NEWSLETTER
SIGN UP

Just scan and we’ll add your email to our mailing list!
Topics & Goals

Topics:
1. Get to know us
2. Explore
3. Prepare
4. Apply
5. Key Takeaways
6. Q&A

Goals:
★ Give you a comprehensive understanding of pre-law recommended coursework and law school applications
★ Provide information about the importance of cultivating co-curricular experiences
★ Connect you to resources so that you can get engaged at UConn and beyond
1. GET TO KNOW US

The PPA Staff and how to connect!
Dr. Sarah Scheidel  
Director

Chrissy Gray  
Pre-Professional Advisor

Makenzie Cossette  
Pre-Law Student Admin. Asst.

Sue Ruggiero  
Program Assistant
Where are we?
• ROWE Building, 4th Floor
• Virtual Webex appts or drop-ins

How can you connect w/us?
• Join our newsletter!
• Website: prelaw.uconn.edu
  • prelaw@uconn.edu
  • uconn_prelaw
  • Workshops, appts., drop-ins, etc…

How do I make a one-on-one appointment?
• Nexus

Drop-in advising (10 minutes or less)
• Mondays from 2pm - 4pm (In-Person; check-in outside of Rowe 403)
• Tuesdays from 11am - 12pm (Virtual via WebEx; join here)
• Wednesdays from 11am - 12pm (Virtual via WebEx; join here)
• Thursdays from 2pm - 4pm (In-Person; check-in outside of Rowe 403)
*All drop-in appts. should be limited to topics that can be covered in 10 minutes or fewer.*
2. EXPLORE

Clubs, Organizations, Resources, etc...
Clubs + Organizations

роме: Develop or discover your passions
-
роме: Engage in community service
-
роме: Improve your teamwork and leadership skills
-
роме: Find an opportunity for networking
-
роме: Have fun!

The UConn Mock Trial Team, UConn Law Society, UConn Empowering Women in Law, the National Black Law Students Association–UConn chapter, and UConn Moot Court (coming soon) are all law-related extracurriculars. You can also find more information at UConntact.
On-Campus Resources

- Strengthen your skills and readiness for law school
- Engage with the campus community
- Find fulfilling employment and/or research opportunities

https://career.uconn.edu/
3.

PREPARE

Academics, involvement, and more!
Choosing your Major

✈ There is no correct “pre-law track” - you can major in anything as long as you perform well.

✈ Common majors: Political Science, History, Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, English.

✈ You CAN have a STEM major as a pre-law student! (ex. engineering majors can go on to be patent lawyers.)
Pre-Law Course Recommendations

Mathematics / Statistics
- MATH 1020Q: Problem Solving
- MATH 1070Q: Math for Business & Economics

Philosophy / Sociology
- PHIL 1102: Philosophy and Logic
- PHIL 221Q: Symbolic Logic
- PHIL 2215: Ethics
- PHIL 2217: Social and Political Philosophy
- SOCI 3823: The Sociology of Law - Global and Comparative Perspectives

English (any writing courses are helpful)
- ENGL 3601: The English Language
- ENGL 3633W: The Rhetoric of Political Discourse in Literature and Society

Economics
- ECON 1200, 1201 and 1202: Microeconomics & Macroeconomics
- ECON 1108: Game Theory

Communication
- COMM 1100: Public Speaking

*Any law-related courses from the History, Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, etc.
Research/independent scholarship

✨Research is not a requirement, but it is great experience and it can make you a more competitive law school applicant.

✨Research Opportunities:
- Holster Scholars Program
- Bennett RA Program
- BOLD Women’s Leadership Network
- IDEA Grant, SHARE Grant, CHANGE Grant
- SURF Awards
- Work-Study Research Assistant Program

✨Visit the OUR website to learn more!
4. APPLY

Holistic admissions
Application Overview
Support
Holistic Admissions

- The majority of law schools take a holistic approach to admissions

- "All files are holistically reviewed and each part of each file is taken into consideration."
  - uConn Law School

- Applications are evaluated as a whole - admissions decisions are made based on multiple factors: recommendations, GPA, LSAT, personal statements, additional essays, etc.
Application Overview

Timeline
Applicants formally begin applying during the summer usually one year prior to when they plan to matriculate to law school. Most application deadlines are in Feb/March.

Rolling Admissions
Committees evaluate applications as they are received. For best chances of admission & financial aid - APPLY EARLY.

Aim for October/November, but only if application is truly complete. Don’t submit a rushed application to have it in as early as possible, you have to consider what is best for you as an individual applicant.

Results
Some law schools will inform applicants of their admissions status in just a few weeks, others will take months. Be patient after submitting applications!
Main Application Components

Note - You can create an LSAC account any time (even if you're not applying yet)

★ Completed application
  ○ LSAC’s Credential Assembly Service (CAS) simplifies the law school application process for both candidates and law schools. With CAS, your transcripts, letters of recommendation, and any other documents required for each of your law school applications only need to be sent one time to LSAC.
  ○ CAS subscription = $200 and is good for 5 years
  ○ Each school you apply to = $45 + their application fee (if applicable)
  ○ Fee waivers! Learn more about LSAC’s or specific schools!

★ GPA
  ■ order transcript from the registrar; sent directly to LSAC through CAS
  ■ LSAC converts your GPA to their scale, this GPA is used for apps.

★ LSAT score

★ Letters of recommendation

★ Your resume

★ Possibly, addenda

★ Your personal statement
Application Components - LSAT

How many times can I take the LSAT?

- Can take a maximum of 3 times in a single testing year
- You are limited to 5 exams in 5 years
- You have a lifetime limit of 7 exams in your life
- Most applicants take the LSAT twice
  - May & June are popular dates since that gives time to retake in the fall if needed

All of your LSAT scores are seen by law schools, unless you purchase the LSAT Preview for $45 which allows you to see your score before it is reported.

LSAT Exam Overview:

- Logical Reasoning
- Analytical Reasoning (Logic Games)
- Reading Comprehension
Most law schools will require at least 3 Letters of Recommendation:
- 2 from professors
- 1 from someone outside your coursework or outside of the university

The letters from professors should be from someone who:
- knows you well
- understands your strengths as a student
- had you in class, researched with, or had some academic experience with
- could be from any course (doesn’t have to be law-related)

The letter(s) from someone outside of the university:
- NOT a family member
- Boss at a job, internship supervisor, coordinator of volunteer program
- Make sure the person writing the recommendation knows you well.
- Don’t submit a letter from a big name who doesn’t truly know you
**Application Components - Addenda**

- **Addendum** - An optional part of an application where applicants can explain anything that might not be clear.

  **Examples:**
  - Explaining a gap in a resume
  - Explaining grades that are inconsistent with the rest of transcript
  - Explaining a character and fitness issues

- Applicants MUST explain any run-ins with the law
  - Even speeding tickets need to be reported to law schools (not parking tickets)
  - It is better to over-compensate for legal issues by reporting every discrepancy, regardless of how minor they may seem
Typically you can re-use the same personal statement for most applications, however, some schools may have specific questions they want you to address, therefore it is common to have to write multiple versions.

Address questions like:
- Who are you?
- What are your interests?
- Why do you want to go to law school?
- What do you hope to do with a law degree?

Your personal statement should be genuine and sound like you. Do not use it as an opportunity to use complicated legal jargon and show off your vocabulary.

Editing and revising is EXTREMELY important! Many people should read this.
Personal Statement - Resources

❖ Writing Center

❖ Center for Career Development

❖ Faculty mentors

❖ Internship or work supervisors, especially if they are in the field

❖ Family or friends who can speak to your authenticity coming through
Gap/Growth Years

🌟 The average age of a law student is 25, there is no rush to go straight to law school after completing undergrad.

🌟 Professional experience is highly valued by many law schools & can make your application much more competitive.

🌟 Everyone’s journey to law school looks different, there is no "correct" way to navigate this process.

🌟 We recommend that students who intend to take growth years should ask for recommendations from professors before graduating, and stay in contact. It is often difficult for professors to write students good letters years later: professors may retire, go on sabbatical, not remember you, etc.
Key Takeaways

♦ Pursue your passions during undergrad - major in what interests you!

♦ Explore different academic opportunities and RESOURCES (like us 😏) to get the most out of your undergraduate education

♦ Start planning early to ensure a smooth application process

♦ Everyone’s journey to law school is different, there is no "correct" way to navigate the process
CONNECT WITH US!

Visit our website: prelaw.uconn.edu if you want more information

Email us at prelaw@uconn.edu at any time with questions

Follow us on Instagram @uconn_prelaw