

USC Gould

School of Law



Nina Ries | J.D. 2001

“A world-class faculty invested in your success, small classes, collegial classmates, individualized attention, and the supremely loyal Trojan Family — this is a community where you can expect others to care about you and help you.”

“It’s always right to say yes to USC Gould.”

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Trojan Family Network

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courtrooms

we have it all

Welcome to USC Gould School of Law.

If you are searching for a place to study law that will **empower** you with a strong grasp of the foundations of law and enable you to apply those theoretical foundations to the practice of law, you're in the right place.

If you are looking for a **small, diverse law school**, where professors know you by your first name and fellow students are your colleagues, not your competition, you've found it.

If you are interested in an **interdisciplinary, experiential education** that creates a seamless transition to practice, search no more.

If you want to attend a school where **alumni have a commitment** to support the next generation of students, you're there.

USC Gould is located on the dynamic University of Southern California University Park campus, in the **heart of Los Angeles**, the country's second-largest legal market. We are at the **center of the Pacific Rim** and in the nexus of the entertainment business and Silicon Beach.

Learn how our 115-year history of education dedicated to **high academic standards and constant innovation** will prepare you to define your own legal future and impact the world.



Students walking through campus



“Law is a gateway to careers that involve analytical and critical thinking. We provide USC Gould students with an education that enriches their problem-solving skills, preparing them to pursue leadership roles in government, public policy, and business.”

Andrew T. Guzman | Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law

Law is the foundation upon which all societies rest. Just about every part of our lives is touched by the law. Legal scholars and lawyers make fundamental contributions to the way in which society is governed, from financial markets to air travel and food safety. USC Gould is committed to providing a legal education that trains tomorrow’s leaders in business, government, and public service.

Lawyers as leaders

LARRY FLAX

J.D. 1967

.....
 Founder of California
 Pizza Kitchen

FRED RYAN

J.D. 1980

.....
 Publisher and CEO of
The Washington Post

JACKIE LACEY

J.D. 1982

.....
 Los Angeles County
 District Attorney;
 first African-
 American and first
 woman D.A. to run
 the largest D.A.
 office in the nation

AMY TRASK

J.D. 1985

.....
 Former CEO of the
 Oakland Raiders;
 first woman CEO of
 an NFL team

RANDOL

SCHOENBERG

J.D. 1991

.....
 Won landmark case
 to reclaim stolen
 art seized during
 WWII which inspired
 the major motion
 picture “Woman
 in Gold” featuring
 Helen Mirren and
 Ryan Reynolds



Professor Stephen Rich
teaching a first-year class

With a student to faculty ratio of 12:1, you're guaranteed individual attention. Whether your focus is public interest, entertainment, business, transactional law, or a myriad of other traditional or emerging specialties, at USC Gould you can create a customized path and course of study that fits your future plans.

As a USC Gould student, you will have the option of gaining unparalleled real-world experience by specializing in a particular area of the law, earning one or more of five certificates, working with clients in a clinic and/or externship, serving as an editor or staff member of a student journal, or participating in moot court.



"I always knew that I wanted to practice entertainment law. In choosing between schools, I looked at class offerings and saw that USC Gould's were more skill-based than theoretical. USC Gould's faculty are practicing attorneys, not just theorists. There's a difference between what are the most important concepts to the legal community and what are the most important to the business community. Being taught those practical aspects of the law was invaluable."

Mei Tuggle | J.D. 2017

A Seamless Transition Between Theory and Practice

No two students will follow the same course of study at USC Gould, but all students will follow a path that takes them from the first year’s theoretical foundation of law to the second and third year’s interdisciplinary and experiential application. Over 200 upper-division classes are taught by world-class faculty, many with advanced degrees in law as well as a secondary discipline, and experienced adjunct professors who are leading practitioners.

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

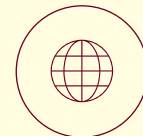
- J.D./Master of Arts in Economics
- J.D./Master of Business Administration
- J.D./Master of Business Taxation
- J.D./Master of Arts in International Relations
- J.D./Master of Arts in Communications Management
- J.D./Master of Arts in Political Science
- J.D./Master of Science in Gerontology
- J.D./Master of Real Estate Development
- J.D./Master of Social Work
- J.D./Master of Public Administration
- J.D./Master of Public Policy
- J.D./Master of Philosophy
- J.D./Master of Pharmacy
- J.D./Master of Philosophy in Social Science (Caltech)
- J.D./Master of Philosophy in Political Science and International Relations

** Apart from dual degree programs, students may take up to 12 units in other graduate and professional school offerings*

Year 1

FOUNDATION COURSES

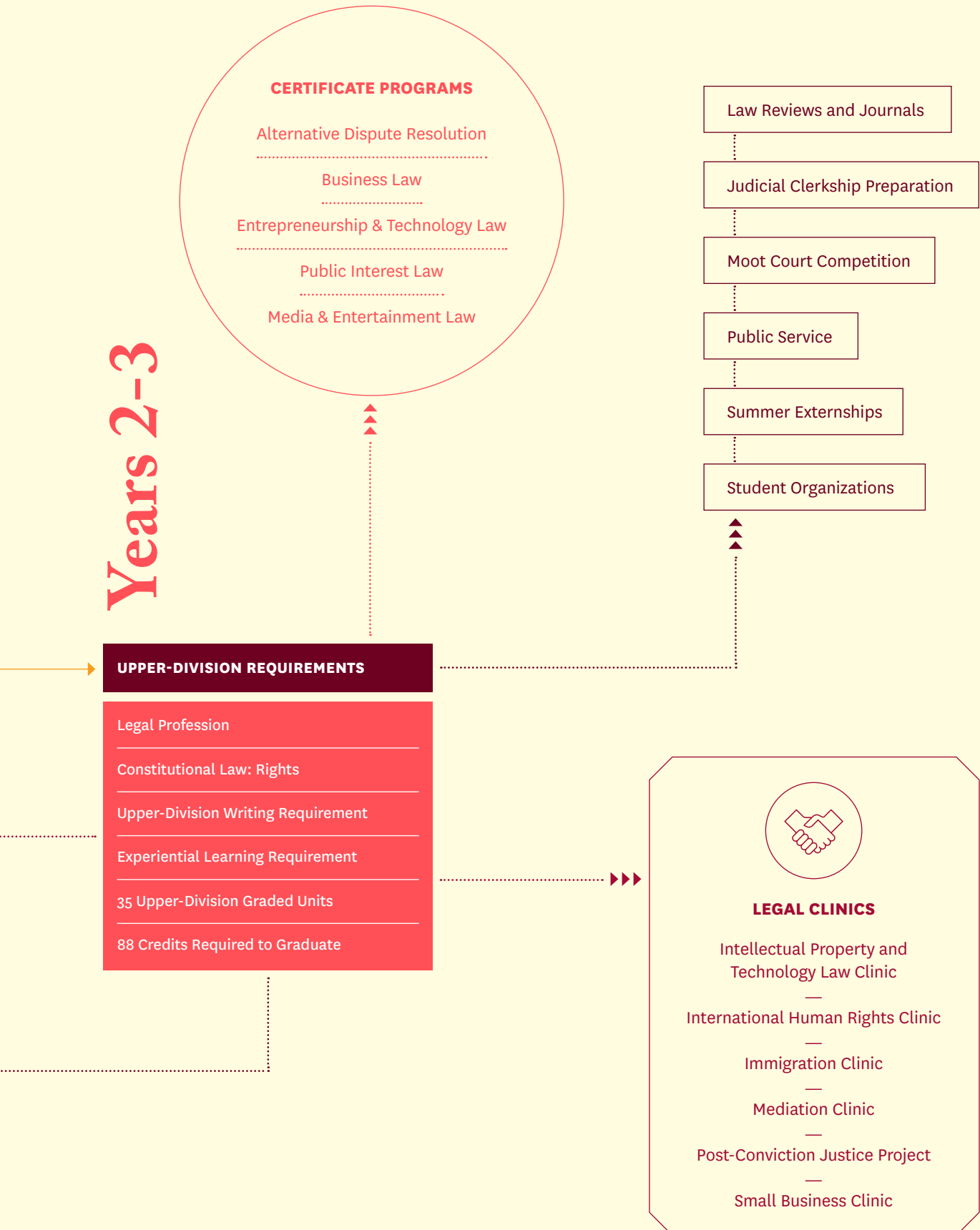
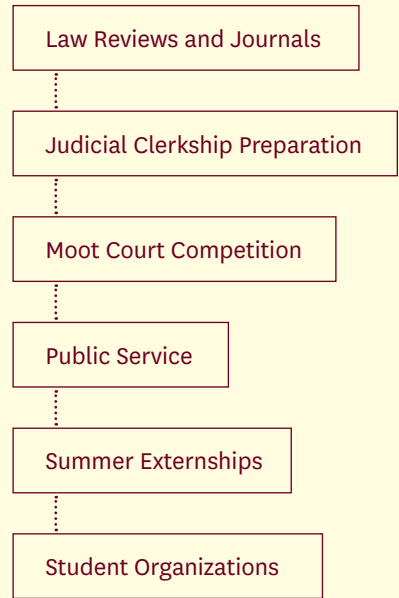
- Constitutional Law: Structure
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Law, Language and Values
- Legal Research, Writing and Advocacy
- Procedure
- Property
- Torts
- + 1 Elective



STUDY ABROAD

- China
- Italy
- France
- Australia
- Brazil

Years 2-3



First Year: The Foundation

In your first year, you will take eight required courses which are the foundation of all legal scholarship. Classes are small, ranging in size from 15 to 70 students. This intimate classroom experience encourages dialogue and debate influenced by the diverse experiences of USC Gould’s student body and faculty. Our first-year professors bring legal theory to life with creative and interactive lectures and demonstrations.

Electives

In recognition of our 1L students’ diverse interests, backgrounds, and priorities in pursuit of their legal education, USC Gould allows you to choose from among the following core courses:

Business Literacy: Teaches the basics of business and financial concepts that are important to transactional legal work.

Ethical Issues for Public Interest, Government and Criminal Lawyers (Legal Profession): Designed for students who aspire to careers in public interest and the public sector. The class explores the role of the lawyer in society, history, and the organization of the legal profession, alternate career patterns, conflicting duties, the adversary system, equal access to justice, and other issues of ethics and professional responsibility.

Constitutional Law: Rights: Examines many of the key rights protected by the U.S. Constitution with a particular emphasis on equal protection of rights and rights under the due process clause.

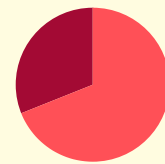


“I believe that learning happens both inside and outside the classroom, and that’s why I provide opportunities for my students to visit courtrooms, go on police ride-alongs, and participate in prison tours. I also work with many law students on various empirical projects, giving them hands-on research training. Many students have told me that these have been truly eye-opening experiences that have changed the way they think about our legal system. Our law students can have these kinds of opportunities and experiences because the class sizes are small, and we care deeply about our students and their learning.”

Emily Ryo | Associate Professor of Law and Sociology

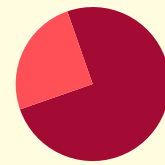


WHERE
STUDENTS WORK
THEIR FIRST
SUMMER



70%

in the public sector



25%

for judges at the federal
and state level



5%

for government or mission-driven
public service agencies, law firms
or corporate offices, or perform
research with a professor



“The Business Literacy class provides first-year students the opportunity to gain exposure to fundamental business principles such as accounting, tax and finance and to the workings of the stock market, the real estate market, private equity, and mergers and acquisitions. This class equips students, many of whom have little or no business background, with a fundamental understanding, to handle business issues that they encounter in their post-1L summer jobs and in subsequent business law classes.”

Michael Chasalow | Clinical Professor of Law and
Director, Small Business Clinic



Second and Third Years: The Practice

Having acquired a solid foundation in the basic principles of law, the second and third years allow you to pursue the areas of legal and intellectual inquiry that excite you. You will be able to choose from over 200 classes. These can be as small as 10 students, allowing for vigorous debate and one-on-one collaboration with professors.

Many classes include a simulation component that will challenge you to apply legal principles to actual cases.

You may receive credit for serving as an editor or staff member of one of USC Gould's three scholarly journals, participating in Moot Court, working in one of USC Gould's six legal clinics or for a public interest organization, serving in a judicial externship, or engaging in directed research projects.



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“In our interviewing class, we help students cultivate the skills necessary to interview children. In building the class, we asked ourselves: how do you teach someone to do something unless you give them practice? So we created a class where our students go to a local elementary school and practice their interviewing skills. We film the interviews and perform an intensive and rigorous review of the outcomes. After 10 interviews, students’ techniques have dramatically improved.”

Tom Lyon | Judge Edward J. and Ruey L. Guirado Chair in Law and Psychology



.....

“I was interested in criminal law, international law, and the intersection of law and race, so I took a seminar course with Professor Jody Armour on Stereotypes, Prejudice and the Rule of Law. I participated in presentations ranging from mock trial arguments on issues of race to a mock town hall meeting, where I played a resident of the Ninth Ward after Hurricane Katrina hit. Experiences like these are what makes USC Gould a unique law school — not just casebook after casebook, but truly engaging and innovative approaches to learning about law and the issues the law affects.”

Douglas Hewlett | J.D. 2013

USC GOULD IS CONSISTENTLY RANKED AS A TOP ENTERTAINMENT SCHOOL BY THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER



Certificate Programs

Complement your degree and build additional skills in dynamic specializations by pursuing one of five certificates offered by USC Gould. Our certificates are designed to deepen your knowledge and exposure to a specific area of the law. Each certificate allows you to take advantage of the rich legal landscape of the greater Los Angeles region.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Covering one of the fastest-growing areas of law, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Certificate offers two tracks — mediation and arbitration. Each teaches methods for resolving disagreements among parties instead of pursuing costly, time-consuming lawsuits.

BUSINESS LAW

Businesses large and small require informed, resourceful legal professionals to help them thrive. Full-time faculty and practitioners with decades of wide-ranging experience provide you with the skills needed to apply legal concepts and strategic thinking to real-world business problems.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP & TECHNOLOGY LAW

The Entrepreneurship and Technology Law Certificate is designed to provide you with a powerful edge to pursue a career as a transactional lawyer in startup, venture capital, and technology markets. A major theme is the convergence of technology and content. The courses focus on transactional skills through simulated negotiation, drafting, and other active learning exercises. You will participate in individual and collaborative projects and hands-on courses that mimic the experience of a junior associate.



“The Business Law Certificate gives you a good roadmap outlining both substantive and hands-on classes that you can take. I took a mix of both. The hands-on classes gave me a great perspective on how the substantive law would apply in real-world situations.”

Ali Degolia | J.D. 2017



MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT LAW

The Media & Entertainment Law Certificate will increase your fluency in law specific to the film, television, and media industries. The courses take a practice-oriented approach that gives you the problem-solving skills and business knowledge to navigate transactional and litigation practices — from intellectual property and patents to copyright infringement and First Amendment issues.

PUBLIC INTEREST LAW

The Public Interest Law Certificate prepares you with the substantive knowledge and practical skills needed for a successful career in nonprofit or government sectors. The certificate builds upon the school's longstanding leadership in public interest law. Courses encompass criminal justice, immigration, civil liberties, mental health, international human rights, and more.

LOS ANGELES IS A MAJOR HUB FOR ENTERTAINMENT, MEDIA, AND TECHNOLOGY, AND PERFECTLY POSITIONED WITHIN THE PACIFIC RIM FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS.



“LA is one of the best public interest communities in the country. We have some of the nation’s most important problems and a large, diverse, passionate, dedicated group of people working on them. Whether it’s civil rights, poverty, school reform, immigrant justice, wage theft, or a myriad of other issues, we have organizations and resources and great advocates working here.”

Clare Pastore | Professor of the Practice of Law

Andrew T. Guzman | Dean and Carl Mason Franklin Chair in Law

“Live client clinics provide the most valuable form of experiential education we can offer. The deadlines are real, the problems are real and unpredictable, and the engagement with the client is both a big part of practicing law and a human interaction you can’t simulate easily.”

Experiential Learning

We believe you learn best when classroom work is linked to experiential learning opportunities. In some classes, you will have direct engagement with clients. In others, you will participate in simulations or go on field trips that provide relevant experiences.

Clinics

USC Gould's six clinics provide a priceless educational experience. You will work on actual cases, representing real clients, and provide solutions and practical recommendations to resolve their issues.

100+

number of California
life-term inmates released
through the parole process
and habeas corpus

POST-CONVICTION JUSTICE PROJECT (PCJP)

As USC Gould's first clinical program, the PCJP has given over 600 law students the opportunity to fight for second chances on behalf of women and youth offenders serving life terms in California. The clinic has successfully advocated for legislative reform of the parole system and post-conviction sentencing relief.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & TECHNOLOGY CLINIC

You will work on cutting-edge issues in intellectual property, entertainment, gaming, and technology law. Cases involve copyright, trademark, privacy, the fair use doctrine, and First Amendment issues. Clients range from documentary filmmakers to software game developers, high-tech startups, and entrepreneurs.

25

number of creative and
entrepreneurial projects
students work on each year

SMALL BUSINESS CLINIC

You will gain real-world legal experience by helping business owners and fellow USC students working in entrepreneurial ventures who could otherwise not afford legal representation. Issues range from contracts and general business agreements to licensing issues, articles of incorporation, and unforeseen legal problems.



“The Small Business Clinic is a wonderful ‘win-win’ situation where businesses receive free legal assistance and students have the opportunity to practice drafting contracts, client communications, and other practical aspects of the law. Professor Chasalow has empowered me to take charge of my clients, while also providing invaluable guidance and feedback.”

Akilah Saunders | J.D. 2018

THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

Students confront the most pressing human rights concerns of our day. You will seek justice on behalf of victims of human rights abuses, argue to hold perpetrators of serious human rights abuses accountable, and advocate for progressive development of the law. Many students and recent graduates have clerked for international tribunal judges at the Hague, as well as in Cambodia, Rwanda, and other parts of the world.



“One of the clinic’s biggest successes in the last five years has been developing partnerships with international criminal tribunals, allowing students to seek justice for atrocity crimes around the world, such as crimes against humanity and genocide. We’ve worked on cases prosecuting crimes in Cambodia, the Congo, Lebanon, and Rwanda. The scope of these partnerships is unique to USC Gould and is evidence of the high regard and trust that the clinic has engendered.”

Hannah Garry | Clinical Professor of Law and Director, International Human Rights Clinic

IMMIGRATION CLINIC

Since launching 14 years ago, the Immigration Clinic has represented 185 individuals seeking asylum, relief under the Violence Against Women Act, and other applications for relief from removal. Many cite the fear of persecution and desire for religious freedom in their claims for relief from deportation. These claims are presented by USC Gould clinical students at regional U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services detention centers around Central and Southern California.

185

number of
individuals the clinic
has represented
since 2001

5-6

number of active
cases handled by
a clinical student
each year

MEDIATION CLINIC

You will learn valuable mediation skills in one of the fastest-growing practices of law. USC Gould offers one of the only Advanced Mediation programs in the country, serving 750 to 1,000 disputants yearly. Participation in the clinic teaches the dispute resolution skills required to become a professional mediator. By the end of the semester, you will have mediated six or more cases in Los Angeles County Superior Court. This is a prime example of putting theory into practice.



“I participated in the mediation clinic; it was absolutely amazing. Being in the clinic gave me the opportunity to be in the courtroom once or twice a week as a mediator. It helped me build my confidence to go into court, speak with the courtroom personnel, interact with the judge, and help people with opposing views come to an agreement. We live in a world where most cases settle. To have the opportunity to build mediation skills put me at the forefront. Most law schools don’t offer this.”

Jenecia Martinez | J.D. 2016



A USC Gould student appears
at Los Angeles Superior Court

Externships

Externships provide you with the opportunity to work for a legal employer under the supervision of a licensed attorney, engage with real clients, gain hands-on practical experience, and earn academic credit.

Sitting on the Pacific Rim, and in proximity to numerous international, national, and California-based law firms, USC Gould affords you the opportunity to gain practical work experience in general counsel offices, law firms, corporations, and government agencies, as well as technology and media companies.

Taking advantage of our unique location in the world’s entertainment capital, students have externed at major studios, including Fox, MGM, Warner Bros., and Sony Pictures, as well as with record labels such as Universal Music and television networks such as NBC and MTV.

Judicial Externships

Located in Los Angeles, home to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California and numerous other federal, state, and local courts, USC Gould provides you with the opportunity to earn academic credit while working as an extern for a state or federal judge. Judicial externs develop legal analysis and writing skills, gain exposure to adversarial practice, and witness the judicial decision-making process from a unique and valuable perspective.

USC in DC Program

The “SC in DC Program” offers you a unique opportunity to gain a first-hand account of how federal statutes, regulations, and policies are made, changed, and understood in the nation’s capital. You will have the opportunity to network with all three branches of the federal government, independent regulatory agencies, and advocacy nonprofits beginning the summer after your 1L year.

DURING THE 2014-2015 ACADEMIC YEAR, USC GOULD STUDENTS SECURED 76 JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS. THESE INCLUDED STATE SUPREME COURTS AND FEDERAL COURTS OF APPEAL EXTERNSHIPS.



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“As an extern, I was assigned case files and asked to write memos advising how the court should rule. I did a lot of legal research and a lot of writing. There are so few opportunities for a law student to go behind the bench. We practice and study how to argue, but having the opportunity to go into the judge’s chambers, to think like a judge, to interpret the law and facts from a judicial perspective, is incredible.”

Adam Stillman | J.D. 2017

Jonathan Stanley | J.D. 2017

“My externship was with the Commercial Financial Protection Bureau. When I got there, they put me right to work assisting in the drafting of a notice of proposed rule-making for small dollar loans. I was incredibly grateful for the opportunity to turn in work product, get feedback, and improve my work over the semester. I knew it put me in a good position to succeed at my summer internship.”

Honors Programs

Our honors writing programs afford students an opportunity to hone their writing skills — a key component of any legal practice. USC Gould publishes three student-run journals — *Southern California Law Review*, *Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice*, and the *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal*. Our Hale Moot Court Honors Program provides an intensive experience in the development of trial advocacy skills.

Law Reviews and Journals

Southern California Law Review

The *Southern California Law Review* is a journal of legal scholarship managed and edited by students and published six times each year. Founded in 1927, the *Review's* circulation is among the largest in the nation. The *Law Review* members conduct independent legal research, prepare notes and comments for publication, and edit the works of their peers, along with articles and book reviews submitted by faculty members and other scholars.

Southern California Review of Law and Social Justice (RLSJ)

The goal of *RLSJ* is to influence the development of the law in ways that encourage full and equal participation of all people in politics and society. *RLSJ* publishes three issues a year that consist of professional and academic articles and student notes. It promotes the discussion and examination of issues lying at the intersection of social justice and the law.

Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal (ILJ)

The *Southern California Interdisciplinary Law Journal* publishes scholarly articles analyzing the law through other fields of study. *ILJ* publishes the work of law professors, economists, medical doctors, anthropologists, and others who apply the latest findings in their field to legal issues.

THE ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION FOR
USC GOULD LAW JOURNALS IS 3,606.



“There is something in *Law Review* for everybody. If you are looking to be a part of the honors experience, you would go to *Law Review*. If you are looking to be part of the conversation in the legal community, you would go to *Law Review*. If you are looking to give back to the USC Gould community, you would go to *Law Review*.”

Laurie Tomassian | J.D. 2017



Hale Moot Court

During the Hale Moot Court Competition, second-year students write an appellate brief, attend an oral advocacy clinic, participate in videotaped practice rounds, and present their arguments before panels of judges from state and federal courts, practicing attorneys, and faculty members. In the spring semester, the competition culminates with four students competing in a final round of argument before a panel of distinguished state and federal judges.

“Lawyers are problem solvers, especially litigators. The first year of law school teaches you how to think like a lawyer; the first year of moot court teaches you how to advocate for someone, which is the reason I chose to attend law school. I wanted every opportunity I could get to practically apply the skills I was learning. Even if you don’t want to be a litigator, it is so important to be able to withstand questioning, to be able to consider and concede on counter arguments where appropriate, and to think as an advocate. These are all skills you gain as a participant in moot court.”

Lauren Fishelman | J.D. 2017



USC Gould students help a Katrina victim in New Orleans

2,500

number of pro bono hours
students have contributed
each year for the past 5 years

Over the 100 years of our existence, USC Gould students have been rooted in a strong commitment to public service and diversity. In 1929, USC Gould became one of the first law schools to establish a Public Service clinic. Later, that clinic became the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, one of the state's leading providers of free legal services. Today, USC Gould students continue to contribute to the work of the Legal Aid Foundation.

public service



“It’s an exciting time for students interested in public interest law. The addition of the Public Interest Law Certificate and the Public Interest Scholars Program reflects USC’s commitment to and long history of legal service. Additionally, these two programs provide guidance for students to craft the best legal education for their career goals.”

Malissa Barnwell-Scott | Director, Office of Public Service

Public Service Programs and Opportunities

USC Gould connects you to countless volunteer opportunities, internships, in-house legal clinics, and grant programs through our Office of Public Service (OPS).

Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)

PILF is a student-run, nonprofit organization that promotes social justice lawyering, equal access to the law, and the empowerment of marginalized and underrepresented communities. It does so in three main ways:

- 1) PILF organizes pro bono clinic opportunities for students to volunteer with local organizations
- 2) PILF hosts lectures and events at the law school about public interest law issues
- 3) PILF funds students pursuing public interest work over the summer through the PILF grant program

USC Public Interest Volunteer Opportunities

Opportunities include:

- Legal Aid Alternative Breaks (LABB): sponsored spring break trips to the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast where students provided crucial legal services to residents rebuilding their lives
- Latino Law Students Association's Teen Court: a diversion program for first-time juvenile offenders in lieu of formal juvenile court proceedings
- Street Law: a nationally recognized educational outreach program that teaches legal literacy to local high school students



Funding for Public Service Work

USC Gould helps students secure the financing that allows them to fund their pro bono and public service efforts through fellowships, stipends, awards, and loan repayment assistance.

Public Interest Scholars

Special merit awards are offered to admitted students dedicated to a career in public service. Beyond scholarship funding, public interest scholars receive guaranteed public interest summer employment and a grant to support that employment. Priority consideration is given to applicants with a history of full-time nonprofit or public interest-focused work.

Graduate Volunteer Grant (GVG)

Our Graduate Volunteer Grant (GVC) Program is a 12-month program that provides recent USC Gould graduates the opportunity to volunteer as lawyers in a nonprofit or public service organization. Graduates work 35 hours a week and are paid through the grant for their time. GVG has supported almost 200 attorneys at a variety of host organizations, including UNESCO, Public Defender's Offices, the Texas Criminal Justice Coalition, and the New York City Law Department.

Fellowships

USC Gould's support for our students continues throughout their professional life. If you are interested in working in public service, we offer an array of fellowships to financially support your goal.

Fellowships include:

- Equal Justice Works Fellowship
- Skadden Fellowship
- Irmas Fellowship
- Clinton-Orfalea-Brittingham Fellowship

500

average number
of volunteered hours
via LAAB each year

10+

grants and fellowships
awarded annually

20+

summer grants
awarded by PILF



“The Irmas Fellowship allows students to create their dream job. I was able to spend my first year post-grad in Ecuador doing public interest work — a job I would never have been able to get without the help of USC Gould.”

Lindsay Toczylowski | J.D. 2008

Financial Aid

At USC Gould, we understand that law school is an expensive endeavor, but encourage all students to see it as an investment that is going to pay dividends far into your future. To help offset the cost, we offer a significant amount of scholarship assistance to incoming students.

The Process

Scholarship awards are based upon the strength of the application, and all factors that are considered for admissions are also considered for scholarship decisions. Undergraduate GPA and LSAT score are two of these factors given significant weight, but other strengths of the candidate file are also taken into account. All admitted students are automatically considered for a scholarship award. There is no separate application process other than for those applying under special scholarship programs.

Additionally, our scholarships are guaranteed for three years assuming you remain enrolled full-time and in good academic standing. Scholarship funds are not available to transfer students, nor do we make new awards or increase awards for students rising into their second and third years.

Any difference between the scholarship award and estimated cost of attendance may be covered via student loans. Those interested in federal student aid must remember to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) in a timely manner. This is normally soon after January 1 of each year. The USC school code is 001328.



Special Scholarship Programs

The following programs require a supplemental scholarship application which will be submitted as part of your application.

FRANK ROTHMAN SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This program honors the late Frank Rothman '51, one of the nation's most influential trial lawyers and a legendary sports and entertainment attorney. One Frank Rothman Scholar is selected each year, and the benefits are extraordinary:

- Full-tuition scholarship guaranteed for three years
- \$2,000 stipend each year for three years
- Paid 1L summer fellowship at one of the top law firms in the world — Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in Los Angeles

\$15,000

to full tuition = range of awards

PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARS PROGRAM

This program honors the commitment of both USC Gould and our students to work and serve the public interest. Benefits include:

- Special public interest merit-based scholarship
- Access to public interest certificate mentor opportunities
- Guaranteed public interest-based summer employment
- Guaranteed summer grant for 1L summer employment
- Opportunity to serve as a future mentor

95%

percentage of
students who receive some
form of scholarship

Other Forms of Assistance

LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LRAP)

The LRAP provides assistance in repaying loans to graduates who accept employment with public interest organizations. Graduates who work for a qualifying organization will only pay a specified percentage of their earnings towards their loan repayment obligations. The remaining portion will be covered by LRAP funds. All LRAP assistance will be forgiven if you remain in qualifying employment for five years.

\$29,000

average scholarship award

VETERANS EDUCATION BENEFITS/

YELLOW RIBBON PROGRAM

The law school is proud to participate in the Yellow Ribbon GI Education Enhancement Program. Students who meet the specified criteria may be able to earn up to a full-tuition award via the combination of veterans benefits funds and law school assistance.

our faculty know their students

The USC Gould faculty is nationally recognized for its scholarship in many fields, including administrative law, constitutional law, bankruptcy and corporate law, intellectual property, law and race, and taxation. Interdisciplinary scholarship in law and economics, law and history, law and philosophy, law and politics, and law and psychology has long been a signature of the school.

51

number of
full-time professors

11

number of elected
full-time faculty
members of the
American Law
Institute

100

number of adjunct
professors



“I am very happy with the way the professors form a working relationship with the students. You can go to your professors and talk to them about work you are doing even if you are not in their class. The professors interact with us as future peers in the legal profession, and you really get the feeling that they are mentoring you with that in mind.”

Jindan Mann | J.D. 2016



Professor Susan Estrich
teaching a law class

Full-Time Faculty

Our 51 full-time faculty members are internationally recognized for their expertise and scholarship in fields as diverse as administrative law, intellectual property, business, entertainment, ethics, and tort reform. Many full-time faculty members have degrees and expertise in both law and a secondary discipline, such as economics, communications, public policy, medicine, history, psychology, and philosophy. Their diverse academic and professional backgrounds contribute to classrooms full of wide-ranging ideas.

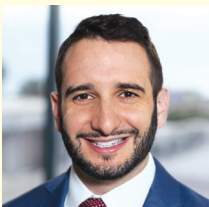
Our full-time professors are also accomplished outside of the classroom — six of them have clerked for United States Supreme Court Justices, one of them has served as the national campaign manager for a presidential candidate, another received a MacArthur “Genius Grant” and gave a Ted Talk that’s been viewed nearly 3 million times, and one acted as the Chief of Staff of the U.S. Congress’ Joint Committee on Taxation.

Adjunct Professors Who Practice Law

Given its proximity to Los Angeles’ entertainment, media, and technology companies, major law firms, and public interest agencies, USC Gould has over 100 adjunct professors that bring their real-world practice into the classroom. Learning the law from professors who are current practitioners allows USC Gould students to grasp the nuanced application of theory to problem solving.

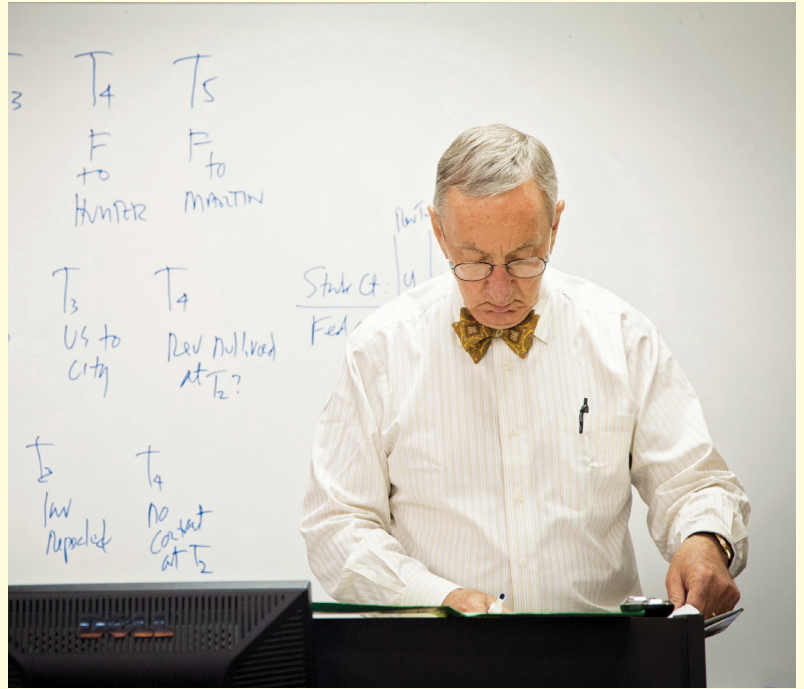
Our adjunct professors have served as CEOs of motion picture studios, art restitution litigators who win Supreme Court cases, and sports attorneys who represent athletes on major sports teams.

FACULTY MEMBER ELYN SAKS IS A MACARTHUR “GENIUS GRANT” WINNER. HER TED TALK HAS RECEIVED NEARLY 3 MILLION VIEWS.



“One of USC Gould’s greatest assets is its ability to attract top LA attorneys to teach practice-oriented courses. Whether you are interested in business litigation or counseling a start-up, USC Gould offers many classes designed to teach students real-world solutions to legal issues faced by practicing lawyers. These courses give students an unparalleled advantage in preparing for life after law school.”

Aaron Ginsburg | J.D. 2015



the power of place

Los Angeles isn't just a place where sun-drenched, blue-sky days are business as usual, it's where you'll find enticing employment opportunities from Silicon Beach to Downtown LA. Everywhere you go in Los Angeles, you will find members of the Trojan Family poised to open doors, give advice, and pave your way. Whether you want to explore practice in a public interest agency, law firm, or business, entertainment or technology firm, or extern in a courthouse, there's an option waiting for you.

One of the few cities in the country where you can go from snow to surf within hours, Los Angeles offers eclectic culinary choices, unparalleled cultural opportunities, and exciting sporting events.

Whether you want to work, volunteer, or play, there's no better place than LA.





MALIBU
27 MILES OF SCENIC BEAUTY

• GETTY CENTER •

BEVERLY HILLS

• RODEO DRIVE •

• CENTURY CITY •

• LA COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART •

• SILICON BEACH •

• SANTA MONICA PIER •

• VENICE BEACH •

LAX



HOLLYWOOD

CAPITOL RECORDS

UNIVERSAL

• MOVIE STUDIOS •

• HOLLYWOOD BOWL •

• GRIFFITH PARK •

• AMOEBAS MUSIC •

• DODGER STADIUM •

• THE GROVE •

• LA BREA TAR PITS •

• CITY HALL •

• USC GOULD •

• COURTHOUSE •

M

• LA COLISEUM •



The Los Angeles Metro System

Los Angeles has an accessible and easy-to-use public transit system. Jump on the Metro right outside USC Gould and be transported to the beach at Santa Monica, Pasadena, or Long Beach at the swipe of a card.

The Hollywood Bowl

Some of the best outdoor concerts can be found at the Hollywood Bowl, home to sing-alongs, performing superstars, and the LA Philharmonic. Accessible by Metro.

The Getty Center

Set high atop a hill, the Getty Center offers places to picnic and reflect and has one of the world's best private art collections. Its endowment affords the Getty the opportunity to buy and exhibit the best in both contemporary and period art, and photography.

Silicon Beach

Silicon Beach sprawls throughout the Westside of Los Angeles. It's home to over 500 tech companies, including Yahoo, Google, Snapchat, YouTube, and Facebook. Adjacent to these workplace locations are fabulous places to eat, work out, and socialize.

Venice Beach

This stretch of shops and restaurants is also home to a bike and skating path. You can get a tattoo, join a drum circle, have a palm reading, and buy a pair of sunglasses all without taking more than 10 steps. People watching on the weekends is worth the drive.

Amoeba Music

Do you love vinyl? Still have an eight-track player? Then Amoeba Records is the place for you. Located in Hollywood, next to the Arclight movie theaters and near some of the hottest clubs in LA, a trip to Amoeba Records can easily turn into a night of fun.

Century City Law Firms

Along with prestigious law firms, including Irell & Manella, Sullivan & Cromwell, and Milbank, Century City is home to two of the three biggest entertainment agencies (CAA and ICM) and many film production companies. In fact, Century City is historically named for being the backlot for Twentieth Century Fox. Century City also hosts a terrific outdoor shopping mall.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE THING TO DO IN LOS ANGELES?

AVALEE
J.D. 2017

Hike in Griffith Park

JOHN
J.D. 2017

Try new restaurants

ADAM
J.D. 2017

Browse Vroman's
Bookstore in Pasadena

TAYLOR
J.D. 2018

Go to the beach

Downtown Law Firms

Downtown Los Angeles is home to hundreds of local, national, and international law firms, as well as banks and corporations, among them Gibson Dunn, Latham & Watkins, and Paul Hastings. It's also one of the best places in Los Angeles for loft living, art viewing, and good eating.

Rodeo Drive/Beverly Hills

There are few places in the world that host more high-end stores than Rodeo Drive. You can buy designer clothes, shoes, and jewelry here. Stroll throughout Beverly Hills and you will find great restaurants, hair salons, and art galleries. Beverly Hills is also a hub for law firms, production companies, and talent agencies.

Farmers Market & The Grove

You can buy some of the best fresh produce, meats and fish in Los Angeles, while simultaneously overhauling your wardrobe with some clothes shopping. Then, take in a film, grab a bite at one of the 20 eateries, or just chill out at an evening concert on the lawn while fountains perform a choreographed show to a number of different musical numbers.

Griffith Park

Go for a hike, hit up the zoo, take a sunset horseback ride, watch the stars at the observatory, play some golf, or just bask in the sun with a picnic basket at this centrally located park. Twenty minutes from USC, Griffith Park has something for everyone.

292

average number of
sunny days in LA

140

number of
countries from
which Angelenos
originate

74°

average Los
Angeles
temperature

105

number of
museums

2

number of times
Los Angeles
has hosted the
Olympic Games



Students walking through
USC Gould's lobby

Ja'Mesha Morgan | J.D. 2018

“I picked USC Gould because when I visited the school, there was a sense of joy. I remember walking into the school and seeing people laugh. I wanted to learn in a place where I would be comfortable and supported, and where everyone was my colleague, not my competition. I wanted to be in a school that supported students wholeheartedly. I wanted to attend a school where alumni were still invested in students. I found all that and more at USC Gould.”

**a vibrant life
outside the
classroom**

Boundless opportunities to engage.

USC Gould's small, diverse community offers a **collegial environment**. Students go out of their way to collaborate with their peers and support each other's pursuit of social and academic excellence.

As a member of the **Trojan Family**, from the moment you begin your studies at USC Gould, you'll have access to programs, workshops, organizations, and activities that provide personal, academic, and professional enrichment.

Located on the **USC University Park Campus**, in the vibrant urban environment of downtown Los Angeles, USC Gould puts you in the heart of a world-class city. With over 30 political, religious, social, cultural, and ethnic student organizations to join, you will never be at a loss for something to do.

Our offices of Student Services and Career Services foster a unique, **personalized relationship with each student** that contributes to academic success and career planning leading to a **94% graduate employment** rate.*

* Graduating Classes of 2014 and 2015, 10 months after graduation



Students studying on USC's lush campus

THE JD/LLM CLASS COMBINED HAS THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS OF ANY LAW SCHOOL IN THE COUNTRY.



USC Gould is one of the most diverse top law schools in the nation with 36% students of color and 13% of the student body who come from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Our students are drawn from 20 states, representing 75 colleges and universities.

we are diverse

SEI FUJII
J.D. 1911

First Japanese student to graduate from USC Gould and worked for more than four decades to overturn racially discriminatory laws.

MABEL WALKER WILLEBRANDT
J.D. 1916, LLM 1917

First female African American to graduate USC Gould. Arguably the most prominent American woman attorney from the 1920s through the '40s.

MANUEL RUIZ
J.D. 1930

First Latino student to graduate from USC Gould and considered the "California Dean of Mexican-American Lawyers."

CRISPUS ATTUCKS WRIGHT
L.L.B. 1938

Prominent African-American USC Gould graduate who co-founded the John M. Langston Bar Association of Los Angeles, which remains the principal black legal association in the Los Angeles area.

ALFRED HOYUN SONG
J.D. 1949

First Korean-American admitted to the California Bar and to serve in the California State Legislature.



Students in discussion in the Lincoln Room, one of USC Gould's many study areas

we are collegial

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE USC GOULD?

JINDAN
J.D. 2016

Supportive
Friendly
Diverse

JORDAN
J.D. 2016

Empowering
Transformative
Community-oriented

JULIA
J.D. 2014

Collaborative
Warm
Connected

JESSICA
J.D. 2016

Challenging
Collaborative
Friendly

USC Gould was founded in 1896 by a group of 36 students, including five women. One of the mottos of the founding class was “For Students by Students.” That collegial attitude persists today.



“USC Gould is not a big law school. We become a small, close-knit family, with bonds and memories that transcend great distances as we go on to pursue our careers. The school cultivates an environment for everyone to feel welcomed and, more importantly, for everyone to feel like they matter. At USC Gould, your visions take off!”

Andres Cantero | J.D. 2016

student experience

Academic, social, and professional support are available to you from the day you join the Trojan Family. As members of a small, tight-knit community, amidst a large and vibrant campus, you will receive personalized support that recognizes and addresses the unique needs of law students.

30+

number of
student
organizations

5

number of days
per week you
can enjoy a free
lunch at a student
organization
meeting

30

number of peer
mentors available
for support



Portraits of past USC Gould deans hang above a busy student thoroughfare

Peer Mentors

On the first day of orientation, your class section will be assigned two second-year peer mentors who are available to you throughout your 1L year. Your peer mentors will serve as your sounding boards and cheerleaders.

Peer Tutors

Peer tutors are an integral part of the first-year academic support program. They are three upper-division students who performed especially well in their first year and who have prior experience teaching or mentoring students. One peer tutor is assigned to each large section. The tutors host workshops and send weekly tips throughout the first year. They are also available for individual or small-group tutoring.

Writing Fellows

To supplement tutoring resources, the Legal Writing Fellows Program can help students transition from academic writing to legal writing. Professor Elizabeth Carroll, Associate Vice Dean for Curriculum, Professor of Lawyering Skills, and Director of Legal Writing and Advocacy, encourages first-year students to ask Fellows for assistance because legal writing requires time and effort.

First Generation Professionals Program (FGP)

The needs of our diverse student population have given rise to USC Gould's First Generation Professionals Program. We are committed to creating a path to success for students who are the first in their families to attend college and professional school, or who come from low-income backgrounds. Workshops, seminars, and group sessions provide practical guidance and a safe space where you can share experiences, ask questions, and forge a sense of community. Alumni mentors with similar backgrounds are active participants, creating an early and on-going connection with the professional community.

WHERE IS YOUR FAVORITE PLACE TO STUDY ON CAMPUS?

DIANA
J.D. 2015

Outside as much as I can

VANUHI
J.D. 2018

Campbell Lounge in
the Law Library

ALI
J.D. 2017

The courtyard outside the
Public Policy building

LAUREN
J.D. 2017

Doheny Library

Student Organizations

You can join more than 30 legal, political, religious, social, cultural, and ethnic organizations or participate in the creation of new student organizations and events.

- Art Law Society
- American Constitution Society (ACS)
- Armed Forces Law Society (AFLS)
- Armenian Law Students Association (ALSA)
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
- Bike & Transit Law Society
- Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
- Business Law Society
- Connecting Angelenos to Resources and Essential Services (CARES)
- Criminal Law Association
- Energy & Environmental Law Society (EELS)
- Entertainment Law Society (ELS)
- Entrepreneurship & Venture Capital Association
- Federalist Society
- Government Law Organization (GLO)
- Health Law Society
- Intellectual Property & Technology Law Society (IPTLS)
- International Law & Relations Organization (ILRO)
- Iraqi Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP)
- Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)
- Latino Law Students Association (LLSA)
- Legal Aid Alternative Break (LAAB)
- Music Law Society
- National Lawyers Guild
- OUTLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta (PAD)
- Protection & Animal Welfare Law Society (PAWLaw)
- Public Interest Law Foundation (PILF)
- Real Estate Law Society
- South Asian Law Students Association (SALSA)
- Sports Law Society
- Street Law
- Student Bar Association (SBA)
- Women's Law Association (WLA)



career services

The staff at the Career Services Office takes a proactive approach to helping you find not only a job practicing law, but a job that fits your particular area of interest. Counselors don't wait for students to come to them. They cultivate potential and reach out to prospective employers on behalf of students.



“We’re an activist office. We advocate for our students. We don’t sit back, give them instructions and push them out the door to do things on their own. We tout their strengths to employers and help connect them to opportunities. We view our job as preparing our students to be the kind of nuanced candidates that stand out and make it all the way through the interview process to being hired.”

Elizabeth Armour | Associate Dean and Dean of Career Services

USC GOULD BAR PASSAGE RATE HAS
AVERAGED 88% FOR THE PAST 10 YEARS.*





Students at the courthouse for mediation

Finding the Right Job

From the beginning of your legal studies, the Career Services Office works with you to tailor an individualized plan in preparation for your transition to the practice of law. In October of your 1L year, a career service counselor will sit down with you and begin a conversation focused on your individual career path and help you build an action plan. They will work with you to build a résumé, refine your interviewing skills, and define what type of law and in what environment you may want to practice. Then together, you will begin the process of building a target employer list.

At the Spring Alumni 1L Mentor Lunch, Career Services makes sure that every student is assigned to a table with alumni in the area of law in which they are interested so they can begin to network.

On-Campus Interviews (OCI)

In August, prior to second year, USC Gould orchestrates a number of on-campus events where students interview with local, national, and international law firms, corporations, and federal government agencies. In preparation, starting in early July, Career Services staff reach out to students to help them refine their résumés and prepare for the OCI process.

Job Fairs Outside of Los Angeles

While many USC Gould graduates pursue rewarding careers in the Southern California legal community, we also recognize that others wish to establish their careers in Northern California and in various markets across the country. The Career Services Office actively supports students' desires to conduct both regionally based and nationally based job searches. We hold market-specific career programs on campus each spring and host annual job fairs in San Francisco, the Silicon Valley, New York City, Washington, D.C., and Chicago.

175+

number of
alumni mentors at the
annual Spring Alumni
Mentor Lunch

173

number of
participating employers
(law firms)

9

number of off-campus
job fairs USC Gould hosts
and/or participates in



“The Career Services Office really focuses on and helps every student. Before going into OCI, they read every student’s cover letter and résumé and send them comments and corrections. As a 1L, I became very close to my counselor who helped me decide what kind of law I wanted to pursue. They provided individual help and guided me through every application process.”

Avalee Statner | J.D. 2017

IN THE LATE 1980S, FIVE OF THE SEVEN SITTING JUDGES ON THE CALIFORNIA SUPREME COURT WERE USC GOULD GRADUATES.



Judicial Clerkships

Judicial clerkships are a key credential for your future practice of law no matter what area of legal specialty you choose. USC Gould alumni have held judicial clerkships in the United States Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, district courts, and state courts throughout the country.

Mentoring for Clerkships

If you are interested in pursuing a post-graduate judicial clerkship, beginning in your first year, USC Gould offers mentoring which will enable your plan to become a reality. Throughout the first year, you will be invited to attend receptions and lunches hosted by USC Gould, so you can learn the benefits of clerkships from judges who offer them.

In your second year, you will work with our dedicated judicial clerkship counselor and our Faculty Clerkship Committee. They will advise you on how to target the judges for whom you’d like to clerk, equip you with strategies for applying to those judges, and, as much as possible, work to set up meetings with alumni judges to prepare you for your interviews.

6

number of faculty who
were Supreme Court clerks

90

number of federal
clerkships since 2008
(students)

200

number of living
alumni on the bench
(includes retired judges)

USC GOULD ALUMNI ARE PARTNERS IN THE
WORLD'S LARGEST LAW FIRMS, AND ARE CEOs AND
PRESIDENTS OF MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR COMPANIES.



the trojan family network

From the moment you are accepted at USC Gould, you become a part of the Trojan Family Network, which extends from USC Gould to the overall university. We are over 365,000 strong with more than 100 thriving alumni chapters around the world. As a member of this extraordinarily enthusiastic network, you will be able to reach out to fellow Trojans for advice, mentoring, and support.



USC Gould students
on Graduation Day

“The alumni association is incredible, and it exists outside of LA. This summer I am working in New York and Menlo Park. I reached out to lots of alumni to do mock interviews, and I have stayed in contact with them. When I started my second summer internship, there was an alumnus at the firm who called me an hour after I had started and took me to lunch. It’s an amazing support system.”



“The Trojan Network opened doors for me, but my USC Gould education gave me the skills to succeed when those doors opened. The Trojan Network means appreciating your privilege and using it for good — including always opening doors for people behind you.”

Alyson Parker | J.D. 2009

Undergraduate School: Boston College
Current Employer: California Office of the Attorney General

Alumni Connections

Many students’ first point of contact with our alumni is through the Alumni Ambassador Program, a valuable resource for newly admitted USC Gould students. With an active pool of domestic and international alumni volunteers, the Ambassador Program makes it easy to connect with an alumni practitioner in any area of law. Alumni Ambassadors are there to answer your questions and provide valuable insights into life and study at USC Gould. Many Alumni Ambassadors remain in close contact with the students they have counseled throughout their time at USC Gould, acting as sounding boards and mentors, and even helping arrange for interviews and externships.

USC Gould’s more than 10,000 alumni are ardent fans, and many remain engaged with the school long after they graduate. Some teach as adjunct professors, while others provide internships, externships, judicial clerkships, and supervision in our clinics.



“The strength of USC Gould comes from the people. All of the professors, deans, staff, and alumni are committed to helping students reach their goals, and all of the students want each other to succeed. We often use the term “Trojan Network,” but it is really the Trojan Family and it is a family you can rely on. I went to Berkeley for my undergraduate degree and had a great experience there, but something about USC fosters a deeper connection. I can always reach out to the Trojan Family for direction and support regarding my legal career, but I often reach out just to check in with my second family.”

Rosezetta Upshaw | J.D. 2011

Undergraduate School: UC Berkeley
Current Employer: Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers



“USC Gould’s strength lies in its small, intimate class size. This contributes to a collegial community of students, deeper relationships with faculty, and easy access to administration.”

Anna Fee | J.D. 2012

Undergraduate School: University of Virginia
Current Employer: Office of the Comptroller of the Currency

Lifelong & Worldwide

USC Gould alumni can be found in over 21 countries across 6 continents. If you are a student returning home to practice law or looking for an exciting place to put down new roots, chances are the alumni family will be there for advice and support.







Join the USC Gould Family.

CONNECT WITH US



uscgouldadmissions



USCGouldLaw