EDUCATING

A DIFFERENT

KIND OF LAWYER.

UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME

The Law School
WHAT DOES IT MEAN
WITH MIND AND HEART
At Notre Dame Law School, students and faculty of diverse backgrounds and experiences are encouraged to broaden their social, spiritual, and personal lives while honing their intellectual and professional skills to serve the good of all.
TO BE A DIFFERENT KIND OF LAWYER?
The Notre Dame experience will inspire you to examine your study and practice of law within the context of your responsibilities as a member of the bar, and as a member of various political, social, and faith communities. This perspective encourages robust debate on tough questions of policy, values, and faith both inside and outside the classroom. Students at Notre Dame Law School not only learn the technical skills to be successful practicing lawyers—they also learn about the values and commitments that shape our laws.

**NOTRE DAME LAW SCHOOL IS A DIFFERENT KIND OF LAW SCHOOL, EDUCATING A DIFFERENT KIND OF LAWYER.**
Notre Dame Law School’s curriculum integrates rigorous academic standards with an emphasis on ethics, morals, and values taught by leading scholars who serve as faculty and mentors.
Notre Dame provides an environment that stresses ethics and morals within the practice of law and demands integrity from its students and expects it from its graduates. The student–teacher community is close and teachers, not TA’s, are always available for questions regarding class or life. I am extremely happy with my decision to attend Notre Dame Law School and am confident that it was the right choice.

–AMY POVINELLI, PHOENIX, AZ

**Juris Doctor (J.D.) Program**

- 90 credits
- 1L Elective
- Upper-division requirements: legal ethics, jurisprudence, skills course, and writing requirement
- Small class size, average incoming class of approximately 170 students, student-faculty ratio: 14:1
- Blend of legal theory and skills-training courses
- Dual-degree programs: J.D./MBA, J.D./M.A. English, J.D./M.E. Engineering
# Programs of Study

## Business Law

**Focus:**
Transactional practice and risk management

**Sample Courses:**
- Law and the Entrepreneur
- Not-for-Profit Organizations
- White Collar Crime

**Experiential Learning:**
- Community Development Clinic
- Economic Justice Clinic
- Corporate Counsel Externships
- Federal Regulatory Externships

## Criminal Law

**Focus:**
Social justice and prosecution and defense of criminal charges

**Sample Courses:**
- International Law
- Human Rights
- Cyberlaw
- Juvenile Law
- Mental Health

**Experiential Learning:**
- Public Defender Externships
- Prosecutorial Externships
- 7th Circuit Practice Externship

## Environmental Law

**Focus:**
Energy, nature, natural resources, and land-use

**Sample Courses:**
- Climate Change
- Environmental Law
- Natural Resources Law
- Seminar on Scenic Law

**Experiential Learning:**
- Environmental Law Society
- Notre Dame Environmental Change Initiative
- Notre Dame Environmental Research Center

## Global Law

**Focus:**
International and comparative law in both private practice and public law

**Sample Courses:**
- International Law on the Use of Force
- International Business Transactions

**Experiential Learning:**
- Concannon Programme
- Exchange Programs in Italy, Chile, and China
- National Immigrant Justice Externship
**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

**Focus:** Copyright, cyber law, design, patent, trademark, and unfair competition

**Sample Courses:** Information Technology Law; Intellectual Property; Licensing; Patent Drafting & Prosecution; Patent Litigation; Trade Dress and Design Law

**Experiential Learning:** Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship Clinic; Intellectual Property Law Society; Master of Science in Patent Law program

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**LAW, ETHICS, AND PUBLIC POLICY**

**Focus:** Social issues, morality and law

**Sample Courses:** History and Traditions; Concepts and Problems; Theories and Frameworks

**Experiential Learning:** Economic Justice Clinic; Mediation Clinic; Appalachia Externship; American Civil Liberties Union; Social Justice Forum; Federalist Society; Christian Legal Society

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**PUBLIC LAW**

**Focus:** Government, judicial clerkships, criminal justice, and public policy

**Sample Courses:** Public International Law; Comparative Constitutional Law; Judicial Process Seminar

**Experiential Learning:** Economic Justice Clinic; Mediation Clinic; Appalachian Externship; American Civil Liberties Union; Social Justice Forum; Federalist Society; Christian Legal Society

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**STUDENT PERSPECTIVE:**

“My most interesting course has been Constitutional Law with Professor Garnett. From the first day of class he has emphasized a high level of discussions of the material in a way that best facilitates our learning. The course helps demonstrate that the Constitution still presents ‘live’ issues. The most interesting day in Constitutional Law was when we were visited by Associate Justice Clarence Thomas. Having that time to speak with him about his background, approach to cases, and other legal matters was an incredible experience.”

—STEPHEN ASTRINGER, LEVITTOWN, PA
"The faculty here are wonderful and are truly approachable. I think faculty are probably outstanding at most top law schools, but one thing I really appreciate about the Notre Dame law faculty is that they seem to be experts in areas of law that most students genuinely find interesting. This affords the opportunity to do great research and often ignites conversations in the classroom that are valuable to everyone."

–CHASE GIACOMO, KALISPELL, MT

**FACULTY**

Notre Dame Law School brings a diverse, committed faculty who are not only renowned in their area of legal expertise, but also have a passion for providing a unique and challenging professional education to their students. This passion for teaching can be seen both inside and outside the classroom, through intense legal debate and through informal discussions in social settings. The NDLS faculty is a truly one-of-a-kind community of scholars who take pride in educating the future of the profession with values, accountability, and integrity.
“There are many reasons I chose NDLS, but the most important to me was the school’s commitment to forming a different kind of lawyer. I firmly believe that is not a marketing pitch—it is a mission statement. It affects every part of the school, from admissions to graduation and beyond. It involves education, service, camaraderie, and opportunities that are second to none. NDLS students study in London, extern in Chicago, provide aid to the indigent, team with the business school to help countries rebuild after war, contribute to human rights, and help build small businesses—and that’s before graduation! The education, opportunities, and experiences NDLS provides creates lawyers who seek to improve the world, not just get jobs. And who could pass up an opportunity to make a difference in the world?”

–ERIC NICHOLS, SOUTH BEND, IN

Notre Dame Law School’s J.D. program provides many opportunities to study a specific area of law, explore how law intersects with other disciplines, or develop both a student’s theoretical and practical skills. If you already know what type of law you want to practice, Notre Dame provides you with an option to concentrate on a program of study. Our interdisciplinary programs work with other graduate departments to provide a unique experience to learn across curricula. Whether you choose a specialization, participate in an interdisciplinary program, or chart your own path, you are encouraged to gain experience through our many hands-on learning opportunities.
THE EXPERIENCE
At Notre Dame Law School, we will teach you to think like a lawyer and provide you with myriad opportunities to practice the skills most sought by employers. Our broad array of externships allow you to “try out” virtually any area of law practice and to discover your professional identity by working with real clients, lawyers, and judges.

**EXTERNSHIPS**

Current Externships:
- Advanced Criminal Justice
- Appalachia
- Intercollegiate Athletics
- Lawyering Practice
- National Immigrant Justice Center
- Notre Dame Law in Chicago
- Public Defender
- Seventh Circuit Advocacy
I was a student intern in the Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship Clinic and absolutely loved my work. The Clinic gave me the rare opportunity to work on patents without a science or technical background. Partnering with someone who had an engineering degree, I was able to research and file patents for solo investors and small businesses. I also gained other IP transactional skills including trademark research and prosecution. The practical skills that you will develop are invaluable.

–ADRIENNE DE LA ROSA, CLASS OF 2013
**Student Journals**
- Journal of College and University Law
- Journal of Legislation
- Notre Dame Journal of International and Comparative Law
- Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics, and Public Policy
- Notre Dame Law Review

**Skills Courses**
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy Seminar
- Comprehensive Trial Advocacy
- Deposition Skills
- Intensive Trial Advocacy
- Legal Interviewing and Counseling
- Moot Court—International
- Moot Court—Trial
- Negotiation
- Transactional Law Intensive
The Notre Dame Law in Chicago program allows you to work four days per week with in-house corporate counsel, nonprofit legal organizations, governmental law offices, or in judicial chambers under the careful supervision and mentoring of a practicing attorney in the heart of Chicago.
STUDENT PERSPECTIVE:

“The London program provided the perfect opportunity to explore the outer bounds of the legal profession that are hard to get in a traditional classroom. Beyond just great friendships and once-in-a-lifetime travel experiences, I received a top-notch introduction to international legal subjects I had never thought about before. I toured the Inns of Court, had drinks with Master Mariners, and walked the halls of the legendary Lloyds—all for class. Going to London was unquestionably the best decision I have made in law school.”

—ARIELLE SEIDMAN, LONGMONT, CO

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Notre Dame Law School values and promotes the global education of legal practices through a variety of opportunities to study and gain practical experience with international law. Whether you wish to practice international law or are simply interested in the field because you recognize that many legal cases have considerations outside of our nation’s borders, Notre Dame Law School will provide you with the education and experiences you need to start your career.

Additionally, the South Bend campus houses the Center for Civil and Human Rights, which provides leadership in the field of human rights law and administers the highly respected LL.M. and J.S.D. programs.
The Concannon Programme

- The only ABA-approved, year-long overseas program offered by an American law school
- Open to NDLS second- and third-year students (semester options available as well)
- Study with and learn from prominent American, British, and other European faculty
- Opportunity to intern with British barristers, solicitors, multinational corporations, and law firms
- London Law Centre located on Trafalgar Square in Central London

Summer London

- Oldest American summer program in London
- Open to NDLS students and students from other law schools
- Opportunity to study international and comparative law during a six-week program

Exchange Programs

- NDLS students have the opportunity to study abroad for a semester in:
  - Chile at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile
  - China at Peking University Law School and at Tsinghua University Law School
  - Ireland at the Trinity School of Law
  - Italy at the Università Bocconi
STUDENT PERSPECTIVE:

“The Career Development Office is very helpful if you take advantage of what they have to offer through mock interviews, networking tips, summer stipends for unpaid internships, and constant advice and availability, even throughout the summer. As someone interested in working in the public sector, I have never felt deterred from pursuing the career that I’ve always wanted.”

–LEIGH LOMAN, PITTSBURGH, PA

Whether you see yourself as a litigator, business lawyer, or in public interest work, Notre Dame Law School provides the training and experiential learning opportunities employers are looking for in law school graduates. With the strength of the Notre Dame Law School diploma, our graduates are successful in a wide array of careers spanning the United States.

Our Career Development Office is dedicated to providing students with numerous opportunities throughout the year to hone your job search skills as you identify your desired career path. The office is instrumental in engaging the Notre Dame Lawyer alumni network and arranging on- and off-campus interviews for legal jobs across the country.
THE COMMUNITY
The Law School is located at the center of the Notre Dame campus, within steps of the iconic Golden Dome, Basilica of the Sacred Heart, and Notre Dame Stadium. The University is located just outside of South Bend, Indiana, and is 90 miles east of Chicago. Our campus is alive throughout the year with performing arts, athletics, art exhibits, and speakers from around the world. The University provides students with an affordable and comfortable standard of living, both on and off campus. The community is family friendly, offering an array of parks, museums, dining options, and shops.

“I chose Notre Dame because I was not sure about where I ultimately wanted to practice. Many of the schools I looked at had names that carried weight within a certain geography. Notre Dame, however, had a strong national alumni network reputation. Going here, I would not only get a quality legal education, but I would also have some flexibility as to where I could work after graduation. The students are very inclusive. Going to ND is like joining a family. Once you attend, you have a connection to a whole world of people.”

—LAUREN ASSAF, FOND DU LAC, WI
The University of Notre Dame has one of the most vibrant alumni networks in the world. The thousands of loyal Notre Dame alumni are willing to assist in networking and mentorship and provide a unique community for both professional and personal growth. Our law school graduates are serving the greater good as leaders in the field of law and other industries.
IN 80+ INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITIES
The Notre Dame Law School Admissions Committee employs a whole-person review philosophy to create a class from a large number of highly qualified applicants. We seek multidimensional students with a wide range of talents, backgrounds, experiences, accomplishments, and points of view. We aim to enroll a talented class that will enrich the life of the Law School through their academic skills and leadership abilities. The NDLS community welcomes students to a program that emphasizes excellence, commitment to community service, and preparation for the ethical practice of law.

APPLY
Application Requirements

- Application form
- Bachelor’s degree in any discipline from an accredited college or university
- LSAT
- Personal Statement
- Resume
- Two letters of recommendation

Optional

- Essay addressing specific interest in Notre Dame Law School
- Diversity Statement
We encourage all prospective students to visit Notre Dame Law School, located on the University’s picturesque campus, and experience our dynamic community. A visit to the University and the Law School is the ultimate way to gain insight about the distinctive qualities of a Notre Dame legal education.

For additional information contact:
University of Notre Dame Law School
Office of Admissions
1329 Bolchini Hall
Notre Dame, IN 46556
(574) 631-6626
lawadmit@nd.edu
law.nd.edu
**Application Dates and Deadlines**

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<tr>
<td>October 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 28</td>
<td>Suggested deadline for filing FAFSA</td>
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<td>March 16</td>
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ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE:

“I decided to come to Notre Dame Law School because I knew the faculty and administration were devoted not only to creating good lawyers, but also to creating good people. As a Catholic, the mission and values of Notre Dame were attractive to me, but regardless of background, Notre Dame’s focus on developing lawyers of both skill and integrity makes it an ideal place to be trained in the law. My favorite part of Notre Dame Law School is the collegiality of the student body. Law school is inevitably a stressful time, but Notre Dame does an outstanding job of maintaining a relaxed and friendly environment conducive to learning and success.”

–KEVIN MURPHY, CLASS OF 2014
NONDISCRIMINATION POLICY

The University of Notre Dame does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, disability, veteran status, genetic information, or age in the administration of any of its educational programs, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other school-administered programs, or in employment.

The University has designated the Director of its Office of Institutional Equity to handle all inquiries regarding its effort to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX and under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The Title IX and Section 504 coordinator may be contacted as follows:

Director, Office of Institutional Equity / 100 Grace Hall / University of Notre Dame / Notre Dame, IN 46556 / (574) 631-0444