Pre-Law Orientation

Ashley Roseberry

Prelaw Advisor

Pre-Professional Advising Office
What is prelaw?

1. Identify as *pre-law* to your advisor or the prelaw advisor

2. Join the *prelaw listserv*: [https://ppao.uga.edu/about/listserv/](https://ppao.uga.edu/about/listserv/)

3. Follow [@ugaprelaw](https://www.instagram.com/ugaprelaw) on Instagram
What is law school?

1. **Post-undergraduate**, earn a Juris Doctorate (JD)

2. **Three-year** program

3. Prepares you to *pass a state bar exam*
Kindergarten through JD

About 50% of UGA applicants to law school are KJD each cycle
Path to law school (K-JD)

- **YEAR 1**: Focus on Academics
- **YEAR 2**: Start college
- **YEAR 3**: Apply to law schools
- **YEAR 4**:
The **truth** about your major & law school

It doesn’t matter what you major in!

It doesn’t matter what you minor in!

Law schools do not look for any specific courses!

No, a Masters degree does not look better

### Undergraduate Majors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Political Science (23%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Sciences (13%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STEM (8%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History (6%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics (5%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities (4%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy (3%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature/English (3%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finance &amp; Business (2%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Literature (1%)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Relations (1%)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychology (1%)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Policy Studies (1%)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Columbia Law School 2021 Entering Class Profile*
What does matter...

• **Overall undergraduate GPA** (of first awarded degree(s))

• **Rigor** of course load each semester – at least one semester of 15 credit hours (3000 & 4000-level courses)

• Positive grade **trends**

• Pivoting sooner rather than later
Some related courses/programs

Undergraduate school of law courses – JURI (2000, 3000)
PHIL 2020 or PHIL 2300 – for LSAT
Major-related courses with a legal subject
LEGL courses through Terry

Minor in Law, Jurisprudence, and the State* (POLS 1101 required)
Certificate of Legal Studies* - Terry only (LEGL 2700 required)
Minor in Law, Ethics, and Philosophy
Environmental Law Minor
Criminal Justice Minor

*=application required
Path to law school (K-JD)

Start college

- **Year 1**: Focus on Academics
- **Year 2**: Build Resume

YEAR 1 | YEAR 2 | YEAR 3 | YEAR 4
The **truth** about your experiences

Law schools want to see evidence of **leadership**.

Law schools want to see evidence of **service**.

Law schools expect some **professional development**.

Legal experience **NOT REQUIRED**.

Depth of involvement is what matters.

Show a commitment to serving others.

Work or internships

Do what you are passionate about.
There are some legal-related clubs

Phi Alpha Delta
The Black Pre-Law Association
Undergrad. Moot Court
Undergrad. Mock Trial

Pre-law fraternity – IG: @pad.uga
@bplsassociation – Group Me
Supreme Court cases, recruits in the spring -
Simulate a courtroom litigation, civil and criminal cases, recruit in the Fall – UGAMockTrial@gmail.com
Some other popular activities

• UGA Judiciary
• Phi Kappa Society
• Ambassador Programs
• CASA Athens (21+)
• Athens Prison Tutorial
• Whatever It Takes
• U-Lead
• Campus Kitchen
• Food 2 Kids
Extracurriculars are a privilege. Law schools will understand if you have significant personal responsibilities outside of school that prevent you from getting involved.
Path to law school (K-JD)

Start college

- YEAR 1: Focus on Academics
- YEAR 2: Build Resume
- YEAR 3: Study for the LSAT
- YEAR 4: Take the LSAT
Path to law school (K-JD)

Start college

YEAR 1: Focus on Academics
YEAR 2: Build Resume
YEAR 3: Study for the LSAT
YEAR 4: Take the LSAT, Apply to law schools
Apply to law schools

• Most law schools only **start** in the **fall**

• Be prepared to apply **one year prior** to desired start date

• KJD = apply in September/October
UGA LAW 3 + 3
Admissions Process

The 3+3 admissions process is only open to applicants who are currently enrolled as undergraduate students at the University of Georgia. You must meet all of the standard admissions requirements and apply to UGA Law. Admission to UGA Law through this process will be just as competitive as the standard admissions process.

General Timeline for 3+3 Applicants

1st Year
- Evaluate your credit status. If you will complete a Bachelor’s degree in three years, 3+3 is NOT for you.
- Choose a major from the following Colleges:
  - Franklin
  - Terry
  - Grady
  - Odum
  - SPIA

2nd Year
- Consult with your primary academic advisor to confirm that you can have all MAJOR requirements completed by the end of your third year.
- Email UGA Law at ugaad@uga.edu to confirm your eligibility for 3+3.

3rd Year
- Study for and take the LSAT by April at the latest.
- Complete and submit an UGA Law application on LSAC.org

The application deadline is June 1st, but plan to submit your application earlier in the semester.

4th Year
- Take JD Courses at UGA Law School to complete your Bachelor’s degree.
UGA Law School

UGA Scholars

Admissions Process

This admissions process is only open to applicants who have received or will receive their undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia. Qualified UGA undergraduates may apply to the University of Georgia School of Law without the previously required LSAT score. DISCLAIMER: UGA Scholars is very competitive. You are not guaranteed admission just by meeting the stated qualifications.

Before applying to UGA Law School through the UGA Scholars admissions process, you may have the opportunity to attend an Information Session. Check the UGA Law Recruiting Events page (law.uga.edu/recruiting-events) in early August for the date of this event.

QUALIFICATIONS

LSAT  □ NO LSAT SCORE ON FILE (law schools see every score.)
GPA □ Minimum cumulative undergraduate GPA of 3.5
Tests □ Scored at or above the 85th percentile on the SAT or ACT if seeking a J.D. degree.

□ Scored at or above the 85th percentile on the GRE or GMAT if seeking a dual degree at the School of Law.

Other □ Have completed or will complete at least six semesters of undergraduate work.
□ 100% sure that UGA Law is your number one choice.

UGA Scholars is binding.

TIMELINE

September 1st  Application opens

October 1st  Application completion deadline - all application materials must be submitted by this date.

Usually within two weeks  Decisions sent out. You may be:
- Admitted
- Put into the standard admissions pool to be reconsidered with a LSAT score.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

□ UGA Law Application (on LSAC.org)
□ Personal Statement (Max 2 double-spaced pages) + optional supplemental essays
□ Resume
□ Transcripts
□ 2 Letters of Recommendation

CONTACT: UGA Law School at ugaid@uga.edu with any questions or concerns. If you want to discuss whether or not UGA Scholars is right for you, make an appointment for prelaw advising via SAGE.
# Georgia Law Schools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School of Law</th>
<th>50th percentile GPA/LSAT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>3.87/168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emory University School of Law</td>
<td>3.80/167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University College of Law</td>
<td>3.55/160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mercer School of Law</td>
<td>3.51/156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta’s John Marshall Law School</td>
<td>3.14/158</td>
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</table>
# National law schools of interest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>50th percentile GPA/LSAT</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harvard Law School</td>
<td>3.92/174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Virginia School of Law</td>
<td>3.91/171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University School of Law</td>
<td>3.85/170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown Law</td>
<td>3.85/171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt Law School</td>
<td>3.90/170</td>
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</table>
2023-2024 Cost to Apply

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LSAT</td>
<td>$222</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credential Assembly Service (CAS)</td>
<td>$200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law School Report</td>
<td>$45 per law school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Application Fee</td>
<td>$50-$80</td>
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</table>
Apply to law schools - Resources

• Make an appointment for pre-law advising.

• Meet with the Pre-law Career Consultant, Brandi Raines, at the UGA Career Center.
Pre-Professional Student Ambassadors (PPSA)

- PPSAs connect students to campus resources, provide peer mentorship, professional development opportunities, and support/guidance.
- Connect with an ambassador who can help you navigate your path at UGA!
  - 15-minute drop-in Zoom meetings start in September
- View the PPSA bios!
Find a UGA Mentor

Networking with experienced UGA alumni, faculty and staff can help you get ahead in life and career, but where do you even start? The UGA Mentor Program narrows down the world of possibilities to meaningful connections. It personalizes the networking experience, connecting you with mentors that are just right for your commitment.

"It has definitely been amazing having someone in my corner to help me through the uncertainties and keep me motivated! I truly enjoyed the experience and the impact it has made on my first year in college. I value the life-long connection I have made with my mentor.

- Kevin Nworgu (UGA '22)

Find a UGA Mentor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Topic</th>
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<tr>
<td>9/6/23</td>
<td>Diane Marie Amann</td>
<td>Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>International Law &amp; Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>9/18/23</td>
<td>Alexander Scherr</td>
<td>Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>Mental Health &amp; Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/9/23</td>
<td>Christine Scartz</td>
<td>Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>Social Justice Lawyering</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/25/23</td>
<td>Gregory Roseboro</td>
<td>Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>Race &amp; Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>11/1/23</td>
<td>Zohra Ahmed</td>
<td>Georgia School of Law</td>
<td>Prison Abolition &amp; Reform</td>
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