



Western
Law

JD PROGRAM PROSPECTUS 2025 – 2026

Welcome to Western Law

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and Decolonization
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DEAN'S WELCOME

“A legal education opens the door to a wealth of exciting intellectual and professional opportunities, and a degree from Western will provide you with the problem-solving and advocacy skills needed to succeed on whatever path you choose.”

I am delighted that you are considering joining us at Western Law. A legal education opens the door to a wealth of exciting intellectual and professional opportunities, and a degree from Western will provide you with the problem-solving and advocacy skills needed to succeed on whatever path you choose.

Our goal is to help you thrive during your time at law school and beyond. Our small group program provides you with the opportunity to actively engage with professors and classmates in an intimate setting, and to receive regular, individualized feedback on your research skills and on written and oral advocacy. This program also supports the inquisitive and collegial community that is at the core of the Western Law experience.

At Western Law, we provide you with rigorous, relevant and active learning experiences that suit your individual interests and career aspirations. We have one of Canada's most extensive mooting programs, a wide range of exchange partners and summer internships, several legal clinics and many opportunities to engage in both scholarly and applied legal research.

Western Law is the only Canadian law school to offer interested first-year students the option of taking corporate law. This allows you to begin taking advanced business law courses at an earlier stage and to build a depth of expertise in fields like competition law, corporate securities, corporate social responsibility, insolvency and restructuring, and mining finance.

But Western Law is much more than business law. We boast expertise, academic programming and experiential opportunities in international law, constitutional law, human rights, criminal law, litigation and advocacy, and intellectual property among many other areas. Whatever your interests, Western Law will support your success through our student and career services, wellness programs and personal mentorship. In addition, we have substantially increased our financial aid to improve the accessibility of legal education and reduce financial pressures on our students.

Our students come from a diverse range of personal, cultural and academic backgrounds, and together form a tight-knit and supportive community. I hope that you will join us and find out for yourself what makes Western Law unique.

Andrew Botterell
Acting Dean, Western Law

WHY WESTERN LAW?

Experience a best-in-class legal education in one of the most supportive professional learning environments in Canada. At Western Law, you don't have to choose between an exceptional student life and a rigorous legal education. Here, you'll discover a perfect blend of academic excellence, practical experience and collegial community life.

1. Build lifelong connections in a close-knit community

At Western Law, you're more than a student—you're part of an authentic, encouraging and inclusive community. Our small class size and collegial environment fosters lifelong connections, offering support from peers and personalized attention from professors and staff. Our signature small group program (which brings together approximately 22 students for select first-year courses) and the Student Legal Society 1L/3L buddy program help you create a strong peer network you can rely on.

2. Get a head start on professional legal experience

We offer ample opportunities to gain professional experience during your JD. Our on-campus legal clinics provide volunteer and employment opportunities in a variety of areas including sports law, intellectual property, criminal law and business. We offer a wide range of for-credit and co-curricular advocacy programs that will help you build foundational skills. Our Summer After 1L Program (SAIL) allows you to participate in 10 weeks of meaningful, paid legal experience after first year. You can also elect to volunteer for pro-bono services and engage in research and internship opportunities during your studies.

3. Explore the world while you learn

Gaining international experience and intercultural competency can help you get ahead in today's demanding work environment and the global economy. We have one of the largest Canadian law school exchange programs. Our partnerships with 16 leading law schools around the world allow you to explore expanded curriculum options and create a network of international contacts. The Western Law Internship Program (WLIP) also offers 10 to 15 students per year the opportunity to gain experience in North America, Europe, Asia or Oceania.

4. Establish healthy habits with wellness supports

The study of law is rewarding and also brings new challenges and demands. Our dedicated Student Wellness Counsellor offers wide-reaching support to help you with the challenges of law school as well as any personal concerns you may have. We also offer a mindfulness program to first-year students. These opportunities to build healthy habits and strategies during law school will give you a strong foundation as you navigate the demands of your professional legal career.

5. Achieve your goals faster with combined degrees

A JD combined with another professional degree can help you stand out. We offer two undergraduate combined-degree programs with the Ivey Business School (the HBA/JD) and the Faculty of Engineering (the BEng/JD), as well as graduate combined-degree programs (in Business and Earth Sciences). Our JD/MBA program with the Ivey Business School was the first three-year JD/MBA program offered in Canada.



"Throughout my legal studies, I have felt supported by the faculty, staff and upper-year students at Western Law. I have been able to develop my legal skills, make amazing connections and explore areas of law that interest me. I am very happy that I chose Western Law to start and advance my legal career."

Nandini Nair, JD '24

ADMISSIONS

We are strongly committed to academic excellence and diverse representation within our student body. While we believe that excellence in your academic studies is the best evidence of your ability to succeed in law school, we also believe that achievement in other areas may indicate potential for success. Accordingly, our admission policy, which allows you to show your potential in a variety of ways, is designed to produce a mix of students with a variety of backgrounds.

 Apply online at ouac.on.ca/guide/olsas-guide

DEADLINES:

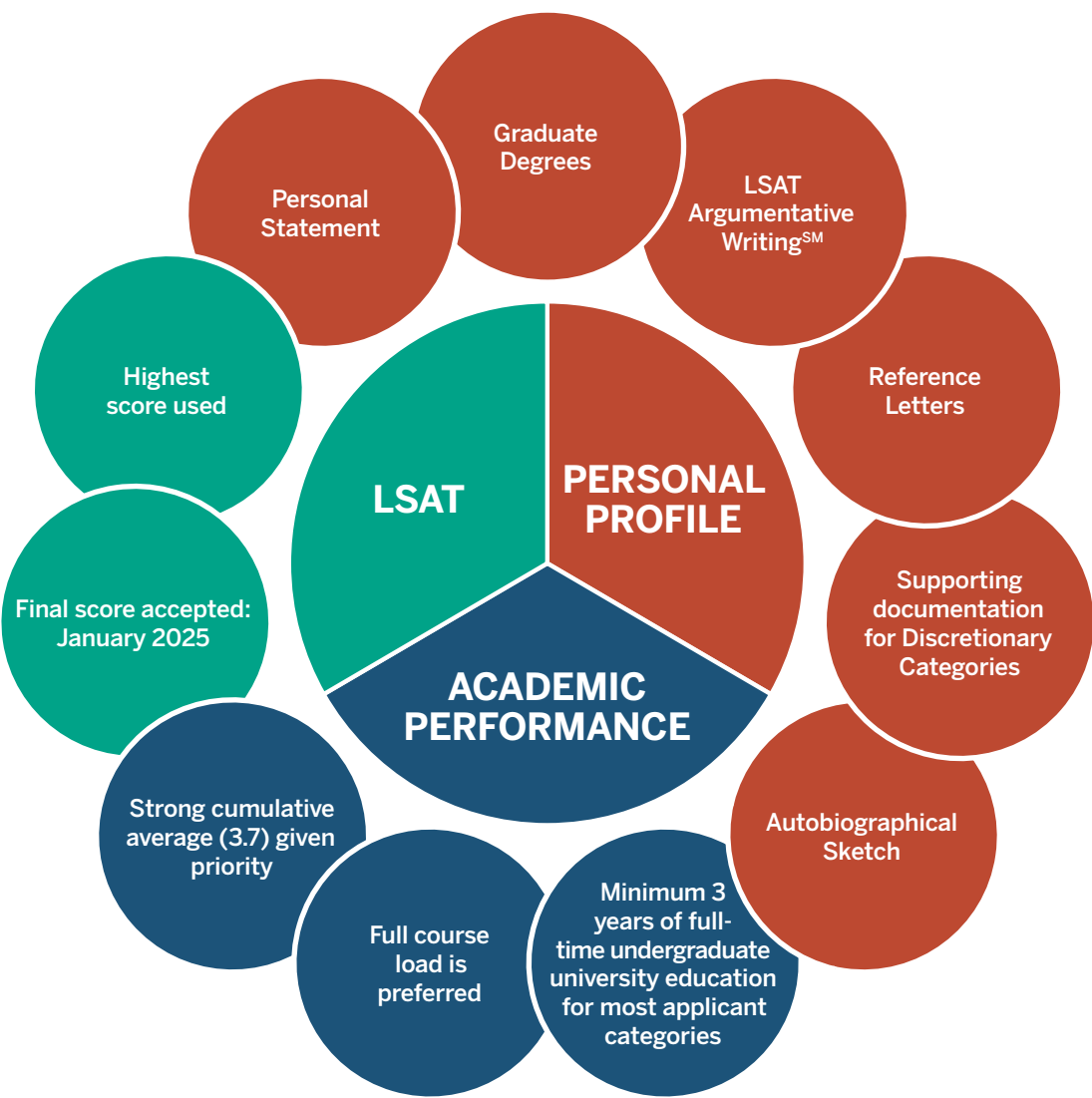
First-year applications: **November 1**

Upper-year applications: **May 1**

Applications received in 2024: **2600**

Expected class size: **200**

HOLISTIC APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS



APPLICANT CATEGORIES

GENERAL CATEGORY:

Most candidates apply in this category. At least three years of full-time (or equivalent) undergraduate university education is required, although the majority of admitted students will have a four-year degree.

DISCRETIONARY CATEGORIES:

Access: You may qualify for this category if your undergraduate academic performance (or LSAT score) was affected by a proven disadvantage, such as cultural, socio-economic, medical or physical barriers, or a learning disability. You must show evidence of potential to succeed at law school (i.e., a minimum of one year of competitive grades among three years of full-time study).

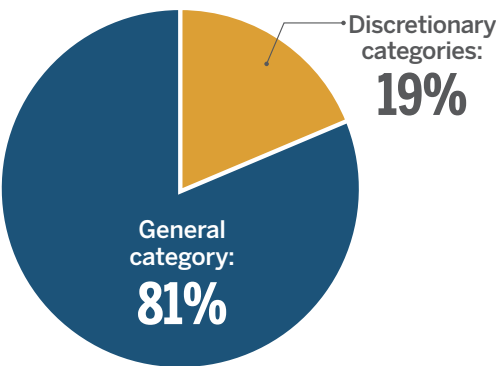
Black: Western Law recognizes that Black individuals are not represented adequately within the legal profession and strongly encourages applications from members of this group. You will qualify for this category if you self-identify as a member of the Black community. Your application will be reviewed holistically, informed by the principles of equity, diversity and inclusion. You may use the optional essay to discuss lived experiences, which will be given additional weight during the review process. We are striving to have all applications in this category assessed by at least one Black reviewer (among 2-3 reviewers).

Canadian Forces Access: Medically released personnel from the Canadian Forces may apply directly to Western Law by November 1 for September admission. All other Canadian Forces personnel should apply in either the General or Mature category through the Ontario Law School Application Service.

Indigenous: Western Law recognizes that members of First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities are not represented adequately within the legal profession and strongly encourages applications from members of these groups. You are required to provide proof of Indigenous status or ancestry, or other ties to your Indigenous community, which we will consider in our holistic assessment.

Mature: You will qualify as a mature candidate if you have two or more years of university education, and at least five years of non-university experience since leaving high school. You may provide a resumé as a supplementary document. We will give greater weight to your work and life experience.

PROFILE OF 2023 INCOMING CLASS



Average age:

18 • 19 • 20 • 21 • 22 • 23 • **24** • 25 • 26 • 27 • 28

Mean cumulative average:



3.5

Mean last 2 average:



3.7

Mean LSAT score:



162

No. of undergraduate programs:



43

 Learn more about first-year applications at law.uwo.ca/applications



CLASS PROFILE SURVEY*

56%

female

41%

male

3%

undeclared

26%

age 25 or older

48%

caucasian

50%

racialized

36%

bilingual

9%

multi-lingual

13%

first generation
to attend a post-
secondary institution

84%

first to attend law
school in their
nuclear families

7%

identified as members
of the 2SLGBTQIA+
community

20%

identified as having
an accessibility
need

15%

hometown outside
Ontario

21%

born outside of
Canada

**based on survey of the first-year class in
September 2023. Results exclude "prefer
not to answer" responses and values <1%.*

 Learn more about our class profiles at law.uwo.ca/profile



FINANCIAL FAST FACTS

TUITION AND FEES:

\$21,840/year

for Ontario residents

\$23,900/year

for domestic out-of-
province residents

BOOKS AND SUPPLIES:

\$800-\$1,400

FINANCING YOUR LEGAL EDUCATION

We are committed to ensuring our JD students have access to adequate financial resources. In 2022/23, 40 per cent of Western Law students received 1.6 million dollars in bursaries, awards and scholarships. Funding is provided to you through various forms of financial assistance.

Merit-based scholarships recognize and reward students for excellent academic achievement. These include Dean of Law entrance scholarships in amounts up to \$50,000 and named entrance scholarships.

Criteria for entrance scholarships may also include financial need, extra-curricular activities, leadership, entrepreneurship and public service. Separate applications are not required for any of these scholarships.

Need-based funding (bursaries, awards and work study) is distributed to students on the basis of demonstrated financial need.

The Torsys LLP Student Support Bursary Program provided an additional \$400,000 in funding to Western Law students beginning in the fall of 2020.



Learn more about our entrance scholarships at law.uwo.ca/scholarships

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND DECOLONIZATION

We are committed to pursuing meaningful change as we work together to advance equity, diversity, inclusion and decolonization (EDID) at Western Law. Our goal is to foster a culture where everyone feels a sense of belonging, the impact of which extends far beyond Western Law. Embedding EDID as a core value in lawyering begins with the practice of embedding EDID in law school. Our EDID initiatives are guided by our EDID Committee, the recommendations of Western Law's Anti-Racism Working Group, the President's Anti-Racism Working Group and Western's Indigenous Strategic Plan.

REDUCING BARRIERS TO ACCESS

We are committed to applying a human rights lens to our admissions process and reducing barriers for students from equity deserving groups. We offer a variety of awards, scholarships and bursaries to support students from equity deserving groups.

Prospective Indigenous law students

Incoming Indigenous law students who successfully complete the University of Saskatchewan Indigenous Law Centre summer program before first-year law will receive credit for Property Law at Western Law. We also provide an award to subsidize the cost of this summer program.



Learn more at law.uwo.ca/indigenous

Prospective Black law students

We are pleased to financially support the law school application process for five Black undergraduate students annually. Eligible students receive a package that includes:

- a voucher for the \$200 Ontario University Application Centre (OUAC) application fee;
- a waiver of Western Law's \$115 application fee; and
- a Princeton Review LSAT Fundamentals Prep Course, valued at over \$1500.



Learn more at law.uwo.ca/black_students

Free LSAT Prep Course

We offer a free LSAT Preparation course annually for high-potential Black, Indigenous and low-income students or graduates who intend to apply to law school in the near future. The course is taught by an experienced LSAT instructor and will prepare you for taking the LSAT as early as August in the year you apply.

Other Financial Support

We offer a variety of scholarships, bursaries and awards for incoming Black, Indigenous or other racialized students.

ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND STUDENT LIFE

Our JD curriculum and research allow students to explore, among other areas, Indigenous law, gender-based violence, tort law and social equality, legal issues impacting transgender communities, racial profiling in policing and hate speech.

Engagement with Western's Law's diverse student clubs is key to advancing EDID at Western Law. Students can join a variety of clubs, including the Indigenous Students' Organization, Black Law Students' Association, Students for Truth and Reconciliation, OUTLaws, Jewish Law Students' Association, Muslim Law Students' Association and Western Women in Law.



ACADEMICS





First-Year JD Program

As a first-year student, you are required to take the following foundational courses:

Torts
Property
Contracts
Criminal Law
Constitutional Law
Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy (LRWA)
Legal Ethics and Professionalism OR Corporate Law*

**Both courses are mandatory.
You choose which one to take in first year.*

The Small Group Program

The small group program lies at the heart of the Western Law experience. You will take two courses (one of which is LRWA) in a small group of approximately 22 students, led by a professor and assisted by upper-year students who provide peer and academic support. The program provides an interactive and supportive learning environment, which enables you to develop your skills in legal analysis, research, and written and oral communication with personalized attention from your professors. Every class you attend in first year will be alongside your small group peers. In addition to promoting collegiality and building lifelong friendships, the small group program gives you the confidence and analytical skills you need to become a successful advocate.



Learn more about our academic programs at law.uwo.ca/programs

PROGRAMS





Upper-Year Curriculum

During your second and third years of study, you are required to take the following courses:

Administrative Law
Civil Procedure
Corporate Law OR Legal Ethics and Professionalism*
Indigenous Peoples and the Law
Electives

**Both courses are mandatory.*

You choose which one to take in second year.

You must also complete essay and writing requirements, which improve the development of critical research and communication skills.

The upper-year curriculum provides a diverse array of courses, clinical opportunities and intensive experiences. Western Law offers several optional curricular streams, which provide you with informal guidance on the courses and co-curricular activities you may wish to pursue based on your personal interests and career aspirations.

Our optional Capstone courses bring together theoretical, practical and interdisciplinary components, and require you to apply the knowledge and skills you have gained during the JD program.

Experiential learning activities that will ease your transition from legal education to legal practice include:

- Oral advocacy exercises such as civil and criminal trials, examinations for discovery, motions and appellate moots
- Negotiation, mediation and arbitration exercises
- Extended simulations of complex litigation files or corporate mergers
- Field trips to courts, government agencies and international organizations
- Clinical opportunities, representing actual clients
- Opportunities to engage with leading scholars, practitioners and judges
- Community engagement projects
- Client and file management
- Externships
- Public legal education
- Applied research projects

CURRICULAR STREAMS

BUSINESS LAW

CRIMINAL LAW

GOVERNMENT AND
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

INTERNATIONAL LAW

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY,
INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY

LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

LITIGATION



MANDATORY & CORE COURSES

ELECTIVES

CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Advocacy Programs
Clinical Experience
International Internship
and Exchange Opportunities

CAPSTONE COURSES

These specialized courses bring together theoretical, practical and interdisciplinary components that will allow you to apply the knowledge and skills you have gained over the course of the JD program.



Learn more about our curricular streams at law.uwo.ca/streams

COMBINED DEGREES

Undergraduate

For current Western students, we offer an HBA/JD with the Ivey Business School and a BSc/JD with the Faculty of Engineering. These programs allow you to complete both degrees in six years (one year less than if the degrees were pursued consecutively).

Submit applications for our undergraduate combined-degree programs directly to the Law Admissions Office by May 1 for September admission. June LSAT scores are accepted.

Graduate

We also offer the following graduate combined-degree programs:

- JD/MSc (Geology or Geophysics at Western)
- JD/MBA (Ivey Business School at Western)
- JD/LLB (l'Université Laval, Quebec City)
- JD/LLM (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)

 Learn more about our combined degree programs at law.uwo.ca/combined

The Business Law Advantage

Our curriculum offers a wide range of courses examining the fundamentals of business organizations, finance, securities, mergers and acquisitions, trade and taxation, as well as leading-edge topics in mining and energy law, and environmental, social and corporate governance.

In addition to renowned full-time faculty, our visiting professors and speakers' programs allow you to learn from pre-eminent lawyers, economists and leaders in the business and public sectors. Since 2007, we have hosted more than 30 of the world's foremost scholars in business and law from the world's top universities, including several Nobel laureates.

We also provide numerous opportunities for you to gain real-world experience through our Business Law Clinic, business-related advocacy competitions and summer internships.

Western Law and the Ivey Business School

The HBA/JD

Each year we set aside a number of places in our first-year class for high achievers in the Ivey Business School Honours Business Administration program. Students apply at the end of their third year of study (HBA1) and complete the first year of law school in Year 4 of the combined program. Years 5 and 6 consist of an approved mix of required and elective courses from both faculties.

The JD/MBA

The JD/MBA program provides an exceptional education for highly motivated, talented students capable of managing the demands of two intensive programs. Students in this program, who are expected to have at least two years of quality work experience, begin with the business essentials component of the MBA before first-year law.

FACULTY



Valerie Oosterveld
Professor

Valerie Oosterveld teaches public international law, the capstone in international law and outer space law. She also coaches the Jessup International Law Moot team. She is the Western Research Chair in International Criminal Justice and a prolific scholar of gender issues in that field. Her latest research project examines the role of technology in investigating gender-based crimes in war. As a space law expert, she is a member of Western's Institute for Earth and Space Exploration.



Jeffrey Warnock
Assistant Professor

Jeffrey Warnock's research focuses on aboriginal law, constitutional law, Indigenous legal traditions, and public international law (specifically as it pertains to Indigenous peoples). He teaches Civil Procedure, Indigenous Peoples and the Law, and is the coach for Western's Kawaskimhon Talking Circle moot team. His LLM examined the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the interpretation of the principle of Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC), with a particular focus on the relationship between FPIC and Indigenous legal traditions.



Christopher C. Nicholls
Professor, W. Geoff Beattie Chair in Corporate Law

Christopher Nicholls is Western Law's Director of Business Law. An expert in corporate law, finance and governance and financial market regulation, he has written or co-written seven books and many academic articles. He has been a Fulbright Scholar and a visiting professor or visiting scholar at leading international law schools including Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Cambridge, Oxford, Melbourne and the University of Tokyo. His latest book, *Securities Law* (3d ed.), was published in 2023.



Claire Houston
Assistant Professor

Claire Houston's cutting-edge research explores contemporary issues in family law. She has received grants for her work on trans youth, spousal support for men, pre-marital contracting and the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to family justice. Described as a "rising star" in family law, she is a regular speaker at judicial education seminars and is a co-author of a leading family law casebook.

Our 40 full-time and 49 adjunct faculty are recognized as leading scholars in a wide variety of fields. Our small class size provides you with excellent opportunities to directly interact with your professors.



Wade Wright
Associate Professor

Wade Wright teaches courses in constitutional and administrative law. His research focuses on Canadian and comparative constitutional law, with a particular focus on federalism. In 2021, he assumed authorship of Peter Hogg's *Constitutional Law of Canada*, the leading treatise about constitutional law in Canada, and won Western Law's Award for Teaching Excellence. In 2023, he was named a Western University Faculty Scholar.



Bassem Awad
Assistant Professor

Bassem Awad is Western Law's Director of Intellectual Property, Information and Technology Law. He teaches courses in intellectual property law and technology. His research primarily focuses on the intersection between intellectual property, innovation and frontier technologies (AI and data ownership). He is also a Professor at the Academy of the United Nations' World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) in Geneva and the Chair of the ASRIC Taskforce on intellectual property at the African Union.



Joanna Langille
Assistant Professor

Joanna Langille's research focuses on private international law, international trade law and private law theory. She is particularly interested in moral exceptions in economic and commercial law, and the structure of authority in cross-border private law transactions. She is a graduate of NYU Law, Oxford and the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, and her work has been published in the *University of Toronto Law Journal*, the *American Journal of International Law* and Oxford's Philosophical Foundations book series. At Western, she teaches Contract Law, Conflict of Laws, and International Business Transactions.



Sara Ghebremusse
Assistant Professor

Sara Ghebremusse is the Cassels Chair in Mining Law and Finance. She teaches Canadian Mining and Corporate Accountability in the Global South, and the Mining Finance Speakers Series. Her research interests include mining law and governance, law and development, transnational law and human rights. She is currently undertaking a research project that examines the impacts of two Canadian mining conflicts on local communities in Tanzania and Zambia. She has degrees from the Universities of Alberta, Ottawa and Toronto, as well as from Carleton and York.

 Learn more about our faculty at law.uwo.ca/faculty

Advocacy Programs

Advocacy is a fundamental skill for aspiring lawyers, which you will develop by preparing written and oral submissions and arguing hypothetical cases before trial and appellate moot courts. Participating students receive comprehensive feedback from practising lawyers and judges.

Upper-year students compete in provincial, national and international advocacy competitions and routinely win awards at these competitions. Multiple areas of legal study are represented in our advocacy program from Constitutional Law, to Corporate Securities, to Family Law.

Western Law students also hone their practice skills in a variety of other competitions.

- Client Counselling
- Contract Drafting
- Corporate Restructuring
- Kawaskimhon Talking Circle
- Negotiation



Learn more about our advocacy programs at law.uwo.ca/advocacy



“Oral advocacy competitions were among my most rewarding

experiences during my legal education. Receiving top oralist awards at the Cherniak Cup and The Hague Inter-University Law Debate Tournament were two of my proudest moments with Western Law. I was able to meet and learn from industry leaders and Supreme Court Justices and develop real-world advocacy skills that greatly benefitted me during the recruitment process and in my professional work.”

Meghan Hawa, JD '24



Indigenous Law

Our compulsory upper-year Indigenous Peoples and the Law course provides you with an introduction to Aboriginal law, Indigenous legal traditions, Indigenous constitution building, legal pluralism and the relationship between Indigenous peoples and the Crown.

You will examine topics such as: (1) the impact of colonial policies on Indigenous legal traditions; (2) the treatment of Indigenous legal traditions by the courts; (3) sources of Indigenous legal traditions; and (4) Anishinaabe constitutionalism. You will also be asked to reflect on the importance of understanding Indigenous legal traditions as a part of your legal education.

Instructors for this course include Professor Jeff Warnock, a citizen of the Métis Nation of Ontario who previously worked as a litigator, as the Senior Public Policy Advisor for the Métis Nation of Ontario and on student programs and diversity outreach initiatives at a large full-service firm.

Intensive Courses

Western Law offers several week-long two-credit intensive courses during the academic year, which cater to your specific interests in niche areas of law. Examples include Digital Asset and Blockchain Law and Policy, Animal Law and Advocacy, Hate Speech in Canada, Cannabis Law and Practice, Condominium Law, Outer Space Law and Workplace Safety and Insurance Law.

Global and Intercultural Engagement Honour

This program recognizes students' achievements in global and intercultural competencies. Through coursework and extracurricular activities, you will enrich your legal educational experiences and develop the skills you need to succeed and prosper in our increasingly interdependent global society. When successfully completed, the Honour appears on your official Western transcript.

Areas of Concentration

Among our eight curricular streams at Western Law are two areas of concentration: Business Law and Intellectual Property, Information and Technology Law. Students who pursue the required courses in either of these areas will receive a certification of this academic concentration on their transcripts.

The **Business Law Area of Concentration** offers those interested in the legal aspects of business the opportunity to develop their knowledge and expertise in business law and policy. It may appeal to those wishing to work in corporate law, or in public policy, government or regulatory agencies, or those who simply wish to develop their knowledge, expertise and critical perspective on business in society, and the impact of law and regulation on business and financial institutions.

The **Intellectual Property, Information and Technology Law Area of Concentration** allows students to explore both fundamental topics in intellectual property and administrative law as well as electives including entertainment law, media law and healthcare law and policy. Graduates work in such settings as large multi-faceted firms, boutique intellectual property firms, government, technology and entertainment companies, and legal publishing.

LEGAL CLINICS AND SERVICES

Community Legal Services (CLS) is a leader in the cause of access to justice. Our clinic provides free legal services to low-income people in the London community and to Western University and Fanshawe College students. Working at CLS provides you with insight into the real-life practice of law. Under the close supervision of expert staff lawyers, you handle all aspects of legal cases, including interviewing clients, drafting pleadings, motions and other legal documents, negotiating with opposing parties, conducting legal research, drafting legal opinion letters, and conducting court appearances, hearings and trials. Upper-year students handle cases in the areas of:

- Criminal law
- Provincial offences
- Civil / Small Claims Court
- Family law
- University appeals
- Landlord and tenant

Students also work on Public Legal Education projects and presentations for the community at large.

In first year, you may apply to volunteer at the clinic as an associate caseworker. Associate caseworkers gain practical experience by assisting with Public Legal Education and shadowing upper-year caseworkers on client files. This may include attending client interviews, court appearances and class discussions.

In addition to volunteer roles, there are also opportunities for students to be involved with CLS through clinical courses and to receive formal academic credit in second and third year. Furthermore, CLS hires several students to manage clinic files during the summer months. Those students become mentors to incoming students during the following academic year.

CLS proudly celebrated its 55th anniversary in 2024 and has served over 25,000 clients since its inception.

 **Learn more about our legal clinics at law.uwo.ca/clinics**



Western Law offers students numerous opportunities to develop practical skills and gain valuable hands-on legal experience.

The Western Intellectual Property & Innovation Legal Clinic offers a unique experiential learning opportunity for you to develop your professional skills while gaining exposure to a wide range of matters relating to intellectual property (IP) rights, privacy and technology law, under the supervision of external IP lawyers. You will collaborate with authors, artists, inventors, entrepreneurs and start-ups in southwestern Ontario to help them protect their intangible assets.

The Dispute Resolution Centre is an experiential program that provides you with hands-on training in developing mediation skills. You will meet regularly to participate in mock mediations with expert coaching by a lawyer. Once trained, you will provide mediation and conflict-resolution skills to members of the local community and to students at Western University.



The Western Business Law Clinic provides small start-up and early-stage businesses with student legal assistance overseen by practising lawyers who act as mentors. The clinic allows you to learn valuable practical skills and gain exposure to a wide range of legal matters while providing a benefit to local businesses.

The Sport Solution Clinic is the only program of its kind in North America. It offers the unique opportunity to gain experiences working in sports law by assisting high-performance athletes with sport-related legal issues such as NSO athlete agreements, carding, team selection and safe sport disputes, in addition to appeals at the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. The clinic is run as a program in conjunction with AthletesCAN, the association of Canada's National and Olympic Athletes.

Pro Bono Students Canada is a national program. As a law student volunteer, you will be matched with community agencies that need legal services but cannot afford them. You will conduct legal research, participate in placements, or complete other law-related projects for local organizations under the supervision of a lawyer mentor.

Legal Information for Sexual Assault (LISA) provides free and confidential legal information to current Western University students who have experienced sexual assault or abuse. LISA offers you the opportunity to work under the supervision of a sexual assault lawyer to help survivors understand the legal pathways they may wish to pursue. Any Western student can meet with a trained law student to discuss their legal options, understand various legal processes and receive information and referrals to legal and non-legal resources.

EXCHANGES AND INTERNSHIPS

Exchange Program ●●●●●●●●

Western Law has established exchange partnerships with 16 leading law schools across four continents: North America, Europe, Asia and Oceania.

Participating in an exchange term allows you to benefit from expanded curriculum options, study legal issues from a new perspective and create a network of international contacts for the future.

More than 55 placements are offered every year, with two to four places usually available at each partner school. Course offerings are available in English at all partner schools (except for Laval).

Western Law values and embraces the international experience, believing that in this era of globalization, exposure to another legal system is exceedingly important.




Braden Stapleton
National University of Singapore
(Singapore)



Lauren White
The University of New South Wales
(Sydney, Australia)



Sarah Chen
Stockholm University
(Stockholm, Sweden)

 Learn more about our exchanges and internships at law.uwo.ca/exchanges

Internships ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●

Through our thriving Western Law internship Program (WLIP), you may intern with international organizations, non-governmental and Indigenous organizations, and private industries.

Since its inception in 2006, WLIP has grown to provide up to 15 internships annually in the areas of international law, environmental law, business and

finance law, Indigenous law, access to justice and sport law. Short-listed candidates participate in an interview as part of a competitive selection process.

Internships are 10-12 weeks and occur between May and the beginning of August. Interns receive a stipend to assist with costs associated with the internship, such as travel, visas and cost of living.



Sarah Abdul Jalil

Thornton Grout Finnigan LLP
World Bank Group Internship
(Washington DC, USA)



Jacob Waltman

Canadian Olympic Committee,
Toronto, Ontario



Fayha Najeeb

Women's Initiatives
for Gender Justice
(The Hague, The Netherlands)



Robyn Marttila and Natalie Samuel

CAREERS

Law is a very rewarding profession and the career opportunities for students with a legal education are limitless.

Our Career and Professional Development Office operates year-round to provide information and tools to help you succeed in today's competitive job market. As a Western Law student, you will have access to:

Career Management Software Programs & Tools

- WERC (powered by 12twenty) – our comprehensive online career centre
- InterviewPrep
- The Right Profile Attorney Assessment

One-on-One Career Coaching

- Career planning and self-assessment
- Networking
- Job search strategies
- Application preparation (resume and cover letter review)
- Interview preparation (including mock interviews)

Career Development Programming & Resources

We maintain an extensive library of career resources and run a wide range of webinars, panels, programs and workshops throughout the year designed to help you:

- Explore legal practice areas and settings.
- Build your professional network.
- Navigate the recruitment process.
- Transition to practice.
- Prepare for the licensing process (including writing the bar exams).

Recruiting Programs

We work with employers across Canada to organize a number of interview programs, including "On Campus Interviews" (OCIs) for summer positions in Toronto, Ottawa, Calgary, Vancouver and the Maritimes.

While all Canadian law schools offer career services, what sets us apart is our collegial environment in which upper-year students and alumni take a real interest and active roles as career speakers and mentors.

We look forward to helping you realize your career goals.

It gives us great pride at Western Law to say that our placement rate is consistently among the best in Canada. Our students graduate with knowledge and skills that enable them to gain fulfilling employment and leadership opportunities throughout their careers.



Over 90%

Students who secure Articles by graduation



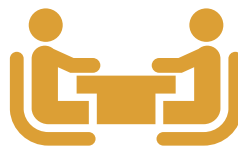
Toronto

Market that hires the largest number of our students



1,105

Number of student interviews at our Toronto OCI Program



91%

Percentage of OCI applicants who are offered interviews



1400+

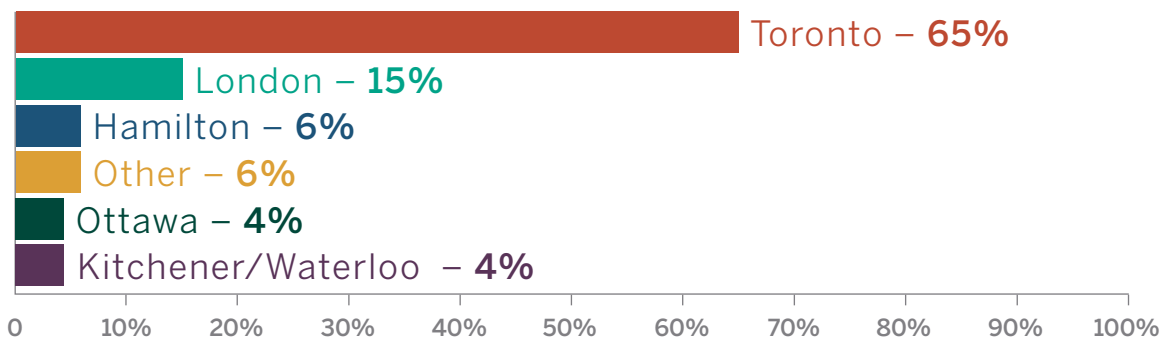
Number of law firms and legal departments in our employer database



65+

Number of employers who attend our annual Career Conference

Articling Placements Across Ontario (Class of 2023)





SUMMER AFTER 1L PROGRAM (SA1L)

In 2023-24, Western Law launched the Summer After 1L Program (SA1L), connecting all incoming JD students with placements after their first year of studies. Through this optional program, all interested students are eligible for a minimum of 10 weeks of meaningful, paid legal experience.

Placements available through SA1L fall into four categories: positions through the Western Law Internship Program (WLIP); positions at Western Law's clinics; research assistant positions; and external positions at community agencies, advocacy organizations and firms. Students are also eligible for self-proposed placements.

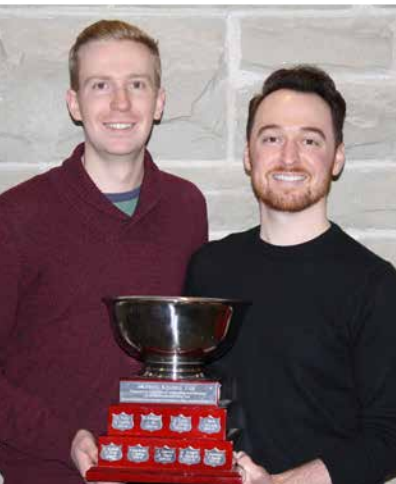
For external placements, we've focused on partnering with host organizations doing important work in their respective areas of the law, under the broad categories of public interest, social justice

and human rights. Past partners have included Black Legal Action Centre, Human Rights Legal Support Centre and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

SA1L will give you a head start in the legal world, expose you to different types of legal work and provide you with financial support. This program builds on Western Law's robust career support for students, including one-on-one counselling for career planning and the recruitment process, our annual career conference and our mentor program.



Learn more at law.uwo.ca/SA1L



WESTERN
STUDENTS



A legal education at Western Law encompasses more than attending lectures and studying for exams; it includes a healthy lifestyle. We believe this balance is important to ensure you are prepared to thrive through law school and beyond.

Our full-time Student Wellness Counsellor is available to promote and support your wellbeing. You can access timely care, including individual appointments, group programs or workshops. Services are free and confidential.

Our small class provides you with more one-on-one time with professors as well as enriched classroom and co-curricular experiences where classmates become lifelong friends.

We look forward to welcoming you to our dynamic and collegial community!

Student Legal Society

Your Student Legal Society (SLS) works to ensure that you will make the most of your time in law school. The SLS is responsible for many student-led academic, social and wellness initiatives at Western Law and oversees all the clubs and committees you may participate in as a law student. The SLS continually strives to expand its outreach and programming for both law students and the local London community in a variety of ways.



Learn more about our Student Legal Society at westernsls.ca

Law Student Initiatives

- The 1L/3L Buddy program matched over 160 first-year students with third-year mentors.
- The Case Summary database offers students multiple summaries in every first-year course and 15 upper-year courses.
- The Peer Tutor Program offers students 40 tutors in a range of courses.
- The Diversity Committee hosts "Diversity Month," which includes guest speakers, panel presentations, and other programming.

Community Initiatives

As part of their ongoing support of the local community, Western law students:

- Donate over \$13,000 to various community organizations.
- Participate in the annual "Western Law Gives Back" event, which raises funds for various local organizations, including the London women's shelter and the Indigenous Friendship Centre.
- Volunteer hundreds of hours to facilitate multiple community events.
- Organize textbook drives, clothing drives and food drives.

LIFE IN LONDON



Where is Western University?

Western is located in London, Ontario. London is in the centre of southwestern Ontario, halfway between Toronto and Detroit, or approximately two hours driving distance.

Experience a student-friendly and culturally vibrant city that offers much more than just an education. You'll enjoy a lower cost of living, short commutes and walkable off-campus housing options, which contribute to a more affordable and convenient lifestyle.



Diversity and growth

London is one of Canada's fastest growing cities! More people are calling London home, including many visitors and immigrants who bring rich culture, diversity and economic opportunities to the city.



Culture and nightlife

Sports. Parks. Trails. Museums. Shopping. Dining. Nightlife. Festivals. Markets. Skiing. Theatre. Art...and a whole lot of music. London is Canada's first UNESCO City of Music boasting approximately 4,000+ concerts and music events annually.



Easy transportation

Use a London Transit Bus Pass to get around the city. It's included in your tuition fees!

LIFE AT WESTERN

Western boasts one of the most beautiful campuses in Canada. Situated along the banks of the Thames River in London, Ontario, our gothic-style architecture and ivy-covered campus blend in seamlessly with 1200 acres of rolling hills. With a campus that is 1.5 times the size of Central Park in New York City, you will find endless scenic locations to study, chat with friends or relax! As a Western Law student, you have access to all of Western's amenities and services including health and wellness programs, co-curricular opportunities and campus clubs and recreation.

 **Explore what Western's campus life has to offer at law.uwo.ca/life**

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that Western University is located on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek, Haudenosaunee, Lūnaapéewak and Attawandaron peoples, on lands connected with the London Township and Sombra Treaties of 1796 and the Dish with One Spoon Covenant Wampum. This land continues to be home to diverse Indigenous peoples (e.g. First Nations, Métis and Inuit) whom we recognize as contemporary stewards of the land and vital contributors of our society.

Come for a visit!

Tour the law school virtually:
law.uwo.ca/tours

Arrange a law school tour:
lawapp@uwo.ca or 519.661.3347

Arrange a Western campus tour:
welcome.uwo.ca

Learn more about Western Law:
law.uwo.ca

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