THIS IS U of T LAW

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ALL PODEDORE

JD Admissions Guide 2025-2026



WELCOME TO OUR *REMARKABLE* HOME

We acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



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CONNECT WITH A *DIVERSE* AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY

WELCOME TO THE FACULTY OF LAW

At the University of Toronto, we are a global leader in legal education and scholarship. To be a student at our law school is to join a wonderful community of extraordinary legal scholars and students, committed to inclusive excellence and a strong sense of belonging.

You will learn from our world leading faculty, who regularly win major research awards. They take a wide range of cutting-edge legal and interdisciplinary approaches, expanding the world of ideas, fostering legal change, and anchoring a vibrant intellectual community and learning experience. Studying at U of T Law will give you access to some of North America's most established co-curricular opportunities that will acquaint you with the best of the legal profession both locally and internationally. You might work on criminal appeals pending before the Ontario Court of Appeal or Supreme Court of Canada, help provide advice to legal aid clients in immigration or refugee matters, volunteer for the UN while on an international human rights internship, or help give legal advice to tech start-ups at law firms and incubators across the city.

Our commitment to inclusive excellence and the public interest means that, as a student, you will be part of a community with a wide range of knowledge, experiences and perspectives. We foster a unique, supportive and dynamic learning environment where students from all backgrounds are consistently challenged to think critically and innovatively. We equip students with analytical tools that give them an edge in tackling complex real-world problems. Our graduates go on to become exemplary leaders in the legal profession, the judiciary, public service, academia, business, and much more.

I am excited about the future of our law school. Our faculty and students are well positioned to excel in a rapidly changing world, while providing impactful leadership and catalyzing positive change. By upholding academic excellence, celebrating diversity, fostering interdisciplinary connections, embracing innovation, and instilling ethical responsibility, we aim to enable our faculty, students and alumni to help shape the future of law and address the dynamic challenges of our time.

I hope that you will take up our invitation to visit with us as you carefully consider the many options available to you.

JUTTA BRUNNÉE DEAN, FACULTY OF LAW JAMES M. TORY PROFESSOR OF LAW

BECOME PART OF A COMMUNITY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR EXCELLENCE



BELONG TO A GREAT UNIVERSITY

Reap the benefits of academic, cultural, social, athletic and recreational opportunities at one of the world's foremost research-intensive universities. Immerse yourself in a rigorous learning environment that fostered 19 Supreme Court justices, four Canadian Prime Ministers, and ten Nobel Prize laureates. U of T continues to make the world a better place through leadership, inquiry, discovery and innovation.





INTERDISCIPLINARY ADVANTAGE

Take advantage of the opportunities to engage with U of T's other top-ranked graduate faculties and schools such as its Rotman School of Management, Temerty Faculty of Medicine, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, etc. Explore the interdisciplinary dimensions of the law through workshops and conferences featuring top academics and experts from around the world.



LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

At U of T Law, you are minutes away from the provincial legislature, Ministry of the Attorney General law offices, several court houses including the Ontario Court of Appeal, dozens of legal aid offices, and over 3,000 law firms, including Canada's largest national and international firms.

LIVE IN A GREAT CITY

Revel in the myriad of sights, sounds, and tastes to discover in one of the world's most multicultural cities. Here, you can attend many festivals, check out the vibrant arts, culture, entertainment and professional sports scenes and discover your inner foodie. With a population smaller than New York City but larger than Chicago, Toronto has it all.

The Faculty of Law is steps away from Museum Station where you can hop on the subway to get around this great city in just minutes. Toronto is known for its 140 distinctive neighbourhoods. Our students' local favourites – Yorkville, Kensington Market and Queen West – are all within easy walking distance of the campus.





Toronto's amazing festivals include OVO and Unity (hiphop); VELD and Electric Island (EDM), Fringe and Summer-Works (theatre, art and dance); TIFF (film); TECHSPO, Elevate, and Vector (technology and new media); Fan Expo and Comicon (comics, sci-fi, horror, anime and gaming).



JOHN BORROWS

BA, MA, JD, LLM (TORONTO), PHD (YORK), LLD (DALHOUSIE, QUEEN'S, SIMON FRASER, YORK, LSO), DHL (TORONTO), FRSC, OC

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Indigenous Law, Aboriginal Law, Constitutional Law

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Roncesvalles

HOBBY: Collecting old-school hockey cards



DOUGLAS SANDERSON

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Aboriginal Law, Canadian Constitutional Law, Legal Theory, Political Philosophy and Theory,

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Davisville

HIDDEN TALENT: Charcuterie

BA (SIMON FRASER), JD (TORONTO), LLM (COLUMBIA)

Property Law



TRUDO LEMMENS

CAND. JUR. & LIC. JUR. (K.U. LEUVEN), LLM & DCL (McGILL)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Health Law and Bioethics, Biotechnology & Human Rights, Assisted Human Reproduction, Mental Health Law

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Kensington Market to hang out, Cabbagetown to live

HIDDEN TALENT: Relatively fast cycling in the city (daily) and on country-roads, cooking



BA (BERKELEY), JD (UCLA), MA (TEXAS), LLM (YALE), PHD (UCLA), JSD (YALE)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Critical Legal Theory, International Human Rights Law, Islamic Law, Law and Religion, Legal History, Legal Theory, Tort Law and Tort Theory

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Danforth or Little India

HIDDEN TALENT: Juggles moderately well



50+ FULL-TIME FACULTY 11:1 STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

In addition to our homegrown talent, we recruit our faculty from peer institutions at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Oxford, Melbourne and other top global law schools.

YASMIN DAWOOD

BA (TORONTO), JD (COLUMBIA), MA (CHICAGO), PHD (CHICAGO)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Canadian Constitutional Law, Charter of Rights, Comparative Constitutional Law, Election Law, Judicial Decision-Making, Legal Theory, Political Philosophy and Theory

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Annex

HOBBY: Growing orchids





ANGELA FERNANDEZ

BA, LLB, BCL (McGILL), MA (QUEEN'S), LLM, JSD (YALE)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Animal Law, Critical Legal Theory, Law and Literature, Legal History, Legal Theory

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: "The Pocket" in the East End (Danforth at Jones Ave.)

HIDDEN TALENT: Singer (soprano) in a rock band

ABDI AIDID

BA (TORONTO), JD (YALE), LLM (TORONTO)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Tort Law, Legal Procedure, Law & Technology

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Downsview/ Black Creek

HOBBIES: Playing basketball with friends and soccer with my 5 year old child



BRENDA COSSMAN

BA (QUEEN'S), LLB (TORONTO), LLM (HARVARD), FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: Family Law, Legal Regulation of Sexuality, Law and Film

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Wychwood Park

HIDDEN TALENT: Cooking like a Jewish grandmother



ANNA SU

BA (ATENEO DE MANILA), JD (ATENEO DE MANILA), LLM, SJD (HARVARD)

ACADEMIC INTERESTS: History of Human Rights, Law and Religion, Comparative Constitutional Law, Political Theory, Technology and the Law

FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD: Queen West

HOBBIES: Playing guitar, crashing drones, cooking

EXPERIENCE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH

The Faculty of Law's acclaimed faculty will inspire your learning throughout your degree. Our faculty members win major teaching and research awards, publish in prominent scholarly journals, address global policymakers and advise Canadian governments at all levels on the most pressing issues facing society today. From a range of backgrounds, law schools, countries and perspectives, our faculty provide you with insights into cutting-edge legal, social, economic and political issues to keep you at the top of your field. 66

We're seeing changes in the landscape of the legal profession. Law firms like Stikeman Elliott are so excited to work together with the bright, entrepreneurial, hard-working, and forward-thinking U of T law students and graduates to help create a legal environment that celebrates the richness of different backgrounds. Knowing you are the leaders of tomorrow, I feel incredibly optimistic about our collective future.

RONA GHANBARI | HBSS (OTTAWA) 2014, JD (TORONTO) 2017 Interim Director, Student Programs, Toronto Stikeman Elliott LLP

Rona is responsible for the recruitment, onboarding and integration of summer and articling students and leads the firm's student program in Toronto. Prior to her current role, Rona was an associate practising in the Corporate Group in the Toronto office. Rona volunteers with various not-for-profit organizations, such as Matthew House Toronto's Refugee Hearing Program, where she helps refugees prepare for hearings before the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. At U of T Law Rona was the Editor-in-Chief of Rights Review Magazine, the independent student-led publication of the faculty's International Human Rights Program.

TOP STUDENTS ATTRACT TOP EMPLOYERS

We provide top-notch support to help you define and launch your career, whether your aspirations are in government, academia, social justice, private practice, business or the arts.

Our Career Development Office (CDO) provides extensive career planning and professional development workshops, résumé and cover letter reviews, interview preparation and access to postings for summer, articling and post-graduation jobs.

TOP RECRUITERS FROM THE MAJOR LEGAL MARKETS COME ON CAMPUS TO HIRE OUR STUDENTS

VANCOUVER CALGARY TORONTO OTTAWA NEW YORK



2023-2024 CDO SUPPORTS

248 Articling job postings

296 Combined first and second year summer job postings

203 Career

workshops, information sessions, events and firm tours facilitated

1922 Counselling appointments including individual consultations, mock interviews, résumé and cover letter reviews

Growing up as a Métis, my interest in Indigenous law was recatalyzed by the faculty and community at U of T which centered the intersection of the theoretical and pragmatic. This gave me the grounding to explore options beyond traditional law firms and work directly with Indigenous communities, supporting and advocating for what they understand reconciliation and self-governance to mean for their people.

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WANEKIA DUNN | BA & MA (CARLETON) 2010 & 2013, JD & LLM (TORONTO) 2019 & 2020 Member, Indigenous Law Students' Association 2016-2020 U of T team Member, kawaskimhon National Aboriginal Law Moot Legal Intern, Métis Nation of Canada 2018

LAW & POLICY LEAD, INDIGENOUS HOMELAND INITIATIVE, ECOTRUST CANADA

ARTICLING AND EMPLOYMENT

Our students' unmatched success in the job market tells our story best.

2024 JD GRADUATES

Articling Positions

- 212 JD graduates
- 192 Full-time articling, clerkship and New York associate positions
 - 2 Seeking articling positions
 - **0** Non-practicing careers, graduate studies, deferring articles, or Law Practice Program
- **18** Unreported

Clerking positions at appellate and trial courts in Canada

Supreme Court of Canada Federal Courts Provincial Courts of Appeal **Provincial Superior Courts**

2024 SUMMER JOBS FOR STUDENTS IN EARLY YEARS

Second Year Students



Students completed 2nd year





98 Positions in clinics, fellowships, research assistantships, and in-house at U of T I aw

U of T Law hires over 100 students in paid summer iobs through our Research Assistant Program and Student Employment Program.



WE INVEST IN YOU

First Year Students



Private practice firms, and company in-house positions

Government and 10 clerkship positions



TOP 10

ARTICLING

PRACTICE

- Government & Public Interest Law
- Litigation
- 5 Labour & Employment Law
- Family Law
- 7 Personal Injury Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- Criminal Law
- Real Estate Law

WHERE OUR **STUDENTS** ARTICLE

74% Greater Toronto Area

17% New York City

2% Alberta & British Columbia

2% Ottawa

5% **Flsewhere**

Page statistics as of August 2024. Percentages are rounded.

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U of T provided a gateway to New York City for me. The programs, professors and staff provided the foundation for me to practice capital markets law internationally. The relationships I've built with my professors and peers have been a source of support and guidance as I have navigated my career, and I am incredibly fortunate to have made so many life-long friends during my studies.

AMMA ANAMAN | BCOM (SASKATCHEWAN) 2008, JD/MBA (TORONTO) 2012

SUMMER ASSOCIATE & ASSOCIATE, Sullivan & Cromwell LLP (NYC) 2011 & 2012-2015 Associate, Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP (NYC) 2015-2017 Managing Director & Associate general counsel, Nasdaq (NYC)



Amma Anaman is Senior Director, Senior Associate Counsel (U.S. Listings) at Nasdaq in New York. She advises current and prospective Nasdaq-listed companies on Nasdaq's listing rules and corporate governance standards, supports Nasdaq's public policy initiatives, and is Corporate Secretary for the Nasdaq Foundation, whose mission is to advance diversity in investor engagement.

CONNECTING YOU TO LEADERS

U of T Law alumni are some of the top lawyers and leaders in Canada and around the world. Our alumni network, more than 12,000 strong, is an incredible resource both during law school and after graduation.

ALUMNI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Get matched with an experienced lawyer who is practicing in an area of law that you are keen to learn about. Mentors provide invaluable guidance on how to navigate the profession and create contacts that will help your career development.

LAWYERS DOING COOL THINGS

This popular podcast series features conversations with alumni about their cool jobs (both inside and outside the profession), and the important issues they are tackling. Previous speakers have been leaders in entertainment law, tech start ups, health law, cannabis law, sports law, military law, and international human rights.

PEER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

At the start of your first year you'll be matched with an upper-year student mentor who will provide the "inside scoop" about making your first year a success, from academic support to co-curricular and social activities.

FROM STELLAR STUDENTS TO SUCCESSFUL LAWYERS

LEADERSHIP SKILLS PROGRAM (LSP)

Succeeding in the legal profession requires outstanding academic skills and the ability to effectively communicate ideas, work with diverse colleagues, and manage conflict—all in a highly complex and sophisticated work environment.

Our LSP provides opportunities for you to work with leadership experts to develop the skills you need to transition from awesome student to successful lawyer.

ROTMAN@LAW

A partnership between U of T Law and the Rotman School of Management, Rotman@Law allows you to take online pre-MBA courses that cover the foundations of accounting, finance and statistics. You will build your business fluency, knowledge and skillset before you enter the profession.

SAMPLE LSP WORKSHOPS

COMMUNICATING IDEAS CONFLICT MANAGEMENT EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE NETWORKING AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT TEAM WORK

YOU BELONG AT U OF T LAW

We are committed to providing a welcoming and inclusive environment for all of our students, faculty, and staff.

NT TORONTO

IN TORONTO

NIVERSITY OF TORON

UNIVERSITY OF TORON

TORONTO

TORONTO

UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW

UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW

TORONTO



TORONTO

FACULTY OF LAW



Vibrant and diverse affinity student groups sustain our sense of community and offer unique opportunities for connection at the law school.

OUR 2024 FIRST YEAR (1L) CLASS

232 STUDENTS 56% WORE STUDENTS 5% MATURE STUDENTS (FIVE OR MORE YEARS OF NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE) 50% STUDENTS OF COLOUR 14% LGBTQ+ STUDENTS 17% WITH DISARIUTIES/HEAITH CONDITIONS





WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT/ **FIRST IN FAMILY TO** % 83 % 67 **GUARDIAN BORN OUTSIDE CANADA** ATTEND LAW SCHOOL FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND **GREW UP IN A** UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE % RURAL AREA 36 % **BORN OUTSIDE** 50 % A RELIGION **IDENTIFY WITH OF CANADA** UNDERGRADUATE **MEDIAN GPA OUT OF 4.0 ON** MEDIAN LSAT 3 **IREE FULL-TIME** SCORE, 94TH REPRESENTED UNDERGRADUATE YEARS PFRCFNTII F



ENTERING COMBINED PROGRAMS (LISTED ALPHABETICALLY)

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA) CRIMINOLGY (MA) ECONOMICS (MA) ENGLISH (MA) GLOBAL AFFAIRS (MGA) PUBLIC POLICY (MPP) SOCIAL WORK (MSW)



JOIN A STUDENT BODY THAT RANKS AMONG THE STRONGEST IN NORTH AMERICA

For JD first-year students, we dedicate the initial two weeks of school to orienting you to your new community. It is important to us that you are supported as you navigate the unique challenges that law school presents, such as adjusting to an unprecedented academic journey, making new friends, learning about the legal sector and how to conduct yourself professionally, and for many, thriving in a new city or country.

Each year a new team of upper year students leads the programming that enables you to develop the strong social bonds with your classmates that will last a lifetime. Our 2024 Orientation Coordinators, **Emma, Humza** and **Rebecca** proudly created a warm and welcoming environment that cultivated the exceptional JD school spirit at U of T Law!





We feel lucky to have been welcomed by such a kind group of upper-year students, faculty, and staff when we began 1L last fall. While everyone's experiences look different, Orientation is where we met some of our best friends, study partners, and other members of our support system at U of T Law. Due to this positive experience, we wanted to be Orientation Coordinators to give back to the school community and provide that same level support to incoming students to incoming students that we received during our first days. We're part of a long tradition of integrating eager and ambitious new law students into the diverse and vibrant community that they will call home for the next three years.

At left, standing

HUMZA KHAN 2L | HBA (U OF T SCARBOROUGH) 2023 Founder & President, Mock Trial Association Competitor, Hamish Stewart Cup Moot Member, Law Follies

At right, standing

EMMA FARRELI 2L | BAH (QUEEN'S) 2023 CO-EDITOR, JOURNAL OF LAW & EQUALITY Competitor, Hamish Stewart Cup Moot Researcher, U of T Law International Human Rights Program

Seated

REBECCA DRAGUSIN 2L | BAH (WATERLOD) 2023 CO-EDITOR, JOURNAL OF LAW & EQUALITY Competitor, Hamish Stewart Cup Moot Competitor, Baby Hockey Arbitration Competition of Canada Researcher, U of T Law International Human Rights Program Member, Legal Theory Club Member, Christian Legal Fellowship







JOIN IN, EVERYONE IS WELCOME

What truly engages you? Culture, recreation, politics, media, performance, social issues, professional development or academic debates? Explore your passion and discover new interests by getting involved in the huge range of student clubs and activities that reflect the diversity and strength of our student body.



60+ STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

Our student clubs and student government host prominent speakers, put on plays, tackle social issues, and hold events that connect with the community.

Aboriginal Law Society Artists' Legal Advice Services Asia Law Society Athletics Association Black Law Students' Association **Business Law Society** Canadian Assoc. of Refugee Lawyers Canadian Hispanic Bar Association Cannabis Law Club Career Development Student Advisory Committee China Law Project Christian Legal Fellowship Criminal Law Students' Association Disabled Law Students' Association Emerging Practices Law Society Environmental Law Club Feminist Law Students' Association First Generation Network Health and Wellness Student Advisory Committee Health Law Club In Vino Veritas - Wine Tasting Club Indigenous Law Journal

Indigenous Law Students' Association Insurance Law Society International Commission of Jurists International Law Society Italian Law Students' Society JD/MBA Students' Association Jewish Law Students' Association Journal of Law & Equality Korean Law Students' Association Labour & Employment Law Society Law and Politics Club Law Ball Law Film Society Law Follies Law Games Law Poets Society Legal Hackers Legal Theory Club Litigation Association Mock Trial Association Muslim Law Students' Association Out in Law Out of Province Students' Association Peer Mentorship Program

Philosophy in Law Association Planning & Development Law Assoc. Polar Law Group Privacy & Cybersecurity Law Group Real Estate Law Society Runnymede Society South Asian Law Students' Association SPINLAW Sports and Entertainment Law Society Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Students' Law Society Supreme Chords (a capella group) Tax Law Society Technology and Intellectual Property Group Ultra Vires Student Newspaper U of T Animal Justice U of T Faculty of Law Review U of T Faculty of Law Union U of T Tabletop Gaming Club Venture Capital Law Society Women and the Law



Our first year (1L) program encourages you to develop close connections with your peers and professors. We will provide you with a deep and rigorous legal foundation rooted in diverse academic views about law and legal methodology.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSIVITY (EDI)

We strive to create a sense of belonging to ensure that the law school community – and the profession – is inclusive.

In our first year EDI series, students interact with legal scholars, practitioners and experts who provide critical perspectives on the link between equity and the practice of law.

The Office of the Assistant Dean, EDI oversees the implementation of the law school's EDI strategies while our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee also supports efforts to embed EDI principles in all law school activities and policies.



LEGAL METHODS INTENSIVE

One of the central goals of our JD Program is to train you to "think like a lawyer." The first year begins with a legal methods intensive course during the last two weeks in August, that introduces you to the foundational information and reasoning needed to make the most of the JD program.

LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING

The work product of lawyers consists of words that must be carefully selected based on deep understanding and research. Our experts will guide you through a series of carefully designed research and writing assignments to equip you to produce well-crafted legal text.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE LAW

This course aims to address the range of considerations arising out of past and present interactions between Indigenous peoples and the Canadian legal system.

SUBSTANTIVE LAW COURSES

Every student takes one of the principal first year courses in a yearlong small group of 16 students. The remaining five principal courses are single-term, taught in larger groups, and comprise of Constitutional Law, Contract Law, Criminal Law, Property Law, and Tort Law.

WELLNESS & ACADEMIC SUPPORT

Let's be honest—law school is amazing but it also can be challenging at times.

Like other professional programs, law school is a rigorous academic and co-curricular program that demands a lot from students. That's why we offer a broad range of student supports to make sure that you get the most out of your law school experience.

Through tutoring programs, peer and alumni mentoring programs, resilience coaching, and dedicated in-house mental health counselling, we support you to thrive in law school and your future career.

YOUR UPPER YEARS: CHART YOUR PATH

Building on the foundation of your 1L year, in the upper years you have the freedom to shape your studies to suit your interests and professional goals. Choose from over 180 courses that span the spectrum of legal practice and scholarship.

FOCUS ON ONE OR SEVERAL AREAS, INCLUDING:

Aboriginal Law Academic Research and Writing Administrative and Regulatory Law Business Law Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution Constitutional Law Criminal Law and Procedure Environmental Law and Natural Resources Family Law and Children Health Law Intellectual Property and Innovation Law International, Comparative and Transnational Law Judges and Courts Labour Law Law and Development Legal Ethics and Professionalism Legal Theory/ Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Private Law Social Justice and Equality Taxation Law

Augment your JD studies with courses offered by other academic units at U of T. Complete a collaborative program or earn an additional certificate or a graduate degree.

CERTIFICATES

Aboriginal Legal Studies Environmental Studies Sexual Diversity & Gender Studies

COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM

Jewish Studies

COMBINED DEGREE PROGRAMS

JD/Master of Business Administration JD/Master of Global Affairs JD/Master of Information JD/Master of Public Policy JD/Master of Social Work JD/MA in Criminology JD/MA in Economics JD/MA in English JD/MA in European & Russian Affairs JD/PhD in Criminology JD/PhD in Economics JD/PhD in Philosophy JD/PhD in Political Science

JANUARY INTERSESSION

U of T Law attracts leading visiting academics from the world's top law schools.

Held in early January, the intersession offers intensive, week-long courses taught by visiting professors offering diverse perspectives on a huge range of legal topics. I deliberated for two years before quitting my job as a tax manager to return to school. As a mother of two young children, I was afraid that I would not be able to commit fully to law school. However, after discussions with some of the most reputable professors in their field and surrounding myself with inspiring peers, I can say with confidence that I'll never regret my decision to attend U of T Law.

XUE GAO | BCOM (TORONTO) 2015, CPA | JD (TORONTO) 2024 1L VOLUNTEER, FAMILY LAW, DOWNTOWN LEGAL SERVICES 1L SUMMER RESEARCH ASSISTANT, U OF T LAW 1L SUMMER STUDENT, TORYS LLP (TORONTO) 2L SUMMER STUDENT & 2024-2025 ARTICLING STUDENT, OSLER, HOSKIN & HARCOURT LLP (TORONTO)



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Making the connection between the classroom and real-life lawyering will prepare you for practice in whatever area you choose.

At U of T Law the range of experiential opportunities is impressive. You can take a course in trial advocacy, compete in an intellectual property moot, immerse yourself in an international human rights clinic, do an externship with the municipal government, or deliver pro bono services to communities facing barriers to justice.

IN-HOUSE CLINICS

Exclusive to our law students, U of T Law houses several legal clinics that offer academic credit in part-time, half-time and intensive, full-time formats. Students can also volunteer. Our clinics are led by full-time directors who are highly-regarded experts in their fields.

THE DAVID ASPER CENTRE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

The Asper Centre focuses on advocacy, research and education about Canadian constitutional rights. Students work on leading constitutional and Charter rights cases at the highest courts in Canada and learn how to advocate for Charter-based law reform.

THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM (IHRP)

Established in 1987, our IHRP serves as a centre for international human rights work, through which experienced lawyers, faculty members, and law students engage in meaningful social change. The IHRP serves as a partner in international and domestic social movements, that encourage Canada's adherence to its international human rights commitments, while training the next generation of movement lawyers in Canada. Students acquire litigation and advocacy experience in areas such as

SUPERB CLINICAL EDUCATION, EXCLUSIVE TO U OF T LAW STUDENTS

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS CRIMINAL LAW DISABILITY, HEALTH & INCOME SECURITY EMPLOYMENT LAW FAMILY LAW HOUSING LAW INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTOR PROTECTION RIGHTS REFUGEE AND IMMIGRATION LAW UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

indigenous rights, social justice, climate justice, and corporate accountability.

DOWNTOWN LEGAL SERVICES (DLS)

DLS is the law school's community legal clinic. Students assist clients who are experiencing legal problems in a number of high priority areas of law including criminal, employment, family, disability, health, income security, housing, refugee and immigration and university affairs. Students critically examine the intersections of law and social inequality while developing the professionalism and ethical literacy that is essential to practicing law.

FUTURE OF LAW LAB

The lab explores the intersections between technology, entrepreneurship and innovation. Students discover how artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms are changing the practice of law, discuss the many impacts of technology on society, and learn about design-thinking concepts as they formulate solutions to the most pressing issues affecting access to justice.

INVESTOR PROTECTION CLINIC (IPC)

The IPC is committed to a diverse range of initiatives that empower and educate the community. Its work focuses on protecting vulnerable populations who are at risk of suffering harm and financial loss relating to their investments, including the elderly and newcomers to Canada. By participating in these ground-breaking projects, such as community education seminars and the development of policy recommendations, IPC students become active players in shaping the destiny of the financial sector while enriching the lives of those around them.

At U of T's housing law clinic I meet independently with clients from all walks of life on issues such as rent increases and maintenance disputes. More acutely, our team is often the last line of defense against eviction. With the guidance of a supportive supervising lawyer, I provide summary advice, negotiate settlements and represent clients at tribunal hearings.

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This experience has broadened my interest in pursuing a career in litigation and underscored the importance of working in an environment that prioritizes pro bono efforts and human rights.

AMIT NEHRU 2L | BSCH (MCMASTER) 2021 JD STUDENT AMBASSADOR 1L SUMMER CASEWORKER, HOUSING LAW CLINIC, DOWNTOWN LEGAL SERVICES 1L & 2L EDITOR, U OF T FACULY OF LAW REVIEW

MAKING AN IMPACT

COMMUNITY EXTERNSHIPS

In addition to our in-house clinics, you can participate in clinical placements for academic credit at community clinics and organizations. U of T Law offers placements with 20 externship partners.

EXTERNSHIP CLINICS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Aboriginal Rights & Social Justice | Aboriginal Legal Services clinic Administrative Law | Legislative Assembly Statutory Interpretation externship Business Law | Innovation and Entrepreneurship externship Business Law | Mergers and Acquisitions Litigation externship Criminal Justice | Innocence Canada externship Criminal Justice | John Howard Society of Ontario externship Environmental Law | Environmental Law externship Global Affairs & Public Policy | The Citizen Lab externship Health Law | Health Law, Innovation and Policy Lab at Mount Sinai Hospital Housing Law | Advancing the Right to Housing externship Human Rights Law | Ontario Human Rights Commission externship Intellectual Property Law | Structural Genomics Consortium externship Labour & Employment Law | Advocates for Injured Workers clinic Litigation | Appellate Criminal Litigation externship Litigation | Crown Litigation (civil litigation) Litigation | Pro Bono Ontario litigation externship (variety of legal areas) Media Law | Investigative Journalism Bureau/Toronto Star externship Municipal Law | City of Toronto: Municipal Government Lawyering externship Supporting Survivors of Violence | Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic Social Justice | Health Justice Program at St. Michael's Hospital

PRO BONO STUDENTS CANADA (PBSC)

Founded by U of T Law in 1996, PBSC is the largest pro bono organization in Canada with chapters in 22 law schools. PBSC's volunteer students and supervising lawyers partner with community organizations to provide free legal support to people facing barriers to justice. This includes legal research, creating public legal education resources, and supporting clients and self-represented litigants through specialized clinics, in multiple areas of law. U of T Law students have the unique opportunity to participate in two of PBSC's award winning initiatives, the Family Justice Centre and the Indigenous Human Rights Program.

GO GLOBAL: STUDY, RESEARCH, WORK

Spend a semester at top law schools on academic exchange in some of the world's best cities.

AUCKLAND	AMSTERDAM
SYDNEY	BRUSSELS
BEIJING	GENEVA
HONG KONG	LYON
SINGAPORE	PARIS
TEL AVIV	VIENNA
DUBLIN	BUDAPEST
GLASGOW	OSLO
LONDON	UPPSALA

SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS

U of T Law offers dozens of paid positions with public interest and community organizations. For example, students can spend the summer with the United Nations in Geneva, a grass-roots human rights organization in Kenya, an Indigenous Band Council in Northern Ontario, a Torontobased community advocacy organization, or a Chinese law firm in Shanghai.

INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES OFFICE (IIO)

In accordance with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, Indigenous and non-Indigenous students engage with Indigenous Elders, scholars, activists and professionals in classes and activities at the faculty, in the courts and in the community.

You can compete in the Kawaskimhon Moot, work on the student-run Indigenous Law Journal, and have opportunities to learn about Indigenous and Aboriginal law inside and outside the classroom.

You can also gain practical experience by participating in our clinical program with Aboriginal Legal Services, and deepen your academic experience with the Certificate in Aboriginal Legal Studies.

Tawnshi! I'm a Métis Cree woman from Treaty 6 territory traditional lands in Alberta. At LAWS, I worked to research and recommend the mission, vision and design of a new Access to Law Program that will offer outreach, engagement and support to Indigenous students, spanning elementary school to the law school application process.

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BRIANNA MORRISON 3L JD/MBA | BA (ALBERTA) 2021 1L REPRESENTATIVE, INDIGENOUS LAW STUDENTS' ASSOC. CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, INDIGENOUS LAW JOURNAL CO-HOST, INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PODCAST, PBSC 1L SUMMER STUDENT, LAW IN ACTION WITHIN SCHOOLS 2L SUMMER STUDENT, ONTARIO MINISTRY OF CHILDREN, COMMUNITY & SOCIAL SERVICES



ALL FIGURES LISTED ARE IN CANADIAN CURRENCY, ESTIMATES ARE ROUNDED TO \$100

FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT MAKES EVERYTHING POSSIBLE

Choosing to go to law school is a significant and rewarding investment in your life. If you are offered admission, tuition should not be a barrier to your education or your career. The Faculty of Law's approach to financial aid is different than most law schools. With less than a handful of merit scholarships available, we apply an equitable and transparent approach to giving aid, where the students with the greatest financial need receive the most assistance.

POST-GRADUATION DEBT REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The rumours are true: most law students in North America graduate with some debt. They also go on to fulfilling positions in a range of fields. Many of our students choose to dedicate themselves to legal aid clinics or specialty law firms that offer relatively lower-paying salaries. To support their career choices, we assist these students with the repayment of their eligible law school debt for up to ten years after graduation. Ours is the leading program of its kind in Canada.

FEES & ESTIMATED EXPENSES

For our aid assessment, the same budget is applied to all eligible domestic students for the 2024-2025 academic year.

Ontario resident tuition: \$33,040 Non-Ontario resident tuition: \$37,510 Incidental and ancillary fees: \$1,990 Housing - living with parent(s): \$4,900 Housing - living independently: \$17,370 Personal expenses: \$3,800

NO GUESSING GET AN INSTANT AID ESTIMATE

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We make it easy for you to know the amount of financial aid you may receive. Use our exclusive online tool for an aid package estimate tailored to your financial means at

law.utoronto.ca/ financial-aid-estimator

PLANS THAT WORK

Silvianna who lives away from home, came from a single parent home in Ontario with an annual parental income of \$79,360. She received a U of T Law bursary of \$31,000 and a government student aid grant of \$4,300. This non-repayable aid provided \$35,300 towards her tuition and expenses.

Silvianna's aid covered 100% of academic fees. **Ibex's** parents earn an annual income of \$219,330. As an Alberta resident, Ibex received a U of T Law bursary of \$16,580 and a government student aid grant of \$4,200. The non-repayable aid contributed \$20,780 toward tuition and expenses. lbex received aid covered 52% of academic fees.

NOTE: THESE ARE SAMPLE PLANS FOR 2024-2025 ONLY. YOUR U OF T LAW FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE WILL BE ASSESSED BASED ON THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE IN YOUR U OF T LAW FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION.

FINANCIAL AID STATS 2023-2024

\$5.4 million AWARDED BURSARIES

\$23,384 AVERAGE BURSARY

284 # OF STUDENTS WHO APPLIED FOR FINANCIAL AID

82%

66

% OF FINANCIAL AID Applicants who received Bursaries

Coming from a small town and being the first in my family to attend university, I thought my dream of attending U of T Law would be unachievable. This was prior to me learning about their incredible JD financial aid program.

For example, during my second year I received a bursary that covered over 60% of my tuition as well as reimbursements for the interest on loans to cover the remaining expenses. Thanks to the aid support, I was unimpeded financially, which enabled me to land my dream job. I could completely focus on my studies, extracurriculars and building a great network without worrying about debt and affording tuition.

VANESSA GOLTON BSC (WESTERN) 2019 | JD (TORONTO) 2022 Associate, Bennett Jones LLP (Toronto)

Admissions

For full details on our JD admission policies, requirements and application procedures, visit *law.utoronto.ca/admissions*

SELECTION

Our admissions process is designed to identify exceptional students who bring a broad set of life experiences to the study of law.

We consider all aspects of your application: academic, intellectual and personal.

The assessment is based two-thirds on the academic record and LSAT, and one-third on personal information. Our "whole person review" includes at least three readers, including faculty, staff and students. We have no quotas of any kind. We seek outstanding candidates from a wide variety of institutions, who come from across Canada and the world, of a variety of ages, with varied life experiences. This careful process allows us to assemble a vibrant and inclusive class where you will flourish.

JD ADMISSION CATEGORIES

General - the majority of applicants.

Indigenous – Indigenous people, including those of First Nations (status and non-status), Métis and Inuit heritage, whose representation in the legal profession we strive to increase.

Mature – those who will have at least five complete years of non-academic experience (outside of full-time study) by September 2025.

BLACK STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS (BSAP)

Regardless of admission category, Black candidates can opt to apply to this stream, which aims to increase Black law student representation at U of T Law.

BSAP applicants will have their personal profiles reviewed by members of the Black community, including our staff, students, faculty and alumni.

You must meet the same LSAT and academic requirements for admission that we seek from all candidates. BSAP does not have a designated quota for admission.

To be considered for BSAP, apply to a JD program by our standard deadlines and procedures, and also select the BSAP option in the *School Submissions* section of the application form.

First-Year Admission Requirements

ACADEMIC RECORD & GPA

By the end of May 2025, you will have successfully completed at least a three-year undergraduate degree at a recognized institution.

No particular courses are recommended. Almost all of our students have completed a four-year undergraduate university degree. Over the last decade, all of the admitted Mature applicants had some university education.

Last year's entering class had a 3.91 out of 4.0 median GPA on their best three years of full-time undergraduate study.

LSAT: LAW SCHOOL ADMISSION TEST

For entry in August 2025, we accept scores from standard and Flex tests taken from June 2019 to January 2025 inclusive. Last year's entering class had a median LSAT score of 167 (94th percentile).

PERSONAL STATEMENT

This is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the selection committee, help it assess your likelihood of success at the Faculty of Law and predict what your contributions to the class will be. Try to demonstrate how your academics, experience (work and personal) and career goals make you an excellent fit for the program.

OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ESSAY

You may provide further personal information from a choice of topics we suggest, such as a meaningful intellectual experience, a vision of your future goals, obstacles to achievement, or how your identity, background and experiences will contribute to the diversity of the law school.

BSAP ESSAY

Black Student Application Process candidates must submit the standard admission materials plus an essay highlighting why they chose the BSAP stream.

RÉSUMÉS

Required for Mature applicants only.

INTERVIEWS, REFERENCES, GRE, GMAT, TOEFL, IELTS

These are neither required nor requested.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

AUGUST 7-11, 2024 LSAT test dates

AUGUST 22, 2024 JD Applications open online for entry in 2025

SEPTEMBER 4-7, 2024 LSAT test dates

SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2024

U of T Law application information sessions *law.utoronto.ca/admissionevents*

SEPTEMBER ONWARD

U of T Law campus tours *law.utoronto.ca/campustour*

OCTOBER 1-5, 2024 LSAT test dates

NOVEMBER 1, 2024 JD Year 1 application deadline

NOVEMBER 6-9, 2024 LSAT test dates

DECEMBER 2024 - MARCH 2025

JD Year 1 offers of admission made. Most offers are issued by late-February.

JANUARY 15-18, 2025

LSAT test dates (last acceptable test for 2025 JD Year 1 admission)

FEBRUARY 21, 2025** Welcome Day for students offered admission

APRIL 1, 2025

Deadline for acceptance of JD Year 1 offers of admission made by April 1

JULY 7, 2025** UofT Law JD Financial Aid application deadline

AUGUST 18, 2025** Start of JD Year 1 classes

** Tentative date LSAT dates for Canada & USA are listed



How to Apply

www.ouac.on.ca/olsas

Obtain, submit and pay for the application online with the Ontario Law School Application Service (OLSAS), operated by the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC).

Submit all required documents directly to OLSAS, as per the instructions on its website.

For JD combined degree programs, apply to each program separately according to its own admission requirements and application procedures.

Timing of Admission Decisions, Key Dates

Your file is considered complete when all required documents have been submitted to OLSAS, and are then forwarded to us by OLSAS for assessment.

For first year applicants, the earliest that we usually review any files, whether complete or incomplete, will be within a week after the close of the November 1 application deadline.

As much as possible, we try to review completed files quickly. For first year applicants, we expect to make three main rounds of offers of admission. The first round occurs in early December, the second round in late-February, and the final round in mid-March. Most offers are issued by mid-February.

I'm here to learn, engage and make a difference. In my first year I've honed my writing skills from co-editing the Prisoner's Right Handbook on inmates' constitutional rights through the Asper clinic. It's also been gratifying to support undergrad students with getting into law school as a BLSA reviewer of admission personal statements and as LSAT instructor and co-facilitator of the inaugural LSPP@UTSC. It's meant a lot to see how sharing my own law school journey has inspired and encouraged them toward their own.

BRITTANY WILLIAMS 2L | BAH (MCMASTER) 2021 1L CO-EDITOR, ASPER CENTRE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS MEMBER, BLACK LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION ALUMNA, BLACK FUTURE LAWYERS ALUMNA, LAW SCHOOL ACCESS PROGRAM, U OF T LAW INSTRUCTOR & CO-FACILITATOR, LAW SCHOOL PREP PROGRAM, UTSC 2023



GET A HEAD START

We are proud to offer several programs and resources that aim to increase access to legal education.

ANYTIME

BECOMING A LAWYER IN ONTARIO

law.utoronto.ca/getstarted

This resource is your starting point if you're thinking about becoming a lawyer. Prepared by U of T Law, it provides a comprehensive overview of the path from high school to becoming licensed to practice law.

DURING HIGH SCHOOL

LAWS: LAW IN ACTION WITHIN SCHOOLS lawinaction.ca

Founded by U of T Law in 2005, LAWS is Canada's leading law school youth access program. As an award-winning model of collaboration that has transformative impact on high school students facing personal or systemic barriers, LAWS activities increase legal knowledge, encourage academic engagement and promote diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. LAWS works with over 1,200 youth and relies on the support of over 400 justice sector volunteers, including 100 law students, annually.

YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAM

ysp.utoronto.ca

In partnership with the Temerty Faculty of Medicine, every summer the Faculty of Law offers a unique summer camp opportunity for high school students who are keen about the law. Students discuss advanced legal concepts, learn about the reality of the Canadian legal system, and apply their knowledge in a variety of experiential learning environments.

DURING UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE

BLACK FUTURE LAWYERS

bfl.law.utoronto.ca

Black Future Lawyers (BFL) is a collaboration between U of T Law, our Black Law Students' Association, members of our Black alumni community, and the broader legal profession. Funded by U of T's Provost's office, U of T Law, and leading national law firms, BFL offers supports and engagement opportunities to Black undergraduate students who aspire to go to law school and become lawyers. BFL's goal is to increase the number of Black students who attend law school and join the legal profession.

INDIGENOUS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

law.utoronto.ca/iio

We welcome Indigenous candidates who are curious about a legal career to contact us for guidance and support from Indigenous members of our law school community.

LAW SCHOOL ACCESS PROGRAM (LSAP)

law.utoronto.ca/lsap

For more than a decade, U of T Law offers a free summer LSAT preparation course enhanced with law school admissions support for high-potential current degree students or recent degree graduates from any university/college, who are any of: Black, Indigenous, from low-income families, or alumni of our LAWS youth access program.

LAW SCHOOL PREP PROGRAM (LSPP) @ UTSC

utsc.utoronto.ca/aacc/law-school-prep-program

Modelled after, and in collaboration with, the U of T Law School Access Program (LSAP), the U of T Scarborough campus offers free summer LSAT preparation for its undergraduate students.

U OF T CUP UNDERGRADUATE MOOT COMPETITION uoftmoot.ca

Established in 2016, U of T Law in partnership with the U of T Pre-Law Society undergraduate student club holds a weekend-long competition on a Supreme Court social justice case. This winter moot is open to undergraduate teams from universities across Canada and the USA.

LAW.UTORONTO.CA

VISIT US!

Visiting us is the best way to experience our law school community. Book your student-led tour today at *law.utoronto.ca/campustour*.

Can't make it to the law school? Check out our admissions events page to see when we will be visiting a location near you at *law.utoronto.ca/admissionevents*.

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