

Dear Incoming Transfer Student,

Writing to provide information about the Law School's curricular offerings and academic support. We hope this information will assist in making well-informed decisions regarding your academic experience here. Be mindful that you will be registering on Wednesday, August 17 and while your schedule can be altered during the ADD/DROP period, you'll want to have a pretty good idea as to both your fall and spring semesters.

Note that you should be able to access any of the active links included here if you are reading this from your @law.gwu.edu email account or by logging into the [GW Law portal](#).

2022-2023 GW Law Academic Calendar

You will find the [Academic Calendar](#) along with other important course scheduling and enrollment documents on the [Records Office Fall 2022 page](#). Incoming transfers have one of two start dates for the fall semester. If you need to take **Civil Procedure** or **Torts** you will be required to take it this fall. Classes for these required courses begin **Monday, August 22** when first-year, first semester classes commence. If you need to take Property, Legislation and Regulation, and/or Constitutional Law I this fall to complete GW Law's first-year curriculum/graduation requirement, these classes start on Monday, August 29 when all other upper-level courses begin.

GW Law's Field Placement Program - Fall 2022

The priority deadline for submitting the Fall 2022 Field Placement Registration Form is Friday, August 5, 2022. Please view the [Field Placement page of MyLaw](#) for more information about the Program. We encourage students to apply as soon as possible to guarantee their spot in the Program, and we will continue accepting applications after August 5 as space allows.

The Field Placement Program requires JD students to enroll in two courses: 1) Field Placement (for their externship work), and 2) a corequisite course that directly aligns with their externship.

In order to participate in the Program, students must do the following:

(1) Secure a qualifying externship. Legal externships with judicial, government and nonprofit organizations are eligible for academic credit. Additionally, for the 2022-2023 academic year, the Field Placement Program is implementing a pilot program whereby students may earn academic credit for their paid externship work with federal agencies and federal courts only when required by the Field Placement site. For more specific parameters of the pilot program and a full outline of Program requirements, please view the [Field Placement Program Student Handbook](#).

(2) Submit the [Fall 2022 Registration Form](#). Once an externship is secured, you may complete the registration form. Students will complete the first half of the form, and their placement supervisor will complete the second. We will review the completed form and notify students confirmation of their acceptance into the Program shortly thereafter. Additionally, we will confirm which corequisite course students are assigned to after August 5, 2022.

(3) Attend a mandatory orientation session. All first-time Program participants must attend ONE mandatory Program orientation session. Field Placement Orientation Sessions are scheduled for the following times:

- Tuesday, August 30, 2022, from 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM (virtual)
- Wednesday, August 31, 2022, from 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (in person)
- Thursday, September 1, 2022, from 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (virtual)

Students are required to attend the full hour in order to participate in the Program. Students will register for a Program Orientation Session when they complete the Fall 2022 Student Extern Registration Form.

Please contact the Field Placement Program (fieldplacement@law.gwu.edu) with any questions or concerns.

GW Law Advocacy Programs

Advocacy Programs facilitates and hosts student participation in competitions in the areas of ADR, mock trial, and moot court. For the 2021-22 academic year, GW excelled in all three external (against other law schools) advocacy competitions earning recognition 26 times: including 2 championships, 5 best oral advocates, and 3 best written submissions. NICA annually ranks all advocacy programs solely on the basis of their success in external competitions, and GW Law finished as the 21st best program in the country.

Additionally, GW hosts four, separate, one-credit, internal (only against GW students) competitions each year, which - like other electives - are open to all upper-level students. Each provides the opportunity to earn membership on the sponsoring Board: ADR, mock trial, and moot court.

For detailed information you can review this [information sheet](#) on GW Law's Advocacy Competitions and visit the [Advocacy Programs page](#) on the Portal. If students have any questions, please contact David Johnson, Assistant Dean for Pro Bono & Advocacy Programs, at davidjohnson@law.gwu.edu.

GW Law Jacob Burns Community Legal Clinics

GW Law is home to sixteen clinics. In a clinic, you receive academic credit (2-6 credits) as you represent clients in real cases. In a weekly seminar, you learn the substantive law and skills necessary for you to represent your clients. Under the supervision of GW Law faculty, you then

take responsibility for all the lawyering tasks your clinic work requires. Each clinic focuses on a different area of the law from international to domestic, transactional to litigation, and human rights to domestic violence. If you are interested in participating in a clinic, you will want to review important information about the clinics, including prerequisites.

Recruitment for the spring semester clinics begins in October and students learn if they are accepted the week prior to spring semester registration. For information on Fall 2022 availability, clinic descriptions, and information on the clinic application process visit the portal at

<https://my.law.gwu.edu/DepartmentInformation/default.aspx?Dept=Clinics&deptname=Clinics>

GW Law Journals and Transfer Journal Competition

GW Law's student journals will conduct a write-on competition for transfer students beginning **Thursday, August 18 at 9 AM to Monday, August 22 at 9 AM**. Competitors will have the ability to rank participating journals to be considered for membership.

Law students must complete four semesters of journal work at GW Law. Journal work includes writing a Note and completing regular production assignments. Students will earn one ungraded credit, *i.e.*, a non-letter grade, for each semester of work. Semesters in which students complete their Note will be designated with Honors, Pass, Low Pass, and No Credit. Once a law student has completed the fourth semester of journal the designated non-letter grade will lodge retroactively to the semester earned on their transcript.

Students transferring into GW Law as **2L full-time** students should participate in the August competition and will be notified before the end of the Add/Drop period if they have been selected for a journal. As students must complete four semesters of journal membership, this is the only opportunity for these students to apply for a journal. Students transferring into GW Law as **2L part-time** students should wait to participate until the regular competition in February/March 2023 unless you intend to graduate early (e.g., December 2024). Those 2L part-time students participating in the competition during the spring semester will be notified of the results in mid-summer 2023.

The competition is entirely electronic, and all materials will be available via the 2022 GW Journal Competition TWEN page. You will receive an email the morning of Tuesday, August 17, with instructions to access your GW Westlaw/TWEN account. The opportunity to ask questions will be provided during Orientation. In the meantime, you can direct questions about the competition to gwjournalcompetition@law.gwu.edu.

Recognition of Juris Doctor Concentrations

Candidates for the Juris Doctor degree may earn a Recognition of Concentration in eleven substantive fields. Recognition requires students to complete a minimum number of credit hours in the concentration area, after completion of the required first-year curriculum. Specific requirements are established by the concentration directors, listed below, who are responsible for the administration of the recognition. Students who wish to receive a Recognition of Concentration are required to register that intention with the concentration director prior to their final semester in law school, but preferably earlier in their upper-level years. The concentration directors will advise interested students on the concentration area, program requirements, and course options.

More information specific to each concentration will be available in the forthcoming 2022-2023 GW Law Bulletin. In the meantime, the Concentration Directors and Coordinators for the upcoming academic year are listed below. Feel free to reach out if you are considering a concentration.

- Business & Finance Law, [Professor Dalia Tsuk Mitchell](#)
- Energy Law, [Senior Advisor Donna Attanasio](#)
- Environmental Law, [Assistant Dean Randall Abate](#)
- Family Law, [Associate Dean Laurie Kohn](#)
- Government Procurement Law, [Assistant Dean Jessica Tillipman](#)
- Health Law, [Professor Sonia Suter](#)
- Intellectual Property Law, [Associate Dean John Whealan](#)
- International and Comparative Law, [Associate Dean Rosa Celorio](#)
- International Business Law, [Associate Dean Rosa Celorio](#) & [Professor Dalia Tsuk Mitchell](#)
- National Security and Cybersecurity Law, [Associate Dean Lisa Schenck](#)
- National Security and U.S. Foreign Relations Law, [Associate Dean Lisa Schenck](#)

We hope you find this information useful. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to reach out to us at deanofstudents@law.gwu.edu with any questions you may have.

The Dean of Students Office

deanofstudents@law.gwu.edu