GW Law offers students a legal education premised on “law in action” in Washington, D.C., the center of the most dynamic legal and policy activity in the United States.

The law school is located just four blocks from the White House, across the street from the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, and close to major international organizations, nonprofit institutions, courts, and government agencies. This proximity allows our students to gain practical experience in externships at these nearby institutions. In addition, our students benefit from a world-renowned faculty, a broad curriculum featuring more than 275 elective courses, strong academic and personal support, and a wide variety of expert lecturers and visitors.

The GW Law experience is dynamic, rigorous, and practical. Simply put, there is no better place to study and participate in the engaging life of the law.
Business and Finance Law at GW

GW Law’s focus on business and finance law, which includes the LLM Program in Business and Finance Law, highlights the law school’s unique strengths: an expert faculty, extensive curriculum, access to the Washington, D.C., and international regulatory communities, and important links to the New York and international financial markets. The program enjoys strong ties to regulators, business leaders, and scholars both domestically and abroad, including in China, Korea, and India.

The law school is located near the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, and dozens of other government authorities, associations, organizations, and think tanks committed to the regulation and study of financial markets. This proximity, coupled with the interest and involvement of our faculty, creates numerous opportunities for learning and networking outside the classroom, including participation in the law school’s Center for Law, Economics & Finance (C-LEAF).

“I looked for a program that would provide me with a comprehensive understanding of the legal components within the global business and financial market, knowledge from which any international business lawyer would highly benefit.” — Naama Davidovich, LLM ’11

“From the first month of the program, there was hardly a day without the opportunity to meet and network with the Washington business community and professionals from other parts of the world.” — Paul Yelzaalem, LLM ’14
Curriculum

GW Law offers an integrated and intensive program for the study of the laws governing economic and financial markets and institutions. The curriculum encompasses everything necessary to master the basics of business and finance law, and beyond.

JD and LLM students may choose from more than 60 courses supporting concentrations in the following areas:

• Bankruptcy and Commercial Law
• Banking and Finance Law
• Corporate Law
• Securities Regulation
• International Business and Trade Law

These concentrations cover each of the major fields of business and finance law and are designed to equip students with both the analytical and practical skills they will need in practice.

Students can create personalized curriculum paths that suit their own interests and career plans. For course descriptions and a full listing of the law school curriculum, including courses related to this field, please view the law school Bulletin on our website at [www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/publications](http://www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/publications).
Faculty

The Business and Finance Law Program boasts an experienced and diverse faculty. The program’s full-time faculty members have written books and articles in the areas of business and finance that number well into the hundreds. In addition, they are recognized and respected by both practitioners and scholars.

Our faculty includes one of the country’s foremost Chinese law specialists, Professor Donald Clarke. Fluent in Mandarin, he has published extensively in both Mandarin and English. His recent research focuses on Chinese legal institutions and the legal issues presented by China’s economic reforms. Professor Lisa Fairfax teaches courses in corporations, securities law, and contracts. She is co-director of the DirectWomen Board Institute, which promotes board diversity by identifying and supporting qualified women attorneys to serve as board candidates. Professor Theresa Gabaldon, who directs the LLM Program in Business and Finance Law, specializes in corporate and securities law, contract law, and professional responsibility. A member of the Hispanic National Bar Association, her primary research interests are in the field of securities regulation. Professor Lawrence Cunningham is the author of a dozen books, including The Essays of Warren Buffett: Lessons for Corporate America. He teaches courses in contracts, corporations, and law and accounting. These noted faculty members, along with their 13 faculty colleagues in this area of practice, form the core of a dynamic, varied, and wide-ranging program.

In addition, the program’s adjunct faculty includes more than 50 individuals who are experienced private practitioners, seasoned general counsel, and distinguished regulators and judges from leading law firms, nonprofit organizations, U.S. government agencies, and international organizations. For more information, please visit www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/faculty.
Other Resources

Center for Law, Economics & Finance (C-LEAF)
A think tank designed as a focal point for the analysis and discussion of legal and public policy issues affecting business and finance in the United States and around the world, C-LEAF has hosted such conference speakers as the Honorable Gary Gensler, former Chairman, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission; the Honorable Sheila C. Bair, former Chairman, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; the Honorable Mary L. Schapiro, JD ’80, 29th Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission; and Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA).

New York Summer Workshop Series
This summer program, which takes place from late May through mid-July in New York City, provides students with exposure to the practical skills they will need to succeed in business and finance law, as well as networking opportunities with GW alumni at law firms, investment banks, and private equity firms.

Small Business and Community Economic Development (SBCED) Clinic
Under faculty supervision, students provide start-up legal assistance to selected area businesses and nonprofit organizations.

Banking and Securities Law Society and Corporate and Business Law Society
In these organizations, students explore contemporary issues in their fields and develop professional contacts.
Field Placement Program

Through the Field Placement Program, more than 600 students each year earn academic credit, receive supervision by leading legal practitioners, and gain practical experience that helps jump-start their careers. Our students find dynamic, hands-on externships at organizations such as U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Small Business Administration, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, World Bank, and International Monetary Fund. For more information, please visit www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/fieldplacement.

Career Development

GW Law’s Center for Professional Development and Career Strategy (Career Center) features one of the largest legal career counseling teams in the country. The Career Center is dedicated to helping students develop personalized career plans. All of our counselors are former practicing attorneys with extensive experience working in both the public and private sectors. As a result, our counselors prepare students to hold clerkships; work at large, medium, and small law firms; serve in government positions; and work in international and domestic business ventures. The Career Center hosts nearly 100 programs annually, including panels and networking opportunities, the fall recruitment program, the spring interviewing program, diversity events and programs, and the public sector recruitment program. For more information, please visit www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/careers.
Contact Information

Co-Directors:
Theresa A. Gabaldon
Lyle T. Alverson Professor of Law;
Director, Academic Programs and Administration, C-LEAF
202.994.6995
tgabaldon@law.gwu.edu

Jeffrey Manns
Associate Professor of Law;
Executive Director, C-LEAF
202.994.4645
jmanns@law.gwu.edu

Admissions Information

JD Admissions
Law School Admissions Office
202.994.7230
admissions@law.gwu.edu

LLM and SJD Admissions
Graduate Programs Office
202.994.0715
For U.S. law school graduates: grad@law.gwu.edu
For non-U.S. law school graduates: igpo@law.gwu.edu

www.law.gwu.edu/gwl/businesslaw

The George Washington University does not unlawfully discriminate in its admissions programs against any person based on that person’s race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression.