

# THIS IS U of T LAW

JD Admissions Guide  
2022-2023



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO  
FACULTY OF LAW





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

**4 WELCOME FROM THE DEAN | 6 WHY U OF T? | 8 FACULTY | 10 CAREER DEVELOPMENT | 18 ADMISSIONS | 20 CLASS PROFILE**  
**22 STUDENT LIFE | 24 ACADEMIC PROGRAMS | 32 FINANCIAL AID | 34 ACCESS TO LEGAL EDUCATION**



A person is walking away from the camera on a paved path that runs through a lush, green park. The path is made of light-colored stones and is flanked by tall, leafy trees. The sunlight filters through the leaves, creating dappled shadows on the path and the grass. In the background, a black metal fence is visible, and another person can be seen walking further down the path. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

# **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 River. Today, this meeting place is still 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.

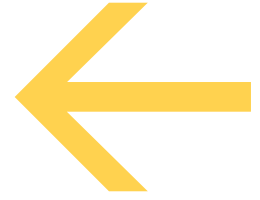
I am excited about the future of our law school. Its faculty and students provide intellectual leadership for and engagement with the rapidly changing world around us. Our Jackman Law Building, which opened in 2016, includes innovative technology and houses many of the programs and centres that make 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 2021, the respected Times Higher Education law school rankings placed us in the top 14 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 O F 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 SummerWorks (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), LL.M (COLUMBIA)

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

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Davisville

**HIDDEN TALENT:** Charcuterie



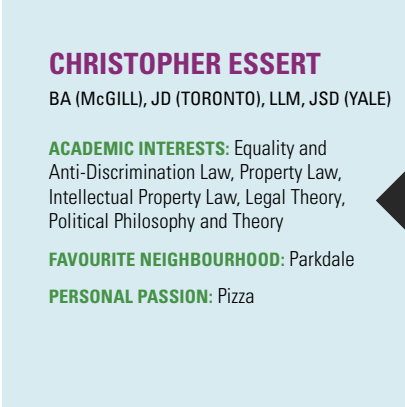
**ANVER EMON**

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), LL.M, 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



## ADRIANA ROBERTSON

HBA (TORONTO); JD, MA, MPHIL,  
PHD (YALE)

**ACADEMIC INTERESTS:** Law & Finance, Capital Markets Regulation, Securities Law & Regulation, Corporate Law, Empirical Legal Studies

**FAVOURITE NEIGHBOURHOOD:** Harbord Village

**HOBBY:** Running

## 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), LLB (TORONTO), LLM  
(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), LLM, 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  
HEAD OF LEGAL RECRUITMENT & DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION,  
TORYS LLP

Georgia is responsible for the recruitment, onboarding and integration of summer and articling students and leads Torys' student program in Toronto. She oversees the lateral recruitment of associates in Toronto and Montreal, and leads the firm's D&I initiatives with a goal of ensuring that Torys is an inclusive, equitable workplace.

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



### 2020-2021 CDO SUPPORTS

**140**  
Articling job  
postings

**267**  
Combined  
first and  
second year  
summer  
job postings

**119**  
Career  
workshops,  
information  
sessions,  
events and  
firm tours  
facilitated

**1099**  
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)



## ARTICLING AND EMPLOYMENT

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

### 2021 JD GRADUATES

#### Articling Positions

- 211 JD graduates
- 193 Full-time articling, clerkship and New York associate positions
- 12 Seeking articling positions
  - 1 Non-practicing careers, graduate studies or deferring articles
  - 5 Unreported

#### Clerking positions at appellate and trial courts in Canada

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

### 2021 SUMMER JOBS FOR STUDENTS IN EARLY YEARS

#### Second Year Students

- 229** Students completed 2nd year
- 212** Secured summer jobs (law-related and other)
- 17** Unreported

#### First Year Students

- 17** Positions at Toronto law firms (self-reported)
- 48** Research Assistantships with U of T Law faculty
- 61** Positions in clinics, fellowships and in-house at, and through, 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 Government & Public Interest Law
- 3 Litigation
- 4 Labour & Employment Law
- 5 Intellectual Property Law
- 6 Tax Law
- 7 Family Law
- 8 Criminal Defence
- 9 Immigration Law
- 10 In-house positions

#### WHERE OUR STUDENTS ARTICLE

- 78%** Greater Toronto Area
- 13%** New York City
- 2%** Ottawa
- 6%** Alberta & British Columbia
- 1%** Elsewhere

Page statistics as of July 2021.  
Percentages are rounded.

“

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 10,953 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.

### 2021-2022 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 and complex 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 Indian (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 2022, 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 2022, we accept scores from standard and Flex tests taken from June 2017 to January 2022 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 19, 2021**

JD Applications open online for entry in 2022

## **AUGUST 14-17, 2021**

LSAT test dates

## **SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2021**

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)

## **WEEK STARTING OCTOBER 9, 2021**

LSAT test dates

## **NOVEMBER 1, 2022**

JD Year 1 application deadline

## **WEEK STARTING NOVEMBER 13, 2021**

LSAT test dates

## **DECEMBER 2021 - MARCH 2022**

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

## **WEEK STARTING JANUARY 15, 2022**

LSAT test dates (last acceptable test for 2022 JD Year 1 admission)

## **FEBRUARY 25, 2022\*\***

Welcome Day for students offered admission

## **APRIL 1, 2022**

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

## **JUNE 1, 2022**

UofT Law JD Financial Aid application deadline

## **AUGUST 22, 2022\*\***

Start of JD Year 1 classes

\*Subject to public health directives

\*\*Tentative date



## 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, and the final round in mid-March. Most offers are issued by February.

# OUR 2021 FIRST YEAR (1L) CLASS

**215 STUDENTS**

**59% WOMEN**

**5% MATURE STUDENTS**

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

**37% STUDENTS OF COLOUR**

**15% LGBTQ+ STUDENTS**

**17% STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES/HEALTH CONDITIONS**

**2779**  
APPLICANTS



**20-36 AGE RANGE OF STUDENTS**  
**24 AVERAGE AGE OF STUDENTS**

AGE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2021

**83%** FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND LAW SCHOOL

**11%** FIRST IN FAMILY TO ATTEND UNIVERSITY OR COLLEGE

**29%** BORN OUTSIDE OF CANADA

**59%** PARENT(S)/GUARDIAN(S) BORN OUTSIDE CANADA

**12%** GREW UP IN A RURAL AREA

**40%** IDENTIFY WITH A RELIGION

**45** 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

**19%**

Students with graduate education



**TOP 3 COMBINED PROGRAMS**

1. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)
2. ENGLISH (MA)
3. (TIE) ECONOMICS (MA) PUBLIC POLICY (MPP)



## MY PERSONALITY IS

- 32% RESERVED AND TASK-ORIENTED (CAUTIOUS, COMPETENT, CONSCIENTIOUS)
- 24% OUTGOING AND PEOPLE-ORIENTED (INSPIRING, INFLUENTIAL, IMPRESSIONABLE)
- 23% RESERVED AND PEOPLE-ORIENTED (SUPPORTIVE, STEADY, STABLE, SENSITIVE)
- 21% OUTGOING AND TASK-ORIENTED (DOMINANT, DEMANDING, DECISIVE, DIRECT)



## 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

## I EXPECT THE MOST THOUGHT-PROVOKING 1L COURSE WILL BE

- 34% CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
- 31% CRIMINAL LAW
- 12% CONTRACT LAW
- 6% PROPERTY LAW
- 6% LEGAL PROCESS
- 6% LEGAL WRITING & RESEARCH
- 5% TORT LAW

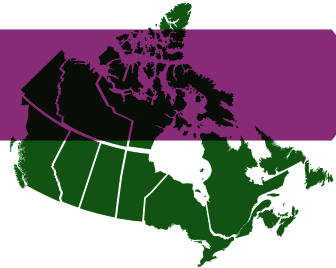


## PRIOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

- 23% POLITICAL SCIENCE/INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
- 18% BUSINESS/ECONOMICS
- 15% CRIMINOLOGY/GENDER STUDIES/PSYCHOLOGY/SOCIAL SCIENCES
- 15% ENGINEERING/MATH/SCIENCE
- 10% CLASSICS/HISTORY/PHILOSOPHY/RELIGION
- 10% ENGLISH/LINGUISTICS/COMMUNICATIONS
- 8% INTERDISCIPLINARY/OTHER
- 2% VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

**65%** GRADUATED FROM ONTARIO UNIVERSITIES

**35%** GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITIES IN THE REST OF CANADA AND INTERNATIONALLY



## SAMPLE PRE-LAW SCHOOL EXPERIENCES

- ARCHITECTURE CURATOR
- ART PUBLICATIONS & EXHIBITIONS EDITOR
- BASKETBALL TRAINER & COACH
- COMPUTER HARDWARE ENGINEER
- DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER
- FREESTYLE DANCE INSTRUCTOR
- FARM HAND
- MAINTENANCE WORKER
- REAL ESTATE AGENT
- ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY RESERVIST
- TV PRODUCTION ASSISTANT



**19%**



## ARE BILINGUAL IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH

## TOP 10 LEGAL AREAS OF INTEREST ON ENTRY

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



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

At U of T Law, Aaqib and Saqib have found a strong support network. Both brothers have contributed in many ways to the law school community:

### **AAQIB** *(pictured, on left)*

South Asian Law Students' Association (Co-President)

United Nations (Summer intern)

Human Rights Watch (Summer Fellow)

Orientation Week 2018 (Co-Chair)

International Chamber of Commerce (Fall intern)

Norton Rose Fulbright Canada LLP (Summer Associate)

### **SAQIB** *(pictured, on right)*

Muslim Law Students' Association (President)

Students' Law Society (1L rep)

United Nations (Intern)

Sierra Leone Ministry of Justice (Summer intern)

South African Society for Labour Law (Summer intern)

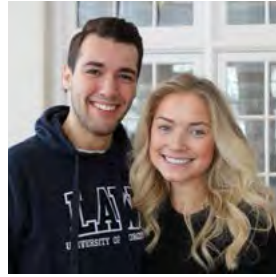
Fasken LLP (Summer Associate)



Our U of T Law experience has been transformative. Not only have we learned about the law, but the world around us and the complex interrelationships with which the world is held together. This learning comes together through the countless insights we have gained from interacting with our incredible professors, who are some of the brightest legal minds in the world, and from our vibrant colleagues, who enrich our everyday experiences at the law school.

**AAQIB & SAQIB MAHMOOD**, 4L JD/MBA  
BAH (YORK) 2016, (YORK) 2017





## 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  
 UofT Animal Justice  
 UofT Faculty of Law Review  
 UofT 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. In addition to six substantive law courses, you take two courses that prepare you to study law: *Legal Methods* and *Legal Research and Writing*.

## 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 five substantive law classes are taught in larger groups over a single term (two in first term and three in second term).

Collectively, our first year provides you with a deep and rigorous legal foundation rooted in diverse academic views about law and legal methodology.

## **1L CORE COURSES**

- LEGAL METHODS
- LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING
- CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
- CONTRACT LAW
- CRIMINAL LAW
- LEGAL PROCESS
- 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 IN 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
Business Law	Intellectual Property and Innovation Law	Legal Studies
Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution	International, Comparative and Transnational Law	Private Law
Constitutional Law	Judges and Courts	Social Justice and Equality
Criminal Law and Procedure	Labour Law	Taxation 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 intercession offers intensive, week-long courses taught by visiting professors offering diverse perspectives on a huge range of legal topics.



## 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.

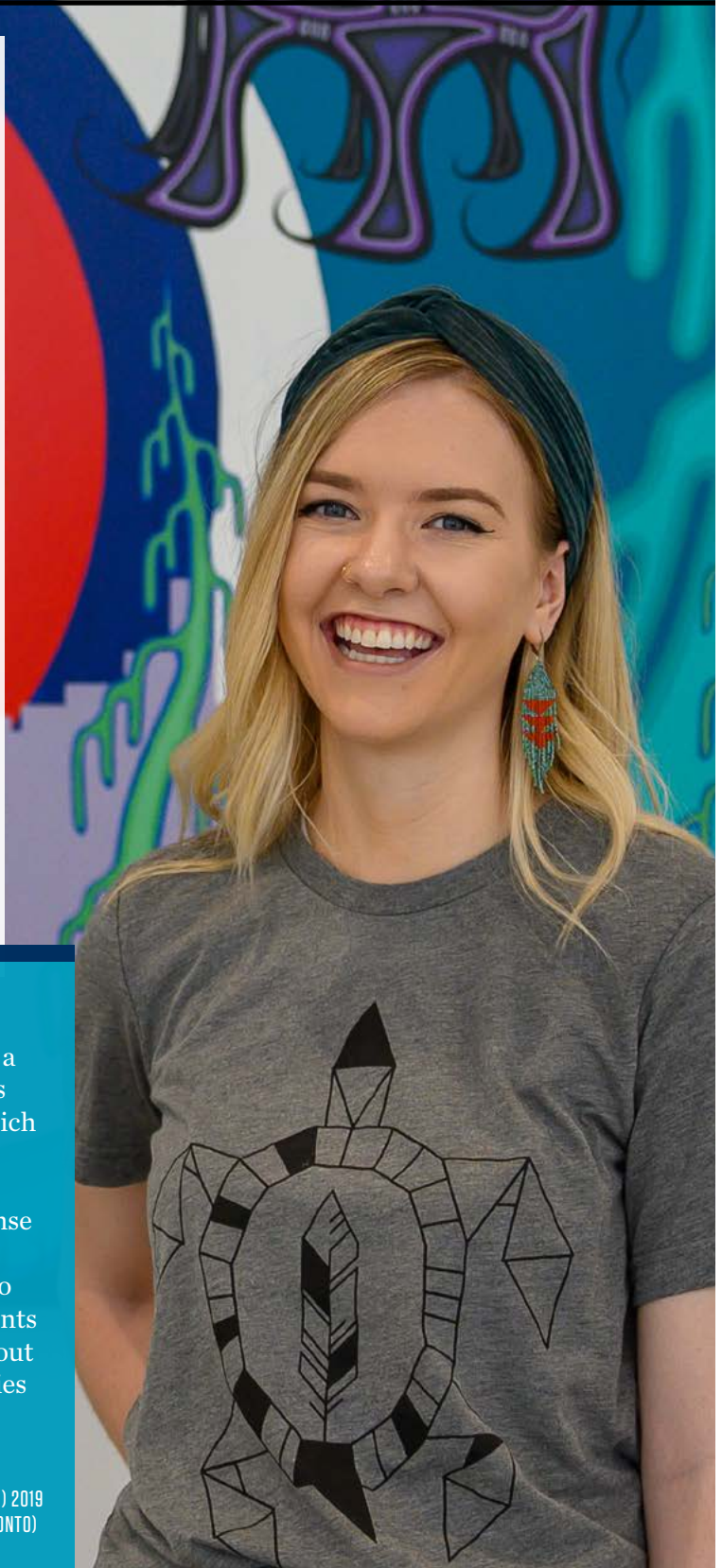
You can compete in the Kawaskimhon Moot, work on the student-run Indigenous Law Journal, and have opportunities to learn about Indigenous and Aboriginal law inside and outside the classroom.

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.



I am Métis from Treaty 6 territory in Saskatchewan and a co-president of the Indigenous Law Students' Association, which is a highlight of my law school experience, since it provides Indigenous students with a sense of community and belonging. We work closely with the IIO to provide non-Indigenous students with opportunities to learn about the histories of our communities and the role of the law in our ongoing struggles.

**KARLIE NORDSTROM 3L** | BCOMM (SASKATCHEWAN) 2019  
2L & 3L SUMMER STUDENT, AIRD & BERLIS LLP (TORONTO)



## 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 ProBono 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 UofT 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 19 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  
 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 Law Project and 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	

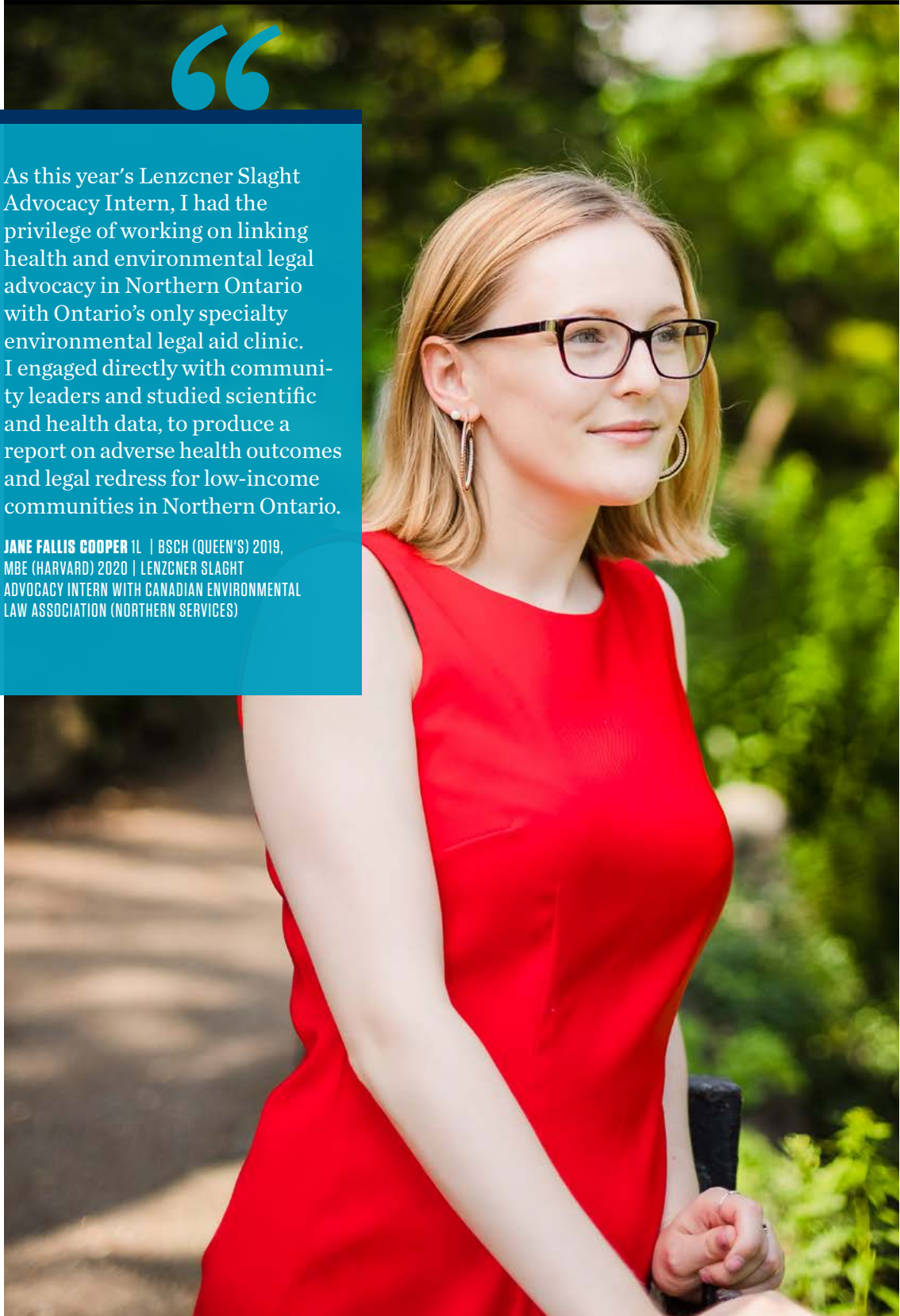
### SUMMER INTERNSHIPS

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.



As this year's Lenzcner Slaght Advocacy Intern, I had the privilege of working on linking health and environmental legal advocacy in Northern Ontario with Ontario's only specialty environmental legal aid clinic. I engaged directly with community leaders and studied scientific and health data, to produce a report on adverse health outcomes and legal redress for low-income communities in Northern Ontario.

**JANE FALLIS COOPER 1L** | BSCH (QUEEN'S) 2019, MBE (HARVARD) 2020 | LENZCNER SLAGHT ADVOCACY INTERN WITH CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ASSOCIATION (NORTHERN SERVICES)



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.

2021-2022 tuition fee: **\$33,040**

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

Incidental and ancillary fees: **\$1,600**

Room and board (*if not at home*): **\$11,000**

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

**Ruby** came from a single parent home in Ontario with annual parental income of \$24,822. She received a U of T Law bursary of \$19,779; a tuition tax credit of \$6,800 and government student aid grants of \$6,058. Altogether this non-repayable aid provided \$32,637 which is approximately 99% of her tuition.

**Ruby's effective first-year tuition was \$403**

**Dayton** annual parental income is \$91,853. Dayton received a U of T Law bursary of \$8,498; a tuition tax credit of \$6,800 and government student aid grants of \$6,058. Altogether this non-repayable aid provided \$21,356 which is approximately 65% of his tuition.

**Dayton's effective first-year tuition was \$11,684**

**NOTE:** THESE ARE SAMPLE PLANS FOR 2020-2021 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 2020-2021

**\$4.7 million**  
AWARDED BURSARIES

**\$14,785**  
AVERAGE FIRST-YEAR  
BURSARY

**\$16,281**  
AVERAGE BURSARY  
(OVER ALL THREE YEARS)

**\$28,395**  
MAXIMUM BURSARY  
AWARDED

**336**  
# OF STUDENTS  
WHO APPLIED FOR  
FINANCIAL AID

**80%**  
% 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 the last academic 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, extra-curriculars and building a great network without worrying about debt and affording tuition.

**VANESSA COLTON 3L** | 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 and U of T Law, 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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