Founded in Chapel Hill, North Carolina in 1845
DEAN’S WELCOME

You have begun an exciting journey in your search for a law school. This decision will shape your career, and I encourage you to weigh your choices with great care. There are countless factors to consider, and we’re pleased that you are considering UNC School of Law. We hope that as you review this booklet, visit our campus and talk to our faculty, staff and current students, you’ll discover that Carolina Law is a special place with an academically challenging yet friendly environment, one that will seem exceptionally attractive and promising to you. Allow me briefly to count our strengths.

We draw some of the nation’s most talented and diverse students to Chapel Hill. Although many come from North Carolina, we enroll hundreds from every corner of the United States and the world. One reason we attract so many is the modest cost of tuition; very few top-tier law schools claim both a strong academic program and such low tuition. Our entering students know they will graduate with the widest of professional choices, free of the heavy burden of debt carried by so many contemporary law school graduates.

In this place, you will master the core of the Anglo-American legal tradition—contracts, torts, constitutional law, civil procedure and other substantive areas of law—under the guidance of some of the nation’s finest legal scholars. You’ll also be introduced to more advanced areas – and learn how to practice law from brilliantly accomplished former and present clinicians and practitioners. They will help deepen your appreciation for the professional responsibilities that all lawyers must assume. You’ll meet devoted alumni who, like you, once aspired as students to join this exciting profession. Each chose to begin the journey with us. No matter their varied paths, our 9,500 living alumni cherish an abiding sense of affection for Carolina Law and acknowledge this school’s role in shaping their lives.

I began my own legal career in Chapel Hill in the fall of 1971. A law degree from Carolina Law opened many professional doors for me. I chose to join the litigation department of a major Manhattan law firm, Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison and then clerked for the New York Supreme Court. Thereafter, I landed one of the few open positions at the nation’s premier civil rights litigation firm, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF), where I was privileged to defend death row inmates in federal courts throughout the South. Eventually, I led an LDF program to address the troubling challenges of racial discrimination and poverty. In 1990, I returned to my alma mater, joining the Carolina Law faculty to research and teach on constitutional law, education law, race and poverty law, and civil procedure. And I am now proud and honored to be dean of this venerable institution.

Carolina Law is indeed a special place, with a distinct tradition that began in 1845 and that continues to shape our mission today. Let me invite you to explore Carolina Law. Leave no stone unturned, weigh our past and present, and envision yourself as part of our future. We hope you decide to join us.

Very best regards,

John Charles Boger

JOHN CHARLES BOGER DEAN AND WADE EDWARDS DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF LAW CLASS OF 1974, UNC SCHOOL OF LAW

Cover photos: Steve Exum, Donn Young, Steve Exum, Steve Exum
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“Carolina Law challenged me with debates about justice and our role as future lawyers.”  
  — MICHAEL HOFFMAN  
  CLASS OF 2006
Law school has a reputation as a competitive place, so Carolina Law takes pride in its challenging, yet supportive environment. Our faculty and staff are committed to helping you reach your goals. Again and again, students tell us how much they appreciate classmates who cheer them on when they are called on in class, faculty who take time in the hallways to ask how things are going and staff and alumni who offer help with job searches and career choices. Students who disagree vehemently during a classroom discussion about the right of privacy will laugh together over lunch 20 minutes later. A faculty member who grills first-year students at 10 a.m. about property easements will join a game of pickup basketball with students later that afternoon.

The diversity of students’ backgrounds and career interests make the Carolina Law community even more special. Students arrive in Chapel Hill from dairy farms in Ohio to tiny North Carolina mountain hamlets, from high-tech Research Triangle jobs to dangerous military duty in Afghanistan, and from the Upper East Side of Manhattan. All are welcome, all are valuable contributors to the community. To enter this place is to join a proud and rich tradition of Carolina lawyers, many of whom become leaders in the profession, seeking to summon the very best they can find within themselves.
OUR LAW STUDENTS HAVE:
Served in the Peace Corps | worked with Teach for America and AmeriCorps | volunteered in Suriname to protect the human rights of HIV-positive patients | learned property and estate law through outreach projects serving low-income communities in North Carolina | and nurtured dreams of home ownership with Habitat for Humanity.

Assisted with recovery efforts in Thailand following the tsunami of 2004 | and served as legal interns in the case against Slobodan Milosevic at the International Criminal Tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands.

Worked as a Middle East conflict monitor for Amnesty International | offered language instruction in Nagoya, Japan | and reported the news for National Public Radio.

CLASS OF 2012 PROFILE
Students enrolled 262
Age range 20-53
Median age 24
28 years and older 15%
Students of color 31%

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION
This year’s entering class includes students from 22 states, the District of Columbia, and Australia.
Our academic program consists of the basic curriculum leading toward the J.D. degree and a number of dual degree programs. Eighty-six hours are required for graduation, at least 65 of which must be at regularly scheduled class sessions at the law school. The first-year curriculum consists of required courses; the only required course beyond the first year is Professional Responsibility, which introduces students to legal ethics and the law and rules governing lawyers.

Students may take law school courses at either Duke University School of Law or North Carolina Central University School of Law. Additionally, each student may receive credit for graduate courses taken outside the Carolina Law for a total of three credits.

UNC School of Law currently has 52 faculty members, five of whom are clinical faculty members who teach in the Research, Reasoning, Writing and Advocacy and in the Externship programs. The school has an additional 28 adjunct faculty members plus 14 who teach in the Research, Reasoning, Writing and Advocacy program and 11 who teach Trial Advocacy.

More information at www.law.unc.edu/academics
Developing Practical Skills

Our faculty excel in the classroom. You will come away from Carolina Law with a rigorous and comprehensive understanding of the law — and Carolina Law will offer the opportunity for practical experience that will prepare you for private and public law practice, for business or government service, or for a career in a policy center or small-town practice.

Becoming a Carolina lawyer is about much more than mastering academic law. It’s equally about learning and inculcating the professional expectations that characterize fine lawyers — and that’s why our students take the Carolina Oath at Orientation. From the beginning of law school, our students commit themselves to the highest professional standards and expectations.

“I cannot imagine practicing law without having participated in the UNC Civil Legal Assistance Clinic. The clinic gave me the opportunity to work on a case from beginning to end — from interviewing the client to developing a theory of the case to strategizing to drafting a complaint to representing a client before a judge in district court. Most importantly, the clinic was an empowering experience, as I was able to help real people with real legal needs.”

— KATHERINE M. LEWIS, CLASS OF 2006
We know that it’s important to provide you with opportunities to put what you learn in the classroom into practice.

Our Clinical Program offers students the opportunity to represent real-world clients in courts and legislative arenas. By serving as counsel to underrepresented individuals and organizations, under the close supervision of clinical instructors (all of whom are practicing lawyers in addition to being professors) students explore a variety of legal areas: civil rights, consumer law, criminal defense, community economic development, domestic violence, housing, human rights, family law, immigration matters, and policy formation. As clinical students, you will stand before judges, work with private counsel and/or public prosecutors, urge policy changes before state and local legislative bodies—in sum, you will take your first steps as advocates and legal counsel to clients.

Carolina Law’s Externship Program provides academic credit for work in a public or private legal setting, directly supervised both by a practicing lawyer or judge and by a Carolina Law faculty member. Most students obtain externships in the Triangle, and a new program places students in Washington, D.C., externships during the summer. Photo by Steve Exum.

Our Trial Advocacy program puts students through all of the major steps of civil and criminal trials under the guidance of outstanding practitioners, who will videotape your first, faltering opening arguments and cross-examinations, pointing out ways to strengthen and refine them.

Our centers offer students the opportunity to work on a wide range of projects. Our Center for Civil Rights puts law students into lower income and underserved communities, working with communication organizations and center lawyers on educational reform, community development, and other social and economic justice issues. Our Center on Poverty, Work and Opportunity offers students the opportunity to work on issues of economic disparity and hunger. And our Center for Banking and Finance works with students to produce the Banking Journal and seeks to advise banking officials and others in the finance issues on the major legal issues confronting those industries.

Trial and Appellate Moot Court Teams provide students with the opportunity to practice their courtroom skills, and our students regularly compete in national competitions, and in recent years our students have participated in an exchange program and friendly moot court competition with barristers in training at the Middle Temple Society in London, England.
OPPORTUNITIES TO BUILD PRACTICAL SKILLS

The Seven Holderness Moot
Court Teams at Carolina Law
National
Negotiation
Client Counseling
Invitational
International
Environmental Appellate
Advocacy
Environmental Negotiation

Clinics at Carolina Law
Civil Legal Assistance Clinic
Juvenile Justice Clinic
Community Development
Law Clinic
Immigration / Human Rights
Policy Clinic

Students can also become part of the Craven Bench, the panel of members responsible for the administration of the annual Craven Competition held at UNC School of Law.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Summer Programs
UNC Sydney Summer Law Program, Australia
Universitat Augsburg Summer Law Program, Germany
Sorrento, Italy Summer Law Program

Semester Programs
Universite Jean Moulin LYON 3, France
Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, The Netherlands
Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico
University of Manchester, England
University of Glasgow, Scotland
Our Scholars and Teachers

We’re proud that great teaching and mentoring is an important part of our mission. Carolina Law’s distinguished faculty devote themselves not only to well-crafted class sessions, but also to earnest conversations in their offices and after-dinner sessions in their homes. You’ll build lifelong relationships. They understand that one of their principal roles is nourishing you, their students, and they welcome teaching you the law and helping you identify your future career goals.

The backgrounds and interests of our faculty are exceptionally wide. One served as legal counsel in the White House; others defended death row inmates, stood with suspected atomic spies or freed innocent men and women from prison. Still others have served as Foreign Service officers, counseled South African anti-apartheid lawyers, helped draft new environmental laws, testified before the U.S. Senate, or worked for major corporate law firms and bankruptcy judges. They have conferred as experts on corporate governance and mergers, and worked closely with international banks and bankers on financial policies. These prior life experiences of our faculty enrich the lectures and discussions in the classroom for our students.

Students also benefit from getting involved with the ongoing research and practice of our faculty members, whose projects range from helping expand consumer laws in developing nations to examining the intersection of global warming and insurance law.
In his book, *The Power of Precedent,* MICHAEL GERHARDT, Samuel Ashe Distinguished Professor of Constitutional Law and director of the UNC Center on Law and Government, connects social science data and legal scholarship to provide the most wide-ranging assessment of precedent in several decades. Gerhardt also recently served as special counsel to Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and the Senate Judiciary Committee on the nomination of Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Professor of law CAROLINE BROWN’s project, *Racism’s Property Victims: Why Blacks Are Exploitable by Subprime Mortgages,* explores how disparate lending practices and other factors widened the already burgeoning wealth divide between minorities, especially black women, and non-minorities.

At the request of Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court John Roberts Jr., Burton Craig Professor of Law ELIZABETH GIBSON serves as a reporter to the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Bankruptcy Rules.

During the most difficult global economic crisis since the Great Depression, faculty members SAULE OMAROVA and ADAM FEIBELMAN earned national attention for their research on developing a process to reform financial regulation.

VICTOR FLATT, Thomas F. and Elizabeth Taft Distinguished Professor in Environmental Law, launched the Center for Law, Environment, Adaptation and Resources (CLEAR) to bring together a diverse group of scholars and practitioners to examine the rapidly changing legal arena of environmental law.

Through the North Carolina Coastal Resources Law, Planning and Policy Center, Professor JOSEPH KALO, his collaborators and students assist the N.C. Division of Coastal Management and the Coastal Resources Commission, helping to shape the future of the coast. His work is helping authorities address issues such as offshore wind energy facilities, ocean aquaculture projects and beach nourishment.

Professor JOHN CONLEY is an investigator in the new UNC Center for Genomics in Society, examining the ethical, legal and social implications of the human genome. Along with investigators from other disciplines, Professor Conley is pursuing research in what is called ELSI—the Ethical, Legal and Social Implications of the Human Genome Project.

Recent examples of faculty scholarship, expertise and legal research:
Career Services

Our Career Services Office staff have more than 80 years of combined experience in law career services, which enables them to help our students find summer opportunities and full-time post-graduate work in law firms, government agencies, and public interest organizations in cities or towns where they may hope to eventually practice law.

Legal education is an eye-opening experience that introduces ideas, institutions, and challenges of which you may never have dreamed. Some of our incoming students know what they want to do when they graduate, but many form those plans during their years at Carolina Law. They pursue work in many arenas, and recent graduates have gone on to protect American music copyrights in Asia and Africa, strengthen the financial foundations of biotech startup companies, represent the victims of forced emigration, structure land use policies, and prosecute computer crime.

PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 2008

Employed 9 Months after Graduation 94.6%
Employed in North Carolina 55.7%
Employed Out-of-State 44.3%
(largest representation in Georgia, New York and Washington, D.C.)

WHERE DO THEY WORK?

Private practice 63%
Public interest/government 16%
Judicial clerkships 10%
Business/corporate counsel 9%
Academia 2%

Positions attained by Carolina Law graduates include:

White House Chief of Staff for George Bush Sr.
Chief Air Force Judge Advocate Recruiting during Operation Desert Storm
North Carolina Supreme Court Justice
Chairman and CEO of Progress Energy
President of Duke Energy
Counsel to the Securities and Exchange Commission
Executive director of N.C. Center on Actual Innocence
Civil and criminal division attorneys with the U.S. and N.C. departments of justice
A Commitment to Public Service

Serving the public is a value embraced at Carolina Law. As the first professional school founded within the oldest public university in the United States, we take pride in the tradition and privilege of serving the public.

Sixteen percent of the Class of 2008 accepted public service jobs after graduation—representing low-income families in legal services offices, prosecuting child abusers, defending indigent clients, advocating for human rights, and working in governmental agencies from Boston to Atlanta. An additional 10 percent accepted judicial trial and appellate clerkships in federal and state courts.

Our student-run Pro Bono Program is one of the most successful in the country. Half of our students participate in pro bono activities, and students in the program have conducted outreach work throughout North Carolina and the nation.

Pro bono service is not the work of a few or of students seeking careers in the public sector. Public service is a value we instill in all our students. Each year, students assist attorneys in providing high-quality, low-cost services to individuals in need.

At Carolina Law, public service is not only a career path—it is a deeply-held, collective value, central to who we are and what we do.

Recent projects include:

- Drafting wills for low-income families in rural North Carolina in a project hosted by the UNC Center for Civil Rights and Legal Aid of North Carolina
- Assisting with family law issues and employment claims in New Orleans every year following Hurricane Katrina, and in collaboration with the Pro Bono Project
- Working on criminal matters for the New Orleans Public Defender Office
- Conducting “red-flag reviews” of loan documents for the North Carolina Home Foreclosure Prevention Project

Third-year student Seema Kakad, left, works with Ms. Viola on completing a will. Students provide pro bono legal services to rural residents of North Carolina in a project developed by the Pro Bono Program, the UNC Center for Civil Rights and Legal Aid of North Carolina. Photo by Donn Young.
Each September, more than 100 Carolina Law students provide volunteer support to local organizations during Heels on the Street Day.
Student Organizations & Journals

More than 55 active student organizations include many that, like the Pro Bono Program, offer valuable practical experience opportunities. The Trial Team and the Holderness Moot Court Bench offer law students a simulated setting in which to learn trial and appellate advocacy skills, as well as legal research and writing skills. Carolina Law students often bring home trophies and medals at every level, attesting to the outstanding accomplishments of our students even in some of the most difficult mooting challenges in the country.

Organizations include:

- American Constitution Society
- Black Law Student Association
- Carolina Public Interest Law Organization
- Christian Legal Society
- Disability Law Organization
- Environmental Law Project
- Holderness Moot Court
- Immigration Law Association
- Innocence Project
- Lambda Law Students Association
- Parents as Law Students
- Sports and Entertainment Law Association
- Trial Law Academy
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

For a complete list of student organizations, visit studentorgs.law.unc.edu
Students can contribute to legal journals and reviews. Students participate in the Joint Journals Competition to earn a position on the editorial board or staff of our nationally respected journals.

Journals include:

- North Carolina Law Review
- Banking Institute Journal
- North Carolina Journal of International Law and Commercial Regulation
- North Carolina Journal of Law and Technology
- First Amendment Law Review

The Banking Institute Journal is published in conjunction with the Banking Institute, an annual continuing legal education program held in Charlotte and hosted by the UNC Center for Banking and Finance. Students have the opportunity to work on the journal and at the institute, which brings together the counsel from leading banking and financial institutions nationwide.
Our Location

**FOUNDED IN CHAPEL HILL IN 1845**

The town of Chapel Hill is called the “Southern Part of Heaven” for a reason – it is a quintessential college community. Beautiful oak trees form a canopy over the well-known downtown Franklin Street. Lively, one-of-a-kind stores, bars and restaurants justify Rolling Stone magazine naming Chapel Hill as one of 10 top “campus scenes that rock.” Chapel Hill was once described by *Sports Illustrated* as “the purest example of a college town that is defined by a university.

Chapel Hill is part of a vibrant and diverse metropolitan community. Raleigh, Durham and the Research Triangle Park offer students a diverse range of legal opportunities, plus an exciting array of neighborhoods, restaurants, cultural events and more. The Raleigh-Cary and Durham ranked #1 and #3, respectively, on Forbes’ 2009 listing of “Best Metro Areas for Business and Careers.”
THE TOWN AND THE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS offer remarkable attractions including the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center, one of the largest of its kind in the nation; the North Carolina Botanical Garden; and the Coker Arboretum. Lovers of the fine arts can enjoy paintings and photographic exhibits at the Ackland Art Museum, listen to world-renowned musicians at Carolina’s Memorial Hall, and watch Broadway-quality theatrical productions at Playmakers Repertory Company.

COLLEGE SPORTS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION are plentiful. Students regularly cheer on the Tar Heels’ nationally ranked teams as they compete in baseball, basketball, football, soccer, field hockey and other sports with rivals such as Duke, Miami, Virginia and the nation’s finest sports teams. For those inclined toward the outdoors, nearby forests, lakes, biking and hiking trails, the Great Smoky Mountains and the Outer Banks—just a few hours away—offer a world of recreational opportunities.
THE RESEARCH TRIANGLE PARK (RTP) boasts one of the highest percentages of Ph.D.s in the nation, and is home to Fortune 500 and innovative emerging companies in the technology, biotech, health and pharmaceuticals, and banking fields. Money.com placed the Raleigh-Durham area third in its 2007 list of areas with America’s Best Jobs.

AS ONE OF THE NATION’S TOP RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, the University offers law students access to a diverse range of research and projects in business, government, journalism, public health, and social work.

THE CLIMATE is appealing, with summers ranging from the mid-60s to the high 80s and winters lasting about two months, with temperatures from the high 20s to the low 50s.

CHAPEL HILL TRANSIT offers free bus service throughout the University, Chapel Hill and Carrboro.

RALEIGH-DURHAM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (RDU) is located 30 minutes east of Chapel Hill and is served by nine major airlines.

AMTRAK is located 15 miles northeast of campus, and there are daily trains along the eastern sea board – with fast access to D.C., New York and Philadelphia.
The decision to attend law school is a significant investment in your future, and I want to assure you that Carolina Law’s admissions office will be with you every step of the way. I’m confident that you’ll find that there are few places better to attend law school than Carolina Law. We offer a top-notch legal education. And when that’s combined with the low cost, location, reputation and the rich tradition of UNC-Chapel Hill, we’re confident that we offer students a great beginning to their legal careers.

I encourage you to visit us, both online at www.law.unc.edu and in person. Get to know us as much as possible. As a lawyer, you will be expected to examine all the evidence; I would advise you to do the same in your search for a law school that is right for you. Only then can you make the best possible decision.

Sincerely,

Michael States
Assistant Dean of Admissions

Jennifer Kott, director of admissions, and Michael States, assistant dean of admissions of Admissions

What you will find at the “Prospective Students” page at www.law.unc.edu:

• Full application process information
• North Carolina residency information
• How to set up a visit
• Directions to Chapel Hill/ UNC School of Law
• And much more!
Frequently Asked Questions

When do you begin accepting applications?
October 1. Due to our rolling admissions process, it’s better to apply sooner than later.

What is your application deadline? Applications must be electronically submitted (or postmarked) by March 1. Applicants who wish to be considered for merit-based scholarships are strongly encouraged to apply by December 31. All decisions will be made by May 1.

I know that the application deadline is March 1, 2010. Does this mean that I must submit all of my application materials by then? No. As long as you have submitted your application by March 1, 2010, your application file can be completed after March 1, 2010.

Do you have an “early decision” program? No.

Is it possible to enroll as a new or transfer student during the spring semester? No.

Do I need to be a North Carolina resident to attend Carolina Law? No. Typically, 70% of the student body at Carolina Law will be North Carolina residents. If you are not claiming to be a North Carolina resident, then you do not need to submit a residency form with your application.

How large is the entering class? Approximately 250 students.

How many applications does Carolina Law receive? Approximately 3,000.

What is your minimum LSAT requirement? We do not have a minimum LSAT requirement. Our median LSAT for our fall 2009 entering class was 162.

What is your minimum GPA requirement? We do not have a minimum GPA requirement. However, typically to be admitted to Carolina Law you need to have good grades—the median GPA for our fall 2009 entering class was 3.60. Of course, when evaluating an applicant’s undergraduate GPA, the Admissions Committee considers many factors, including trends in grades over the course of an academic career, how grades compare to the grades of peers from the same undergraduate institution, the undergraduate institution and/or degree program a student graduates from, and whether a person was employed while in school.

More FAQs at www.law.unc.edu
Financing Your Legal Education

Scholarships and fellowships are available to help students defray the costs of their education, and all accepted students are automatically considered for most of these scholarships.

If you plan to apply for an education loan, we suggest you:

- Analyze your credit history and clear up any errors or discrepancies and work to improve your credit rating if it is poor. Many education loans from private lenders are granted based on having an acceptable credit score.
- Work to pay off as much of your consumer debt as possible. Paying off credit cards before you attend law school is an excellent idea. The financial aid budget at UNC does not include the cost of paying credit cards, car payments, or other consumer debt you might have.

- Visit the following websites:
  - www.law.unc.edu
  - www.studentaid.unc.edu
  - www.lsac.org
  - www.finaid.org
  - www.fafsa.ed.gov
  - www.fastweb.com

IMPORTANT
2009–2010 DATES

October 1
Admissions office begins accepting applications

December 4
Prospective Student Open House

February
Chancellors’ Scholars Weekend

February
Diversity Day

March 1
Application and FAFSA deadlines

April
Admitted Students Day

April
First seat deposit due

June
Second seat deposit due
Charles Kuralt captured the very essence of our University and Chapel Hill when he said:

“What binds us to this place as to no other? It is not the well, or the bell, or the stone walls, or the crisp October nights, or the memory of dogwoods blooming. No, our love for this place is based on the fact that it is, as it was meant to be the university of the people. We have found here something in the air. A kind of generosity. A certain tolerance. A disposition toward freedom of action and inquiry that has made Chapel Hill for thousands of us a moral center of the universe. IN ALL THE AMERICAN STORY, THERE IS NO PLACE QUITE LIKE THIS.”