At Northwestern Law the overarching goal of our innovative curricular plan is to empower our graduates to adapt to and master the challenges of the changing world better than those of any other law school. We go beyond teaching the basics of legal reasoning to enable our students to make sound and ethical judgments, understand and improve the delivery of justice, and respond to the changing contexts in which law and legal institutions operate.
Building a foundation in law
Northwestern Law provides a thorough understanding of the structures and policies of the law as well as a superior foundation in legal reasoning, analysis, and writing, for every student, particularly in the first year of study. Our students gain a broad and general understanding of how the law and legal institutions evolve and operate.

Studying law as practiced and in context
Our nationally ranked clinical program has been a leader in teaching about the law in action in three ways: simulation of trials and negotiations, actual client representation, and externship work in a variety of legal practice settings. By the time our students graduate they will have had a variety of experiences that will enable them to make wise decisions about professional specializations and career choices.
Preparing for the globalization of law and business

Northwestern Law operates in an environment marked by increasing globalization of law and commerce. Our students are exposed to the international implications of what they learn about the law. We provide superior educational opportunities for students from around the world. Our students and faculty take advantage of opportunities to learn, teach, visit, and interact with their counterparts from other nations and different cultures.

Strengthening teamwork and communication skills

The modern world of legal practice and business is dominated by the use of multifunctional groups and teams. Through educational programs that focus on skills in teamwork, interpersonal communication, transactional practice and business, our students develop the ability to work effectively in groups with lawyers and non-lawyers alike.
1L

During your first year of study at Northwestern Law, you will focus on building a solid foundation in legal reasoning, analysis, and writing, as well as a thorough understanding of the structures and policies of the law. Our first-year curriculum consists of 24 credits of required classes. Half of all first-year classes are taught in sections of 60 or fewer students.
Teamwork and communication skills are strongly emphasized in classes such as Communication and Legal Reasoning, a required year-long course in which students collaborate on analytical exercises and group projects. As part of this class, you will participate in the Arlyn Miner First-Year Moot Court, which requires first-year students to prepare a professional-level written brief and argue the case against fellow students before an appellate court composed of alumni and faculty.

Another supplement to your first-year education is the mandatory seminar, Lawyer as Problem Solver. In this seminar, faculty and legal professionals teach students how to facilitate problem solving for clients in settings outside the courtroom or boardroom.

At the end of your first year, you may apply for a position on one of the Law School’s scholarly journals. Selection is based on a writing competition, first-year grades, and a publishable note or comment on a legal topic.

### Required Courses

The following required first-year courses provide a basic foundation in law and legal reasoning:

- Civil Procedure
- Communication and Legal Reasoning I and II
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Lawyer as Problem Solver
- Property
- Torts

### Upperclass Electives Open to First-Year Students

During the second semester of your first year, you will have the opportunity to take two upperclass electives that may form the basis of additional study in subsequent years. Also available as electives will be courses that meet the graduation requirement that every student take at least one course offering an interdisciplinary perspective on law and the legal system (marked with an *). Below are examples of courses that have recently been available as electives to first-year students.

- American Legal History*
- Basic Federal Income Taxation
- Business Associations (Corporations)
- Civil Procedure II
- Commercial Law: Sales
- Comparative Law *
- Constitutional Criminal Procedure
- Economic Analysis of Law *
- Employment Discrimination
- Employment Law
- Environmental Law
- Estates and Trusts
- Evidence
- Family Law
- Federal Jurisdiction
- First Amendment
- Fourteenth Amendment
- Health Care Delivery Systems
- Intellectual Property
- International and Comparative Employment Law
- International Law
- Introduction to Islamic Law
- Jurisprudence*
- Labor Law
- Large Law Firms
- Law and Psychology*
- Law and Social Change
- Legislation
- Narrative Structures*
- Perspectives on Injury Law (Torts II)
- State and Local Government
- Social Science in Law
Areas of Interest

Programs

Northwestern Law offers several programs of study:
- Juris Doctor (JD)
- Accelerated JD (two years)
- JD-MBA
- JD-PhD
- JD-LLM in International Human Rights
- JD-LLM in Tax
- LLM in Tax
- LLM in International Human Rights
- Master of Science in Law (MSL)
- Two-year JD for International Lawyers
- Executive LLM Programs (in Madrid, Seoul, and Tel Aviv)

For international attorneys:
- Master of Laws (LLM)
- Accelerated LLM
- LLM in International Human Rights
- Graduate Program in Law and Business (LLM/Kellogg)

Concentrations

Appellate Law
Business Enterprise
Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution
Environmental Law
International Law
Law and Social Policy
Law Scholars Program

Senior Research

The Owen L. Coon/James A. Rahl Senior Research Program gives third-year students an opportunity to collaborate with faculty on timely and creative topics, employing empirical and doctrinal research.

Public Service Offerings

Law and Social Policy Concentration
Bluhm Legal Clinic
Journal of Law and Social Policy
Public Interest Career Advisor
Loan Repayment Assistance Program

Public Service Coordinator
Public Interest Law Group
Student Effort to Rejuvenate Volunteering (SERV)
Student Funded Public Interest Fellowship Program (summer funding)
International Offerings

Northwestern Law offers a wide variety of opportunities for all students to gain exposure to international and comparative law, which includes access to an extensive collection of foreign and international legal resources and training from faculty who have taught or studied around the world. We offer a concentration in international law, which allows you to take a wide variety of international law courses. There is also the opportunity to earn a joint degree in International Human Rights as well as ample work to be done in the Center for International Human Rights and the Journal of International Law and Business all of which offer the opportunity to carry out research and advocacy for international issues.

International Team Projects

Students interested in gaining firsthand experience in legal and business environments outside of the United States can participate in one of Northwestern Law’s International Team Project (ITP) courses. Students work in teams, along with a faculty advisor, to develop a comprehensive semester-long curriculum and plan a two week international field experience during spring break. Students then work together to prepare a paper of publishable quality detailing their research and findings. Last year, ITP students traveled to Australia, Brazil, Chile, Ethiopia, Greece, Malawi, Morocco, and Vietnam.

Study Abroad

Our International Programs Office works with students interested in taking advantage of the Law School’s dynamic study abroad programs. International and comparative study can broaden a student’s perspective on our own legal system as well as those of other countries and of the international community. The Law School aims to encourage and facilitate such study for students interested in comparative and international law. The Law School has negotiated exchange relationships with law faculties abroad. These schools include Institut d’Etude Politiques de Paris in Paris, France; Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Bond University in Gold Coast, Australia; and Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Leuven, Belgium.
The Bluhm Legal Clinic is widely recognized as one of the most comprehensive and effective clinical programs in the country. Through Northwestern Law’s clinical program, second- and third-year students gain direct experience representing clients and fine-tune their skills as advocates. Students also work with clinical faculty and staff to challenge the fairness of our legal institutions and to propose solutions for reform.

Clinics and Centers
Typically, 90 percent of students from each graduating class participate in the Bluhm Legal Clinic during their time at Northwestern Law. Students work side-by-side with our esteemed faculty to develop strong litigation, negotiation, and transactional skills in their direct representation of clients. It is common for Bluhm Legal Clinic students to gain practical experience early on that their peers may not achieve until several years into practice.

Our clinical faculty consists of nationally recognized scholars who are diverse in background and perspective. More than thirty clinical professors at Northwestern Law combine classroom instruction with hands-on experience for more than 200 students who take clinical courses each year.

Each year, hundreds of clients receive assistance from Bluhm Legal Clinic students. Our students serve a wide range of clients including teenagers tangled in an unjust juvenile legal system and entrepreneurs in need of affordable legal advice. As students gain unparalleled hands-on, real-world experience, they can also dramatically improve the lives of those they serve.

The Bluhm Legal Clinic houses more than 20 clinics within 14 centers:

The Appellate Advocacy Center offers clients with legal assistance in appealing their cases on the federal, intermediate, and Supreme Court level. It is the only law school-based center that provides student with experience in appealing cases before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

The Bartlit Center for Trial Advocacy provides students with simulation-based training, allowing them to perfect the skills they will need as practicing lawyers. Students are additionally able to gain unparalleled experience and feedback competing on trial teams and participating in moot court.

The Center for Criminal Defense offers trial level representation for adult criminal defendants as well as some advocacy at the post-conviction stage. This work includes pre-trial motion practice, evidentiary hearings, jury trials, and sentencing advocacy.

The Center for Externships practicum program integrates theoretical coursework with hands-on learning provided by fieldwork. This integrated approach provides students with a theoretical background that enhances their externship and an opportunity to use their externship to inform their in-class work.

The Center for International Human Rights boasts a commitment to securing human rights for individuals around the globe. CIHR students provide advocacy before international tribunals and human rights bodies, traveling to countries such as Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Switzerland, and France to speak on behalf of marginalized groups.

The Center on Negotiation and Mediation provides students with theoretical and practical experience in negotiation and mediation through courses and workshops. Students collaborate with the Kellogg School of Management, attorneys in Chicago, and students from other law schools, to cover a range of situations, including real estate transactions, and lawsuit settlements.
The Center on Wrongful Convictions identifies and rectifies wrongful convictions and other serious miscarriages of justice through representation, research, and reform. The CWC has played a vital role in numerous high-profile exonerations across the country.

The Center on Wrongful Convictions of Youth investigates and litigates the credible innocence claims of wrongfully convicted youth and spearheads national efforts to drive criminal justice reforms that will prevent children from making coerced statements during interrogations. Through advocacy and litigation the CWCY implements policies to ensure evidence used against youth is reliable.

The Children and Family Justice Center provides access to justice for unrepresented youth. Faculty, staff, and students work together to promote justice for children, adolescents and their families through direct legal representation, policy advocacy, and law reform.

The Civil Litigation Center focuses on poverty law cases in which students advocate for clients at court in trials or in motions. Students take depositions, draft written discovery, prepare and argue motions, and try cases. Class sessions develop students’ pre-trial litigation interviewing skills, counseling, case planning, negotiation, discovery, and motion practice.

The Entrepreneurship Law Center offers intensive, hands-on training for students who want to be transactional lawyers or founders of start-up companies. The student-based, nonprofit clinical program gives Law and business students the chance to work together to represent start-up companies, entrepreneurs, and nonprofit organizations.

The Environmental Advocacy Center pursues issues related to clean air and water, clean-up of hazardous waste sites, safe drinking water, green technology, climate change, and renewable energy. Students learn to assess environmental issues and develop and implement solutions in working with attorneys, scientists, economists, and legislative experts.

The Investor Protection Center provides investors who have limited resources with legal assistance to resolve securities disputes with broker dealers and investment advisors. The Center also plays an advocacy role, providing information to regulators when patterns of scams or disputes emerge.

The Roderick and Solange MacArthur Justice Center fights against civil rights injustices in cases that include police misconduct, and executions, while serving as an advocate for the indigent in the criminal justice system. Students are involved in nearly every case the MacArthur Justice Center takes, serving on litigation teams, conducting and applying legal research, and planning next steps to advance litigation.
Student Life

Student Organizations

African Legal Library Project
AJD Club
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
American Constitution Society
Amnesty International
Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF)
Art and Entertainment Law Society (AELS)
Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
Christian Legal Society (CLS)
Disability Law Society
Diversity Coalition
Entrepreneurship Law Center Student Group
Environmental Law Society
Habeas Chorus
Intellectual Property Law Society
International Law Society
JD-MBA Association
Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
J. Reuben Clark Law Society
Labor and Employment Law Association (LELA)
Latino Law Students Association (LLSA)
Law School Democrats
Law Students for Reproductive Freedom
Muslim Law Students Association (MLSA)
Moot Court Club
National Lawyers Guild
Northwestern University Human Rights Project
OUTlaw
Public Interest Law Group (PILG)
Real Property Trusts and Estates
South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
Sports Law Society
St. Thomas More Society
Student Bar Association (SBA)
Student Effort to Rejuvenate Volunteering (SERV)
Student Funded Public Interest Fellowships Program (SFPIF)
Tax Law Society
The D.R.E.A.M. Committee
The Federalist Society
Veterans Association
Wigmore Follies
Women's Leadership Coalition
Other Organizations

MOOT COURT AND TRIAL TEAMS
Moot Court programs are an important part of the legal training we provide at Northwestern Law. They prepare students for and allow them to participate in appellate arguments. Working under faculty supervision, students prepare briefs and present oral arguments in competitions with schools across the nation and around the world.

- Arlyn Miner First-Year Moot Court Program
- Julius H. Miner Moot Court Competition
- Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team
- Bartlit Center National Trial Team
- National Trial Team
- Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Court

ABOUT NORTHWESTERN LAW JOURNALS
Northwestern Law publishes 6 student-edited journals covering a wide range of subjects. Two of our journals, the Northwestern University Law Review and the Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology, boast a legacy of over 100 years of groundbreaking scholarship. Our newer journals focus on international commercial law, intellectual property, technology, human rights, and social trends and social problems. Together, our 6 journals publish the works of the leading researchers in the United States and throughout the world.

Second- and third-year law students participating on journals have the opportunity to select, edit, and write cutting-edge scholarship; to pursue leadership opportunities by serving on a journal leadership team; and to work closely with other journal members in advancing the journal’s goals.

In addition to publishing scholarship, our journals also gather leading scholars for frequent symposia on significant developments in the law. Please visit the journals’ home pages to learn more about each journal, read content and commentary, learn about upcoming events, and listen to podcasts with authors.

- Northwestern University Law Review (founded 1906)
- Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology (founded 1910)
- Journal of International Law and Business (founded 1979)
- Journal of International Human Rights (founded 2003)
- Journal of Law and Social Policy (founded 2006)
Living in Chicago

Chicago is a city of global status and unsurpassed beauty as well as one of the most vibrant legal and business communities in the world. The third most-populated city in the country, Chicago offers something for everybody, including world-renowned museums, music, and architecture; professional sports; diverse restaurants and nightspots; and miles of lakefront parks and beaches.

A regional hub of commerce and government, the city provides an ideal setting for the study of law. Chicago is home to many of the nation’s largest corporations and law firms as well as the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the Chicago Stock Exchange, and the Chicago Board of Trade. Almost every federal and state agency and every level of trial and appellate court have offices in the city. These are only some of the many benefits Northwestern Law students and faculty enjoy from living, studying, and working in Chicago.
Neighborhoods

Chicago is arguably the most livable metropolis in the country. It has many distinctive neighborhoods, each with its own character and style. Whether you’re a foodie, history buff, or lover of the arts, each neighborhood is complete with restaurants, theaters, grocery, and entertainment, all within walking distance.

The Law School is located in the Streeterville neighborhood, where you will find primarily urban residencies. While the majority of our students choose to live close to campus, many students also live in nearby neighborhoods such as Lincoln Park, Lakeview, Bucktown, Wicker Park, or South Loop, all of which are accessible by bus or train. Chicago’s modern cityscape of iconic skyscrapers and tree-lined waterfront merges metropolitan life with the natural beauty of the land that can be found in most neighborhoods. A diverse population of residents shapes the sprawling urban center into more than 180 separate Chicago neighborhoods.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREAT FOR</th>
<th>SAMPLE RENTS</th>
<th>COMMUTE TO SCHOOL</th>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD FEATURES</th>
<th>NEIGHBORHOOD HIGHLIGHTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Living with roommates</td>
<td>$900/1BR, $1500/2BR</td>
<td>20 to 35 minutes using NU Shuttle or via public transportation</td>
<td>Diverse, artsy vibe</td>
<td>Tasty Jerk for Jamaican food, Gruppo di Amici for Italian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married students, young professionals</td>
<td>$1600 to $1750/2BR</td>
<td>20 to 35 minutes via public transportation</td>
<td>Family friendly, pet friendly, diverse</td>
<td>Pizza Rustica, Chinese food at Lao Sze Chuan's uptown location, brunch at Southport Grocery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married students, living with roommates, young professionals</td>
<td>$1100/1BR, $1800 to $2400/2BR</td>
<td>20 to 50 minutes via public transportation</td>
<td>Varied nightlife, gay-friendly, pet-friendly</td>
<td>Donuts from Dinkel's, small plates at Taverna 750, good Italian at Angelina's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married students, living with roommates, young professionals</td>
<td>$850/1BR, $1550/2BR</td>
<td>10 to 35 minutes via public transportation</td>
<td>Good shopping and dining, young families</td>
<td>Art of Pizza, Toro Sushi, Butcher &amp; the Burger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Married students, living with roommates</td>
<td>$900/1BR, $1800 to $2600/2BR</td>
<td>25 to 55 minutes via public transportation</td>
<td>Family friendly, pet friendly, hipster vibe, diverse</td>
<td>Sushi at Macku, delicious pizza and unique beer at Piece Pizza, live Jazz at Smoke Daddy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living alone, proximity to school</td>
<td>$800 to $1350/studio, $1150/1BR, $1900 to $2200/2BR</td>
<td>10 to 25 minutes walking or via public transportation</td>
<td>High-end, touristy, quiet, good social scene</td>
<td>FoodLife/FoodEase markets, Italian food at Bar Toma, barbeque at Q, D4 pub</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Campus

Northwestern University School of Law is located at the eastern edge of Northwestern’s 20-acre Chicago campus, in one of the city’s most desirable neighborhoods: Streeterville. To the east is Lake Michigan; to the west, Chicago’s premier shopping district, Michigan Avenue’s “Magnificent Mile”; to the north, the elegant Gold Coast residential neighborhood. The city provides an ideal setting for the study of law, and students take advantage of the location through visits to local courts, law firms, and corporations.
After Law School

While many of our law school graduates remain within the legal profession and move between firm, public service, government, and academic positions, others choose to navigate between the increasingly integrated fields of law and business.

The Career Center’s mission is to provide students and alumni with the tools and strategies to conduct successful job searches and manage multi-job careers over their lifetime. It also facilitates connections to potential employers, including law firms, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses.

The Career Center offers an array of services to help students and alumni successfully advance throughout the course of their careers including: one-on-one counseling, career-oriented panels and programs, mock interviews, alumni coaching and networking opportunities.

The Law School also offers on- and off-campus recruitment programs, Myers-Briggs self-assessments, etiquette dinners, and job postings.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP)

Government and public interest jobs offer excellent opportunities for law graduates, but the cost of law school loans and the lower pay level of these jobs often bars graduates from considering these options.

Northwestern Law’s current program dovetails with provisions of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 (CCRAA). The CCRAA allows graduates to use Income Based Repayment (IBR) to lower monthly payments on federal student loans. However, one drawback of IBR is that the low payments often do not cover the interest due on the loan, much less the principal. Northwestern Law offers a unique program that helps graduates make their IBR payments and also pay down some of the unpaid interest during the first five years. This provision benefits graduates whose changing life circumstances cause them to pursue private sector employment before full forgiveness is achieved.
In today’s competitive world, law students soon discover that their support for each other is vital to their success. Our supportive, noncompetitive environment also factors largely in their success.

We consider many factors beyond test scores and grades when evaluating applicants. Our students reflect a broad range of experience and opinion. We also have the most geographically diverse student body in the country. Finally, because work and life experience is such an important factor in our admissions decisions, no other top law school can match the extensive real world perspectives that our students bring to the classroom. 90 percent of our entering students have had one or more years of full-time work experience before entering Northwestern Law.

We hope you will consider joining our community.

Interviewing

Northwestern Law is the only law school in the country that strongly encourages all applicants to interview as a part of the admissions process. Interviews provide the Admissions Committee with additional information about your interpersonal and communication skills, maturity, and motivation. Interviews also help us preserve the strong sense of community and cooperative culture for which we are known. Finally, interviews provide you an opportunity to learn more about Northwestern Law.
Depending on the program to which you are applying, you may have several interview options. Some applicants may be able to schedule an on-campus interview with a member of the Admissions Office staff or a student admissions counselor; other applicants may be able to schedule an off-campus interview with a member of our 700-person Alumni Admissions Association. The Admissions Committee weighs equally all interviews, regardless of where they take place or with whom.

DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 15
- Application for admission filing period begins.
- On-campus and Skype (JD and LLM) interviewing begins.
- Off-campus interview requests open.

OCTOBER 25
- Deadline to request off-campus interviews for Early Decision candidates.

NOVEMBER 15
- Deadline to complete on-campus and Skype (JD) interviews for Early Decision candidates.

DECEMBER 1
- Deadline for receipt of completed Early Decision application.
  We anticipate Early Decision applicants will receive a decision by early January.
- Deadline to request off-campus interviews.

DECEMBER 15
- Deadline to complete on-campus and Skype (JD) interviews for Accelerated JD candidates.

JANUARY 15
- Deadline for receipt of completed Accelerated JD application.
- Deadline for receipt of completed ALLM application.
- Deadline for receipt of completed LLM/Kellogg application.
- Deadline for receipt of completed LLM and LLM in Human Rights application.

JANUARY 16
- Skype (JD) interviewing period ends.

FEBRUARY 15
- Deadline for receipt of completed JD application.

MARCH 1
- Deadline for receipt of completed Two-Year JD application.
- For applicants requesting financial aid, deadline for receipt by the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), the Need Access Application, and the Scholarship and Grant Supplemental Application.

MARCH 13
- On-campus interviewing period ends.
- Skype interviewing ends for LLM, LLM/Kellogg, and LLM IHR programs.

MAY 1
- Deadline for receipt of completed LLM Tax application.

JUNE 1
- Application for transfer filing period begins.

JULY 2
- Deadline for receipt of completed transfer application.