UHLC Community Service Day

Members of the UHLC entering class, staff, and faculty are among those who participate in the UH Law Center’s Community Service Day each year. This project was initiated in August 2014, and continues annually as part of new student orientation for all incoming students. This outreach instills in UHLC’s future attorneys the value of public service and paying it back to the community.

Contact Information

University of Houston Law Center
4104 Martin Luther King Blvd, Houston, TX 77204-6060
law.uh.edu

Dean
Leonard M. Baynes
lawdean@uh.edu

Office of Admissions
713.743.2280
lawadmissions@uh.edu
law.uh.edu/admissions

Office of LL.M. Admissions
713.743.2690
llm@uh.edu
law.uh.edu/llm

Office of Student Affairs
713.743.2182
lawosa@uh.edu
law.uh.edu/osa

Career Development Office
713.743.2090
lawcareer@uh.edu
law.uh.edu/career
You have decided to go to law school and now face the daunting task of choosing a school that is right for you. Both decisions will have a profound effect on your life. At the University of Houston Law Center, you will experience the power of a legal education by learning to think like a lawyer. This means that you learn to write precisely, analyze rigorously, advocate persuasively, and uphold the highest standards of professional conduct. A UH Law Center education will empower you to secure justice for clients, advocate for those in need, and perhaps help set right some societal wrongs. The University of Houston Law Center is the right school to start you on this rewarding career path. We are a top-ranked school with a first-class faculty, nationally-ranked academic centers and institutes, innovative clinics, an enthusiastic and talented staff, great students, and a vibrant and engaged alumni base. On a practical level, the UH Law Center ranks among the nation’s “Best Value” law schools and boasts an employment record that places it among the top “Go To” law schools for the number of graduates hired by the nation’s 100 largest firms. Big or small firms, government sector, public interest, or elsewhere, UH Law Center graduates are in great demand. I am extremely excited about the future of the University of Houston Law Center and deeply committed to the future success of all of its students.

Leonard M. Baynes
Dean and Professor of Law
Why the UH Law Center

Location
We are located in Houston, one of the nation’s top legal markets. The city is also home to the world’s largest health care and medical complex, the Texas Medical Center, and is recognized as the energy capital of the world with multiple Fortune 500 companies headquartered here.

Best value
Distinguished by its relatively modest tuition for being in one of the nation’s largest metropolitan areas, the UH Law Center has been cited as one of the “best values” in legal education today by preLaw, a National Jurist magazine.

Highly ranked
We are ranked in the top tier out of the nearly 200 ABA-accredited law schools in the United States.

Career services
UHLC’s outstanding Career Development Office offers support in and out of the classroom with its mission to equip students and graduates with the resources and skills to successfully generate and take advantage of professional opportunities.

Exceptional faculty
Our outstanding faculty are recognized leaders in their respective fields as well as classroom teachers of the first rank. Adjunct faculty drawn from the practicing bar augment our curriculum with “real world” perspectives on the law.

Global reach
The UH Law Center is truly a global school with strong connections to the international legal and education communities. The international activities of our faculty include visiting professorships, publications in foreign journals, and participation in international symposia and conferences. Students can also be exchange students at other legal institutions around the world.

Look for a school with a well-regarded faculty, a variety of well-run clinical programs, and a good record of placement in desirable legal markets.

The Honorable Jeff Brown ’95

Education: B.A. in English, The University of Texas at Austin

Career: District Judge, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas
Nationally-recognized specialty programs
The specialty programs and institutes housed at the UH Law Center add depth and dimension to our curriculum, and U.S. News & World Report consistently ranks our Intellectual Property & Information Law Institute and our Health Law & Policy Institute, as well as our Part-Time Evening Program, among the top ten in the nation.

Active alumni
The UH Law Center has more than 17,000 alumni, and many live in the greater Houston area, as well as all over the country. Regardless of where they make their home, UH Law Center alumni are recognized as high achievers in the legal profession.

A leading library of the law
Students have access to almost 4,000,000 titles through the University libraries.

Dual degrees
The UH Law Center offers nine combined and concurrent degree programs.

Practical training
Upper-division students can participate in our nationally-ranked clinics under the supervision of clinical faculty, learning invaluable skills while serving members of the community who require legal assistance.

Cody West ’20
Education: B.S. in Business/Public Relations, Texas State University

"I chose to attend the University of Houston Law Center because of its affordability compared to other law schools in Houston. Attending the Law Center was a strategic decision as much as it was a financial decision. The curriculum is replete with business law courses – taught by exceptional legal practitioners – that cater to my specific career ambitions."
Houston has all the amenities and advantages that you would expect from the fourth largest city in the United States, but there is a lot more to our city than its status as a thriving metropolis. Houston’s cost of living is lower than almost every other major city in the U.S., so law students can enjoy all the benefits of big-city living without the big-city price tag.

We boast a vibrant legal community that has weathered the ups and downs of the economy better than most other major metropolitan cities, and Houston offers unparalleled career opportunities in many booming practice areas such as intellectual property, health care, energy, immigration, tax, and international law. If you’re looking for a top law school in a perfect urban setting, you will find it at the University of Houston Law Center. The economy is booming, the arts are thriving, and there’s a food truck on nearly every corner. Still need persuading? Take a look at our list of why we cannot get enough of Houston.

Stephanie Nweke ’21

Education: B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies, University of Houston, 3+3 program participant

I love being a student at the Law Center because of the direct access I have to the global economy. Houston is one of the largest and most diverse cities in this country, and I’ve been able to meet lawyers from different walks of life in various industries. The Law Center has provided me with fantastic opportunities to carve my own path and take charge of my legal career. I’ve formed wonderful relationships with the faculty and staff because they are invested in the success of every student. As a first-generation law student, I couldn’t have picked a better place to be.

Houston: Exceptional City. Exceptional Value. Exceptional Law School.
Sports and Entertainment

One of our biggest attractions is the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, taking place every March and bringing in big-name performers, as well as donating millions of dollars in scholarships to Texas high school students.

Need some culture in your life? Try visiting the Houston Museum of Natural Science (dinosaurs!), the Museum of Fine Arts, the Contemporary Arts Museum, the Health Museum, the Children’s Museum, or the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum – just to name a few. Don’t forget about our incredible theater district, minutes from downtown, as well as wildlife viewing at the Houston Zoo.

Need some green space? Check out Memorial Park, Hermann Park, Buffalo Bayou Trails, and Discovery Green.

Houston has four amazing stadiums, two of which are regularly used for concerts and other events: NRG Stadium, home of the Texans (football); the Toyota Center, home of the Rockets (basketball); Dynamo Stadium, home of the Dynamo (soccer); and Minute Maid Park, home of the Astros (baseball). In addition, we also house the eighth wonder of the world, a.k.a. the Astrodome.

Food and Travel

If you need a little surf and sand, we have beaches and waterfronts only an hour away in Galveston, Kemah, and Surfside.

Hungry? We’ve got you covered in Houston with an amazing, ethnically-diverse restaurant scene, saturated with award-winning chefs and every type of cuisine imaginable. If you can’t find it in Houston, chances are you can’t find it anywhere! Food trucks are also an increasingly popular addition to our foodie-centric culture.

Things We Love About Houston

Bobby Joe Dale, III ’17

Education: B.A. in French, University of Mississippi

The UH Law Center’s faculty and staff are easily its best resource. I had several professors go out of their way to help me succeed in both their classes and in law school.
University of Houston Law Center graduates can be found throughout the United States and abroad practicing in a wide array of legal and J.D. Advantage arenas including law firms, government, academic, judicial, business, and the public service sector.

The Career Development Office (CDO) hosts numerous programs and events designed to help students explore career options and develop vital job search skills. These services and programs include:

**CDO Direct Services**

**ONE-ON-ONE CAREER ADVISING** involves sessions with our CDO assistant directors, all attorneys with real-world practice experience. Each incoming law student is assigned a dedicated career counselor who provides one-on-one tailored career advising throughout law school and after graduation. CDO counselors advise on résumé and cover letter drafting, interviewing, networking, branding, and marketing to help UH Law Center students and alumni connect with legal employers.

**PASSPORT TO SUCCESS: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES** is a series of professional development programming designed to equip students with the resources and skills to successfully identify, generate, and navigate career opportunities. The Series consists of four mandatory learning sessions for 1Ls and 30+ professionalism programs, attorney panels, and recruiting events for all students throughout the year.

**MOCK INTERVIEW PROGRAM** offers mock interviews year round for students and alumni. In the fall and spring of each academic year, the CDO partners with local attorneys to help law students practice interviewing techniques and network with the legal community.

**Networking and Mentoring**

**LUNCH/DINNER WITH A LAWYER** allows students to interact with lawyers in an intimate setting. The CDO invites attorneys from various legal fields to campus to interact with a small group of up to 20 students over a casual lunch or dinner for an opportunity to engage in an

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**Calvin McKnight ’18**

**Education:** B.S. in Industrial Engineering, Louisiana State University

**Career:** Attorney, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld

In the Part-Time Evening Program, there are all types of backgrounds and career paths. This allows students to bring our experiences into classroom discussions, and creates a great learning atmosphere built on substantive subject matters. The professors are devoted to helping students achieve a solid legal education, and they go out of their way to make themselves available for additional help on course materials, career paths, and legal advice. Lastly, given our hectic schedules due to full-time careers, the UHLC faculty and staff make classes, events, and themselves available to the part-time evening students, and are dedicated to creating an educational setting conducive to our unique needs.
in-depth conversation about their practice that would be difficult to conduct in a larger panel or speaker format.

**UPPER LEVEL MENTORING PROGRAM & PART-TIME PARTNERS** pairs upper-class students with attorneys to aid with the transition to practice.

**Recruiting**

**FALL AND SPRING ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEW (OCI)** programs attract over 100 prospective employers to campus to place students in summer clerkships and permanent positions after graduation.

**SMALL & MIDSIZE FIRM OPEN HOUSE** invites local law firms with 50 or fewer attorneys to campus to speak to students about their practice and any available jobs.

**GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC INTEREST TABLE TALK** hosts over 45 employers seeking to meet and hire UH Law Center students for government and public interest positions.

**ALTERNATIVE CAREER TABLE TALK** is designed for employers who offer positions where a law degree is not required but highly advantageous.

**CORPORATE FELLOWSHIP/INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS** provide corporations with substantive legal services from recent graduates and current students at a reasonable cost. Recent graduates and current students gain a comprehensive, practical foundation of corporate law and practice.

**LAW FIRM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM** provides large law firms with the legal services of recent law school graduates at a reasonable cost. Recent graduates gain a comprehensive, practical foundation of complex law and practice.

**APPRENTICE PROGRAM** meets the needs of busy small law firms and provides upper-level law students additional experience with real-world legal work. Law firms with fewer than five attorneys can hire a law clerk at a reduced rate as the UH Law Center subsidizes a portion of the student’s salary.

**JOB BANK DATABASE** is maintained by the CDO year round and highlights available legal and alternative positions for law students and alumni seeking part-time, full-time, temporary, and long-term employment.

**JOB FAIRS** expose students to potential employers from around the nation. UH Law Center participates in off-campus job fairs throughout the year.

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**Michael Ryan ’15**

**Education:** B.A. in History, M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction, Texas A&M University

**Career:** Associate attorney, Foley & Lardner

“I came into law school with the plan of experiencing everything the law has to offer before choosing my career path. I got involved with everything, and that allowed me to find my specialty. It’s hard to single out individuals as the best resources, because everyone is here to assist you in their own specialized way. Forced to choose, I would say the professors are the best resources because they are content experts, and many have work experience and great connections you can access. On top of that, professors at the Law Center want to mentor students and will help those seeking assistance in any way they can.”
Faculty
The faculty of the UH Law Center is recognized nationally and internationally for its expertise in fields such as intellectual property & information law, health law, international law, energy law, and tax law. Professors lecture, teach, and participate in symposia the world over. The collective scholarship of tenured faculty ranks in the upper tier nationally based on the number of law journal citations over the past five years. Our faculty members are not only authors and scholars, they also are dedicated teachers committed to your success. Our low student-to-faculty ratio allows for a more personal relationship than found at other schools. The combination of legal theory and practical application taught by a faculty of recognized experts, clinical professors, researchers, and adjuncts drawn from practitioners with “real world” perspectives on the law gives our graduates the tools to succeed in today’s competitive market. The bottom line for UH Law Center students is easy to define: at the UH Law Center, you have the chance to learn from the best.

UH Law Center Courses
The UH Law Center offers one of the largest course selections in the country, which prepares students for almost any legal discipline and allows concentrations in specific areas. In their second and third years, J.D. students have only three course requirements — Professional Responsibility, six credit hours of experiential courses (including simulation courses, law clinics, and field placements), and an upper-level writing requirement. Students may customize their remaining coursework with a range of recommended and elective courses, seminars, and clinical experiences.
The following pages provide a partial list of courses from our extensive catalog. For a comprehensive list of courses offered, please visit [law.uh.edu/schedule/homepage.asp](http://law.uh.edu/schedule/homepage.asp). Please note that not all courses are offered during every semester. Students may also augment their legal education by enrolling in select courses from other graduate departments at the University of Houston. Counseling on individual degree plans is available from faculty and the Director of Student Advisement.

### FULL-TIME PROGRAM *

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### PART-TIME EVENING PROGRAM **

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| **Total** | **16** |

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* Classes are typically held Monday to Friday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

** Classes are typically held Monday to Thursday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Note: The order of classes is subject to change.

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**Alissa Gipson ’16, ’17 (LL.M.)**

**Education:** B.B.A. in Marketing, Texas A&M University

**Career:** Associate attorney, Chamberlain Hrdlicka

*The best part of my time at the UH Law Center was the support I received, not only from the administration, but also from other students! Although law school is a competitive atmosphere in general, I found that the students at the Law Center are extremely supportive of one another.*
Upper Level Courses

BUSINESS & COMMERCIAL LAW
• Antitrust
• Bankruptcy
• Business Organizations
• Texas Consumer Law

CONSTITUTIONAL & CRIMINAL LAW
• Civil Rights
• Criminal Procedure
• First Amendment
• White Collar Crime

EMPLOYMENT & LABOR LAW
• Employment Discrimination
• Employment Welfare & Benefit Plans
• Labor Law
• Workers’ Compensation

ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES LAW
• Energy Law & Policy
• Oil & Gas
• Toxic Torts
• Wildlife Law

FAMILY LAW
• Children’s Rights
• Domestic Violence
• Family Law
• Juvenile Law

GOVERNMENT REGULATION
• Administrative Law
• Disabilities & the Law
• Election Law
• Higher Education Law

You should find a law school in the city where you want to practice. Houston has one of the largest legal markets in the country, and UH Law Center provides ample opportunities for you to network with some of the greatest attorneys in the profession.
Upper Level Courses

HEALTH LAW
• Genetics & the Law
• Health Law I: Bioethics & Quality Care
• Health Law II: Access, Regulation & Enterprise Health Legislation
• Medical Malpractice Litigation

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INFORMATION LAW
• Copyright Law
• Intellectual Property Survey
• Patent Prosecution
• Trade Secrets

INTERNATIONAL LAW & ADMIRALTY
• Admiralty Law
• Comparative Law
• Human Rights
• Immigration Law

LAW & SOCIETY
• Introduction to Jurisprudence
• Law & Economics
• Law & Literature
• Race Theory and the Law

LITIGATION, ADVOCACY AND RELATED COURSES
• Appellate Advocacy
• Civil Trial Advocacy
• Criminal Trial Advocacy
• Pretrial Procedure

PRACTICE SKILLS TRAINING
• Innocence Investigations
• Clinics
• Externships
• Advanced Legal Research

PROCEDURE & PRACTICE
• Federal Pretrial Procedure
• Personal & Professional Ethics
• Professional Responsibility
• Texas Civil Procedure

REAL PROPERTY, TRUSTS, & ESTATES
• Construction Law
• Landlord & Tenant
• Modern Real Estate Transactions
• Trusts & Wills

TAXATION
• Corporate Tax
• Estate Planning
• Federal Income Tax
• State & Local Tax

Professor Meredith J. Duncan ’93

Education: B.A., Northwestern University

Career Highlights: Current Assistant Dean of Diversity, Inclusion & Metropolitan Programs at UH Law Center, Alumnae Professor of Law, law clerk for Judge Edith H. Jones (Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals), associate attorney at Vinson & Elkins

I love the atmosphere at UHLC. Each year, we receive an interesting and energetic class of new students, all eager to earn their law degrees so that they can make the world a better place. It is a privilege to work at a place that is so intellectually stimulating and that gives back to its community in a variety of different ways. I also like working closely with students and introducing them to a whole new way of thinking about the world around them. It is a very rewarding job.
Centers of Excellence

Eleven institutes and centers, two of which are perennially ranked among the “Top 10” in the nation, distinguish the University of Houston Law Center. Each of these special programs adds depth to our curriculum and creates educational opportunities that other law schools simply cannot match.

Center for Children, Law & Policy pursues legal and interdisciplinary advocacy, scholarship, and teaching to advance the interests of children through public policy (law.uh.edu/center4clp).

Center for U.S. and Mexican Law is the first independent research center in the United States dedicated to the study of Mexican law and legal aspects of U.S.-Mexico relations (law.uh.edu/mexican-law).

Criminal Justice Institute aims to enhance the practice of criminal law at the local, national, and international levels (law.uh.edu/cji/homepage.asp).

Environment, Energy & Natural Resources Center is housed in the acknowledged Energy Capital of the World, which provides a forum for education and discussion of some of the most important issues of the day, such as climate change, air pollution, clean coal, and renewable energy (law.uh.edu/eenrcenter).

Health Law & Policy Institute offers one of the nation’s top-ranked programs in health law. The institute works to advance understanding of health law issues and to provide guidance for significant policy decisions affecting every element of health care. HLPI also houses the Center for Biotechnology & the Law (law.uh.edu/healthlaw).
Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law is one of the nation’s strongest and oldest IP programs, and coordinates study, research, and writing on patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, and information law (law.uh.edu/ipil/homepage.asp).

Program on Law and Computation is designed to bring together a spectrum of specializations united by a heavy reliance on computation and the law. The program examines the many ways in which computers and software technologies change how law is perceived and studied (law.uh.edu/polac/homepage.asp).

Tax Law Program boasts a level of sophistication that has earned it national prominence and status in the southwest United States. Proficient tax lawyers are in demand, and UHLC is poised to fill that need (law.uh.edu/tax).

Texas Innocence Network is comprised of two divisions: the Capital Division and the Non-Capital Division. Attorneys and student interns work together on these cases to provide the support needed for both divisions (law.uh.edu/TIN).

The UH Law Center Experience

**Mercedes Landry ’21**

**Education:** B.B.A. in Business Management, Texas A&M University

“I love the UH Law Center’s dedication to student success, which is what attracted me to the school in the first place. From the first time I came to visit, I could feel that the professors were invested in their students and really wanted them to succeed. My professors now all have an open door policy and always make me feel comfortable when asking questions or just chatting.”
Clinical Legal Education Program

Clinics provide students with hands-on, practical legal experience while still in law school. Under the guidance of clinical faculty, students handle all aspects of cases from interviewing to filing motions to conducting trials in court. Our clinical programs seek to accomplish three goals:

- Train students to be competent, professional, and ethical advocates;
- Provide first-rate pro bono legal representation to indigent clients and communities in Harris County; and
- Support the courts and legislature in developing policies that can improve the surrounding communities.

UHLC offers nine clinic options:

**Appellate Civil Rights Clinic** represents litigants and amici in appeals of civil rights claims in federal and state courts.

**Civil Practice Clinic** handles matters including bankruptcy, divorce, domestic violence, juvenile cases, landlord-tenant, estate planning, and probate (law.uh.edu/clinic/civil.asp).

**Consumer Law Clinic** focuses on cases ranging from deceptive trade practices to credit and debt collection problems and other consumer issues (law.uh.edu/clinic/consumerlaw.asp).

**Criminal Defense Clinic** assigns students misdemeanor cases with a high probability of going to trial. Students handle all aspects of the case from arraignment to fact investigation to trial (law.uh.edu/clinic/criminaldefenseclinic.asp).

**Entertainment Law Clinic** is an advanced entertainment law course for students seeking practical experience in transactional and administrative aspects of the entertainment industry.

**Entrepreneurship and Community Development Clinic** gives students the tools to assist small businesses and nonprofits with legal matters ranging from lease agreements to employment policies (law.uh.edu/clinic/ecd.asp).

**Immigration Clinic** handles various immigration issues, including asylum, domestic violence, and human trafficking (law.uh.edu/clinic/immi.asp).

**Mediation Clinic** teaches students to mediate consumer issues, landlord-tenant disputes, and breach of contract cases for the Justice Courts in Harris County (law.uh.edu/clinic/mediate.asp).

**Military Justice Clinic** will assign students to defense teams in military criminal justice cases pending adverse administrative board hearings and felony-level courts-martial.

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*Emily Hall ’21*

**Education:** B.S. in Community Health, Texas A&M University

I chose the UH Law Center because I want to pursue a career in health law, and the Law Center is widely known for that specialty. Houston holds special meaning to me because my family is here, my full-time job is here, and UHLC offered the flexibility for me to attend school part-time while gaining a respected legal education. My favorite part about the school is getting to know my diverse and accomplished classmates — we have people who come from all different backgrounds with all different perspectives, which makes everything more interesting!
The UH Law Center Experience

Externships, Clerkships & Fellowships
The UH Law Center administers several programs to help upper-level students gain hands-on experience and exposure to the legal field while building their resumes and expanding their professional networks.

Externships
Judicial Externship Program allows students to earn academic credit while working with federal and state judges at the trial and appellate levels (law.uh.edu/externship/judicial.asp).

Government & Nonprofit Externship Program is supported through the Government and Public Interest Table Talk (GPITT). Each year, the Career Development Office (CDO) hosts 45+ employers seeking to meet and hire UH Law Center students for government and public interest positions (law.uh.edu/pil/UHTTemployerinfo.asp); (law.uh.edu/externship/externship.asp).

Clerkships
Legal & Alternative Career Clerkships are coordinated through the CDO through a variety of programs, including: On-Campus Interviews (OCI), Small & Mid-Size Firm Open House, Alternative Career/In-house Legal Table Talk, GPITT, Apprentice Program, Job Bank Database, and off-campus job fairs.

Fellowships
Global Fellowship Program supports students pursuing international placements during the summer with government and nonprofit agencies (law.uh.edu/pil/global-fellowship-program.asp).

Summer Public Interest Fellowship Program is hosted by the CDO and provides opportunities for work exposure in the public interest legal community, thereby instilling an excitement about and a commitment to public service in our students (law.uh.edu/pil/summer.asp).

Graduate Fellowship Program is also hosted by the CDO and makes it possible for recent graduates who are dedicated to careers in public service to pursue unpaid internships while awaiting bar results (law.uh.edu/pil/graduate-fellowship-program).

JACOB KARAM ’17

EDUCATION: B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies, Texas Tech University; M.A. in Liberal Arts, University of Memphis

CAREER: The Karam Law Office

‘Law school will help you in your career no matter what path you ultimately choose, even if you decide later you don’t want to practice law. If you want to think critically, write concisely, and speak persuasively, you should highly consider attending law school – especially at the UH Law Center! Attending law school just gets better with time. Treat it like a full-time job: be organized, be committed, and work hard. If you do, you will reap the benefits.’
Professors Whitney Werich Heard

**EDUCATION:** B.A., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; J.D., Georgetown University Law Center

**CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:** Law clerk for a federal court trial judge, litigation associate at Kirkland & Ellis L.L.P.

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**Without a doubt, my favorite thing about the UH Law Center is the student body. Our students are bright and hard working, but they are also fun and enthusiastic. Nothing makes me happier than having a former student come back to tell me that s/he was selected for Law Review, won a moot court competition, or was offered a job. Their successes are my greatest professional joys.**

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**Blakely Advocacy Institute**

Advocacy skills are central to the practice of law, and the UH Law Center’s advocacy program is recognized as one of the broadest and best in the nation.

Through the education of law students to become accomplished members of the legal profession, the Blakely Advocacy Institute merges substantive law and lawyering skills to enhance the local, national and international legal communities. Upper-division students are eligible to join the UH Law Center’s highly successful mock trial, moot court, and alternative dispute resolution interscholastic teams, which continue to fill the Institute’s trophy cases with their impressive wins. ([law.uh.edu/blakely/homepage.asp](law.uh.edu/blakely/homepage.asp)).

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**Joint Degree Programs**

The UH Law Center is among the national leaders in the number of dual degree programs offered. Our innovative programs allow students to earn two degrees in less time than it would take to complete the degrees separately.

Students interested in pursuing dual degree options must apply to, and earn acceptances from, both programs within one calendar year with the exception of the J.D./LL.M. If one of the approved dual degree programs does not fulfill a student’s educational goals, the UH Law Center also allows students to earn credit in other graduate programs with prior course approval ([law.uh.edu/academic/dual-degree.asp](law.uh.edu/academic/dual-degree.asp)).

Dual degree programs include:

- J.D./M.A. in History with the University of Houston
- J.D./M.S.W. with the University of Houston Graduate College of Social Work
- J.D./M.D. with Baylor College of Medicine
- J.D./M.P.P. with the University of Houston Hobby School of Public Affairs
- J.D./M.P.A. with the University of Houston College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
- J.D./J.D. with the University of Calgary
- B.A./J.D. (3+3 Undergraduate/Law Dual Degree Program) with the University of Houston Honors College ([uh.edu/honors/](uh.edu/honors/))

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**Without a doubt, my favorite thing about the UH Law Center is the student body. Our students are bright and hard working, but they are also fun and enthusiastic. Nothing makes me happier than having a former student come back to tell me that s/he was selected for Law Review, won a moot court competition, or was offered a job. Their successes are my greatest professional joys.**
Journals

After completing the first year of study, UH Law Center students can gain valuable writing experience while working on one of the school’s acclaimed student-run journals.

First-year grades and demonstrated proficiency in legal writing are the critical criteria that lead to membership in these journals, and membership is offered during the summer after first year.

Houston Law Review, widely cited as one of the nation’s top journals, publishes a varied body of legal scholarship to serve the professional and academic communities (houstonlawreview.org).

Houston Business and Tax Law Journal consistently ranks as a “Top 10” journal in its specialty area. The HBTLJ focuses on a wide range of law, including corporate, securities, bankruptcy, antitrust, intellectual property, employment, labor, mergers/acquisitions, and tax (hbtlj.org).

Journal of Consumer & Commercial Law is published by UH Law Center students on behalf of the Consumer and Commercial Law Section of the State Bar of Texas (jtexconsumerlaw.com).

Houston Journal of Health Law and Policy builds on the strength of the UH Law Center’s highly-ranked health law program with a widely-respected scholarly publication focusing on emerging issues in the field (law.uh.edu/hjhlp).

Houston Journal of International Law assembles articles written by practicing professionals, educators, and students on a broad range of topics in international and comparative law, including international business, finance, torts, crime, and human rights (hjil.org).

The UH Law Center Experience

Haley C. Carter ’20

Education: B.S. in History, United States Naval Academy; M.B.A., University of Liverpool (England)

“...The Part-Time Evening Program at the University of Houston Law Center is the perfect fit for me because it offers me a flexible schedule and the staff truly understands the time constraints and external demands on students with full-time jobs. During the summer, UHLC offers classes via distance learning, enabling me to maximize the time I get to spend with my son during his break from school. The relationships I’ve built with my fellow classmates and the camaraderie we share in the part-time program will last a lifetime.”
Student Organizations

The UH Law Center extends learning beyond the classroom with a full range of student organizations that represent students’ diverse interests and provide tools to help students succeed.

Whatever you’re looking for in a student group, you can find it here (law.uh.edu/organizations/homepage.asp). Some of our student organizations include:

- The Advocates
- Aggie Law Society
- American Bar Association
- Asian Law Students Association
- The Association of Women in Law
- Black Law Students Association
- Christian Legal Society
- Corporate & Taxation Law Society
- Criminal Law Association
- Energy and Environmental Law Society
- Evening Law Students Association
- Federalist Society
- Health Law Organization
- Intellectual Property Student Organization
- International Law Society
- Labor & Employment Law Society
- Latinx Law Students Association
- Order of the Barons
- Outlaw: Students for GLBT Concerns
- Public Interest Law Organization
- Student Bar Association
- Veterans Society

Being in such a vibrant legal community in Houston, the UH Law Center is strategically positioned to train new lawyers in a strong market. The faculty is both kind and rigorous, and people really emphasize excellence in their teaching and research.
Student Services

The Office of Student Services exists for one reason: to help UH Law Center students achieve their educational goals while keeping other pressures in check. This is the one-stop shop for answers to challenges ranging from counseling and registration services to financial aid.

Resources for new students include the Academic Enrichment Program, which helps incoming law students transition into law school by providing section tutors to help with course materials and to augment study and test-taking skills. Tutorials are open to all first-year students. The UH Law Center also offers the 1L Mentoring Program that helps new students acclimate to life at law school. The program pairs first-year students with faculty and upper-class law students who serve as mentors and share perspectives on everything from course selections to career goals (law.uh.edu/student).

Diversity

If you want a melting pot, look no further than Houston — our region (including the suburbs) is consistently ranked as one of the most culturally diverse cities in the nation. The fact that many Fortune 500 companies, global corporations, law firms, and oil and gas firms house either their headquarters or major offices here contributes to our city’s incredible diversity, bringing people from all over the world right to our doorstep. As the fourth largest city in the United States, Houston is more than a great place to earn a law degree — it’s also a great city in which to pursue a legal career. The UH Law Center offers a top-notch education in a collegial, welcoming environment, and in a city with excellent career prospects — a highly desirable combination that helps us to recruit a diverse student body. UHLC is recognized as one of the most diverse law schools in the nation by preLaw and the National Jurist magazines. Law schools are evaluated in several categories, including percentage of minority faculty and the diversity of the student body.

Laura W. Duncan ’14

Education: B.S. in Communications, M.A. in Advertising, The University of Texas at Austin

Career: Trial attorney, Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division

“The restaurant scene in Houston is incredible! It is constantly growing and changing, and there is always something new to try, even on a law school student’s budget. Also, most people (including me) who haven’t ever lived in Houston think it’s all concrete, highways, and smog. It’s not! The city has beautiful neighborhoods with lots of green space and parks throughout, and they are constantly expanding bike trails, outdoor theaters, and other activities. Given the great year-round weather, it’s a surprisingly nice place to live.”
The UH Law Center Experience

**Professor David Kwok**

**Education:** B.S., Northwestern University; M.P.P., J.D., Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

**Career Highlights:** Law clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

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**UH Law Center is a professional school. It’s a great chance to learn and develop analytical skills, but it’s also the development of your professional reputation. A reliable, trustworthy, professional reputation in the legal community will last you a long time.**

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**Campus Resources**

The resources offered to students reach far beyond the UH Law Center campus. Whether you need exercise for stress relief, help with student accommodations, or childcare, the University of Houston campus has it all.

**Campus Recreation and Wellness Center** is located a few blocks from the UH Law Center. This amazing facility offers everything from a three-story rock-climbing wall to a world-class natatorium. A full range of exercise classes is available, along with multiple settings for indoor sports, ranging from soccer to basketball to martial arts (uh.edu/recreation).

**Students with Disabilities** can receive assistance through the Justin Dart Jr. Center for Students with DisABILITIES. The Center provides auxiliary aids, exam assistance, transcription services, and library services for students with special needs. With early notice, the Office of Student Services will work with students to approve and secure accommodations for anyone in need of assistance (uh.edu/csd).

**UH Student Health Center** provides a range of medical services and health counseling and can refer students to acute-care health facilities when needed. Health insurance is recommended for all students and is required for all international students with an F or J visa status (uh.edu/healthcenter).

**Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)** has professional counselors who are able to assist students with personal issues ranging from stress-related disorders to alcohol or drug dependency (uh.edu/caps).

**Child Care** on campus is provided by the UH Children’s Learning Center, which enrolls children of students, faculty, and staff. Children ages 3 months to 5 years are eligible (uh.edu/clc).

**Graduate and Professional Housing** is available at the University Lofts. The lofts offer an urban-style living experience with the convenience of being located across the street from the UH Law Center (uh.edu/housing/housing-options/university-lofts).
Admission to the J.D. Program

law.uh.edu/admissions

The J.D. program is a 90-hour curriculum culminating in the Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. Students can pursue the degree on either a full- or part-time basis. The Full-Time Program is designed for students who plan to devote nearly all of their time to the study of law while the Part-Time Evening Program is designed for students who plan to work during law school. Applicants must designate in their application to which program they are applying. Both programs begin in the fall semester.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application opens September 1</th>
<th>Application Receipt Deadline*</th>
<th>Decision Sent**</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Full-Time</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Decision</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>by February 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regular Decision</td>
<td>March 15</td>
<td>by May 31</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Part-Time</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Decision</td>
<td>November 15</td>
<td>by February 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regular Decision</td>
<td>May 15</td>
<td>by July 31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Early decision is non-binding.

* Any application received after the regular decision deadline will be considered at the end of the process on a space-available basis.

** Decisions are sent on a rolling basis as they are finalized, and notifications are sent both by email and through an online status check system.

My favorite class to teach is Disabilities & the Law. My father lost his legs in a car accident in 1965, so I grew up with a parent with a disability. That experience shaped my understanding of the world and taught me to value and appreciate differences. My support for disability rights is what made me want to go to law school in the first place! It is an honor to have the opportunity to share my knowledge and passion with my students. Disability provides an invaluable opportunity to discuss social justice. I hope that students leave my class with a new perspective on the world that will serve them not just in the context of disability law but also in the whole of their legal careers.
To be eligible for admission to the J.D. program, all applicants must:

- Hold a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university;
- Have a recent score on the Law School Admission Test * (LSAT) or Graduate Record Examination (GRE); and
- Register with the Law School Admission Council’s (LSAC) Credential Assembly Service (CAS).

Your application must include the following, which should be submitted electronically:

- Completed application form;
- A personal statement of up to three pages, double-spaced. The personal statement is extremely valuable in the selection process. Because we do not grant personal interviews, this is your opportunity to tell the Admissions Committee more about yourself. It is, in essence, your personal interview on paper. You may write your personal statement on any subject, but you should include a brief description of your reason for applying to the University of Houston Law Center. In the alternative, this information may be included in an optional statement;
- Résumé, or a list of civic and extracurricular activities, honors, and work experience;
- Optional statement to explain or highlight elements in your application that are not readily apparent. You may write an optional statement regarding your diversity, disadvantaged background, socioeconomic status, grade trends, substantial discrepancy between your performance on standardized tests and your actual level of academic achievement, your interest in attending the University of Houston Law Center, or any other information you believe is relevant to the Admissions Committee that has not been previously included in your personal statement. Please limit this statement to no more than one page; and
- Immigration documents (for international applicants requiring a student visa).

*Effective Fall 2021, UH undergraduate students who 1) scored at or above the 85th percentile on the ACT or SAT; and 2) have achieved a cumulative GPA of 3.6 or above through six semesters, as calculated by LSAC, will be eligible to apply without an LSAT score.

Richard Gardner ’18

Education: B.A. in Political Science, The University of Texas at Austin

Career: Student, Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer (Calgary, AB, Canada)

I knew going into law school that I wanted to dedicate my legal career to the energy industry, and for that, there is no better place to be than the UH Law Center due to its wide array of energy, environment, and natural resource-related courses. As the energy capital of the nation, Houston offers so many amazing networking and career opportunities. I was interested in IELP [International Energy Lawyers Program] from the start because it is a program unique to the UH Law Center, and promises a truly unique experience for those wanting to pursue a career in international energy law.
Your application file must also include a complete CAS report, which must include:

• Recent LSAT score, not older than five years prior to date of enrollment (unless submitting a GRE score);
• Transcripts from all colleges and universities attended; and
• At least two letters of recommendation (but no more than three). The most useful letters of recommendation are those from employers, professors, or colleagues with whom you have had close working relationships.

Please note that no application will be reviewed without the CAS report. It is the applicant’s responsibility to make sure that his/her CAS report is complete. You may review your CAS report status by accessing your LSAC online account.

For more information on registering for the LSAT or CAS, please visit lsac.org.

BUDGET

The UH Law Center has one of the lowest tuition rates among top schools in the nation, particularly for Texas residents, and is ranked among the nation’s “Best Value” law schools by National Jurist magazine. Relatively low tuition, coupled with Houston’s affordable cost of living, allows our students to graduate with an overall indebtedness below the national average.

High quality and low cost is a rare combination. At the UH Law Center, excellence and value are our hallmarks.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Every applicant accepted for admission is automatically considered for available merit scholarships, and no additional application is required. Dean’s Merit Scholarships are offered to highly-qualified students in each incoming class. These scholarships vary in number and are unconditionally renewed each year. Additional information regarding scholarship selection criteria and retention information is available at law.uh.edu/financialaid/scholarships.asp.

Additionally, the UH Law Center Financial Aid & Scholarship Office administers a variety of need-based financial aid programs. Applicants should begin the financial aid process by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after January 1. The code for the University of Houston is 003652. For current information on tuition and fees, sample budgets, and need-based financial aid, visit law.uh.edu/financialaid.

Admission to the J.D. Program

As president of the University of Houston Law Alumni Association, I most enjoy regularly engaging with Law Center leadership, staff, and faculty, along with fellow alumni, on developing initiatives to help facilitate the Law Center reaching its full potential as a top-tier law school. Our students are always top of mind and at the forefront of these efforts. The current environment at the Law Center is electric and there is perhaps no better time in the school’s history to be a part of it.
Admission to the J.D. Program

Applying to Transfer or Visit
If you have attended another ABA-accredited law school and performed well, you may apply for admission with advanced standing. Considerations include available space at the UH Law Center, academic records at all previous schools, and compelling circumstances.

TRANSFERS
Transfer applicants must have completed the equivalent of the first year of law school and all or most of the UH Law Center’s first-year required courses. Transfer applicants may transfer a maximum of 30 semester hours of credit, with hours rather than grades noted on your final UH Law Center transcript. Transfer credit will not be awarded for any course in which the student has earned lower than a “C.” Transfer applications will not be considered with fewer than 22 graded hours, and we accept applications for fall and spring start (law.uh.edu/admissions/transfer.asp).

SEMESTER IN HOUSTON/VISITING
Students in good standing at another ABA-accredited law school may apply to visit, with permission from the home law school. Credits earned go toward degree requirements at their home school. Current UH Law Center students have first priority at registration, and visiting students should submit primary and alternate course selections to their home school when seeking approval of potential credits. Visiting students are not permitted to register for first-year courses, and they must arrange their financial aid through their home school via a consortium agreement arranged through the Office of Admissions. Visiting applications are accepted for fall, intersession, spring, spring break, and summer (law.uh.edu/admissions/visiting.asp).

The UH Law Center offers a joint J.D./LL.M. degree program which allows students to earn both degrees in 3.5 years (105 credit hours). Students in the UHLC J.D. program, including both transfer and visiting students, may be eligible to participate in the program. Joint degree students must meet all J.D. requirements (visiting students from their home law school) and UHLC LL.M. degree requirements in order to complete the program. LL.M. specialty programs eligible for the joint degree include: Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Law, Health Law, Intellectual Property & Information Law, and Tax Law. For additional information about the LL.M. program please email llm@uh.edu or visit law.uh.edu/llm/.

Tina Gutierrez ’19

EDUCATION: B.A. in Digital and Broadcast Journalism, University of Southern California

CAREER: Associate attorney, Kennedy Hodges LLP

The Law Center grabbed my attention because of its location in such a vibrant city full of opportunity in the legal field, its nationally ranked programs, and its affordability. I am so thankful I went to UHLC and was equipped with the skills and network to land a job before I graduated. I am excited to join the Houston legal field backed by the support of the Law Center and local alumni.
Montrose
Historic. Eclectic. Bohemian. Artsy. LGBT-friendly. Pierced and tattooed. In addition to good times and great people-watching, the area offers plenty of affordable housing options less than four miles from the UH Law Center. Look for garage apartments, duplexes, fourplexes, or rooms for rent among the porch-swing bungalows.

Downtown
Home to some of the world’s largest law firms and more than 100 courts, downtown Houston offers UH Law Center students a wealth of opportunity right outside their front door.

Midtown
A vibrant and trendy mixed-use community with a variety of dining, shopping, and entertainment venues within walking distance of large loft-style apartment communities. Home to young professionals who know how to work and play.

University of Houston Main Campus
UH Law Center students may avail themselves of upscale graduate housing in the University Lofts, ten dining halls and food courts, cross-campus shuttle service, a state-of-the-art recreation facility, and even a pub – all within walking distance of the UH Law Center. Even amidst a bustling city like Houston, UH offers a rich student life right on campus.

Galleria/ Greenway Plaza/ River Oaks/ Memorial
World-class shopping and dining, a thriving business district, upscale apartments, a high concentration of law firms, and quick access to Memorial Park, an inner-city green space nearly twice the size of New York’s Central Park.

Bellaire
Young professionals who enjoy the arts and support the out-of-the-ordinary define this area’s character. Montrose is just a block away; Rice is only a few minutes away. Hermann Park is a 445-acre urban oasis complete with a zoo, paddleboats, jogging trails, Japanese Gardens, and its own little railroad. Eighteen museums comprise the adjacent Museum District, an eclectic neighborhood with tree-lined streets, historic homes, small apartment communities, fourplexes, and other housing options.

Museum District/ Hermann Park
Hermann Park is a 445-acre urban oasis complete with a zoo, paddleboats, jogging trails, Japanese Gardens, and its own little railroad. Eighteen museums comprise the adjacent Museum District, an eclectic neighborhood with tree-lined streets, historic homes, small apartment communities, fourplexes, and other housing options.

Rice/West U./ Bellaire/Upper Kirby
Rice Village is a unique dichotomy of upscale establishments and college haunts, while West University Place and Bellaire – cities within the city – are upper-middle class bedroom communities. New loft apartments and high-condo rises define the urban chic of Upper Kirby. Many of the UH Law Center’s second-career students live in these areas.

Texas Medical Center/ NRG Park
The world’s largest medical complex offers UH Law Center students – especially those in our nationally-ranked health law program – unrivaled access to the broadest range of health-related internship and career opportunities imaginable. The area has a variety of apartments and condominiums with easy access to NRG Park’s sporting and entertainment events.

Houston Heights/ Washington Ave.
Quirky and offbeat, the Heights is beautifully-preserved Houston history. But you’ll also find just as many families and retirees among these eclectic arts-and-crafts bungalows, antique shops, and local coffeehouses. Washington Avenue, once a strip of industrial relics, has exploded into Houston’s newest entertainment district.

DIRECTIONS
From North
To reach the UH Law Center from Bush Intercontinental Airport, take I-45 South through downtown. Take the Spur 5 exit and follow it to the first stoplight (University Drive). Turn right, and proceed past the Campus Wellness Center to the next stoplight (Martin Luther King Blvd). Turn right, and proceed past University Lofts to the last entrance on your left.

From South
To reach the UH Law Center from Hobby Airport, take 1-45 North to the Elgin-Cullen/Lockwood exit. Turn left at the light, and proceed under the freeway to the traffic light at Entrance 18. Turn left; then turn left again at the first inner-campus road, and follow it as it curves right. Turn left into the first driveway, and the UH Law Center buildings will be on your left.

Parking
Metered parking is available at the Elgin Street Garage.
The Office of Admissions encourages all prospective students to visit the UH Law Center. We host numerous information sessions during the fall and early spring to help applicants navigate the admissions process and learn more about our programs. If one of our formal programs does not fit your schedule, individual visits can also be arranged, including a tour of the UH Law Center with one of our Student Ambassadors, a visit to a first-year class, or an appointment with a member of the admissions staff. Visits are best scheduled when classes are in session and are necessary to arrange in advance by filling out the visit request form at law.uh.edu/admissions/visiting-uhlc.asp.