The intellectual rigor of a University of Wisconsin Law School education and our commitment to support every student will prepare you for the profound responsibility of being a lawyer. Our graduates create a more just world. Become part of our tradition and join a world-class university.
WELCOME

This book will give you a sense of what makes University of Wisconsin Law School such a special place to begin your career as a lawyer. I’d like to share why I’m thrilled to be part of this community—and why I hope you’ll join us, too.

UW Law’s outstanding teaching and learning opportunities are grounded in our Law-in-Action approach to legal education, a philosophy for which we are renowned. Any law school can teach you the legal rules set forth in statutes and judicial opinions. We do that, of course, but through our innovative teaching and immersive experiential learning, students learn so much more. At UW Law, you will learn how the rules evolved to address real-world problems—and how they might be improved to make our society more just.

Law in Action also means that you’ll have many opportunities to develop skills that will be integral to your career success, whether you choose to practice law or make a difference in some other way. One means through which students learn and hone their skills is through our first-rate clinical programs, which are astounding in the breadth and depth of experiential learning opportunities they offer. We have 18 clinics and externship programs, providing hands-on instruction in criminal law, family law, health law, immigration law, consumer law, entrepreneurial business law, and more.

It’s our privilege not just to train lawyers but also to educate the next generation of leaders who will advance justice for all. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are at the heart of everything we do. At UW Law, we have a strong tradition of living our commitment to racial and gender equality—values that are at the core of our mission.

We are thrilled you are considering UW Law School, and we look forward to welcoming you to our vibrant community.

Dean Dan Tokaji
Be a part of our legacy.
The hallmark of a UW Law education, our distinctive Law-in-Action teaching tradition, gives students the tools to understand the law and graduate practice-ready. Our faculty are—and always have been—in innovators who put student learning first. You will be equipped to analyze sophisticated legal problems and craft creative solutions. Your courses will focus not only on learning legal rules, but also on understanding how those rules operate in the real world.

Make a difference.
The UW Law School experience is rooted in public service. From their first year in Law School, students take pride in using their individual interests and skills to meet community needs. Through service, students gain experience, learn to lead, and advance the public good. Our students change lives, and their lives are changed.
“The professors I’ve had at UW Law are extremely impressive and thoughtful both inside and outside of the classroom. Their experiences range from working in the Supreme Court, District Attorney’s offices, top global firms, and founding the Wisconsin Innocence Project, all of which they incorporate into their teaching. I would not be where I am today without the mentorship and expertise of the faculty at UW Law (literally, I’ve gotten jobs through faculty connections)!”

Annika Olson, Class of 2023

Design your legal education.
Our curriculum emphasizes the dynamics of law—how the law relates to social change and to society as a whole—while at the same time stressing experiential learning. Customize your program with a concentration or a dual degree, taking advantage of the great university around us. Or, stay right here in the Law School, focusing on our broad and innovative curriculum and the opportunity to lead, to serve, and to grow by staffing a journal, or participating on a moot court, mock trial, or transactional competition team.

Learn from the best.
Our faculty members are gifted lawyers, scholars, and teachers. Many have advanced degrees in areas other than law, which enable them to bring unique perspectives to their teaching and research. They are at the forefront of teaching excellence and are committed to your success. We have an extensive curriculum, small classes, and a wealth of opportunities to work closely with faculty members who are leading scholars.

Take advantage of diploma privilege.
Graduates who complete specific course and grade requirements and meet character and fitness standards are admitted to practice in Wisconsin without taking a bar examination.

7 curricular concentrations
12 international exchange programs
15+ moot court competitions annually
Choose from extensive hands-on learning opportunities.

At UW Law School, experiential learning is an integral part of legal education. With one of the largest and most diverse clinical programs in the country, the Law School offers a wide variety of hands-on lawyering experiences with real clients, under the supervision of practicing attorneys. Students represent low-income clients in civil and criminal cases, team up with medical students as advocates for terminally ill patients, and assist start-up companies with entity formation and intellectual property issues. Many students also take advantage of judicial internships, internships abroad, externships, and our innovative lawyering skills program during their UW Law careers.

Participate in one of the largest clinical programs in the country.

Our clinical programs include:
- The Center for Patient Partnerships
- Constitutional Litigation, Appeals, and Sentencing Project
- Consumer Law Clinic
- Criminal Appeals Project
- Eviction Defense Clinic
- Family Court Clinic
- Federal Appeals Project
- Government and Legislative Clinic
- Immigrant Justice Clinic
- Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic
- Legal Assistance to Institutionalized Persons Project
- Neighborhood Law Clinic
- Oxford Federal Project
- Prosecution Project
- Public Defender Project
- Restraining Order & Survivor Advocacy Clinic
- Restorative Justice Project
- Wisconsin Innocence Project

Through these hands-on experiences, students practice lawyering skills and learn how to:
- Interact with clients
- Perform factual investigations
- Research legal issues
- Evaluate legal strategy
- Advise clients
- Draft legal documents
- Try cases
- Handle appeals

“Being a student associate at the Law and Entrepreneurship Clinic has been one of my favorite parts of law school because it allowed me to explore my interest in transactional law. During my time at the clinic, I was able to work directly with clients on matters related to trademarks, copyrights, business licenses, and contract drafting. Additionally, during my time at the clinic, I was able to further develop my research, communication, and time management skills.”

Morgan Bloch, Class of 2024
Start at UW Law, go anywhere.

Leading law firms, government agencies, businesses, and public interest organizations hire UW Law School graduates. A broad range of legal employers participate in the on-campus interview program. The Law School also participates in off-campus job fairs each year in New York, Chicago, Texas, and Washington, D.C., and our students receive support, mentorship, and guidance from our alumni around the world.

Our complete career guidance is tailored to you.

From your first semester of Law School to graduation and beyond, the Office of Career and Professional Development provides expert resources to help you achieve your professional goals.

• Receive individual career counseling, from self-assessments to salary negotiations.
• Learn effective resume and cover letter writing, interviewing techniques, and social media etiquette.
• Participate in on-campus and remote interview programs.
• Network with potential employers and learn from practicing attorneys.

35+ career development workshops per year

94% of graduates are employed 10 months after graduation

80% of first-year students report doing legal work the first summer of Law School

Network with our remarkable alumni.

With a powerful community of more than 15,000 graduates living around the world, our alumni are very committed to the next generation of UW lawyers. The UW Law alumni listed below illustrate the breadth of experience and accomplishments of our graduates.

Dylan Ahn ’07
Vice President of Business Affairs at Warner Bros.
Discovery

Tammy Baldwin ’89
U.S. Senator from Wisconsin

Bridget Brennan ’83
New York City’s Special Narcotics Prosecutor

Scott Colom ’09
District Attorney for the 16th Circuit Court of Mississippi

Jason Giles ’00
Executive Director of National Indian Gaming Association

Camille Granville ’06
Lead Counsel at Airbnb

Debra Katz ’84
Katz, Marshall & Banks, LLP

Sheldon Lubar ’53
Founder and Chairman of Lubar & Co.

Ashley Nelson ’10
Senior Corporate Counsel at Amazon

James Sensenbrenner ’68
Former U.S. Congressman from Wisconsin

Leticia Smith-Evans ’03
Vice President for Institutional Diversity and Equity at Williams College

Bryan Steil ’07
U.S. Representative from Wisconsin

Marti Wronska ’97
Vice President and General Counsel for the Milwaukee Brewers

2021 graduate employment by job sector

- Law Firm 46%
- Public Interest 18%
- Government 16%
- Business & Industry 11%
- Clerkships (Federal & State) 9%

80% of first-year students report doing legal work the first summer of Law School
Thrive in a Big Ten university environment.

UW Law School offers the best of both worlds: a small and supportive community within the Law School and a major university right outside our doors. The Law School is situated on historic Bascom Hill, in the heart of the beautiful University of Wisconsin–Madison campus. As a UW Law School student, you have access to the resources of a world-class research university. UW–Madison combines nine schools and three colleges on a single campus and enrolls over 40,000 students from more than 120 countries and every state in the Union. Boasting national and international reputations for excellence shared by few other universities, UW–Madison offers extensive intellectual, social, cultural, and recreational opportunities.

#14 in public institutions
(2022 U.S. News & World Report)

#8 in research institutions
(2020 National Science Foundation)
Live in Madison, Wisconsin, a beautiful community in the state’s capital.

Madison is a quintessential college town. It provides amazing access to outdoor recreation, the arts, sports, and a thriving intellectual community. Just down the hill from the Law School, the waterfront Terrace at the Wisconsin Union offers a relaxing spot to connect with colleagues. Madison is a vibrant and affordable city that regularly makes the national “Best Of” lists. As the state capital, Madison is home to the Supreme Court of Wisconsin, the Wisconsin Court of Appeals, the Dane County Circuit Court, the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Wisconsin, and various state and federal government agencies, all within walking distance of the Law School. In addition, the Wisconsin Union Theater, the Overture Center for the Arts, the Kohl Center, Camp Randall, and other facilities provide many opportunities to enjoy cultural and athletic events. The five lakes in Madison are an ideal backdrop for the city, which is augmented by a 1,200-acre arboretum, a free zoo, more than 200 city parks, 11 beaches, and scenic countryside.

“I spent the first 25 years of my life in Los Angeles, and did not think I would feel at home in any other place. Madison has convincingly shown me otherwise. As a smaller city, Madison boasts a tight-knit community of colleagues and professionals who are invested in your success. The law firms, government offices, and courthouses where many of my classmates work are a 10-minute walk from campus. And during my time here I’ve been able to take advantage of the best bike paths I’ve ever seen, an abundance of natural beauty from lakes to botanical gardens, a surprisingly diverse food scene, and a cost of living that is literally half what I budgeted for in LA. I could not be happier to have found a new home in Madison.”

Firuze Barimani, Class of 2024

#1 in the Top 100 best places to live in America (2022 Livability)
#1 college football town (2019 Sports Illustrated)
#14 city for an active lifestyle (2021 WalletHub)
Join UW Law, an engaged and diverse community.

A major indicator of the strength of any law school is its student body. The admissions policies of UW Law School are designed to enhance the diversity, vigor, social concerns, and academic ability of the student community. We are looking for students who can meet the unique challenges of law school head on, and who will ultimately make our Law School community a better place to learn, explore, grow, and excel.

There is a special feeling of community in the School and an informal, supportive atmosphere, reflective of a strong commitment by faculty and staff to student learning, morale, and well-being.

Invest in your future.

UW Law’s diverse and intellectually rigorous curriculum, combined with its affordable tuition and Midwestern living expenses, yields a high return on student investment. We’ll help you minimize your debt load while maximizing your career opportunities.

Visit UW Law School.

Experience UW Law in person. Set up a tour or learn more at law.wisc.edu/prospective/.