CARDOZO LAW
J.D. PROGRAM
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As an alumna, longtime faculty member and now dean, I am proud of Cardozo’s intellectual vigor, creative and entrepreneurial spirit and deep connections to the New York City legal community. There is a unique Cardozo spirit that permeates all aspects of the legal education we offer. I invite you to come for a visit.

Melanie Leslie ’91, Dean and Dr. Samuel Belkin Professor of Law

“Cardozo takes you where you want to go.”
The Cardozo approach to legal education combines the highest level of intellectual engagement between students and faculty with an ambitious and practical approach to the application of law. We hold a commitment to the words of the great Supreme Court Justice Benjamin N. Cardozo, who said that “the final cause of law is the welfare of society.” Cardozo faculty members teach legal fundamentals with exceptional skill and passion. They also teach their students how to creatively apply the law to their clients’ lives and how to anticipate and address cultural shifts that call for legal responses.

Lawyers make a difference in people’s lives every day and provide solutions to our society’s deepest challenges. Cardozo students don’t just digest the law; they wrestle with it, challenge it and learn to shape it.
To thrive and achieve career success in today’s legal landscape, law students must acquire a set of complementary skills that are equal parts intellectual and practical. Our renowned faculty provide a superb grounding in both the essential principles that underpin our justice system and their practical application. They are highly ethical practitioners, committed to teaching the values of sound legal theory in the pursuit of justice for all.

Cardozo students build on this academic foundation through hands-on learning, experiencing the real challenges and opportunities they will encounter in their legal careers. Cardozo is well known for clinics that consistently secure substantial results for clients as well as for extensive experiential opportunities off campus. There is no better place to hone these skills than New York City, a business and legal center where opportunities for our students are practically limitless. Here at Cardozo, you’ll gain a critical legal perspective that prepares you for success whether you practice around the corner or across the globe.

“We have a unique approach to legal education.”

“After taking a few years off after undergrad, I was nervous to jump back into school, but Cardozo seemed like the perfect fit. From the central location in the heart of New York City to their amazing faculty and their renowned programs such as the Innocence Project and the FAME Center, I knew I needed to be a part of such a vibrant community. Of course, the work was challenging, but I found an incredible number of resources, so I felt supported rather than overwhelmed.

"Jenny Barajas ’21
Our location in the heart of Manhattan provides students with an unparalleled connection to the legal opportunities in New York City. Cardozo professors are lawyers and scholars at the top of their fields. They bring expert legal guest speakers to the school to enhance students’ understanding of various fields of law and to help build connections to vital organizations throughout the New York City region.

Beyond the classroom there are opportunities for learning, including judicial, business, and public-service externships as well as conferences and networking events. These opportunities expose students to career options and provide an edge when seeking employment.

When it’s time for a study break, New York’s world-class food, culture, museums, parks and sporting events are at your doorstep. And whether you will practice law in New York City or elsewhere, Cardozo’s connections, including our over 15,000 alumni, will help you navigate your first career moves.

Cardozo is vitally linked to the creative energy of New York City. You’ll study law at the crossroads of Greenwich Village and Union Square—two of New York City’s historic and iconic neighborhoods, legendary as creative hubs for artists and writers and now the home of innovative startups. Students can walk to SoHo, the Lower East Side, Washington Square and Tribeca. On lower Fifth Avenue, students take in sights and locations where history was made in literature, music, labor rights and LGBTQ+ rights and where cafés, bistros, independent films at the IFC Center, art galleries, the Strand bookstore and boutiques abound. On University Place, you can find shops, restaurants and the Union Square Greenmarket.
Everything you need is at our 55 Fifth Avenue location, a modern environment within a beautiful pre-war Beaux-Arts building.

CLASSROOMS AND STUDENT CENTER
Cardozo’s classrooms, library, student lounges and study areas all have high windows with sweeping views of Manhattan. The wood-paneled moot courtroom is the interior centerpiece of the ground floor where students gather for orientation, events and lectures. The Fifth Avenue lobby provides comfortable furnishings where students meet and study while looking out on the Village streets of lower Fifth Avenue and 12th Street. The lobby is also a hub for many event receptions in the evenings. The third floor houses the Kathryn O. and Alan C. Greenberg Center for Student Life. The school is located midway between the famous arch of Washington Square Park and the Flatiron Building.

LIBRARY
Occupying four floors of Cardozo’s building, the Dr. Lillian and Dr. Rebecca Chutick Law Library is the nexus of student and faculty scholarship at Cardozo. Librarians, many of them lawyers, teach advanced legal research courses and are deeply engaged with the school’s scholarly efforts. In addition to its holdings of books, periodicals and audio and video materials, the library provides access to an ever-expanding collection of advanced electronic data sources to facilitate student and faculty research. Students work collaboratively in 19 group-study rooms, one of which features a unique electronic table that is adjustable for those with disabilities. Cooper Union’s library is available to Cardozo students on Saturdays when Cardozo’s library is closed for Jewish observances.

RESIDENCE HALLS
Many Cardozo students choose to live in The Benjamin, a university-owned-and-operated residence hall of furnished studio apartments and two- and three-bedroom shares. The seven-story space on Lexington Avenue and 29th Street is a 10-minute subway ride from the law school and offers an exercise room, roof deck with views of the Empire State Building and a solarium study room.

As a native New Yorker, studying law here was very appealing to me because I was fortunate enough to stay close to family and friends. It was an added bonus knowing that NYC has a very prominent legal job market. I felt comfortable knowing that there were endless opportunities to pursue a meaningful career in any practice area that met my interest.

Nigel Pura Bryant ’22
Associate, Lowenstein Sandler LLP
Cardozo’s Office of Career Services was extremely helpful in preparing me for the on-campus interview process for large law firms. OCS helped me through every step of the process: deciding on which firms to apply to, how to best present my resume and how to compare offers from firms. Through Cardozo’s on-campus interview program, I landed a job at my dream firm, Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson.

Dylan Bolduc ’20
Litigation Associate, Fried Frank

At Cardozo Law, helping you map your career path is our job from day one.

We’re with you every step of the way. Throughout your time at Cardozo, you’ll have a designated career counselor who will get to know you, help you define your legal interests and match them to a career path. You’ll also have access to the entire team of counselors at the Office of Career Services, all of whom have practiced law and have expertise in a range of professional areas. For those who wish to work in the public interest, our Center for Public Service Law works hand-in-hand with students and employers to make employment connections.
We are at your service.

Career support starts when you arrive and continues during your three years at Cardozo and throughout your professional life. Here are some of the top career resources and activities you’ll find here:

**JOB HUNT CHECKLIST**

- All of our career counselors have been practicing lawyers in various fields, including corporate transactional, litigation, entertainment, government and non-profit. We have the expertise to support your desired career path.
- Cardozo students are given the foundation to follow their inspiration. Our graduates begin their careers in a wide variety of sectors, at the world’s largest law firms, in judicial clerkships, in public service as prosecutors and defenders and with in-house counsel positions.
- The Center for Public Service Law works closely with employers from the government and non-profit sectors that recruit students interested in social justice, civil rights and policy work. Cardozo’s summer stipend program and Loan Repayment Assistance Program provide broad-based funding for students who want to pursue careers in public service.
- First-year law students receive guidance on resume and cover letter writing, interviewing, negotiation and networking.
- Our counselors work closely with the Student Bar Association and other student groups to develop programming responsive to student interests and needs, fostering innovative counseling, programming and communication.
- Counselors work with our alumni to provide mentoring and networking opportunities.
- Our Employer Outreach team cultivates relationships with employers of all sizes and practice areas to provide a wide spectrum of career opportunities.
- Cardozo has a longstanding commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion that includes collaboration with student affinity groups and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. We have a strong track record of placement with employers that sponsor programs, internships and post-graduate opportunities for students from underrepresented backgrounds. The Office of Career Services is passionate about providing support, guidance and mentorship access to first-generation students and students from underrepresented backgrounds.

Cardozo is consistently ranked by The National Law Journal in the top 38 of ‘go-to’ law schools for Big Law placement. We are a top school for placing graduates in jobs at law firms with more than 100 attorneys.

We have more than 250 alumni partners working at the nation’s leading law firms.

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Cardozo Law blends rigorous legal theory with a passion for practical experience, offering stellar academic courses and specialty programs in a wide spectrum of legal fields. We complement these fundamentals with rich experiential opportunities and electives that enable you to customize your J.D. degree and pursue your career goals. From courses in technology and cybersecurity to real estate and business law, civil rights, consumer rights and LGBTQ+ rights, Cardozo prepares students for today’s legal environment and tomorrow’s opportunities.

“A RICH AND BROAD CURRICULUM

Cardozo students gain a deep understanding of legal essentials that last them throughout their careers.

Cardozo professors are not only invested in ensuring that students learn the material but, and I think more importantly, they are invested in the subject matter themselves. Many of them are on the forefront of thought in their respective fields and are more than happy and willing to bring those thoughts into the classroom for debate. This not only makes classes exciting but also brings to light cutting-edge issues, which in turn better reveals how the law operates outside of the classroom.

— Jared Grubow ’19
Associate, WilmerHale
Cardozo is an intellectual powerhouse, driven by our inspired faculty and supported by the ambitions of our incredible students.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND INFORMATION LAW

Cardozo Law has one of the most robust intellectual-property programs in the United States, taught by faculty leaders with expertise in every aspect of IP, including internet privacy law, blockchain technology, scientific patents, music, fashion, sports and entertainment law, and international trade. Our IP curriculum includes advanced study in copyright, internet, trademark and patent law.

FILM: In the Filmmakers Legal Clinic, the only one in a New York City law school, students provide free legal services to independent documentary and narrative filmmakers working on social justice issues. The clinic also advises filmmakers through a partnership with the Tribeca Film Institute.

TECH: In the Tech Startup Clinic, students help new tech companies with their legal and business challenges while learning about IP, corporate, contract, tax and labor and employment issues.

FASHION: The Fashion Law Practicum pairs Cardozo students with students from FIT (Fashion Institute of Technology). Together they work out a plan to build and protect a fashion brand.

MUSIC: A partnership with the music rights organization BMI (Broadcast Music Inc.) makes possible the Cardozo/BMI Entertainment and Communications Law Moot Court Competition. Every year, students take on a highly complex music rights case and argue before music industry professionals who choose the winners.

SPORTS: Learn about legal issues arising in professional sports in our Sports and the Law class. The class is taught by Professors Anthony Dreyer, Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP; and David Zimmerman, National Hockey League Senior Executive Vice President, Chief Legal Officer and General Counsel.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROGRAMS

Fashion, Arts, Media and Entertainment Law (FAME Center)
Cardozo trains lawyers who understand all aspects of these multibillion-dollar global industries, including brand protection, licensing and business formation. FAME Director Barbara Kolsun is a Cardozo alumna and a leading fashion attorney who served as general counsel for Kate Spade, Stuart Weitzman and 7 for All Mankind. Students are exposed to New York City’s creative industries, learning to serve clients legal needs in employment law, digital media, finance, taxation, licensing, compliance and mergers and acquisitions. The Fashion Law Practicum simulates the experience of working with a startup fashion company, by working with fashion students from the Fashion Institute of Technology on brand development and protection.

Blockchain Project
As blockchain technology changes the way we think about international financial transactions, Bitcoin and cryptocurrencies, Cardozo is at the forefront of understanding the rapid changes invoked by cryptocurrency and Bitcoin required in law and regulation. The project offers students and practicing lawyers multiple avenues to gain expertise in this revolutionary and transformative technology.

Cardozo Data Law Initiative
Prepare for an in-demand career in the rapidly expanding fields of information governance, e-discovery, data privacy, social media law and cybersecurity. Through coursework, practical training and real-world exposure, Cardozo students are well positioned to fill the growing need for cutting-edge legal representation.

Cardozo Patent Diversity Project
The first program of its kind at any law school in the country, this new project was created to increase the number of women and members of minority groups who receive patents. The law school provides legal assistance to people seeking patents.

CARDozo’s IP CLINICS AND FIELD CLINICS INCLUDE:
- Filmmakers Legal Clinic
- Tech Startup Clinic
- Visual and Performing Arts Law Field Clinic

CARDozo’s IP EXTERNSHIPS INCLUDE:
- Christie’s
- Sotheby’s
- Sony Music

SELECTED COURSES
- Advertising Law
- Copyright
- Cybersecurity Law
- Entertainment Law
- Fashion Law
- First Amendment
- Internet Law
- IP Business and Transactional Law
- Media Law
- Music Law
- Patent Law
- Social Media Law
- Sports and the Law
- Startup Law
- Trademark Law

BUSINESS AND CORPORATE LAW

New York City is the world’s leading financial and commercial center, making it the ideal place to study corporate, securities and commercial law. Our broad course curriculum, taught by well-known experts in the field, is complemented by hands-on experiences, such as the 10-day Intensive Transactional Lawyering Program, the yearlong Securities Arbitration Clinic and the Tech Startup Clinic. Recent externships have taken students to investment bank Morgan Stanley, music and sports syndicator Westwood One, and entertainment giant MTV/ViacomCBS.

Business Law
Students who focus on business law courses graduate with sharp analytical and contract drafting skills, a deep understanding of key areas of law and a feel for current business problems—from navigating complex U.S. securities laws to understanding international business law in light of new technologies and shifting political dynamics. Cardozo Business Law courses help students emerge from law school prepared for careers in transactional work, business counseling and commercial litigation in both for-profit and nonprofit settings.

Corporate Compliance and Risk Control
Compliance attorneys make sure that financial institutions follow the law and avoid legal risks. To gain practical experience, students benefit from Cardozo’s partnerships with major financial institutions and regulatory agencies, including JP Morgan Chase, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and the New York Office of the Attorney General, among others.

SELECTED COURSES AND CLINICS
- Advising Boards of Directors
- Alternative Business Entities
- Bankruptcy Law
- Contract Drafting
- Corporate Finance
- E-Commerce
- Corporate Tax
- Ethics for a Business Attorney
- Federal Income Tax
- International Trade
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Negotiation Theory and Skills
- Securities Arbitration Clinic
- Securities Regulation
- White-Collar Crime

HEYMAN CENTER FOR CORPORATE LAW & GOVERNANCE

The Heyman Center is our hub for studies and events related to corporate law and governance. It runs the comprehensive Heyman Scholars Program, in which selected students interested in corporate and securities law issues have special opportunities to interact with professional and academic leaders through mentorship and social events, professional development training and assistance with internships and externships.

One of the top Intellectual Property Law Programs in the nation
U.S. News & World Report
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

Cardozo Law provides all students with a deep understanding of the U.S. Constitution—its history, current interpretation and role in establishing the basic governing structures of our democracy. First-year law students focus on the powers of the federal government, including the courts’ power of judicial review, the allocation of authority within the federal government between the Executive, the Courts and Congress, and the battle over the respective roles of state and national governments in our federal system. Upper-level students commonly explore the individual rights recognized in the Bill of Rights and later Amendments, examining longstanding struggles over the nature of the equality and liberty our Constitution protects. In our classrooms, students are challenged to think about how age-old dilemmas in democratic governance function to inform the legal resolution of contemporary conflicts. Learning from one or more of the five Cardozo faculty members who have served as Clerks for the U.S. Supreme Court, Cardozo students emerge with a solid grounding in current constitutional doctrine and a critical mastery of the modern language of constitutional debate.

FLOERSHEIMER CENTER FOR CONSTITUTIONAL DEMOCRACY

Students with a keen interest in the Constitution find inspiration in the many events hosted by the center, including speaking engagements and conferences. Recent convenings have addressed hate speech and the culture wars, civil liberties in the age of terrorism and taxing the church.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)

In an era increasingly characterized by cyberbullying, road rage and extremism as well as by international violence and aggression, the skills used in mediation and dispute resolution are vital legal tools. Cardozo’s ADR program is recognized worldwide for its curricular offerings and hands-on training that equip students with skills leading to a certification that they can put to immediate use.

Cardozo offers three pioneering mediation clinics and a week-long Intensive Mediation Advocacy Program. The program’s founding director is Professor Lela Love, a widely recognized leader in the field. Professor Andrea Schneider is the Director of the Kukin Center for Conflict Resolution. Many ADR students participate in the highly regarded Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution.

SELECTED COURSES

ADR in the Workplace
Advanced Mediation Practicum
Arbitration Law: Theory and Practice
Collaborative Family Law
Divorce Mediation
International Commercial Arbitration
Interviewing and Counseling
Mediation Clinic
Negotiation Theory and Skills
Securities Arbitration Clinic

REAL ESTATE LAW

The New York City real estate market is among the largest and most complex in the world. Here, lawyers address universal questions related to where and how we live, whether they represent individual renters or multinational construction firms. Cardozo students have an opportunity to understand real estate transactions by studying with some of the most experienced lawyers in the field. The real estate program offers courses, a seminar, electives and externships in New York law firms and real estate investment firms. Rounding out the academic experience are events sponsored by the Center for Real Estate Law & Policy. Recent talks include The Art of a Successful Deal: Both Sides Must Win and The Impact of Demographics, Consumer Behavior and Government Regulation on the Real Estate Market. In addition, students write for the monthly Cardozo-based New York Real Estate Law Reporter, working with faculty to summarize and analyze court decisions.

SELECTED COURSES

Alternative Business Entities
Construction Law
Co-ops and Condominiums
Land-Use Regulation
Partnership Tax
Real Estate Finance
INTERNATIONAL LAW
The dynamic and rewarding field of international law enables students to delve into numerous overlapping specialization areas as well as to travel and learn about new cultures. Whether your passion is human rights, intellectual property, immigration, trade or comparative law, students can construct a path at Cardozo that is rich in curricular content, experiential opportunities and semester-abroad programs to help prepare for global practice.

SELECTED COURSES AND PROGRAMS
Arab-Israeli Conflict
Business Immigration, Workforce and Compliance
Contemporary Conflicts & The Law
European Legal Institutions
International Business Transactions
International Criminal Law
International Dispute Resolution
International Humanitarian Law
International Human Rights
International Trade Joint J.D./LL.M Degree with Sorbonne Law School
Paris Law of War and Contemporary Conflicts

CRIMINAL LAW
Cardozo offers one of the most robust criminal law programs in the country. The growing movement to reduce mass incarceration and address racial disparity in criminal proceedings makes criminal law a vibrant area for study today. It is also an area where major legal shifts are under way, many of them led by states moving away from some of the harsher practices of previous decades, such as reforming bail systems and decriminalizing marijuana. Cardozo is the birthplace of The Innocence Project, transforming the criminal justice system using DNA evidence to win the freedom of more than 350 wrongfully convicted people, including 21 who served time on death row. Cardozo offers a broad range of criminal law and procedure courses taught by faculty who are former federal and state prosecutors and defense lawyers. They approach the subject from both a pragmatic real-world perspective and from a rich theoretical one. That translates to solid career skills for our students, many of whom go directly into jobs at district attorneys’ or public defenders’ offices after graduation.

Highly diverse experiential learning programs give students the skills they need to hit the ground running. They include The Innocence Project, Prosecutor Practicum, Criminal Defense and Criminal Appeals Clinics and U.S. Attorney’s Office externship as well as Cardozo’s signature Intensive Trial Advocacy Program.

SELECTED COURSES
Advanced Criminal Law
Civil Rights Clinic
Criminal Defense Clinic
Criminal Law
Criminal Procedure I and II
Evidence
Prisoners’ Rights
Prosecutor Practicum
White Collar Crime

KATE SHAW
Professor of law and the co-director of the Floersheimer Center for Constitutional Democracy. She clerked for Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens during the 2007 term. She previously worked in the Obama Office of White House Counsel as associate counselor to the president. She is a contributor on ABC News covering the Supreme Court and legal issues on Capitol Hill.
INTERNATIONAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Cardozo Law looks to the future while honoring the past. It harnesses the resources of an entrepreneurial and innovative law school to strengthen the human rights movement through multiple initiatives with global impact.

The Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights (CLIHHR, pronounced “clear”) strengthens laws, norms and institutions to prevent mass atrocities, protect affected populations and rebuild societies in the wake of atrocities. An innovative “think tank,” CLIHHR furthers the theory and scholarship of human rights and atrocity prevention, while its “action arm”—The Benjamin B. Ferencz Human Rights and Atrocity Prevention Clinic—trains law students in human rights and atrocity prevention practice.

SELECTED COURSES
Indigenous Rights in the Americas
Jewish Law
Jurisprudence
Law and Film
Law and Literature
Law and Religion

SELECTED COURSES & CLINICS
Bronx Defenders Services, Family Defense Practice
Child Abuse & Gender-based Violence
Collaborative Family Law
Divorce and Family Mediation
Divorce Mediation Clinic
Family Law
Juvenile Justice
New York Family Law Drafting and Procedure
Sexual Orientation and the Law
Special Education Law and Advocacy Field Clinic
Trusts and Estates

FAMILY LAW, BIOETHICS, AND HEALTH CARE LAW

Same-sex marriage and surrogate motherhood are among the many ways in which social transformation and technology have made family law one of the most captivating and innovative areas in which to practice. Families have long turned to lawyers for help with complex personal matters such as adopting a child or intervening when a relative should no longer drive or manage money. Cardozo has a long tradition in family law. A significant proportion of students take courses in this subject, and as a result, we have a strong alumni network practicing in this area. Students who focus on courses in this program graduate fully prepared to represent the families of today and the families of the future. Several hands-on opportunities—especially the Mediation Clinic, Bet Tzedek Civil Litigation Clinic (helping elderly clients and those with disabilities), Divorce Mediation Clinic and Bronx Defenders Family Defense Field Clinic—perfectly complement these courses. Cardozo Law is the only law school—anywhere—to offer a J.D. and M.S. in bioethics jointly with a medical school. This program, offered with YU-affiliated Albert Einstein College of Medicine, provides a distinct advantage for attorneys interested in expanding opportunities in health care law.

Students may alternatively enroll in the Certificate Program in Bioethics and Medical Humanities, offered in conjunction with the Montefiore Einstein Center for Bioethics. About 25 law students each year attend a series of seminars with professionals in health care law, chaplaincy, social work and other disciplines, learning the foundations and the skills needed in this growing field.

SELECTED COURSES & CLINICS
Bronx Defenders Services, Family Defense Practice
Child Abuse & Gender-based Violence
Collaborative Family Law
Divorce and Family Mediation
Divorce Mediation Clinic
Family Law
Juvenile Justice
New York Family Law Drafting and Procedure
Sexual Orientation and the Law
Special Education Law and Advocacy Field Clinic
Trusts and Estates

In a time when U.S. senators are questioning critical race theory and other methods for countering systemic racism, the Confronting Structural Violence: Law Teaching Guides project is more important than ever. Addressing the legacies of atrocities that continue to perpetuate identity-based violence and discrimination must begin with an honest evaluation of legal reparations for slavery harms here at home. We hope to bring these discussions into law classrooms to move forward toward restorative justice, healing and transformative change.

Professor Jocelyn Getgen Kestenbaum
Director, Benjamin B. Ferencz Human Rights and Atrocity Prevention Clinic and Faculty Director, Cardozo Law Institute in Holocaust and Human Rights

CARDOZO.YU.EDU

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Public Service is in our DNA.

Public service is at the very heart of the Cardozo experience. It has been since we opened our doors in 1976. Throughout your studies at Cardozo, you will have many opportunities to work for access to justice for those in need. Students have worked to help win exoneration for innocent prisoners on death row, pursued asylum cases, sought restitution for Holocaust survivors and fought for rent relief during the COVID-19 crisis. Many Cardozo students each year are steeped in the legal avenues to social justice while working to achieve it for their clients.

Bernardo Caceres ’20
Staff Attorney, Queens Defenders office

I was honored to work with and learn from the ACLU’s Criminal Law Reform Project. I’ve been passionate about fighting for change in our criminal justice system ever since I was a kid and had the misfortune to watch this system fail my older brother. Cardozo’s Public Service Stipend Program gives students like me a chance to learn how we can be a part of this fight after we complete law school. I’m grateful to be a part of a community that encourages this type of work.

The Center for Public Service Law provides guidance and support to students wishing to pursue public service and organizes regular programming for the entire law school community on public service topics. The Center also supports all public service events and helps students make valuable connections for externships.
In the Classroom and Community

Many Cardozo Law faculty are deeply involved in fighting for social justice inside and outside of court, instilling in students an appreciation of the critical role that lawyers play in achieving justice for those in need. Students interested in human rights and social justice may participate in dozens of courses, clinics, externships, panels and symposia, brown-bag lunches, clubs, journals and other activities.

Cardozo students run many public-service organizations that let you turn your passion into action. The Public Service Scholars Program, a prestigious and selective three-year program, offers specialized training.

PUBLIC SERVICE HIGHLIGHTS

Public Service Law Advocacy Week
Every year the law school devotes a week in January to public service, offering daily panels and workshops with prominent legal practitioners and community advocates that address issues such as domestic violence, LGBTQ+ rights, prisoners’ rights, immigration reform and education reform.

Public Service Summer Stipend Program
The Public Service Summer Stipend Program raises money to support stipends for students working in summer internships at public interest organizations and government agencies in the United States and beyond.

Loan Repayment Assistance Program
Cardozo Law provides annual forgivable loans to graduates working in public service for up to six years after graduation to help them overcome their educational debts. The Laurie M. Tisch Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP) means that students can pursue their dream careers immediately after graduation. Cardozo’s particularly expansive LRAP supports graduates who work not only for nonprofit organizations but also for government agencies, including prosecutors’ offices.
Cardozo Law offers groundbreaking clinics, externships and trial experiences that help bring the law to life and allow students to chart the course of their careers. Cardozo Law students don’t just learn about securing justice for clients. They achieve it. You’ll put classroom learning to work while you’re still in law school and gain the skills you need to hit the ground running after graduation.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Hands-on learning gives our students a real-world edge.

“...The Innocence Project helped me better understand not simply the law but the social science issues leading to wrongful convictions. I wasn’t merely refining my research and writing skills. I was working for individuals who were wronged by a system that was supposed to protect them. When there is an exoneration, I feel a great sense of pride in knowing that somehow I contributed to that. I am eager to continue this work and better prepare myself to change the system that led to these miscarriages of justice.”

Eugenia Fowlkes ’20
Assistant Corporation Counsel, New York City Law Department
IN-HOUSE CLINICS

Cardozo offers 11 in-house clinics taught by full-time faculty that enable students to work on real cases with significant social impact while they are still in law school.

From the Immigration Justice Clinic, where Cardozo students have helped hundreds of immigrants win release from detention or avoid deportation, to the Innocence Project, where they have helped exonerate more than 200 innocent prisoners, Cardozo’s clinics provide students with some of the best opportunities for real-world legal training in the nation.

Clinic students meet one or two days a week in the classroom, with students typically spending multiple days each week working on their cases, meeting with clients or partner organizations together with their teammates.

Students at Cardozo’s Innocence Project worked on the case of Mark Denny, who was released in 2017 after 30 years in prison for a crime he did not commit.

CLINIC STUDENTS:
• interview clients and witnesses
• draft pleadings and briefs
• conduct discovery
• counsel clients
• mediate
• draft and negotiate contracts
• argue motions or appeals and conduct hearings in court
• negotiate settlements
• incorporate new businesses

CARDOZO CLINICS

INNOCENCE PROJECT
Cardozo is the birthplace of this world-renowned program. Students work with prisoners, crime labs, prosecutors and others to free wrongly convicted prisoners using DNA technology and modern forensics. Since the project’s inception, students have helped to win the release of more than 200 people.

KATHRYN O. GREENBERG
IMMIGRATION JUSTICE CLINIC
Students represent immigrants before federal immigration authorities and U.S. courts of appeals. Cardozo’s clinic participants have stopped deportations of unaccompanied minors fleeing violence in Latin America, secured visas for victims of human trafficking and helped immigrants win asylum.

CRIMINAL DEFENSE CLINIC
Students learn the intricacies of criminal defense and the unpredictability of trials by representing clients in court cases from start to disposition.

DIVORCE MEDIATION CLINIC
By applying a commonsense, problem-solving lens to help families through this difficult transition, students have helped more than 350 people navigate separation and divorce.

FILMMAKERS LEGAL CLINIC
Students learn transactional skills while providing legal services to makers of independent and documentary films with social justice themes.

KATHRYN O. GREENBERG
IMMIGRATION JUSTICE CLINIC
Students represent immigrants before federal immigration authorities and U.S. courts of appeals. Cardozo’s clinic participants have stopped deportations of unaccompanied minors fleeing violence in Latin America, secured visas for victims of human trafficking and helped immigrants win asylum.

SECURITIES ARBITRATION CLINIC
Students advocate for small investors who have lost money due to fraud, malpractice or mistakes on the part of brokerage firms and investment advisors. The clinic has recovered more than $1.6 million, every penny of which went back to clients who had been victims but could not afford a lawyer to take on major financial institutions.

TECH STARTUP CLINIC
Students provide legal services to new technology-based companies in New York City, guiding them through entity formation, intellectual property issues, funding questions and commercialization strategies.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CARDOZO’S CLINICS:
FIELD CLINICS
In Cardozo Law’s competitive and intensive semester-long or yearlong Field Clinics, more than 250 students each year branch out into dozens of areas of the law. They work in legal offices and take on real client responsibilities under close supervision by practitioners who also teach seminars at the law school.

APPROPRIATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR) FIELD CLINIC
BRONX DEFENDERS/ MAINZER FAMILY DEFENSE FIELD CLINIC
CONSUMER RIGHTS FIELD CLINIC
CRIMINAL APPEALS FIELD CLINIC
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES (DFS) FIELD CLINIC
FEDERAL CRIMINAL PROSECUTION FIELD CLINIC
FORENSIC SCIENCE FIELD CLINIC
HEALTH CARE REFORM FIELD CLINIC
NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT APPEALS DIVISION FIELD CLINIC
NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT JUVENILE DELINQUENCY FIELD CLINIC
NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW FIELD CLINIC
NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FIELD CLINIC (SOCIAL JUSTICE DIVISION)
SPECIAL EDUCATION LAW AND ADVOCACY FIELD CLINIC
STATE CRIMINAL PROSECUTION FIELD CLINIC- QUEENS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY
TAX LAW FIELD CLINIC
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS LAW FIELD CLINIC

EXTERNSHIPS
Externships are an excellent way to explore career options, and Cardozo offers one of the largest programs in the United States. Each year, more than 250 students choose from opportunities in public-service nonprofits—from the grassroots to major cultural, health care and social justice institutions—as well as businesses, government offices and federal or state courts. Cardozo’s New York City location provides students with unparalleled chances to pursue these areas of interest under the careful supervision of leaders in their fields.

“I always knew that I wanted to make a difference in the world. Working with the United States Environmental Protection Agency allowed me to do just that, while my academic and practical experiences at Cardozo prepared me to perform with confidence, poise and curiosity. My first assignment centered on concepts I had just learned in class. There is a great sense of accomplishment when your knowledge from the classroom transitions into real-world experiences.”

Melissa Mertz ’20
Restructuring Associate, Kirkland & Ellis
JANUARY IS LAWYERING SKILLS MONTH

There are not enough days in the week for Cardozo Law students to take advantage of all of the experiential learning opportunities available to them. So during the January midyear break, students can participate in offerings that provide intensive skills-based training applicable to many areas of the law.

INTENSIVE TRIAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Second- and third-year students learn cutting-edge strategies from leading trial attorneys and judges from across the country in this rigorous two-week “boot camp” simulating the intensity of a trial. In small groups, students practice direct and cross-examinations interviewing and preparing witnesses, selecting juries, dealing with evidentiary issues and preparing for and presenting bench and jury trials. The course ends with students conducting a full jury trial.

OTHER JANUARY INTENSIVE PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

• Intensive Mediation Advocacy Program (IMAP)
• Negotiation Theories and Skills
• Intensive Transactional Lawyering Program (ITRANS)
• Introduction to Financial Statements (A Fox5)
• Collaborative Family Law
• Advanced Legal Research

LAW JOURNALS

Working on a journal is one of the best ways to develop legal research, writing and analytical skills. Cardozo is home to student-run journals that publish articles by distinguished academics and practitioners along with student notes and comments. Courts often cite Cardozo journal articles and notes in decisions.

Cardozo Law Review
Cardozo Arts & Entertainment Law Journal
Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution
International & Comparative Law Review
Cardozo Journal of Equal Rights and Social Justice
Law & Literature

ADR COMPETITION HONOR SOCIETY

Members of this student-run organization participate in an ADR Moot Camp over the summer and prepare for domestic and international competitions during the Fall and Spring semesters. These competitions simulate negotiation, client counseling, representation in mediation and arbitration. These events are sponsored by the ABA, other law schools, and various international entities such as the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris, France.

PROSECUTOR PRACTICUM

The Prosecutor Practicum is a full-time internship at the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office where students spend a semester as student assistant district attorneys. They participate with new ADAs in an orientation program providing practical training in criminal law, criminal procedure, evidence and professional responsibility.

MOOT COURT HONOR SOCIETY

Members of Cardozo’s Moot Court Honor Society participate in approximately six national and regional competitions each semester. The student-run organization prepares participants to write advocacy briefs and make powerful oral arguments. Structured like a publication, with selected writers, editors and oralsists, the Honor Society hosts competitions —such as the Cardozo/BMI Moot Court Competition, a unique entertainment-law contest—and selected students participate in national and regional competitions.

ALEXANDER FELLOWS PROGRAM

A highly selective program, this judicial clerkship, offered every semester, enables students to clerk for a federal judge in chambers five days a week. Students research and prepare memoranda, participate in conferences and draft opinions. A weekly seminar, usually led by a federal judge, gives students an insider’s view of the day-to-day operations of a court. Graduates of the program have an advantage in securing postgraduate clerkships.

SIMULATION PROGRAMS AND OTHER HANDS-ON LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

My three years at Cardozo taught me how to think creatively about complex issues and to be comfortable with the unknown. The learning curve as a new associate is very steep, so I think back to these lessons often and am so grateful for my experience at Cardozo.

Lehka Menon ’18
Associate, Kirkland & Ellis LLP
Vibrant intellectual debate outside the classroom

New York City is a magnet for legal and business experts, and hundreds of events each year expose students to far-reaching subjects and of-the-moment debates in law and society.

CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA AND PANELS
Noted leaders in law, finance and politics, including U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sonia Sotomayor and John Paul Stevens, former U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York Preet Bharara, former secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Jeh Johnson and former U.S. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development Julian Castro, have spoken at recent events. Other vistors have included prominent journalists, authors, fashion designers, filmmakers and music executives.

FAME
- Cardozo Sports Law Symposium
- An Evening with Designer Steve Madden
- Bring an Accessory to Change with Designer Kenneth Cole
- Fashion Law Symposium: Sustainability and E-Commerce
- Framing Britney Spears, Adult Guardianship and an Artist’s Control over Her Work
- A Discussion with Courtney Hall
- Trophies for the Empire

JACOB BURNS/HEYMAN CENTER
- Ten Years of Iqbal conference
- Lawyers, Guns and Money: The State of the Second Amendment with Visiting Scholar Saul Cornell
- Cardozo Conference on Civil Liberties with Justice Stephen Breyer and High-Court Judges from the UK, Germany and the European Court of Human Rights

FEATURED GOVERNMENT SPEAKERS
- A Conversation with Justice Sonia Sotomayor and Justice Rosalie Abella
- Women’s Votes, Women’s Voices with Special Guest New York City Council Member Carlina Rivera
- Dean’s Speaker Series: A Conversation with Bess Chiu ’09, Chief of Staff, Office of the Counsel to the Mayor of New York City

Sir Paul McCartney received the International Advocate for Peace Award from the Cardozo Journal of Conflict Resolution.
Cardozo’s exceptional and caring faculty will help you thrive.

Cardozo faculty are intellectual pathbreakers and practitioners who care deeply about their subjects and their students, sharing not only their knowledge but also their connections in New York City and the world. The faculty will know your name and welcome your ideas. They bring warmth into the classroom and a fresh approach to legal education, often infusing philosophy, literature, economics, politics and history into their teaching to bring the law to life.
SELECT CARDOZO FACULTY

MYRIAM GILLES
CIVIL RIGHTS AND CIVIL PROCEDURE
Professor of Law and former Vice Dean specializing in class actions and aggregate litigation. She is the fifth most cited civil procedure professor in the country and has testified before Congress on consumer protection. Gilles was recently elected to the American Law Institute.

ELIZABETH GOLDMAN
CORPORATE LAW
Director of the Securities Arbitration Clinic; former prosecutor with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission who has won awards for her role in prosecuting white-collar criminals.

MICHAEL ERIC HERZ
ADMINISTRATIVE AND ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
A leading authority on administrative law and government agencies and co-director of the Israeli Supreme Court Project; former attorney for the Environmental Defense Fund and former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Byron White.

ANDREA KUPFER SCHNEIDER
MEDIATION
Professor of Law and Director of the Kukin Program for Conflict Resolution. In 2009, Professor Schneider was awarded the Woman of the Year Award by the Wisconsin Law Journal and the Association for Women Lawyers. She was named the 2017 recipient of the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution Award for Outstanding Scholarly Work, the highest scholarly award given by the ABA in the field of dispute resolution.

DEBORAH PEARLSTEIN
INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND LAW OF WAR
An expert on national security whose scholarship focuses on separation of powers, counterterrorism and the law of war who has testified before Congress on detainee treatment; frequent commentator and opinion writer in the press.

PETER MARKOWITZ
IMMIGRATION LAW
Associate Dean of Equity in Curriculum and Teaching; founder and director of the Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic; a scholar on criminal and immigration law who has been recognized with awards from the New York City Council for his groundbreaking work on behalf of immigrant communities.

JESSICA ROTH
CRIMINAL LAW
Former federal prosecutor focused on violent crime and securities fraud; co-director of the Jacob Burns Center for Ethics in the Practice of Law and a member of the board of directors of Cardozo’s Innocence Project. Roth frequently appears on CNN and MSNBC to analyze breaking news in criminal law.

JANINE L. SCHROEDER
CRIMINAL LAW
A prolific constitutional law scholar, Supreme Court commentator for ABC News, former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens and associate counsel in the Obama Administration. Co-director of the Floresheimer Center for Constitutional Law.

SUZANNE LAST STONE
JEWISH LAW
University Professor of Jewish Law and Contemporary Civilization and a former litigator; writes and lectures on religion and the state and on the intersection of Jewish thought, legal theory and the humanities.

ANTHONY SEBOK
TORTS
An expert on legal ethics, litigation finance, tort law and insurance law. One of the most cited faculty members in torts and insurance law according to The Leiter Report.

KATE SHAW
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
Founding director of the Family Law, Policy and Bioethics Program, he has expertise in legal aspects of sexual orientation, gender, reproduction, cognition and science.

FELIX WU
TECHNOLOGY LAW
Director of the Cardozo Data Law Initiative; a leader in information law with scholarship focused on freedom of speech, privacy law and intellectual property.

JEANNE L. SCHROEDER
CORPORATE LAW, CRYPTOCURRENCY AND JURISPRUDENCE
A leading scholar in blockchain technology and cryptocurrency regulation with interests ranging from commercial law to feminist jurisprudential theory; currently developing a feminist theory of law and economics.

KATE SHAW
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
A prolific constitutional law scholar, Supreme Court commentator for ABC News, former clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens and associate counsel in the Obama Administration. Co-director of the Floresheimer Center for Constitutional Law.

STEWART STERK
REAL ESTATE LAW
One of the most widely cited real estate law scholars in the country; expert in property and land-use regulation, trusts and estates, and copyright. Director of the Center on Real Estate Law & Public Policy.

DAVID RUDENSTINE
CONSTITUTIONAL LAW
Former dean of the law school and former civil liberties litigator in federal and state courts; an esteemed scholar on First Amendment and other civil liberties matters; author of several acclaimed books on national security and secrecy.

JEFFREY S. WU
TECHNOLOGY LAW
Director of the Cardozo Data Law Initiative; a leader in information law with scholarship focused on freedom of speech, privacy law and intellectual property.
The spirit of inclusion is a core value at Cardozo.

Diversity and inclusion are central values at Cardozo School of Law. We believe that an inclusive environment—where a full range of perspectives and viewpoints are articulated and respected—is essential to our community and the legal profession.

Cardozo’s faculty recently adopted revisions to our curriculum, designed to help our students examine and understand racism in the law and throughout the legal system. Dean Melanie Leslie appointed Peter L. Markowitz as associate dean of equity in curriculum and teaching. The Dean’s Council on Diversity and Inclusion spearheaded strategies to address inequities and structural racism within the community and in the legal system at large. We are committed to empowering all programs and initiatives at Cardozo with support for continuous and ongoing advancement in diversity, equity and inclusion.

The E. Nathaniel Gates Scholars Program supports students from underrepresented backgrounds throughout their law school years. Designed for students who are underrepresented based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation or other criteria, such as those from immigrant backgrounds or first generation in their family to enter a higher education institution, the Gates Scholars Program helps students overcome obstacles and draw on wider community connections.

The David Martinidez Fund provides support for underrepresented students based on race, ethnicity, gender identity or other criteria, such as those from immigrant backgrounds or first generation in their family to enter a higher education institution. Diversity at Cardozo is expressed in our classes, clinics, special events and hands-on learning opportunities outside the classroom. Student journals, nationally ranked programs in intellectual property and dispute resolution and advocacy, and our internationally recognized clinics, such as The Innocence Project and the Kathryn O. Greenberg Immigration Justice Clinic, support fundamental social justice and equal rights—taking issues of diversity into the public realm.

Cardozo’s student organizations offer social activities for their members while sharing their culture and traditions with the broader Cardozo community.

- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Cardozo Women’s Law Initiative
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Korean American Law Students Association
- Latin American Law Students Association
- Minority Law Students Alliance
- Muslim Law Students Association
- OUTLaw (LGBTQ+ Organization)
- South Asian Law Students Association

The E. Nathaniel Gates Scholars Program supports students from underrepresented backgrounds throughout their law school years. Designed for students who are underrepresented based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation or other criteria, such as those from immigrant backgrounds or first generation in their family to enter a higher education institution, the Gates Scholars Program helps students overcome obstacles and draw on wider community connections.
Wherever you launch your legal career, the Cardozo alumni network is there to help. Cardozo graduates work in 49 U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands as well as 56 nations all over the world in every imaginable type of legal job. Whether you want to work in a leading law firm, major entertainment company, small startup or human rights nonprofit, our community of more than 15,000 alumni are ready and willing to help the next generation of law school graduates turn their career goals into reality.

Cardozo alumni clubs and local representatives are active and ready to assist you in regions including Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Florida, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. as well as in France, Germany, Israel and Japan. We’re pleased to introduce you to our alumni who are practicing successfully in a highly diverse range of legal areas.
Benjamin N. Cardozo was a distinguished lawyer, New York State Supreme Court Judge, member of the New York State Court of Appeals and renowned justice on the U.S. Supreme Court. Cardozo is viewed as one of the most distinguished judges in American law and one of the great legal minds of the 20th century. He was one of the first Jewish justices and was widely known for a powerful literary style in his influential opinions from the bench. The law school that bears his name is proud to embrace his ethical approach to the pursuit of justice as well as his conviction that the law must constantly adapt to a changing world. In a historic era of enormous division, he helped reshape American constitutional law and set the Supreme Court on a doctrinal path that it has followed since.