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The new way to Law School

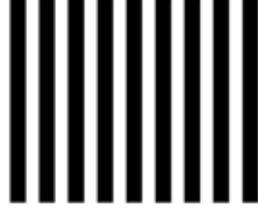


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TWO WAYS TO STUDY LAW



For more than 40 years, the Santa Barbara and Ventura Colleges of Law have helped students with busy lives and diverse backgrounds become practice-ready attorneys—*for less than half the cost of most traditional private law schools.*

Our founders reinvented law school in 1969 with a clear vision in mind: to provide students a pathway to the legal profession that would not require them to sacrifice their families, jobs, or financial security.

Now—because legal knowledge enhances career success in so many other fields—we have added a Master of Legal Studies program for students who want to enhance their careers with a legal education but do not intend to practice law.

Whether students pursue the J.D. or M.L.S., the Colleges of Law offer an extraordinary value: high-quality, yet affordable programs, flexibly tailored to meet the needs of our enterprising adult students.

**“The best decision of my life
was going to the Colleges of Law.”**

Kata Kim, J.D. 2009, Associate Attorney, Compliance Law Group

WHY CHOOSE THE COLLEGES OF LAW?

ACCREDITED

Accredited by the Committee of Bar Examiners of the State Bar of California, the Colleges of Law provide students with an excellent academic foundation for success. A nonprofit law school, we are recognized as the legal education leader in the communities we serve.

Our J.D. curriculum focuses on core competencies demanded by legal employers—knowledge of fundamental legal principles, strong advocacy skills, and ethics. We offer comprehensive support for bar exam success and our cumulative bar pass rates are among the highest of California State Bar-accredited schools. For State Bar statistics check admissions.calbar.ca.gov.

Our online M.L.S. program provides tools needed to effectively manage the legal issues that arise in workplace settings. Tailored to meet the needs of emerging leaders, the curriculum covers the legal system's rules, as well as strategies for avoiding and resolving legal disputes.

ACCESSIBLE

Demanding work schedules and nontraditional educational backgrounds need not be obstacles to a high-quality legal education. We make it possible to pursue a professional degree in law through convenient scheduling options and flexible admission requirements. Our J.D. program is offered in a part-time evening format, while M.L.S. coursework can be taken entirely online.

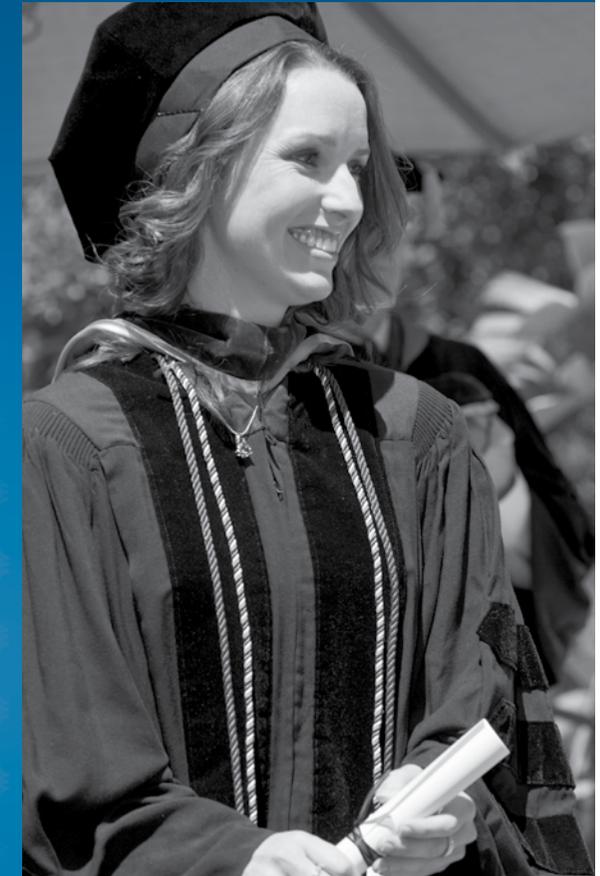
PRACTICAL

Our professors are skilled attorneys, judges, and managers who breathe life into legal theory, providing a real-world perspective on the law in action. In J.D. classes, students develop case analysis skills—the ability to “think like a lawyer”—and perform practical tasks (such as questioning witnesses or drafting estate plans) that law students elsewhere may experience only in law practice.

M.L.S. classes focus on how to identify and effectively manage legal risks from the pragmatic perspective of those responsible for achieving a workplace mission, such as business managers, educators, or law enforcement personnel.

AFFORDABLE

The Colleges of Law offer a superb education for a very reasonable tuition. The cost of our J.D. program is less than half that of most traditional private law schools and many of our students graduate with little or no tuition debt.



“The Colleges of Law fit all my needs: I got a first-rate legal education at a price I could afford. I was able to keep working while staying close to my four very young children.”

Joyce E. Dudley, J.D. 1990, District Attorney, County of Santa Barbara

OUR PROGRAMS

JURIS DOCTOR (J.D.)

J.D. students complete 84 credits in 3-1/2 to 4 years. Required courses emphasize traditional subjects—including all subjects on the California Bar Exam—and skills such as legal research. During summer, students take elective courses highlighting specialty areas of law practice. For details, visit, collegesofLAW.edu/courses.

Using the “case study” method, professors help students learn to “think like lawyers.” Before class, students read and prepare brief summaries of historical court opinions—to build understanding of how courts use legal principles to decide cases. During class, professors lead follow-up discussions about those cases—often exploring hypothetical variations of the facts—to deepen understanding and help students develop skill in resolving new legal problems.

J.D. graduates are academically qualified to sit for the California Bar Exam. Our alumni have achieved bar pass rates that place the Colleges of Law among the top performing State Bar-accredited law schools.

CERTIFICATES OF CONCENTRATION

J.D. students may elect to earn a Certificate of Concentration in one of four highly practical and marketable areas—Business, Criminal, Estate Planning, or Family Law—preparing them to enter law practice with expertise in emerging legal trends.

SCHEDULING

Generally, J.D. classes meet three nights a week from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., allowing students to keep up with their current job and family responsibilities. Two 15-week semesters (plus study and examination weeks) are offered in the fall and spring, followed by a 10-week required summer session.

Study at, or graduation from, this law school may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or be admitted to practice law in jurisdictions other than California. A student who intends to seek admission to practice law outside of California should contact the admitting authority in that jurisdiction for information regarding its education and admission requirements.

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES (M.L.S.)

Our M.L.S. program is designed for those who work—or aspire to work—in fields that routinely intersect with law, such as business, education, health care, human resources, and law enforcement. By studying the legal system and its workplace implications, students gain the expertise needed to navigate the legal challenges that now arise in every field.

Core classes equip students with a strong foundation in substantive legal areas, as well as practical skills that support effective communication in legal contexts. In elective and capstone courses, students pursue subjects related to their own professional interests.

The M.L.S. program does not qualify graduates to sit for California's Bar Examination or satisfy requirements for admission to practice law in California. Applicants should consult our website and catalog for further information. Those who wish to practice law should consider the J.D. program.

SCHEDULING

The M.L.S. program is offered entirely online and can be completed in as little as two years.



“I especially appreciate that the faculty are working attorneys and judges with real-world experience. The law school will teach you everything you need to know.”

Cheri Kurman, J.D. 2001, Partner, Norman Dowler, LLP

STUDENT RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

Students at the Colleges of Law have access to a multitude of resources and activities that enhance the educational experience academically, professionally, and even socially.

“That personal touch that you get at the Colleges of Law—you will never get that at a huge law school.”

Denise Platt, J.D. 2001, Attorney, Law Offices of Jody C. Moore, APC



ACADEMIC ADVISOR PROGRAM

From orientation through graduation, students benefit from the support of advisors who will help them reach their academic potential.

Our academic advisors offer services that include workshops, topic reviews, and one-on-one academic counseling appointments—individualized attention not always available at other schools.

ALUMNI NETWORK

The Colleges’ alumni network stretches the length of California and beyond. Many of our J.D. graduates enjoy distinguished careers as judges and attorneys, while others have used their degrees to advance in fields such as

business, higher education, law enforcement, and health care. All have experienced the transformative power of a legal education from the Colleges of Law.

RICHARD ABBE MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The Colleges of Law host an intermural competition each summer. Students who enroll in the J.D. Moot Court elective course prepare appellate briefs and argue a criminal appeal before three justices of the California Court of Appeal under the supervision of an experienced criminal attorney/faculty member.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

At each campus, a Student Bar Association sponsors

social and peer mentoring events. Interested students may join a chapter of Delta Theta Phi, an international law fraternity, and, in Ventura, chapters of the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund and La Raza.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

All students have access to Westlaw®, an online legal research database. Through Westlaw®, they use TWEN® course management software to obtain course materials such as syllabi and assignments. Examples of past J.D. exams and sample answers are also posted on TWEN®. Materials for online courses are available through e-College.

Each campus is equipped with a law library providing a quiet study space and convenient access to legal resources, including federal and California materials. The libraries have copiers/scanners and computer workstations for word processing and Internet access.

OUR CAMPUSES

SANTA BARBARA

The Santa Barbara Campus is located in the heart of downtown, within walking distance of many private and public law offices, the Courthouse, and the County Law Library. It is just one-half block east of State Street, giving students access to many alternate means of transportation to and from campus.

Santa Barbara College of Law
20 East Victoria Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

[805] 979-9860



VENTURA COLLEGE OF LAW



VENTURA

The Ventura Campus is housed in a beautiful, two-story, Spanish-style building surrounded by scenic grounds. It is conveniently located three blocks south of the 101 Freeway.

Ventura College of Law
4475 Market Street
Ventura, CA 93003

[805] 765-9300

J.D. ADMISSIONS

The Colleges of Law welcome students from diverse backgrounds. In addition to reviewing academic grade point averages and, for certain J.D. applicants, LSAT scores, we consider factors such as life experience, maturity, moral character, communication skills, employment, and volunteer activities.

J.D. ADMISSIONS

J.D. applicants are considered for admission in one of three categories, as defined by the State Bar of California.

THE REGULAR STUDENT

Generally, to be considered for admission as a regular student, applicants must have:

- A bachelor's degree with a minimum 2.7 cumulative grade point average (GPA) (or an acceptable score on the Law School Admission Test [LSAT]); or
- An associate degree with a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (or an acceptable score on the LSAT); or
- A minimum of 60 semester (or 90 quarter) units in academic subjects, awarded by a qualifying institution. (For admission without a bachelor's or associate degree, please contact the Admissions Office about eligibility.)

Applicants who do not meet the GPA or LSAT criteria, but have valuable life experience may be considered by the Admissions Committee on a case-by-case basis. Applicants with a cumulative GPA of less than 2.0 are not eligible for admission.

THE SPECIAL STUDENT

Those who do not meet the academic requirements for admission as a regular student but are at least 21 years old may apply as a special student. Applicants in this category will be personally interviewed by the Dean and must provide, in addition to the application materials required of all applicants, the following:

- A minimum LSAT score in the 50th percentile or above;
- Scores of at least "50" on College Level Examination Program (CLEP) tests as required by the State Bar; and
- Two letters of recommendation.

After completing the first-year curriculum, special students must take and pass the State Bar's First-Year Law Students' Examination.

THE TRANSFER STUDENT

Students may apply to transfer from another accredited law school into the Colleges of Law if they meet all admission requirements as either a "regular" or "special" student. A letter from the Dean of the applicant's prior law school must be provided, stating that he or she is in good standing and eligible without condition to continue law studies.

M.L.S. ADMISSIONS

M.L.S. ADMISSIONS

To be considered for admission, M.L.S. applicants must have:

- A bachelor's degree with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.3. (Those who do not meet the GPA requirement, but show an ability to succeed at graduate-level work through professional experience, may be considered by the Admissions Committee on a case-by-case basis. Applicants with a cumulative GPA of less than 2.0 are not eligible for admission.)

TOEFL scores or transcripts showing an English composition class with a grade of "C" or better may be required of students for whom English is the second language.



Questions about admission requirements?

Email or call us at

admissions@collegesofLAW.edu

or 800.305.9631.

First Name _____ M.I. _____ Last Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State/Country _____ Zip/Postal Code _____
 Phone _____ Home _____ Mobile _____ Email _____

Please indicate program(s) of interest: J.D. M.L.S.

I'd like (check all that apply)...

- To attend an information session online on campus.
- To explore financial assistance services.
- To speak with an admissions counselor about admissions requirements and when to apply.
- To receive information about preparing for law study.
- To speak with a faculty member.
- To sit in on a class (J.D. classes only).

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COL 0112

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

During the admission process we work closely with prospective students to demystify the experience as much as possible. Applications are evaluated on a “rolling” basis, so we encourage early submission of all materials. Admitted students are eligible, after having made a deposit, to attend events at the Colleges, including a special introduction to the legal profession.

All applicants to the Colleges of Law are required to submit the following:

- Completed application form
- Non-refundable application fee of \$50
- Personal statement of three pages in length
- One or two letters of recommendation, depending on admission category
- Certified transcripts of academic work
- (J.D. only) Score on the Law School Admission Test, if taken

Visit our Admissions section at CollegesofLAW.edu for a detailed overview of application requirements.



AN INVITATION

Please contact us to learn more about the exciting opportunities that await you as a student at the Colleges of Law. “Meet” us online at a Virtual Info Session or visit one of our campuses—to attend a law class or Info Session.

For details, contact our admissions counselors at admissions@CollegesofLAW.edu or 800.305.9631.

For additional information, visit our website at CollegesofLAW.edu.



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