

# THIS IS U of T LAW

JD Admissions Guide  
2023-2024



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF LAW





SOUTHERN END OF PHILOSPHER'S WALK THAT FLOWS  
ALONGSIDE THE LAW SCHOOL

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A photograph of a person walking away from the camera on a paved path lined with lush green trees. The path is made of light-colored stones and is bordered by a grassy area on the right. The scene is bright and sunny, with dappled sunlight on the ground. In the background, a fence and more trees are visible.

# **WELCOME TO OUR *REMARKABLE* HOME**

We acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.



**CONNECT WITH  
A *DIVERSE* AND  
SUPPORTIVE  
COMMUNITY**



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## WELCOME TO THE FACULTY OF LAW

At the University of Toronto, we offer one of the world's outstanding legal educations. To be a student at our law school is to join a wonderful community of the finest legal scholars and students, working together in the pursuit of academic and professional excellence.

You will learn from our remarkable faculty, who regularly win major research awards, and are thought leaders in academia, the legal profession and public policy. Studying at U of T Law will give you access to some of North America's most established co-curricular opportunities that will acquaint you with the best of the legal profession both locally and internationally. You might work on criminal appeals pending before the Ontario Court of Appeal or Supreme Court of Canada, help provide advice to legal aid clients in immigration or refugee matters, volunteer for the UN while on an international human rights internship, or help give legal advice to tech start-ups at law firms and incubators across the city.

Our commitment to inclusive excellence and the public interest means that as a student, you will be part of a community with a wide range of knowledge, experiences and perspectives. A legal education at U of T not only teaches legal doctrine, but also equips students with analytical tools that give them an edge in tackling complex real-world problems. Our graduates go on to leadership positions in public interest organizations, politics, business, on the bench and bar, and much more with an education that serves them well in making a transformative impact on our community.

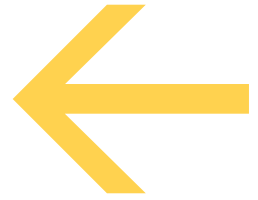
I am excited about the future of our law school. Its faculty and students provide intellectual leadership for and engagement with the rapidly changing world around us. Our Jackman Law Building, which opened in 2016, includes innovative technology and houses many of the programs and centres that make this faculty truly unique. Expanded classrooms and social spaces create dynamic engagement opportunities for students, professors and the community.

I hope that you'll take up our invitation to visit with us as you carefully consider the many options available to you.



**JUTTA BRUNNÉE**  
DEAN, FACULTY OF LAW  
JAMES M. TORY PROFESSOR OF LAW

# BECOME PART OF A COMMUNITY WITH AN INTERNATIONAL REPUTATION FOR *EXCELLENCE*



In 2022, the respected Times Higher Education law school rankings placed us in the top 16 globally, ahead of all other Canadian law schools.

# WHY

## **BELONG TO A GREAT UNIVERSITY**

Reap the benefits of academic, cultural, social, athletic and recreational opportunities at one of the world's foremost research-intensive universities. Immerse yourself in a rigorous learning environment that fostered 14 Supreme Court justices, four Canadian Prime Ministers, and five Nobel Prize laureates. U of T continues to make the world a better place through leadership, inquiry, discovery and innovation.



## **INTERDISCIPLINARY ADVANTAGE**

Take advantage of countless opportunities to engage with U of T's other top-ranked graduate faculties and schools such as its Rotman School of Management, Faculty of Medicine, Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work, Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy, etc. Explore the interdisciplinary dimensions of the law through workshops and conferences featuring top academics and experts from around the world.





## LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION

At U of T Law, you are minutes away from the provincial legislature, Ministry of the Attorney General law offices, several court houses including the Ontario Court of Appeal, dozens of legal aid offices, and over 3,000 law firms, including Canada's largest national and international firms.

# U of T?

## LIVE IN A GREAT CITY

Revel in the myriad of sights, sounds, and tastes to discover in one of the world's most multicultural cities. Here, you can attend many festivals, check out the vibrant arts, culture, entertainment and professional sports scenes and discover your inner foodie. With a population smaller than New York City but larger than Chicago, Toronto has it all.

The Faculty of Law is steps away from Museum Station where you can hop on the subway to get around this great city in just minutes. Toronto is known for its 140 distinctive neighbourhoods. Our students' local favourites – Yorkville, Kensington Market and Queen West – are all within easy walking distance of the campus.



Toronto's amazing festivals include OVO and Unity (hip-hop); VELD and Dreams (EDM), Fringe and Summer-Works (theatre, art and dance); TIFF (film); Maker and Vector (technology and new media); Fan Expo and Comicon (comics, sci-fi, horror, anime and gaming).





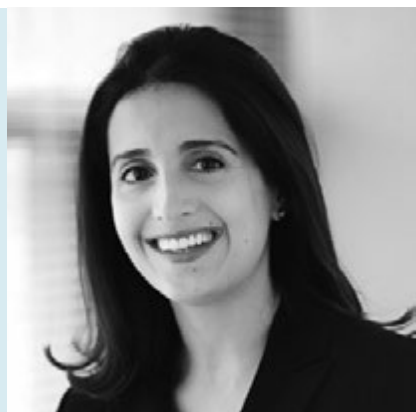
### DOUGLAS SANDERSON

BA (SIMON FRASER),  
JD (TORONTO), LLM (COLUMBIA)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Aboriginal Law,  
Canadian Constitutional Law, Legal  
Theory, Political Philosophy and Theory,  
Property Law

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Davisville

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Charcuterie



### ANVER EMON

BA (BERKELEY), JD (UCLA), MA (TEXAS),  
LLM (YALE), PHD (UCLA), JSD (YALE)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Critical Legal  
Theory, International Human Rights Law,  
Islamic Law, Law and Religion, Legal  
History, Legal Theory, Tort Law and  
Tort Theory

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:**  
Danforth or Little India

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Juggles moderately well



### CHRISTOPHER ESSERT

BA (McGILL), JD (TORONTO), LLM, JSD (YALE)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Equality and  
Anti-Discrimination Law, Property Law,  
Intellectual Property Law, Legal Theory,  
Political Philosophy and Theory

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Parkdale

**PERSONAL PASSION:** Pizza



### TRUDO LEMMENS

CAND. JUR. & LIC. JUR. (K.U. LEUVEN),  
LLM & DCL (McGILL)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Health Law and  
Bioethics, Biotechnology & Human Rights,  
Assisted Human Reproduction, Mental  
Health Law

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Kensington  
Market to hang out, Cabbagetown to live

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Relatively fast cycling in  
the city (daily) and on country-roads, cooking



### 50+ FULL-TIME FACULTY 11:1 STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

In addition to our homegrown talent, we recruit our faculty from peer institutions at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, Oxford, Melbourne and other top global law schools.



## YASMIN DAWOOD

BA (TORONTO), JD (COLUMBIA),  
MA (CHICAGO), PHD (CHICAGO)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Canadian Constitutional Law, Charter of Rights, Comparative Constitutional Law, Election Law, Judicial Decision-Making, Legal Theory, Political Philosophy and Theory

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Annex

**HOBBY:** Growing orchids



## ABDI AIDID

BA (TORONTO), JD (YALE), LL.M (TORONTO)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Tort Law, Legal Procedure, Law & Technology

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Downsview/Black Creek

**HOBBIES:** Playing basketball with friends and soccer with my 3 year old child



## GILLIAN HADFIELD

BAH (QUEEN'S), JD, MA & PHD (STANFORD)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Artificial Intelligence Governance, Legal & Dispute Resolution, Contract Law, Legal Process & Theory, Economic Analysis of Law

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Cabbagetown

**HOBBIES:** Cooking (especially East Indian cuisine), cocktails and canoe trips



## BRENDA COSSMAN

BA (QUEEN'S), LL.B (TORONTO), LL.M (HARVARD), FELLOW OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Family Law, Legal Regulation of Sexuality, Law and Film

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Wychwood Park

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Cooking like a Jewish grandmother



## ANNA SU

BA (ATENEO DE MANILA), JD (ATENEO DE MANILA), LL.M, SJD (HARVARD)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** History of Human Rights, Law and Religion, Comparative Constitutional Law, Political Theory, Technology and the Law

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Queen West

**HOBBIES:** Playing guitar, crashing drones, cooking

## EXPERIENCE EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND RESEARCH

The Faculty of Law's acclaimed faculty will inspire your learning throughout your degree. Our faculty members win major teaching and research awards, publish in prominent scholarly journals, address global policymakers and advise Canadian governments at all levels on the most pressing issues facing society today. From a range of backgrounds, law schools, countries and perspectives, our faculty provide you with insights into cutting-edge legal, social, economic and political issues to keep you at the top of your field.

“

Year after year, with each new summer student class, I'm deeply impressed with the calibre of U of T students who are exceptionally bright, kind, proactive, strategic-minded team players that enrich the fabric of firms like Torys. The class is increasingly reflective of the rich diversity of society at large which gives me great pride and optimism for the future of the Canadian legal profession.

**GEORGIA BROWN** | HBA (WESTERN) 2010, JD (TORONTO) 2013  
DIRECTOR, LEGAL RECRUITMENT & STUDENT DEVELOPMENT,  
TORYS LLP

Georgia is responsible for the recruitment, onboarding and integration of summer and articling students and leads Torys' student program in Toronto and Montreal. She oversees the lateral recruitment of associates, and is a member of the firm's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee.

Prior to her role at Torys, Georgia practiced as a securities and corporate associate in both Toronto and New York. She was also a member of the growth team and internal legal counsel for *onefinestay*, an international vacation rental marketplace.





## TOP STUDENTS ATTRACT TOP EMPLOYERS

We provide top-notch support to help you define and launch your career, whether your aspirations are in government, academia, social justice, private practice, business or the arts.

Our Career Development Office (CDO) provides extensive career planning and professional development workshops, résumé and cover letter review, interview preparation and access to postings for summer, articling and post-graduation jobs.

## TOP RECRUITERS FROM THE MAJOR LEGAL MARKETS COME ON CAMPUS TO HIRE OUR STUDENTS

VANCOUVER  
CALGARY  
TORONTO  
OTTAWA  
NEW YORK



2021-2022  
CDO SUPPORTS

**168**  
Articling job  
postings

**266**  
Combined  
first and  
second year  
summer  
job postings

**147**  
Career  
workshops,  
information  
sessions,  
events and  
firm tours  
facilitated

**1231**  
Counselling  
appointments  
including  
individual  
consultations,  
mock  
interviews,  
résumé and  
cover letter  
reviews

“

At U of T Law, I had life-changing opportunities to meet interesting and inspiring speakers, professors, and friends, work at leading law firms in Toronto, New York, and London UK, plus support causes that are important to me through leadership in organizations like BLSA Canada and the U of T Black Future Lawyers program.

**JOSH LOKKO** | BA (WESTERN) 2016, JD/MBA (TORONTO) 2020

NATIONAL PRESIDENT, BLACK LAW STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF CANADA 2019-2020

ASSOCIATE, SHEARMAN & STERLING LLP (TORONTO) 2021-2022

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, GLOBAL EQUITY DERIVATIVES, SCOTIABANK



ARTICLING AND  
EMPLOYMENT

Our students’ unmatched success in the  
job market tells our story best.

2022 JD GRADUATES

Articling Positions

- 212 JD graduates
- 191 Full-time articling, clerkship and  
New York associate positions
  - 8 Seeking articling positions
  - 5 Non-practicing careers, graduate  
studies, deferring articles,  
or Law Practice Program
  - 8 Unreported

Clerking positions at appellate  
and trial courts in Canada

Supreme Court of Canada  
Federal Courts  
Provincial Courts of Appeal  
Provincial Superior Courts  
Tax Court of Canada

2022 SUMMER JOBS FOR  
STUDENTS IN EARLY YEARS

Second Year Students

- 231 Students completed  
2nd year
- 210 Secured summer jobs  
(law-related and other)
- 19 Unreported

First Year Students

- 31 Positions at private prac-  
tice firms (self-reported)
- 5 Government and  
clerkship positions
- 66 Positions in clinics,  
fellowships, research  
assistantships, and  
in-house at U of T Law

WE INVEST IN YOU

U of T Law hires over 100 students in paid summer  
jobs through our Research Assistant Program and  
Student Employment Program.



TOP 10  
ARTICLING  
PRACTICE  
AREAS

- 1 Full-service law firms
- 2 Business Law
- 3 Government & Public  
Interest Law
- 4 Litigation
- 5 Labour & Employment Law
- 6 Family Law
- 7 Tax Law
- 8 Intellectual Property Law
- 9 Criminal Law
- 10 Real Estate Law

WHERE  
OUR  
STUDENTS  
ARTICLE

- 70% Greater  
Toronto Area
- 18% New York City
- 7% Alberta &  
British  
Columbia
- 4% Ottawa
- 1% Elsewhere

Page statistics as of July 2022.  
Percentages are rounded.



Read more about  
Warda from  
Precedent Magazine

“

After practicing abroad, I returned home to Canada, in part, to reciprocate the support received as a student from professors and staff at U of T Law, where I have since been given the opportunity to teach, mentor and advocate. The U of T Law community has been incredibly supportive of the launch of **Landings**, the women-led, refugee, immigration and human rights law firm, that I co-founded with alumna Erin Simpson and Jacqueline Swaisland (Queen's).

**WARDA SHAZADI MEIGHEN** | BAH (TORONTO) 2006,  
MSC (OXFORD) 2015, JD (TORONTO) 2009



Warda Shazadi Meighen is recognized as a leading lawyer in Canada under 40. For several years, she has been an adjunct professor of refugee law at U of T. She is the Canada Co-Chair of the International Justice Circle at Human Rights Watch, and sits on the executive committee of Human Rights Watch Canada and the Canadian Association for Refugee Lawyers.



## CONNECTING YOU TO LEADERS

U of T Law alumni are some of the top lawyers and leaders in Canada and around the world. Our alumni network, more than 11,000 strong, is an incredible resource both during law school and after graduation.

### ALUMNI MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Get matched with an experienced lawyer who is practicing in an area of law that you are keen to learn about. Mentors provide invaluable guidance on how to navigate the profession and create contacts that will help your career development.

### LAWYERS DOING COOL THINGS WITH THEIR LAW DEGREES

This popular series features lunch-time conversations with alumni about their cool jobs (both inside and outside the profession), the important issues they are tackling, and how their law degrees got them there. Previous speakers have been leaders in entertainment law, tech start ups, health law, cannabis law, sports law, military law, and international human rights.

## FROM STELLAR STUDENTS TO SUCCESSFUL LAWYERS

### LEADERSHIP SKILLS PROGRAM (LSP)

Succeeding in the legal profession requires outstanding academic skills and the ability to effectively communicate ideas, work with diverse colleagues, and manage conflict—all in a highly complex and sophisticated work environment.

Our LSP provides opportunities for you to work with leadership experts to develop the skills you need to transition from awesome student to successful lawyer.

## ROTMAN@LAW

A partnership between U of T Law and the Rotman School of Management, Rotman@Law allows you to take online pre-MBA courses that cover the foundations of accounting, finance and statistics. You will build your business fluency, knowledge and skillset before you enter the profession.

### PEER MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

At the start of your first year you'll be matched with an upper-year student mentor who will provide the “inside scoop” about making your first year a success, from academic support to co-curricular and social activities.

### SAMPLE LSP WORKSHOPS

COMMUNICATING IDEAS

CONFLICT MANAGEMENT

EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

NETWORKING AND  
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

TEAM WORK

# THIS IS U OF T LAW

## EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY AT U OF T LAW

We strive to ensure that our community is welcoming, accessible and inclusive. Our vision is a legal profession that fully reflects the diversity of our society.







# Admissions

For full details on our JD admission policies, requirements and application procedures, visit [law.utoronto.ca/admissions](http://law.utoronto.ca/admissions)

## SELECTION

Our admissions process is designed to identify exceptional students who bring a broad set of life experiences to the study of law.

We consider all aspects of your application: academic, intellectual and personal.

The assessment is based two-thirds on the academic record and LSAT, and one-third on personal information. Our “whole person review” includes at least three readers, including faculty, staff and students. We have no quotas of any kind. We seek outstanding candidates from a wide variety of institutions, who come from across Canada and the world, of a variety of ages, with varied life experiences. This careful process allows us to assemble a vibrant and inclusive class where you will flourish.

## JD ADMISSION CATEGORIES

*General* – the majority of applicants.

*Indigenous* – Indigenous people, including those of First Nations (status and non-status), Métis and Inuit heritage, whose representation in the legal profession we strive to increase.

*Mature* – those who will have at least five complete years of non-academic experience (outside of full-time study) by September 2022.

## BLACK STUDENT APPLICATION PROCESS (BSAP)

Regardless of admission category, Black candidates can opt to apply to this stream, which aims to increase Black law student representation at U of T Law.

BSAP applicants will have their personal profiles reviewed by members of the Black community, including our staff, students, faculty and alumni.

You must meet the same LSAT and academic requirements for admission that we seek from all candidates. BSAP does not have a designated quota for admission.

To be considered for BSAP, apply to a JD program by our standard deadlines and procedures, and also select the BSAP option in the *School Submissions* section of the application form.

## First-Year Admission Requirements

### ACADEMIC RECORD & GPA

By the end of May 2023, you will have successfully completed at least a three-year undergraduate degree at a recognized institution.

No particular courses are recommended. Almost all of our students have completed a four-year undergraduate university degree. Over the last decade, all of the admitted Mature applicants had some university education.

Last year's entering class had a 3.88 out of 4.0 median GPA on their best three years of full-time undergraduate study.

### LSAT: LAW SCHOOL ADMISSION TEST

For entry in August 2023, we accept scores from standard and Flex tests taken from June 2018 to January 2023 inclusive. Last year's entering class had a median LSAT score of 168 (95th percentile).

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

This is your opportunity to introduce yourself to the selection committee, help it assess your likelihood of success at the Faculty of Law and predict what your contributions to the class will be. Try to demonstrate how your academics, experience (work and personal) and career goals make you an excellent fit for the program.

### OPTIONAL ADDITIONAL ESSAY

You may provide further personal information from a choice of topics we suggest, such as a meaningful intellectual experience, a vision of your future goals, obstacles to achievement, or how your identity, background and experiences will contribute to the diversity of the law school.

### BSAP ESSAY

Black Student Application Process candidates must submit the standard admission materials plus an essay highlighting why they chose the BSAP stream.

### RÉSUMÉS

Required for Mature applicants only.

### INTERVIEWS, REFERENCES, GRE, GMAT, TOEFL, IELTS

These are neither required nor requested.

# MARK YOUR CALENDAR



## AUGUST 18, 2022

JD Applications open online for entry in 2023

## AUGUST 12-13, 2022

LSAT test dates

## SEPTEMBER 9-10, 2022

LSAT test dates

## SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2022

U of T Law application information sessions  
[law.utoronto.ca/admissionevents](http://law.utoronto.ca/admissionevents)

## SEPTEMBER ONWARD

U of T Law campus tours\*  
[law.utoronto.ca/campustour](http://law.utoronto.ca/campustour)

## OCTOBER 14-15, 2022

LSAT test dates

## NOVEMBER 1, 2023

JD Year 1 application deadline

## NOVEMBER 11-12, 2022

LSAT test dates

## DECEMBER 2022 - MARCH 2023

JD Year 1 offers of admission made.  
Most offers are issued by mid-February.

## JANUARY 13-14, 2023

LSAT test dates (last acceptable test for 2023 JD Year 1 admission)

## FEBRUARY 24, 2023\*\*

Welcome Day for students offered admission

## APRIL 1, 2023

Deadline for acceptance of JD Year 1 offers of admission made by April 1

## JUNE 1, 2023

UofT Law JD Financial Aid application deadline

## AUGUST 21, 2023\*\*

Start of JD Year 1 classes

\* Subject to public health directives

\*\* Tentative date

LSAT dates for Canada & USA are listed



## How to Apply

[www.ouac.on.ca/olsas](http://www.ouac.on.ca/olsas)

Obtain, submit and pay for the application online with the Ontario Law School Application Service (OLSAS), operated by the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC).

Submit all required documents directly to OLSAS, as per the instructions on its website.

For JD combined degree programs, apply to each program separately according to its own admission requirements and application procedures.

## Timing of Admission Decisions, Key Dates

Your file is considered complete when all required documents have been submitted to OLSAS, and are then forwarded to us by OLSAS for assessment.

For first year applicants, the earliest that we usually review any files, whether complete or incomplete, will be within a week after the close of the November 1 application deadline.

As much as possible, we try to review completed files quickly. For first year applicants, we expect to make three main rounds of offers of admission. The first round occurs in early December, the second round in late January to early February, and the final round in mid-March. Most offers are issued by mid-February.



OUR 2022 FIRST YEAR  
(1L) CLASS

210 STUDENTS

56% WOMEN

3% MATURE STUDENTS

(FIVE OR MORE YEARS OF NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE)

41% STUDENTS OF COLOUR

19% LGBTQ+ STUDENTS

17% WITH DISABILITIES/HEALTH CONDITIONS



20-38 AGE  
RANGE OF  
STUDENTS  
24 AVERAGE  
AGE OF  
STUDENTS

AGE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

86% FIRST IN FAMILY TO  
ATTEND LAW SCHOOL

3% FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND  
UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE

32% BORN OUTSIDE  
OF CANADA

58% PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) BORN  
OUTSIDE CANADA

9% GREW UP IN A  
RURAL AREA

42% IDENTIFY WITH  
A RELIGION

44 UNDERGRADUATE  
INSTITUTIONS  
REPRESENTED

3.88 MEDIAN GPA OUT OF 4.0 ON  
THE BEST THREE FULL-TIME  
UNDERGRADUATE YEARS

168 MEDIAN LSAT  
SCORE, 95<sup>TH</sup>  
PERCENTILE

17% Students with graduate  
education



TOP 5  
COMBINED  
PROGRAMS

1. PUBLIC POLICY (MPP)
2. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)
3. SOCIAL WORK (MSW)
4. ENGLISH (MA)
5. PHILOSOPHY (PHD)

### IT'S MORE ENJOYABLE TO

56% **READ THE BOOK**

44% **WATCH THE MOVIE**



### BEST MUSIC STREAMING

67% **SPOTIFY**

21% **APPLE MUSIC**

6% **YOU TUBE MUSIC**

1% **OTHER**

5% **NONE**

### RECOMMENDED PODCASTS

1. **SERIAL**

2. **ANYTHING GOES**

3. **THE DAILY**

4. **CRIME JUNKIE**

5. **STUFF YOU SHOULD KNOW**

## TOP 5 REASONS FOR CHOOSING UofT LAW

High academic  
quality & location

Calibre of  
students & faculty

Career  
opportunities

Variety of  
courses & clinics

Student support  
& financial aid

### MOST ADMIRED LIVING CANADIANS

1. **CHRIS HADFIELD**

2. **SANDRA OH**

3. **DAVID SUZUKI**

4. **MARGARET ATWOOD**

5. **ROMÉO DALLAIRE**

6. **DRAKE**

7. **JODY WILSON-RAYBOLD**



### PRIOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

18% **CRIMINOLOGY/GENDER STUDIES/  
PSYCHOLOGY/SOCIAL SCIENCES**

18% **POLITICAL SCIENCE/INTERNATIONAL STUDIES**

17% **BUSINESS/ECONOMICS**

16% **ENGINEERING/MATH/SCIENCE**

14% **CLASSICS/HISTORY/PHILOSOPHY/RELIGION**

8% **ENGLISH/LINGUISTICS/COMMUNICATIONS**

8% **INTERDISCIPLINARY/OTHER**

1% **VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS**

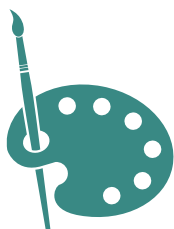
**64%** GRADUATED FROM  
ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES

**36%** GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITIES IN THE  
REST OF CANADA AND INTERNATIONALLY



### SAMPLE PRE-LAW SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

ART HISTORY TEACHER  
BRIDGE ENGINEER  
CHIROPRACTOR  
IMMIGRATION CONSULTANT  
NON-PROFIT FUNDRAISER  
RABBI  
SPORTS MEDICINE TRAINER  
SUPPLY CHAIN PLANNER  
TRAIN CONDUCTOR  
ZOO EDUCATOR



**18%**



### ARE BILINGUAL IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

### TOP 10 LEGAL AREAS OF INTEREST ON ENTRY

BUSINESS/COMMERCIAL  
CONSTITUTIONAL  
CRIMINAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
FAMILY LAW  
HEALTH  
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INNOVATION  
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS  
LITIGATION/DISPUTE SETTLEMENT  
SOCIAL JUSTICE



## JOIN A STUDENT BODY THAT RANKS AMONG THE STRONGEST IN NORTH AMERICA

At U of T Law, Meaza has found a strong support network. For 2022-2023, she contributes to the law school community through her role as the leader of our law student government.

Students' Law Society  
(President; former 2L representative)

Asper Center Police Accountability Guide  
(Working Group Leader)

Ontario Bar Association Education Law  
Executive (Student Representative)

International Human Rights Program,  
Women's Human Rights Resources  
(Legal Researcher)

Justice for Children and Youth  
(Asper Center Summer Fellow)

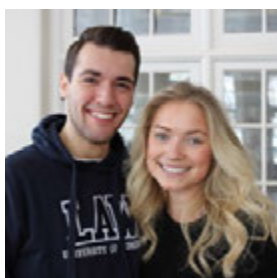
McCarthyTétrault LLP  
(Summer Associate)



My U of T Law experience has been all about building connections in the student community. It has been a pleasure to work with and learn alongside such a forward-thinking and passionate cohort of students. The Faculty has assembled some of the most creative, brilliant and kind colleagues that I enjoy interacting with. Through formal mentorship to study groups and everything in between, my legal education has been enriched immensely by the vibrant student community. From among the many advantages of attending U of T law, the quality of students remains unmatched.

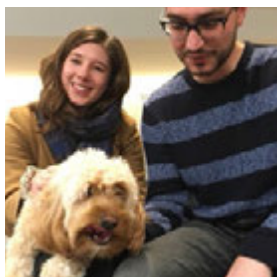
**MEAZA DAMTE 3L | BA (CALGARY) 2020**





## JOIN IN, EVERYONE IS WELCOME

What truly engages you? Culture, recreation, politics, media, performance, social issues, professional development or academic debates? Explore your passion and discover new interests by getting involved in the huge range of student clubs and activities that reflect the diversity and strength of our student body.



## 55+ STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS

Our student clubs and student government host prominent speakers, put on plays, tackle social issues, and hold events that connect with the community.

Aboriginal Law Society  
AI and Law Club  
Alternative Dispute Resolution Society  
Artists' Legal Advice Services  
Asia Law Society  
Athletics Association  
Black Law Students' Association  
Business Law Society  
Canadian Assoc. of Refugee Lawyers  
Cannabis Law Club  
Career Development Student Advisory Committee  
Charity Law Interest Group  
China Law Project  
Christian Legal Fellowship  
Correctional Law Society  
Criminal Law Students' Association  
Disabled Law Students' Association  
Environmental Law Club  
Feminist Law Students' Association  
First Generation Network

Food Law and Policy Society  
Forensic Science Group  
Health and Wellness Student Advisory Committee  
Health Law Club  
In Vino Veritas - Wine Tasting Club  
Indigenous Law Journal  
Indigenous Law Students' Association  
Insurance Law Society  
International Law Society  
JD/MBA Students' Association  
Jewish Law Students' Association  
Journal of Law & Equality  
Labour & Employment Law Society  
Law and Politics Club  
Law Ball  
Law Film Society  
Law Follies  
Law Games  
Law Poets Society  
Legal Hackers

Litigation Association  
Muslim Law Students' Association  
Out in Law  
Peer Mentorship Program  
Philosophy in Law Association  
Privacy & Cybersecurity Law Group  
Runnymede Society  
South Asian Law Students' Association  
SPINLAW  
Sports and Entertainment Law Society  
Students' Law Society  
Supreme Chords (a capella group)  
Tax Law Society  
Technology and Intellectual Property Society  
Ultra Vires Student Newspaper  
U of T Animal Justice  
U of T Faculty of Law Review  
U of T Faculty of Law Union  
Venture Capital Law Society  
Women and the Law



# 1L



Our first year (1L) program encourages you to develop close connections with your peers and professors. We will provide you with a deep and rigorous legal foundation rooted in diverse academic views about law and legal methodology.

## **WELLNESS & ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

Let's be honest—law school is amazing but it also can be challenging at times.

Like other professional programs, law school is a rigorous academic and co-curricular program that demands a lot from students. That's why we offer a broad range of student supports to make sure that you get the most out of your law school experience.

Through tutoring programs, peer and alumni mentoring programs, resilience coaching, and dedicated, in-house mental health counselling, we support you to thrive in law school and your future career.





## LEGAL METHODS INTENSIVE

One of the central goals of our JD Program is to train you to “think like a lawyer.” The first year begins with a legal methods intensive course delivered during the last two weeks in August. The course introduces you to the foundational information and reasoning needed to make the most of the JD program from the minute you set foot in your first substantive class in September.

## LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING

The work product of lawyers consists of words. These words must be carefully selected based on deep understanding and research. In this course, legal research and writing experts guide you through a series of carefully designed research and writing assignments to equip you to produce well-crafted legal text.

## SUBSTANTIVE LAW COURSES

Every student takes one of the principal first year courses in a year-long small group of 16 students. The remaining six substantive law classes are taught in larger groups over a single term (three per term).

## NEW! INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE LAW

This pair of courses aims to address the range of considerations arising out of past and present interactions between Indigenous peoples and the Canadian legal system.

## 1L CORE COURSES

LEGAL METHODS  
LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW  
CONTRACT LAW  
CRIMINAL LAW  
INDIGENOUS PEOPLES  
AND THE LAW *(TWO PARTS)*  
PROPERTY LAW  
TORT LAW



**YOUR UPPER YEARS:  
CHART YOUR PATH**

Building on the foundation of your 1L year, in the upper years you have the freedom to shape your studies to suit your interests and professional goals. Choose from over 180 courses that span the spectrum of legal practice and scholarship.

**FOCUS ON ONE  
OR SEVERAL AREAS,  
INCLUDING:**

Aboriginal Law	Environmental Law and Natural Resources	Law and Development
Academic Research and Writing	Family Law and Children	Legal Ethics and Professionalism
Administrative and Regulatory Law	Health Law	Legal Theory/ Interdisciplinary Legal Studies
Business Law	Intellectual Property and Innovation Law	Private Law
Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution	International, Comparative and Transnational Law	Social Justice and Equality
Constitutional Law	Judges and Courts	Taxation Law
Criminal Law and Procedure	Labour Law	

Augment your JD studies with courses offered by other academic units at U of T. Complete a collaborative program or earn an additional certificate or a graduate degree.

**CERTIFICATES**

Aboriginal Legal Studies  
Environmental Studies  
Sexual Diversity & Gender Studies

**COLLABORATIVE  
PROGRAM**

Jewish Studies

**COMBINED DEGREE  
PROGRAMS**

JD/Master of Business Administration  
JD/Master of Global Affairs  
JD/Master of Information  
JD/Master of Public Policy  
JD/Master of Social Work  
JD/MA in Criminology  
JD/MA in Economics  
JD/MA in English  
JD/MA in European & Russian Affairs  
JD/PhD in Criminology  
JD/PhD in Economics  
JD/PhD in Philosophy  
JD/PhD in Political Science

**JANUARY  
INTERSESSION**

U of T Law attracts leading visiting academics from the world’s top law schools.

Held in early January, the intersession offers intensive, week-long courses taught by visiting professors offering diverse perspectives on a huge range of legal topics.

“

I deliberated for two years before quitting my job as a tax manager to return to school. As a mother of two young children, I was afraid that I would not be able to commit fully to law school. However, after discussions with some of the most reputable professors in their field and surrounding myself with inspiring peers, I can say with confidence that I'll never regret my decision to attend U of T Law.

**XUE GAO 2L** | BCOM (TORONTO) 2015, CPA 2019  
1L VOLUNTEER, FAMILY LAW, DOWNTOWN LEGAL SERVICES  
1L SUMMER RESEARCH ASSISTANT, U OF T LAW  
1L SUMMER STUDENT, TORYS LLP (CALGARY)



## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Making the connection between the classroom and real-life lawyering will prepare you for practice in whatever area you choose.

At U of T Law the range of experiential opportunities is impressive. You can take a course in trial advocacy, compete in an intellectual property moot, immerse yourself in an international human rights clinic, do an externship with the municipal government, or volunteer at Pro Bono Students Canada. The possibilities are endless.

### IN-HOUSE CLINICS

Exclusive to our law students, U of T Law houses several legal clinics that offer academic credit in part-time, half-time and intensive, full-time formats. Students can also volunteer. Our clinics are led by full-time directors who are highly-regarded experts in their fields.

### THE DAVID ASPER CENTRE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS

The Asper Centre focuses on advocacy, research and education about Canadian constitutional rights. Students work on leading constitutional and Charter rights cases at the highest courts in Canada and learn how to advocate for Charter-based law reform.

### THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAM (IHRP)

The IHRP enhances the legal protection of existing and emerging international human rights obligations

## SUPERB CLINICAL EDUCATION, EXCLUSIVE TO U OF T LAW STUDENTS

CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS  
CRIMINAL LAW  
EMPLOYMENT LAW  
FAMILY LAW  
IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEE LAW  
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS  
INVESTOR PROTECTION RIGHTS  
TENANT HOUSING RIGHTS  
UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

through advocacy, knowledge-exchange, and capacity-building initiatives. Students acquire the skills, knowledge and professional network to become effective human rights advocates.

### DOWNTOWN LEGAL SERVICES (DLS)

DLS is the law school's community legal clinic. Students assist clients who are experiencing legal problems in a number of high priority areas of law including criminal, employment, family, housing, refugee and immigration and university affairs. In their work at DLS, students critically examine the intersections of law and social inequality while developing the professionalism and ethical literacy that is essential to practicing law.

### INVESTOR PROTECTION CLINIC (IPC)

The U of T IPC provides free legal services and public legal education to members of vulnerable communities who are at risk of suffering harm, or may have suffered harm, relating to their investments. Law students assist clients with legal claims, develop and deliver public legal education, and collaborate with regulators and key stakeholders on policy projects and litigation.





# FUTURE OF LAW

## FUTURE OF LAW LAB

The U of T Law Future of Law Lab explores the intersections between technology, entrepreneurship and innovation.

Discover how artificial intelligence and machine learning algorithms are changing the practice of law. Discuss the many impacts of technology on society. Learn about design-thinking concepts as you formulate solutions to the most pressing issues affecting access to justice.

You'll have the opportunity to participate in workshops that simulate real world problems, join our legal design labs, and collaborate with students from various faculties during our annual Hack-a-Thon competition.

There are also a host of practical experiences available including our Innovation & Entrepreneurship externship, research groups, and summer opportunities with start-up incubators and legal technology companies.

# MAKING AN IMPACT

## COMMUNITY EXTERNSHIPS

In addition to our in-house clinics, you can participate in clinical placements for academic credit at community clinics and organizations. U of T Law offers placements with 20 externship partners.

## EXTERNSHIP CLINICS AND ORGANIZATIONS

- Aboriginal Legal Services clinic
- Advancing the Right to Housing externship
- Advocates for Injured Workers clinic
- Appellate Criminal Litigation externship
- Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic
- Black Legal Action Centre externship
- Board Governance externship
- City of Toronto externship
- Community Justice Collective externship
- Environmental Law externship
- Health Justice Initiative clinic at St. Michael's Hospital
- Health Law, Innovation and Policy Lab at Mount Sinai Hospital
- Innocence Canada externship
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship externship
- Legislative Assembly Statutory Interpretation externship
- Media Law - Investigative Journalism Bureau/Toronto Star externship
- Mergers and Acquisitions Litigation externship
- Ontario Human Rights Commission externship
- Pro Bono Ontario Litigation externship
- Structural Genomics Consortium externship

## PRO BONO STUDENTS CANADA (PBSC)

Founded by U of T Law in 1996, PBSC is the largest pro bono organization in Canada with chapters in 22 law schools. PBSC's volunteer students and supervising lawyers partner with community organizations to provide free legal support to people facing barriers to justice. This includes legal research, creating public legal education resources, and supporting clients and self-represented litigants through specialized clinics, in multiple areas of law. U of T Law students have the unique opportunity to participate in two of PBSC's award winning initiatives, the Family Justice Centre and the Indigenous Human Rights Program.

# GO GLOBAL: STUDY, RESEARCH, WORK

Spend a semester at top law schools on academic exchange in some of the world's best cities.

- |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| AUCKLAND  | AMSTERDAM |
| SYDNEY    | BRUSSELS  |
| BEIJING   | LYON      |
| HONG KONG | PARIS     |
| SINGAPORE | VIENNA    |
| TEL AVIV  | BUDAPEST  |
| DUBLIN    | OSLO      |
| GLASGOW   | UPPSALA   |
| LONDON    |           |

## SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

U of T Law offers dozens of paid summer internships with public interest and community organizations. For example, students can spend the summer with the United Nations in Geneva, a grass-roots human rights organization in Kenya, an Indigenous Band Council in Northern Ontario, a Toronto-based community advocacy organization, or a Chinese law firm in Shanghai.

## INDIGENOUS INITIATIVES OFFICE (IIO)

In accordance with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, Indigenous and non-Indigenous students engage with Indigenous Elders, scholars, activists and professionals in classes and activities at the faculty, in the courts and in the community.

You can compete in the Kawaskimhon Moot, work on the student-run Indigenous Law Journal, and have opportunities to learn about Indigenous and Aboriginal law inside and outside the classroom.

You can also gain practical experience by participating in our clinical program with Aboriginal Legal Services, and deepen your academic experience with the Certificate in Aboriginal Legal Studies.

“

Tawnshi! I'm Métis Cree from Treaty 6 territory traditional lands in Alberta. At my 1L summer job with LAWS, I worked to research and recommend the mission, vision, and design of a new Access to Law Program that will offer outreach, engagement, and support to Indigenous students during four critical periods: elementary school, high school, undergraduate school, and the law school application process.

**BRIANNA MORRISON** 2L JD/MBA | BA (ALBERTA) 2021  
1L REPRESENTATIVE, INDIGENOUS LAW STUDENTS' ASSOC.  
CO-EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, INDIGENOUS LAW JOURNAL  
CO-HOST, INDIGENOUS HUMAN RIGHTS PODCAST, PBSC  
1L SUMMER STUDENT, LAW IN ACTION WITHIN SCHOOLS





ALL FIGURES LISTED ARE IN  
CANADIAN CURRENCY, ROUNDED  
TO THE NEAREST \$100

## FEES & ESTIMATED EXPENSES

When assessing financial aid applications, the same budget is applied to all eligible domestic students from 2022-2023.

Ontario resident tuition: **\$33,040**

Non-Ontario resident tuition: **\$34,030**

Books and supplies: **\$1,100**

Incidental and ancillary fees: **\$1,800**

Room and board (*if not at home*): **\$13,300**

Personal expenses: **\$2,400**

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT THAT MAKES EVERYTHING POSSIBLE

Choosing to go to law school is a significant and rewarding investment in your life. If you are offered admission, tuition should not be a barrier to your education or your career. The Faculty of Law's approach to financial aid is different than most law schools. With less than a handful of merit scholarships available, we apply an equitable and transparent approach to giving aid, where the students with the greatest financial need receive the most assistance.

### POST-GRADUATION DEBT REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The rumours are true: most law students in North America graduate with some debt. They also go on to fulfilling positions in a range of fields. Many of our students choose to dedicate themselves to legal aid clinics or specialty law firms that offer relatively lower-paying salaries. To support their career choices, we assist these students with the repayment of their eligible law school debt for up to ten years after graduation. Ours is the only program of its kind in Canada.

## NO GUESSING GET AN INSTANT AID ESTIMATE



We make it easy for you to know the amount of financial aid you may receive. Use our exclusive online calculator for an aid package estimate tailored to your financial means at

[law.utoronto.ca/  
financial-aid-calculator](http://law.utoronto.ca/financial-aid-calculator)

## PLANS THAT WORK

**Calleema** came from a single parent home in Ontario with annual parental income of \$53,430. She received a U of T Law bursary of \$27,130 and a government student aid grant of \$6,680. This non-repayable aid provided \$33,810 towards her tuition and expenses.

**Calleema's  
aid covered  
97% of  
academic  
fees.**

**Dernie's** parents earn an annual income of \$190,120. Dernie received a U of T Law bursary of \$13,230 and a government student aid grant of \$6,060. The non-repayable aid contributed \$19,290 toward tuition and expenses.

**Dernie  
received  
aid covered  
58% of  
academic  
fees.**

**NOTE:** THESE ARE SAMPLE PLANS FOR 2022-2023 ONLY. YOUR U OF T LAW FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE WILL BE ASSESSED BASED ON THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE IN YOUR U OF T LAW FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION.

## FINANCIAL AID STATS 2021-2022

**\$4.7 million**  
AWARDED BURSARIES

**\$18,222**  
AVERAGE FIRST-YEAR  
BURSARY

**\$17,565**  
AVERAGE BURSARY  
(OVER ALL THREE YEARS)

**\$35,787**  
MAXIMUM BURSARY  
AWARDED

**316**  
# OF STUDENTS  
WHO APPLIED FOR  
FINANCIAL AID

**84%**  
% OF FINANCIAL  
AID APPLICANTS WHO  
RECEIVED AID

“

Coming from a small town and being the first in my family to attend university, I thought my dream of attending U of T Law would be unachievable. This was prior to me learning about their incredible JD financial aid program.

For example, during my second year I received a bursary that covered over 60% of my tuition as well as interest-free loans to cover the remaining expenses. Thanks to the aid support, I was unimpeded financially, which enabled me to land my dream job. I could completely focus on my studies, extracurriculars and building a great network without worrying about debt and affording tuition.

**VANESSA COLTON** JD (TORONTO) 2022 | BSC (WESTERN) 2019  
ARTICLING STUDENT, BENNETT JONES LLP (TORONTO)



# GET A HEAD START

We are proud to offer several programs and resources that aim to increase access to legal education.





**BECOMING A LAWYER IN ONTARIO**[law.utoronto.ca/getstarted](http://law.utoronto.ca/getstarted)

This resource is your starting point if you're thinking about becoming a lawyer. Prepared by U of T Law, it provides a comprehensive overview of the path from high school to becoming licensed to practice law.

**BLACK FUTURE LAWYERS**[bfl.law.utoronto.ca](http://bfl.law.utoronto.ca)

Black Future Lawyers (BFL) is a collaboration between U of T Law, our Black Law Students' Association, members of our Black alumni community, and the broader legal profession. Funded by U of T's Provost's office, U of T Law, and leading national law firms, BFL offers supports and engagement opportunities to Black undergraduate students who aspire to go to law school and become lawyers. BFL's goal is to increase the number of Black students who attend law school and join the legal profession.

**LAW SCHOOL ACCESS PROGRAM (LSAP)**[law.utoronto.ca/lsap](http://law.utoronto.ca/lsap)

A free LSAT preparation course for high-potential, low-income undergraduate students who are in 3rd or 4th year or are recent university graduates.

**LAWS: LAW IN ACTION WITHIN SCHOOLS**[lawinaction.ca](http://lawinaction.ca)

Founded by U of T Law in 2005, LAWS is Canada's leading law school youth access program. As an award-winning model of collaboration that has transformative impact on high school students facing personal or systemic barriers, LAWS activities increase legal knowledge, encourage academic engagement and promote diversity and inclusion in the legal profession. LAWS works with over 1,200 youth and relies on the support of over 400 justice sector volunteers annually.

**SEE YOURSELF HERE**[law.utoronto.ca/syh](http://law.utoronto.ca/syh)

Each year, over 200 high school students visit the law school for one day of fun and educational programming. Students in grades 10 and 11 spend the day learning from law students, lawyers and professors. Originally started by the Black Law Students' Association, the event is designed specifically for students who identify with communities that have been historically underrepresented in the legal profession.

**YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAM**[ysp.utoronto.ca](http://ysp.utoronto.ca)

In partnership with the Faculty of Medicine, every summer the Faculty of Law offers a unique summer camp opportunity for high school students who are keen about the law.

# LAW.UTORONTO.CA

## VISIT US!

Visiting us is the best way to experience our law school community. Book your student-led tour today at [law.utoronto.ca/campustour](http://law.utoronto.ca/campustour).

Can't make it to the law school? Check out our admissions events page to see when we will be visiting a location near you at [law.utoronto.ca/admissionevents](http://law.utoronto.ca/admissionevents).

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