



WESTERN STATE COLLEGE OF LAW
— AT WESTCLIFF UNIVERSITY —

Southern
California
—
S I N C E 1 9 6 6



Visit Us! | wsulaw.edu

Founded in 1966, Western State College of Law is the oldest law school in Orange County, Southern California, and is a **fully ABA approved private law school**. We welcome you to visit our campus to experience what makes Western State feel like home to so many students and alumni. We hold several different prospective and admitted student events throughout the year.



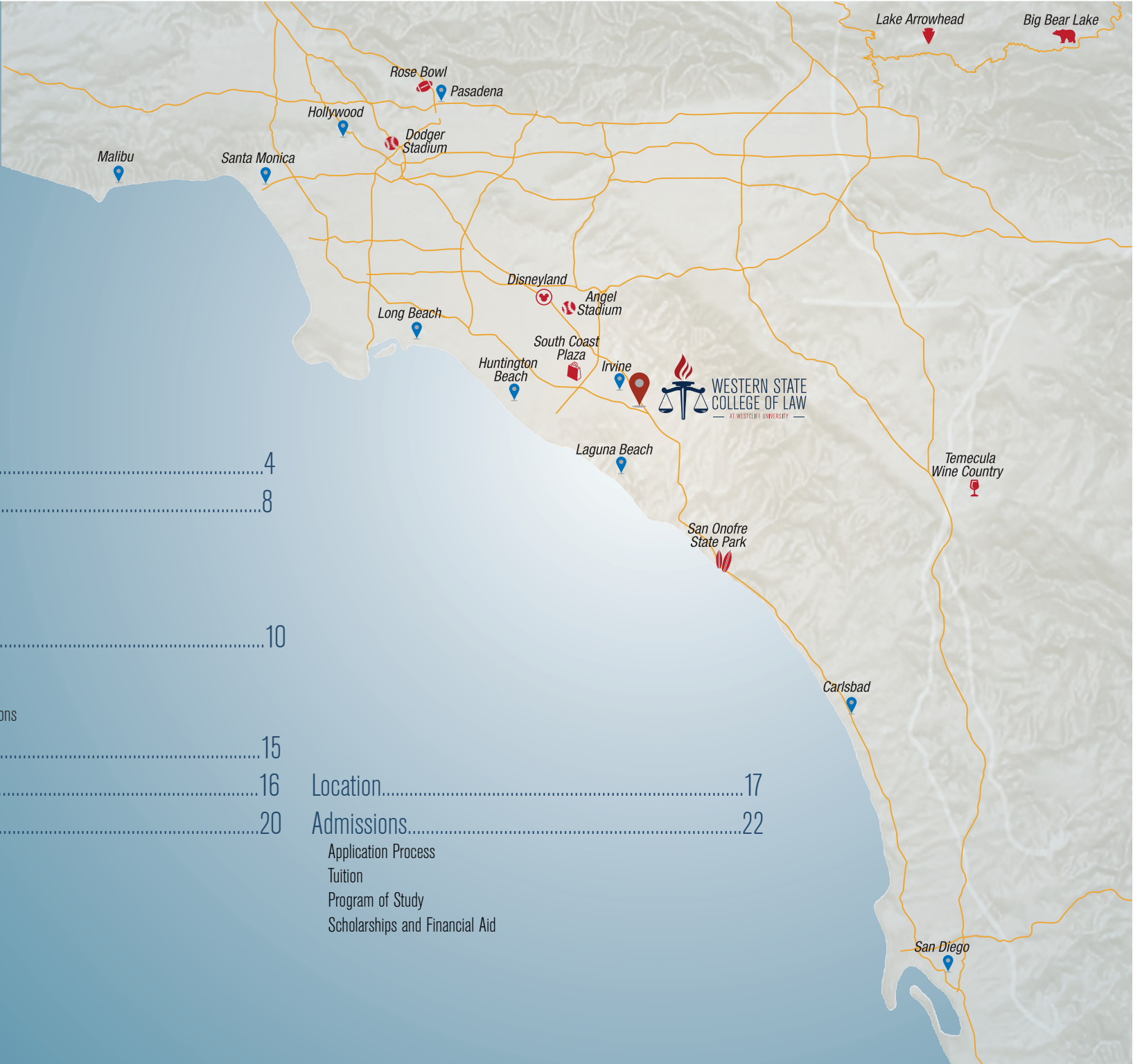
- Class visits and tours
- Law school information sessions
- Individual tours and visits
- Admitted student mixers and dinners
- Special speakers and panel presentations
- Focused informative webinars

We encourage you to contact our Admissions Office 714.459.1101 or email us at adm@wsulaw.edu to schedule a personal interview and campus at visit.



Contents

Welcome.....	4	
Student Community.....	8	
Diversity		
Student Organizations		
Law Review		
Public Service		
Academic Programs.....	10	
Criminal Law Practice		
Center Business Law Center		
National Advocacy Competitions		
Faculty.....	15	
Part Time Program.....	16	
Resources.....	20	
Law Library		
Externships		
Career Resources		
Alumni Network		
		Location.....17
		Admissions.....22
		Application Process
		Tuition
		Program of Study
		Scholarships and Financial Aid





LLM, Temple Law School
JD, Temple Law School
BA, College of Wooster

Welcome

Allen Easley
Dean



“As we celebrate our 50th anniversary, Western State enjoys a reputation as a law school that effectively prepares our students for success in the practice of law. The focus of the faculty and staff is to help our students acquire the knowledge, skills and contacts they will need to succeed in an ever-changing legal environment. Professors are highly accessible and dedicated to teaching excellence; they place first priority on giving personal attention, feedback and guidance to our students. The professional development tools and personal coaching provided by our Career Resources professionals, together with Western State’s strong alumni base with its impressive accomplishments and connections, help our students pursue opportunities to build their legal practice skills and resumes during law school and find job opportunities after graduation.”



J.D., UCLA School of Law
M.P.H., University of California Los Angeles
M.D., University of California Irvine College of Medicine
B.A., University of California Los Angeles



JD, Whittier Law School
MLS, Southern Connecticut State University
MSIDT, California State University, Fullerton
BA, Dickinson College

Paul Arshagouni
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

“Western State’s outstanding faculty is dedicated to teaching excellence and fosters a supportive yet rigorous learning environment. Our highly effective academic success program prepares our students for success in law school, on the bar exam and throughout their future careers. The impressive and diverse professional experience of our faculty enables them to connect the important skills needed to succeed in law school to those needed to succeed in practice.”

Sarah Eggleston
Law Library Director; Assistant Professor of Law

“The library remains the intellectual heart of the school in supporting the educational and research needs of faculty and students. Understanding that our strength derives from collaboration and shared ideas, the Library strives to deliver resources in innovative ways, maintain a collection that complements the curriculum and research interests of faculty, and bolsters student success by offering databases and materials that include everything from study aids to practice guides to scholarly treatises. Lastly, the professional librarians maintain an inviting and approachable presence whether in the Library or the classroom.”

Noted for small classes and personal attention from an accessible faculty focused on student success, from Admission to Graduation, Western State’s culture engenders a supportive environment among students, faculty, and staff.

We invite you to join our community.

 “My experience at Western State has been amazing. The diversity among the students, at Western State, has enriched my educational experience and helped me to form a group of lifelong friends.”

Carina J.Karakashian, Class of 2009

Student Community

Since its founding in 1966, Western State has maintained a commitment to diversity recognized by notable publications and the community at large. We believe that the face of law should reflect the faces the law serves. This is why we strive for a balanced student body with diversity not just in ethnicity, but in age, gender identity, and life experience.



Western State College of Law is ranked 3rd by U.S. News and World Report in law school diversity.



HOME / EDUCATION / GRAD SCHOOLS / BEST LAW SCHOOLS / LAW SCHOOL DIVERSITY

Law School Diversity Index

Ranked in 2020, part of [Best Law Schools](#)

The diversity index is based on data collected by U.S. News. The methodology used to compute the index was published in a 1992 article by Philip Meyer and Shawn McIntosh in the International Journal of Public Opinion Research. For the purposes of this index, students classified as ethnicity unknown/unreported were counted as white. [Read the methodology](#)

For full rankings, LSAT scores and employment statistics, sign up for the [U.S. News Law School Compass](#).





Western State College of Law at Westcliff University

Irvine, CA

CUNY

Long Island City, NY

University of San Francisco

San Francisco, CA

SCHOOL NAME

DIVERSITY INDEX

LARGEST MINORITY AND ITS PROPORTION

University of Hawaii–Manoa (Richardson)

Honolulu, HI

0.74

Asian-American, 29%

Golden Gate University

San Francisco, CA

0.73

Hispanic, 30%

Western State College of Law at Westcliff University

Irvine, CA

0.71

Hispanic, 34%

CUNY

Long Island City, NY

0.7

Hispanic, 25%

University of San Francisco

San Francisco, CA

0.69

Hispanic, 27%

More Rankings:

All Specialties

Part-Time Law

Business/Corporate Law

Clinical Training

Constitutional Law

Contracts/Commercial Law

Criminal Law

Dispute Resolution

Environmental Law

Health Care Law

Intellectual Property Law

International Law

Legal Writing

Tax Law

Trial Advocacy

Sort By: Diversity Index (high to low)

Diverse Student Body (Previous Fall’s Entering Class)

47%

MALE



53%

FEMALE

ETHNICITY

- African American.....6%
- Asian/Pacific Islander.....14%
- Caucasian.....41%
- Hispanic/Latino/Latina.....33%
- Other.....5%

AGE RANGE

21

67

STUDENTS

144

PART-TIME



285

FULL-TIME



* “Law School Diversity Index” U.S. News & World Report Education. Web. 17 March 2020 www.usnews.com/best-graduate-schools/top-law-schools/law-school-diversity-rankings

6

7



Western State University Law Review

Law Review membership is a prestigious honor available only to students who meet the GPA and other eligibility requirements. Western State University Law Review is a legal journal that focuses on real concerns relating to California law or federal law that has a substantial impact on California. It therefore draws heavily on California lawyers' work and provides exceptional opportunities to build connections with the practicing lawyers in the community.



Student Organizations

Involvement in a student organization perfectly complements the law school experience. Membership in any one of the broad array of organizations on campus offers opportunities to become more involved in campus life, network with other law students at Western State, and develop bonds that last throughout law school and beyond!

With so many options, you're likely to find a great fit for you:

- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Student Association (BLA)
- Christian Legal Society (CLS)
- Criminal Law Association (CLA)
- Delta Tau Delta Chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society
- Entertainment & Sports Law Society (ESLS)
- Environmental Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law Society (IPT)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino Student Bar Association (LSBA)
- Muslim Law Student Association (MLSA)
- OUTLAW
- Phi Alpha Delta Professional Law Fraternity (PAD)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Society of Immigration Law & Advocacy (SILA)
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)
- Tort Law Society (TLS)
- Young Americans for Liberty (YAL)



Public Service

Western State encourages public service by students through the school's voluntary Public Service Program, which provides resources, programming and pro bono opportunities for students to use their developing legal skills to serve the community and its most underserved members:

Building upon the tradition of public service reflected in the College of Law's history, Western State considers such service a critical element in students' educational and developmental process, and believes, that through public service, students will:

- enhance the professional skills learned at the College of Law through assisting real people to resolve real problems;
- embrace the role of lawyer as a public citizen with a professional obligation to be aware of and serve the needs of society, particularly the critically unmet need for legal services of the poor and disadvantaged;
- develop a lifelong commitment to community service and charitable activities which will carry over into their legal careers;

Public Service Opportunities Include:



Pro Bono Legal Service Opportunities and Externships
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (V.I.T.A.)
Food Bank Drives
Blood Drives
Clothing Drives



"It is heartening to me that Western State has earned a great reputation for emphasizing and encouraging public service with so many interns and externs serving while learning in Orange County."

Pearl Gondrella Mann, Class of 1985

Hall of Fame & Lifetime Achievement Award Recipient

Fullerton Elder law attorney and recent Regional Trustee of the State Bar of California

Named Attorney of the Year by the Public Law Center and recipient of the Clothing Drives State Bar's Wiley Manuel Award for Pro Bono Services to the Poor

Former President of the California Women Lawyers and the Orange County Women Lawyers, as well as the Appellate, Trusts and Estates, and Elder Law Sections of the Orange County Bar Association





“One of the best things about Western State is the staff! I go into Student Services at least once a week to have lunch or hang out with those wonderful ladies! They offer fantastic advice, tell great stories, and truly care about each and every student!”

Courtney Martin, Class of 2018

Academic Support

The S.T.E.L.L.A.R. Program

The Strategies to Enhance Legal Learning and Achieve Results (S.T.E.L.L.A.R.) Academic Support program provides you with instruction, assistance and encouragement to help you develop the skills and strategies you need. Our goal is to help you successfully complete your first year, pass the bar exam, and practice in the profession. Your faculty will guide you as you develop the critical reading, briefing and analytical skills necessary for academic success, as well as the practical lawyering skills that will sustain you through the bar exam and beyond.

First Year of Law School

Introduction to Legal Methods, a preparatory course for 1Ls, begins prior to the start of law school and continues throughout the first semester. With individual support and feedback from full-time faculty and dedicated Dean's Fellows in our Student Learning Center, first year students get help to acquire the skills and tools to succeed in law school and in the legal profession.

Preparing You for the Bar Exam

Courses like Basic Bar Studies and Solving Legal Problems help students start early to acquire the skills and substantive knowledge required for success on the bar exam and in the first year of practice.

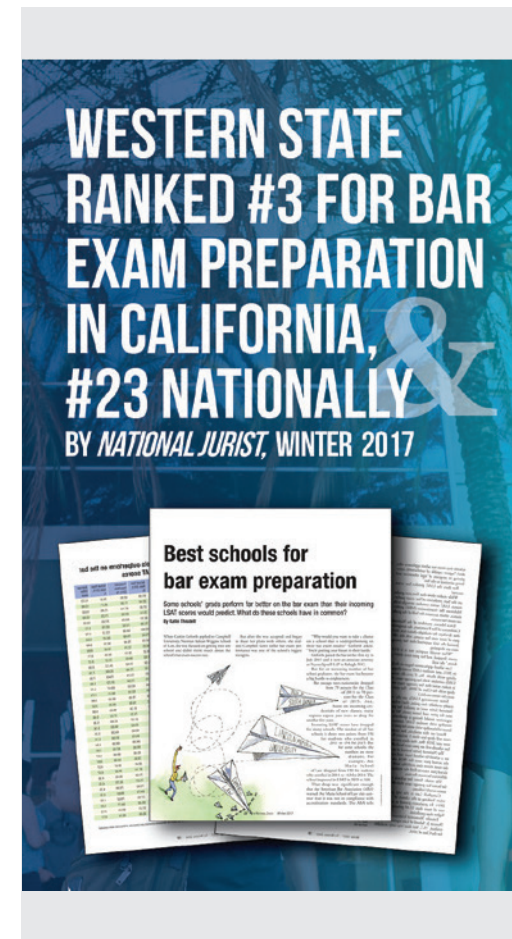
Experiential Learning

Western State seeks to foster law students' development as legal professionals throughout law school. Our Faculty bring examples from their practical legal experience into the classroom, engaging our students and illustrating how theory comes together in practice. These enhancements beyond standard legal instruction help students understand the law and its application. We prepare students for the daily experience of practicing law.

Lisa M. Blasser | Director, S.T.E.L.L.A.R.

Bar Pass Rates

Western State maintains bar pass rates consistently in the top half of California's ABA law schools. In fact...



“National Jurist and prelaw Magazine Back Issues” the National Jurist. Web. 20 July 2017
www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/cypress/nationaljurist_2017winter/#/28





Law Centers and Certificates

To maximize your skills and practice-readiness, Western State provides access to a wide range of enriching and resume-building opportunities.

As a Western State student, you can specialize your skills and customize your education by choosing from several different law centers and certificates; these allow you to explore the many possible areas of law practice and find the path that's right for you using electives that are part of your course of study. All certificates are part of our Juris Doctor degree program, and can not be earned as a separate degree objective.



- Business Law Center and Certificate
- Criminal Law Practice Center and Certificate
- Family Practice Certificate
- Immigration Practice Certificate
- Real Estate Practice Certificate



"Western State has developed a reputation for preparing its students for the competitive work environment, which has helped me tremendously throughout my internship experience."

Darren Gottlieb, Class of 2013



Elizabeth N. Jones
Director, Criminal Law Practice Center

JD, University of Miami School of Law
BA, University of California, Los Angeles

Criminal Law Practice Center

The Western State Criminal Law Practice Center (CLPC) exposes students to the many facets of the criminal justice system and prepares them for careers in criminal law.

Students with a special interest in criminal law may earn a Certificate in Criminal Law Studies while completing their J.D., by concentrating on criminal law and advocacy in their upper-division elective courses, including externships with prosecutors and public defenders.

The CLPC's faculty is comprised of distinguished legal scholars and experienced practitioners who weave "real-world" scenarios into their instruction.

Externships and volunteer opportunities provide real life "hands-on" experience where law students can truly make a difference in people's lives. Upper-level students may choose from a wide variety of Criminal Law electives. These electives include:



- International Criminal Law
- Juvenile Law
- Law of Vice
- Prosecutor/Defender Externship Seminar



Charles Sheppard
Director, Business Law Center

JD, Loyola University School of Law
BA, California State University, Dominguez

Business Law Center

Western State's Business Law curriculum is taught by faculty who possess strong practical and theoretical backgrounds and business credentials such as MBAs, CPAs, patent lawyer registrations, and LLMs. The program reflects our commitment to provide students with the opportunity to complete a broad offering of rigorous courses combining law and business.

Students who meet all coursework requirements can earn a Certificate in Business Law at graduation. Our Business Law Center also brings active practitioners to campus as speakers, hosts networking opportunities for our students and works with our Externship Program to secure meaningful practical Business Law experience for our students.

Upper-level students may choose from a wide variety of Business Law electives. These electives include:



- Bankruptcy
- Arbitration
- Intellectual Property
- Mediation
- Mergers and Acquisitions

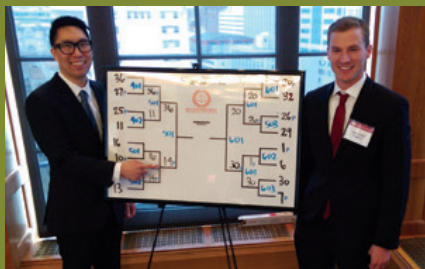
Western State Takes First Place in the National Sports Law Negotiation Competition!



09.25.2017 – Western State students Steven Alvarado and Melissa Padilla, coached by Adjunct Professor Paul Smith, won first place in the National Sports Law Negotiation Competition, edging out 39 other teams from the U.S. and Canada.

Western State's team edged out competitors from Georgetown, Berkeley, and Fordham among others.

Western State Placed 2 Jerome Prince Evidence Competition



03.22.2018 – Western State students, Kyle Case and Steve Kim, had a great run at the Jerome Prince Evidence Competition at the Brooklyn Law School. They advanced all the way to the final four (out of 35 teams) and lost to the eventual champion. The Western State Team also won the 3brief award.



Lori Roberts
Faculty Advisor, Honors Moot Court Team

JD, University of Miami School of Law
BA, University of Washington



Robert Molko
Faculty Advisor, Mock Trial Team

JD, Southwestern School of Law
MSEE, New York University, New York
BSEE, City College of New York

National Advocacy Competitions

Students selected for our advocacy competition teams practice real-life court skills and compete with law students across the country.

Honors Moot Court Team

Selected students participate in various competitions nationally; in recent years, Western State teams have excelled at venues in California Appellate Advocacy, Entertainment, Business, Juvenile, Bankruptcy and Immigration Law.



Mock Trial

Our Mock Trial team competes in the national mock trial competition, where each round is a time-limited presentation of a court trial.

Honors Moot Court Team

The American Bar and California Bar Associations sponsor negotiation competitions between member schools in which teams of two students attempt to negotiate a resolution to a difficult legal conflict. Students' preparation, strategy, tactics, and adaptability is judged by a panel of experienced legal professionals from the community.

Faculty



Paul Arshagouni
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

J.D., University of California, Los Angeles
M.P.H., University of California, Los Angeles
M.D., University of California, Irvine
B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

Contracts I & Contracts II



Lisa Blasser
Assistant Professor of Law
Director, Academic Support & Bar Services

JD, Western State University College of Law
BS, California State University, San Diego

Introduction to Legal Methods, Basic Bar Studies



Todd Brower
Professor of Law

LLM, Yale Law School
JD, Stanford Law School
AB, Princeton University

Constitutional Law, Employment Discrimination, Property



Allen Easley
Dean; Professor of Law

LLM, Temple Law School
JD, Temple Law School
BA, College of Wooster

Civil Procedure, Complex Litigation, Conflict of Laws, Federal Courts



Sarah Eggleston
Assistant Professor of Law
Law Library Director

JD, Whittier Law School
MLS, Southern Connecticut State University
MSIDT, California State University, Fullerton
BA, Dickinson College

Contracts I & Contracts II



Elizabeth N. Jones
Professor of Law;
Director, Criminal Law Practice Center

JD, University of Miami School of Law
BA, University of California, Los Angeles

Criminal Justice Ethics, Juvenile Law, The Law of Vice,
Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure



Susan Keller
Professor of Law
JD, Harvard Law School
MFA, University of California, Irvine
AB, Harvard/Radcliffe Colleges

Property, Torts, Employment, Agency and Partnership,
Employment Discrimination



Glenn Koppel
Professor of Law
JD, Harvard Law School
BA, City College of New York

Civil Procedure, Evidence, Evidence Practice



Kevin Mohr
Professor of Law
JD, Yale Law School
MS, University of Wisconsin
BA, Harpur College

Contracts, Intellectual Property, Professional Responsibility



Robert Molko
Professor of Law;
Director, Criminal Law Externships

JD, Southwestern School of Law
MSEE, New York University, New York
BSEE, City College of New York

Trial Practice, Evidence, Criminal Externship Seminar,
Criminal Justice Ethics, Criminal Procedure, Criminal Law



Lori Roberts
Professor of Law;
Director, Legal Writing & Research

JD, University of Miami School of Law
BA, University of Washington

Legal Writing & Research I & II,
Advanced Appellate Advocacy, Contracts



Charles Sheppard
Professor of Law;
Director, Business Law Center

JD, Loyola University School of Law
BA, California State University, Dominguez Hills

Property, Trusts, Secured Land Transactions,
Real Estate Transactions



Stacey Sobel
Professor of Law;
JD, The George Washington University Law School
BA, State University of New York at Albany

Constitutional Law I & II, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure

What Alumni Have to Say

“My classmates and I were all working and going to school at night, which created a strong bond. The ones I most admired were the single working mothers in our class. Western State gave everyone the opportunity to succeed.”

Michelle Reinglass, Class of 1987
Hall of Fame & Dean’s Counselor

“I took advantage of the part-time evening program at WSU. While enrolled in this program, I served as a Judicial Assistant for the LA Superior Court and worked alongside some of LA’s prominent Judges. This was the best decision I ever made for my education and career. The contacts and networking opportunities I had while working and attending school were priceless. Thank you WSU!”

Jamilla Harris, Class of 2006

“I only applied to one law school. The part-time program at Western State represented the best opportunity for me to achieve my goal of becoming an attorney. Western’s reputation, faculty, and the option of attending evening classes while keeping my full time job as a Deputy Sheriff made Western the clear choice for me.”

Walter Carmona, Class of 2014



Part-Time Program

At Western State College of Law, we have been providing a legal education to working professionals for over four decades through our part-time program.

Western State’s part-time program is designed specifically to suit the schedules of students who wish to pursue their dream of earning a law degree yet have full-time day commitments, professional or otherwise. A legal education is one of the most recognized and useful advanced degrees and can make you a more valuable candidate in today’s competitive job market.

The program, with Fall and Spring starts, is designed to be completed in as little as four years. At Western State, part-time students are a priority to a faculty dedicated to teaching, accessibility and successful outcomes. Evening students follow the same Program of Study and learn from the same qualified full-time faculty as day students. At Western State, evening students are full members of the law school community, with opportunities to participate in law review, moot court, student organizations, clinic and externships. Speakers, panels, and other enrichment programming are most often held at times when working students are likely to be available, while Professors also schedule office hours for the convenience of their evening students.

Our Juris Doctor program teaches a valued skill set: discipline, negotiation, communication, and analytical abilities. The benefits of a law degree expand far beyond the practice of law by emphasizing how to effectively approach problems and present ideas and conclusions. Additionally, the effort required to earn a law degree instills the type of work ethic and drive that employers seek out.

Student Perspective

“After visiting several law schools and speaking with students on campus, I chose Western State because of the supportive and warm student body.”

Monique Russel, Class of 2020

“I love how the professors are renowned in their field, but approachable. This is a school where all of the professors knew my name.”

Amro Alkrisat, Class of 2021

“From the first day I walked on campus, I felt welcome and part of a caring community. I’m grateful for the small clases, personal attention, and the opportunity for one-on-one time with

Felicia Ring, Class of 2021

JD Degree Skillset



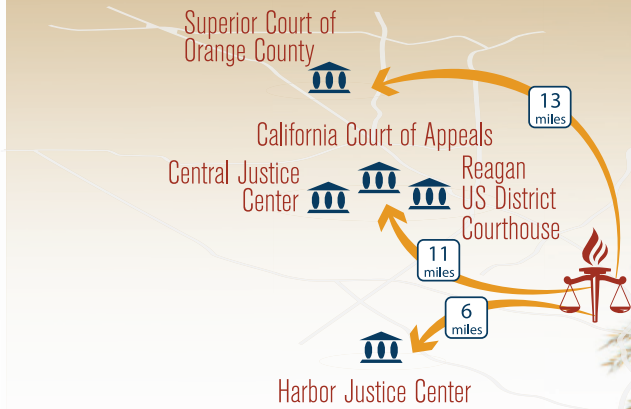
- Ability to analyze complex problems
- Learn how to create solutions
- Greater competency in presenting yourself and your ideas
- Enhanced negotiation skills
- Immediate ROI: Leverage what you learn to enhance your current role, become more valuable to your employer

Access to Courts

Convenient to all major courthouses



- Harbor Justice Center: 6 miles from Western State
- Central Justice Center: 11 miles
- Reagan US District Courthouse: 11 miles
- California Court of Appeals: 11 miles
- Lamoreaux Family Justice Center: 13 miles





Resources

Law Library – Study, research, collaborate.

Our Mission

The personal interaction and services offered by the library staff at Western State makes the Law Library truly special among law school libraries. The Western State College of Law Library's mission is to provide users with the easiest access to the broadest possible array of legal information sources, support faculty in their teaching and research, and educate students in the use of legal information sources and the research process.

Study

The Law Library not only provides books and computers, but a variety of individual and group study spaces for students. Quiet study space, study rooms, and a collaborative study room are all available so students can pick the space that is right for them. The Quiet Study Room is for when students want absolute quiet. General quiet study space is spread throughout the library and offers both open tables and individual carrels for student studying. Individual and Group Study Rooms are found throughout the campus. Lastly, the Collaborative Study Room provides study space where students can work through problems together.

Research & Collaborate

During most of the library's open hours, a dual law- and library-degreed reference librarian is ready to assist users in finding what they need or work through a problem. Western State prides itself on having a practice-oriented, well-rounded collection of legal and non-legal materials. Responding to faculty and student research needs, the library shifted to an access model that allows users to access materials whether they are in the Law Library, elsewhere on campus, at home, or travelling. Still maintaining a core collection of print materials, the Library has expanded ready access to databases such as Fastcase, Bloomberg Law, CCH IntelliConnect, CEB OnLaw, HeinOnline, Lexis, ProQuest, and Westlaw. Collaborations with Career Services and the Immigration Clinic have further expanded the Library's reach by creating usable, practice-oriented specialized collections.

Externships

Western State offers a variety of educational, real-world externship placements and encourages every student to participate in this valuable program during their time in law school. In addition to the time spent in their placement, student externs also meet weekly in an on-campus seminar. The externship seminar allows the students to explore their placement experiences in class to gain a deeper understanding of the functions and responsibilities of attorneys, judges and other legal personnel.

The categories of available externships include:

Judicial Appellate Externship

Eligible students, if selected by a justice, are placed in either a state or federal appellate judge's chambers. These students research and draft opinions for the jurist on either a full-time (400 hrs.) or part-time (150 hrs.) basis.

Judicial Trial Externship

Eligible students, if selected by the court, are placed in the chambers of a trial level judge in Orange County, Los Angeles or Riverside County Court, where they assist with a variety of tasks in civil or criminal cases.

Civil Practice Externship

Students are placed part-time in law firms, state or federal agencies, corporations or other practice settings in the civil law field. Under the supervision of an attorney, these student externs research cases, write memos, interview clients, participate in court proceedings or perform other tasks relating to civil practice. Students in civil law externships may be eligible for certification for court appearances under State Bar rules.

First Year Summer Honors Program

First-year students who are invited to participate in the Summer Honors Program will be assigned to part-time appellate, judicial trial or civil practice externships for the eight-week summer session.

Criminal Law Externship

Students enrolled in a Criminal Law Externship work an average of 12-14 hours per week in the District Attorney, Public Defender or Alternate Defender Offices in Orange County and adjacent counties.

Externship Benefits

Students earn 5 units of credit for part-time placements and 10 units for full-time appellate placements. Most importantly, externs gain a unique awareness of practice realities and the attendant professional obligations that they will face in their future legal careers. Externships are viewed as a mark of distinction by many prospective employers.

Deirdre M. Kelly, Esq.
Director, Judicial and Civil Externships

Robert Molko
Director, Criminal Externships

Career Resources

The Career Resources Office offers programs to assist you in creating a fulfilling career. From day one, we coach our students in how best to present their skills and achievements so they are positioned well to enter the legal community.

Some of the services we offer are:



Year-round employment opportunities in legal settings

On-and off-campus interviews

Access to regional career fairs

An on-going program of workshops, seminars, panel discussions and networking events, all aimed at enhancing your transition into the legal profession

"As Immediate Past President of the Orange County Bar Association, I am excited to join the exemplary team at Western State, the oldest law school in Orange County. Western State has a strong tradition of producing practice-ready attorneys, from diverse backgrounds, who contribute immersely to the legal community."

Deirdre M. Kelly, Esq.
Assistant Dean of Career Development



"Practicing in Orange County, I have worked with so many lawyers and judges who went to Western State."

Honorable Nancy Zeltzer , Class of 1977
Hall of Fame



Alumni Network

Since opening our doors in 1966, Western State is proud to count more than 11,000 alumni, most of whom practice in our home community of California. Our alumni include judges, district attorneys, public defenders, city attorneys, corporate counsel, and private practitioners, along with individuals of every conceivable professional endeavor throughout the nation.

Our Department of Institutional Advancement supports the involvement of alumni in the life of the College of Law. Graduates serve as mentors to students, speak at student events and law school seminars, and some even become adjunct professors of law at Western State. The Office of Alumni Relations administers free continuing education programs for alumni and coordinates student scholarships via alumni donations.



What Alumni Have to Say

"You can't walk into a courthouse or go to a legal seminar or other event [in Southern California] where there isn't some well known judge or attorney that graduated from Western State."

Robert D. Coviello, Class of 1980
Dean's Counselor

"There are a lot of really high quality Western State alum practitioners in Southern California. I run into them every day, and it's a good feeling of community."

William Black, Class of 1987
Dean's Counselor & Hall of Fame

"We have so many Western State leaders who have already forged the path in the judiciary, as well as partnership ranks."

Solange E. Ritchie, Class of 1994
Dean's Counselor & Hall of Fame

"If you're from Western State, there's always an alum nearby who will extend a helping hand if you reach out."

Christopher Montes de Oca, Class of 2006 Dean's
Counselor & Hall of Fame

"My favorite part about Western State is the sense of community around the campus. Even the Alumni are constantly reaching out to students offering employment, mentoring, and wisdom."

Ashley Greenspan, Class of 2010

Admissions and Application Process

Application Deadlines

For the Fall (August) entering class:

- Applications are accepted beginning September 1
- Priority deadline to apply for Fall: April 1
- Final day to submit an application with LSAC (Law School Admission Council): July 1

For the Spring (January) class:

- Applications are accepted beginning September 1
- Final day to submit an application with LSAC: December 1

Application Requirements and Documents

Application; \$60 application fee

Applicants must take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and register with the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS); for more information regarding LSAT test dates and registration, visit www.LSAC.org

Must have completed a Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution prior to matriculation at the law school; no particular undergraduate major is required

LSAT score(s) – in the case of multiple scores, Western State College of Law gives most weight to the highest score

Transcripts from all colleges attended must be submitted to the Credential Assembly Service (CAS)

Personal statement (2-3 pages)

2 letters of recommendation — 1 academic preferred

Resume — recommended

Addenda — as required

Transcripts

All applicants must register for the LSAC Credential Assembly Service (CAS) in order for us to access undergraduate and/or prior graduate degree transcripts. For more information about the CAS, please call 215.968.1001 or visit www.LSAC.org.

Personal Statement

Although academic history and the LSAT score are very important in the application review process, the personal statement is a vital factor as well. The personal statement should be no more than three pages, typed and double-spaced. Focus on your accomplishments, skills, experiences and motivation that indicate potential for success in law school. Include any information such as extracurricular activities, career plans, leadership ability or anything else that will help the Admission Committee gain a clear and accurate picture of you as an individual. No single item in an applicant’s file defines the outcome of an admission decision. Please allow 4-5 weeks for a decision to be rendered once your file is complete.

Letters of Recommendation

We prefer that letters of recommendation be sent through the LSAC Letter of Recommendation Service. Please do not send duplicate letters directly to us. If necessary, letters of recommendation may also be sent directly to Western State from the recommender. At least one letter should be from a recent professor or employer.

Rolling Admissions

Western State reviews applications and renders admission decisions on a rolling basis until the class is full. Those who apply on or before the priority deadline will receive first consideration for scholarship awards. Admission to the law school becomes more competitive after the priority deadline has passed.

International Students

Contact the Admission Office for information regarding student visas and foreign credential evaluation.

Scholarships and Financial Aid*

Our student finance office is devoted to helping you finance your law school education successfully.

Scholarships

- Western State offers generous merit-based tuition scholarships for new and continuing students which may range from 10% up to 100% of tuition based on past academic achievement.
- All admitted students are automatically reviewed for scholarship consideration; no special application is required.
- It is a distinct advantage to apply early, as available scholarship funds may be limited later in the enrollment cycle.
- Scholarships are annual awards payable half in the fall semester and half in the spring semester.
- Scholarships after 1st year of law school are awarded based upon law school performance (GPA).
- Diversity Scholarships are available to selected entering students who meet admission requirements and demonstrate through work, academic history, community service or extracurricular activities that they will contribute to the diversity of the class.

Financing Options Available

At Western State we administer a variety of financial aid programs designed to enable you to pursue your legal education.

- Tuition scholarships, private scholarships, federal and credit-based private loan programs, and Federal Work-Study programs may all be part of a student’s financial aid strategy. Most law students use one or more sources of financial aid to meet their educational and living expenses while in law school.
- In addition, students should expect to provide part of their own support from resources such as savings, help from parents, spouse or other family members, and employment.
- The part-time program at Western State provides an opportunity to study law with a lighter course of study over a four-year period. Students may be employed full-time and many are able to earn enough to cover living expenses and borrow funds for tuition, fees, and books only.

Financial Aid Counseling Available

To assure that you understand all of the resources that may be available to you, Western State encourages applicants to meet with student finance staff to discuss individual needs as soon as possible. They will assist you in avoiding unnecessary delays and funding limitations by familiarizing you with all the necessary forms and deadlines. Only U.S. citizens and eligible non-citizens may receive institutional scholarships, federal loans, and federal work study funds. Other restrictions may also apply. 714.459.1119

*Financial Aid is available to those who qualify.





Orange County's 1st Law School
Founded in 1966

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Western State College of Law at Westcliff University is fully accredited by the American Bar Association (321 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60610, (312) 988-5000). See www.wsulaw.edu for program duration, tuition, fees, and other costs, median debt, salary data, alumni success, and other important info. Programs, credential levels, technology and scheduling options are subject to change.

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