ethical, resilient, and independent judiciary.

Robert D. Burch Center for Tax Policy & Public Finance

The Burch Center promotes research in tax policy and public finance, disseminates this research to the academic and tax policy communities, and stimulates informed discussion of tax policies of national significance.

California Constitution Center

This center is the first and only center at any law school devoted exclusively to studying the constitution and high court of the state of California.

Center for Law, Energy & the Environment

CLEE is a research center whose mission is to foster interdisciplinary environmental law and policy research and to translate that research into pragmatic solutions.

Center for Law and Work

A core institutional center for student and faculty professional and scholarly development around the law of work, promoting cross-disciplinary scholarship to address the pressing employment-related policy concerns of today.

Center on Race, Sexuality & Culture

This center examines contemporary questions of identity and discrimination through the lens of intersectionality, which considers how race, gender, and sexual orientation overlap to produce distinct experiences of vulnerability and resilience.

Center on Reproductive Rights and Justice

This center is dedicated to broadening the conversation on reproductive rights and choices through legal scholarship, teaching, and conferences, and by bolstering law and policy advocacy efforts.

The Center for the Study of Law and Society

This center fosters empirical research and theoretical analysis concerning legal institutions, legal processes, legal change, and the social consequences of law.

Civil Justice Research Initiative

This initiative explores, through interdisciplinary, academically-based, and independent research, how the civil justice system can be made more available to everyone seeking relief.

The Election Administration Research Center

This center seeks to improve the administration of elections, both within the U.S. and internationally, through research, education, training, technical assistance, and public outreach.

Thelton E. Henderson Center for Social Justice

Established in 1999, the Henderson Center produces and fosters creative scholarship that examines the law through a lens of social justice, and works in partnership with communities to provide education to the general public.

Human Rights Center

This center promotes human rights and international justice worldwide and trains the next generation of human rights researchers and advocates.

The Institute for Legal Research

The institute combines research, teaching, and public service in constitutional law and history, criminal justice, and environmental law and policy. It houses the Sho Sato Program in Japanese and U.S. Law, and the Law of the Sea Institute.

Kadish Center for Morality, Law & Public Affairs

The Kadish Center seeks to promote research and reflection on moral philosophical issues in law and public life, with special concern for the substantive aspects of criminal law.

Korea Law Center

The Korea Law Center addresses the development of the Korean legal, constitutional, and political systems by bringing together scholars, judges, and others to foster a robust exchange of ideas and research.

Law, Economics, and Politics Center

LEAP's goal is to further interdisciplinary scholarship, ideas, and discussion in law, policy, economics, business, and government.

The Honorable G. William and Ariadna Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law

The Miller Institute supports populations overlooked or unprotected by existing legal infrastructure, with a global focus on climate and energy justice, corruption, rule of law, and human rights.

Public Law and Policy Program

This program focuses on scholarship on issues of constitutional and administrative law, and the judicial and legislative process.

The Robbins Collection

The mission of the Robbins Collection is to promote and sponsor comparative research and study in the fields of religious and civil law, including Jewish and Islamic law and the various Christian traditions.

Statewide Database

The Statewide Database is the redistricting database for the State of California. The Statewide Database is a non-partisan resource on census data, elections and election data, districting on all levels, and voting rights.

BerkeleyLaw





“

When I think community — I think of my professors. I've had the great luck of meeting and building relationships with professors — going to their office hours feeling like if you're really excited about something they're excited too, and that they really are interested in helping you and helping me in my career.

— Jennifer Sun '23

Student Association at Berkeley Law (SABL), the law school's student government organization, is composed of all registered law students. SABL organizes activities of general law school interest and helps new students adjust to life at Berkeley Law by sponsoring social, athletic and law-related events.

Top row from left: Justin Brooks '21, Savelle Jefferson '21, Griffin Brunk JSP '24, Linda Blair '21, Marissa Medansky '21, Bryan Osorio '21, and Kristina Krasnikova '20. Bottom row from left: Elsie Cheang '20, Anya Ku '20, Liv Gee '20, and Kacey Read '21.

Photo credit: Rachel DeLetto

1L

First year

- Civil Procedure
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Legal Research & Writing
- Torts
- Written & Oral Advocacy
- Electives

We recommend Constitutional Law and one other elective.

2L/3L

Upper Division

The second- and third-year curriculum offers a variety of topics and course styles, including seminars, individual and group research projects, clinical work, and judicial externships. Students construct their upper-level schedules around their own interests and a few fundamental graduation requirements: Constitutional Law (which most upper-level students have completed already as a 1L elective), a course on professional responsibility, six units of experiential coursework, one or more classes to satisfy our writing requirement, and two units of coursework focusing on how laws and legal institutions shape and are shaped by racism and other forms of systemic inequality.

Academic Skills Program

Berkeley Law is committed to fostering an academic environment where all students can thrive. Our Academic Skills Program (ASP) – offering individual advising, small group workshops led by upperclass fellows, and skills-focused courses – helps students build the skills critical to success in law school and in practice. ASP is open to everyone.

Curriculum

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FOR?

Berkeley Law offers a solid academic foundation, whether you're aiming for corporate litigation, public interest law, criminal prosecution, international law, or any of a dozen other fields. But the foundation is just the base. You can build anything on it.

Courses by Subject

Our curriculum is rich in traditional subjects as well as innovative and specialized courses like the ones listed here. Course descriptions and requirements may change; not all courses are offered every year.

Business, Law & Economics

Advanced IT Contracts: Drafting and Negotiating
Advanced Topics in Corporate Governance: A Comparative Analysis of the U.S. and Asia
An Interdisciplinary Approach to Land Development and Investment
Antitrust Law
Antitrust and Innovation
Antitrust and Technology Platforms
Bankruptcy Law
Being General Counsel
Blockchain Innovation for the Unbanked Billions
Business Associations
Business Basics for Lawyers
Business Strategy in the Global Political Economy
Business in Society
Communication Skills for Business Lawyers
Contracts & Sales for LL.M.s
Contracts and Sales for LL.M. Students
Corporate Culture
Corporate Finance
Corporations in Crisis
Disruptive Technologies & Regulation
Economics of Corporate and Securities Litigation
Executive Compensation: Legal Fundamentals and Practical Application
FinTech: Tools for Analyzing New Financial Products
Financial Management of Nonprofits
Fundamentals of Leveraged Buyouts
IPOs and Going Public Transactions

Insurance, Regulation, and Inequality
International Antitrust Law
International Business Transactions
Introduction to Financial Accounting
Introduction to Law and Economics
Introduction to the New Financial Regulation
Law, Accounting, and Business Workshop
Law, Economics and Accounting Workshop
Mergers & Acquisitions
Mergers, Market Power and Monopoly in U.S. Antitrust Law
Negotiating Hollywood Contracts
Real Estate Transactions and Litigation
Regulation of Capital Markets and Financial Institutions
Representing Professional Athletes
Secured Transactions - Article 9
Securities Regulation
Selected Topics in Venture Capital
Social Enterprise Law
Sports Law
Structuring and Negotiating Complex Financial Transactions
Structuring for Impact: Exploring the Role of Tax Exempt Organizations & Hybrid Structures
Sustainable Corporate Governance Colloquium
The Court of Public Opinion: Storytelling for Corporate Lawyers
Transactional Litigation in Practice
Transactional Practice for 1Ls
Venture Capital Deal Bootcamp
Venture Capital Finance
Venture Funds: Structuring, Advising and Regulating

Clinics & Field Placements

Away Field Placements
Berkeley Law in The Hague
Civil Field Placement
Criminal Field Placements
Death Penalty Clinic
Domestic Violence Field Placement
East Bay Community Law Center Clinic
Environmental Field Placement
Environmental Law Clinic
International Human Rights Law Clinic
Judicial Externships
Policy Advocacy Clinic
Samuelson Clinic
UCDC Law Field Placements

Criminal Law

California Prisons and Discretionary Parole
Capital Punishment and the
Constitution Seminar
Criminal Procedure - Adjudication
Criminal Procedure - Investigations
Crimmigration
Where Civil and Criminal Laws Collide
White Collar Crime

Environmental Law

A Just Transition to Clean Energy
Climate Change and the Law
Energy Law and Policy
Energy Project Development & Finance
Environmental Justice in Practice
Environmental Justice: Race, Class,
and the Environment
Environmental Law & Policy
Environmental Law Colloquium
Environmental Law Writing Seminar
Environmental Law and Policy
Environmental Transactional Law
Fire Science, Law, and Policy
International Environmental Law
Land-Use Law
Ocean and Coastal Law
Pathways to Carbon Neutrality
Renewable Energy Law and Policy
Science and Regulatory Policy
Water Law

Family Law

Domestic Violence Law Seminar
Family Law
Litigating Children's Civil Rights:
The Immigration Crisis
Reproductive Rights and Justice

International & Comparative Legal Studies

Anti-corruption Compliance
Asylum/Refugee Law and Process
Canon Law
Colloquium on International Law
and Politics
Comparative Constitutional Law

Disputes with Sovereigns
Foreign Investment Arbitration Seminar
Health and Human Rights in Times
of War and Peace
Human Rights and Social Justice Writing
Workshop
Human Rights and War Crimes
Investigations
International & Foreign Legal Research
International Commercial Arbitration
Seminar
International Human Rights
International Law
International Litigation and Arbitration
International Organizations
International Trade
International and Foreign Legal Research
Introduction to Comparative Law
Introduction to Roman Law
Self Determination of Peoples in
International Law

Jurisprudence & Social Policy (JSP)

** open only to students accepted as BELS
Fellows*

*** open only to first-year JSP Ph.D.
students*

Advanced Interdisciplinary Workshop
on Law
Berkeley Empirical Legal Studies Seminar*
Citizenship and Immigration
Critical Theory and Social Science Method
Foundations of Moral Philosophy
JSP Orientation Seminar**
Law & Classical Social Theory
Law & History Foundation Seminar
Law and Order
Law and Politics Foundation Seminar
Teaching Learning in Higher Education
Workshop in Law, Philosophy &
Political Theory

Law & Technology and Intellectual Property

Art and Cultural Property Law
Biotechnology Law
California Privacy Law
Chinese IP Law
Computer Crime Law
Computer Law
Computer Programming for Lawyers
Copyright Law
Copyright, Competition, and Technology
Cybersecurity Law and Policy
Entertainment Law in the TV Industry
Future of Cybersecurity Workshop
Hate Speech, Disinformation, and
Online Harassment: Regulation of
and by Internet Platforms
Information Privacy Law
Intellectual Property Law
Law and Technology Writing Workshop
Life Sciences and Innovation Workshop

Music Law Practice
Patent Law
Patent Litigation
Privacy Counseling & Compliance
Regulated Digital Industries: Telecommu-
nications Law & Policy for a Modern Era
Secrecy: The Use and Abuse of
Information Control in the Courts
Social Media Law
Space Law
Technological Disruption and Social
Justice for LL.M.s
Technology for Lawyers
Topics in Pharmaceutical Policy:
The Case of Biotherapeutics
Topics in Privacy and Security Law
Trade Secret Law
Trademark Law
Trademark Practice
Transnational Intellectual Property Law
Video Game Law
Wine Law

Legal Ethics & Professional Responsibility

Legal Profession
Practical Legal Ethics
The U.S. Legal Profession: Professional
Responsibility in Global Perspective
Understanding the U.S. Legal Profession

Litigation & Procedure

Ninth Circuit Practicum
Advanced Ninth Circuit Practicum
Advanced Civil Procedure: Complex
Litigation
Civil Procedure for LL.M. Students
Conflict of Laws
Evidence
Federal Courts
Impact Litigation: Structure and Process
Remedies

Public Law & Policy

Administrative Law
Advanced Constitutional Law: Separation
of Powers
Advanced Constitutional Law: Federalism
Bioethics: From Nuremberg to Modern
Times
California Constitutional Law
Civil Rights and Anti-Discrimination Law
Colloquium on the Court and Judicial
Process
Constitution in the Early Republic
Constitutional Law
Constitutional Litigation
Current Topics in National Security Law
Dangers of the Administrative State
Democracy and the First Amendment
Election Law
Federal Indian Law
First Amendment

How do grades and exams work at Berkeley Law?

We have anonymous grading at Berkeley Law. Students are assigned a unique exam number for every exam. We grade on a curved, but not an A-F letter grade system. Instead, students receive High Honors (HH), Honors (H), or Pass (P). It is possible to receive a sub-passing grade.

Does Berkeley Law rank?

Berkeley Law does not rank its students. However, each summer rising 2Ls, rising 3Ls, and recent graduates will be sent an e-mail from the Senior Director of Student Services notifying them that their Academic Distinctions are available. Information about students' academic honors shall be made available solely for the purpose of aiding students who are applying for judicial clerkships and academic positions. Revealing the distinction in any other context is a violation of the honor code.

Academic Distinctions are awarded to the Top 3 students (Berkeley Law Scholars), Top 5%, Top 10%, Top 15%, Top 25% and Top 33% in each class based upon one academic year of grades.

Curriculum continued

Immigration Law
Introduction to Statutory Interpretation in the Regulatory State for 1Ls
Introduction to the Supreme Court for 1Ls
Law, Public Health, and Police Use of Force
Legislation and Statutory Interpretation
Local Government Law
Marijuana Law and Policy
Media Law and the First Amendment
National Security Law: A Practitioner's Perspective
Presidents and Policy
Public Law and Policy Workshop
Statutory Implementation: Agency Policymaking through Regulation
Strategic Constitutional Litigation in Property Rights and Economic Liberty
Strategic Thinking for Law and Policy
Strategy: Theory, Law, and Policy
The Federalist and Anti-Federalist Papers
The Legacy of Ruth Bader Ginsburg
Whistleblower Law: Deterring Fraud Against the Government

Race and Law

Advanced East Bay Community Law Center Clinic
Advanced Policy Advocacy Clinic
Advanced Policy Advocacy Clinic Seminar
Death Penalty Clinic
Death Penalty Clinic Seminar
East Bay Community Law Center Clinic
East Bay Community Law Center Seminar
Policy Advocacy Clinic
Policy Advocacy Clinic Seminar
Criminal Procedure - Adjudication
Environmental Justice in Practice
Environmental Justice: Race, Class, and the Environment
Family Law
Litigating Children's Civil Rights: The Immigration Crisis
Reproductive Rights and Justice
Constitutional Law
Election Law
Federal Indian Law
Immigration Law
Law, Public Health, and Police Use of Force
Marijuana Law and Policy
The Court of Public Opinion: Advocacy Outside of the Courtroom
Advanced Civil Rights
Angel Island: Legal Histories
Anti-Blackness and the Law
Comparative Equality Practicum
Comparative Equality Practicum Seminar
Critical Race Theory
Critical Theories of Law: Race, Gender, and Sexuality for 1Ls
Debt, Discrimination, and Inequality
Dismantling Mass Incarceration
Movement Lawyering from the Inside Out for 1Ls

Policing Families
Public Health Law
Social Justice Issues in Entertainment and Media Law
Student Loan Law
Transgender Rights & The Law
Employment Law

Social Justice & Public Interest

Advanced Veterans Law Practicum
Angel Island: Legal Histories
Animal Law
Anti-Blackness and the Law
Comparative Equality Practicum
Consumer Law and Economic Justice Workshop
Consumer Litigation: The Course of a Case
Consumer Protection Law
Credit Reporting and Economic Justice
Critical Race Theory
Critical Theories of Law: Race, Gender, and Sexuality for 1Ls
Debt, Discrimination, and Inequality
Disability Rights
Disability in Higher Education
Food Justice
Housing Litigation and Policy
Lawyering in the Public Interest/Public Sector World
Mental Health and the Law
Movement Lawyering from the Inside Out for 1Ls
Negotiating Trauma, Emotions & the Practice of Law
Policing Families
Poverty Law and Policy
Property, Theory, and Social Justice
Public Health Law
Race and American Law
Race, Sexuality, and the Law
Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and the Law
Social Justice Issues in Entertainment and Media Law
State and Local Impact Litigation Practicum
Student Loan Law
Transgender Rights & The Law
Veterans Law Practicum
Veterans Law Practicum Seminar

Simulation Courses

Advanced Criminal Trial Practice
Advanced Legal Research
Advanced Legal Research - Pathfinder
Advanced Legal Writing
Appellate Advocacy
Appellate Competition Intensive
Civil Trial Practice
Criminal Trial Practice
Depositions
Drafting and Negotiating Sports Law Contracts

Economic Expert Witnesses:

Depositions and Testimony
How to Ask a Question
Hypothetical Test Course
International Business Negotiations
Introduction to Trial Practice for 1Ls
Lawyering as Problem Solving
Legislative Drafting and Lobbying
Listening and Communicating:
Stagecraft for Lawyers
Litigation 101
McBaine Honors Competition
McBaine Moot Court Competition
Mediation
Mediation Advocacy
Mediation Practicum
Negotiations
Negotiations Competition Intensive
New Business Legal Bootcamp
Oral Advocacy for LL.M. Students
Pretrial Civil Litigation
Pretrial Civil Written Discovery Theory,
Practice, and Procedure
Representing Spanish-Speaking Clients:
Language, Culture, and Emotional
Intelligence
The Court of Public Opinion: Advocacy
Outside of the Courtroom
Transactional Drafting
Transactional Drafting for LL.M. Students
Trial Competition
Understanding and Drafting Business
Documents

Tax, Estates & Trusts

Corporate Tax
Estates and Trusts
Income Tax
International Tax Law
Partnership Tax
Tax Policy and Public Finance

Work Law

California Wage and Hour Law
Employee Benefits Law
Employment Law
Labor and Employment Arbitration
Labor Law
Labor and Employment Arbitration
Satisfaction in Law and Life

Student-published Journals

California Law Review
Ecology Law Quarterly
Berkeley Technology Law Journal
Berkeley Journal of Employment and
Labor Law
Berkeley Journal of International Law
Berkeley Journal of Gender, Law & Justice
Berkeley Journal of African American
Law & Policy
Berkeley La Raza Journal
Asian American Law Journal
Berkeley Journal of Criminal Law
Berkeley Business Law Journal
Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern
& Islamic Law
Berkeley Journal of Entertainment
& Sports Law



“

Law journals are unique in that they enable students to engage on an equal footing as professors when it comes to determining what legal scholarship to publish. The California Law Review has been cited over 200 times by the U.S. Supreme Court. It's a privilege to be able to contribute to an effort that's having a very tangible impact on the legal landscape for everyone, literally around the world.

— Tyler Takemoto '22

WHAT INSPIRES YOU?

The Bay Area is as rich in natural wonders as it is with world-class eateries and cultural history. UC Berkeley's main campus, set on 178 park-like acres, is world-renowned as a paragon of learning and research and has been home to 26 Nobel laureates. San Francisco sparkles across the bay with all its diverse offerings, but you can walk, hike, bike, or eat your way to hundreds of spots within a mile of campus — or venture out and discover the magic California has to offer.

Keep up with the latest news from our community and see more of what life is like as a student at #BerkeleyLaw by following us on social media.

- f @UCBERKELEYLAW
- @BERKELEYLAW
- @BERKELEYLAW
- @BERKELEYLAW



“

A big differentiator for Berkeley is its exposure to the tech world. People come to Berkeley from all over to do tech law and tech law adjacent work. The access is amazing. You can go drive by Google's, Facebook's, Apple's headquarters — it's not like some figment of your imagination.

— Alex Wolff '24





“

Being at Berkeley has allowed me to find a healthy balance of caring about my education, but also, developing really meaningful friendships and community that allow you to have a fully holistic law school experience.

— Sewit Beraki '24, sitting with Kendrick Peterson '24, 2022-23 Student Association at Berkeley Law (SABL) Co-Presidents

Photo credits: Anya Ku, Brittany Hosea-Small, Chigoziem Mark Aneke, and Rachel DeLetto

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The legal job market is complex and ever-changing. Our expert team is here to help demystify the job search process and provide customized counseling and support to students no matter what their career goals may be.

95%

Overall 2021 bar passage for first-time takers

96%

Number of graduates employed nine months after graduation

\$190K

Median Salary (91% of Salaries Reported)

Wherever you go, a Berkeley Law graduate will be nearby. That's because nearly 17,000 alumni live and work in all 50 states and some 107 countries.

CLERKSHIPS



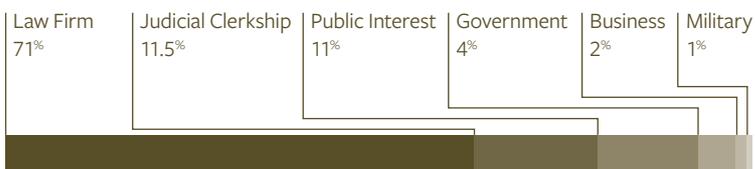
Different states where grads will be clerking

Class of 2021 grads landed federal and state judicial clerkships

#8

Berkeley Law is No. 8 on Law.com's "Go-To Law Schools" ranking of Big Law feeder schools.

JOB TYPE



LAW FIRMS BY SIZE



Career Development Support

Customized, one-on-one career counseling from an expert team of former practicing attorneys

Programs, panels, and workshops to educate students on different career paths and job search techniques

A robust online database of current job postings for students and alumni

Expert advice on job application materials and extensive preparation for job interviews

A team of three Public Interest/Public Sector Attorney Counselors to help support students who are interested in working for nonprofit organizations, government agencies and other social justice oriented legal positions

A dedicated Director of Judicial Clerkships to help guide students and alumni through each step of the complex process of applying for post-graduate judicial clerkships

On-Campus Interview programs featuring job opportunities with a host of legal employers across different sectors and geographical markets

A team of three Private Sector Attorney Counselors to support students seeking summer and post-graduate positions in law firms of all sizes and in all markets as well as in-house positions with corporate legal departments

DANIEL YABLON

Even by the Bristow Fellowship’s demanding standards, Daniel Yablon’s application stood out.

A 2019 Berkeley Law graduate, Yablon achieved all kinds of student accolades: First in his graduating class. Winner of the McBaine Honors Moot Court Competition. American Jurisprudence Awards for best exam in his section in 11 classes. Senior articles and essays editor at the *California Law Review*.

But to hear Yablon tell it, Berkeley Law’s faculty and staff are largely responsible for him being one of just five lawyers selected to the prestigious one-year fellowship with the Office of the Solicitor General in Washington, D.C. Awarded annually by the U.S. Department of Justice, it is one of the nation’s most coveted positions for recent law school graduates.

“Berkeley Law provided me with a wealth of opportunities to explore my interest in appellate public-law litigation, through both course offerings and career services geared toward students hoping to pursue careers in public interest,” he says. “I’m very grateful

for professors and staff at the Career Development Office who have continued to support my career long since graduation.”

Starting in mid-July 2022, Yablon and four other Bristow Fellows began drafting briefs for cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, opposing certiorari filed against the government in the court, and preparing recommendations to the Solicitor General regarding authorization of government appeals in lower courts.

They also work on special projects, and help the Solicitor General and other staff lawyers prepare Supreme Court oral arguments.

The Office of the Solicitor General carries a significant and important workload with a relatively small legal staff. As a result, it typically hires only attorneys with strong academic records and a relevant legal background, such as a federal judicial clerkship at the appellate level or notable appellate litigation experience.

Yablon clerked for U.S. District of Columbia Circuit Court of Appeals Judge David Tatel. He previously clerked for U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge and Berkeley Law lecturer William Fletcher, and for U.S. District Court Judge Alison Nathan in the Southern District of New York.

“I’m thrilled to have the opportunity to learn from a team of lawyers who are not only at the top of their craft, but also deeply committed to public service,” Yablon says.



“

I’m very grateful for professors and staff at the Career Development Office who have continued to support my career long since graduation.

HOW WILL YOU FUND YOUR LEGAL EDUCATION?

Berkeley Law Opportunity Scholarships (BLOS) are awarded to select students who are the first in their families to earn a B.A. or the equivalent. It provides recipients with full tuition and fees for three years. Deadline to apply is December 15, and you must have taken the LSAT or other accepted standardized tests by the end of November. Additional essay and interview required.

Public Interest Scholarships are awarded to select students demonstrating a commitment to public interest work, and who join Berkeley Law's diverse, interdisciplinary, engaged, and impactful public interest community. Awards cover full California tuition and fees for three years. "Why Berkeley Law" statement required; additional application materials may be required for finalists.

Hyundai-Kia Scholarships are awarded to select students demonstrating academic merit, leadership experience, and an interest in and commitment to the field of law and technology. Additional essay required.

Binding Early Decision Awards are for applicants admitted through BED. Recipients are guaranteed gift aid in the amount of \$90,000 (\$30,000 per year for three years). Terms and conditions apply, and the deadline to apply is November 15.

Gift Aid is non-loan aid administered by Berkeley Law. To help students plan financially, the majority of gift aid offers are made as three-year awards. Awards are based on a comprehensive review of financial need, merit, or a combination. All students are automatically considered for gift aid based on a holistic review of materials in the original application for admission, but financial need consideration requires supplemental gift aid application after admission.

Center Scholars will receive at least \$10,000 per year in gift aid, be recognized as Center Scholars, and be provided faculty and alumni mentorship, support, and programming. There is no separate application for the Center Scholars programs; recipients are selected based on their original application for admission.

UC Scholarships are offered by the UC Berkeley Graduate Fellowships Office, which provides several scholarships for graduate students.

Outside Scholarships We maintain a list of private scholarships for law students. Currently there are over 40 scholarships for which students may qualify.

Continuing Student Scholarships provide several supplemental scholarships for current JD students. Application timelines are announced to all current students. Award amounts vary.

Veterans Educational Benefits Veterans and their dependents may qualify for tuition waivers. We also participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program, and offer a veterans-specific scholarship.

Native American Opportunity Plan As of Fall 2022, the University of California's Native American Opportunity Plan ensures that in-state systemwide Tuition and Student Services Fees are fully covered for students who are both California residents and enrolled members in a federally recognized Native American,

American Indian, or Alaska Native tribe. At Berkeley Law, we provide additional funding for eligible Native American Opportunity Plan students by covering the Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition.

Loans

Federal Unsubsidized Loans, Federal Graduate PLUS Loans, Private Loans, UC Emergency Loans

Students eligible to file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) are encouraged to do so.

RESOURCES SUPPORTING PUBLIC INTEREST CAREERS

Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP)

LRAP provides eligible graduates working in public interest careers with assistance repaying their loans. LRAP is integrated with the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness program (PSLF) and Income-Driven Repayment. Through LRAP, public interest graduates earning less than \$80,000 per year could have no out-of-pocket loan payments, and after 10 years, can apply to have their remaining loan balance fully forgiven through PSLF.

Summer Fellowships

UC President's Public Service Summer Fellowships provide a stipend in the amount of \$5,000 to \$6,000 to all JD students who are employed in a qualifying position during the summer after their first or second year. Students must complete 25 hours of pro bono work to be eligible to apply.

Post-Graduate Public Interest Fellowships

Bridge Fellowship Program provides short-term financial support while the graduate is searching for permanent public interest positions after taking the bar exam.

Public Interest Fellowship (PIF) Program PIF participants work in an apprentice role for a full year, during which they are committed to staying in their placement.

“

I knew that a career working to bring racial justice and money-blind fairness to Southern criminal courts would follow law school. I also knew that this career would be short-lived without strong LRAP support. I'm closing in on 12 years of challenging human rights abuses in the Deep South's sprawling carceral system because of Berkeley's sustaining LRAP program.

— 2010 grad working at a legal nonprofit who received PSLF

TUITION, FEES + EXPENSES

2022–23 TUITION AND FEES

California Resident	\$59,306
Nonresident	\$67,816*

2022–23 ESTIMATED NINE-MONTH ACADEMIC YEAR LIVING EXPENSES

Food & Housing	\$26,416
Books & Supplies	\$1,496
Personal	\$2,908
Transportation	\$3,376
Health Insurance	\$6,372**
Instructional Resilience and Enhancement Fee	\$212

ESTIMATED TOTAL

CA Resident	\$100,086
Nonresident	\$108,596

Fees are set by the UC Regents. Published fees are subject to change at any time and without notice.

* For students who establish California residency during their first year of law school, UC Berkeley offers a notable advantage during years two and three: fees drop from the nonresident rate to the California rate.

** Fee may be waived with proof of existing comparable insurance.

Professor Khiara Bridges teaching her class on Reproductive Rights.

Photo credit: Rachel DeLetto



APPLYING

Juris Doctor (JD) Program

First-Year Applicants

The application for each fall term is available online via the LSAC website (www.lsac.org) from September 1 – February 15. As we employ a rolling review process, you are strongly encouraged to submit a completed application as early as possible, so long as it represents you accurately and fully.

Binding Early Decision Program (BED)

If you have determined that Berkeley Law is your first-choice law school, you may apply through the Binding Early Decision Program. A different application timeline and deadline apply for those applying to our BED program, and a signed BED Agreement acknowledging all terms and conditions is required with your application for admission. An interview may also be required. If you are admitted, you must enroll at Berkeley Law the following fall. No deposit will be required, but you must withdraw all other law school applications and may not initiate any new applications. There is no application fee to apply to BED. If you are not admitted through BED, your application will be rolled over into Regular Decision. All BED applicants will receive a decision in early December, and if admitted, are automatically awarded \$90,000 in gift aid (distributed as \$30,000 per year for three years).

Transfer Students

Transfer students come from law schools across the country and make a substantial and welcome contribution to the Berkeley Law community. Applicants are considered for the fall term only.

Visiting Students

The law school admits a few visiting students who study here for a year but receive their law degrees from their schools of origin. Visiting students admission is available to approximately five students who have completed two years of high-quality work at another law school and have demonstrated a compelling need to spend their third year at Berkeley Law.

Concurrent Degrees/Combined Degrees

An applicant interested in earning concurrent degrees must gain separate admission to Berkeley Law (using the JD application) and the other participating Berkeley school or department. The latter is accomplished by filing a separate application with the Berkeley Graduate Division. *Examples: JD/MPP at Goldman, JD/MBA at Haas*

An applicant interested in earning combined degrees must gain separate admission to Berkeley Law and the other participating school. *Example: JD/MPP at Harvard Kennedy School*

Jurisprudence and Social Policy Program

Although it is a part of the law school's academic program, the Jurisprudence and Social Policy (JSP) Program is a separate graduate program with its own admission criteria and procedures. Admissions information is available online.

1L APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application submitted online via lsac.org
- \$75 Non-refundable application fee or receipt of an application fee waiver
- 2–4 letters of recommendation submitted through LSAC
- Personal statement (2–4 double-spaced pages)
- Resume (no page limit)
- Diversity statement (optional)
- “Why Berkeley Law” essay (optional)
- Other addenda as required (e.g. character & fitness explanation, BLOS essay)
- A copy of your SAT or ACT score report if writing an addendum regarding standardized test scores
- LSAT or GRE score taken within the last 5 years and no later than the January 2023 test
- A GMAT (if you meet the criteria to apply without an LSAT or GRE score) and supplemental form
- Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report (i.e., your transcript summary) from LSAC
- If applying binding early decision, a signed BED agreement

TRANSFER APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application submitted online via lsac.org (fee waived)
- 2 Letters of recommendation from law professors
- Personal statement (2–4 double-spaced pages)
- Resume (no page limit)
- Letter of good standing from your home law school
- First-year law school transcript with both fall and spring grades
- Credential Assembly Service (CAS) report (i.e., your transcript summary) from LSAC
- Other addenda as required (e.g. character & fitness explanation)

APPLICATION CALENDAR

2022

September

01

Binding Early & Regular
Decision Applications Open

October

01

FAFSA Opens

31

LSAT, GRE, GMAT
(Last score accepted for
Early Decision Applicants)
Writing Sample
(Due for Early Decision
Application)

November

15

Binding Early Decision
Application Deadline

30

Recommended Deadline
to Apply for Public Interest
Scholars
LSAT, GRE, GMAT
(Last score accepted for
BLOS applicants)
Writing Sample
(Due for BLOS Applicants)

December

05

Binding Early Decision
Notification

15

Deadline to apply for BLOS

2023

January

01

Application Fee Waiver
Request Deadline

31

LSAT, GRE, GMAT
(Last score accepted for
regular decision applications)
Writing Sample
(Due for regular application)

February

15

Regular Application Deadline

TBA

Alumni & Admitted
Student Events

March

01

FAFSA Priority Deadline

TBA

Admitted Students Weekend

TBA

Alumni & Admitted Students
Events

April

15

Admissions Response First
Deadline (5 p.m. PDT)
Transfer Application Opens
2L Transfer and 3L Visiting
Status Application Opens

May

15

Admissions Response Final
Deadline (5 p.m. PDT)

June

15

Transfer and Visiting Status
Deadline

July

1

Get settled, Course
Registration

August

TBA

Pre-Orientation Program
Orientation
Classes Begin

By the Numbers

WHAT WILL YOU BRING TO THE COMMUNITY?

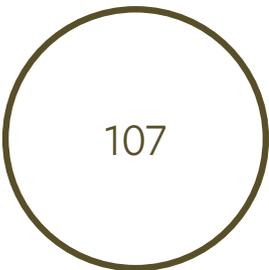
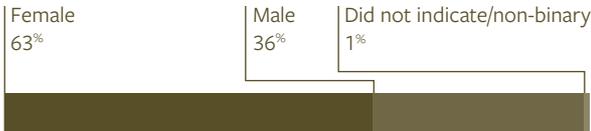
Number of applications received

6,825

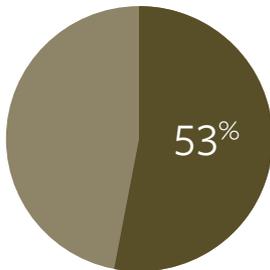
1L Class of 2025

280

GENDER BREAKDOWN*



Number of countries in which alumni reside



Percentage of students of color*

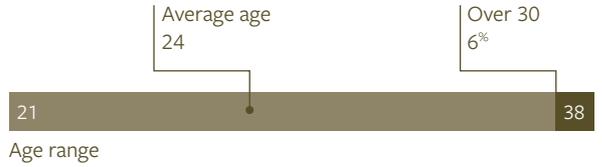
3.83

Median grade point average*

170

Median LSAT*

JD CLASS*



5 most common undergraduate majors amongst incoming 1Ls:

- Political Science
- Philosophy
- Humanities
- History
- Economics

21%

First in their family to receive a college degree*

10%

Students entering with advanced degrees*

TYPICAL SIZE OF STUDENT BODY



30,691

Number of Pro Bono hours logged by the Class of 2022 in their time as Berkeley Law students

> 90%

Percentage of students engaged in pro bono work at Berkeley Law

26

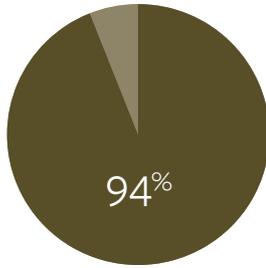
Number of research institutes and centers

41

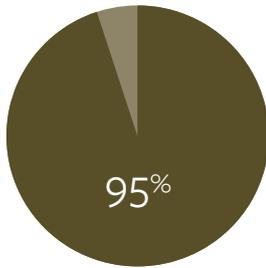
Number of student-initiated legal services projects

13

Number of student-run journals



NY Bar Exam passage rate



CA Bar Exam passage rate

#1

in Business Law

#2

in Criminal Law

#1

in Intellectual Property Law

#1

in Environmental Law

8 Certificate Programs Offered:

- Business
- Environmental
- Technology
- International
- Cleantech
- Public Interest & Social Justice
- Real Estate
- Race & Law

5,000

The number of clients served each year by the East Bay Community Law Center

Student to faculty ratio:

6.5 / 1

2023 *U.S. News & World Report*. The standard calculation is based on the ratio of students to law faculty (full-time and partially-weighted part-time)

* Numbers reflecting of 2022-2023 entering class as of July 1, 2022



The mark of
responsible forestry



Paper description

This book is printed with cotton fiber paper which is considered rapidly renewable, meaning that the fiber is derived from plants that are typically harvested within a 10-year cycle or less.

In addition to purchasing enough renewable energy credits to match 100% of the electricity used in manufacturing operations, the thermal energy used in the making of this paper is offset through the purchase of carbon credits that fund renewable energy or emission reduction projects.