NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL

EDUCATING A DIFFERENT KIND OF LAWYER
At Notre Dame Law School, we see the law as more than just a profession.

We encourage students to view the practice of law as a service to others, to explore the moral and ethical dimensions of the law, and to discover their unique roles in furthering the cause of justice.

As an eminent law school at the heart of a great Catholic university, our view of legal education is informed and inspired by our religious tradition. It’s a tradition that spans the globe, embraces people of all backgrounds, and illustrates the possibilities of dialogue between reason and faith.

With rigorous academics, attentive faculty, and a close-knit community, Notre Dame is a place where generations of lawyers have found their callings. They have learned to be counselors to those in need, to be voices for the voiceless, and to use their talents to uphold human dignity.

They have learned what it means to be a different kind of lawyer.
Notre Dame Law School’s curriculum—a mix of analytical training in the classroom and hands-on experiences in externships, clinics, skills courses, and immersion programs—is designed to provide students with the foundation they need to practice law in a diverse, global economy. The Law School is noted for its particular strength in constitutional law, ethics, law and religion, and international law.

Students pursuing a J.D. have the option of specializing in a particular area of the law by following one of our programs of study. Some students choose to pair their J.D. with a second Notre Dame degree, such as an MBA or a Master of Global Affairs, through one of our dual-degree programs. Law students who do not pursue a dual degree are allowed to take 9 credit hours in Notre Dame’s other graduate programs.

#10
BEST CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE
Princeton Review

#17
RANK IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
US News & World Report

7:1
STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

DEGREES
J.D., LLM, J.S.D.

DUAL DEGREES
J.D./MBA
(3-year and 4-year options)
J.D./M.A. in English
J.D./M. in Engineering
J.D./M. in Global Affairs
J.D./M.S. in Engineering, Science & Technology Entrepreneurship
J.D./Ph.D. in Political Science
“I can’t stress enough what a special place the University of Notre Dame is and the role the Law School plays within it.

“Our mission statement calls us to train a different kind of lawyer, one that has an impact for good, one who is a force for good. As the needs of our society call for ethically and morally guided lawyers and leaders, Notre Dame will continue to answer that call.”

DEAN’S INITIATIVES

Since arriving at Notre Dame Law School in 2019, Dean G. Marcus Cole has established the groundbreaking Religious Liberty Initiative, opened the Exoneration Justice Clinic, and expanded international programs through his Global Lawyering Initiative. He has also seen the enrollment of the most diverse classes in the Law School’s history.

STUDENTS IN 1L CLASS

We aim to enroll no more than 185 students in each first-year class. These small class sizes ensure that our expert faculty are accessible to students.

STUDENT-RUN JOURNALS

Notre Dame Law Review
Journal of International & Comparative Law
Journal of Law, Ethics & Public Policy
Journal of Legislation
Journal on Emerging Technologies

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

These organizations enable students to plan their own programming, network, and build community with others who share common interests.

No class sections, No class rankings

We do not divide our student body into sections, and we do not rank students by GPA. These are two intentional ways that Notre Dame Law School fosters a sense of community where classmates know each other and learn together in a collegial environment.
Notre Dame Law School’s faculty members are renowned scholars who are respected within academia and the legal field.

Many of our professors have served as judicial clerks, including 14 at the U.S. Supreme Court. One longtime faculty member, Amy Coney Barrett, was appointed as a Supreme Court justice in 2020. Other professors came to academia with years of experience in law firms and businesses that enable them to offer valuable insights in the classroom. The Law School’s small class sizes mean that our professors get to know students on an individual level. Our faculty recognize that educating a different kind of lawyer requires one-on-one attention as students discern their unique roles in furthering the cause of justice.

**Stephanie Barclay**
Professor Stephanie Barclay, who directs Notre Dame Law School’s Religious Liberty Initiative, clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch during the court’s 2021–22 term.

**Paolo Carozza**
Professor Paolo Carozza, an expert on international law, currently serves on the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe.

**Michael Addo**
Professor Michael Addo, director of the ND London Law Programme, has contributed his expertise to United Nations projects in the areas of business and human rights.
Members of the Notre Dame Law School faculty are diverse in terms of their backgrounds, philosophies, and scholarly interests. Faculty expertise covers all areas of the law.

Many faculty members hold doctoral degrees in other subjects that relate to their areas of legal expertise. This interdisciplinary approach is reflected in the Law School’s six research programs, which enable our professors to concentrate on their research, collaborate with other scholars throughout the world, and host conferences and lectures. The programs also provide opportunities for students to be directly involved in research projects.

FACULTY RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

With small classes and a 7:1 student-faculty ratio, our professors are able to get to know students on an individual level. Also, many faculty members live near Notre Dame’s campus and are more accessible than they would be in a major metropolitan area.

It’s not unusual for faculty members to help students make connections with other lawyers, judges, and business professionals, and provide guidance to students about pursuing careers, specific areas of practice, and clerkships.

FACULTY MENTORSHIP

“I cannot speak highly enough of our faculty here at ND Law. Coming to law school, especially one with this level of prestige and rigor, I would have never guessed faculty would have such a noticeable interest in building relationships with students.”

Class of 2024
JOSHUA MANNERY
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH PROGRAMS

6

CHURCH, STATE & SOCIETY
CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURE
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & TECHNOLOGY LAW

LAW & ECONOMICS
LAW & MARKET BEHAVIOR
PRIVATE LAW

FACULTY
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Experiential learning—which includes opportunities in clinics, externships, skills courses, and immersion programs—is a core component of the Notre Dame Law School curriculum. These programs complement the analytical training of the classroom by enabling students to develop practical skills and explore potential career paths.

The Law School offers a wide variety of experiential learning opportunities on campus, in the greater South Bend community, and in London, Chicago, and Washington, DC. The Law School operates five clinics that function as teaching law offices where 2Ls and 3Ls work on real cases under the close supervision of faculty.

Professor Jimmy Gurule, director of the Exoneration Justice Clinic, speaks to media in July 2021 about Andrew Royer, the clinic’s first exoneree.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING CLINICS

APPLIED MEDIATION CLINIC

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CLINIC

EVICTION CLINIC

EXONERATION JUSTICE CLINIC

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY CLINIC

EXPERIENTIAL COURSES

“Meeting clients was the most meaningful experience I had at the Exoneration Justice Clinic. Whether they’re currently fighting for their freedom or exonerated years ago, their ability to remain resilient and strong is truly admirable.”

Class of 2023
RILEY REALING
Casper, Wyoming
Notre Dame Law School is devoted to preparing all students to succeed on their individual career paths. Employers from all over the United States to campus each August to interview rising 2Ls and 3Ls through the On-Campus Interview Program. Employers from more than 275 offices in more than 60 cities interview ND Law students on campus through the program. The Career Development Office and dedicated faculty are equipped to assist students with securing clerkships.

Notre Dame Law students hone their lawyering skills through courses that require them to practice the crafts of advocacy and legal writing under simulated conditions. The Law School has long been a national leader in trial advocacy training in particular. Most students at Notre Dame Law School participate in at least one trial advocacy, appellate advocacy, or transactional skills course.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING SKILLS COURSES

**TRIAL ADVOCACY**
Practice trial skills through exercises such as depositions and simulated trials.

**TRANSACTIONAL SKILLS**
Learn to draft contracts and protect clients’ designs.

**APPELLATE ADVOCACY SKILLS**
Practice brief writing and learn how to argue a case at the appellate level.

**UNIVERSAL LAWYERING SKILLS**
Develop skills that lawyers need in all areas of the legal profession.

**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING EXTERNSHIPS**

Nereida Lopez ’21 J.D. poses with her client from the Law School’s Immigration Externship, which is through the National Immigrant Justice Center. ND Law students have won eight asylum cases in the past three years through the externship.
DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

In the past three years, Notre Dame Law School has enrolled the three most diverse classes in the Law School’s history—33 percent of the students who enrolled in fall 2021 are people of color, 36 percent of the students who enrolled in fall 2022 are people of color, and 35 percent of the students who enrolled this fall are people of color.

The Law School is committed to Notre Dame’s principles of respecting the dignity of every person, building a community in which all can flourish, and living in solidarity with all, particularly the most vulnerable. This commitment can be seen in our list of student organizations as well as the programming and support offered by the Law School’s faculty and staff, including Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Max Gaston.
Notre Dame Law School has been a leader in international legal education since establishing the Notre Dame London Law Programme in 1968. The one-of-a-kind program enables students to spend a semester or a full year at Notre Dame’s London campus, learning from premier British and European legal scholars.

In addition to London, ND Law students may study in one of our exchange programs at top law schools in nine countries.

International opportunities are also available in the summer with our Dublin Honor Scholars Program and Hamburg Honor Scholars Program.

“...I did not have the opportunity to study abroad as an undergraduate, so having that option was an important factor in my law school search. I spent a full year in the London Law Programme. One of my best experiences was my externship with a Notre Dame graduate and barrister who practices internationally.”

Class of 2023

TAYLOR WEWERS
Fort Smith, Arkansas

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS

CHILE
CHINA
GERMANY
ISRAEL
ITALY
KENYA
FRANCE
IRELAND
SWITZERLAND
Alumni and students network at the Notre Dame Lawyers of Chicago reception at the Chicago Athletic Association.

CAREERS

Notre Dame Law School is devoted to preparing all students to succeed on their individual career paths. The Law School welcomes employers from all over the United States to campus each August to interview rising 2Ls and 3Ls through the On-Campus Interview Program. Employers from more than 275 offices in more than 60 cities interview ND Law students on campus through the program. The Career Development Office and dedicated faculty are equipped to assist students with securing clerkships.

WHERE ND LAW’S CLASS OF 2022 WORKS

- 46% Big Law Firms (more than 100 attorneys)
- 15% Government/Public Interest
- 10% Other Law Firms
- 21% Clerkships
- 4% Business/Industry
- 4% Seeking Employment/Job Delays/Unknown

WHERE ND LAW’S CLASS OF 2022 WORKS

4th IN FEDERAL CLERKSHIPS

More than 15 percent of our 2022 graduates entered federal clerkships upon graduation, the fourth best rate among American law schools.

In the years following their graduation, individuals from our 2019-22 classes have obtained at least 228 clerkships in federal, state, and local courts across the United States, including the U.S. Supreme Court.

PUBLIC INTEREST PROGRAMS

Notre Dame has a history of encouraging its graduates to use their education for the public good—it’s a responsibility that flows directly from the University’s Catholic mission.

ND Law’s Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) covers graduates in public interest jobs with salaries as high as $100,000. The program is designed to enable our alumni in those fields to achieve total forgiveness of their federal student loans in less than 10 years with minimal out-of-pocket payments.

CLASS OF 2022 EMPLOYMENT 10 months after graduation

210 J.D. GRADUATES

- 96% EMPLOYED

Jobs requiring bar passage or J.D. advantage

44 CLERKSHIPS

- $125k MEDIAN SALARY

Secured at federal, state, and local courts
One of the benefits of earning a degree from Notre Dame Law School is that graduates become members of a vibrant alumni community.

Notre Dame Lawyer Committees, which organize events and service projects, are active in more than 30 major cities. These loyal alumni are eager to assist students and new graduates with networking and mentorship as they start their careers.

The Law School organizes networking opportunities throughout the academic year, during winter break, and over the summer. These events take place on campus and across the country to aid students in their nationwide job searches.

Students mingle with employers during the kickoff reception for Notre Dame Law School’s On-Campus Interviews.

From Coast to Coast

INITIAL JOB PLACEMENT OF ND LAW GRADUATES (2018–22)

TOP CITIES FOR ND LAW GRADUATES (2018–22)
The University of Notre Dame is widely regarded as having one of America’s most beautiful college campuses. The Law School’s location in the heart of campus contributes to the strong sense of community here as law students are able to participate fully in the life of the University.

Notre Dame is both Catholic and catholic. The first word refers to the Catholic Church and the faith that drives Notre Dame’s mission to be a force for good. The lowercase word means universal and describes how Notre Dame, as a great university, embraces people of all backgrounds, faiths, and viewpoints.

The best thing about Notre Dame Law School is the friendly and caring culture. Everyone is so invested in your well-being and success, from the faculty to current students and even alumni.”

JERRY LU
Holmdel, New Jersey

Students volunteer at Green Bridge Growers, a nonprofit run by Professor Jay Tidmarsh’s family.

Mass is celebrated six days per week in the Law School’s St. Thomas More Chapel.
The University of Notre Dame is located right next to South Bend, Indiana—a diverse city that’s big enough to provide everything you need without the traffic and high costs of a major metropolitan area.

Notre Dame offers on-campus graduate student housing that is a 10- to 15-minute walk from the Law School. Many off-campus housing options are available nearby in South Bend and the surrounding community. Living in close proximity to campus and to each other makes it easy for law students to spend time together, whether that time is spent studying or having fun.

Downtown South Bend and several other city neighborhoods have been undergoing a renaissance in recent years. Private developers have renovated several historic buildings, adding more restaurants and hundreds of apartments to the city center. The city is also directing more attention to the St. Joseph River by investing in a riverside trail system and upgrading waterfront parks.
You may apply to Notre Dame Law School via LSAC beginning September 1. Our Admissions Committee seeks to enroll a talented, diverse class that will help Notre Dame Law School achieve its mission of educating lawyers who serve the good of the human family. We evaluate applications in a holistic manner to identify those candidates whose academic talent, personal background, professional experiences, and points of view will ensure our community personifies the pursuit of excellence and leadership for the betterment of society.

Prospective students are invited to connect with our admissions staff and student ambassadors in-person or remotely. On-campus visits include a class observation, an admissions information session, and a student-led tour of the Law School. Please check law.nd.edu/visit for registration information and further details. We look forward to meeting you!

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS
1329 Bolchini Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556
574-631-6626
lawadmit@nd.edu
law.nd.edu/admissions

APPLICATION DATES AND DEADLINES
SEPT. 1
Applications Accepted
MARCH 15
Application Deadline

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS
- Application form
- Bachelor’s degree in any discipline from an accredited college or university
- LSAT or GRE
- Personal statement
- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation
- “Why Notre Dame Law School?” essay
- “Different Kind of Lawyer” essay
- *Recommended

IMPORTANT FEES
- $75 Application Fee*
- $68,554 Tuition and Fees 2023–24
- $13,050 Estimated Room and Board 2023–24

*Service and need-based fee waivers application available at law.nd.edu/waiver

DATES, DEADLINES, AND FEES

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES
OCT. 1
FAFSA Opens
FEB. 28
FAFSA Deadline
ND Law’s Federal Code: 001840
fafsaid.gov
NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

Notre Dame is committed to building an inclusive community and welcomes all individuals. All prospective students are encouraged to read the University’s Spirit of Inclusion statement as well as the University’s policies for reporting discriminatory harassment at equity.nd.edu.

The full nondiscrimination policy may be viewed at law.nd.edu/nondiscrimination.