

MENTOR RESOURCE GUIDE

OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Student Affairs Office at Denver Law is dedicated to helping students thrive while in law school. They assist students with a variety of matters including ADA accommodations, bar application questions, student organizations, support services, wellness resources, student events, and more.

Key Contact: Jessica Boynton, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs
jessica.boynton@du.edu
Suite 115

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/student-affairs

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT (CSE)

Denver Law's Office of Community Support and Engagement (CSE) seeks to cultivate a teaching and learning environment that creates a sense of inclusion, belonging, and well-being for all members of our community. The CSE office provides programming for all students, offering trainings, individual advising, and wellness and belonging resources. The office also helps establish and promote relationships with the broader community through pipeline initiatives, innovative collaborations with bar associations and nonprofits, and continuing legal education programs, among other activities.

Key Contact: Alexi Freeman, Associate Dean of Community Support and Engagement
alex.freeman@du.edu
Rm. 365M

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/community-support-engagement

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Students take the same courses during their first year (or first year and one half for part-time students). Following the first-year courses, students must complete three additional courses, and have the option to select a Certificate Program.

First Year Courses

- Constitutional Law
- Property Law
- Civil Procedure
- Torts
- Contracts
- Criminal Law

In addition to the above courses, first year students have two semesters of the introductory legal research and writing course, Lawyering Process. The course includes first semester motion drafting and second semester brief drafting, followed by first-year oral arguments.

Required Upper Division Courses

- Administrative Law
- Evidence
- Legal Profession

Certificate Programs

Denver Law offers seven Certificate Programs:

- Animal Law
- Constitutional Rights and Remedies
- Corporate and Commercial Law
- Environmental and Natural Resources Law
- International Legal Studies
- Intellectual Property and Technology Law
- Workplace Law

Academic Advising

The Office of Academic Advising provides academic support to all students, and assists with degree planning, course selection, and defining the overall scope of a student's legal education. Students may drop in or request an appointment to meet with Allison at any time during their studies at Sturm.

Key Contact: Allison Peters, Director of Academic Advising and Initiatives
allison.peters@du.edu
Rm. 390P

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/academic-advising

Study Abroad

Denver Law offers several Study Abroad programs allowing students to take courses at a variety of law schools internationally. Our summer program in Sorrento, Italy, is the most popular as it allows students to travel abroad with DU Law students and faculty over a four-week period in May & June. Also offered is a one-year exchange with the Universidad Pontificia Comillas in Madrid, Spain. Students study at Comillas for their entire 3L year and earn a European LLM degree in addition to their American JD. We have an exchange with the University of Western Australia in which students can study in Perth for 2 years and earn both an American and Australian JD. There is also an opportunity to study for a year or semester at Lund University in Sweden.

Key Contact: Allison Peters, Director of Academic Advising and Initiatives
allison.peters@du.edu
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Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/study-abroad

STUDENT-RUN ORGANIZATIONS

Denver Law has a variety of student organizations and journals that allow students to connect with their peers and with faculty.

Law Review & Journals

Denver Law has the following journals:

- Denver Law Review (<https://www.denverlawrev.org/candidacy>).
- Denver Journal of International Law and Policy (<https://djilp.com/>)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Journal (<https://duselj.wordpress.com/candidacy/>)
- Transportation Law Journal (<https://www.law.du.edu/academics/law-reviews-journals/transportation-law-journal>)
- University of Denver Water Law Review (<http://duwaterlawreview.com/contact/#contact-info>)

Students should visit the individual journals' websites, provided above, to learn details about candidacy and application periods.

Student Organizations

Denver Law currently has the following student organizations, though students may form new organizations at any time:

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| • ACLU-DU Chapter | • Denver Sports and Entertainment Law Society | • International Law Society |
| • Air and Space Law Society | • Disability Law Student Association | • Jewish Law Student Association |
| • American Constitution Society | • DU Law Democrats | • Latin Law Student Association |
| • Asian Pacific American Law Students Association | • DU Law Outdoor Club | • Law Student Ambassadors |
| • Black Law Students' Association | • Federalist Society | • Law Students Against Sexual Violence |
| • BREAKTHROUGH | • First Generation Law Student Alliance | • Middle Eastern and North African Law Student Association |
| • Business Law Society | • Future of Dispute Resolution Society | • National Lawyers Guild |
| • Chancellor's Scholar Program | • Health Law Society | • Native American Law Student Association |
| • Children's Legal Advocacy Group | • If/When/How | • OUTLaws |
| • Christian Legal Society | • Incarcerated Artists Alliance | • Privacy Law Society |
| • Criminal Law Association | • Intellectual Property Law Society | |

- Public Interest Law Group
- Race to the Bottom
- South Asian Law Student Association
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- The Environment at 5280 Blog
- Trusts, Estates, and Elder Law Society
- Women's Legal Coalition

The [Student Bar Association](#) (SBA) is the official resource and liaison for the student body in matters involving school administration, faculty, and student services. Students should contact current SBA leadership for details on the SBA leadership election process.

ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Most academic assistance to students is provided through the Academic Achievement Program (AAP). The AAP Director, Professor Diane Kraft, is happy to meet with students individually to discuss strategies for succeeding in law school.

Key Contact: Diane Kraft, AAP Director, and Professor of the Practice
diane.kraft@du.edu

Rm. 455A

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/academic-achievement-bar-success

AAP Leaders

AAP Leaders are outstanding upper-level students who provide first year students with support in their 1L courses. AAP Leaders coordinate with professors of 1L classes and sometimes attend class lectures. They meet individually with students and hold group sessions that cover topics such as case reading and briefing, note taking in class, outlining, exam preparation, and exam writing.

TRIAL ADVOCACY RESOURCES

The Center for Advocacy oversees and supports the professional development of our students by offering courses, hosting educational activities and sponsoring events in both the courtroom advocacy (mock trial) and appellate (moot court) arenas. Except for the Moot Court Board and its competitions, Professor of the Practice, David Schott, is the key contact for all courtroom advocacy-related inquiries, with the exception of the Moot Court Board and the Student Trial Lawyers Association):

Key Contact: David Schott, Advocacy Program Director
david.schott@du.edu

Rm. 390H

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/the-center-for-advocacy

Trial Courses

Students interested in courtroom litigation and trial advocacy, including earning a Concentration in Advocacy, are encouraged to look at the “[Litigation Paths](#)” that provide guidance on possible second, third and fourth year courses. Courses offered through the Center for Advocacy include:

- Trial Practice I – Basic Courtroom Skills
- Trial Practice I – Intensive
- Trial Practice I – Basic Courtroom Skills / Commercial Law
- Trial Practice II – Advanced Courtroom Skills
- Trial Practice II – Deposition Skills
- Trial Practice II – Litigation Technology
- Trial Practice II – Motions Practice
- Trial Practice II – Voir Dire
- Trial Practice III – Criminal Procedure Practicum
- Trial Practice III – National Trial Team
- Trial Practice III – Trial Practicum
- Trial Practice III – Mentors Practicum
- Trial Practice III – Instructors Practicum
- Day One – Criminal Practice Lab
- Day One – Civil Practice Lab

Mock Trial & Moot Court Teams

Denver Law has eighteen trial advocacy and moot court teams. These teams compete both nationally and internationally. The teams include:

- ABA Appellate
- Intellectual Property Law
- Jessup – International Law
- NALSA - Native American
- Bankruptcy
- Pace Environmental
- Workplace Law
- Baseball Arbitration
- Basketball Negotiation
- Football Mediation
- Hockey Mediation
- Client Counseling
- Transactional Moot Court
- Tax Moot Court
- Mediation and Negotiation
- Native American Law Moot Court
- Veterans Advocacy
- Vis – International Commercial Arbitration

In addition, Denver Law’s National Trial Team competes nationally in ten tournaments each year and students can earn credit for their participation on the team. Tryouts are held in March of each year.

The Hoffman Cup & the Advocates Cup

The Hoffman Cup & The Advocates Cup are managed by the Center for Advocacy.

The Hoffman Cup is the premier trial advocacy tournament at Denver Law and serves as a showcase of our school’s talent. It is a weekend-long experiential event where Denver Law

crowns the school Champions and the Best Overall Advocate. Participation is open to all upper-level students, and 1Ls are invited to serve as witnesses.

The Advocates Cup is a great opportunity for students to develop and sharpen their trial advocacy skills. All students (1L, 2L, 3L) are welcome to compete as advocates. Each 1L is paired with a 2L or 3L student so both benefit from the mentor/mentee educational dynamic.

Moot Court Board Intra-School Competitions

The Moot Court Board provides students with high quality legal scenarios under realistic conditions. The student-run board manages and produces six advocacy competitions per academic year, including the:

- Negotiations Competition
- Trial Competition
- Appellate Competition
- Client Counseling Competition
- International Appellate Competition
- Motions Competition

Competitions are advertised heavily, but students can contact the current leaders of the Moot Court Board for additional information.

BAR PASSAGE

Bar Passage at DU is driven by the DU Bar Success Program. Christopher Engle-Newman is the key contact for the program and encourages students to contact him early and frequently:

Key Contacts: Christopher Engle-Newman, Director of Bar Success
Christopher.S.Engle-Newman@du.edu
Rm. 455C

Meralee Hoffelt, Assistant Director of Bar Success
Meralee.Hoffelt@du.edu
Rm. 455D

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/academic-achievement-bar-success/postgraduate-du-bar-success-program-dubs

DU Bar Success Program

The DU Bar Success Program is a free bar exam supplementary program available to all graduating students and alumni. It provides instruction, coaching, and writing feedback throughout the two-month study period immediately prior to the bar exam. The series includes a variety of strategic workshops, practice mock bar exams, individual consultations, and timely feedback on writing assignments. It is intended to serve as a supplement to, and not a replacement for a commercial bar prep course.

Legal Analysis Strategies (L4032)

Legal Analysis Strategies is a course offered to graduating students that provides instruction, guidance, and feedback to develop foundational skills necessary to achieve success on both the bar exam and in the legal profession as skilled legal analysts. The course primarily focuses on core bar exam subjects (constitutional law, civil procedure, contracts/sales, property, evidence, torts, and criminal law/procedure) and includes diagnostic evaluations.

Partnership with Themis Bar Review

Thanks to a donation by the Sturm Family Foundation, DU Law graduates are provided with a complimentary Bar Review Course post-graduation to prepare each graduate for the bar exam, eliminating the out-of-pocket cost of a bar preparation commercial course. DU Law entered a partnership with Themis Bar Review to provide a suite of resources, including their Bar Review Course, to help our students build important lawyering skills while in law school to best prepare them for the bar exam and legal practice.

Key Contacts: Christopher Engle-Newman, Director of Bar Success
Christopher.S.Engle-Newman@du.edu
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Meralee Hoffelt, Assistant Director of Bar Success
Meralee.Hoffelt@du.edu
Rm. 455D

CAREER RESOURCES

The Office of Career Development and Opportunities (CDO) serves as the primary resource for students seeking employment, non-credit bearing internships, or clerkships. The CDO also collaborates with the Legal Externship Office in helping students pursue opportunities for pay/academic credit or a combination of both. The CDO hosts a range of careers fairs, career panels, mock interview days, networking events and other career-related activities. Students are encouraged to schedule an appointment with a career counselor through their Symplicity account or by emailing the CDO: law-careers@du.edu. See the CDO website for a list of the CDO Team.

Individualized Career Assistance

Career Counselors advise students about a wide variety of legal practice areas, settings and other alternative career paths in both public and private sectors. Students are prompted to schedule an initial appointment in the fall semester of their 1L year to work on their career planning, and to continue to engage with the CDO throughout their law school careers and beyond.

DU Law Careers Online (Symplicity)

DU Law Careers Online (Symplicity) is our online hub where students and alumni can find resources to help them develop strong application materials, prepare for interviews, and learn more about how to navigate the overall job seeking process. Symplicity also provides students with information about upcoming programs, networking opportunities and other announcements associated with career development. Students can apply for employment and non-credit bearing internship opportunities through Symplicity or find specific information about application processes outside of the system. Students should keep their online profile up-to-date and visit Symplicity frequently for all their job seeking needs and questions.

On-Campus Interviews (OCI)

OCI occurs at various times throughout the year and students from all class years can participate, subject to employers' hiring criteria. OCI is well advertised to students and the CDO provides information sessions to help students evaluate their interest in the program and to put their best foot forward in the process. Typically, students learn about the OCI opportunities and apply for positions through Symplicity.

Career Fairs

The CDO facilitates an annual Government and Public Service career fair each year. The CDO also hosts other career fairs and expos that are practice area focused or highlight a specific area of interest, including a Mid & Small Firm Careers Expo, an OCI Meet the Firms event, and a Trusts & Estates Career Fair.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING RESOURCES

In 2013, Denver Law launched its Experiential Advantage™ Curriculum ("EAC"). The EAC includes, among many other initiatives, the Legal Externship Program, the Clinical Programs, Semester in Practice, and the DU/CU Legal Residency Program.

Legal Externship Program

Legal externships are for-credit internships that are supported by faculty guided reflection and oversight. The Externship Program has over 720 externship placements per year. Students are first eligible for externships the summer after their 1L year. Students can search for externships through Denver Law's externship database and students are encouraged to meet with externship faculty to help with their search. Externships are offered across the public and private sectors, both in state and out of state. Externships can be paid or unpaid.

Key Contact: Alexi Freeman, Director of Externships
 alex.freeman@du.edu
 Rm. 365M
Web Address: www.law.du.edu/externships

Semester in Practice

Semester in Practice, run out of the Externship office, gives students the opportunity during one of their final two semesters to work full time for credit in an externship. Students can earn up to 15 credits doing the SIP and do not take any other classes. Students interested in the SIP should meet with the Externship office ideally early during their 2L year for planning purposes.

Key Contact: Alexi Freeman, Director of Externships
alexi.freeman@du.edu
Rm. 365M

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/externships

Clinical Programs – Student Law Office

The Student Law Office is Denver Law's in-house clinical legal program and the nation's first legal aid dispensary, established in 1904.

Under the supervision of clinic faculty, law students participating in a clinic represent real clients and provide legal services to individuals and communities that often lack access to representation.

Students act as the primary attorneys on their cases allowing them to engage with multiple aspects of legal practice — including legal doctrine, legal research, counseling, oral advocacy, evidence gathering (discovery and investigation), trial skills, negotiation, and so on. Through hands-on experience, Student Law Office clinics prepare law students to become skilled, ethical, and client-centered lawyers. The Student Law Office houses seven clinics across different practice areas:

Advancing Social Change: Semester-long clinic, fall only. (First priority is given to part-time program students.)

Civil Litigation: Semester-long clinic, fall and spring

Civil Rights: Year-long clinic

Community Economic Development: Semester-long clinic, fall and spring

Criminal Defense: Semester-long clinic, fall and spring

Environmental Law: Year-long clinic

Immigration Law & Policy: Year-long clinic

In a year-long clinic, students are enrolled for both fall and spring semesters. In a semester-long clinic, students are enrolled for either the fall or spring semester. Applications open in October for semester-long clinics starting in the spring, and again in March for year-long clinics and semester-long clinics starting in the fall.

For questions about our clinics, participation requirements, and applications information, please visit our website [FAQs](#).

Key Contacts: Lindsey Webb
Ronald V. Yegge Clinical Director
lindsey.webb@du.edu

Marissa Olan
Administrative Director of Clinical Programs
marissa.olan@du.edu

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/practical-experience/clinical-programs

DU/CU Legal Residency Program

The DU/CU Legal Residency Program is a partnership initiative with CU Law that provides new graduates with 12-18 months of valuable legal training and experience, and employers with legal staffing at reasonable costs. Participating organizations hire one or more residents from a pool of new JD graduates provided exclusively by the two Colorado law schools. Legal Residents are paid by the employer and follow a Learning Agenda which outlines the type of work the resident performs, the types of skills the resident builds and facilitates regular, meaningful feedback.

Tribal Wills & Wills Lab

The Tribal Wills Project at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law was created to help tribal members write much needed wills, medical powers of attorney, living wills, and memorial instructions.

The Wills Lab ([LAWS 4686](#)) is designed to provide students with practical experience with interviewing and drafting for a real client while under the close supervision of a practicing attorney.

Key Contact: Lucy Marsh, Professor of Law
lucy.marsh@du.edu
Rm. 415B

Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/practical-experience/tribal-wills-project

Low Income Taxpayer Clinic

The University of Denver Low Income Taxpayer Clinic is an organization independent from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that represents low-income taxpayers before the IRS in audit, appeals, collections and federal tax litigation. DU's clinic is unique in that it encourages student participants who are earning their Juris Doctorate (JD), Masters in Tax (MT) or Masters of Law in Taxation (LLM) degrees to get involved. Students participating in the clinic gain valuable experience handling client matters, researching individual and small business tax issues and working directly with the IRS and Colorado Department of Revenue.

Key Contact: Sabrina Strand, Assistant Professor of the Practice of Taxation
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Web Address: www.law.du.edu/academics/practical-experience/low-income-taxpayer-clinic