2012

JD Prospectus, 2012-2013

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For over one hundred years, Golden Gate University School of Law’s graduates have succeeded for the same reasons as their predecessors—because they are immersed in a broad and challenging curriculum stressing the fundamentals of legal theory, the specific skills vital to the practice of law, and the highest ethical and professional standards.

GGU Law’s students bring unique backgrounds and life experiences to a learning environment that is focused on excellence. The law school’s dynamic, urban setting in the heart of San Francisco’s financial district fosters confident, savvy, and socially responsible practitioners. Our location offers a rich array of opportunities to engage in pro bono and other legal work under the supervision of practicing lawyers and the guidance of thoughtful, generous, and experienced professors.

Our students are working professionals and recent college graduates from more than 100 undergraduate and graduate institutions. They represent a wide spectrum of ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. GGU Law is frequently cited as one of the country’s most diverse law schools, a fact of which we are exceedingly proud.

GGU Law graduates pursue traditional and non-traditional legal careers. Some become prosecutors or public defenders, trial or transactional attorneys, and ultimately, state and federal judges. Others run family businesses, work in the financial services industry, or compete in San Francisco’s booming real estate and high tech markets. Throughout your education here, you will hone your analytical skills and benefit from our practical, hands-on teaching methods.

In 2012 we welcomed two new full-time tenure track faculty members, one specializing in constitutional law, the other in microfinance and international law. This past summer 24 students participated in our innovative 1st STEP program, an intensive summer litigation training for aspiring courtroom advocates. In the fall we will host the Fourth Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lecture, which will feature former Chief Judge Vaughn Walker and a panel of high-profile judges discussing LGBT issues as they relate to the judiciary. It’s an exciting time to be part of our community, and we welcome your interest in applying to GGU Law.

I look forward to meeting you soon.

Rachel Van Cleave
Interim Dean & Professor of Law
Personalized Attention
Perfect Location
In the Heart of the Financial District

The GGU Law campus is steps away from hundreds of major law firms and financial institutions, local, state, and federal courthouses, and government agencies. Students pursue legal internships and other extracurricular learning opportunities, bringing to life what they learn in the classroom. Our graduates are prepared to use their knowledge and skills to hit the ground running after passing the bar.

GGU’s location in downtown San Francisco is perfect. Last year I worked as a legal intern at an office just blocks away from campus. When I’m not reading cases, I can surf on the western edge of the city at Ocean Beach.

Garrett Wheeler (JD 13)

Part-Time Evening Program

Our Part-Time Evening Program allows students to obtain a JD degree in four years while working full-time, caring for children or other family members, or simply taking fewer units per semester to lower the annual cost of attendance. Classes are taught by full-time faculty, and essential training and programming opportunities are carefully planned to accommodate the needs of evening students.

I chose to attend GGU Law because of the flexibility it offered for an older, working student like myself.

Treva Stewart (JD 05) Office of the Chief Trial Counsel, State Bar of California
A Premium on Practical Training

### Academics and Beyond

GGU Law’s interdisciplinary focus on legal education emphasizes practical skills training and experiential learning. From the beginning of their first year, students are tasked with analyzing legal problems from a variety of perspectives to devise creative solutions. Each year, Honors Lawyering Program participants represent clients facing eviction or limited access to government benefits. After a decade of work by GGU Law’s Environmental Law and Justice Clinic and community groups, San Francisco’s last fossil fuel plant was finally closed.

The law school’s rigorous curriculum is enhanced through unique programs that bring noted scholars and practitioners to campus. GGU Law recently hosted the Tenth Annual Intellectual Property Law & Policy Conference which featured renowned Ninth Circuit Judge Alex Kozinski. We pride ourselves on our rich tradition of substantive engagement with the legal community and the public at large.

### Library

Our Law Library houses the largest legal collection in San Francisco’s financial district. Six full-time dedicated reference librarians, including three licensed attorneys, work with students at every stage of their journey through law school. Recently renovated and expanded, it features state-of-the-art facilities including a spacious reading room, numerous private study areas, and remote access to all library resources.

I have taught at GGU Law for over 30 years. Our students are unique in that they bring a real sense of engagement with the law that makes them fun to teach.

Professor Robert Calhoun
Faculty

GGU Law relies on a faculty comprised of scholars and practitioners who are among the best in their fields. More than 40 full-time professors and dozens of adjunct instructors inspire our students to succeed in and out of the classroom. Our professors give students a nuanced view of complex legal and policy challenges while simultaneously focusing on the everyday experiences of real clients.

Recent Publications and Presentations

Marci Seville, Domestic Worker Organizing: Building a Contemporary Movement for Dignity and Power, 75 Albany L. Rev. 413 (2012).


Year One
Laying the Foundation

Students begin their studies with an introductory year of foundational training that includes a practice-based elective in the spring. Upper-year students often narrow their focus, choosing one or more areas of concentration and pursuing myriad related opportunities for which they can receive academic credit. These include Certificates of Specialization, on-campus clinics, internships with private or public sector law offices, judicial externships, Moot Court competitions, Law Review, and joint JD/MBA or JD/PhD programs.
Evening students complete Criminal Law and Property during the third term. Other graduation requirements include eight units of subjects tested on the California bar exam, an upper division writing requirement, and an experiential learning requirement.

First-Year Courses*

>> Civil Procedure I, II
>> Contracts I, II
>> Criminal Law
>> Lawyering Elective – Designed to introduce first-year students to the basics of legal practice through simulations and real-world problems, first-year electives give students the opportunity to select one of several courses that match their interests. Recent offerings include Ethics in Criminal Law, Hot Topics in Business Bankruptcy Law, White Collar Crime in Practice, and Asylum Law.
>> Writing and Research I, II
>> Property
>> Torts

Other Required Courses

>> Appellate Advocacy
>> Constitutional Law I, II
>> Criminal Procedure I
>> Evidence
>> Professional Responsibility

* Evening students complete Criminal Law and Property during the third term. Other graduation requirements include eight units of subjects tested on the California bar exam, an upper division writing requirement, and an experiential learning requirement.

GGU Law students impress me with their excellent ability to think critically, research and write effectively, and communicate clearly.

The Hon. Thelton E. Henderson, Senior Judge, U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California
It was comforting to know that when I felt most overwhelmed, I could turn to my Peer Mentors for any kind of help.

Second-Year Law Student

Academic Development and Support
A variety of resources address students’ personal and professional needs.
Bar Exam Services

Students in their final year of study may access an array of specialized resources, including individual counseling and targeted workshops aimed at preparing them for the rigors of the bar examination.

Peer Mentoring

Upper-year Peer Mentors are assigned to all new students and help them acclimate to law school. Peer Mentors play a key role in welcoming new students, alleviating common fears associated with being in law school, and serving as liaisons between faculty and students.

Academic Development Program

GGU Law strives to ensure the success of every student. The Academic Development Program (ADP) offers supplemental services aimed at helping students improve their academic performance and legal skills. ADP provides advising, workshops, and support for all law students regardless of their academic performance.
Upper Level Curriculum

Choosing Your Path

In addition to twelve areas of concentration in which students may earn Certificates of Specialization after the first year, GGU Law offers outstanding hands-on training opportunities through an extensive array of field placements, award-winning on-site legal clinics, and numerous special programs.

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Honors Lawyering Program

The Honors Lawyering Program (HLP) takes a unique approach to legal education, integrating the theory, skills, and values learned in the classroom with actual work in the legal community — a modern-day version of the traditional apprenticeship.

HLP students complete the regular first-year curriculum and go on to participate in an intensive seminar-style summer session. By the third week of their HLP summer, students begin representing real clients under the guidance and supervision of practicing attorneys.

HLP students spend the fall at a full-time apprenticeship with a legal employer of their choice and can do so anywhere in the world. Students are free to explore opportunities in any area of practice, and a dedicated career adviser is assigned to assist them with securing these positions. During their third year, students are required to complete a second apprenticeship and are encouraged to enroll in additional practice-based courses.

Applicants to the full-time program may ask to be considered for HLP as part of the admissions process. Students may also apply to HLP upon completion of the first semester of law school.

Past HLP Employers

>> ACLU
>> California Supreme Court
>> Electronic Frontier Foundation
>> eBay
>> Gordon & Rees LLP
>> Kilpatrick Townsend & Stockton LLP
>> San Francisco District Attorney’s Office
>> Sierra Club
>> U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
>> Yahoo!

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Law and Leadership Program

One of a handful of law school leadership courses in the country, the Law and Leadership Program takes an innovative approach to developing leadership skills for future lawyers and reflects the law school’s particular commitment to training students to both value and exhibit professionalism. Following a competitive application process, a number of upper-division students take part in a year-long seminar led by faculty and senior staff mentors. Role-playing workshops and interactive exercises hone interpersonal skills and professional behavior. Law and Leadership students examine the vital connection between satisfying professional relationships and effective leadership.
I worked as an adviser to international students for many years before applying to law school. By my third year I had already represented a client in a housing dispute, externed for a Federal Magistrate Judge and the San Francisco Immigration Court, and served as a law clerk at an immigration non-profit. HLP’s unique schedule allowed me to take advantage of these opportunities to launch my career in immigration law.

Ellen Jenkins (JD 10) Executive Office for Immigration Review, U.S. Department of Justice
GGU Law provided me with a strategic approach that proved critical in my search for competitive legal opportunities. This personalized support not only played a key role in attaining a position as a federal law clerk, but also guided me in securing an associate position at a top-tier corporate law firm after my two-year clerkship.

Analisa Pratt (JD 06) Associate, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati; former Law Clerk, Honorable Mary H. Murguia, U.S. District Court
Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC)
The ELJC was one of the nation’s first on-site environmental justice clinics addressing the needs of communities impacted by industrial pollution. See page 20 for more information.

Women’s Employment Rights Clinic (WERC)
WERC provides counseling and legal aid to low-income workers facing unfair labor practices. See page 28 for more information.

Externships
Externships provide opportunities for students to earn academic credit for substantive legal training outside the classroom as part of the upper-level curriculum.

Pro Bono Tax Clinic
The Pro Bono Tax Clinic provides assistance to low-income individuals in certain tax disputes before the California Board of Equalization. See page 26 for more information.

Research Journals
The Golden Gate University Law Review is published three times a year and includes the Ninth Circuit Survey, the only law review edition dedicated solely to addressing cases decided by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. See page 20 for more information.

The Golden Gate University Environmental Law Journal focuses on environmental issues affecting Pacific Rim countries. See page 20 for more information.

The Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law is published through GGU Law’s Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies. See page 27 for more information.

Advocacy and Moot Court Competitions
GGU Law students learn basic foundations of trial advocacy and compete in prestigious regional, national, and international competitions, including the Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition and the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition. See page 22 for more information.
The Intellectual Property Law Center

The Intellectual Property Law Center brings together students, faculty, lawyers, judges, and IP law scholars to explore developments in the fast-changing world of IP law and policy. The Center is led by faculty with extensive IP law experience, assisted by a distinguished advisory board of prominent attorneys from Bay Area law firms, in-house counsel, federal judges, and lawyers at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. With its proximity to Silicon Valley and close ties to California’s entertainment centers, the IP Law Center offers excellent opportunities for research and training.

Center Events

Annual Intellectual Property Law & Policy Conference
This yearly conference addresses issues of interest and concern to the IP legal and business communities. Each conference features presentations by scholars and practitioners in specialty areas of IP law.

Distinguished Intellectual Property Speaker Series
This annual lecture draws Bay Area practitioners and scholars to address students, alumni, and the public about emerging issues in IP law.

Center Online Resources

The IP Law Book Review
A review of recently published books in the IP field edited by GGU Law Professors William Gallagher and Chester Chuang.

IP Buzz Blog
Authored by Professor Marc Greenberg, this blog covers a wide array of legal issues, from entertainment and high-tech law to current trends in IP law practice.

The IP Law Center provides our students with access to experts from around the country who are creatively and substantively addressing issues in the rapidly evolving world of IP law.

Professor William Gallagher, IP Law Center Co-Director
Certificate of Specialization in Intellectual Property Law

Students must complete required coursework, including clinical experience, supervised research projects, or participation in moot court competitions. The Intellectual Property Law Association offers students many opportunities for networking, travel to national conferences, and leadership development.

LLM, Intellectual Property Law

The LLM in IP Law is a 24-unit course of study that provides a broad understanding of IP Law, with concentrations in one or more of four focus areas:

- Internet and High Technology Law
- Patent and Biotechnology Law
- Copyright, Entertainment, and Sports Law
- Trademark and Unfair Competition Law

Associate Professor Chester Chuang,
Co-Editor of The IP Law Book Review

/// Students at GGU Law’s 2012 IP Law Center Distinguished IP Speaker Series with guest speaker Mark Lemley (center), Director of the Stanford Program in Law, Science and Technology.
Environmental Law

After internships at the Sierra Club, the California Coastal Commission, Earthjustice, and GGU’s own Environmental Law and Justice Clinic, I landed my dream job.

Holly Bressett (JD 07) Attorney, Sierra Club

Certificate of Specialization in Environmental Law

This certificate requires concentrated coursework, a research paper, and clinical experience focused on environmental law issues. On and off-site clinics offer unparalleled opportunities to effect change. Environmental law faculty is active in environmental justice and protection efforts, and cutting edge courses explore current environmental law and policy issues.

Environmental Law and Justice Clinic (ELJC)

The ELJC’s mission is to train GGU Law students to become effective advocates and to improve environmental conditions for communities of color and low-income residents of the San Francisco Bay Area and California. Two faculty attorneys and one attorney fellow work with our student clinicians, who are certified to perform many tasks of a licensed attorney. Under faculty supervision, our students interview and counsel clients, develop legal strategies, draft legal documents, and negotiate with opposing parties.

Recent Client Victories

2011: After many years of the ELJC’s work for neighborhood groups and in partnership with the City of San Francisco, the last fossil fuel plant, located in the Bayview Hunter’s Point neighborhood, closed its doors.

2012: Through the efforts of Pacific Environment, represented by ELJC, and the Sierra Club California, represented by Earthjustice, and in partnership with Communities for a Better Environment, the California Public Utilities Commission strengthened a key clean energy policy in California to ensure the state’s utilities exhaust renewable sources of energy such as wind, solar, and geothermal before purchasing power from fossil fuel plants.

The Golden Gate University Environmental Law Journal

The journal is published twice during the academic year. The winter Pacific Region edition addresses environmental legal issues pertaining to Pacific Rim countries. The summer edition focuses on GGU Law’s Annual Environmental Law Symposium.
Environmental Law Scholars Program

Select entering law students are chosen as Environmental Law Scholars. This distinction includes an annual scholarship of $5,000, faculty mentoring, and specialized career counseling. Many Scholars join the Environmental Law Society, an active student organization that sponsors lectures and panels, sales of eco-friendly products, beach cleanups, and other programs throughout the year.

Center on Urban Environmental Law (CUEL)

ggucuel.org

CUEL takes the city as a natural starting point to assess how the law shapes environmental conditions. With a special focus on water, air, and climate, researchers produce white papers that focus on legal and regulatory strategies to improve environmental conditions in and caused by cities. CUEL also contributes innovative curriculum to law schools to ensure the next generation of lawyers is versed in the urban environmental implications of the law.

Environmental Law Symposium

Each year, the Environmental Law Symposium brings together noted practitioners, government officials, educators, and students to examine environmental issues from multiple perspectives. Conference themes in recent years have included Urban Parks Equity, California’s Renewable Energy Sector, Farming and Food, and Water Law.

Associate Professor Helen H. Kang,
Environmental Law and Justice Clinic Director
Litigation

Certificate of Specialization in Litigation

To earn the certificate, students must complete approved litigation courses, including the required Trial Advocacy and Mock Trial basic courses and either Civil Litigation: Pre-Trial Phase or Criminal Litigation. Clinical placements with significant litigation work are highly encouraged.

The Litigation Center

ggulitigation.com

For more than 30 years, GGU Law has trained trial attorneys through personalized attention and an early focus on practical skills. Our faculty and practitioner leaders know that students who are well-trained in advocacy and litigation during law school will be better positioned for successful careers thereafter. Students are immersed in an integrated litigation curriculum, compete in regional and national competitions, enjoy access to world class litigators, and become effective and persuasive advocates. Moot Court consists of appellate advocacy competitions while Mock Trial includes full trials, with witnesses and often a jury of peers. To be a member of a competition team, students must excel in prerequisite courses and participate in tryouts.

Our students gain hands-on experience and training that prepares them for practice right out of law school, a boon for employers and clients.

Associate Professor Wes Reber Porter, Litigation Center Director
The GGU Litigation Center trained me to advocate passionately and persuasively in all phases of litigation.

Anitra Zobeck (JD 11) SBA President, ABA Labor and Employment Mock Trial Competition Regional Champion, Associate, Law Office of Robert B. Jobe

Recent Achievements

Members of GGU Law’s mock trial teams have distinguished themselves recently, placing in the top four in two of the last three years at the ABA National Criminal Mock Trial Competition in Chicago. In 2012, three of our students ranked second in the Roger J. Traynor California Appellate Moot Court Competition. In 2011-12, GGU Law established the Professor Bernie Segal Cross and Close Intra-School Competition, and this year the law school will host the inaugural Professor Bernie L. Segal Criminal Mock Trial Competition: In Vino Veritas.

Summer Trial and Evidence Program (1st STEP)

1st STEP is an innovative, eight-week summer program for selected law students who have recently completed their first year. Students take integrated courses specifically designed to improve their litigation and advocacy skills, including Evidence, Trial Advocacy, and a unique Litigation Center course: Evidence in the Courtroom. Trial lawyers often claim that evidentiary procedure is learned by understanding how evidence comes to life through litigation and at trial — 1st STEP incorporates applied, integrated curricula that simulates this experience.
Public Interest Law

Thanks to the Loan Repayment Assistance Program, I can afford to work at California Rural Legal Assistance in California’s San Joaquin Valley where I provide legal services to some of the most impoverished communities in the nation. Kara Brodfuehrer (JD 08) Attorney, California Rural Legal Assistance Inc.

Certificate of Specialization in Public Interest Law

GGU Law is consistently ranked one of the best public interest law schools in the country. The law school offers an extensive public interest law program and has a dedicated, full-time adviser who works one-on-one with students to promote public interest work. Students may attend the Public Interest/Public Sector Legal Careers Day, an annual job fair that draws over 100 public interest and government employers to San Francisco.

The certificate of specialization requires specific coursework, supervised legal work in either a public interest or government setting, and community service. Graduating students are honored at the Annual Public Interest Graduation Reception.

Clinical Training in Public Interest Law

Through GGU Law’s Environmental Law and Justice Clinic, Women’s Employment Rights Clinic, Pro Bono Tax Clinic, and numerous off-site externships, students gain direct experience with clients facing real challenges. GGU Law students work with low income communities and other underrepresented constituencies facing environmental pollution, unfair working conditions, and barriers to public benefits and services.
Funding Public Interest Work

Scholarships
The Public Interest Law Scholars Program grants several $5,000 annual scholarships to entering students with extensive public service experience.

Summer Salary Assistance
GGU Law is among the few law schools to pay the employer’s portion of a work-study award for students working for public interest organizations and government agencies during the summer.

Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
PILF, GGU Law’s student-led public interest group, holds an annual auction to benefit fellow students working in unpaid public internships. Over the years, the PILF Auction has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars and has become a much-anticipated gala event at the law school.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP)
LRAP offers assistance to graduates employed in low-paying public interest jobs, helping these graduates to meet their financial obligations while pursuing a career serving the public good.

Pro Bono
Students participate in established pro bono programs such as our Pro Bono Tax Clinic and volunteer with dozens of outside organizations including the La Raza Centro Legal Workers’ Rights Clinic, the Student Hurricane Network, the Princess Project, and the San Francisco Food Bank. Our public interest adviser helps match students with pro bono opportunities in their areas of interest.

The relationships I gained at GGU Law led to internships and jobs. As a new attorney, GGU Law continues to support my professional growth by giving me career guidance and loan repayment assistance. Faculty and staff are just as helpful to me today as they were when I was a student.

Nikki Dinh (JD 10) VABANC Fellow, Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach
Taxation Law

Certificate of Specialization in Taxation Law

GGU Law’s Taxation Law Program is one of the preeminent tax law programs in the western United States. Studying under experienced faculty, students gain a solid foundation in the basics of federal, state, and local taxation as well as real estate, partnership, corporate, and international tax law. Students may choose to branch out into areas of particular interest, including business taxation, estate planning, or employee benefits.

Students must complete a set number of core courses and electives. Tax-related programs and job fairs are hosted throughout the year by the Young Tax Lawyers Association. Students may also participate in the CAPITAL Group (Corporate Asset-Management Property Investment and Tax Association), a law student organization which also hosts high profile guest speakers.

Pro Bono Tax Clinic

Through the Pro Bono Tax Clinic, law students review appeals filed with the California Board of Equalization by taxpayers of limited means. Students are responsible for ascertaining the issues presented on appeal, conducting the necessary research, and preparing briefs for the board’s consideration. The clinic emphasizes tax and administrative law along with client counseling techniques, and students provide a valuable service to underserved members of society. All students work under the direct supervision of an attorney from the Board of Equalization.

LLM in Taxation Law

The GGU Law LLM in Taxation program was established more than 30 years ago and is the only such program in the San Francisco Bay Area. The program offers advanced instruction in business taxes, estate planning, tax litigation, and more.
International
Legal Studies

Certificate of Specialization in International Legal Studies

The International Legal Studies Program offers in-depth coverage of specialized areas of public and private international law, as well as international trade and comparative law. Students interested in international legal studies may also participate in other ABA international programs.

Summer in Paris Program

In the Summer in Paris Program, American and French students study comparative law courses taught by noted French and American legal scholars. Students visit the French Supreme Courts and visit the Brussels headquarters of the European Union.

Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies

The Center serves as a hub for international legal studies, hosting an annual symposium and publishing an annual journal. The Annual Fulbright Symposium brings together scholars and students to discuss current international legal issues. The Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law is published by students and faculty. Center Director Christian Nwachukwu Okeke is also the Director of GGU Law’s LLM and SJD International Legal Studies Programs, and a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

LLM and SJD in International Legal Studies

The LLM in International Legal Studies program provides in-depth coverage of specialized areas of international and comparative law, with an emphasis on the cultural, sociological, and business activities of Pacific Rim countries, Europe, and other regions.

The SJD (Doctor of Juridical Science) in International Legal Studies provides students with highly specialized knowledge in a particular area of international law. Students must have a graduate degree in law to be admitted to the SJD program.

Professor Chris Okeke,
Director of SJD and LLM International Legal Studies,
Director of the Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies

The Paris Program experience is like no other. Class discussions with French students, private meetings with the Justices of the French Supreme Courts, instruction from senior level EU officials during our annual trip to Brussels—these are unrivaled academic opportunities. And of course, living (and working, if students choose an internship) in the most beautiful city in the world. Magnifique!

Professor Eric Christiansen
Additional Concentrations

**Labor and Employment Law**

Certificate of Specialization in Labor and Employment Law

To obtain this certificate, students must complete two required courses, four units of elective courses, two units of clinical training, and a comprehensive research paper. Students can also gain valuable labor and employment law experience through GGU Law’s Civil Field Placement Clinic and the Women’s Employment Rights Clinic.

**Women’s Employment Rights Clinic (WERC)**

Through WERC, founded in 1993, students at GGU Law represent low-income and immigrant workers who might otherwise lack legal counsel in disputes with employers. The clinic has achieved many successes over the years, particularly for Latina and Asian-American workers, recently settling a gender discrimination case on behalf of a group of female electricians who asserted they were targeted for layoffs on the basis of gender.

**Youth Law**

Certificate of Specialization in Youth Law

Students who elect to specialize in Youth Law develop a network of valuable relationships with experienced practitioners in the field. In particular, our Field Placement Externship in Youth Law enables students to work in non-profit law offices, government agencies, or private offices and to engage in litigation, administrative hearings, ADR (alternative dispute resolution), or other advocacy on behalf of children or youth. Students also attend seminar class meetings which emphasize reflective lawyering, professional responsibility, skills, and practice issues. Students may work in areas such as juvenile justice, dependency, education, disability, mental health, and civil rights.

**Family Law**

Certificate of Specialization in Family Law

Students who earn the specialization certificate in Family Law complete a rigorous course of study aimed at familiarizing them with this dynamic field of law. Through traditional coursework and internship opportunities, students study the nuances of marriage, civil unions and domestic partnerships, adoption and surrogacy, child abuse and abduction, and issues arising from the termination of a relationship such as divorce, annulment, alimony, and child custody and visitation.
Real Estate Law

Certificate of Specialization in Real Estate Law

This certificate requires concentrated coursework, an independent study project, and practical training through the Real Estate Law Externship. Students may focus on transactional or litigation-based projects at local law firms, public agencies, or non-profit organizations.

Business Law

Certificate of Specialization in Business Law

Students must supplement the required Business Associations class with at least six other business law courses, including three from either the domestic or international tracks. Students gain practical experience in business, corporate, and commercial law through the Civil Field Placement Externship, Real Estate Law Externship, and Pro Bono Tax Clinic.

Criminal Law

Certificate of Specialization in Criminal Law

Employers often remark that GGU Law produces students “who know where the courthouse is.” GGU Law has a long and proud history of producing outstanding criminal lawyers and California’s Public Defender and District Attorney’s Offices are full of talented, dedicated GGU alumni. In addition to the required Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure I, and Evidence courses, students must complete additional units in criminal law courses to earn a certificate.

WERC seeks justice for domestic workers who are frequently denied proper hourly wages, meal and rest breaks, overtime pay, or health and vacation benefits.

Associate Professor Hina B. Shah
Concentrations

Selected Courses

Business Law

- Antitrust
- Business Associations
- Business Contracts
- Business Reorganization
- Commercial Finance
- Consumer Bankruptcy
- Corporate Governance
- International Business Transactions
- International Trade Regulations
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Sales
- Securities Regulation

Environmental Law

- Animal & Wildlife Law
- California Environmental & Natural Resources
- Cities & Environmental Law
- Climate Change & International Law
- Energy & Environmental Law
- Environmental Law & Justice Seminar
- Global Climate Change & Water Law
- International Environmental Law Seminar
- Land Use Regulation
- Ocean & Coastal Law
- Public Natural Resources & Land Law
- Water Law

Criminal Law

- Comparative Criminal Procedure
- Criminal Litigation
- Criminal Law
- Criminal Procedure I & II
- Domestic Violence Seminar
- Evidence

Intellectual Property Law

- Art & the Law
- Biotechnology Law
- Copyright Law of the U.S.
- Entertainment Law
- Intellectual Property Law Survey
- Intellectual Property Litigation: Copyright & Trademark
- International Intellectual Property Law
- International Patent Law
- Internet & Software Law
- IP Law Moot Court
- Negotiating & Drafting Contracts in the Entertainment Business
- Patent Application Process from A to Z
- Patent Law of the U.S.
- Sports Law
- Taxation of Intellectual Property Law
- Trademark Law of the U.S.

Family Law

- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Community Property
- Estate Planning for the Blended Family
- Externship: Family Law Clinic
- Family Law
- Family Law Practice

Marital Taxation
- Mediation & Collaborative Lawyering
- Reproductive Rights & Justice
- Sexual Orientation & the Law
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<td>&gt;&gt; Advanced Appellate Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Competition: Environmental Negotiation</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; International Commercial Arbitration</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Lawyering Skills: Client Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Professional Presentation &amp; Persuasion</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Taxation Law</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; California Property Tax</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Charitable Giving</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Corporate Taxation</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; ERISA</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Estate &amp; Gift Taxation</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Estate Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Federal Income Taxation</td>
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<tr>
<th>Youth Law</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Children &amp; the Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Community Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Domestic Violence Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Education Law Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Externship: Youth Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Family Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Family Law Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Gender, Children &amp; International Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; International Human Rights Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Mediation &amp; Collaborative Lawyering</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;&gt; Poverty Law</td>
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<td>&gt;&gt; Street Law</td>
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Campus Life
Diversity, collegiality, and professionalism define our student body. Our supportive and close-knit community fosters an environment where students excel.
///

**Student Organizations**

GGU Law is home to more than three dozen active student organizations that host social activities and professional development events throughout the academic year. A partial listing includes:

- ACLU Student Chapter
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- CAPITAL Group
- Christian Legal Fellowship
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- International Law Society
- IP Law Association
- Jewish Law Students Association
- La Raza Law Students
- Law Students for Reproductive Justice
- National Lawyers Guild
- Pilipino/a American Law Society
- Public Interest Law Foundation
- Queer Law Students Association
- Women’s Law Association
- Student Elder Law Forum
- Association for Communication, Sports & Entertainment Law
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy

///

**The Personal Touch**

GGU Law students receive personalized attention and direction from their first day of law school through graduation.

*Peer Mentors Program:* All first year students are matched with two upper-level JD students who help them transition to life as a law student.

*Disability Services:* Students with documented disabilities may work with GGU Law’s full-time disability services coordinator to address their needs throughout law school.

*Student Conference Travel Funding:* Upper-level students may obtain funding to attend law-related conferences and conventions to enhance their professional development while in law school.

///

**Stress Relievers**

GGU Law offers countless ways—some formal, some just fun—for students to unwind.

- Public Interest Law Foundation Auction
- Environment Law Society Coastal Cleanup
- Law Students Bowling Night
- Mindfulness Meditation Workshops
- Barristers Ball
- JLSA Bagel Brunches
- QLSA Ice Cream Social
- Basketball Tournament
- Law & Literature Club
- SBA Welcome Back BBQ
- PB&J Extravaganza
- SBA Ex Parte
- SBA Welcome Back BBQ
- Faculty/Student Dinner
- Softball Soirée
- GGU Law Running Club
The San Francisco Bay Area
Vibrant, Dynamic, Welcoming
The San Francisco Bay Area offers endless possibilities for recreational and outdoor pursuits. Students supplement classroom study and clinical training with cable car rides and day trips to the Pacific Ocean and redwood forests. San Francisco is a city lover’s dream with nearby neighborhoods — the Mission, Chinatown, North Beach, and Japantown — rich in cultural and culinary delights. World-class shopping at Union Square and San Francisco Giants baseball games at the spectacular AT&T Park are within short walks of campus, as are world-renowned fine arts venues. Golden Gate Park on the city’s west side provides an unrivaled escape from busy urban life.

Just beyond San Francisco, students can enjoy weekend trips to Yosemite National Park, Lake Tahoe, Napa and Sonoma Valley Wine Country, and Big Sur. Los Angeles is an easy one-hour plane ride away.

GGU Law’s location within a few blocks of major public transportation hubs allows students to live almost anywhere in the Bay Area. A comprehensive housing guide and roommate matching service are available to all entering students.
Graduate Law Programs

Expand the Possibilities

GGU Law offers several advanced law degree programs that attract attorneys and scholars from around the world. These programs offer JD students unique opportunities to enhance their knowledge and gain valuable professional contacts. The institutional and individual networks stemming from these programs cover much of the globe.

Our Master of Laws (LLM) Program in Taxation, considered one of the best in the western United States, recently celebrated its 30th anniversary. Through its other LLM programs, GGU Law has been a leader in developing innovative curricula related to global climate change, cyberlaw and privacy, and international and comparative law.

Many graduate law courses are open to JD students and GGU Law JD recipients frequently enroll in one of the following graduate law degree programs:

- JD/LLM in Taxation Law (accelerated one-semester program)
- LLM in Environmental Law
- LLM in Intellectual Property Law
- LLM in Taxation Law
- LLM in U.S. Legal Studies
- LLM in International Legal Studies
- SJD (Doctor of Juridical Science) in International Legal Studies

With the globalization of the economy, there’s just no way to be successful in the corporate world without having a firm grounding in international law.

Jasbir Khalsa (LLM USLS 06) Legal counsel, Hitachi Data Systems
GGU Law’s Alumni Community

A Flourishing Network

While alumni live and work across the United States and internationally, GGU Law is particularly proud of our extraordinary local alumni network. Bay Area courts, firms, corporations, and public interest organizations are filled with GGU Law alumni. Many return to campus as adjunct faculty or as guest speakers at high profile events.

GGU Law Opens Its Doors as California’s first evening law school, making legal study available to working individuals.

Margaret Lyons graduates as one of GGU Law’s first two women alumnae, marking the beginning of the long road to equality in legal education.

Future Justice Jesse Carter graduates and later is appointed to the California Supreme Court.

Future California Congressman Phillip Burton, who would serve for more than 25 years, graduates.

Full-time day program is added to complement the evening and part-time program.

Award-Winning Women’s Employment Rights Clinic is founded, and goes on to win landmark victories on behalf of women workers.

Dean Judith M. McKelvey, second woman law school dean in U.S., is appointed.

Our graduates’ success reminds us that the possibilities are as diverse and dynamic as the law itself.

Interim Dean & Professor of Law Rachel Van Cleave

Honors Lawyering Program begins, offering innovative, hands-on training and apprenticeships preparing students for substantive law practice in the community.

Award-Winning Environmental Law and Justice Clinic is launched, going on to win critical victories on behalf of economically disadvantaged communities.

Litigation Center and Intellectual Property Law Center are launched, uniting students with practitioners to enhance student expertise in both courtroom advocacy and scholarship in IP Law.

Dean Frederic White, first African American law school dean in California, is appointed.

Annual Chief Justice Ronald M. George Distinguished Lectureship is established, featuring then California Chief Justice Ronald M. George as inaugural speaker.

Center on Urban Environmental Law is inaugurated, focusing research and curriculum on vital environmental issues.
Our career advisers, all of whom are former attorneys, provide individualized services to support students in acquiring targeted and substantive legal experience in their areas of interest.

Our full-service online system, LCSonline, features job postings, an employer directory, and a calendar of networking events. Our blog (ggulcs.blogspot.com) links students to the latest trends in legal hiring, and our YouTube channel features videos highlighting job search and career development advice.

LCS takes full advantage of our location in downtown San Francisco to create networking opportunities for students. In addition to bringing attorneys to campus, we connect students with bar association activities and organize special visits to the offices and courtrooms of GGU Law alumni.

GGU Law students and graduates have earned a reputation for success in the legal community. We coordinate with our externship program to help students locate meaningful work experiences in a variety of settings. Our alumni work in law firms of all sizes, government agencies, corporations, public interest organizations, and courts all over California, the U.S., and the world.

GGU Law students are invited to participate in our annual Summer Recruitment Program, where legal employers from around the country invite students to submit applications for summer and post-graduate positions.

Recent Summer Recruitment employers include:
- DLA Piper LLP
- Hanson Bridgett LLP
- Littler Mendelson P.C.
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- Oakland Raiders
- Office of Chief Counsel, IRS
- Perkins Coie LLP
- Reed Smith LLP
- Remy Moose Manly LLP
- San Francisco District Attorney’s Office
- San Francisco Public Defender
- Squire Sanders & Dempsey
- Surowitz & Argumedo
- US Air Force JAG
Class of 2011 At-A-Glance

Students come to GGU Law with a range of professional goals as diverse as their backgrounds, and our class of 2011 graduates found a variety of ways to launch their legal careers. GGU Law collected employment information from 98.4% of the class of 2011, approximately nine months after they graduated. At that time:

- 65.4% of our graduates were employed. The majority (85.6%) were employed in jobs that required bar passage or where a JD provided an advantage.
- An additional 3.7% were hired for positions that had a start date after February 15 (and were not counted among the 65.4% of employed graduates).
- 5.8% were enrolled in full-time graduate degree programs.
- In the months following our report (nine months after graduation), an additional 7.9% of the class informed us that they had secured employment.

For detailed employment statistics, please visit http://law.ggu.edu/career-services/employment-statistics. While this information may be helpful in understanding general employment trends, it cannot provide the full picture of the experience of our graduates or predict future employment outcomes. For more information about LCS and employment, please contact lawcareer@ggu.edu or 415-442-6625.

### Employment Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment Status</th>
<th>Full Time</th>
<th>Part Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employed - Bar Passage Required</td>
<td>78/40.8%</td>
<td>42/4/3/29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed - JD Advantage</td>
<td>29/15.2%</td>
<td>15/6/0/8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed - Professional Position</td>
<td>9/4.7%</td>
<td>5/2/1/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed - Non-Professional Position</td>
<td>8/4.2%</td>
<td>1/1/0/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employed - Job Category Undeterminable</td>
<td>1/0.5%</td>
<td>0/0/0/1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pursuing Graduate Degree Full Time</td>
<td>11/5.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed - Start Date Deferred</td>
<td>7/3.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed - Not Seeking</td>
<td>11/5.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployed - Seeking</td>
<td>34/17.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment Status Unknown</td>
<td>3/1.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Graduates</td>
<td>191/100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Employment Status percentages equal 100.1% due to rounding

For detailed employment statistics, please visit http://law.ggu.edu/career-services/employment-statistics. While this information may be helpful in understanding general employment trends, it cannot provide the full picture of the experience of our graduates or predict future employment outcomes. For more information about LCS and employment, please contact lawcareer@ggu.edu or 415-442-6625.

### Employment by Type

(Based on Total Employed Graduates as of February 15, 2012)
How to Apply

Get Started

Overview

GGU Law strives to admit students who are seeking a rigorous legal education that provides a holistic, practical approach to legal learning. The application process is designed to identify applicants who have the ability to succeed in the classroom and contribute to the legal community on and off campus.

The Admissions Committee evaluates applicants to determine whether objective indicators such as LSAT scores and post-secondary transcripts demonstrate the preparedness to meet the challenges of legal study. The committee seeks evidence of strong writing ability, leadership skills, professionalism, and the motivation to attend GGU Law. Personal statements, letters of recommendation, and résumés are used to further develop the Admissions Committee’s understanding of each applicant’s potential for success. The committee appreciates materials that provide an honest statement about the applicant’s achievements, goals, anticipated challenges, and preferred learning environment.

The Admissions Committee prefers not to consider LSAT scores that are more than three years old and in no circumstances will they consider a score that is more than five years old. GGU Law does not require a specific course of undergraduate study to apply, but does require that applicants have or will have completed an undergraduate degree at an accredited institution prior to matriculation. An original copy of each entering student’s official undergraduate transcript will be required prior to matriculation.

Visit law.ggu.edu or apply online via the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) website at lsac.org.

Applicants who apply online prior to April 1 will not be required to pay the application fee.

Application Checklist

- Completed, signed application form
- Application fee of $60 or fee waiver request (after April 1)
- Personal statement (two pages, double-spaced)
- Résumé
- Credential Assembly Service (CAS) Report from LSAC that includes an LSAT score, a minimum of two letters of recommendation (maximum of four), and copies of all post-secondary transcripts
### Transfer & Visiting Applicants

Students seeking to enroll as visiting or transfer students must be currently enrolled at an ABA-accredited law school, in good academic standing, and have completed the first year of study. The application must include a current law school transcript, a letter of reference from a law professor, and a letter from the Dean or Registrar at the applicant’s current institution. For more information about applying as a transfer or visiting student, visit our website or contact the Office of Admissions.

### International Applicants

Students who have completed their undergraduate studies outside the United States or Canada must have their transcripts evaluated through the LSAC Credential Assembly Service. A computer-based TOEFL score will be required for any student whose course of study was not completed in English. For more information about applying as an international student, visit our website or contact the Office of Admissions.

### Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Important Dates</th>
<th>Application Available</th>
<th>Submission Deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First-Year Students</td>
<td>September 1</td>
<td>April 1 (priority deadline)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Transfer Students        | October 1 spring semester  
                          | May 1 fall semester   | November 15  
                          |                       | July 15               |
| Visiting Students        | October 1 spring semester  
                          | May 1 fall semester   | November 15  
                          |                       | July 15               |
Scholarships and Loans
Financing Your Education

**Entering Student Scholarships**
GGU Law awards both full-tuition Dean’s Scholarships and partial-tuition Faculty Scholarships to qualified entering students. There is no separate application for entering student scholarships as all students are considered for scholarships at the time they are admitted to the JD program. Entering scholarships are typically awarded to students whose application materials demonstrate outstanding achievement in one or more of the following areas: academic record, LSAT scores, writing ability, professional experience, volunteer service, and community leadership.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early in order to maximize the chances of obtaining a scholarship.

GGU Law also awards $5,000 scholarships to students whose applications highlight a strong commitment to public service or environmental law. The Public Interest Scholars Program and Environmental Law Scholars Program require supplemental materials detailing the applicant’s volunteer and employment history and evidence the applicant’s intent to pursue a career in one of these areas of law.

**Continuing Scholarships**
Students who are not selected to receive an entering scholarship may be eligible for a merit scholarship after completing the first year of study. Continuing scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic performance. Additionally, GGU Law offers many donor-funded special scholarships to continuing students who meet the specific award criteria.
Loans

GGU Law is committed to helping our students make wise borrowing choices. Students attending GGU Law may qualify for a variety of federal and private student loan programs. Our experienced Financial Aid staff is available to work with entering students in order to demystify the process of applying for financial aid and develop a realistic budget for law school. In order to be evaluated for eligibility, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available online at fafsa.ed.gov after January 1. The GGU Law FAFSA school code is 001205-29.

Health Insurance

GGU Law provides an environment that fosters academic excellence and personal success. In 2009 we launched the Kaiser Permanente Student Health Insurance Plan in order to help maintain the physical and mental well-being of our students. Students’ financial aid packages may include an allowance for the cost of the health insurance premium.

Through Kaiser Permanente, students can receive accessible, affordable coverage, regardless of a previous condition, while enrolled in the JD program. There is an option to extend coverage after graduation. Dependent and domestic partner coverage is also available for an increased fee. For more information, contact lawstudentservices@ggu.edu.
Diversity: A Core Value

Statement of Nondiscrimination

Golden Gate University School of Law is committed to preparing its graduates to serve their professional, local, and global communities and to contribute to the overall common good of society. The law school promotes academic excellence, knowledge, values, and skills to achieve this commitment. In selecting students for its JD program, Golden Gate University School of Law considers the intellectual ability and aptitude that will enable its students to achieve personal excellence and contribute to the intellectual and social life of the law school. The law school considers all aspects of an applicant’s background, such as work experience, community service, and leadership skills, as well as the overall diversity of the entering class. Diversity is a core value of the law school and a long-standing part of its mission. The law school seeks to admit students of different races, ethnicities, religions, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic backgrounds, and ages, as well as persons with disabilities. Diversity of background, experience, and viewpoint among the law school student body is essential to the full and informed exchange of ideas and adds greatly to the quality of legal education. Further, diversity prepares the law school graduate to better represent a multitude of groups and interests and to serve the common good.

Golden Gate University School of Law is fully accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA), 321 N. Clark St., Chicago, IL 60654-7598, 1-800-285-2221 and is a member in good standing of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). Golden Gate University is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC).

The School of Law reserves the right to change regulations, curricula, the course of study, tuition and fees, and any other aspect of the programs described in this JD Prospectus.

Golden Gate University School of Law
Office of Admissions
Phone: 415-442-6630 or 1-800-GGU-4YOU ■ Fax: 415-442-6631
Email: lawadmit@ggu.edu
Website: law.ggu.edu
Mail: Office of Admissions
Golden Gate University School of Law
536 Mission Street
San Francisco, CA 94105-2968