Law Study...at William & Mary

William & Mary Law School

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trespass, defamation, nuisance, products liability and privacy. A practical course governed by common law rules.

LEGAL WRITING:

This course gives a methodical study of legal research using legal periodicals, digests, and federal and state supplements.

Financial Aid

There are numerous scholarships and loans available to the minority-group student provided by the Law School, private foundations, and governmental agencies. Listed below are financial aid programs and sources of information about financial aid for minority-group students in law school. This list does not purport to be exhaustive.

1) Council on Legal Education Opportunity
   200 P Street N.W., Suite 300
   Washington, D.C. 20036

2) The Earl Warren Legal Training Program, Inc.
   10 Columbus Circle, Suite 2030
   New York, New York 10019

3) American Indian Law Center
   University of New Mexico School of Law
   1117 Stanford, N.E.
   Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106

4) Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund
   145 Ninth Street
   San Francisco, California 94103

5) Opportunity Fellowship Program
   John Hay Whitney Foundation
   111 West 50th Street
   New York, New York

6) Information Service
   American Bar Association
   115 East 60th Street
   Chicago, Illinois 60636

7) National Scholarship Service and Fund
   For Negro Students
   Southeastern Regional Office
   931½ Hunter Street, N.W.
   Atlanta, Georgia 30314

In addition, students may seek loans directly from banks and other commercial lenders. Many individual law schools and consortia of law schools, local bar associations, firms and business groups provide financial assistance and special programs for minority-group and disadvantaged students. Students should inquire about these at financial aid offices of nearby law schools.

Degree Requirements

Students must have acquired an academic baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution. The students must have been in residence in law school for a minimum of ninety weeks and have completed satisfactorily at least ninety semester credits in law, with a quality point average of at least 1.0 both in all law work undertaken and for all courses taken in the third year. Also, all students must enroll in three courses which meet the writing requirements established by the faculty as a condition for graduation. In addition to the requirements stated above, each student must have demonstrated his or her ethical fitness for the legal profession to receive the degree of Juris Doctor.

From the Dean’s Office

I very strongly urge all persons who have read this informational bulletin to give very serious consideration to filing an admission application to Marshall-Wythe School of Law. We at Marshall-Wythe believe that it is important for the welfare of our nation and society that the legal profession should consist of persons representing a broad spectrum of the population. I wish each of you great success for all your future endeavors.

Emeric Fischer
Acting Dean

Marshall-Wythe School of Law
The Black American Law Students Association Inc. (BALSA) is now in its eighth year and has nearly 4,000 members nationally. BALSA was formed to articulate and promote the professional needs and goals of Black American Law Students, foster and encourage professional competence, focus upon the relationship of the Black attorney to the America legal structure, instill in the Black attorney and law student a greater awareness of and commitment to the needs of the Black community, and influence American law schools, legal fraternities and associations to use their expertise and prestige to bring about change within the legal system in order to make it responsive to the needs of the Black Community.

The Marshall-Wythe Chapter of BALSA was organized in 1973 and currently has eighteen members. Our basic objectives are to help increase the number of minority students in law school and to expose the Marshall-Wythe community to a view of the law from the minority perspective through our bi-weekly co-curricular seminars.

We would welcome the chance to correspond with any prospective applicants, and we also anticipate that some people may wish to visit the school to get a first-hand idea of the atmosphere, the facilities, and meet some of the students. If you plan to come for a visit, please contact us well in advance so arrangements with professors can be made. Our address is:
Black American Law Students Association
Marshall-Wythe School of Law
College of William and Mary
Williamsburg, Virginia 23185

About Marshall-Wythe School of Law

The study of law at The Marshall-Wythe School of Law is structured to prepare graduates to meet the manifold needs of our society whether they be in the modern practice of law or in allied endeavors. In order to attain this goal, the Law School curriculum offers a variety of courses on many fields of legal specialization. Classes are normally conducted by the "case method," which requires critical study and analysis of judicial decisions, statutes, and other legal materials. The curriculum also offers selected courses conducted by the "problem method." The combination of these approaches to instruction affords the student maximum exposure to the varied methodologies utilized in solving legal controversies.

The Law School encourages applications from members of minority groups and participates in the Council of Legal Education Opportunity Program. Within the limits of its facilities as to numbers that can be accommodated, admission to the Marshall-Wythe School of Law is open to all qualified students without regard to race, creed, color or national origin.

Admission Procedure

PREPARATION

There is no required pre-law area of concentration; however, a liberal education is favored. Certain areas of study are particularly beneficial to an individual preparing for legal study. These include a thorough command of the English language, knowledge of American government, English and American History, and philosophy and the Social Sciences.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Any student who has received or will have received prior to commencement of study a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution may apply for admission.

Admission is granted to those applicants who, in the opinion of the Faculty Admissions Committee, will make the most significant contribution to society as a member of the legal profession. In making its determination, the Committee will consider factors such as:

1) the applicant's general academic ability based upon a careful examination of the undergraduate transcript, including factors such as the grade point average; the quality of the school attended; the difficulty of the major or department in which the degree was earned; the hours spent on outside employment or other time-consuming extracurricular activities; and the length of time elapsed since graduation;

2) the applicant's capacity for academic study of law based largely upon LSAT score; and

3) other relevant personal qualities of the applicant such as motivation, interests, experience, and general background as evidenced by recommendations and descriptions of the applicant's activities.

The Law School admits only in September of each year, but offers those admitted for September the option of starting their studies in June. Applications for each September should be submitted after September 1 and before March 1 of the preceding academic year.

First-Year Curriculum

CIVIL PROCEDURE:

This course offers an intensive study of the judicial system within the framework of common law pleading, procedure, code pleading, and the use of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

CONTRACTS

A substantive study of the fundamental areas of contract law. Areas covered are remedies, revocation, consideration, promises enforceable without consideration, assignments of contracts, and contract obligations.

PROPERTY

The course expounds on the conveyance of real and personal property, possessory right; topics on future estates, liens, and landlord and tenant relationship.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW:

A study of the judicial and legislative process as formulated in the Constitution. An in-depth analysis of privileges and restrictions on the states, federal government, and legislative bodies as authorized by provisions in the Constitution.

TORTS:

Areas included in this course are negligence,