

Georgetown University Law Center

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THE BASICS

Georgetown University Law Center (also known as Georgetown Law, or GULC) began in 1870 as a small department within Georgetown University. It was accredited by the ABA in 1924.

The school's five buildings are located in downtown Washington, D.C., a few blocks from D.C.'s Chinatown, Capitol Hill, and the Supreme Court. GULC has both a full- and part-time program (one of only a handful of top law schools to have both); students in the full-time program can expect to pay approximately \$66,000 a year.

GULC is a large school: It has over 1,300 full-time students and around 300 part-time students. Combined, it has one of the highest total enrollments of the schools on this list. Its convenient location in the heart of D.C. makes it the first choice for any politician (or aspiring politician) seeking a J.D.; as a result, it has countless government officials, both elected and appointed, on its alumni roster.

GULC is extremely well regarded, and has excellent national name-brand recognition.

Georgetown has an exceptional list of academic and extracurricular offerings, including 12 clinics, a comprehensive externship program, study abroad opportunities in 11 countries, 14 joint degrees, 11 scholarly journals, and over 75 student organizations.

Application deadline: 12/15 (Early), 2/1* (Regular)

Application fee: \$80

Financial aid deadline: 3/1

Type of school: Private

Tuition and fees: \$45,105 (FT) (2010 - 2011)

\$1,630 per credit hour (PT) (2010 - 2011)

Admissions: Rolling (decisions within 8 - 12 weeks)

Acceptance percentage: 23% (FT); 20% (PT) (2009)

Incoming class size: 463 (FT); 127 (PT) (2009)

Early Action/Early Decision available: Yes, binding

Part-time program available: Yes

GPA AND STANDARDIZED TESTS

LSAT 25th - 75th percentile range: 168 - 172 (FT)
163 - 168 (PT)

GPA 25th - 75th percentile range: 3.42 - 3.81 (FT)
3.42 - 3.78 (PT)

TOEFL not required for international applicants.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Letters of recommendation: 1 required (more accepted)

Required essays: Personal statement

Optional essays: Diversity essay

Dean's Certification: None required

Additional documentation: Résumé (required)

**Public Interest Law and Global Law Scholars deadline.*

Georgetown Law: The PowerScore Perspective

An easy way in?

Although law school applicants often tell each other that the easiest way into a top law school is through the part-time program, that isn't always the case. It *is* the case, however, with Georgetown Law, where the 2009 admission statistics tell us that the 75th percentile GPA was lower for part-timers than full-timers, and that the LSAT requirements were definitely not as demanding. In fact, the 75th percentile LSAT score for admitted part-time students was the same as the 25th percentile score for admitted full-time students! Even though the acceptance percentage for the part-time program (20%) was a little lower than the full-time program (23%), this apparent LSAT leniency will certainly make it easier for some to gain entry into GULC.

National recognition

When it comes to name cachet, Georgetown Law is right up there with the Harvards, Yales, and Columbias of the law school world. This kind of name and degree portability can be worth its weight in gold, particularly at the start of your law career when your school name can mean the difference between getting an interview and getting ignored.

Opportunities galore

Like its law school neighbor, George Washington Law, Georgetown is incredibly well-connected in legal, policy, government, and public interest circles. Just a quick scan of the school's alumni will tell you that the Georgetown name carries a great deal of weight, particularly in D.C., and can open a variety of doors. The sheer number of legal opportunities in the city make it very, very easy for a Georgetown Law student to snag an internship. In addition, students report that the Office of Career Services is fantastic, and goes the extra mile in both finding and securing exceptional experiences for their GULC charges.

Not-so-great location

It's a good thing that the school stands on its reputation, and not on the quality of its surroundings, though. When it comes to actual physical location, Georgetown Law's neighborhood just isn't that great (remember, GULC is on a separate campus from the regular Georgetown University campus). In terms of local access, the placement is fantastic: GULC is just a few short blocks from the Capitol, the Washington Mall, the Supreme Court, embassies, museums, and countless monuments. The immediate surroundings, however, are not overly impressive.

But a great campus

The law campus itself, though, is another story. Comprised of three buildings—the main law school building, the Hotung International Law Building, and the GULC Sports and Fitness Center—the Georgetown Law complex is pretty spectacular, and essentially provides everything you might need for a comfortable stay during your law student days. The school also has the Williams Law Library (home to the third largest legal collection in the nation), in addition to the Gewirz residence hall, which provides housing to GULC students.

Awesome prospects

Not only are there impressive opportunities while in school, the employment prospects are great, too. As we mentioned, the school is nothing if not connected, and Career Services is considered to be second-to-none. Add to that one of the largest On-Campus Interview programs in the country, and you've got a recipe for finding a good—nay, great—job after graduation.

Fabulous faculty

With a well-known name typically comes a well-known faculty, and Georgetown Law is no exception. Their professor roster is filled with the names of experts in various legal fields, and their proximity to the Supreme Court, Congress, the Senate, and various governmental headquarters make it easy for big names to make their way on campus to teach or lecture.

Solid diversity

If you combine the minority and international student numbers at Georgetown, a solid 25% of the

student body is non-traditional. While this isn't shocking for a melting pot city like Washington, D.C., it is certainly impressive for a top law school (or any law school, for that matter). These numbers are consistently maintained by GULC, which speaks to the school's commitment to keeping each class unique and multi-faceted, and classroom discussion varied.

Truly ideal?

When you take Georgetown Law as a whole, it is hard to find anything at which this school does not excel. All of its positive elements combine to provide students with an exceptional legal education and fabulous post-graduation opportunities. Another thing it does well is maintain its high standards, though, so you'll have to put together an impressive application if you want to get in.

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Georgetown Law: The Numbers

ACCEPTANCE RATES

Full-time: 23% (2,459 of 10,731 admitted)
Part-time: 20% (186 of 922 admitted)

GPA AND LSAT SCORES

GPA - 75th percentile: 3.81 (FT), 3.78 (PT)
GPA - Median: 3.68 (FT), 3.62 (PT)
GPA - 25th percentile: 3.43 (FT), 3.42 (PT)

LSAT - 75th percentile: 172 (FT), 168 (PT)
LSAT - Median: 170 (FT), 166 (PT)
LSAT - 25th percentile: 168 (FT), 163 (PT)

ENROLLMENT AND ETHNICITY

African-American: 55 (M); 115 (F); 8.6% of student body
American Indian: 5 (M); 1 (F); 0.3% of student body
Asian-American: 83 (M); 94 (F); 8.9% of student body
Caucasian: 791 (M); 538 (F); 67.1% of student body
Hispanic: 40 (M); 39 (F); 4.0% of student body
Mexican-American: 8 (M); 3 (F); 0.6% of student body
Puerto Rican: 1 (M); 0 (F); 0.1% of student body
International: 34 (M); 30 (F); 3.2% of student body
Non-Reported: 67 (M); 78 (F); 7.3% of student body

TRANSFERS (FIRST-YEAR) AND ATTRITION

Transfers in: 81
Transfers out: 10

1L attrition: 10 (0 Academic, 10 Other)
2L attrition: 2 (0 Academic, 2 Other)
3L attrition: 1 (0 Academic, 4 Other)
4L attrition (PT): 2 (1 Academic, 1 Other)

FINANCIAL AID

Merit aid available? No
Grants and scholarships available? Yes
Students receiving grants: 616, 30.7% of student body
Median grant amount: \$15,000 (FT), \$9,730 (PT)
LRAP program available? Yes

Although the school has no merit aid available, GULC's Public Interest Law Scholars program provides financial scholarships and summer employment stipends to students committed to practice law in the public interest.

LIBRARY RESOURCES

Wireless network availability? Yes
Number of wired connections available: 840
Hours per week the library is open: 107
Study seating capacity inside the library: 1,083
Number of full-time professional librarians: 27

CAREER SERVICES

On-campus Career Services Office? Yes
Number of full-time career services staffers? 9
Career services specializations: Firm, government, public interest, clerkships, résumé review, interview preparation
On-Campus Interview (OCI) program? Georgetown Law hosts the largest on-campus recruitment in the country, with over 800 employers from 115 cities worldwide.

EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS*

**All statistics are 9 months after graduation*

Employment status known: 637, 98.8% of class
Employment status unknown: 8, 1.2% of class
Employed: 612, 96.1% of class
Pursuing graduate degrees: 8, 1.3% of class
Unemployed: 13, 2.0% of class

TYPE OF EMPLOYMENT

Academia: 7, 1.1% of class
Business and Industry: 28, 4.6% of class
Government: 38, 6.2% of class
Judicial Clerkship: 48, 7.8% of class
Law Firms: 453, 74.0% of class
Public Interest: 33, 5.4% of class

GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

The biggest market for Georgetown Law grads is Washington, D.C. (with the majority of the members of the class of 2008 finding employment there).

Students employed in-state: 35.3%
Students employed in foreign countries: 2.0%
Number of states where students are employed: 33

After Washington, D.C., New York is a main employment hub for GULC grads (28% of the class of 2008), followed by the West Coast U.S. states (9% of the class of 2008).

ALUMNI NETWORK

There are almost 40,000 Georgetown Law alumni around the world. The school combines all their information on the **Georgetown Law Network** (commonly referred to as **The Network**). Alums are given access to this database after a quick registration and confirmation process.

BAR PASSAGE RATES

First-time takers: 637 (74.88% reporting)
Average school pass rate: 93.72%
Average state pass rate: 85.85%
Average pass rate difference: 7.87%

Georgetown Law: The School

Ask any student why they chose to attend Georgetown Law, and you'll likely get one of three answers: "Location!" "Quality of life!" or "The teachers!" It would seem that Georgetown Law (or GULC, as it is also known) is the perfect storm of exceptional academics, prime legal location, and just barely perceptible competitiveness.

Incoming class size: 463 (FT), 127 (PT) (2009)

Typical first-year section size: 117 (FT), ~130 (PT)

CURRICULUM

Georgetown Law has a slightly unusual first-year curriculum, as students can choose two different paths to take: Curriculum "A," and Curriculum "B."

Curriculum "A" is taught to three full-time sections and the part-time first year section, and consists of more "standard" law school fare: **Civil Procedure, Constitutional Law, Contracts, Criminal Justice, Legal Research and Writing, Property, Torts**, and one elective in the Spring Term.

Curriculum "B" is taught to only one full-time section. It was developed in 1991, and "offers an innovative and integrated approach to the study of law." The required courses for students taking Curriculum "B" are **Bargain, Exchange and Liability; Democracy and Coercion; Government Processes; Legal Justice Seminar; Legal Practice: Writing and Analysis; Legal Process and Society**; and **Property in Time**. Curriculum "B" students do not take any electives during the Spring Semester.

FACULTY

Student-to-faculty ratio: 12.4 : 1

Its proximity to the heart of the U.S. Government naturally allows Georgetown Law to draw much of its teaching talent from the political world. Current GULC faculty include former U.S. Solicitors General, a former Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, a former White House Chief of Staff, a former Assistant United States Attorney, and countless authorities on all legal topics. A number of current and former U.S. Supreme Court Justices have also taught at GULC, and many of the school's faculty are also former U.S. Supreme Court Clerks.

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

CLINICS AND EXTERNSHIPS: Georgetown Law has 12 clinical programs: The Appellate Litigation Clinic, Center for Applied Legal Studies, Criminal Justice Clinic, D.C. Law Students in Court, D.C. Street Law Program, Domestic Violence Clinic, Federal Legislation Clinic, Harrison Institute for Public Law Housing and Community Development Clinic, Harrison Institute for Public Law Policy Clinic, Institute for Public Representation, International Women's Human Rights Clinic, and the newly inaugurated Juvenile Justice Clinic. In addition, GULC students can participate in externships with non-profit organizations, government agencies, judges, and legislative offices, organized by the law school's Office of the Registrar.

STUDY ABROAD: The school has study abroad opportunities in Argentina, Australia, China, Germany, India, Israel, The Netherlands, Singapore, Spain, and England, as well as a full-year program in France.

JOINT DEGREE: GULC offers joint MBA, MPP, MA, PhD, MPH, and LLM programs in addition to a wide range of Georgetown School of Foreign Service joint degrees.

JOURNALS AND PUBLICATIONS

Georgetown Law has eleven student-edited journals: *American Criminal Law Review*, *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*, *Georgetown International Environmental Law Review*, *The Georgetown Journal of Gender and the Law*, *Georgetown Journal of International Law*, *Georgetown Journal of Law and Modern Critical Race Perspectives*, *Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy*, *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics*, *Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy*, *Georgetown Law Journal*, and *The Tax Lawyer*.

MOCK TRIAL AND MOOT COURT

Georgetown Law's **Barristers Council** administers the school's **Appellate Advocacy** (moot court), **Trial Advocacy** (mock trial), and **ADR Advocacy** (mediation) divisions. Students participate in intramural competitions, and are then chosen to the school's various advocacy teams, taking part in national and international competitions.

• NOTABLE ALUMNI •

As befits a school located in the heart of the country's political machine, Georgetown Law's list of notable alumni is filled with men and women who hold or have held important positions within all branches of U.S. Government. They include **Van P. Smith** '95, Chairman of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; **Michael Steele** '91, Chairman of the Republican National Committee; **Terry McAuliffe** '84, Chairman of the Democratic National Committee; **Mickey Kantor** '68, former U.S. Secretary of Commerce; as well as countless Governors, U.S. Senators, and U.S. Representatives. Even **former U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson**, and **former Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld** briefly attended Georgetown Law, although they both left before obtaining a JD degree.

“The quality of the students was exceptional,” says Timothy S., class of ’03. This is due largely in part to the “diversity of the students,” says another recent graduate. “DC is just as much of a ‘melting pot’ as NYC, so you get a really varied group of students.”

The environment at the school is “congenial but busy and distracted,” adds Timothy. Given the large size of the school (with an average of 450 full-time students and 130 part-time students per incoming class), “it is hard to know everyone in your class. You get to know your group of friends, usually from your first year section and your activities, and that’s the people you get close to,” says a current student.

A suggestion offered by one grad is to live on campus, or at least near campus. “Students who lived on campus had much more active school-based social lives than commuters.”

And what about the overall atmosphere? Does Georgetown Law’s status as a top school breed excessive, cutthroat competitiveness? Answers a recent grad: “The ‘competitive’ stuff is mostly overrated. Sure, 80% of the people there are really driven, but no one rationally thinks they can ‘hurt’ the performance of other people on exams. The competition is inherent in having a grading curve in which you’re competing against other high achievers. But their personalities don’t make it worse, and in some ways make it better.”

There are myriad opportunities for students, both academic and extracurricular—almost *too* many, says one alum: “It was actually kind of intimidating when I got to GULC, because I didn’t know exactly what to do and I wanted to do everything. One piece of advice I would tell law school applicants is to not do anything just because you ‘think’ you should or because anyone tells you you ‘have’ to do it. Choose your own path.”

ACTIVITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Active Minds
- Georgetown Law African Students Society (GLASS)
- AIDS Law Movement (ALM)
- American Bar Association
- American Civil Liberties Union at Georgetown University Law Center (ACLU at GULC)
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- American-Japanese Law Students Alliance (AJLSA)
- Amnesty International
- Arab Law Students Association
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Beer Appreciation Society for International Camaraderie (BASIC)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Board Game Enthusiasts
- Georgetown Bowling Club
- Georgetown Law Bridge Club
- Georgetown Law Brothers Forum
- Building a Better Legal Profession (BUILD)
- Caribbean Law Students Association (CLSA)
- Catholic Student Association
- Georgetown Chess Club
- China Legal Forum
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Corporate Law Association (CLA)
- Georgetown Law Democrats
- Disability Law Society
- Georgetown Law Entertainment Media Alliance (GEMALaw)
- Environmental Law Society
- Equal Justice Foundation (EJF)
- Evasive Maneuvers
- Federalist Society
- Georgetown Law Fly Fishing Club
- Foreign Lawyers at Georgetown (FLAG)
- Georgetown Law Friends of Liberty
- Friends of Transfer Students Association
- Georgetown Gilbert & Sullivan Society (GG&SS)
- Global Race & Identity Project (GRIP)
- Georgetown Golf Club
- Habitat for Humanity
- Home Court
- Hoya Lawya Runners
- Hoya Realty Group
- Georgetown Human Rights Action
- Independent Media Society
- Innocence Project
- International Arbitration Society
- International Law Society (ILS)
- Italian Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Just Praise Gospel Ensemble
- Korean American Law Students Association (KALSA)
- Labor and Employment Law Society
- Latin American Law Student Association (LALSA)
- LL.M. Tax Council
- Military Law Society
- Georgetown Law-Militia
- National Lawyers Guild (NLG)
- Georgetown Organization for Education Law
- OutLaw
- OutReach
- Pakistani Law Students Association
- Georgetown Law Parents Group
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Philosophy Club
- Progressive Alliance for Life (PAL)
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSRJ)
- Republican Law Students Association
- Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of Georgetown Law (RPCV)
- Georgetown Law Rugby Club
- Russian Speaking Lawyers Association (RSLA)
- Securities & Financial Law Society
- Georgetown Soccer Club)
- Society for Health Law & Bioethics
- GULC Softball Club
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Student Intellectual Property Law Association (SIPLA)
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy (SSDP)
- Students in Law as a Second Career
- Georgetown Law Tennis Club
- Turkish Law Society
- United Nations at Georgetown
- Wine Tasters
- Women of Color Collective (WCC)
- Georgetown Law Women’s Basketball Club
- Women’s Legal Alliance (WLA)
- Workers Solidarity Group (WSG)
- Writ of Knit
- Georgetown Youth Advocacy Group

• CLASS PROFILE •

The school received a total of 10,868 applications for the class of 2011, 11,653 applications for the entering class of 2012, and 12,404 applications for the class of 2013.

In 2008, 2,554 offers were extended, and 585 students matriculated (458 full-time and 127 part-time). In 2009, 2,645 offers were extended, and 590 students matriculated (463 full-time and 127 part-time). In 2010, 592 students matriculated (470 full-time and 122 part-time).

The students accepted in 2009 (the class of 2012) represented 46 states, as well as 13 foreign countries. Including LL.M. students, the overall entering class represented 63 countries.

Of the students matriculating in 2009, 47% were female, and 53% were male. The students admitted in 2010 were evenly split along gender lines: 50% were female and 50% were male.

Overall, the entire GULC student body is 45% female, 55% male.

25% of the class of 2012 was comprised of minority students; this percentage remained the same in 2013.

8% of the incoming class of 2013 hailed from a foreign country.

Georgetown Law: The City

Setting: Urban

Located on Capitol Hill, right in the middle of the governmental hubbub of Washington, D.C., Georgetown Law epitomizes the urban political setting. The city is also home to almost twenty schools and universities, and is a vibrant cultural, social, and professional center. “D.C. is one of the most law student friendly cities in the country,” enthuses an ‘03 GULC grad.

LIVING EXPENSES

Georgetown Law does not provide a detailed estimated breakdown of potential food, utility, books, transportation, or personal expenses per student per year, but it does provide housing cost breakdowns. Using those, as well as the numbers given by other comparable area schools, it is possible to create a rough estimate of D.C. living expenses.

Estimated academic year living expenses

Housing	\$12,095.00
Food/Board	\$ 3,000.00
Travel/Transportation	\$ 2,400.00
Personal/Miscellaneous	\$ 3,500.00
TOTAL	\$20,995.00

HOUSING

GULC provides on-campus housing for approximately 300 of its students in the Gewirz Center. The Center is located in the heart of the law campus, across from the main law building and next to the GULC Sports Fitness Center and the popular law school Courtside Café.

On-campus housing available? Y

Average apartment rental cost (1 BR/1 BA)*\$1584.00/mo

**Rates for Gewirz Center only. 2BR and 3BR units also available.*

DEMOGRAPHICS

The U.S. Census Bureau estimates the 2009 population of Washington D.C. to be 599,667 people, with 63.1% of the population between 18 and 65 years of age. 39.1% of the population has a bachelor's degree or higher.

Population density in the D.C. area (as per the 2000 census) is 9,378 persons per square mile.

The 2000 census puts the ethnic makeup of the city as 40.1% white, 8.6% of Hispanic or Latino origin, 54.4% African American, 0.4% American Indian or Alaskan native, 3.4% Asian, 0.1% native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander, and 1.6% from two or more races.

PARKING AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Finding parking is difficult and owning a car can be expensive in Washington, D.C. However, students attending D.C. schools have access to an excellent public transportation system.

Given GULC's central location within the city, getting to and from the school is easy by using the D.C. Metro, the primary mode of transportation for students. The school is located near two stations: Judiciary Square and Union Station. The University also offers a shuttle service (known as GUTS) from GULC to Main Campus. There are additional routes that service Dupont Circle, Georgetown, and Arlington areas, where many students live. New stops servicing just the law school have also recently been added. GULC also encourages bicycling and carpooling, and students have nearby access to Zipcar services located around the D.C. metro area. Zipcar offers self-service access to cars by the hour or the day.

AREA ATTRACTIONS & ENTERTAINMENT

There are literally hundreds of historical, cultural, social, and culinary attractions in Washington, D.C. Georgetown Law's location makes it easy for students to walk to many of the area's monuments and federal buildings.

The U.S. Supreme Court and the Capitol Building are an easy 10 to 15 minute walk from the school, as are the National Gallery of Art, the National Museum of Natural History, the National Museum of the American Indian, and the Smithsonian Institution. The Washington Mall and Lincoln Memorial are a short Metro ride away.

D.C.'s many professional sports teams (MLB, MLS, NFL, WNBA, NBA, and NHL) put on hundreds of games a year, and the city is also a popular stop for musical groups and national theater and dance ensembles.

CITY MUST-DOs

“The Cherry Blossom Festival!” is the enthusiastic must-do recommendation from many GULC students and D.C. residents alike. An annual two-week event that celebrates springtime in Washington, D.C., the Cherry Blossom Festival is not to be missed.

Take in a show at The Kennedy Center (which hosts the National Symphony Orchestra in addition to theater, ballet, and opera performances), and visit Ford's Theater (the famed theater where John Wilkes Booth fatally shot President Abraham Lincoln), located just a short walk from the school. “There's a lot a law student can find interesting here, particularly when it comes to U.S. legal history,” says a grad. “You just have to find time to do it all!”