SPARTANS GO EVERYWHERE

Graduates are part of the 540,000+ Spartan network, connected to employment opportunities all over the world.

LAWYERS FROM OUR 2015 CLASS PRACTICE IN 32 STATES.

ASHLEE BRENNAN, ‘15 Compliance Associate, Reed Group Denver, CO
CURTIS DOSTER, ‘15 In-House Counsel, FIAT Chrysler Automobiles Detroit, MI
LINDA GARDNER, ‘15 Chief Brand Strategist, Gardner Law Professional Corporation Ottawa, ON
JOSH HALEN, ‘15 Associate, Laxalt & Nomura Reno, NV
SARAH KHOURY, ‘15 Associate, Income Law St. Paul, MN
MATTHEW RUSSO, ‘15 International Tax Associate, PricewaterhouseCoopers New York, NY
THE PROGRAM

Our required curriculum provides students with the building blocks for success. Our curriculum is constantly evaluated to ensure our graduates are prepared for today’s legal profession.

Students complete 88 credit hours to earn a Juris Doctor (JD) degree. Full-time students can complete the program in three years. Those whose schedules don’t permit full-time study can opt for a flexible, part-time day schedule.

Students start law school with a weeklong Foundations of Law course, which equips them with an understanding of the legal system. The prescribed 1L curriculum gives students a solid foundation in Civil Procedure, Contracts, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Property, the Regulatory State, and Torts, along with an introduction to Contract Negotiation. All first-year schedules include Research, Writing, & Analysis, as well as Advocacy—intensive courses that develop critical writing and oral presentation skills.

Our 130+ electives enable students to shape their experiences. Upper-level students can focus on a particular area of law, earn a specialized certificate, or complement their legal education with an advanced degree in another field. Students also can select any six credits of MSU graduate coursework.

ENGAGE YOUR INTERESTS.
Our wide range of courses offers opportunities for every area of interest. MSU Law’s nationally recognized faculty members will challenge your intellect in 14 focus areas and certificate programs.
FOCUS AREAS & CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Students can explore their interests while building expertise in a specific area of the law:

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Child & Family Law
Commercial Law
Constitutional Law
Corporate Law
Criminal Law
Environmental Law

Trial Practice Institute
Indigenous Law
Intellectual Property Law
International & Comparative Law
Legal Services Innovation
Public Law & Regulation
Taxation Law

Child and Family Law Certificate Program

Designed for those with a strong desire to make a difference in the lives of children and their families, this certificate program is an excellent way for students to develop the advocacy skills needed to work with abused, neglected, and at-risk children and their families. Students take courses from MSU’s Graduate School of Social Work and complete a clinical experience.

I use my legal skills to enable low-income parents to become advocates for their children.

— Erin Hankins Diaz, ’15

Erin was awarded a Skadden Fellowship to fund two years of public interest work on behalf of children and families.
SPOTLIGHT ON:

TRIAL PRACTICE CERTIFICATE PROGRAM

MSU Law students don’t need to wait until graduation to get into the courtroom. Students in the selective Trial Practice Institute spend their 2L and 3L years experiencing every stage of the trial process, from pre-trial preparation to sentencing. By the end of law school, TPI students know how to make an impact in the courtroom.

TPI students conduct full trials in front of real judges and juries in a state-of-the-art courtroom. They study how to engage jurors with performance skills, how to present scientific evidence, and how to use courtroom technology. TPI professors are accomplished attorneys and judges who bring their experiences into the classroom.

Employers know the value of TPI’s immersive teaching process. Meghan Connelly, a ’10 TPI grad, got her start as an Assistant District Attorney in the Bronx County District Attorney’s Office in New York. Over 1,300 people applied for my position; 34 were extended offers. It’s because of TPI that I was one of these 34 individuals.

I am absolutely convinced that MSU College of Law is training some of the best-prepared law students in the United States to go out into private practice and be well ahead of many of their peers in actually conducting a trial.

— The Honorable David W. McKeague
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit
Adjunct Professor of Law

TPI takes you through a trial from start to finish and allows you to argue in front of lawyers and judges. We build practical experience in a safe space.

— Janee’ Prince, ’16
Detroit, MI

I took TPI courses in order to focus my education on litigation. It was a great fit for me, since I like to be active and learn through practice.

— Mark Jensen, ’15
Salt Lake City, UT
**Indigenous Law Certificate Program**

One of only a handful of similar programs in the nation, the Indigenous Law certificate program prepares law students to work on behalf of indigenous people and tribes throughout the country. As an independent nation, a tribe has the right to form its own government, adjudicate legal cases and levy taxes within its borders, establish its citizenship, and decide its own future.

With over 500 federally recognized American Indian tribes and still more petitioning for recognition, the need for lawyers educated in indigenous law is critical.

*My clerkship at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in the District of New Mexico in the Indian Country Crimes Section helped me to determine what area of Indian Law I wanted to pursue. It was the first job where I enjoyed going in early and staying late.*  
— Tamara Begay, ’14  
Fellow, National Congress of American Indians  
Washington, DC

**LegalRnD – The Center for Legal Services Innovation**

LegalRnD brings together professionals from a broad range of disciplines to improve legal service delivery throughout the legal industry. The Center teaches cutting-edge courses, connects students with exciting internship opportunities worldwide, and hosts legal tech competitions.

Contributors start with well-established concepts—such as lean thinking—and use them to improve legal service delivery. LegalRnD students take experiential classes from high-profile practitioners, entrepreneurs, and academics. Students apply process improvement and project management concepts to settings like legal aid organizations, corporate legal departments, law firms, and court systems.

**Alternative Dispute Resolution Program**

With the vast majority of civil cases now resolved through negotiation, mediation, or arbitration, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) is an in-demand skill set.

Leading scholars, negotiators, mediators, and arbitrators deliver a comprehensive and innovative ADR curriculum that seamlessly blends theory with practical experience.

*ADR is the present and the future. Dispute resolution—and especially mediation—saves time and money, and empowers people to reach their own decisions and find creative solutions that may go beyond what a court might decide.*  
— Brian Pappas  
Associate Clinical Professor,  
Associate Director of the ADR Program,  
Director, Conflict Resolution Clinic
Dual Degrees

Students can maximize their marketability by earning another graduate degree along with their law degree. Dual degree options allow a predetermined number of credits from each program to count toward electives in the other.

Our integration with a world-class university also allows students to build interdisciplinary expertise through custom-designed dual degree programs.

US-Canadian Dual JD Program

Our students can earn both US and Canadian Juris Doctor degrees through an exciting partnership with the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law. The program prepares students to deal with international integration and globalization, while making them marketable on either side of the border.

JD-MBA Program

MSU Law students can position themselves for leadership by completing a Master’s of Business Administration (MBA) at Eli Broad College of Business, MSU’s nationally ranked business program.

For Toronto native Daniel Albahary, MSU College of Law offered an opportunity to experience American college life while readying himself for a career practicing law in Canada. After earning a dual JD from MSU Law and the University of Ottawa, he clerked at the Federal Court of Canada while studying to complete his master of laws (LL.M.) degree.

The law school specializes in creating new opportunities for students. The JD/MBA program provided me with the diverse skill set I needed to accomplish my career goals.

— Paul Robertson, ’16
Orlando, FL
Graduate with skills & experience. Our clinical programs hone your skills in a supportive environment as you help real clients. Our focus on skills-building and experiential learning gives our graduates the practice-ready skills that employers are looking for.


Experience is everything

Clinical Programs

The MSU Law Legal Clinic provides students with hands-on lawyering experience through assisting real clients with their legal problems. It’s an opportunity to build skills while working closely with experienced faculty mentors and changing lives for members of underserved communities.

Our clinic students represent clients in court, facilitate negotiations, draft contracts, file appeals, and participate in all aspects of legal proceedings.

Clinics Include:

- Animal Law
- Civil Rights
- Conflict Resolution
- Criminal Law
- Family Law
- First Amendment
- Food Law
- Housing Law
- Immigration Law
- Indigenous Law
- Low Income Taxpayer
SPOTLIGHT ON:

IMMIGRATION LAW CLINIC

Immigration Law clinic students gain powerful experience on how to be lawyers—and how great representation changes lives. Students and faculty work together to find creative solutions for clients who often are at life-altering crossroads.

Students navigate their clients through the maze of immigration law. This may take them to immigration court, state family courts, administrative agencies, or federal courts of appeal. About one-third of the clinic’s cases deal with domestic violence, and another third involve unaccompanied minors.

IMMIGRATION LAW CLINICIANS DEVELOP:

- Client empathy
- Direct representation experience
- Meticulous attention to detail
- Strong writing portfolios
- Skills for solving complex problems

One of my cases ended with my client successfully receiving his legal status to remain in the United States. From representing him in court to preparing him for his green card interview, it was a humbling and rewarding experience.

— Sophia Brelvi, ’15
Atlanta, GA

Our cases are compelling: children who are facing deportation from the United States, victims of domestic violence, refugees with disabilities confronting barriers to naturalization. Our students commit themselves to challenging legal work and they make a difference in the lives of their clients.

— Veronica Thronson
Clinical Professor of Law
Director, Immigration Law Clinic

The Immigration Law Clinic has represented clients from 70 countries.
Competition Teams

MSU Law 2L and 3L students showcase their skills in competitions ranging from appellate arguments to trial advocacy. They work closely with faculty mentors to hone their skills, then argue cases in front of judges, practicing attorneys, and law professors at competitions all over the U.S.

You might not end up practicing courtroom law. But thinking on your feet, being persuasive, and connecting with your audience are assets no matter where your career takes you.

SPARTAN COMPETITORS:
- Get courtroom experience
- Structure legal arguments
- Analyze cases
- Work one-on-one with faculty mentors
- Network with prospective employers
- Gain leadership skills and marketability

I love coaching teams. It’s an honor to support our student competitors, and to see all their preparation come together into a perfect performance.

— Philip Pucillo
Professor of Law in Residence

Advocating to a panel of actual lawyers or judges can be incredibly intimidating. But if you keep doing it, eventually you realize that the nerves are just part of the experience . . . and you find ways to use them to your advantage.

— Crystal Bultje, ’15
Grand Haven, MI

MSU Law students Ashley Chrysler, Crystal Bultje, and Ashley Byers won the 2015 American Bar Association’s National Appellate Advocacy Competition, the largest moot court competition in the country. They triumphed over 202 teams representing 118 law schools.
MSU Law has a collaborative, challenging environment where professors and students share a common goal: turning all members of the student body into highly capable attorneys and professionals.

— David Radar, ’16
Washington, DC

GET INVOLVED

Students can channel their passions through countless co-curricular and extracurricular activities at Michigan State Law. With more than 40 student groups at the Law College, all students can find opportunities to participate.

Our student-run scholarly publications are among the most prestigious student organizations at MSU Law.

**Journal of Animal & Natural Resource Law**, which is the second legal journal on animal law established in North America, is one of only three in existence dedicated to this specialized topic.

**Journal of Business & Securities Law** provides insight into issues at the intersection of law and business, including commercial transactions, corporate litigation, e-commerce, employment, and securities regulation.

**Michigan State International Law Review** publishes thought-provoking articles and organizes topical symposia on provocative issues from around the globe.

**Michigan State Law Review**, MSU Law’s flagship journal, receives approximately 2,000 submissions each year from scholars all over the world, publishing three annual issues and hosting two symposia.
Michigan State is truly a global brand, with over half a million Spartans living and working throughout the world. I chose to be a student at Michigan State University College of Law so I could leverage this alumni base to meet my career goals.

— Keith Voorheis, ‘14  
Associate, Hunton & Williams LLP  
Richmond, VA
REWARDING CAREERS

Michigan State Law prepares future lawyers to practice in the real world—as litigators, corporate and transactional attorneys, business people, and public servants. The legal knowledge and practical skills that students acquire at MSU Law, together with the personalized assistance offered by our Career Services Office (CSO) staff, lead our graduates to satisfying careers.

The CSO staff provides the individual guidance to pursue any legal career. We equip students with the tools needed to define, shape, and achieve their career goals.

Partners for Success
In the first semester of law school, the CSO team meets individually with each member of the first-year class to establish partnerships that will continue through graduation and beyond. CSO career advisors familiarize students with the legal profession, identify career opportunities, and implement action plans that will lead to success.

Career Exploration
The CSO provides programs that introduce students to many legal career paths. The CSO hosts presentations by guest speakers who offer insights about particular practice areas, government employment, judicial clerkships, public interest careers, and the versatility of a Juris Doctor degree.

As a student at Michigan State Law, you will have access to a dynamic, worldwide network of proud Spartans. With more than 542,000 alumni dispersed in all 50 states and around the globe, you’ll find the MSU family wherever you plan to practice.
Nicole Dogwill attributes much of her success to Michigan State Law, where she was a managing editor of the Law Review and earned her JD, magna cum laude.

Named a “future star” in recent editions of Benchmark Litigation, Dogwill was also named in the Top 40 under 40 LGBT Attorneys by the National LGBT Bar Association.

Graduates from the class of 2015 are working in 32 states and 2 foreign countries.

I knew I’d be able to obtain an excellent legal education with an emphasis on practicing in the real world. This background really helped me start my career in the right direction.

— Nicole P. Dogwill, ’98
Partner, Joseph & Cohen, San Francisco, CA
Summer Career Jumpstart

Incoming first-year students work one-on-one with our CSO professionals to get a jumpstart on legal career planning before getting immersed in the 1L experience. In the summer before law school, participants learn how to clarify job goals, research job options, work to develop law-specific job-seeking skills, research various practice areas, and think about how their interests can translate into careers. Most importantly, incoming students start engaging with their futures in the law, and learn how the Career Services Office can support them.

We’re invested in student success.

MSU Law’s unique Jumpstart programming is designed to equip incoming students with foundational skills and knowledge.

Job Search Resources, Workshops, and Guidance

The CSO helps students find part-time, summer, and post-graduate positions. MSU Law students have access to a proprietary online job posting system, legal employer databases, and an alumni job bulletin featuring employment opportunities across the nation. The CSO coordinates workshops that build students’ skills in resume writing, interviewing, networking, and business etiquette. Finally, the CSO team gives in-depth feedback on showcasing students’ experiences in a way that resonates with legal employers.

Interviewing Opportunities

The CSO facilitates interviewing opportunities for legal employment through a variety of channels. The annual On-Campus Interviewing (OCI) program at MSU Law attracts employers from across the region. The CSO coordinates collect-and-send and direct-send resume services for job-seekers, and connects students with off-campus programs such as the Patent Law Interview Program in Chicago and other job fairs.
We place 100+ students in for-credit externships every summer. In 2016, our students worked at over 80 sites in 18 states, DC, and abroad.

Externships

Learn on the job from expert practitioners—lawyers, judges, and government officials.

You’ll gain supervised experience in legal practice settings like government agencies, non-profits, public interest organizations, and courts.

Externships bring your academic experience to life, giving you the opportunity to see legal principles in action. You’ll also learn the unwritten rules of the legal workplace: how to communicate, dress, prepare, and behave like a lawyer.

Nationwide placements mean that you’ll have the opportunity to network where you plan to practice.

Students go global to gain work experience—from advocating for Costa Rican victims of human trafficking to navigating copyright issues for Italian winemakers. We fund human rights externships at The Hague through our Talsky Center for Human Rights. Our LegalRnD program places students in Australian legal tech.

My work at the nonprofit Volunteer Lawyers and Professionals in the Arts focused on entertainment law and promoting the arts in Nashville. Career Services was very willing to work with me on securing an out-of-state externship.

— Daphne Bugelli, ’16
Nashville, TN

My professor helped me secure a paid internship at Riverview Law in the United Kingdom, where I worked with technology teams to develop legal processing tools. After graduation, I was hired by Riverview Law’s New York office.

— Brian Pike, ’15
New York, NY
MSU Law has a great reputation with federal agencies, thanks to the network of fellow alumni who were hired following their externships, said Rachel Dowell, ’11. *This exposure gives MSU Law grads an edge in a town that can be hard to break into.* The exposure paid off: she got her start as a DC extern at the US Office of Government Ethics, which hired her upon graduation. Dowell currently works for the Office of the White House Counsel.

Employers of DC alumni include the Senate, the US Commission on Civil Rights, the US Department of State, FEMA, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Congress of American Indians, the Department of Veterans’ Affairs, lobbying groups, and law firms.

Extens work for about 24 hours per week, leaving plenty of time to take courses, sightsee, and experience life in the center of American government. The program is an impressive resume-builder, and students leverage the experiences (and references) that they get on the job into employment opportunities.

SPOTLIGHT ON:

THE WASHINGTON, DC, SEMESTER PROGRAM

Considering a career in government? Get hands-on experience (and academic credit) by working for a federal agency in Washington, DC, through MSU Law’s DC Semester Program. 2Ls and 3Ls choose their preferred agencies, and MSU Law’s externship program leverages our DC connections to place most students with one of their selected employers.

RECENT WORK SITES:
- Coast Guard
- Commission on Civil Rights
- Department of Defense
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of the Interior
- Department of Justice
- Department of Transportation
- Environmental Protection Agency
- Equal Opportunity Employment Commission
- Securities and Exchange Commission
FACULTY

Michigan State Law faculty members will challenge you to expand your intellect while offering the personal support you need to develop professionally.

Dedicated to You

MSU Law faculty members are committed to helping you navigate the demands of law school and successfully transition into the legal profession.

As an MSU Law student, you will have an opportunity to connect with your professors beyond the classroom. Open-door policies allow lecture hall discussions to spill over into conversations in office hours, and professors are often available for group review sessions before final exams.

Professors advise student organizations, coach competition teams, work with students on cutting-edge research, and draw upon their expertise in the field to assist individual students as they consider career options.
**Respected Scholars**

MSU Law professors are recognized scholars, exploring our legal system, expanding your understanding of its application, and examining today’s challenging legal questions. Infusing cutting-edge legal scholarship into the curriculum, they will provide you with the latest in the legal field.

**Experienced Professionals**

Your professors bring insights from their involvement in national and international professional organizations and their notable backgrounds in the public and private sectors. MSU Law faculty members have practiced at prominent law firms, clerked for federal judges, worked at leading governmental offices, and served at respected nonprofit organizations.

*We take our students seriously, and we give them real opportunities.*

— Catherine Grosso

Associate Professor of Law
STUDENT LIFE

With a student population of nearly 50,000, Michigan State has a high-energy environment. Thousands of Spartans bike, jog, and walk to class every day, enjoying the changing seasons on MSU’s beautiful campus.

East Lansing is a classic university town, with year-round cultural events and a mix of galleries, specialty stores, and international restaurants. The community has plenty of safe, affordable housing, from on-campus dorms to off-campus apartments, downtown lofts, or houses in family-friendly neighborhoods.

Football season isn't just about watching games; it's an experience. Thousands of students, alumni, and sports fans tailgate on campus—bodies are painted, the fight song plays, the smell of barbeque fills the air. Spartan lawyers and law students cheer on our team together at official MSU Law tailgates.

MSU has a legendary basketball program (2016 Big Ten Conference champs!) and March Madness sweeps the campus every year. Whether the Spartans make it to the Final Four or not, MSU students will be cheering on the team—and beloved basketball coach Tom Izzo—from bars and houses all over East Lansing.

You’ve seen the Spartans pulling off spectacular victories. From the joy of victory to the heartbreak of defeat, our millions of loyal fans come along for the ride.
ADMISSIONS

MSU Law students come from dozens of professions and academic majors—engineering, liberal arts, political science, business, performing arts—and from universities across the country. This diversity creates a rich exchange of ideas in the classroom.

We consider many variables in the review process, including exceptional aptitude for the law as demonstrated by factors beyond undergraduate GPA and LSAT scores.

Apply Early

The Admissions Committee encourages Juris Doctor program candidates to apply for admission at the earliest possible date. Those who apply before February 1 will receive full consideration for scholarship aid. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis from early November through late spring.

ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

| NOVEMBER 1 | FEBRUARY 1 | APRIL 1 | APRIL 30 |
| Application Review Begins | Priority Deadline for Scholarship Consideration | First Enrollment Deposit Due for Candidates Offered Admission by March 1 | Application Deadline |

2016 ENTERING CLASS PROFILE

MSU Law students come from across the country and abroad. Our admissions process emphasizes academic accomplishment, performance on the LSAT, diversity of personal and professional experience, and an applicant’s passion to excel.

- LSAT: 150 – 156 (25th – 75th PERCENTILES)
- GPA: 3.22 – 3.70 (25th – 75th PERCENTILES)

Our Admissions Team is here to help you. Contact us at (517) 432-0222 with questions.

Theresa Allen | John Garcia | Alicia Lane
Charles Roboski | Justin Williams | Kimberly Wilkes
SPARTAN SCHOLARSHIPS

The value of a degree from Michigan State Law becomes greater as a result of our generous scholarship program. Candidates who apply by February 1 will be given full consideration for scholarship aid.

35 FULL-TUITION AWARDS

35 $35,000 AWARDS

45 $20,000 - $30,000 AWARDS

45 $10,000 - $17,500 AWARDS

We'll award 160 scholarships this year. APPLY EARLY.

The cost of tuition for the 2016–17 academic year is $41,528 for 29 credit hours. Indirect costs range from $8,000 to $15,000.

2017 INCOMING CLASS SCHOLARSHIPS

Faculty Scholarship—$32,500 to Full Tuition
157 LSAT, 3.65 UGPA

Academic Excellence Scholarship—$20,000 to $32,500
154 LSAT, 3.55 UGPA

Alumni Scholarship—$10,000 to $22,500
154 LSAT, 3.15 UGPA; 150 LSAT, 3.60 UGPA

Trustee Scholarship—$10,000 to Full Tuition
Personal and professional background

Indigenous Law Award—$10,000 to Full Tuition
Commitment to Native American culture

Intellectual Property Law Award—$10,000 to Full Tuition
Engineering or science background

Excellence in Oral Advocacy Award—$10,000 to Full Tuition
Excellence in public speaking and interest in trial advocacy

Public Interest Award—$10,000 to Full Tuition
Commitment to public service

Continuing Student Scholarship—$20,000 to Full Tuition
3.50 law school GPA after 1L year (minimum 24 credits)
Applying to law school can be expensive. Email admiss@law.msu.edu for a fee waiver.