



“Working with entrepreneurial companies requires a very specialized mindset and skill set. You need to have the foundation of legal knowledge and experience as well as a second-nature understanding of how to apply innovation to business problems.”

**Kip Frey, Professor of the Practice of Public Policy and Law and
Director of Duke University's Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative**



Through two degree options, the JD/LLM and LLM in Law and Entrepreneurship, the Law and Entrepreneurship Program at Duke Law integrates rigorous course work, real-world experience, and high-level networking opportunities to position you to advise, create, and lead the innovative ventures that will drive tomorrow's global economy.

Entrepreneurs and innovators do things differently. This program will help you develop the specialized legal knowledge and professional skills you need to counsel leaders and participate as a principal in the innovation economy. By fusing law and business, Duke's Law and Entrepreneurship Program builds knowledge in areas that are crucial to entrepreneurial ventures and instills a deep understanding of what it means to create and advise an entrepreneurial business. You'll learn how innovators approach business problems – adding value to both your skill set and your résumé.



Photo by: Chris Barron/Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau

“When you combine a top-flight university with talent from the medical school, business school, and law school — and then add the innovation happening at Duke, in the Research Triangle, and in Durham — you get a really exciting and dynamic place to work. I wouldn’t want to be anywhere else.”

Erika Buell, Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Program in Law & Entrepreneurship, was in-house counsel at Revolution Money before joining the Duke faculty to teach in the Law and Entrepreneurship Program.

THE DUKE ADVANTAGE

Known for interdisciplinary strength, faculty who are leaders in their fields, and ambitious research, Duke is home to leading programs in business, finance and tax law, intellectual property law, environmental law, and public law. And the University's strong ties with institutions in the

WHY DUKE, WHY NOW

Research Triangle and relationships with alumni and business leaders who are successful entrepreneurs and mentors are the foundations for a dynamic learning and teaching environment. The Law and Entrepreneurship Program builds on — and adds to — these strengths.

Entrepreneurship at Duke

The **DUKE INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP INITIATIVE**

works to create a robust culture across the entire university to inspire and prepare students and faculty for innovative leadership and actively support and celebrate the translation of knowledge into the service of society.

DUHATCH is an on-campus incubation space for new, student-led ventures that brings together entrepreneurs from all areas of campus, including law, technology, business, and medicine.

PROGRAM FOR ENTREPRENEURS, also known as P4E, is a program at Duke's Fuqua Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation that combines academic research, courses, and a community of practitioners to help entrepreneurs define, plan, establish, and finance new ventures, all while receiving course credit.

THE DUKE GLOBAL ENTREPRENEUR NETWORK connects Duke entrepreneurs through its Start-Up Matchmaker Directory and creates dialogue on campus and across the world with networking events from RTP to Mumbai.

The **DUKE START-UP CHALLENGE** is a year-long entrepreneurship competition that helps students take ideas to market. Teams compete in the Elevator Pitch, Executive Summary, and Business Plan Competitions, winning prizes and feedback from entrepreneurs. The grand prize of \$25,000 comes with office space and an MBA intern for a year.

INNOVATION IN THE TRIANGLE

North Carolina's Research Triangle area is widely recognized as a global hub of innovation. Since its inception, the Research Triangle Park (RTP) has been home to some of the brightest minds at the forefront of science, technology, and business. Today, entrepreneurs regularly gather here for programs such as the Innovation in RTP speaker series and the Governor's Entrepreneurship Summit, where entrepreneurs and leaders from across the state meet to brainstorm new products and services that will create jobs and boost growth. Just a mile from Duke in the heart of downtown Durham is American Underground. This award-winning historic district is home to some of the most influential and instrumental start-ups, incubators, and thought leaders in the Southeast. It was recently selected by Google as one of seven technology hubs in North America as part of the Google for Entrepreneurs tech hub network.





The Law and Entrepreneurship Program offers two distinct degrees. The JD/LLM in Law and Entrepreneurship is a three-year dual-degree program that enhances the esteemed JD curriculum. The LLM in Law and Entrepreneurship is a one-year program designed for lawyers who have received either a JD or an LLM in the United States, or are licensed to practice in the U.S. Both provide students with a deep understanding of historical and current perspectives on entrepreneurship and the law, as well as the ability to understand the business, institutional, and strategic considerations applicable to entrepreneurs.

JD/LLM IN LAW AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Duke Law JD/LLM students complete the requirements for both the JD degree and the LLM degree in Law & Entrepreneurship in just six semesters, three Wintersessions, and one summer, earning 87 credits for the JD and 21 for the LLMLE for a total of 108 credits.

JD/LLM students take Business Associations during their first year, establishing academic and professional credentials beyond typical first-year preparation. As upper-level students, they will gain practical skills by participating in either the Practicum or the Start-Up Ventures Clinic.



THE JD/LLMLE

START-UP VENTURES CLINIC

The JD/LLMLE program is enhanced by guaranteed enrollment in the Duke Law School Start-Up Ventures Clinic during spring of the 3L year. Students provide legal advice and assistance to seed- and early-stage entrepreneurial ventures that have not yet raised significant amounts of outside capital. The clinic assists clients in a wide variety of legal matters, including formation, intellectual property protection, commercialization strategies, and operational issues.

“The Start-Up Ventures Clinic places students right in the center of the area’s booming start-up community. While providing counsel to early-stage companies, they work directly with entrepreneurs, venture attorneys, and fellow professionals, often handling some of the most important matters facing their clients,” says Jeff Ward ’09, director of the Start-Up Ventures Clinic. “Invariably students emerge from the experience more confident in their lawyering skills and thrilled about having been such an important part of a growing company.”

JD/LLMLE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

First-Year Requirements

- Business Associations
- Civil Procedure
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Foundations of Law
- Legal Analysis, Research & Writing
- Property
- Torts

Second-Year Requirements

- Constitutional Law
- Intellectual Property

JD CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

- Legal Ethics (at least 2 credits)
- JD Upper-Level Writing (2 credits)
- Experiential Learning Requirement (6 credits)

JD/LLMLE CURRICULUM

- Entrepreneurship & the Law
- Analytical Methods
- Securities Regulation
- Business Strategy for Lawyers
- Venture Capital Financing *or* Corporate Finance
- Structuring VC Transactions *or* Advising the Entrepreneurial Client

JD/LLMLE ELECTIVES

Students are encouraged to select electives to complement the LLMLE curriculum from an array of pre-approved courses.

Additional JD/LLMLE Requirements

POST-1L SUMMER: Students will experience a unique academic and start-up immersion component in a technology hub in the United States.

WINTERSESSION: Students attend Wintersession all three years, taking courses focusing on innovation and entrepreneurship, such as Startup Business Canvas, Innovation Leadership, and Current Issues in Entrepreneurship.

PRACTICUM: During the 3L fall, students may participate in a non-law firm externship at a local start-up company in conjunction with an academic course.

START-UP VENTURES CLINIC: Students may participate in the clinic during fall or spring of 3L year.



Erika Buell is director of the Law and Entrepreneurship Program and a clinical professor of law.

Students in the LLM in Law and Entrepreneurship Program master both the core substantive law and the lawyering skills that are necessary for effective representation of entrepreneurs and have the opportunity to explore their own potential for entrepreneurship.

LLM IN LAW AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Law and Entrepreneurship LLM Program is a two-semester, 23-credit program. Admission is limited to applicants who hold a JD or an LLM from an ABA-approved U.S. law school, or who are admitted to practice in a U.S. jurisdiction.

The LLMLE curriculum focuses intensely on the entrepreneurial landscape, regulatory issues, and experiential learning through team problem-solving and the spring practicum.



THE LLMLE

THE PRACTICUM

The practicum is the centerpiece of the Law and Entrepreneurship LLM Program. During the spring semester, students intern in start-up companies, venture capital firms, regulatory agencies, law firms with entrepreneurial practices, and similar organizations. The practicum allows students to address the intersection of legal principles and practical business applications in the context of entrepreneurship and early-stage enterprise. Each student joins a legal or leadership team and works under the supervision of a mentor who is committed to guiding his or her professional development. The practicum prepares students to be highly competent legal practitioners, savvy business people, and effective problem solvers.

“The practicum is an opportunity to apply the skills you’ve learned in an actual, real-life environment,” said Brandon Bartee LLMLE ’11. “You may be working with a start-up, it may be a venture capital fund — really the opportunities are just limited by what you want to do. I picked SciQuest, a smaller company that grew so rapidly that it went public in fall 2010.”

LLMLE DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Fall Semester Core Courses

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND THE LAW:

Develop a deep understanding of the relationship between entrepreneurship and law. Course features regular visits and discussions with entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial lawyers.

ADVISING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL

CLIENT: Learn how to handle the legal issues inherent in the life cycle of a typical start-up.

BUSINESS STRATEGY FOR LAWYERS:

Learn a variety of strategy methodologies, including methods for assessing the strength of competition, understanding relative bargaining power, anticipating competitors’ actions, and analyzing cost and value structures and their relevance. (Students may place out of this requirement and instead take an additional elective.)

Spring Semester Core Courses

VENTURE CAPITAL FINANCING:

Focus on the legal economic structure of venture capital transactions and become familiar with the legal agreements used to document these transactions. Throughout the semester, students will work on a simulated transaction to gain experience in negotiating and drafting documents with an emphasis on meeting client objectives.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND THE LAW

PRACTICUM: Work in a start-up company, venture capital firm, government agency, trade association, private law firm, general counsel’s office, or similar setting. Interact with LLMLE classmates in debriefing practicum experiences.

ELECTIVES

Options at the Law School include:

Bankruptcy and Corporate Reorganization

Copyright Law

Corporate Finance

Corporate Taxation

Fixed Income Markets and Quantitative Methods

Intellectual Capital and Competitive Strategy

Intellectual Property Law

Partnership Taxation

Patent Law and Policy

Securities Regulation

Sports and the Law

Trademark Law and Unfair Competition



Arti Rai is co-director of the Center for Innovation Policy, which brings together legal professionals, technology and business leaders, government officials, and academic experts to identify improvements to federal law and policy that will promote innovation and economic growth.

LAW AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FACULTY



DIRECTOR OF THE PROGRAM IN LAW AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

ERIKA J.S. BUELL

Clinical Professor of Law

Practitioner with expertise in entrepreneurial business. Served as in-house corporate counsel for Revolution Money, leading the company's early preferred stock financings through its sale in 2010 to American Express.



JAMES COX

Brainerd Currie Professor of Law

Expert in corporate and securities law, market regulation, corporate governance, insider trading, class actions, and market reform issues. Member of the Bipartisan Policy Center's Credit Rating Agency Task Force. Serves as faculty director for the LLMLE program.



LAWRENCE BAXTER

William B. McGuire Professor of the Practice of Law

Expert in domestic and international bank regulation. Former special counsel for strategic development, corporate executive vice president, founder of emerging businesses and insurance group and eBusiness group at Wachovia.



STUART BENJAMIN

Douglas B. Maggs Chair in Law, Associate Dean for Research, Co-Director of the Center for Innovation Policy

Expert in telecommunications law and innovation policy. Recently served as the Federal Communications Commission's first Distinguished Scholar in Residence studying spectrum policy and the First Amendment.



JOHN DE FIGUEIREDO

Edward and Ellen Marie Schwarzman
Professor of Law, Professor of Strategy
and Economics

Expert in competitive strategy, political and legal strategy, law and economics, and the management of innovation. Previously was professor of strategic management at the UCLA Anderson School of Business.



KIP FREY '85

Professor of the Practice of Public Policy
and Law and Director of Duke University's
Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative

Has led a number of start-up companies as CEO, board member, or investor. Was previously a partner at venture capital firm Intersouth Partners.



ANDREW FOSTER

Clinical Professor of Law, Director
of the Community Enterprise Clinic

Supervises the Community Enterprise Clinic and oversees Duke Law's Clinical Program. Previously practiced law with Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice. Expert in social entrepreneurship and community development.



BRYAN MCGANN

Senior Lecturing Fellow, Interim
Director of Start-Up Ventures Clinic

Supervises the Start-Up Ventures Clinic, providing legal advice and assistance to seed- and early-stage entrepreneurial ventures in a wide variety of legal matters including formation, intellectual property protection, commercialization strategies, and operational issues.



PAUL HAAGEN

Professor of Law

Expert in contracts, jurisdiction, arbitration, and sports law. Co-directs the Duke Center for Sports and the Law and chairs Duke University's Student Athlete Counseling Committee and Duke's China Faculty Council.



ARTI RAI

Elvin R. Latty Professor of Law, Co-Director
of the Center for Innovation Policy

Expert in patent law, administrative law, the biopharmaceutical industry, and health care regulation. Recently served in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office as Administrator of the Office of External Affairs.



KIP JOHNSON '94

Senior Lecturing Fellow

Founding partner of Morningstar Law Group, where he specializes in securities and technology law, working with clients from seed-stage start-ups to mature operating companies.



JOHN WEISTART '68

Professor of Law

Expert in commercial paper, secured transactions, contracts, credit transactions, antitrust, athletics and the legal process, and labor law. Served as consultant to the Federal Trade Commission.

More faculty at law.duke.edu/fac



THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

COLLABORATIVE, PROFESSIONAL

One of the defining features of the Law and Entrepreneurship Program is the focus on professional development and collaboration. Whether you are working with a team on a class project, discussing a work assignment for your practicum, or taking advantage of networking opportunities in the community, you will develop the ability to work efficiently and productively with others as you solve problems and move your projects forward.

RECENT PRACTICUM HOSTS:

- [AI Patents](#)
- [Altometrics](#)
- [Amundi Smith Breeden](#)
- [Automated Insights](#)
- [Bandwidth.com](#)
- [Blackstone Entrepreneurs Network](#)
- [Bull City Forward](#)
- [CBC New Media Group, LLC / Capital Broadcasting Co.](#)
- [Channel Advisor](#)
- [Charleston Digital Corridor](#)
- [Cherokee Investment Partners](#)
- [CleanHatch](#)
- [Clinipace](#)
- [Community Empowerment Fund](#)

- [Council for Entrepreneurial Development \(CED\)](#)
- [Cree, Inc.](#)
- [Duke Angel Fund](#)
- [Duke Athletics](#)
- [Duke Office of Counsel](#)
- [First Flight Venture Center](#)
- [Hatteras Venture Partners](#)
- [Hexagon Securities](#)
- [HQ Raleigh](#)
- [Joystick Labs](#)
- [Lookout Ventures](#)
- [Morningstar Law Group](#)
- [Morris, Manning & Martin](#)
- [Polyglot Systems](#)
- [Red Hat](#)
- [ReverbNation](#)
- [RocketBolt](#)

- [Royalty Exchange](#)
- [SAS](#)
- [SciQuest](#)
- [SJF Ventures](#)
- [SoarTriangle](#)
- [Sports Endeavors](#)
- [Tethis](#)
- [Triangle Community Foundation](#)
- [UNC Innovation & Entrepreneurship](#)
- [Walker Lambe Rhudy Costley & Gill](#)
- [WedPics](#)
- [Windsor Circle](#)
- [Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice](#)
- [Xinray Systems](#)
- [Zenph Sound Innovations](#)



OPENING NEW DOORS

“The JD/LLMLE program has definitely opened doors for me that I wouldn’t have otherwise known about, let alone entered. Through the immersion program I got connected with a health IT company in a Durham-based accelerator. The experience exposed me to interesting legal and business issues that emerging companies face on a practical level, and more importantly, introduced me to many of the really interesting folks in the impressive Triangle entrepreneurial community. I’m continuing to work with the startup, and have also just started on a project with some of the area’s most successful entrepreneurs to empower and support local women in entrepreneurship.”

Rose McKinley, JD/LLMLE '17 spent her 1L summer working as a clerk for the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco and an intern for ELXR Health in Durham. She is an associate at Cooley in Palo Alto, Calif.



THINKING LIKE AN ENTREPRENEUR

“One thing you’ll hear from a lot of different people is law school teaches you how to think like a lawyer. The joint degree program allows me to do that and then some. It also taught me to think like an entrepreneur. [All the experiences] I’ve had here have helped shape that entrepreneurial perspective. I think that’s something that’s essential, not only for a career in the law but for any career nowadays, companies are thinking entrepreneurially and that’s just what you need to do to succeed.”

Trevor Kiviat JD/LLMLE '16 graduated summa cum laude from Syracuse University and participated in Teach for America prior to coming to Duke. He is an associate at Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York.



APPLYING SKILLS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

“While in law school, I developed interests in corporate law, intellectual property law, and venture capital and private equity investments. Upon graduating, I realized that I had developed a vast amount of knowledge in these areas but had not figured out how to pursue those interests in the form of an actual career. I was attracted to the LLMLE program at Duke because it is not a fourth year of law school. The LLMLE program is providing me the opportunity to not only explore my interests further in the classroom, but to apply those interests during the practicum in a real working environment. When I graduate, instead of a set of interests, I will have acquired a set of skills which I will use for the rest of my career.”

Megan Pirooz LLMLE '14 came to Duke after practicing law and clerking in the general counsel's office for retailer Meijer in Michigan. She is a commercial finance associate at Winston & Strawn in Chicago.



EXPLORING THE ENTREPRENEURIAL COMMUNITY

“While I still have plenty to learn, the instruction and quick pace of the program lead to a base understanding of entrepreneurship in a relatively short period of time. This base provides some basic tools to have meaningful conversations out in the entrepreneurial community. The community is very open and supportive of people who show enthusiasm, a sense of curiosity, and a willingness to work. Pick an interest and get out in the community, because it will embrace you.”

Eb Bernazard LLMLE '13 worked in the City of Philadelphia’s Intellectual Property Division and as a commercial litigator for a law firm after graduating from law school. After earning his LLMLE at Duke Law, Eb helped create a position within an existing company to explore new initiatives and opportunities in new markets.



OUTCOMES

“(The Duke Law student’s) practicum work at Hatteras was extremely valuable to us, so much so that we were excited to recommend him for an associate position at one of the major entrepreneurial law firms in the Triangle region.”

Christy Schaffer is a venture partner at Hatteras Venture Partners, a venture capital firm based in Research Triangle Park with a focus on biopharmaceuticals, medical devices, diagnostics, and related opportunities in human medicine.

WORK AND CAREERS

Thanks to the LLMLE program’s emphasis on professional skills development, graduates are well prepared for high-level legal practice — and employers know it. Graduates of the Program in Law and Entrepreneurship have found work in firms and organizations around the country, including:

Bowles Rice
Burnett & Thomason
Clinipace
Cree, Inc.
DiscoverReady
DLA Piper
8 Rivers Capital
ESO Solutions
Goldberg Kohn
Halliburton
Hellman Yates
Human Performance Consulting
Impulsonic
LeClairRyan
LikeCharity
Lowenstein Sandler
L Star Management
McGlinchey Stafford
Moore & VanAllen
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
Morningstar Law Group
Parsons Behle & Latimer
Proskauer Rose
Red Hat
ReverbNation
Rock Creek Capital
RocketBolt
Seward & Kissel
Smith Anderson
Smith Moore Leatherwood
Snell, Wylie & Tibbals
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
Winstead
Wyrick Robbins Yates & Ponton

In addition, program graduates have been founders or members of initial management teams of more than half a dozen start-ups.



INTERACTING WITH CORPORATE MINDS

“The biggest thing that resonated with me while here at Duke Law was the ability to interact with some of the greatest corporate minds in the country. Beyond that, students also have the ability to take a very practical approach which is what this program was all about, having a hands-on approach. It was a lot more hands-on than you find in law school.”

Craig Fitch LLMLE '15 attorney at Latham & Watkins



GETTING A HEAD START

“I really think the JD/LLMLE program gave me an amazing head start. I was able to show my worth which is that I have this financial literacy and I'm able to work with small, entrepreneurial clients, which will translate to being able to work with large companies as well.”

Dyna Zekaoui JD/LLMLE'16 associate at Linklaters in London, where she spent her 2L summer



ACCOMPLISHING PROFESSIONAL GOALS

“Attending Duke Law's LLM in Law and Entrepreneurship Program enabled me to propel my legal career forward over the course of relatively brief period of time. My goals for attending the program were to expand my knowledge of entrepreneurial law, to broaden the scope of my legal knowledge, and eventually to secure an in-house counsel position. Instead I received an immersive experience which not only offered exceptional legal and business courses, but which developed other invaluable professional skills.”

Jean Michel LLMLE '14 general counsel at ReverbNation, an online platform that provides tools for musicians to manage their careers



UNDERSTANDING THE RISKS

“I think the biggest takeaway for me from [the immersion] is understanding the balancing of all the risks that go into being an entrepreneur. That was a big eye-opener for me, understanding what is the law, what are the risks involved, and how to communicate that to an entrepreneur – to help them make a decision that's calculated.”

Steven Wright JD/LLMLE'16 associate at Paul Hastings in San Diego focusing on mergers and acquisitions, venture capital, and corporate securities work

See videos, bios, and much more at law.duke.edu/LLMLE



**Program in Law
and Entrepreneurship**

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