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Perspectives on Diversity

William & Mary Law School

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Admission Policy and Procedure

The College of William and Mary School of Law is committed to an admission process that is sensitive to the importance of ethnic and cultural diversity both in the educational process and the legal profession. Accordingly, our admission policy is designed to achieve a strong student body composed of able individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences. While academic considerations are the most significant factors in the admission process, the School of Law also considers an applicant's background and experience, including work experience, personal statements, and letters of recommendation. The LSAT, required of all applicants, is but one factor in the admission process and the School of Law has no minimum required score. Interested applicants may wish to seek a law student perspective by speaking with members of the Student Bar Association. These students play a vital role in assisting the Admission Office to recruit qualified applicants.

Please contact the School of Law for additional information or to obtain an application:

College of William and Mary School of Law
Office of Admission
P.O. Box 8795
Williamsburg, Virginia 23187-8795

Phone: (757) 221-3785
E-mail: lawadm@facstaff.wm.edu
Internet: <http://www.wm.edu/law>

Financial Aid

For all students, the cost of a legal education is an important factor. The William and Mary School of Law attempts to meet the financial needs of all accepted students through a combination of scholarships and loans. In addition to the financial aid programs administered by William and Mary, various national organizations provide aid programs for law students. The Admission Office may be contacted for a list of a number of these organizations.

Faye F. Shealy, Associate Dean for Admission

We welcome this opportunity to give you an added perspective on the College of William and Mary School of Law. Our commitment — first and foremost — is to enroll students whose talents, life experiences and accomplishments portend a career of faithful and dedicated service to the cause of justice. All prospective students, especially those through whose diverse background the atmosphere of legal education can be enhanced, are encouraged to consider the opportunities available at the School of Law. I believe you will find an institution — students, faculty and staff — deeply committed to excellence and to providing a supportive and nurturing environment for all members of this community. We appreciate your interest in the College of William and Mary School of Law and look forward to working with you as you take the first step in your pursuit of a life in law.



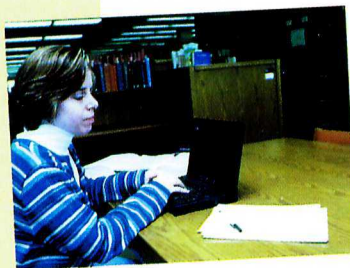
The College of William and Mary School of Law

Perspectives on Diversity

Why William and Mary?

Widely Considered One of the Nation's Best Law Schools, the School of Law is a part of the College of William and Mary, the nation's second oldest institution of higher education and one of its leading comprehensive universities.

William and Mary Students are among the nation's best, representing almost every state in the country and several foreign nations.



Diversity is one of the Law School's greatest assets. Like me, many students are just out of college, others are returning to school after establishing careers. Many are married and some study alongside their children. Broad geographic representation and age variances are found within the student body. Because the students draw their opinions from such various individual experiences, lively classroom debate has been ensured.

Caren Somerwitz '99
Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ; BA, The Johns Hopkins University, '96;
BM, The Peabody Conservatory of Music, '96

The Faculty is composed of highly talented men and women who are recognized nationally for both teaching and scholarship.

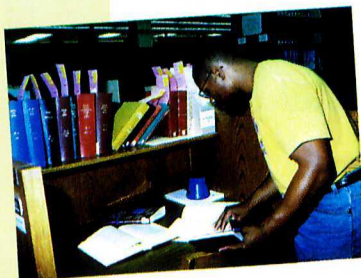


Being an older student, one of my main considerations when choosing a law school was class size—I did not want to go to a law school factory. I knew I had made the right choice when one of my professors stopped me in the hall one day to comment, "I'm not sure I adequately answered your question in class." In fact, he had, but his asking proved to me that I was at the right school.

Stephen Robertson '99
Williamsburg, VA; BA, '84 and MA, '94, College of William and Mary

The Size is relatively small (approximately 525 J.D. students), which produces a strong sense of community and common purpose among the faculty and student body.

The Extracurricular Activities combine with a traditional classroom program to enhance the intellectual life of the Law School community.



I chose William and Mary School of Law because of its excellent reputation, its location and its student body. My highest expectations have been surpassed. Of particular note is the wealth of prominent guest lecturers, attracted by William and Mary's reputation, who enhance the intellectual environment. Former White House Cabinet members, federal judges and corporate lawyers are just a few of the speakers I have been privileged to hear discuss their unique perspectives on the law, politics, and business.

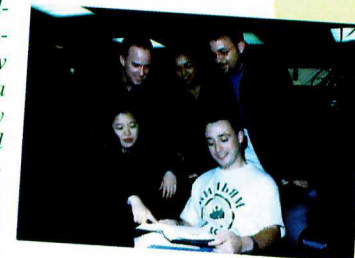
Quinton Roberts '99
Grand Blanc, MI; BA, United States Air Force Academy, '88;
MA, Webster University, '95

Organizations and Programs

Student Organizations provide forums for students to articulate and promote professional needs and goals. The Black Law Students Association's activities, for example, include a "buddy" support system to link first-year law students with an upper-level student, speaker forums and community activities. Other organizations include the Asian Law Students Association; Law Students Involved in the Community; Lesbian and Gay Law Association; Mary & William Feminist Law Society; Jewish Law Student Association; Public Service Fund; the International, Environmental, Sports & Entertainment, and Health Law Societies; and the legal fraternities, Phi Alpha Delta and Phi Delta Phi.

Having lived primarily in large cities, the thought of spending my three years of legal education within a smaller community setting was very appealing. Since I knew that law school would be challenging, I deliberately sought a friendly, nurturing environment. The William and Mary professors and administration have been encouraging and supportive in helping the students cope with the intellectual demands of law school and enthusiastic in participating in the varied student activities. The support and encouragement, for example, the Asian Law Student Society received in our first year was most exciting.

Eunice Kim '99
Boston, MA; BA, Tufts University, '92



Challenging Programs enhance the academic environment. The Legal Skills Program provides hands-on learning experiences in a simulated law firm atmosphere. Students practice all aspects of lawyering from client interview techniques to courtroom litigation. The Institute of Bill of Rights Law and the Student Division of the Institute organize dynamic symposia on important constitutional issues. In Moot Court, students' advocacy skills are put to the test during numerous regional and national competitions. Students at the School of Law annually produce as many as five editions of the journals: *William and Mary Law Review*, *William and Mary Bill of Rights Journal*, *Environmental Law and Policy Review*, and the *William and Mary Journal of Women and the Law*. The student-managed journals contain both professional and student articles and book reviews.

As an immigrant from the former Soviet Union and an applicant considering the joint JD/MBA program, I was interested in business law, particularly international business law. Before applying to William and Mary, I explored the Law School's international program. I was extremely impressed with the outstanding reputation of the faculty in this area. After meeting faculty and taking law classes, I am now convinced that William and Mary has the best international business law program in the country.

Victor Voloshin '98
Kiev, Ukraine; BA, Christopher Newport University, '94

LL.M. in the American Legal System affords William and Mary Juris Doctor students the opportunity to learn American law through the perspective of and by comparison with international legal systems. Our Master of Laws program, designed only for international attorneys, integrates the LL.M. students into courses with J.D. students as well as into the life of the school. Such interaction enhances the legal education of the J.D. student.