The legal world has changed.

So have we.

National and global changes in the past decade have redefined the legal profession, opening up new areas of practice and a vast spectrum of opportunity for the well-trained legal mind.

Be ready.

Case Western Reserve’s innovative curriculum responds to this evolving legal world—and equips our students to do the same. Our emphasis on experiential learning throughout all three years of law school produces graduates who are well-prepared to adapt to the rapidly changing legal profession.

Welcome.

We invite you to join our vibrant community, and take your place in shaping the future of this dynamic profession.
BY THE NUMBERS

101 internship placements in 39 countries
23 exchange and concurrent degree programs on five continents
26 student organizations

9th in Health Law
U.S. News & World Report, 2018

12th in International Law
U.S. News & World Report, 2018

Class of 2020
Applications 1,520
First-year JD students 132
LSAT median 159
GPA median 3.47
Women 59%
Minorities 19%
Average age 24
Non-Ohio residents 62%

Top 25 Best Public Interest Law Schools
The National Jurist

Rated as Top School for Intellectual Property Law
prelaw Magazine, 2017

10 Dual Degrees
JD/MBA (Management)
JD/MA (Art History and Museum Studies)
JD/MA (Legal History)
JD/MA (Political Science)
JD/MS (Biochemistry)
JD/MA (Bioethics)
JD/MSSA (Social Work)
JD/MD (Medicine)
JD/MPH (Public Health)
JD/MNO (Nonprofit Organizations)
Surpass expectations.

What do prospective employers expect in this new legal environment? We asked them. Conversations with more than 70 hiring partners, CEOs, and other leaders provided a precise picture that can be summed up in three words: Practice-ready graduates.

Employers seek graduates who combine traditional lawyering strengths—critical analysis, understanding of precedent and theory, mastery of verbal and written communication—with non-traditional skill sets: leadership ability, interpersonal skills, and the confidence and acumen that result from hands-on experience.

Preparation is everything.

We designed our curriculum to prepare our students to enter the workplace ready to excel. Our unique LLEAP sequence hones essential skills in: Legal writing, Leadership, Experiential learning, Advocacy, and Professionalism. And every CWRU student sharpens those skills through three years of real work experience. The 2017 U.S. News & World Report Rankings Issue featured us as one the five most innovative experiential education programs in the country.
You’ll have opportunities to join faculty-mentored teams assisting real clients. Professional experience is part of every student’s training.

Basic core coursework will include:
- Civil Procedure
- Contract Law
- Criminal Law
- Law, Legislation, and Regulation
- Property
- Torts

You’ll begin our unique LLEAP sequence, honing essential skills in: Legal writing, Leadership, Experiential learning, Advocacy, and Professionalism.

You’ll build professional skills in legal settings over the summer, through positions in law firms, and dedicated internships in non-profit and international organizations. We also have more than 25 spots in our Federal Judicial Externship Program reserved exclusively for first years.

Build on the first year’s core courses and begin classes that cover key bar exam subjects:
- Business Associations
- Constitutional Law
- Criminal Procedure
- Evidence
- Sales
- Secured Transactions
- Wills

You’ll continue the LLEAP sequence. You can enroll in several labs where you’ll work on cutting-edge legal issues.

And you can immerse yourself in a chosen area of concentration:
- Business Law
- Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution
- Criminal Law
- Health Law
- International Law
- Law, Technology & the Arts
- Public Interest Law

Theory, Coursework, and practice experience come together after your second year in your Capstone: two to eight months of intensive legal work requiring subject knowledge, practical skills, and professionalism. Your capstone might be in an externship setting or in one of our in-house clinics, or be a self-designed opportunity; it may be in the U.S. or abroad. This singular extended immersion in the profession is the culmination of your law school experience.

You’ll also finish core courses and electives, and conclude the LLEAP sequence with advanced skills classes.

Alternatively, you can spend your third year abroad at one of our partner universities while concurrently earning an LLM degree with no additional cost.

Core, Concentration, Capstone

Our curriculum combines exceptional classroom learning with substantial client contact and rigorous skill development — we provide double the legal writing training of most other schools to ensure your mastery of this bedrock skill. A preview of your course sequence, year by year:
Beyond the classroom:

Immersion in the profession throughout your three years will take you to legal settings in Cleveland, across the nation, and around the world. We provide high-quality, hands-on experiences to ensure that you graduate prepared and experienced.

Student teams handle real cases for community members at our on-campus Milton A. Kramer Law Clinic. The range of casework includes: intellectual property, consumer fraud, civil rights, human trafficking, immigration, mediation, health law, elder and disability law, and criminal cases. Clinic students log hundreds of hours of pro bono legal services here.

Our Judicial Externship Program puts students to work for federal judges over the summer, providing an on-the-ground view of the judicial system as well as elective course credit.

Stipends and grants support work experience across the U.S. and in dozens of countries with global organizations such as the World Bank and the United Nations; we are one of the few U.S. law schools to offer a full semester’s credit for interning abroad.
Extermships are many and varied.

Here are just a few examples:

- Access to Justice/Legal Aid
- Cleveland Clinic, MetroHealth Medical Center, Summa Health System, University Hospitals of Cleveland
- Cleveland Indians, Cleveland Browns, Cleveland Cavaliers
- Department of Education Office for Civil Rights
- Federal Public Defender
- General Counsel Offices
- International tribunals and organizations
- State Attorney General’s Offices
- U.S. Attorney’s Offices

Competitions test your skills.

Our students enter competitions across the nation and around the world, with noteworthy success:

- Won Midwest Regional Mock Trial Competition in Michigan and came in 8th at the National Championship in Texas in 2017.
- Placed 2nd in Regional Round of the National Moot Court Competition in New York in 2017.
- Won Best Brief Award and Best Speaker Award in the Jessup International Law Moot Court regional competition in 2017. CWRU is the last U.S. team to have won the World Championship of the Jessup Competition.

My experience at Case Western Reserve Law was the perfect preparation for my position as a Judicial Law Clerk on the U.S. Court of International Trade. The personalized instruction I received in my writing and research courses, as well as the experience I gained as an editor for the school’s Journal of International Law, allowed me to develop research, writing, and analytical skills that I use daily. The school also facilitated my internship and externship positions at the International Trade Centre, the Special Tribunal for Lebanon, and the Special Court for Sierra Leone. I graduated with a diverse and well-rounded resume, a wide array of legal skills, and a rich network of fellow legal practitioners—all of which have served me well in my current position as attorney at the U.S. Department of Commerce’s Office of the Chief Counsel for Trade Enforcement and Compliance.

Heather Doherty JD ’11
Collaborators and friends

We’re a lively, cohesive community with a preference for collaboration over competition. We deliberately keep our entering class size small to maintain the feel of an intimate, friendly environment. There’s a shared passion for the law, and a spirit of cooperation among students, faculty, and alumni, all eager to assist your success. You’ll join a legal family that will last a lifetime.

Team with peers on one of our student organizations to extend your network and participate in a rich range of programs and activities:

- American Constitution Society
- Asian Law Student Association
- Big Buddies
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate Finance and Law Alliance
- The Docket (student run newspaper)
- Federalist Society
- Hispanic Law Students Association
- Intellectual Property Law Association
- International Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Lambda Law Students Association
- Law for the Environment, Animals and Food
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- Legal Students of Soft Sciences
- Moot Court Board
- National Security Law Society
- National Lawyers Guild
- Public Interest Law Fellowship
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Sports & Entertainment Law Society
- Street Law Program
- Student Bar Association
- Student Health Law Association
- Women’s Law Association

We are among the best and most innovative programs in
Experiential Education
Health Law
International Law
Law, Technology & the Arts
Public Interest Law

STAND-OUT PROGRAMS
Health law

NEW KNOWLEDGE

Our 9th-ranked health law program offers students an unparalleled opportunity to learn from top experts in this fast-growing field. Genetic engineering, reproductive rights, electronic health records, end-of-life decisions, and health care regulation are just a few of the profoundly complex issues at the intersection of law and medicine.

We’re uniquely poised to support your health law studies and career. Our faculty leads in both scholarly reputation and practice experience. We tap into tremendous university resources: a top-25 ranked medical school, with more than 2,000 faculty, hundreds of millions of dollars in research, and renowned programs in health policy and bioethics.

We are one of the only cities in the country to have two nationally ranked hospitals according to U.S. News & World Report: The Cleveland Clinic is ranked #2 overall and University Hospitals is top ranked in multiple adult and pediatric specialty areas.

Charlie Fields JD ’02

When I think back on my time at Case Western, I have warm memories of the friendships I made and the personal growth I achieved. Case Western’s faculty and staff did not just teach me to think like a lawyer, but how to question and challenge the world around me. The analytical skills I honed at Case Western, along with the health law coursework, helped prepare me for the non-traditional career path I took. I began my career with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) working on various Medicare policy areas. I left CMS to work for Gorman Health Group, a leading consulting and software solutions firm specializing in government health programs, where I now serve as General Counsel.

Internships

Exceptional summer internships for students interested in health law abound. Some examples:

- American Association for Advancement of Science
- American Health Lawyers Association
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- Cleveland Clinic
- Ministry of Legal Affairs (Roseau, Dominica, West Indies)
- National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences
- Physicians for Reproductive Choice & Health
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
- Tennessee Department of Mental Health & Developmental Disabilities
- U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services, Office of Inspector General
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
- University Hospitals, General Counsel’s Office
- Vermont Medical Society
Born and raised in Cleveland, my dream to one day work in Hollywood often seemed impossible. However, by continually reaching out to the school’s network of alumni, I was able to foster relationships that have helped me in every step of my career—from my legal internship at IMG to my current position as a director of business affairs for Warner Bros. Television. Currently, I am the business affairs executive on the following shows: The Originals (The CW), Riverdale (The CW), Splitting Up Together (ABC), and By The Book (CBS).

“A great formula to having a fulfilling and enjoyable career is to pair your passion with your education. I’ve always loved television and working as a negotiator in the television industry has been a remarkable experience. I can truly say I love going to work every day.”

Rebecca Gilbert Weisberg JD ’12

Opportunities for a deep dive into intellectual property (IP) law are inexhaustible on this campus—over the past year, students in our IP Venture Clinic have represented more than 50 local start up ventures and students in our Patent Pro Bono Program have engaged with over 200 local inventors.

Our Fusion certificate program brings law students, management students, and graduate science students together to support science and engineering invention. The partnership creates a multidisciplinary team to assess, develop, and protect early-stage technologies that have potential for commercialization.

In the IP Venture Clinic, law students apply these skills to identify, patent, cultivate, and protect intellectual property; they also apply corporate and securities law to structure a transaction to launch an early-stage venture.

Our IP Clinic has represented 50 start ups this year.

Handle hot properties.
IP Venture Clinic students helped chemical engineering student Felipe Gomez del Campo V file a patent and develop commercialization plans for his breakthrough plasma-based fuel-efficient jet engine design—an invention that was lauded by the White House and pitched to the Shark Tank investors.
International law

ADVANCING GLOBAL JUSTICE

Our world-renowned international law program, ranked 12th in the country, makes global experience available for every student seeking a career in international business law or public international law. In the past five years, 125 law students have interned in 39 countries, and more of our students (120) have interned at international tribunals than students from any other U.S. law school.

We have more than two dozen faculty who are experts on issues ranging from war crimes to international tax, from national security to cyberlaw. Professors not only teach these topics, but also connect their students with the people pioneering the legal work in practice.

Each year, the Cox International Law Center awards grants to defray travel and living expenses for 25–30 summer internships, semester externships, and postgraduate fellowships. International placements range from War Crimes tribunals to international organizations such as the World Trade Organization, the United Nations, the Human Rights Council, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the World Health Organization, and Interpol.

“An internship at the Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia launched my international legal career. A postgraduate judicial clerkship at the Constitutional Court of South Africa followed.”

Christopher Rassi JD, MBA ’03

In the years since graduating, I’ve worked on international trade and transactions at a large firm (Thompson Hine, LLP) in Cleveland and D.C., and served in Chambers and the Office of the President at the Rwanda Tribunal in Arusha, Tanzania, and in the Office of the Prosecutor at the Special Tribunal for Lebanon in The Hague. I am currently Senior Executive Officer and Deputy Chief of Staff to the Secretary General of the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) in Geneva, Switzerland. Along the way, I married an international defense counsel from Australia, and we now live with our children on the shore of Lake Geneva.
Global litigator

Juscelino Colares teaches international business law and international environmental law. He serves on the U.S. Roster of NAFTA Chapter 19 (Trade) Arbitrators and is the Chair of the University’s Faculty Senate; his research explores the interjurisdictional issues that emerge when regulatory law conflicts with international trade.

Leading scholars

Our faculty is ranked 25th in the nation in scholarly impact, and their passion for teaching and mentoring law students is unmatched. Expect accessibility and a genuine commitment to helping you get the most out of your law school years.

Our faculty come to know their students exceptionally well and actively assist them with summer placements and jobs.

Rights champion

B. Jessie Hill teaches constitutional law and civil rights. She has argued precedent-setting cases and publications like the New York Times regularly seek her perspective on major federal court decisions. Her particular expertise involves religious and reproductive rights, and she serves as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.
Health care equalizer

Ruqaijah A. Yearby serves as Associate Dean of Institutional Diversity and Inclusiveness and Associate Director of the Law-Medicine Center. She teaches contracts, health care regulation, and bioethics. Her scholarship centers on racial disparities in health care as well as law, justice, and medical research.

Legal ethicist

Cassandra Robertson teaches civil procedure, professional responsibility, and international civil litigation. Her focus is on legal ethics and litigation procedure within a globalizing practice of law. She directs the Center for Professional Ethics.
Perfectly situated

University Circle: a splendid concentration of more than 40 arts, cultural, and educational institutions surrounding the green spaces of Wade Oval. This is our neighborhood. The Cleveland Museum of Art, the Cleveland Botanical Garden, the Natural History Museum, and the new Museum of Contemporary Art are just a few of your options for exploring, escaping, and recharging—all only steps away from campus.

A slew of restaurants, cafes, shops, and entertainment venues are within blocks, including the law students’ traditional local tavern: The Happy Dog/Euclid Tavern (be there on Thursdays for Law School Faculty/Student Band performances). Nearby neighborhoods of Uptown, Coventry, Cedar-Fairmount, and Little Italy multiply your options and provide convenient affordable housing, too.
Astounding Cleveland

Take the cultural concentration of University Circle and add: three professional sports teams providing year-round thrills, including the 2016 NBA champion Cavaliers; Playhouse Square, the nation’s second largest theater district; the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame; Iron Chef Michael Symon’s Lola; the historic Warehouse District; the beaches on the shores of Lake Erie ...

and you’ll understand why students love living and studying in Cleveland.

Corporate headquarters, world-renowned health care institutions, and an impressive list of law firms, including large international firms as well as dozens of midsize firms, provide countless internships, externships, and jobs for our law students and grads.
Prepare to excel.

Our Career Development Office, which includes experienced lawyers, works closely with students to help them obtain permanent employment. The combination of well-prepared students and experienced staff results in a 93 percent employment rate 10 months after graduation. This past year we were among the top 30 law schools for new partners in the nation’s largest law firms.

Every part of my legal education at Case Western helped prepare me for practice. From the coursework in my pretrial and appellate practice classes to participating in the Federal Judicial Externship Program, I gained invaluable practical experience that helped me develop the legal thinking necessary to work at a large law firm, as a federal judicial clerk, and now as Assistant Corporate Counsel at the New York City Law Department. From the professors who recommended me for job opportunities and prepared me for the bar exam, to the friends I made in law school who are now my colleagues, Case Western was the perfect choice for me.

Hope Lu JD ’13
Alumni across the country and around the world actively assist our students and graduates with career advice, shared connections, and job offers. They know and value our students’ exceptional practical skills and work experience.

A few of our distinguished alumni include:

- Nan Aron ’73
  Founder and President of the Alliance for Justice
- Mohamed Ibn Chambas ’84
  Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa
- Rear Admiral (ret.) Janet Donovan ’83
  Head of the U.S. Navy Reserve Judge Advocate General’s Corps (2012–2016)
- Austin T. Fragomen, Jr. ’68
  Founder of nation’s largest immigration firm
- Fred Gray ’54
  Famed civil rights attorney
- Martin Gruenberg ’79
  Chairman of the FDIC
- Patty Inglis ’77
  Executive Vice President of the San Francisco 49ers
- Ambassador Capricia Marshall ’90
  Chief of Protocol of the United States (2009–2013)
- Barry Meyer ’67
- Hon. Kathleen O’Malley ’82
  Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit
- Mark Weinberger ’87
  Global Chairman & CEO of EY (formerly known as Ernst & Young)

Over the past three years (2014–2016), our graduates applied their education in:

- 11,021 Law graduates
- 47% Law firms
- 22% Business / Industry
- 17% Government
- 8% Public Interest
- 4% Judicial Clerkships
- 2% Academia
- 93% of graduates employed within 10 months
Join us.

We invite you to visit our website at law.case.edu — take a virtual tour of the law school and investigate the many advantages we enjoy as an integral part of a large urban research university. Then come to campus and get to know us better. Stroll the marvelous University Circle neighborhood. See your future in the law starting here.

In order to help our students with the financial challenge of attending law school, we offer substantial merit-based scholarships. Business Insider ranks us 5th in the nation for best financial aid. We are eager to meet you and answer your questions.

Jessica Berg and Michael Scharf
Co-Deans

Dean Jessica Berg has an MPH in addition to her JD and is also a Professor of Bioethics and of Public Health. Previously, she worked at the American Medical Association. Her research focuses on public health, informed consent, human subjects regulation, confidentiality, reproduction, end-of-life care, and e-medicine. In 2008, she was named “Health Policy Researcher of the Year” by the Health Policy Institute of Ohio.

Dean Michael Scharf is also Director of the Law School’s Frederick K. Cox International Law Center. Prior to entering academia, he served as Attorney Adviser for United Nations Affairs at the U.S. Department of State. He is co-founder of the Public International Law and Policy Group, a Nobel Peace Prize – nominated NGO. He has authored 17 books, including three that have won national book awards, and he is the host of a foreign policy radio program on Cleveland’s NPR station.

Admissions

Our application is available now. There is no application fee if you apply online. All deposits are non-refundable and are required of all entering students. We strongly recommend that you secure information about the character and other qualifications for admission to the bar in the state(s) in which you intend to practice law before beginning law school.

Open House: January 5, 2018

Contact us

Schedule a personalized visit through our Admissions Office.
Email: lawadmissions@case.edu
Phone: 216-368-3600 / Toll free: 800-756-0036 / Fax: 216-368-0185
Web: law.case.edu

Principal photography: Annie O’Neill, Joshua Franzos. Additional photography: page 10–11, Matt Zugale; page 14–15, German Health Group, NBHi; page 18–19, Dave in Vanesk; page 26–27, primarily Ken Blazev; page 27, Angelo Merendino, Getty Images; Law and Politics; page 16, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Kathleen O’Mahoney. All other photography courtesy of CWRU School of Law.

Design: Landesberg Design / Printing: RR Donnelley

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