

2003

## 2003-2004 Admissions Catalog

New York Law School

*Learn law. Take action.*

**NEW YORK**  
**LAW SCHOOL**

2003-2004

Founded in 1891, New York Law School began as a bold experiment: it would provide students with diverse routes to achievement through innovation in scholarship, public service, and professional training. That principle continues to guide us today. Our curriculum provides the right program for each student. Our philosophy is simple: law is a tool to be used to accomplish real world outcomes for our clients, for society, and for justice. At New York Law School, law and action go together.



# New York Law School



Dean Richard A. Matasar

## The Right Program for Each Student

Throughout its 111-year history, New York Law School has been a gateway to opportunity for many lawyers. As an independent school, it has challenged existing social and legal precepts, built a heritage of leadership and innovation in legal education through the faculty's meaningful and multidisciplinary scholarship, our commitment to public service, and our abiding concern for keeping the doors of the legal profession open to a diverse population of students. This philosophy drives the Law School to continue to develop new curricular programs and provide our students distinctive legal training geared to the skills and values they will need to join the legal profession.

## INNOVATIVE NEW PROGRAMS

In the fall semester 2002, New York Law School implemented new initiatives, derived from our long-term planning process, to pair each student's program with the set of skills and values she or he can expect in the broad range of professional settings available to legal practitioners. Four curricular strategies will allow us to offer *the right program for each student*.

### ADVANCING PROFESSIONALISM

At New York Law School, we believe that students begin their professional lives on the day they enter law school, and every aspect of their law school experience, in and out of the classroom, can be a part of developing their professional portfolios. In the classroom, students are taught the skills and values of the profession through required courses in Applied Analysis, Lawyering, and the upper-level writing requirement and course in professional responsibility. This training is further reinforced in clinical courses and other lawyering skills electives. Outside the classroom, the new Office of Professional Development offers students personal attention early in their law school careers, to help them think through and refine their professional goals and to develop their own plan for meeting those goals.

### RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE

A new honors program, the Justice John Marshall Harlan Scholars, named for our illustrious alumnus and U.S. Supreme Court Justice, will provide our top entering and top performing students challenging and rewarding advanced work in various areas of specialization, including international law, urban legal studies, and civil liberties.

### STRENGTHENING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

A new, rigorous academic support program will be required for students who, early in their studies, demonstrate a need for additional work to master core skills in understanding and applying legal doctrine and expressing legal analysis effectively in writing.

### OPENING NEW DOORS FOR NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENTS

In response to the growing recognition that legal education has been overly dependent on the LSAT as the primary measure of aptitude for law studies, New York Law School has developed an experimental admissions program, the Wallace Stevens Scholars Program, that permits admission of a small group of applicants who have never taken the LSAT.

## The Curriculum

New York Law School offers a broad and deep curriculum with more than 150 electives available beyond the first year. Students pursue the Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree full time or part time in the Day Division, or part time in the Evening Division. Full-time students are expected to complete the degree requirements in three years; part-time students in four years. Students must complete at least 86 credits including Civil Procedure; Contracts I and II; Constitutional Law I and II; Criminal Law; Evidence; Property; Torts; The Legal Profession; Legal Reasoning, Writing, and Research; and Lawyering. Three new programs are noteworthy:

### JUSTICE JOHN MARSHALL HARLAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Law schools generally offer a broad array of courses that give students a taste of most major areas of legal study. For some students, however, breadth is simply not enough. They want depth, for substantive expertise. New York Law School recognizes this desire and has responded by creating the Justice John Marshall Harlan Scholars Program, named for its alumnus, Class of 1925, and United States Supreme Court Justice (1955-1971).

The Harlan Scholars Program, initiated with the Fall 2002 entering class, is a rigorous academic honors program. Only those applicants with the strongest academic credentials are offered an opportunity to participate. Students at the very top of the class at the end of the first year of law school also will be invited to join the program.

The program is designed to welcome the Harlan Scholars, in their first year, into a community of engaged, inquisitive scholars, with specially created academic and social events. The core of the program is the opportunity students will have, in their second and third years, to concentrate in a particular field of study through affiliation with one of the Law School's five academic centers and following a specialized curriculum developed by that center.

Harlan Scholars will choose one of these centers as their intellectual home, studying with faculty mentors, and contributing to the center's research projects and public programs. In addition, every Harlan Scholar who performs well will be invited to become a member of one of the Law School's student-edited journals.

Scholars selected during the application process will receive a Harlan Scholarship ranging from \$12,000 to over \$27,000 a year, renewable annually. Students selected on the basis of first-year academic performance, who did not receive an award before enrolling at the Law School, will receive a comparable merit scholarship. For their remaining years at the Law School Harlan Scholars are required to maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3 to continue in the program.

### COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM PROGRAM

Our commitment to meeting the needs of our students is equally strong for those students whose academic performance indicates a need for enhanced academic support. In 2002, the faculty adopted the "Comprehensive Curriculum Program." This program is designed to address the needs of those students who, during their early semesters at the school, demonstrate difficulty with all or any one of the following important skills: understanding legal doctrine, applying legal doctrine to facts, and expressing legal analysis effectively in writing. Students will be deemed candidates for this program based on their academic performance at New York Law School in relation to standards set by the faculty. All applicants to the Law School should note that students who are so deemed to be candidates must enroll in this program to continue at New York Law School. Additional details about the requirements of the Comprehensive Curriculum program are provided in the Law School's Academic Catalog.



Professor Arthur Leonard

### WALLACE STEVENS SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Poised for continued success through innovation, New York Law School has embarked on a bold experiment by establishing the Wallace Stevens Scholars Program. The program is named for the Law School's illustrious poet alumnus who was himself a "non-traditional" law student. Under the Wallace Stevens application option, interested applicants with strong undergraduate grades, a graduate degree, and significant work experience are considered for admissions if they have never taken the LSAT. Applicants must agree to sit for the LSAT in their first year at New York Law School.

For more information about these programs, or for general admissions information, please contact the Office of Admissions.

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## The Faculty

The Law School's distinguished full-time faculty comprises productive scholars who are dedicated educators and share a strong commitment to the Law School's vision and philosophy embodied in its core values: to advance justice, to foster integrity and professionalism, and to embrace innovation. Faculty members value the opportunity to teach a diverse group of students—among the most diverse student bodies of any law school in the country.

While our faculty members are among the nation's finest theoreticians about law, they also are activists and advocates dedicated to improving the legal system and to creating a more just society.

### ACTIVIST

Through their scholarship, research, and advocacy, members of the faculty are engaged actively in some of our society's most pressing concerns, from encouraging economic literacy and protecting civil liberties, to helping consumers avoid bankruptcy, to developing constitutional democracy in South Africa.

### APPROACHABLE

In keeping with New York Law School's commitment to a student-centered academic life, the faculty maintain an open door policy. They are available to students for course work discussions, guidance on professional development goals, and intellectual exchange. Faculty members serve as advisors to the student-edited journals and to student organizations.

Through our Academic Centers, supervised externships and fellowships, the Lawyering Skills Center's clinics, and other experiential learning programs, the faculty has created ever-expanding opportunities for New York Law School students to make a difference in the world through law long before graduation day.

### ACCOMPLISHED

Faculty members at New York Law School are accomplished in their academic areas. Many entered teaching after successful careers as practitioners at major firms, corporations, and labor unions; in government service; as public defenders; and as consumer advocates. A national survey of law faculty scholarship includes them among the 50 most prolific law faculties and notes the significant number of their books published by university presses.

### SELECTED BOOKS

- Annette Gordon-Reed, *Vernon Can Read! A Memoir*. Public Affairs Books, 2001 (with Vernon E. Jordan Jr.).
- James F. Simon, *What Kind of Nation: Thomas Jefferson, John Marshall, and the Epic Struggle to Create a United States*. Simon & Schuster, 2002.
- Cathy Glaser, Jethro K. Lieberman, Robert A. Ruescher, Lynn Boepple Su, *The Lawyer's Craft*. Anderson Publishing Co., 2002.
- Stephen Ellmann, *The Post-Apartheid Constitutions: Perspectives on South Africa's Basic Law*. Witwatersrand University Press, 2001 (coeditor with Penelope Andrews).



#### NADINE STROSSEN

Twice named by the *National Law Journal* as one of "The 100 Most Influential Lawyers in America," Professor Nadine Strossen has written, lectured, and practiced in constitutional law, civil liberties, and international human rights. Since 1991, she has been president of the American Civil Liberties Union, the first woman to head the nation's largest and oldest civil liberties organization. She is the author of *Defending Pornography: Free Speech, Sex, and the Fight for Women's Rights*. A founding member of New York Law School's Justice Action Center, Professor Strossen includes a number of her students in civil liberties work.

"Nadine chose New York Law School as her home berth because she takes pride in her colleague's involvement in the real world and because she is impressed by the quality of students here, people seriously in pursuit of legal studies, many of them juggling other responsibilities in order to realize their aspirations."

—U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

## Academic Centers

Faculty created New York Law School's five centers to maximize the effectiveness of their research and activism and to create new opportunities for students to engage in the nation's most important policy issues. The centers offer course work in civil rights, international human rights, international trade and finance, constitutional law, urban legal studies, communications law, and professional values and practice. A new honors program, named for U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan, Class of 1925, allows top students to work with one of the centers to focus their studies in an area of interest.

### CENTER FOR NEW YORK CITY LAW

The Center for New York City Law disseminates information about New York City's laws, rules, and procedures; sponsors academic events to suggest reforms to make City government more effective and efficient; publishes *CityLaw*, a newsletter reporting New York City governmental decisions; co-publishes *CityRegs*; maintains a Web site, [www.citylaw.org](http://www.citylaw.org), with the full text of city administrative decisions; offers courses on New York City law; and awards two urban legal studies fellowships.



Professor Richard Sherwin with Media Center students.

### MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center focuses on issues in intellectual property, information technology, Internet Law, media law and regulation, especially emerging legal issues. The Center produces a television series, *The Media Reporter*, distributed by cable television; helps students develop visual persuasion and other media-based lawyering skills; and places students in externships with the Federal Communications Commission and at firms and organizations in the U.S. and Europe.

### CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Center for International Law supports teaching and research in all areas of international law, concentrating on the law of international trade and finance. The Center derives intellectual strength from its interaction with New York's business, commercial, financial, and legal communities. It also sponsors symposia on timely issues, with proceedings at times published in the *New York Law School Journal of International and Comparative Law* or the *New York Law School Journal of Human Rights*.

### JUSTICE ACTION CENTER

The newly established Justice Action Center promotes social justice through legal action and is committed to developing socially conscious lawyers dedicated to preserving human rights and liberties, ensuring international human rights, and using the constructive power of law to work for social advancement. The Center combines core curriculum courses with pro bono work, externships, and work-study positions with public interest organizations.

### CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL VALUES & PRACTICE

The Center for Professional Values and Practice (CPVP) supports the development of reflective professionalism, including exploring ethics and the role of lawyers in society, helping clients identify and articulate problems, and developing options for solving them. The CPVP complements the work of the School's *Lawyering Skills Center*, which offers a wealth of experiential learning opportunities for students in trial advocacy, negotiation, interviewing and counseling, legal writing and mediation, through its courses, externships, and its Civil & Human Rights Clinic, Mediation Clinic, and Criminal Law Clinic.



CYNARA HERMES '03

"Law forces you to reorganize your mental processes. You learn to make good decisions based on logic, not emotion."

## Career Planning and Professional Development

We are committed to enhancing career opportunities for students in all areas of legal practice through a comprehensive program of professional development that starts on day one.

### OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The newly established Office of Professional Development brings together three key offices: the Office of Career Services, the Office of Student Life, and the Office of Public Interest and Community Service. With this innovative structure, New York Law School is now better positioned to offer students personal attention early in their law school careers to help them identify and refine their professional goals, and to develop a plan for meeting those goals.

The Office of Career Services staff includes attorneys and counseling professionals who have held positions in large as well as boutique law firms, in government offices, academic institutions, and public interest organizations.

### CAREER PLANNING RESOURCES

The Office of Career Services offers a full range of resources and services: career counseling, job listings, skills training workshops, networking opportunities, and an extensive library of career resources. Our outreach to employers is strengthened by a well-funded Federal Work-Study program through which students are employed by more than 300 private law offices, courts, government agencies, and public interest organizations. Administered through the Office of Financial Aid, the program places over 350 students every year in paid jobs where they get invaluable legal work experience.

### INDIVIDUAL CAREER PLAN

A new initiative of the Office of Career Services is the Individual Career Plan for first-year students. Through individual meetings with career counselors, students will explore all types of practice areas and settings, and even alternatives to purely legal careers. Staff will counsel students on how to incorporate every aspect of their law school experience, in and out of the classroom, into their professional portfolios.

### PUBLIC INTEREST AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

New York Law School encourages students to get involved. The Office for Public Interest and Community Service heightens the School's demonstrated commitment to the public interest through pro bono service; establishing working relationships with existing community service providers in TriBeCa and beyond; and advocacy efforts to assist those seeking to address the needs of individuals and groups who are underserved or underrepresented by the legal profession.

### ALUMNI MENTORS

New York Law School is privileged to have many graduates whose commitment and gratitude to the School motivates them to provide guidance and open doors to our current students. With extensive support from graduates, the Alumni Association and the Office of Career Services cosponsor the Alumni Network Program. Over 200 graduates participate as mentors to students, helping to identify career goals, sharing information about their law practices, and referring students and fellow graduates to other professional contacts.



### NOTABLE ALUMNI

In addition to 150 sitting judges and the many partners of prominent law firms New York Law School graduates have achieved success working in business, public service, education, and the arts. A few examples:

- **Beverly Chell**, cofounder, vice chairman and general counsel, PRIMEDIA.
- **Maurice Greenberg**, chairman and CEO, American International Group, the largest U.S. commercial/industrial insurance underwriter.
- **Kathleen Grimm**, deputy state comptroller for New York City.
- **Arnold Kopelson**, executive producer, producer, packager, developer, or distributor of over 100 films.
- **J. Bruce Llewellyn**, chairman of the board and CEO of The Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Company, the nation's largest black-owned firm.
- **Christina Storm**, partner, Byrne & Storm and founding director, Lawyers Without Borders.

## Students First

New York Law School is passionate about encouraging students and graduates to choose wisely what they do with their education. Every graduate's performance as a professional reflects our role in their success. We are committed to giving every student a first-rate law school experience—in and out of the classroom. In return, we demand of them the seriousness of purpose necessary to become professionals—the kind of lawyers sought after by clients, law firms, government agencies, and corporations.

### ENRICHED BY DIVERSITY

Students come to the Law School from across the nation and abroad. They represent a variety of cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. They bring with them a wide range of interests in areas of legal study as well as in other fields, in addition to their varied experiences in life and in work. Such diversity helps create a rewarding educational environment.

### ENGAGED AND ORGANIZED

Students can take advantage of the academic opportunities offered through three law journals and moot court, as well as a broad range of student-led organizations that contribute significantly to the diverse extracurricular life at New York Law School. They produce programs ranging across such topics as Capital Formation in Cyberspace, the Lawyer's Role in the Movie Business, and Hate Crimes. Student organizations are active in events outside the Law School, such as the AIDS Walk, and they sponsor outreach programs designed to introduce local high school students to the study of law.



### LAW JOURNALS

New York Law School hosts three scholarly journals edited and published by students: the *New York Law School Law Review*, the *New York Law School Journal of Human Rights*, and the *New York Law School Journal of International and Comparative Law*. The publications invite contributions from members of the legal community and include articles, notes, and case comments written by student members. Students are selected for membership based on first-year grades and a writing competition held during the summer after their first year. Participation in a journal involves a serious commitment of time and energy. In return, it develops research, writing, and analytic skills that enhance the students' legal education.

### MOOT COURT

New York Law School students exhibit well-honed courtroom skills. In the last two years they have won several national moot court competitions outright and earned many awards in others. The School's Moot Court Association sponsors the annual Robert F. Wagner Sr. Labor and Employment Law Moot Court Competition, one of the nation's largest student-run competitions. The Association also organizes the intramural Froessel Moot Court Competition.

### STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Amnesty International  
Asian American Law Students Association  
Bisexual, Lesbian & Gay Law Students Association  
Black Law Students Association  
Business Law Society  
Christian Legal Society  
Criminal Law Society  
Domestic Violence Project  
Evening Students Association  
Environmental Law Society  
Federalist Society  
Hellenic Law Society  
International Law Society  
Irish Law Students Association  
Italian American Law Students Association  
Jewish Law Students Association  
Latino Law Students Association  
Law Students for Child Advocacy  
Legal Association for Women  
Media, Entertainment & Sports Law Association  
Media Law Project  
National Lawyers Guild  
New York Law School Basketball Team  
New York Law School Civil Liberties Union  
Phi Alpha Delta International  
Phi Delta Phi  
Public Interest Coalition  
South Asian Law Students Association  
Trial Lawyers Association



TOM DONOVAN '03

*"What impressed me most was that New York Law School was very focused on being part of the legal community. You come here for a legal education and you get a great one. I'm learning to think independently. With that training, you can do anything."*

## Embracing Innovation

At New York Law School, we accept the obligation to innovate and experiment to meet the changing needs of the legal profession. We are responsive to the bar and bench, and to society's needs for change. Faculty members write boldly about contentious issues, participate in reforming the law, and propose novel solutions to longstanding social problems. This risk-taking attitude informs our curriculum and allows us to experiment by building on the traditions of legal education, creating new courses, using new approaches to teaching, and embracing change as normal.

New York Law School delivers courses in a coherent order and creates opportunities for students, faculty, and experts from other fields to work together in teams.

## AN IDEAL LOCATION FOR THE STUDY OF LAW

New York Law School is located in TriBeCa, near the heart of New York City's largest concentration of government agencies, courts, law firms, banks, corporate headquarters, and securities exchanges. The federal courts, New York State Civil and Criminal courts, Family Court, and the Court of International Trade are located within a four-block radius of the Law School. Take a lunch break and listen to attorneys argue high-profile cases before renowned judges—in virtually every area of the law. Plan an externship with one of the dozens of firms and organizations in the neighborhood. It's a short stroll to the courts, City Hall, and Wall Street; the affordable restaurants of Little Italy and Chinatown are minutes away.

## NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL AT A GLANCE

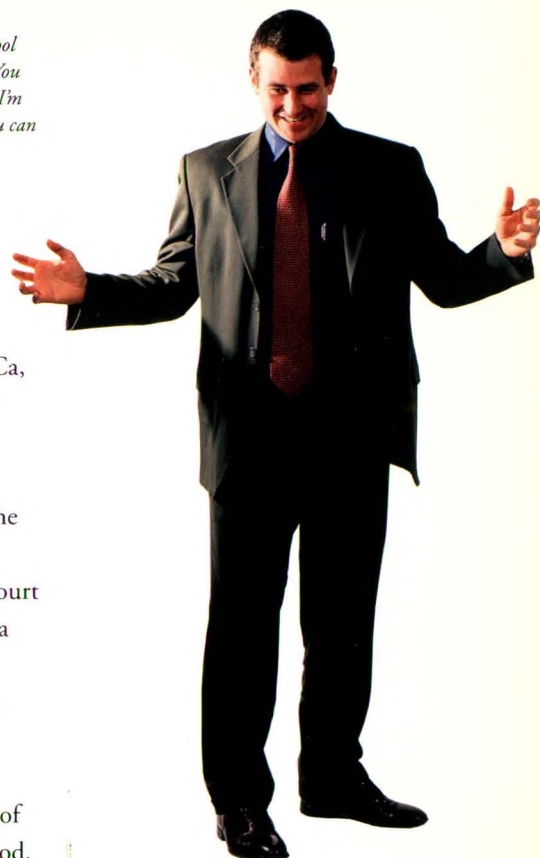
- > Approximately 1,400 students enrolled
- > 29% minority (*entering class 2001*)
- > 59% women (*entering class 2001*)
- > 35% part-time (*entering class 2001*)
- > 186 undergraduate schools represented
- > 57 full-time faculty
- > 70 adjunct faculty
- > 175 courses

### DIVISIONS

- > Full-Time Day
- > Part-Time Day
- > Part-Time Evening

### DEGREES

- > Juris Doctor
- > Joint Bachelor's/J.D. (Stevens Institute of Technology)
- > Joint Bachelor's/J.D. (Adelphi University)
- > Joint J.D./M.B.A. (Baruch College)



## Apply Now

Experience New York Law School for yourself. Visit our campus and attend information sessions. Get all the details—as well as an online application, financial aid information, and profiles of our faculty, staff, and students—at [www.nyls.edu](http://www.nyls.edu)

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