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# BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAW

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**GW**

LAW

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

## BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAW

# REAL-WORLD, HANDS-ON PRACTICE IN AN ARRAY OF CLINICAL, EXPERIENTIAL, AND IMMERSIVE OPPORTUNITIES.

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The Business and Finance Law Program prepares students for legal practice in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors in all aspects of business and financial law, including corporate law, securities and financial regulation, antitrust, bankruptcy and reorganization, entrepreneurship, and taxation.

The program focuses on both academics and practice. The breadth of the program's course offerings and its opportunities for clinical experience and practical involvement in the field enable students to gain a comprehensive understanding of the world of business and finance law.

In addition to GW's dominant presence in Washington, D.C., GW's Business and Finance Law Program has a commanding presence in New York City through its unique immersive training program and vast alumni network. The program, which no other law school in the country offers, features a full slate of academic seminar courses, immersive field placements, reflective learning, and extensive workshops on professional development.

While practical experience is essential, our foremost strength and differentiator is the size of the program faculty and the variety of their expertise and course offerings. Diversity among our faculty is a hallmark of our program, and it extends to our students, who come to us from Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and Europe and from every state in the United States as well as Canada and Mexico. The wealth of perspectives, experiences, and backgrounds allows our students to build a global network of colleagues and to gain a broader perspective on the field of business and finance law and its global impact. Our extensive network of highly engaged alumni serves to mentor current students, adding an additional source of professional support.



## WE OFFER THREE DEGREE-PATHS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

### **JURIS DOCTOR (JD)**

*A traditional law degree with a concentration in business and finance law.*

### **MASTER OF LAWS (LLM) IN BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAW**

*For U.S.-educated students who have earned a JD and for international students with a primary degree in law.*

### **MASTER OF STUDIES IN LAW (MSL) IN BUSINESS AND FINANCE**

*For professionals who do not have or seek a JD but who wish to deepen their knowledge of business and finance law.*

For a full list of current courses, visit [www.law.gwu.edu/business-finance-law](http://www.law.gwu.edu/business-finance-law).

# CURRICULUM

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Our students enjoy the same rigorous curriculum, regardless of the degree they pursue. That means our classrooms include students of diverse ages, backgrounds, and experiences. The result is an enhanced educational environment. Students learn from one another as well as from their professors.

With 75 courses to choose from, we offer among the broadest curriculums, yet most of our classes are small seminar courses. The breadth and depth of our course selection enables students to partake of general training across the business and finance law curriculum or to dive deeply into particular subcomponents, such as commercial law, transactional law, international business law, and business taxation.

A sample of course offerings in various areas:

## CORE COURSES

- Banking Law
- Corporate Finance
- Corporations
- Law and Accounting
- Securities Regulation

## CAPITAL MARKETS

- Regulation of Derivatives
- Regulation of Mutual Funds
- Venture Capital Law

## COMMERCIAL

- Business Bankruptcy and Reorganization
- Commercial Paper—Payment Systems
- Creditors' Rights and Debtors' Protection
- Secured Transactions
- Secured Transactions and Commercial Paper

## CONSUMER

- Antitrust Law
- Consumer Protection Law
- E-Commerce
- Regulated Industries

## INTERNATIONAL

- International Banking and Investment Law
- International Business Transactions
- International Commercial Law
- International Finance
- International Taxation

## REAL ESTATE

- Law of Real Estate Financing
- Land Use Law
- Modern Real Estate Transactions

## SPECIAL FOCUS

- Admiralty
- Entertainment Law
- Insurance
- Sports and the Law

## TAX

- Business Planning
- Corporate Taxation
- Employee Benefit Plans
- Nonprofit Organizations: Law and Taxation
- Partnership and LLC Taxation



Professor Karen Brown



Professor Lawrence Cunningham



The Business and Finance Law program's signature undertaking is its program in New York City.

## PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE

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We connect students with real-world, hands-on practice in an array of clinical, experiential, and immersive opportunities. We are focused not just on our students' learning experience inside the classroom, but on what happens beyond. We promote skills-building through courses such as Business Lawyering, Negotiations, and Legal Drafting (Transactional), as well as through experiential opportunities in clinics, field placement, and GWNY, our signature immersive training program in New York City.

### **SMALL BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SBCED) CLINIC**

Through the SBCED Clinic, founded in 1977, students advise pro bono clients in matters of business formation and development while earning academic credit. Students gain first-hand knowledge of client interaction and application of the law in a real-life setting. Clients include entrepreneurs, social enterprises, nonprofit groups, artists, and arts organizations.

### **FIELD PLACEMENT PROGRAM**

Our Field Placement Program taps into the deep wealth of opportunities for real-world experience in business and financial law in both Washington, D.C., and New York City. Through the program, students gain work experience and earn academic credit for approved placements. In Washington, field placements include such organizations as GW's neighbors at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank; in New York these

include the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association (SIFMA) and bankruptcy, commercial and international trade courts.

In both cities, placements include the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC), the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA), and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

### **GWNY**

The Business and Finance Law Program's signature undertaking is its program in New York City. Referred to as GWNY, this unique program founded in 2015 provides an immersive experience each spring for select students interested in pursuing business and finance law careers in the financial capital of the world. While living and studying in New York City, students engage with leading practitioners and institutions in the field through a rich suite of seminars, field placements, workshops, and networking opportunities. The program uses GWNY's presence as a platform to support other programming in New York City as well.

# THE FACULTY

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Our program offers an attractive combination of a vast scale with individualized student attention. With 14 full-time faculty members and 60 students concentrating in business and finance law, our student-faculty ratio is lean.

Our full-time and adjunct faculty members teach more than 75 business and finance law courses, ranging from entry-level courses, such as Corporations and Federal Income Tax, to advanced courses and seminars on most subjects in U.S. and international business and finance law.

Our faculty is diverse, productive, and influential. From diversity of gender and identity, to diversity in scholarship focus and method, the program faculty covers a range of perspectives.

Over the past five years, GW's Business and Finance Law faculty members collectively have published 20 books and 80 law journal

articles or book chapters. They are mentioned in hundreds of mainstream media stories and thousands of scholarly works. In addition, their scholarship has been downloaded more than 200,000 times, according to the SSRN, the leading repository for scholarly work.

GW's Business and Finance Law faculty have published the leading textbooks in accounting for lawyers, antitrust, corporations, securities, and tax. To supplement their theoretical knowledge, they bring to the classroom experience as public company directors, U.S. regulatory authority commissioners, international fellowship recipients, and recipients of numerous awards and honors.

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INTERNATIONALLY  
RESPECTED FULL-TIME  
FACULTY MEMBERS

50

DISTINGUISHED  
PRACTITIONERS WHO  
SERVE AS ADJUNCT  
PROFESSORS





Professor Susan Jones



Professor Michael Abramowicz



Professor William Kovacic



5 PROGRAMS WITHIN THE PROGRAM

6 STUDENT LAW SOCIETIES



20+ ANNUAL EVENTS

1 STUDENT JOURNAL





# STUDENT ENRICHMENT

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These student organizations host networking, professional, and social activities year-round.

**ANTITRUST AND TRADE LAW SOCIETY**

**BANKING AND FINANCE LAW SOCIETY**

**CORPORATE AND BUSINESS LAW SOCIETY**

**ENTERTAINMENT AND SPORTS LAW SOCIETY**

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND LAW SOCIETY**

**TAX LAW SOCIETY**

## BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAW REVIEW

This student-edited journal features articles by professors, lawyers, and students. It provides a forum for exchange of important ideas and gives students an opportunity to participate in developing and presenting these ideas.

Centers and initiatives offer area-specific programming.

**CENTER FOR LAW, ECONOMICS AND FINANCE (C-LEAF)**

**QUALITY SHAREHOLDERS INITIATIVE (QSI)**

**COMPETITION LAW CENTER**

**FALK ACADEMY FOR MANAGEMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (FAME)**

**TAX LAW CENTER**

## EVENTS

Numerous events each year showcase the leading practitioners and policy makers in the field. Recent conference and event topics include megabanks, sports finance, the digital economy, board diversity, and quality shareholders. The annual Manuel Cohen Lecture, honoring the former faculty member and leader of the Securities and Exchange Commission, brings distinguished speakers to campus each year.

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## BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAW

# OUR ALUMNI

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Among GW Law's significant global alumni community, the Business and Finance Law Program is strongly represented. The program's alumni serve as managing partners and top attorneys at the nation's leading law firms, senior executives and principals at major corporations, and distinguished leaders in the nonprofit or government service worlds.

They also serve as mentors and points of contact for current students. For instance, most of the adjunct faculty members in the GWNYS program are alumni. Others serve on the law school's Business and Finance Law Advisory Council. Our distinguished alumni often cite their GW Law training as pivotal to their successful careers. Among recent classes, the majority of JD graduates with a concentration in business and finance law received job offers with highly desired employers, from major D.C. and New York corporate law firms to boutique firms, companies, and agencies.

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27,000

GW LAW ALUMNI  
WORLDWIDE





# PROGRAM FACULTY

## **Michael Abramowicz**

*Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Oppenheim Professor of Law*

Areas of specialization: Law and economics, corporate law

## **Jeremy Bearer-Friend**

*Associate Professor of Law*

Area of specialization: Tax law

## **Karen B. Brown**

*Theodore Rinehart Professor of Business Law*

Area of specialization: Tax law

## **Steve Charnovitz**

*Associate Professor of Law*

Areas of specialization: International trade law, international business transactions

## **Donald C. Clarke**

*David A. Weaver Research Professor of Law*

Areas of specialization: Corporate law, Chinese law

## **Lawrence A. Cunningham**

*Henry St. George Tucker III Research Professor of Law; Faculty Director, Business and Finance Law Program; Director, C-LEAF; Founding Faculty Director, GWNY*

Areas of specialization: Corporate law, accounting, investing

## **Theresa A. Gabaldon**

*Lyle T. Alverson Professor of Law; Director, Academic Programs and Administration, C-LEAF*

Areas of specialization: Securities regulation, accounting

## **Miriam Galston**

*Associate Professor of Law*

Areas of specialization: Debtor-creditor law, nonprofit law and organizations

## **Susan R. Jones**

*Professor of Clinical Law; Director, Small Business and Community Economic Development Clinic*

Areas of specialization: Business law, nonprofit law and organizations

## **F. Scott Kieff**

*Fred C. Stevenson Research Professor of Law; Director, Planning and Publications, C-LEAF*

Areas of specialization: Business law, finance, international trade law

## **William E. Kovacic**

*Global Competition Professor of Law and Policy; Professor of Law; Director, Competition Law Center*

Areas of specialization: Antitrust law, public procurement

## **Jeffrey Manns**

*Professor of Law*

Areas of specialization: Corporate law, securities regulation, banking law

## **Dalia Tsuk Mitchell**

*Professor of Law*

Areas of specialization: Corporate governance, business bankruptcy and reorganization, legal history

## **Richard Pierce, Jr.**

*Lyle T. Alverson Professor of Law*

Area of specialization: Antitrust law

## BUSINESS AND FINANCE LAW PROGRAM

[www.law.gwu.edu/business-finance-law](http://www.law.gwu.edu/business-finance-law)

### ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

#### JD ADMISSIONS

[admissions@law.gwu.edu](mailto:admissions@law.gwu.edu)

202.994.1010

#### GRADUATE AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

202.994.7242

#### LLM ADMISSIONS

[llmadmissions@law.gwu.edu](mailto:llmadmissions@law.gwu.edu)

#### SJD ADMISSIONS

[sjdadmissions@law.gwu.edu](mailto:sjdadmissions@law.gwu.edu)

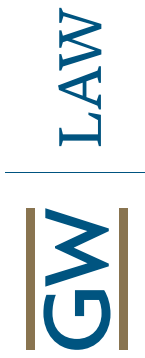
#### MSL ADMISSIONS

[msladmissions@law.gwu.edu](mailto:msladmissions@law.gwu.edu)

The logo for George Washington University, featuring the letters 'GW' in a bold, white, serif font. The 'G' and 'W' are connected. Two horizontal gold bars are positioned above and below the letters.The word 'LAW' in a white, serif font, positioned to the right of the 'GW' logo and separated by a thin vertical white line.

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