



LAW

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1L YEAR ENHANCED:

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ONLY-AT-GW  
EXPERIENCES

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





# YOUR 1L YEAR, ENHANCED

At GW Law, we offer a 1L experience elevated by distinctive opportunities to jumpstart your legal education. We provide the standard American Bar Association-approved curriculum, but **what sets GW Law apart** is our investment in helping you prepare for the rigors of law school, build community, develop definable skills, focus on future career satisfaction, and begin your career development all during 1L.

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Our forward-thinking 1L offerings enhance the standard 1L curriculum with opportunities for hands-on advocacy, job skills training, and building career satisfaction—all during your 1L year.

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With a defined set of experiences and a dedicated faculty and staff, we offer students a distinctive set of first-year experiences that make the GW Law experience unlike any other. That's the GW Law advantage.





# Our Pre-1L Course

## A Roadmap to 1L Success

Our investment in student success starts before classes even begin. During the summer before 1L year, we offer an innovative Pre-1L Course to demystify the law school experience and support students' transition to law school.

The course, which is noncredit and ungraded, offers self-paced materials that focus on topics such as class preparation, note-taking, and exams. Course sessions are available during early mornings, afternoons, and evenings to accommodate students' schedules. Through interactive Zoom sessions, students benefit from personalized attention and insights from both seasoned faculty members and recent law school graduates for a meaningful introduction to the rigors of law school and to the GW Law community.







# The Footnotes Program

## Guiding Your Path Through Orientation

We also help prepare and welcome students through our Footnotes Program. Designed to help students “learn the ropes” of law school in a low-key setting, Footnotes is held during the two days prior to 1L orientation.

The program provides an additional opportunity for incoming students to connect with one another and to get acquainted with the rigors of the law school experience. Not only do students establish rapport with colleagues, they find out how the rigors of law school differ from those of undergraduate school, along with what resources for support are offered by the law school and how to access them.

We encourage all incoming 1Ls to attend. In particular, first-generation law students have found Footnotes has been especially helpful in bridging the transition to law school.









# The Inns of Court

## Finding Your Tribe

We help students build community from the start of their GW Law career. Whereas most law schools provide sections for ease of administration, GW Law goes one step further. Through our Inns of Court Program, students join a cohort of students that not only takes 1L courses together but is led by an Advisory Team of faculty; upper-level student mentors; and staff from the Dean of Students Office, the Career Development Office, and the Law Library. Students have direct access to each team member for one-on-one advice.

Through voluntary weekly sessions, students explore topics related to real-world practice, such as how to deal with clients; explore a range of legal practice areas as they determine the right career path for them; and enjoy networking opportunities with practicing alumni attorneys.

Our goal is not only to provide a built-in support team for the law school experience, but to help students begin to develop their professional identities right from the start.







# Fundamentals of Lawyering

## Gaining the Skills Employers Want Most

The heart of the GW Law 1L experience is our innovative Fundamentals of Lawyering (FL) Program, which combines a legal research and writing curriculum with an emphasis on developing those skills in ways that reflect what employers want. The program focuses on those critical lawyering skills that will advance students from the classroom to the myriad settings where law is practiced.

We designed the yearlong FL course based on what legal employers indicated they value most in junior lawyers. During the course, students assume the role of law clerk at a fictitious law firm. They have clients, supervisors, and real-world assignments. The course focuses on legal research, writing, and analysis; problem-solving skills; client-service orientation; strategic thinking and sound judgment; and professional-identity formation. Our students emerge practice-ready for their 1L summer jobs and beyond.

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## Did you know...

At GW Law, students are eligible to begin pro bono assignments as early as the second semester of 1L, whereas at most law schools students must wait until 2L?

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WEDNESDAY, 11 OCT

BLOOMBERG INDUSTRY  
CAREER PANEL

CAREER CENTER VISITING  
EMPLOYERS: DEPT OF JUST  
O'MELVENY AND MYERS, LLP,  
U.S. DEPT OF LABOR, OFFICE





# Career Development for 1Ls

## Laying the Groundwork for the Future

Our Career Development Office supports students' career development even before they begin classes. **Through our summer Careers Jumpstart Program**, 1L students can start law school feeling empowered and prepared to pursue their individual career goals. The office provides a robust slate of programs and resources to help students become better job candidates and connect them with employers.

### The Career Development Office offers:

- One-on-one career counseling with our experienced attorney team, including resume review and cover letter review, job search strategy sessions, interview preparation, and offer evaluations.
- Career Development Workshops on resume writing, cover letter writing, informational interviewing, equity and inclusion counseling, job search resources, and how to talk to employers.
- Career fairs and receptions that connect students with employers from both the public and private sectors, including many federal agencies and BigLaw employers.
- Subscriptions to multiple job posting and research sites, including the *Arizona Guide*, *PSJD*, the *Vermont Guide to Clerkships*, and Vault.
- Frequent networking opportunities, including weekly visiting employer program meet and greets, Coffee with Experience, and mock interviews with alumni.
- Multiple formal recruitment programs with an extensive roster of employers, including our Public Service Recruiting Program, the Judicial Internship Resume Collect, and a full schedule of formal interviewing programs.

# Office of Admissions and Financial Aid

For information about how to apply; the cost of attendance; and available financial aid, grants, and scholarships, please scan the QR code below or visit [www.law.gwu.edu/admissions-101](http://www.law.gwu.edu/admissions-101)



**Contact JD Admissions:**

The George Washington University Law School  
700 20th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20052  
202.994.7230  
[admissions@law.gwu.edu](mailto:admissions@law.gwu.edu)









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