Welcome to the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law!

We hope that this viewbook will give you a glimpse into what makes life at Louisville Law so exciting. From our ties to a thriving metropolitan legal market to our emphasis on hands-on education, we work hard to set you up for success in your career.

Louisville Law has an incredible, dedicated faculty who not only bring a deep commitment to legal scholarship but also generously give their time and energy to their students. Maintaining an open-door policy and open lines of communication, our professors go the extra mile to be accessible and approachable.

Our students are equally impressive, bringing a wide range of backgrounds and experiences to our school while infusing it with a palpable enthusiasm and a true sense of collaboration. After graduating, our alumni remain strongly connected to our school and offer support to current students through job opportunities and mentoring relationships.

We encourage you to read on to get a feel for who we are — a strong community of scholars learning and working together — and why we might just be the right fit for you.
Looking for a city that’s perfect for young and aspiring professionals? Louisville has something for everybody, and there are always new avenues to explore.

Folks know our city for the Kentucky Derby — and for good reason! — but there’s plenty to do all year round, not just the first Saturday in May. Home to museums, eclectic galleries, performing arts venues and a thriving local music scene, arts lovers of all stripes are right at home in Louisville.

Foodies, too, can find what their hearts (and stomachs) desire, with hundreds of unique, local restaurants that use responsibly sourced ingredients to satisfy a wide range of palates. Those in the mood for liquid refreshment can enjoy the city’s vast array of craft breweries and bourbon distilleries.

Prefer the tranquility of the great outdoors to the vibrancy of the social scene? With its renowned park system, lush botanical gardens and nearby Bernheim Arboretum, Louisville lets you enjoy the perks of city life without losing access to the outstanding natural beauty of the region.

Louisville has sometimes been called a “big small town.” Despite being the largest city in Kentucky, ours is a warm and welcoming community that never feels overwhelming. That extends to the legal community as well. The only law school in the state’s leading legal market, Louisville Law offers its students a broad range of professional opportunities right at their doorstep. Supportive alumni in the city and beyond serve as mentors and networking leads, helping you make your mark in true Cardinal style.
The Juris Doctor program requires completion of 90 credit hours, made up of core curriculum and elective courses.

As a first-year student, you will enroll in a set of required core courses. Second- and third-year students must complete certain additional graduation requirements, but you can customize the curriculum with your choice of lectures, seminars, clinics and externships. Upper-level requirements include:

- Professional Responsibility course
- At least 30 hours of public service
- At least 6 credit hours of experiential courses

**PART-TIME SCHEDULE**

We know that some students have outside obligations and might need a more flexible option for legal education. On our part-time schedule, students take a reduced course load and graduate in four or five years instead of the usual three.

Part-time students choose their section for first-year courses and receive priority registration access in subsequent semesters.

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* Part-time students may add one additional first-year course sequence if their schedule permits.

Your success in law school is as important to us as it is to you. That’s why we are proud to offer academic skills workshops, personalized academic counseling, bar exam preparation and much more to support you in your journey through law school.

In tune with our collaborative community, upper-level students lead first-year “success skills groups” designed to help students bring out the best in themselves and each other.

**DUAL DEGREES**

Louisville Law offers a number of dual degree pathways in partnership with other graduate programs in a variety of disciplines. Dual degree students can earn both degrees in less time than they would take to complete separately.

Available dual degree pathways include:
- Juris Doctor + Master of Business Administration
- Juris Doctor + Master of Public Administration
- Juris Doctor + Master of Science in Social Work
- Juris Doctor + Master of Urban Planning

“Running a law firm is a business. Having that business mindset at the same time we’re working for our clients is invaluable.”

**CAMERON RHOADES**

JD/MBA DUAL DEGREE
There’s more to preparing for practice than just sitting in a classroom. To that end, Louisville Law boasts a robust lineup of experiential learning opportunities.

**ACKERSON CLINIC**

The Robert and Sue Ellen Ackerson Law Clinic offers legal representation to clients in Emergency Protective Order hearings, divorce actions and housing cases.

The clinic provides law students the opportunity to represent clients who are victims of domestic violence in Jefferson Family Court or clients who have forcible detainer (eviction) cases before the Jefferson District Court. Students serve as the primary contact for their clients, with all student work supervised by the Director of the Ackerson Clinic.

**MEDIATION CLINIC**

The only free mediation service in Louisville, the Mediation Clinic is open to upper-level students who have completed 40 hours of rigorous mediation training. Students join the clinic as certified mediators ready to work with low-income pro se litigants referred by Jefferson County Family Court judges. Students mediate cases involving divorce, paternity, child custody and post-decree divorce issues.

**ENTREPRENEURSHIP LAW CLINIC**

The Entrepreneurship Law Clinic was established to provide legal support to the Entrepreneurship MBA program at the College of Business. Law students assist their MBA colleagues with articles of organization, operating agreements, opinions of counsel, independent contractor agreements and option agreements for technology.

In 2021, the clinic added Name, Image and Likeness to its areas of expertise to assist University of Louisville students, including student-athletes, as they encounter legal issues in setting up and marketing a brand over social media.

The clinic is run like the corporate department of a law firm, with weekly firm meetings covering agreements, accounting, intellectual property, ethics, FDA approval and other relevant topics.

**EXTERNSHIPS**

Students have the opportunity to earn academic credit while gaining valuable real-world experience through our partnered externship program. Examples of our externship offerings include:

**PUBLIC INTEREST EXTERNSHIPS**
- Legal Aid Society of Louisville
- American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky
- Indiana Department of Child Services
- Fort Knox Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
- Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet
- Kentucky Commission on Human Rights
- Kentucky Equal Justice Center

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXTERNSHIPS**
- Kentucky Innocence Project
- Louisville Metro Public Defender
- Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy
- Jefferson County Commonwealth Attorney
- United States Attorney’s Office

**IN-HOUSE COUNSEL EXTERNSHIPS**
- UofL Office of the General Counsel
- UofL Commercialization EPI-Center
- Signature HealthCARE
- Passport Health Plan

**OTHER EXTERNSHIPS**
- Judicial Externships
- Immigration Externships
- Tax Externships
The University of Louisville Law Review is the law school’s premier scholarly publication, devoted to evaluating legal institutions and analyzing issues of law and public policy. It features student “notes” — academic analyses of legal issues or debates — as well as articles written by nationally and globally recognized experts. The Law Review is published three times per year, with students on the Editorial Board maintaining full control over its content.

The Journal of Animal and Environmental Law is a peer-reviewed online publication focused on presenting multidisciplinary perspectives on animal and environmental issues. Founded in 2009, JAEL was the first journal at Louisville Law to publish its content exclusively online and leads the way in using social media and technology to develop scholarship and public awareness of pertinent legal issues.

By simulating appellate court proceedings, moot court strengthens students’ oral advocacy and brief-writing skills. Students prepare to argue both sides of a hypothetical legal issue in front of a panel of judges. The judges pose questions to the students to test their ability to respond under pressure and maintain their position in both law and fact.

Louisville Law students participate in more than twenty moot court competitions every year. Students try out for moot court teams based on areas of interest, including criminal law, intellectual property, labor and employment law, immigration law and tax law.

Unlike many other law school publications, the Journal of Law and Education is not just for those in the legal profession. It aims to cover trending topics in education law, including those related to constitutional issues, torts, disability rights and employment law. Education professionals throughout the country and world turn to JLE for information and analysis.

Mock trial simulates trial litigation to strengthen students’ oral advocacy and their practical application of the rules of evidence. Students prepare to represent clients on either side of a hypothetical criminal or civil trial: arguing pre-trial motions, delivering opening statements, conducting direct and cross-examinations of witnesses, making and responding to objections and delivering closing arguments.

“It solidified how passionate I am about litigation and trial advocacy. Mock trial makes me feel so much more comfortable with the idea of walking into a courtroom after graduation.”

PAIGE EZELL
MEMBER OF REGIONAL CHAMPION MOCK TRIAL TEAM
What makes a Louisville Law student? It’s the determination to succeed and the dedication to something greater than themselves. Our student body is a diverse group of well-rounded, unique individuals who need not fit a mold to find their niche. They are eager learners, ready to take on the rigors of the classroom and apply the lessons to their future careers.

Of course, our students aren’t just here to attend class. They’re here to truly invest themselves in the law school community and make a real impact during their time here. For some, that’s as simple as being a supportive colleague, but those who want to hone important, transferable leadership skills can do so through student organizations and governance.

Along the path to graduation, the Office of Student Affairs and Diversity is here to support students’ personal development and well-being. After all, the heart of the law school is the students themselves.
Professor Ariana Levinson’s scholarly pursuits center on labor and employment law. In 2019, she was awarded the University Distinguished Teaching Award in Recognition of Exemplary Teaching. Professor Levinson is a fellow at the Rutgers Institute for the Study of Employee Ownership and Profit Sharing and the Principal Investigator of a transdisciplinary research team studying cooperative economics. She is co-author of the hornbook *Principles of Arbitration Law* and has written several articles on workplace technology and privacy. Professor Levinson serves as the faculty advisor for both the mock arbitration team and the Wagner moot court team.

Professor Lisa Nicholson’s teaching and research interests concentrate on issues related to corporate law and securities regulation, including the accountability of corporate actors for corporate wrongdoing and the professional responsibility of lawyers in such settings. Professor Nicholson regularly arranges for in-class guest speakers, field trips and even a mergers-and-acquisitions themed scavenger hunt in order to foster deeper learning and understanding through practical experiences. Past field trips have included meetings with legal counsel and C-suite representatives at Yum! Brands and Brown-Forman, both headquartered in Louisville.

Professor Tony Arnold’s highly interdisciplinary research at the intersection of land use, water resources, the environment and institutions of governance is internationally recognized. He has taught or been a visiting scholar at some of the nation’s leading universities, including Stanford University, UCLA, the University of Florida, the University of Puerto Rico and the University of Wyoming. He is a faculty affiliate of the Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis among research centers nationwide. Professor Arnold is the founding director of the Resilience Justice Project.

A nationally recognized scholar in immigration law, Professor Enid Trucios-Haynes’ research and scholarship focus on immigration law, constitutional law and the intersection of race and the law, with a particular emphasis on issues affecting the Latinx community. Professor Trucios-Haynes is a regular speaker on immigration issues and is active in local immigrant rights organizations. She directs the Immigration Externship and oversees a public service placement in which teams of volunteers visit the Boone County Jail, where detainees are held in Immigration and Customs Enforcement custody.

The faculty at Louisville Law are esteemed authorities in their fields. They represent a variety of perspectives and expertise but are uniform in their dedication to student success and to furthering legal scholarship.
FELLOWSHIPS

HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY

The Human Rights Advocacy Program works with nonprofits and stakeholders in the community to advance the human rights of immigrants, refugees and other noncitizens. Its advocacy has historically focused on health care, access to education, access to services and language access.

HRAP funds its Human Rights Fellows for each of their three years in law school. Fellows have the opportunity to gain subject matter expertise and leadership skills while engaging in the community and agitating for policies that defend and enhance human rights.

ORDERED LIBERTY

The Ordered Liberty Program is committed to exploring the right arrangement of justice, order, and freedom through the advanced study of five concepts: federalism, separation of powers, originalism, natural rights and the common good.

Ordered Liberty Fellows participate in monthly gatherings for dinner and discussion of an assigned essay, one funded group trip per semester and a research paper to be completed during their upper-level years of study for credit toward graduation. Selected fellows may also have the opportunity to travel to Budapest, Hungary for a two-week summer intensive program.

RESILIENCE JUSTICE

The Resilience Justice Program offers funded fellowships to upper-level students interested in the interdisciplinary research of justice and environmental responsibility.

Resilience Justice Fellows work with faculty to assess public policies, programs and plans for their impacts on marginalized communities and to recommend thoughtful, data-supported policy reforms. Along with the assessments, fellows are also engaged in project-specific research and scholarly writing.

“I became interested in HRAP because it provided me an opportunity to become active in the community and explore the legal field. As we watch the laws change, rarely do we ever see how it affects others. This is why HRAP goes beyond the classroom — it allows me to be proactive in what I learn by being an advocate.”

HA NGUYEN
HUMAN RIGHTS ADVOCACY PROGRAM
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

We know you don’t just want to get a degree for the sake of a degree — you want to put your legal education to work. The Office of Professional Development works closely with our students to set them on the path to professional success. Opportunities include:

- Individualized career counseling
- Workshops, panels and networking events
- General and specialized career fairs
- On-campus interviews
- Mentorships with alumni and practitioners

OPD is dedicated to serving students regardless of their career aspirations, whether they seek part-time or full-time employment, placement in the private or public sector or even a nontraditional career.

EMPLOYMENT RATE
10 months after graduation

93%
3-YEAR AVERAGE

GREENEBAUM PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

Louisville Law is committed to training thoughtful, socially responsible lawyers who play active roles in their communities. Our Greenebaum Public Service Program allows law students to gain valuable experience while advancing the public good.

All students must complete at least 30 hours of public service in order to graduate. Coordinated by OPD, the Greenebaum Program also funds summer fellowships for students working in the public sector.
A law degree can open doors in all directions and lead you down countless career paths. Whether you want to work at a firm, in the courts, at a nonprofit or under your own shingle, your Louisville Law education can take you there. Our alumni have excelled in what they do, and we couldn’t be prouder of their successes.

Did you know that five of our graduates were the attorneys for the Kentucky plaintiffs in the landmark Supreme Court case of Obergefell v. Hodges, guaranteeing marriage equality nationwide? One of those attorneys then returned to our hallowed halls when Dan Canon joined our faculty as a visiting professor and manager of the law school’s externship program.

Judge Denise G. Clayton was named Chief Judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals in June 2018, elected by her fellow Court of Appeals judges. Her has been career of blazing trails, as she was both the first Black woman to serve as a Kentucky Circuit Court judge — eventually serving as Chief Circuit Judge for Jefferson County — and in October 2007, the first Black woman to serve on the Kentucky Court of Appeals. Serving on the bench since 1996, Judge Clayton previously presided in each the District Court, Family Court and Drug Court of Jefferson County. Judge Clayton’s impact extends even further as the chair of the Chief Justice’s Commission on Racial Fairness for the Jefferson County court system. She is a proud member of the Louisville Bar Association, Louisville Black Lawyers Association, Women Lawyers Association and several community and civic boards.

Mashayla Hays is Legal Counsel at the Lawyering Project, a nonprofit committed to improving access to reproductive health care. In 2015, Mashayla received their Bachelor of Science in Pan-African Studies from the University of Louisville, and after earning their law degree, they went on to pursue a Master’s in Public Policy and Administration from Northwestern University. Prior to their time at the Lawyering Project, Mashayla was an If/When/How Reproductive Justice Fellow, jointly sponsored by the Women’s Law Project and New Voices for Reproductive Justice, and as a law student, they completed a fellowship with the American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky. Mashayla plans to dedicate their legal career to high-impact litigation, centering equal access to reproductive healthcare and advocating for reproductive justice policies on the state and federal levels.

Sam Raque is a Patent Attorney and Registered Patent Agent with the Patent Trial and Appeal Board of the USPTO, having previously served as a Patent Examiner. In his role as Patent Attorney, Sam reports to several Administrative Patent Judges, reviewing patent prosecution records and trial case files in order to draft orders and decisions. In 2016, Sam received his Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering from the University of Louisville. Sam’s keen interest in intellectual property bore out in the practical experiences he sought as a law student. While in law school, Sam completed an externship with the Office of Technology Transfer at the University of Louisville in addition to a clerkship at Wyatt, Tarrant and Combs, LLP, focusing on fundamental patent litigation and prosecution techniques.
OUR HISTORY

The University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law is Kentucky’s oldest law school and the nation’s fifth oldest law school in continuous operation. Founded in 1846 as the Law Department at the University of Louisville, it became the School of Law and hired its first full-time professor in 1923.

Two years later, United States Supreme Court Justice and Louisville native Louis D. Brandeis began investing heavily in the School of Law. He donated his personal library, including rare texts on early civil and common law, and arranged for the school to receive original briefs filed with the Supreme Court, a practice that continues to this day. Following his death in 1941, Justice Brandeis bequeathed a substantial portion of his estate to the University of Louisville.

His generosity paved the way for the School of Law to expand and prosper. In 1950, it merged with the Jefferson School of Law, and in 1997, it was officially renamed in honor of Justice Brandeis. Today, we honor his legacy and dedication to social justice by preparing civic-minded lawyers for practice.