Graduate Studies in Law
OUR MISSION

Founded by Thomas Jefferson in 1826, the University of Virginia School of Law is a world-renowned training ground for distinguished lawyers and public servants. The Law School is widely recognized as one of the nation's best, and its graduates are prominent in the leadership of the bar, legal education, and public service both in the United States and abroad. Consistently ranked among the top 10 law schools in the United States, Virginia has educated generations of lawyers, instilling in them a commitment to the ideals of leadership, integrity, and community service. Faculty members, all nationally acclaimed experts in their fields and outstanding teachers, lead Virginia's 1,100 students to appreciate the power of law to shape human behavior and to influence political, social, and cultural life.
Virginia is justly famous for the collegial environment that bonds students and faculty, and student satisfaction is consistently cited as among the highest in American law schools. Intellectual challenges are complemented by a spirit of cooperation and camaraderie. Students learn together and rely on Virginia’s 162-year-old, student-run Honor System to maintain the highest ethical standards.

Since the 1960s, the Graduate Studies Program has provided an American legal education to lawyers who have obtained their first law degree in their home countries. Superbly talented individuals with wide-ranging interests and experiences, Virginia’s LL.M. students make important contributions in and out of the Law School classroom. By maintaining a small and highly selective program, the Law School ensures a supportive atmosphere for students. In a typical year, several dozen students, all holders of the academic degree regarded as their countries’ first professional degree in law (equivalent to the J.D. degree) are admitted to the one-year program leading to the Master of Laws (LL.M.) Degree. Virtually all members of the LL.M. class are from abroad. The Law School also offers the Doctor of Juridical Science degree (S.J.D.), the highest degree in law. Normally, a student is admitted to candidacy for the S.J.D. only after completing the LL.M.

For foreign law graduates, the LL.M. program is designed to provide both a broad introduction to American law and legal theory, and advanced training in specialized areas of the law that are relevant to the individual student’s planned career in private practice, academics, or public service.

The advantages of maintaining a small graduate program in a large, intellectually diversified law school include the variety of options that can be offered to students and the ability to tailor each student’s course of study to his or her individual interests and career objectives. The director of graduate studies meets with each student to advise on and approve course selection and research plans and, together with other faculty members, is available to counsel students as they progress through the program. With the approval of the director, LL.M. candidates may also take up to three of their required credit hours in relevant graduate-level courses in other schools and departments of the University.
OUR GROUNDS

At Virginia your legal studies take place in what is perhaps the most appealing physical environment of any law school in the country. The David A. Harrison III Law Grounds reflect a recent $46 million expansion and renovation project funded entirely by private support from alumni and friends. The Law Grounds feature new classrooms, seminar rooms, and moot courtrooms; comprehensive computer facilities; an expanded library with a three-story reading room; new dining facilities; attractive offices for student organizations; and numerous student lounges. Surrounded by inviting gardens and an elegant, tree-lined lawn, the setting reflects Jefferson’s conviction that locating an intellectual community within a beautiful environment fosters learning and personal growth.
"GRADUATE students at the University of Virginia enrich the intellectual diversity of the Law School. Our small graduate program allows us to tailor students’ courses of study to their individual interests and career objectives, while ensuring they fully experience the dynamic atmosphere at Virginia and the variety of options available at a large university law school such as ours."

JOHN C. JEFFRIES, JR.
— Dean
OUR UNIVERSITY

With a total student body of approximately 18,500 and a faculty of more than 2,000, the University of Virginia has achieved national prominence in many disciplines and for four of the last six years has been ranked as the nation’s top public university, a judgment based on faculty strength, student achievement, satisfaction of alumni, and numerous other factors.

The University is proud to be recognized as a major research institution with an uncommonly strong commitment to teaching. It also maintains a strong tradition of student self-government. Forever marked by the vision and foresight of Thomas Jefferson, the architectural heritage confers a sense of place and Jefferson’s original buildings are still in use. In the Jeffersonian tradition, the University is boldly oriented to the future. It is, for example, a national leader in the use of electronic technologies in scholarship and in teaching.
OUR COMMUNITY

Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains two hours southwest of Washington, D.C., Charlottesville is a picturesque and thriving metropolitan area of more than 130,000. Both cosmopolitan and relaxed, it has kept its small-town feeling. Area restaurants are featured in publications such as *Gourmet* magazine and *The New York Times*, and an impressive array of local wineries offers award-winning vintages. In 2004 it was named the best place to live in America by Frommer’s *Cities Ranked and Rated*.

Law students seeking a community in which they can relax, find plentiful entertainment, and appreciate abundant natural beauty to balance the intense rigors of law study will find a home in Charlottesville.
CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

The hometown of the Dave Matthews Band, Charlottesville has many nightclubs and music festivals that create a thriving scene for live music. Free concerts are a staple of warm Friday evenings in the historic downtown and the Dogwood Blues Festival is another herald of the area’s gorgeous spring season.

Theater, opera, and music are community fixtures. Jefferson’s Monticello and the nearby homes of James Madison and James Monroe feature classic architecture and rich history. Each fall the University hosts the nationally acclaimed Virginia Film Festival and in the spring gathers the nation’s literary luminaries for the Virginia Festival of the Book.
When National Jurist magazine asked law students around the country what characteristics they deemed most important when evaluating a law school, they invariably cited the quality of teaching and faculty-student relations. In that survey and numerous others, Virginia’s faculty is in the top rank of law schools.

The Law School is fully committed to the concept of the “university law school” in which the study of law is regarded not only as preparation for a professional career, but also as a separate intellectual discipline worthy of the broadest sort of scholarly inquiry and reflection. The faculty represents an exceptional diversity of interests and includes leading scholars and acknowledged experts in all aspects of public and private law, both U.S. and international. Reflecting the Law School’s emphasis on the interdisciplinary study of law, a number of faculty also hold doctoral degrees in a variety of related fields, including economics, history, philosophy, psychology, and medicine. The Law School has achieved special prominence as a center for the study of law and economics, legal history, law and business, international law, criminal justice, and law and medicine.

The faculty is diverse in educational background, professional experience, and interests. Professors are fully committed to teaching, scholarship, and public service. In each category the faculty ranks among the finest in the nation. The faculty is enriched each year by visitors from other leading law schools here and abroad, as well as by new regular faculty appointees at both junior and senior levels. This infusion of new teaching and scholarly talents adds freshness and vitality to the Law School community.

Beyond the Law Grounds, faculty members are engaged by law firms, corporations, and government agencies as consultants. They share their expertise with U.S. Congressional panels debating proposed federal laws and with federal judges trying to understand developments at the forefront of the law. They engage generously in pro bono work, and they are active in the local community, in professional organizations, and in service to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**VIRGINIA’S PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL LAW IS RANKED 7TH IN THE COUNTRY BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT (2005 EDITION)**
Intellectual rigor, dynamic teaching, and rich diversity of courses distinguish the Virginia curriculum. The Law School fosters creative scholarship in all aspects of law, blending skilled craftsmanship with an enlarged understanding of law's changing functions in contemporary society. Students are challenged to determine how and why the law developed in a certain way, whether it accomplishes its intended purpose, and how changes in the law might affect social behavior. In addition, Virginia encourages students to think about law not only in itself but also in historical, sociological, and economic contexts.

Graduate students are encouraged to immerse themselves in the intellectual life of the Law School and will generally be enrolled in courses and seminars with upper-level J.D. students to encourage the exchange of viewpoints influenced by different cultural and life experiences. Elective courses include interdisciplinary offerings such as law and economics, law and social science, and law and medicine. Elective classes might be as small as 10 students or as large as 150. In a typical year, the Law School offers nearly 200 different courses. A full-time faculty teaches the vast majority of offerings, but the Law School is also proud of a roster of more than 60 adjunct faculty members from major law firms and government service who teach in specialty areas. More than 30 visiting faculty from the United States and abroad supplement the School's offerings with short and semester-long courses.

Except for satisfying the writing requirement, there is no required course for graduate students. Within that general framework, students are invited to be creative in selecting courses and research topics. For example, students wishing to specialize in international human rights will certainly wish to register for the basic course and seminars offered in that area. But such students would enrich their understanding by sampling from the variety of courses that explore legal approaches to similar issues in an American context, including courses dealing with civil rights, employment discrimination, and immigration law. Similarly, students planning a law practice in international business transactions may choose from a selection that includes foundational courses in American corporate, commercial, and regulatory law, as well as courses with an explicit focus on international business, trade, and litigation. This process can be repeated for virtually every other field of legal study and demonstrates the Law School's commitment to intellectual diversity and individualized courses of study.
THE PROGRAM IN LAW & BUSINESS

Virginia has long-standing strength in corporate and commercial law rooted in exceptionally strong faculty in those areas and enhanced by close relationships with the Darden Graduate School of Business Administration, one of the nation’s leading business schools. This traditional strength has produced a large network of Virginia graduates in the top ranks of corporate practice.

Successful lawyers don’t just advise on the law. They help their clients structure and negotiate transactions. To do so effectively, a lawyer must understand the basics of business analysis. Most lawyers discover this only after graduation and learn essential business skills on the job. Virginia’s Program in Law & Business, however, trains prospective business lawyers to think like their future clients.

The core of business analysis is valuation. Accordingly, the Program in Law & Business starts with instruction in accounting and finance. This instruction provides critical skills that most beginning lawyers lack—the ability to analyze and communicate using numbers as well as words and an enhanced ability to understand complex transactions and their purposes. The rest of the program’s curriculum integrates and reinforces these skills, producing lawyers who can combine legal analysis with a thorough understanding of the client’s goals and obstacles. In addition to the basics of business law, the program brings in business executives and practicing lawyers to provide intensive instruction with a real-world focus.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Virginia boasts the strongest collection of courses and professors in criminal law and criminal procedure of any law school in the country. The program in criminal justice provides a coordinated set of courses and seminars that prepares students for careers in criminal prosecution or defense. A separate course devoted to the military’s criminal justice system is offered in conjunction with the Army’s Judge Advocate General School, which is adjacent to the Law School.

Students who want a more in-depth understanding of the criminal justice system can choose from a variety of small seminars focusing on criminal practice in both state and federal courts.

The program also sponsors events at which guest speakers, faculty, and students discuss current issues of law and policy relating to crime, law enforcement, and the role of lawyers in the administration of criminal justice.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

Meeting the challenges to the long-term health of the natural world requires environmental policies grounded in law, science, economics, ethics, psychology, and politics. Virginia’s Environmental Law concentration aims to develop leaders who combine knowledge in these fields with the skills to put sound policy into practice. Our faculty members complement their command of environmental law’s theoretical aspects with extensive experience as government policymakers and practicing lawyers.

The concentration includes more than a dozen courses in environmental law and policy.

In 2002 the program sponsored a national conference on innovative, market-based strategies for solving environmental problems, and in 2003 an international conference on ecologically sound solutions to transboundary watershed management. Both meetings drew scores of international guests.
experts and leading scholars.

The Law School leads a multi-year interdisciplinary study, funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, to facilitate the rehabilitation and reuse of the nation’s most environmentally degraded land.

Virginia law graduates working in environmental policy include Robert F. Kennedy Jr., known for his work to protect the Hudson River; F. Henry Habicht, president of the Global Environment and Technology Foundation, and EarthRights International litigation director Richard Herz, who is representing Burmese victims of human rights abuses associated with the construction of an oil pipeline there.

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Long known nationally and internationally as a pre-eminent place to study international law, Virginia has one of the largest and most accomplished international law faculties in the nation, prominent in areas such as immigration, human rights, environmental, and comparative constitutional law, as well as private and commercial law in the global arena. The Virginia Journal of International Law is the oldest continuously published, student-edited law review in the United States devoted exclusively to the fields of public and private international law. The John Bassett Moore Society of International Law, the oldest such organization in North America, celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2001 with a conference that featured Stephen Schwebel, former president of the International Court of Justice, and an array of prominent speakers on such topics as humanitarian intervention, the role of mercenaries, international criminal justice, war crimes trials of former Yugoslavian leaders, and U.S. export policies.

Virginia also boasts two prominent international centers, one dedicated to oceans law and the other dedicated to national security law. The program offers clinics in Refugee Law and International Human Rights Law and numerous student-run organizations provide opportunities for hands-on experiences. As part of the Human Rights Study Project, for example, several Law and graduate students traveled to Sierra Leone to study international justice issues over the 2004 spring break,
interviewing Sierra Leonean officials from special courts, nongovernmental organizations, and the government. Virginia also has a student exchange program established with the first private law school in Germany as well as Nottingham University in England and the University of Melbourne in Australia. Every year, the Law School invites professors from other countries to teach seminars and other courses concerning such topics as European Union law and comparative law.

The international law program regularly brings in prominent speakers from around the globe, including leaders of international institutions and public interest organizations, officials from the U.S. State Department and other agencies such as the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the World Bank, international environmental activists, foreign judges, and practicing international lawyers. The J.B. Moore Society, a driving force in international law activities at the school, each year hosts a symposium on topics such as the war on terror and the legal challenges of corruption in foreign governments. Throughout the year the Society hosts a Professor Lunch Series, in which international law scholars present their papers to students, and the LL.M. Lunch Series, in which LL.M. students explain their native country’s legal system. Last year’s LL.M students profiled the legal systems of Argentina, Austria, China, India, Korea, and Mexico.

**LEGAL & CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY**

Virginia is the nation’s leading center for the study of American legal and constitutional history. Six members of the law faculty hold doctoral degrees in history, and several others also regularly produce influential scholarship in the field. This enables the Law School to offer an unparalleled variety of lecture courses, seminars, and colloquia in English and American legal and constitutional history.
SPECIAL PROGRAMS
The Law School includes five internationally known special programs directed by faculty members who are respected in their fields and often called upon by private and governmental organizations worldwide for their expertise.

INSTITUTE OF LAW, PSYCHIATRY AND PUBLIC POLICY
The Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Public Policy offers training, educational, research, and service programs in the areas of forensic psychiatry, forensic psychology, and mental health law. Affiliated with the Law School, the University’s School of Medicine, and its College of Arts & Sciences, the institute has an interdisciplinary faculty of attorneys, psychiatrists, psychologists, and social workers. Its Forensic Psychiatry Clinic performs clinical evaluations in a wide variety of civil and criminal cases. The institute conducts training programs for the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services and provides continuing education for attorneys and judges. The institute also conducts extensive empirical and theoretical research in clinical criminology, forensic psychiatry/psychology, and mental health law and policy.

JOHN M. OLIN PROGRAM IN LAW AND ECONOMICS
The John M. Olin Program in Law and Economics provides a forum for discussion of the economic analysis of legal issues. Reflecting a mixture of teaching and scholarly research, the program supports academic conferences, workshops by resident and visiting faculty, student scholarships and summer fellowships, student/faculty colloquies, and lectures by distinguished scholars in the field.

CENTER FOR OCEANS LAW AND POLICY
The Center for Oceans Law and Policy promotes rational management of the world’s oceans, coastal and polar areas through teaching, research, and the dissemination of information. The center offers research and publications; conferences, seminars, and speakers; associateships and fellowships; curriculum and teaching programs in oceans law and policy; and the Newlin Collection of Oceans Law and Policy in the Morris Law Library.

CENTER FOR NATIONAL SECURITY LAW
The Center for National Security Law was established in 1981 to promote nonpartisan interdisciplinary scholarship and education about legal issues affecting U.S. national security. Topics of special interest include legal constraints on the use of armed force and the separation of constitutional powers concerning war and treaties, the proper role of an intelligence service in a free society, terrorism, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. In addition to teaching courses and seminars, center scholars conduct research, publish, and lecture. The center also sponsors professional conferences and publishes scholarly studies.

CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF RACE AND LAW
In 2003, the Law School founded the Center for the Study of Race and Law. The Center’s mission is to provide opportunities for students, scholars, practitioners, and community members to examine and exchange ideas related to
race and law. The Center coordinates and promotes the substantial array of existing law school programs on race and law, including courses, public lectures, scholarly workshops, symposia, and informal discussions, and seeks to enhance these offerings by sponsoring additional programs, often in partnership with interested student organizations. The Center also offers a concentration of courses on race and law, including 10 core courses and over 20 related offerings.

“EACH TIME a man stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

ROBERT F. KENNEDY — Virginia Law ’51
## CONCENTRATIONS

- Not all courses are offered every year. This list contains courses offered from 2001-04.
- Students are not required to focus their curriculum in a single area.
- Some courses may appear in more than one concentration.

### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW AND REGULATION

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### PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OFFERING

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### SEMINARS

- Advanced Contract Theory
- Research Seminar
- Antitrust and Intellectual Property
- Business Reorganization Under Chapter 11
- Commercial Real Estate Transactions
- Contract Theory and Commercial Practice
- Economic Foundations of Commercial Law
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

COURSES
- Civil Rights Litigation
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Constitutional History I: Articles of Confederation to the Civil War
- Constitutional History II: From Reconstruction to Brown
- Constitutional Law II: Church and State
- Constitutional Law II: Speech and Press
- Constitutionalism: History and Jurisprudence
- Contemporary Political Theory
- First Amendment Freedoms
- Ideas of the First Amendment
- Judicial Role in American History
- Law and Political Participation
- Political Representation and Measures of Voting Power
- Presidential Powers
- Regulation of the Political Process
- Schools, Race, and Money
- Sex Discrimination
- Statutory Interpretation in the Post-New Deal State
- Substantive Due Process

SEMINARS
- American Expansion and American Law
- Civil Liberties
- Civil Rights History from Plessy to Brown
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Constitutional Design
- Constitutional Law Scholarship and the Scholarly Process
- Constitutional Theory
- First Amendment and the Arts
- First Amendment Theory
- Free Expression in Cyberspace
- Law and Higher Education
- Readings in the Religion Clauses
- Rule of Law: Controlling Government
- Supreme Court from Warren to Rehnquist
- Supreme Court Justices and the Art of Judging

CLINICS
- Constitutional Practice in the Public Sector: Clinical Seminar
- First Amendment Clinic
- Negotiation and Public Practice Clinic

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

COURSES
- Analysis of the Military Criminal System (JAG)
- Criminal Adjudication
- Criminal Investigation
- Federal Criminal Law
- International Criminal Law
- Quantitative Methods
- Social Science in Law
- War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and Genocide
- White Collar Crime

SEMINARS
- Advanced Criminal Law
- Advanced Issues in Criminal Justice
- Criminal Procedure Seminar
- Criminology
- Law and Violence
- Morality of Criminal Law
- Psychiatry and Criminal Law

CLINICS
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- Capital Post-Conviction Clinic
- Prosecution Clinic

EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR LAW

COURSES
- An Empirical Perspective on Employment Discrimination and Affirmative Action
- Employee Benefits Law
- Employment Discrimination
- Employment Law
- Introduction to Sports Law Theory and Practice
- Labor Arbitration
- Labor Law
- Quantitative Methods
- Sex Discrimination
- Sports Law

SEMINARS
- Employee Pension and Health Benefit Plans
- International Aspects of Employment Law and Labor Law
- Professional Sports and the Law

CLINICS
- Employment Law Clinic
- Employee Benefits Litigation
- Employment Law

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

COURSES
- Environmental Health
- Environmental Law
- International Environmental Law
- Land Use Law
- Legislation

SEMINARS
- Environmental Ethics
- Environmental Liability Litigation
- Federal Land and Natural Resource Law
- Property Theory

CLINICS
- Environmental Practice Clinic
- Negotiation and Public Practice Clinic

FAMILY LAW

COURSES
- Advanced Trusts and Estates
- Federal Taxation of Gratuitous Transfers
- Family Law
- Trusts and Estates

SEMINARS
- Aging and the Law
- Feminism and the Free Market
- Gender and the Law
- Perspectives on Family and Gender

CLINICS
- Advocacy Clinic for the Elderly
- Child Advocacy Clinic

HEALTH LAW

COURSES
- Bioethics and Jewish Law
- Bioethics and the Law: Fits and Misfits
- Biomedical Ethics
- Development and Regulation of Medical Technology
- Food and Drug Law
- Genetics and the Law
- Health Care Law
- International Health Policy
- Law, Medicine and Health Policy
- Medical Care for Children
- Mental Health Law
- Quantitative Methods
SEMINARS
Aging and the Law
Cognitive and Social Psychology For Lawyers
Community Mental Health Law and Ethics
Feminism and the Free Market
Germs and Justice - Law and Infectious Diseases: Prevention, Research, and Treatment
Germs, Guns and Lead: Public Health Law
Great Cases in Bioethics
Health Care Policy
Law and Ethics of Neurological Care
Law and Ethics of Psychiatric Care
Legal Regulation of Research on Human Subjects
Psychiatry and Criminal Law
Tobacco Policy Research Seminar

CLINICS
Advocacy Clinic for the Elderly
Mental Health Law Clinic

HUMAN RIGHTS AND CIVIL LIBERTIES LAW

COURSES
Civil Rights Litigation
Constitutional Law II: Speech and Press
First Amendment Freedoms
Immigration Law
Indian Law
International Human Rights Law
Law and Political Participation
Race and Law
Refugee Law
Schools, Race and Money
Sex Discrimination
War Crimes, Crimes Against Humanity, and Genocide

SEMINARS
Civil Liberties
Gender and The Law
Law and Violence
Readings in the Religion Clauses

CLINICS
First Amendment Clinic
International Human Rights Law Clinic
Refugee Law Clinic

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL SECURITY LAW

COURSES
Admiralty
Advanced Topics in the Law of War (JAG)
Contemporary Issues in the Conflict of Laws
European Community Law
European Legal Systems
Foreign Relations Law
Immigration Law
International and Foreign Legal Research
International Banking Transactions
International Business Transactions
International Criminal Law
International Deal Making: Legal and Business Aspects
International Environmental Law
International Health Policy
International Human Rights Law
International Law
International Sales
International Taxation
International Trade Law and Policy
National Security Law
Oceans Law and Policy
Presidential Powers

SEMINARS
Comparative Constitutional Law

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OFFERING
Emerging Growth Companies and Venture Capital Financing

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

COURSES
Communications Law
Intellectual Property: Copyright
Intellectual Property: Patent
Intellectual Property: Trademark
Intellectual Property: Unfair Competition
Internet Law
Law and Technology Policy
Mass Media Law

SEMINARS
Advanced Intellectual Property
Antitrust and Intellectual Property
First Amendment and the Arts
Free Expression in Cyberspace
Intellectual Property Colloquium
Property Theory
Regulation of New Media
Theories of Property Rights

CLINIC
Patent and Licensing Clinic I & II

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OFFERING
Emerging Growth Companies and Venture Capital Financing

JURISPRUDENCE AND COMPARATIVE LAW

COURSES
Bioethics and Jewish Law
Civil Rights Litigation
Comparative Contract Law
Comparative Constitutional Law
Comparative Public Law: American Legal Influence
Conceptualizing Law: A Comparative Analysis
Constitutional Law II: Church and State
Constitutional Law II: Speech and Press
Constitutionalism: History and Jurisprudence
Contemporary Political Theory
Duty to Obey
European Legal Systems
First Amendment Freedoms
Introduction to Jewish Law
Jurisprudence
Law and Economics
Race and Law
Social Norms, Psychology and Endogenous Preferences
Social Science in Law
Substantive Due Process
United Kingdom and Europe: Changing Legal Scene

SEMINARS
Comparative Constitutional Law
Comparative Law
Current Legal Ideas
Feminism and the Free Market
Law and Literature
Law and Religion
Legal Classics
Public and Private Rights in American Law
Readings in the Religion Clauses
Rule of Law: Controlling Government
Seminars in Ethical Values
Tort Theory

LEGAL HISTORY

COURSES
American Legal History
Constitutional History I: Articles of Confederation to the Civil War
Constitutional History II: From Reconstruction to Brown
European Legal Systems
Judicial Role in American History

SEMINARS
American Expansion and American Law
American Legal History Seminar
Colloquium in American Legal History
Law and Political Economy in the Antebellum United States
Statutory Interpretation in the Post-New Deal State

LITIGATION AND PROCEDURE

COURSES
Advanced Legal Research
Alternative Dispute Resolution
Civil Procedure II
Complex Civil Litigation
Conflict of Laws
Contemporary Issues in the Conflict of Laws
Evidence
Federal Courts
Government Contract Litigation (JAG)
Legislation
Negotiation Institute
Personal Injury Law
Products Liability
Professional Responsibility
Quantitative Methods
Remedies
Takeover Litigation
Trial Advocacy Institute
Virginia Practice and Procedure

SEMINARS
Evidence
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation
Appellate Practice
Hallmarks of Distinguished Advocacy
Environmental Liability Litigation
Persuasion for Advocates
Strategy in Civil Litigation: Pleading and Procedure
Trial Advocacy

CLINICS
Appellate Litigation Clinic
Capital Post-Conviction Clinic

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OFFERING
Employee Benefits Litigation
Practical Trial Evidence
Pre-Trial Litigation

TAX LAW

COURSES
Accounting: Understanding and Analyzing Financial Statements
Corporate Tax
Federal Income Tax
Federal Taxation of Gratuitous Transfers
International Taxation
Nonprofit Organizations
Partnership Tax
Quantitative Methods
Taxation and Economic Development

SEMINAR
Current Issues in Federal Tax Policy

PRINCIPLES & PRACTICE OFFERING
Employee Benefits Litigation
Estate Planning

RACE AND LAW

COURSES
Civil Rights Litigation
Constitutional History I: Articles of Confederation to the Civil War
Constitutional History II: From Reconstruction to Brown
Criminal Adjudication
Criminal Investigation
Critical Race Theory
Regulation of the Political Process
Employment Discrimination
Family Law
Gender and the Law
Immigration Law
Indian Law
International Human Rights Law
Land Use Law
Political Representation and Measures of Voting Power
Race and Law
Refugee Law
Schools, Race and Money

SEMINAR
Civil Rights History from Plessy to Brown

CLINICS
International Human Rights Law Clinic
STUDENT LIFE
The University of Virginia School of Law is enriched and diversified by the scope of student organizations, extracurricular activities, and community spirit that permeates student life. The array of opportunities includes eight academic journals, 50 interest-centered organizations, and a vibrant range of social and athletic activities.
Graduate students are encouraged to participate in the many student organizations at the Law School, including the Graduate Law Students’ Association and the John Bassett Moore Society of International Law.
Virginia enjoys a reputation as a school that produces graduates who are skilled in law and balanced in life. It encourages students to enjoy the process of their legal education, to expand intellectually and personally, so that they will later recall their Law School years with the warmth and enthusiasm of its thousands of successful alumni.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

LL.M. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
The Master of Laws degree is conferred upon students who, having been admitted to candidacy, have satisfactorily completed at least two semesters of residence and a minimum of 24 credit hours. At least two of these hours must be earned in producing a substantial research paper. The writing requirement may generally be satisfied by a seminar paper or as the product of an individually arranged research project.

**Students must have at least a 2.3 (C+) grade point average to graduate.**

LL.M. students are generally enrolled in courses and seminars with upper-level J.D. students. To learn more about our curriculum, visit the Academics section of the Law School web site.

S.J.D. DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
Only a few students are admitted to candidacy for the Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) degree. Because the S.J.D. is primarily a research degree, evaluation of the applicant’s proposed research agenda is the primary factor considered in the admissions decision. Accordingly, a few or no persons may be admitted to S.J.D. candidacy in any given year.

Most applicants for admission to the S.J.D. program have already completed the Law School’s LL.M. program. In exceptional cases, the Graduate Committee will consider applications from persons who have received the LL.M. or its equivalent from another law school and from those who have already achieved professional distinction in law teaching, private practice, or government service. Applicants who do not already hold the Law School’s LL.M. will not be considered for candidacy until they have completed two semesters in residence demonstrating honors ability in a program of study consisting of 12-16 hours of courses, seminars and/or independent study as may be prescribed and approved by the director of graduate studies.

All candidates must have earned their previous degree or degrees in law with distinction and must demonstrate the capacity for making an original and substantial contribution to the legal literature. To be considered for candidacy, an applicant must submit, at the time of application, a dissertation proposal in such detail as to permit the Graduate Committee to evaluate the feasibility, orig-
In addition, applicants for the S.J.D. program should submit the same materials required for LL.M. applications, taking particular care to describe fully the applicant’s reasons for wanting to pursue the degree and its relevance to his or her planned career.

The S.J.D. degree is conferred on those persons who have completed a dissertation approved by the Graduate Committee and who have successfully defended the dissertation in an oral examination by a committee consisting of the dissertation supervisor and two other faculty members learned in the field of the candidate’s research. The dissertation must make an original contribution to legal literature and demonstrate mastery of the principals of scholarly research, critical analysis, and reasoned presentation of results. It is expected that the dissertation will be publishable as a book or a series of law review articles. Upon completion of the oral examination, the committee of examiners will report to the faculty its opinion of the candidate’s work and fitness for the degree.

The dissertation may be submitted and the oral examination held at any time within five years of admittance to candidacy. This period may be extended upon a showing of good cause submitted in writing to the Graduate Committee.

The Law School does not offer financial aid to S.J.D. students.

THE HONOR SYSTEM
Established in 1842, the University of Virginia’s Honor System is one of the school’s most venerated traditions. Administered solely by students, the Honor System requires that an individual act honorably in all relations and phases of student life. More specifically, the system rests on the premise that lying, cheating, and stealing are breaches of the spirit of honor and mutual trust and are not to be tolerated within the University community. Students found guilty by a jury of their peers are permanently dismissed from the University. Expulsion is, and has been, the only sanction for an honor violation for more than 162 years.
HOW TO APPLY

The application deadline is January 1 of the year that admission is requested. Admission offers are made by April 15.

An applicant must have received the academic degree regarded as his or her country’s first professional degree in law and submit the following materials in support of their application.

1. APPLICATION FORM:
Applicants should take particular care in outlining and discussing their reasons for wanting to pursue graduate work, including a statement of future professional plans. Applicants should also describe their principal areas of interest with as much specificity as possible.

Complete the enclosed application on a typewriter or by printing. Forms can also be downloaded as PDFs from the Law School’s web site. Please do not put your application materials in a binder or notebook or enclose them in plastic page covers because this prevents your materials from fitting in our application folders.

2. OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS:
Applicants must submit transcripts from all prior colleges, law schools or graduate schools. Applicants should ask the appropriate official at each school to provide an official transcript and proof of degree (if proof of degree does not appear on the transcript) in a sealed envelope, signed or stamped across the seal. If the official cannot supply an original transcript, he/she may provide a certified copy. Applicants should not open these sealed envelopes but should include them unopened in their applications. Schools may mail transcripts directly to the University of Virginia School of Law, if they prefer. If a transcript is not in English it must be accompanied by an English translation. If an applicant’s school does not provide an English translation, the applicant may take the sealed transcript to an official translator who may open the envelope, complete and certify the translation. The translator should then put the original transcript, the envelope in which it came, and the English translation into another envelope, which the translator must seal and sign or stamp across the seal. Include this sealed envelope, unopened, in the application. If a transcript
does not show class standing, the institution should be asked to provide an estimate of such standing, if possible.

3. LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:
Application requires at least two letters from persons who know the applicant well and are in a position to evaluate his or her capacity for advanced legal study. Current students or recent graduates should submit letters from two law school teachers. Applicants who have completed their law degree more than five years ago should solicit a letter from a current or former employer in addition to one from a former teacher. The committee recognizes that a letter from a former teacher may not be practicable in the case of an applicant who has been out of school for some time, in which case the second letter may be from an employer or colleague who is in a position to comment upon the candidate's qualifications. Letters from family members, friends, or persons who are not well acquainted with the applicant are not helpful and should not be submitted. Each recommendation letter should be accompanied by one of the recommendation forms found in our application materials. If you need additional forms, you may photocopy them. The form should be signed by both the applicant and the recommender. Please read the directions on these recommendation forms carefully.

4. APPLICATION FEE: A check or money order in the amount of $70.00 made payable to the University of Virginia in U.S. currency. Applicants from abroad must use an International Money Order (unless funds are drawn on a U.S. bank). The Law School does not waive application fees for graduate programs.

5. TOEFL SCORE: Foreign students for whom the first language learned and spoken in the home is not English are required to demonstrate proficiency in English by completing the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) within two years prior to submitting the application. This is true regardless of the number of years of instruction in English the applicant may have had or if English is the “official” language of the applicant’s home country. Students who have studied in English (in India, Pakistan, the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, African countries, etc.) are not exempt from the TOEFL requirement. The only exceptions are applicants from Australia, the English-speaking provinces of Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, or applicants from South Africa who attended English-medium universities in South Africa. If applicants do not fall under one of these limited exceptions, they should not assume for any reason that they are exempt from the TOEFL requirement. Instead, they should contact the Graduate Studies Office early in the admissions season, before they apply, to discuss the issue. Exceptions may be considered for foreign applicants who have completed two years or more of full-time study in a U.S. college or university within the past five years. Applicants who meet this description and wish to see if they qualify for this exception should contact the Graduate Studies Office early in the admissions season, before they apply, to discuss the issue. Domestic applicants whose native language is not English and who have
not attended schools where instruction is in English, may also be required to submit TOEFL scores. For all those required to take the TOEFL exam, a minimum score of 600 (250, computer-based) is required. Applicants should arrange to take the test at the earliest possible date, no later than November 1, in order to ensure that their applications are completed by the January 1 deadline. Please include a photocopy of your TOEFL scores with your application if you have already received your test results. This may enable the Law School to expedite the review of your application.

Scores must be submitted in accordance with the procedures listed above. To arrange an examination date and for further information, write or call (between 8:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time):

TOEFL/TSE Services-ETS
P.O. Box 6151
Princeton, NJ
08541-6151, USA
TELEPHONE: 609-771-7100
FACSIMILE: 609-771-7500
WEBSITE: www.TOEFL.org

 Applicants should have an official score report sent to the Law School from ETS, using the Institutional Code Number 5820 and Department Code 03. Applicants should be aware that competency in English is critical to success in the graduate law programs at the University of Virginia, and that demonstrated fluency in English is an important consideration in evaluating applications.

6. DEADLINES:
Applications, including all supporting materials, must be received by January 1. Applications that are not complete on this date will be reviewed on a space-available basis at the discretion of the Graduate Committee. Applicants are notified by e-mail when their applications are complete. Candidates are strongly advised to apply early in the fall semester of the year prior to the one for which they seek admission. Although completed applications are not due until January 1, the Graduate Committee follows a “rolling admissions” policy and offers of admission may be made before the January 1 deadline. Therefore, it is advantageous to apply early.
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Interviews
A personal interview is not required as part of the evaluation process. Interested persons are welcome to visit the Law School, sit in on classes, and meet with the director or another member of the Graduate Committee. Visits may be arranged through the Graduate Studies Office.

Standards
The Law School receives about 500 applications for the 45 places in its LL.M. class. The admissions process is highly competitive and the Graduate Committee must, unfortunately, disappoint many qualified applicants. Although demonstrated excellence in prior law study is essential, the committee places equal emphasis on other evidence of applicants’ personality, accomplishments, and potential for professional achievement as revealed through letters of recommendation, extracurricular activities, personal interests, and prior legal (or law-related) experience. The principal criterion for admission, however, is the closeness of the fit between the applicants’ professional interests and the Law School’s resources. Accordingly, the Committee places special weight on applicants’ stated reasons for wanting to pursue graduate legal studies, and their principal intellectual interests and career plans.

Tuition and Fees
For current information, please refer to the enclosed application or visit the Law School website:

www.law.virginia.edu/graduateschools

SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

A limited amount of scholarship assistance is available to LL.M. students from the Law School.

If you do receive a financial aid grant, it will not cover your tuition and living expenses. Generally, our financial aid grants, when given, cover less than one-half of the cost of tuition. University regulations do not permit “waivers” of tuition. Assistance cannot be provided for all deserving applicants, and funds must be allocated on the basis of comparative merit and financial need. Most students must therefore expect to meet their expenses from other sources. Applicants from abroad are encouraged to contact the educational attaché at the U.S. Embassy or consulate in their home country for assistance that may be available under the Fulbright or similar programs. Financial assistance through the Guaranteed Student Loan Program is available only to citizens and permanent residents of the United States. Otherwise, students from abroad are eligible for scholarship assistance on the same basis as Americans.

The Law School does not offer financial aid to S.J.D. students.

Applicants requesting financial aid are required to provide detailed and accurate information regarding their finances and, where applicable, the finances of their spouses or parents. In calculating the amount of financial aid to be requested, it is important to distinguish “wants” from “need” and to apply only for that amount of aid that is actually needed to attend the Law School. Requests for full or nearly full funding cannot be met and will disadvantage the applicant relative to others in determining the allocation of scholarship funds.
Any award of financial aid from the University of Virginia School of Law is tentative. If you receive an outside award, you are required to notify the Graduate Program of any changes in your financial situation. Any award from the University of Virginia may be reduced or withdrawn completely due to a change in your financial situation.

The employment status of foreign students is closely regulated by U.S. immigration laws. Students with F-1 status may seek limited employment on campus under certain conditions and with the approval of the director of graduate studies. In any case, Law School policy prohibits employment of more than 20 hours per week. The Law School does not have teaching fellowships. Some students may be able to receive limited compensation as research assistants for individual faculty members or from working in the law library. These positions are not available through the Graduate Studies Office but must be individually arranged after the student has completed registration at the Law School.

Admissions decisions are made without regard to requests for financial assistance. Awards are generally made only after an applicant has responded with interest to an offer of admission.

**VISAS**

Admission of international students to the University of Virginia is subject to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) regulations. Prospective non-immigrant students applying to the School of Law from abroad, or who are already in the U.S.A., are personally responsible for complying with USCIS regulations. University policy states: “A prospective international student must have an appropriate, current, valid, and legal non-immigrant status before he or she can be offered final admission to the University of Virginia.” Most international students enter the U.S. on the F-1 student visa. Evidence of financial capability will be requested only after an offer of admission is made to the applicant. After receipt of acceptable financial affidavits, the International Student & Scholar Programs Office of the University of Virginia will send the applicant a form I-20 for the F-1 student entry visa. Visa applications are made at the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in the applicant’s country of residence. Students receiving Fulbright awards must work directly with their home country’s binational or Fulbright commissions to receive a form DS-2019, the document necessary for the J-1 entry visa.

**HOUSING**

Although the University of Virginia provides some graduate housing, space is limited and many Law School students choose to live off grounds. For single students, University accommodations are available in Copeley III, adjacent to the Law School. For more information, contact the University Housing Office at http://www.virginia.edu/housing or 434-924-6873. Furnished and unfurnished apartments for married students and students with families are located in University Gardens and Copeley Hill. For more information, contact the Family Housing Office at http://www.virginia.edu/housing or 434-924-7030. Enrolling students are urged to make
living accommodations well in advance of their arrival at the University.

**CAREER SERVICES**

Graduate students are invited to seek career counseling and other services provided by the Law School’s Graduate Studies Office, in conjunction with the Office of Career Services and the Mortimer M. Caplin Public Service Center. Persons who come to the United States on a student visa are not permitted to seek permanent employment in the United States. LL.M. graduates may, however, seek permission to remain in the United States for a limited period of “practical training” following graduation. Students should be aware that securing such positions can be challenging and will require significant effort on their parts. The Law School offers assistance to foreign students in their searches for practical training internships with leading American law firms. We also participate annually in the International Student Interview Program coordinated each year by the Columbia University School of Law and co-sponsored by the University of Virginia School of Law, the University of Chicago School of Law, Harvard Law School, Michigan Law School, Stanford Law School, and Yale Law School.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** on the LL.M. job search, view the Handbook for Foreign Trained LL.M.s. at this website:


**BAR ADMISSION**

The LL.M. degree alone does not qualify foreign lawyers to practice law in the United States. Each of the 50 states has its own criteria and procedures for admitting lawyers to practice and requirements vary. Lawyers from abroad seeking information on these requirements should contact the bar examiners in the state in which they wish to practice. Typically, about one third of Virginia’s graduate law students take a bar examination following their graduation.

**SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE PROGRAM**

Each year, a few proven legal scholars are accepted as scholars-in-residence at the University of Virginia School of Law. Given the difficulty of choosing among a large number of qualified applicants, we limit invitations to full-time applicants currently affiliated with a university who have a special need for our library resources in order to complete a well-defined research project. Our Visiting Scholars pay no tuition. They have access to the Law School’s library facilities and to the resident faculty. Auditing of classes is not part of the program.

Those interested in participating in the program should send their curriculum vitae, proposed dates of residence, and an outline of their proposed research program to:

**Director of Graduate Studies**

c/o Graduate Studies Department

**University of Virginia School of Law**

580 Massie Rd.
Charlottesville, VA

22903-1789

**PHONE:**

+1.434.924.3154

**FAX:**

+1.434.924.7536

Applications for the Visiting Scholar Program must be received by March 1st for the following academic year or part thereof. Invitations are made in April.
IN DETAIL

FOUNDED: 1826 by Thomas Jefferson in Charlottesville, Virginia
SOURCE OF INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL: Public (with no state funding)
ACADEMIC YEAR CALENDAR: Semester

GRADUATE STUDIES (LL.M./S.J.D.) APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 1
ADMISSIONS OFFERS MADE BY: April 15
CLASS OF 2004 DEGREES AWARDED: 358 J.D.s, 37 LL.M.s, 29 LL.M.s (Judges Program), 2 S.J.D.s

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS, 2005 EDITION:
• Overall: 9
• International Law: 7
• Tax Law: 16

STUDENT-RUN ACADEMIC JOURNALS: 8
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS: 50
LIBRARY: More than 860,000 volumes, one million microforms
CHARLOTTESVILLE POPULATION: 45,049 (as of 2000)
ALBEMARLE COUNTY POPULATION: 79,236 (as of 2000)

FACULTY, 2004-05
STUDENT/FACULTY RATIO: 14:1
RESIDENT FACULTY:
• MALE: 54
• FEMALE: 17
• TOTAL: 71, 6 OF WHICH ARE MINORITIES.
FACULTY FROM OTHER DISCIPLINES: 14
VISITING PROFESSORS: 40
LECTURERS/ADJUNCTS: 66

COMPUTING
THE LAW SCHOOL REMAINS ON THE FOREFRONT OF TECHNOLOGY AND PROVIDES:
• Wireless network access throughout the Law Grounds.
• Access to legal research databases, e-mail, the law and University library catalogs, the Web, course materials, and printers.
• Seven classrooms and two seminar rooms capable of delivering computer-generated information and videotape.
EYEWITNESS
Juliano Gotlib ’04

Brazil
Smile! You are at U.Va.!

After practicing corporate law in Brazil for some years, I decided that it was time to expand my academic credentials by attending a master’s degree program at a top-10 American law school. I applied to a few selected law schools and was admitted to three: University of Virginia, University of Pennsylvania, and Columbia. At first glance, it was a tough decision. Fortunately I knew people who had attended all of these law schools. I spoke with all of these insiders and learned that their respective experiences were quite similar. They all highlighted their school’s academic features, strongly recommending me to choose the institution they had each attended. Nevertheless, the U.Va. alumnus’ statement included a “plus.” According to him, U.Va. would offer me more than a master’s degree from a top law school. He said that I would remember Charlottesville, Virginia as being the place where I had spent the best year, or at least one of the best years, of my entire life! Although at first I distrusted his capacity to assess how generous life could be to me in the future and how happy I already was at that time (he did not know much about me) because he gave me his word, I decided to trust him.

I have been in “C’ville” for eight months and I can’t avoid endorsing his words and affirming his prediction: U.Va. means much more than an extraordinary academic experience. U.Va. law school gives you much more. Here you are offered the optimal conditions to have a tranquil life while focusing on your legal education. This facilitates the learning process and optimizes its results. In other words, in C’ville you not only have a fertile soil and great climate—in either the literal or colloquial senses—conditions enabling you to grow a solid educational background, but you are also awarded the opportunity to do so without the burdens of a stressful big city and overly competitive environment. In this regard, although Charlottesville may be classified as a small city because of its relatively small population, C’ville is a nice sample of the true Americana. This welcoming city offers a surprisingly wide range of stores, restaurants, and other amenities usually only found in the big cities.

However, the hallmark of U.Va. is the environment that bonds students, faculty, and the other members of the law school community. A highly friendly atmosphere makes you feel at home, even if you are, like me, thousands of miles away from
your home country. There are, as at every law school, periods of stressful pressure, such as the weeks before the finals. These times aside, students do more than study here; in Charlottesville, law students are also allowed to live.

I confidently pass on the prediction made by the U.Va. alumni. After a very short period of time in Charlottesville you will inevitably understand the title of this statement. Believe me you will be smiling as you will be enjoying one of the best years of your life!

Angela Henke ’03

Germany

My LL.M. studies at U.Va. Law School were the greatest year of my life. Of course it was a privilege to study in the excellent facilities of a high-ranking law school. Especially during a very specific research project I appreciated the exceptional research facilities, the great help of my supervisor and the specialized librarians, as well as the expediency of interlibrary loans. Also, the setting of the law school in a beautiful Virginia landscape was gorgeous. Nearby are the main campus designed by Thomas Jefferson, two national parks, many vineyards and lovely villages and Washington, D.C. is not far away. Despite the substantial workload, there was enough time left to explore the Eastern coast from New York to Miami. These facts, however, are just collateral conveniences to the real superiority of U.Va. Law School compared to other U.S. law schools. The uniqueness of U.Va. Law School is the great opportunity for LL.M.s to get very close to each other, each other’s families, J.D. students, law professors and local residents. Every LL.M. may obtain a J.D. Buddy, and the LL.M. class has several J.D. Peer Advisors. My personal appreciation of U.Va. has steadily grown as I think back on all the great social events that encouraged interaction among students, families and professors. I also think that the perfect size of the U.Va. LL.M. class contributed to our growing together and remaining in contact with each other. I consider these new friendships to be the most important thing about the LL.M. program.
Nikolaus Nonhoff ‘04
Austria
The University of Virginia is the best place to spend one’s LL.M. year. Not only are the campus and the Law School surrounded by verdancy, but the atmosphere at this law school is phenomenal. The size of the school and of the program allows one to be part of the student community and to meet and interact with American J.D. students. The course selection is rich, and the courses are extremely interesting. Professors are willing to explain peculiarities of U.S. law and discuss differences with other jurisdictions. They are also accessible outside the school, such as last week when I met one of my professors at the nearby golf course where we ended up playing a few holes together. In short, my year at U.Va. Law has been a very instructional experience and one of the best times in my life.

Carlos Obregon ‘00
A banking and securities lawyer from Mexico
I chose Virginia over Duke, Michigan, and Berkeley after considering courses, faculty, and reputation as factors in the decision. I also spoke about the program with three Virginia graduates practicing in Mexico. The courses, faculty, and the Law School facilities exceeded my expectations. I would definitely recommend Virginia to other Mexican students looking for an excellent LL.M. program.

Jonathan Ooi Wei Hsin ‘04
Singapore
Besides being a first-class educational institution that focuses on a balanced education, the University of Virginia School of Law provides an intangible and unforgettable experience that will far surpass one’s expectations. The beautiful surroundings provide an ideal setting for academic pursuits, and the friendly people make you feel at home. I feel privileged to study in an environment where there are limited spaces for the LL.M program, unlike other institutions where I would have been but one of the many. More importantly, LL.M.s are integrated into and attend the same classes as the American J.D. students: this
provides a first-hand cultural learning experience that is truly beneficial and rewarding.

The people of Charlottesville are also friendly—never failing to give you a smile, and drivers will often stop for you to cross the road—even when they have the right of way. Just weeks ago, I recall I was at the local barber’s getting a hair cut and a young man came in asking whether the shop accepted credit cards. Told they only accept cash, the young man was about to leave to withdraw some money when the owner said, “Why don’t we get you trimmed neat and proper first and you can get us the money later—we can’t have you walking out of our shop looking like that!” This brought a smile to that young man’s face—and mine.

**Sergey Peremyslov ‘03**

**Russia**

The academic advisers help to tailor the study program to the specific needs of each individual international student. In my case it was an excellent combination of theoretical and practical courses. Theoretical subjects included a splendid course on U.S. contract law—taught by a distinguished professor—and corporate law subjects, while practical courses consisted of a legal negotiations and communications techniques workshop and an international banking transactions class taught by a managing director of Deutsche Bank. The Virginia LL.M. program attracts the best legal practitioners from all over the world and the friendships and contacts made during the program will be a valuable asset for any lawyer pursuing an international legal career.

**Luis G. Puelles ‘04**

**Peru**

The first day I came to the Law School, after meeting my fellow graduate students in a warm and welcoming meeting, a J.D. student I had met five minutes before at the library took three hours of his time to help me with administrative and technological details that needed to be taken care of before classes commenced. The first week of classes, I was already having out-of-class discussions with my bankruptcy
professor, and I realized not only that he had mastered the subject but also cared about my academic concerns, even those related to legislation in my home country. The first month at the U.Va.’s Law School it was already clear that I had chosen the best study environment, the most welcoming city and one of the greatest personal experiences anybody would want to go through.

Rui Tang ’04

China

It’s not unusual for a foreign LL.M. student to find herself encountering many non-academic difficulties besides the academic ones. That’s why I chose the LL.M. Program of U.Va. Law. I believed its small size would enable close and effective communications between the candidates and the administrative staff. It has proven to be one of the wisest decisions I’ve ever made. The administrative staff of U.Va. Law are people who really care about you and always stand by your side to help and support. Nothing about a LL.M. student is trivial to them. The rich experience of getting along with foreign students for years has enabled them to fully understand our needs and difficulties. Their answers to any of our problems are always prompt, thorough and helpful. If they are not familiar with the situation, they will direct you to the right sources in no time. Their efficient help has saved us a lot time and energy in dealing with complicated administrative matters.

The small size of the program also helps each LL.M. student to be really involved in the entire law student community. Here at U.Va. Law, LL.M. students attend classes together with J.D. students. This has given us great opportunities to get familiar with the typical teaching and learning methods in American law schools and to be inspired. By taking active part in class activities such as asking and answering questions, group discussions or giving presentations, which are especially challenging to non-English speaking LL.M. students, you will find that you are making remarkable progress in your academic path.

At U.Va. Law, LL.M. students have great opportunities to play an active and important role in both academic and social events. Each year the J. B. Moore International Law Society hosts the “LL.M. lunch series,” at which LL.M. students from different countries make presentations about certain aspects of the laws or legal systems of their countries.

Last year, we three Chinese students of the ’04 LL.M. class
hosted such a lunch presentation about general foreign direct investment laws and policies in China. We also prepared some Chinese appetizers. To our great satisfaction and pleasure, the event was oversubscribed and a very big part of the audience was J.D. students. The presentation (and also the food!) turned out to be a real success. I was so excited to see that we were really getting involved in and making contributions to the law school community.

Throughout my time at U.Va. Law, I have always felt sincere respect and hearty friendship. The experience of being an LL.M. student here is just valuable, enjoyable and unforgettable.

Richard Trojan ’04

Czech Republic

My LL.M experience has been the peak of my legal studies, and not only in terms of the academic input I have gained, but also in terms of the intercultural experience I have had here at the U.Va. Law School. This law school offers a very friendly and personal environment combined with a traditionally strong academic setting. The interaction between the faculty and students here is just amazing, and so helpful and mutually rewarding that I would strongly encourage everybody who is seeking the combination of great academics and an intellectually diversified program to choose U.Va. Law as their LL.M destination.

Yumiko Watanabe ’04

Japan

I am having a wonderful time in a beautiful city called Charlottesville. The reputation I had heard about and the image I had had in mind about this law school turned out be true. Professors are incredibly approachable and students are ready to help others. I have been amazed numerous times about how knowledgeable my professors are. But I admire even more their enthusiasm for teaching. Even though they are well known in their fields, they are available to talk with students. I feel myself very fortunate to be a part of U.Va.
David Yang ‘04

Korean citizen who lives and works in Argentina

At U.Va. Law I had the unique opportunity of enjoying the American Law School experience to its fullest extent. I participated not only in small-size classroom discussions, interacting with professors and classmates in heated debates, but also in many extracurricular activities such as “Show Me Your Soul” and singing and acting at the school auditorium in the U.Va. Law classic “Libel Show.” Best of all are the people, the students and the faculty members alike. The professors are open and responsive to the needs of the students. Sometimes, they even invite the students to their houses! The law school also provides a perfect environment to make new friends through its different and varied student organizations. I made so many good friends and had so much fun with them!

Pietro Zanoni ‘04

Italy

There is nothing basic about the LL.M. program at the University of Virginia School of Law. All courses I took were very challenging and highly demanding. As an international student coming from Italy, I found attending the same courses as my American colleagues and learning through the case method to be a particular test.

This is, however, what makes this program extremely gratifying and rewarding. Those who are up to the challenge can expect to leave Charlottesville with the awareness of having fulfilled their personal and professional potential, and the confidence derived from being well equipped to compete in the global market.

I could tailor my curriculum to my professional needs and interests by selecting a well-composed combination of theoretical courses and practical seminars in my area of practice among the wide list of those offered by the school. I also found in this place the perfect environment to pursue my goals. The University of Virginia School of Law is not just one of the top law schools in the United States. It is the embodiment of the Jeffersonian idea of the “academical village,” a place in which students and faculty live and work together, fostering a deep spirit of camaraderie. The U.Va. experience is unique and I am honored to be part of its community.
VIRGINIA’S STUDENTS (J.D. and LL.M.) bring a wealth of experience to the classroom, from working and living abroad to language skills. Students in one international human rights course brought the following backgrounds to the class:

Speaks Norwegian and lived abroad in Athens, Rome, Helsinki, and France, worked for Microcredit Summit Campaign and Amnesty International in Washington D.C.; made mission trips to Venezuela and studied abroad in New Zealand; worked for the Justice Department, volunteered in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, helped Bosnian families apply for green cards through the International Rescue Committee (IRC); spent a summer at an institute on religion and social thought in Poland; worked in Thailand with the Shan Women’s Action Network; worked in Beijing, China, for two years; studied in Kenya, worked in Israel with the Legal Center for Arab Minority Rights, works with the IRC and the Capital
Area Immigrants’ Rights Coalition; worked with a congressman who was involved with the Helsinki Commission and International Justice Mission; studied and worked in Rome and Madrid; studied in Northern Ireland and worked for Standing Advisory Commission on Human Rights in Ireland; volunteered for humanitarian work in Paraguay, Argentina, and Mexico; worked in Manila, Phillippines; lived in Spain and England; lived in Kerinci, Sumatra; lived in Asia and the Phillippines; grew up in Tel Aviv, Israel, and Cape Town, South Africa and studied and worked in London; mentors refugees for the International Rescue Committee; lived in Tokyo as a child and two years in college; grew up in Bangladesh, worked for the U.N. Office of Legal Affairs; spent two years on prosecutorial and judicial development with the Department of Justice; had brief experience with transitional justice development in Kosovo; studied abroad in China, taught English in Taiwan; worked with the National Endowment for Democracy and Alliance for Justice; worked in South Africa for a year; worked for Washington State Department of Community Trade and Economic Development; studied in Beijing, China and lived for a summer in Morelia, Mexico; grew up in Moscow; traveled in Mexico, spent a summer working as a travel writer for the Let’s Go series in Chiapas and in the Middle East, taught for a year in Greece; worked during the summer for the Executive Office of the Immigration Review; lived in Hong Kong, the Phillippines, Indonesia, Mauritius, and the U.K., helped manage a pro bono political asylum case for human rights abuses in Liberia; worked with the National Police Agency in Japan and attended the Faculty of Law at the University of Tokyo; spent time in Europe, Uruguay, Chile, and Argentina; spent a semester in Budapest, lived in Lithuania and then Krakow, Poland; lived two years in Paris, spent a college semester in Equador, spent two years in the Peace Corps in Morocco; had an internship at the Center for Democratic Development in Ghana, spent a summer volunteering as a teacher in a rural Mayan village in Belize, researched education policy in Cape Town, former president of the Princeton Amnesty International chapter; worked in Malaysia for UNHCR; worked for New York Metropolitan Committee for UNICEF; grew up in Zimbabwe, finished school in Canada, lived in London; lived and studied abroad in Japan; traveled extensively to London, Guatemala, India, and Iran; traveled in Southeast Asia, worked for Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, Center for Strategic and International Studies, and Council on Foreign Relations; spent five years directing the Syria office of non-profit organization AMIDEAST, worked during summer 2002 in the Durable Solution unit for UNHCR/Damascus, served as an IRC Coordinator; worked in the Hague for an international conflict resolution program during summer 2000; grew up in Japan, started an Amnesty International chapter while in college, worked with IRC on their green card project; spent a college semester abroad in Nicaragua, worked for Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, joined Operation Smile, coordinating medical missions to Columbia, Morocco, Kenya, Romania, Russia, and the Phillippines; spent three summers in Kenya, spent summer 2002 in Nairobi working with International Justice Mission.
FOR DETAILS ABOUT WHAT IS REQUIRED TO APPLY TO VIRGINIA LAW’S LL.M. PROGRAM, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.law.virginia.edu/graduatestudies

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