Guide to Academic Centers

2015-16
Why Associate with a Center?

While being a member of one of New York Law School’s Academic Centers is not mandatory, many students find that their association with a Center provides them with a “home” at NYLS and report that belonging to a Center is a highpoint of their law school experience.

Membership in a Center will allow you to add a focus to your law school studies, and will provide evidence of that focus to potential employers. Through a combination of course selection, experiential learning, and contact with faculty, practitioners, alumni, and other students who share that focus, Center members begin to develop an expertise, and gain a sense of the many facets of the single area of law.

Each Center’s curriculum is flexible enough to accommodate a broad range of student interests and career goals. Center membership is not intended to narrow a student’s curriculum but instead to provide a focus of study and create a community of interests within the Law School. Details of each Center’s curricular requirements are described in this packet. Please note that some courses may not be offered every year, and registration materials for each year will have the definitive list.

Students who complete all Center requirements are acknowledged in the program at Commencement.

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Center Contact Sheet

**Center for Business and Financial Law**
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Professor Ronald Filler, Director for Financial Services Law Institute, 212-431-2812, ronald.filler@nyls.edu
Michael Rhee, Assistant Director, 212-431-2893, michael.rhee@nyls.edu

**Center for International Law**
Professor Lloyd Bonfield, Director, 212-431-2822, lloyd.bonfield@nyls.edu
Michael Rhee, Associate Director, and Managing Editor, *The International Review*, 212-431-2893, michael.rhee@nyls.edu
Please contact Michael Rhee first because he will be able to answer most of your questions.

**Center for New York City Law**
Professor Ross Sandler, Director, 212-431-2869, ross.sandler@nyls.edu
Lillian Valle-Santiago, Center Coordinator, 212-431-2855, lillian.valle-santiago@nyls.edu

**Center for Real Estate Studies**
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Tamara Garland, Senior Administrative Assistant, 212-431-2306, tamara.garland@nyls.edu

**The Impact Center for Public Interest Law**
Associate Dean Deborah Archer, Co-Director, 212-431-2138, deborah.archer@nyls.edu
Professor Richard Marsico, Co-Director, 212-431-2180, richard.marsico@nyls.edu
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**The Innovation Center for Law and Technology @ NYLS**
Professor Ari Waldman, Director, 212-431-2311, ari.waldman@nyls.edu
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Center for Business and Financial Law

GOALS AND STUDENT ORIENTATION

Established in 2012, the Center for Business and Financial Law is designed to provide students with an unparalleled, rigorous, and integrated approach to academic study and skills training in all aspects of corporate, commercial, and financial law. Through cutting-edge courses, events, projects, and research, the CBFL brings together academics, practitioners, and students to address the challenges that animate business and finance.

Student members of the Center enroll in a small number of required, core courses, which will be complemented by their choice among a broad array of electives. The curricular and extra-curricular requirements for the Center’s students are demanding, consistent with the general expectations in this area of practice. There is considerable variety in the Center's course offerings, which encompasses the law governing corporations and other business associations, commercial transactions, securities, banking, and other aspects of financial markets, and entrepreneurial startups. The Center's faculty will also work with the externship program to obtain externships for students in the business law area, as available.

Center students’ classroom work is supplemented by presentations and conferences involving accomplished practitioners from the NYC legal community, and projects that build students’ expertise and provide value to practitioners. Attendance at events is mandatory. The Center also provides networking and social events where its students can share their experiences.

Student members should also consider joining the CBFL Fellowship program, which entails students taking a leadership role in the Center’s projects and programming and potentially qualifying for paid positions and scholarship funds.

CBFL members should use the Center’s Resource Guide to bolster their knowledge, keep track of trends, and develop an interest and expertise within the business and financial law field.

Given the time needed to complete all of the requirements below, students may not join or transfer to the Center for Business and Financial Law during their last semester of law school.

REQUIRED CURRICULUM

1. Students must take each of the following core courses and should do so as early as possible in their course scheduling:

   Corporations (4 credits, ideally in the fall after the first year.)

   Commercial Law (4 credits)

   Securities Regulation (4 credits, ideally in the spring after the first year.) or Financial Institutions (3 credits)
2. Experiential Requirement (Third or Fourth Year for evening division students)

This requirement may be fulfilled by:

- working on a project if assigned to one by a Center director, AND one of the following:
  - taking a business law clinic (Securities Arbitration Clinic, the Transactional Law Clinic, or the Tax Planning Clinic) or
  - completing a business law-oriented externship placement; or
  - writing a business or financial-oriented Note for Law Review or
  - taking a simulation-based or transactional course such as Start-Ups & Venture Capital, Corporate Practice Skills, Drafting: Corporate Documents, Drafting: Commercial Finance, Drafting: Real Estate Documents, and the Financial Services Seminar and Workshop; or
  - writing a Note for the Law Review focused on business or financial law.

3. At least two of the following courses

Accounting for Lawyers (2 credits, students can “place” out of this course if they have taken a basic undergraduate accounting course and achieved a grade of B+ or higher)
Bankruptcy
Bankruptcy: Chapter 11
Building a Successful Practice
Corporate Finance
Corporate Practice Skills
Derivatives Market Regulation Seminar
Federal Income Tax: Individual
Federal Income Tax: Corporate
Federal Income Tax: Partnerships
Financial Institutions
Mergers and Acquisitions
Securities Arbitration Clinic
Securities Regulation
Startups and Venture Capital
Transactional Law Clinic: Start-ups and Non-profits

4. In addition to the courses in Categories 2 and 3, students should also seriously consider taking any of the following courses:

Advising Entrepreneurs
Business Planning for the Closely Held Enterprise
Drafting: Contracts
Drafting: Corporate Documents
Drafting: Commercial Finance
Drafting: Real Estate Documents
Hedge Funds: Regulation and Structure
International Business Transactions
Non-Profit Organizations
Private Equity Funds
Real Estate: Corporate Real Estate

BUSINESS LAW RELATED EXTERNSHIPS

Center faculty will assist students in securing appropriate externships, as available.

CENTER DIRECTORS

CBFL Directors: Professors Tamara Belinfanti and Houman Shadab
CBFL Associate Directors: Professors Stacy-Ann Elvy and Howard S. Meyers
Financial Services Law Institute Director: Professor Ronald Filler
Assistant Director: Michael Rhee

Please visit the Center for Business and Financial Law’s website for more and up-to-date information about requirements, events, and projects.
Center for International Law

The Center for International Law invites students with a strong interest in international law to apply for membership in its International Associates program. Developments across the world in various fields such as criminal, environmental, human rights, immigration, securities, and tax laws have direct and indirect implications on legal practice even in the United States. To understand these cross-border developments, the Law School offers a wide variety of courses addressing the business and public dimensions of international law. Membership in the Center for International Law will help students structure their curricula and related activities in one of the most dynamic and evolving areas of law.

Students members of the Center for International Law must fulfill the following three requirements.

**Requirement 1: One “core” course in international law**
All students who affiliate with the Center must take (and pass) at least one of the following core courses in international or comparative law:

- Comparative Law
- International Business Transactions
- International Law: An Introduction
- The Law of International Organizations

*Comparative Law* seeks to uncover both similarities and significant differences in the underlying assumptions with which different legal traditions operate in regard to legal institutions and processes, individual justice, efficiency, and modes of interpretation.

*International Business Transactions* is a broad-based course in international business transactions, covering the topics specified in its title, the resolution of international commercial disputes, and other aspects of international business law.

*International Law: An Introduction* and *The Law of International Organizations* introduce students to the complex subject of treaty formation and implementation, and to global and regional regimes for law-making in such diverse areas as trade, human rights, and criminal law.

**Requirement 2: One advanced course or seminar in international law**
All students who affiliate with the Center must also take (and pass) one advanced course or seminar in international or comparative law. An advanced course or seminar is any of the Law School's international or comparative law offerings which do not include the core courses listed above. Below is a list of many of these courses. *(The course must be 2 credits or more.)*

Because not all courses are offered every year, and also because the Law School offers new courses periodically, a student should check with the Registrar's office concerning the most current list of courses. If you are not sure whether a certain course fulfills Requirement 2, please contact Michael Rhee.
- Conflict of Laws
- International Corporate and Financial Services Law (taught in London)
- International Criminal Law
- International Human Rights Seminar & Workshop
- International Human Rights Law and Mental Disability Law
- International Intellectual Property (taught in London and New York)
- International Taxation of Individuals
- International Taxation of Business
- International Tax Planning Seminar
- International Transfer Pricing Seminar
- Islamic Law
- Law of the European Union (taught in London and New York)
- Real Estate: International Real Estate
- Transitional Justice Network

**Requirement 3: One “capstone” requirement**

All students who affiliate with the Center must complete one “capstone” experience. Ideally, this experience should provide students with an opportunity to engage meaningfully and rigorously with the intellectual debates central to an area of international or comparative law; additional writing experience and an opportunity to work closely with faculty or other mentors and receive feedback on their writing; and the chance to develop the professional skills critical to their long-term professional development.

Because of the academic focus of the Harlan Scholars Program, Harlan Scholars associated with the Center must fulfill the capstone requirement by researching and writing a “substantial piece of scholarship,” which is a paper that is the equivalent of a law review article or note or a chapter in a book. For written work to constitute “scholarship,” the analysis of the topic must be of sufficient intellectual rigor. It must, for example, survey and contribute to the existing academic literature on the topic, contend with and balance opposing ideas, develop and test conclusions, and, where appropriate, propose innovations in law or legal theory. The capstone requirement for Harlan Scholars may be met through any one of the options below. (If you use a course to fulfill the capstone, it must be 2 credits or more.)

- an advanced international or comparative law course or seminar that contains a writing component;
- independent study;
- in some cases, a project-based learning course (a student must get prior approval from the Center’s faculty); or
- other writing projects such as a Note (a student must get prior approval from the Center’s faculty)
- participation in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition or the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

In all of these options to fulfill the capstone for the Harlan Scholars program, a writing
component must meet the standard of a “substantial piece of scholarship” described above.

A Harlan Scholar may also fulfill the capstone requirement through Requirement 2, but only if Requirement 2 involves the successful completion of a writing component that meets the standard of a “substantial piece of scholarship” described above.

Members of the Center who are not Harlan Scholars may fulfill the capstone requirement by engaging in at least one professional experience in the field of international or comparative law. A professional experience is one that exposes the student to the kinds of activities in which lawyers engage in the fields of international and comparative law. This requirement could be met by any one of the following activities below. (If you use a course to fulfill the capstone, it must be 2 credits or more.)

- taking a project-based learning course with an international or comparative law component;
- taking an advanced international or comparative law course or seminar that has a writing requirement (i.e., a research paper), and then actually completing that research paper (Final exams do not count as research papers);
- enrolling in independent study to write a research paper on an international or comparative law topic;
- taking an advanced international or comparative law course or seminar that requires students to participate in professional activities beyond class discussion;
- taking the International Human Rights Law Workshop;
- completing a capstone” project with an international or comparative law component in conjunction with the Impact Center for Public Interest Law or the Innovation Center for Law and Technology.
- participating in and completing the Willem C. Vis or Philip C. Jessup moot court competitions;
- completing an externship, summer or term-time internship, job, or volunteer work with an international or comparative law component; or
- working on international or comparative law issues as a research assistant for a professor.

An International Associate may also fulfill the capstone requirement through Requirement 2. For example, if (under Requirement 2) you successfully complete an advanced course or seminar which requires a research paper, then you will also have completed Requirement 3. (One of the ways to complete Requirement 3 is by “taking an advanced international or comparative law course or seminar that has a writing requirement.”)

**Center Director:**
Professor Lloyd Bonfield

**Associate Director:**
Michael Rhee

**Affiliated faculty:**
Professor Lung-chu Chen
Professor Stephen Ellmann
Professor Stacy-Ann Elvy
Professor Frank Munger
Professor Sadiq Reza
Center for New York City Law

The Center for New York City Law offers active and varied opportunities to participate in New York City’s legal and governmental processes. The Center offers traditional classroom courses, externships in governmental offices, meetings with government officials, and writing and editing Center publications.

All students affiliating with the Center for New York City Law have the opportunity to write news reports concerning recent judicial and administrative decisions, longer articles and commentaries. Students are also assigned to attend New York City agency meetings and write reports for the Center’s publications.

The Center’s publications are widely read and relied upon by the governmental and private attorneys. The publications are:

- **CityLaw**, a bimonthly report on legal and administrative decisions affecting New York City; circulation 1,000 printed copies and uploaded on Westlaw and Lexis.

- **CityLand**, the Center’s on-line newsletter which reports decisions from New York City’s major land use agencies, such as the City Planning Commission and the Landmarks Preservation Commission (www.citylandnyc.org); Monthly readership 6,000 to 9,000.

- **CityRegs**, an emailed, biweekly newsletter on New York City agency rules; 100 paid subscribers.

Students receive assistance in locating summer and school year internships, as well as full-time jobs with governmental agencies and private law firms. Students or former students are currently working or have worked at City Hall, the Law Department, the Mayor’s Office of Contracts, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Investigation and the NYC Economic Development Corporation.

The Center maintains a major research website, [www.cityadmin.org](http://www.cityadmin.org), which provides, at no charge, New York City’s 110,000 administrative decisions from 28 City agencies.

Elected and appointed officials regularly speak at Center breakfasts to which students are invited and have the opportunity to meet with prominent City officials. Among recent breakfast speakers were Judith S. Kaye, Former Chief Judge of the State of New York; Preet Bharara, United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York; and Michael Mukasey, former U.S. Attorney General.

The Center is a prime location for understanding local urban government processes from every angle—legislative, executive, judicial, political. For Harlan Scholars whose career interests are not necessarily governmental, the Center provides a bird’s eye view to understand the regulatory and politico-governmental pressures on business.
Curriculum

The Center’s program emphasizes the relationships between state and local government, politics, and policy. The curriculum involves in-class and non-classroom work, as well as the opportunity to work in governmental offices. A capstone project is mandatory for all Harlan Scholars.

Classroom educational work

Required Courses

One of the following courses during the second and third year, depending on which courses are being offered:

- Municipal Litigation Defense Clinic
- State and Local Government
- Land Use Regulation
- State & Local Government: Current/Past Issues

When these courses are not conveniently offered, alternate arrangements will be made for Day and Evening Division Harlan Scholars.

Elective Courses Dealing Primarily with State and Local Government:

- State and Local Taxation
- State and Local Government: Current/Past Issues
- State and Local Government

Elective Courses Dealing Primarily with Issues of Significance to Urban Areas:

- Environmental Law and Policy
- Education Law and Practice

Required non-classroom educational work

Harlan Scholars are asked to contribute one major article to be published in CityLaw, one of the Center’s publications. This article has served as an impressive writing sample for previous authors. Students may also write and edit shorter pieces for CityLaw, CityLand, and CityRegs. Many students hone their writing and editing skills and receive invaluable research training while working at the Center. Assignments can be varied and individual interests are encouraged.

Capstone Experience

Harlan Scholars are urged to participate in an internship with a New York City agency. Internships may be for one or two semesters, during the summer or in connection with the Municipal Litigation Defense Seminar. Because the Center has developed a wide range of
contacts with New York City and New York State agencies, the internships may be designed to provide an experience closely tailored to the Harlan Student’s interests. The internship may also be coordinated or combined with law review note writing. Harlan Scholars should meet with Professor Sandler to discuss internship choices.

**Affiliated Faculty**

*Full Time Faculty*  
Anthony Crowell, Dean  
Ross Sandler, Director  
Arthur S. Leonard  
Frank Munger  
David Schoenbrod

*Adjunct Faculty*  
Robert J. Firestone, Commissioner, New York City Tax Appeals Tribunal  
Kathleen Grimm, Deputy Chancellor, Department of Education

**Center Professional Staff**

Brian Kaszuba ‘04, *CityLand* Editor  
Jesse Denno, Publication Production Assistant  
Lillian Valle-Santiago, Center Coordinator  
Michael Twomey ‘14, Fellow in New York City Law
The Center for Real Estate Studies (CRES) provides a unique educational opportunity to examine a broad array of real estate issues. The Center offers an extensive selection of classroom courses, advanced seminars and independent study projects, externships in governmental offices, law firms, and real estate companies as well as other opportunities to participate in and attend conferences, lectures, CLE programs, and The Rooftops Project events. The Center also provides each affiliated student with the resources to gain practical experience and to develop their personal and professional goals.

The Center’s upper-level electives are taught by full-time faculty and adjunct professors who are experienced lawyers at some of the City’s largest law firms and real estate companies. Students typically pursue a course of study specializing in either the private practice or public regulation of real estate. Students interested in the private practice of real estate typically study topics such as real estate finance; real estate development; real estate leasing and landlord/tenant law; acquisitions and dispositions of real property; condominium, co-op and community association law; insurance and brokerage law; and mortgage foreclosures, workouts and restructurings. Students interested in public policy issues and the regulation of real estate may focus on such topics as environmental law; conservation and sustainability; affordable housing; land use, zoning, and eminent domain.

Our Center allows each student the flexibility to pursue his/her own individualized course of study. For example, students may focus on real estate in the context of another substantive area of law such as corporate, banking and securities law, bankruptcy, tax and ERISA, trusts and estates, secured transactions, or environmental law.

CRES is also committed to the professional growth and career development of its students. The Center provides individualized assistance to students seeking real estate employment, including externships for academic credit, paid and unpaid part-time and summer internships, and permanent full-time positions after graduation. As part of our commitment to each student’s professional development, the Center regularly meets with students to develop effective resumes and cover letters, prepare for interviews, discuss their professional goals and provide advice and guidance on how to achieve these goals.

**Required Curriculum:**

In addition to the basic required class in Property, student members of the Center for Real Estate Studies are required to take the following courses:

(1) **Basic “Gateway” Course to the Study of Real Estate:** Real Estate Transactions & Finance (typically taught each semester by Professors Korngold and Tracht). This upper-class elective provides a foundation for the advanced study of real estate and land use related topics. It is also a co- or pre-requisite for many other upper-level real estate electives (2nd year, Fall or Spring) [3 credits];
(2) **Advanced Doctrinal Courses**: A minimum of 2 advanced upper-class electives dealing primarily with real estate, environmental law, real estate finance, the public regulation of real estate, or urban affairs. [See below for a list of courses] (2nd or 3rd year) [6-9 credits];

(3) **Core Courses in Related Fields**: Associate Members complete any 3, and Harlan Scholars complete any 2 of the following core related courses: Corporations (4 credits); Wills, Trusts & Future Interests (4 credits); Federal Income Tax: Individual (4 credits); Commercial Law (4 credits); Bankruptcy (3 credits); or Securities Regulation (3 credits) (2nd or 3rd year) [9-12 credits]; and

(4a) **Associate Members: Skills Course**: At least one course that focuses on drafting, negotiation, interviewing, and/or other related transactional skills (2nd or 3rd year) (2 credits).

(4b) Harlan Scholars affiliating with CRES must fulfill a Capstone Project by completing one of the following:

- Law Review Note focused on real estate issue.
- CRES Capstone Seminar – a two-credit Project-Based Learning course with limited enrollment of 10 students. The theme of the course changes each year and is structured to permit the in-depth study of real estate topics with important legal, social and/or political consequences. Detailed information about the Capstone Seminar will be available in course registration materials and posted on the CRES website (www.nyls.edu/Harlans).
- Any other Project-Based Learning Course taught by a member of the Real Estate Faculty.
- Real Estate Externship Placement and co-requisite Real Estate Externship Seminar.
- Independent Study focused on real estate issue. (Preference will go to interested Evening Division students.)

[Note: if any of these courses are not offered in the evening schedule, alternate arrangements be made for Harlan Scholars in the Evening Division.]

**Advanced Doctrinal Courses**

There are many other upper-level electives that relate to real estate, environmental law, real estate finance, the public regulation of real estate, and/or urban affairs. Below is a partial list of some of the upper-level courses that are often popular with CRES students:

**Elective Courses Dealing Primarily with Real Estate:**

- Advanced Real Estate Transactions & Finance
- RE: Capstone Course
- RE: Commercial Leasing Law
- RE: Corporate Real Estate
- RE: Co-ops & Condos Law
- Real Estate Development
- Real Estate Externship Placement & Seminar
RE: International Real Estate
RE: Landlord & Tenant Law
Real Estate Transactional Skills
RE: Workouts, Foreclosure & Bankruptcy
Drafting: Real Estate Documents

Elective Courses Dealing Primarily with Environmental Law and Real Estate:
   Environmental Law & Policy
   RE: Conservation Law & Policy (Project Based Learning seminar)
   RE: Environmental Issues in Real Estate & Business Transactions

Elective Courses Dealing Primarily with the Regulation of Real Estate and public policy:
   RE: Land Use Regulation

Participation in Master Classes, Symposia & Other Events

CRES students are required to attend and to assist at all Breakfast Forums, Master Classes, symposia, CLE programs and other special events hosted by the Center for Real Estate Studies. All Center events provide opportunities for enriching the academic curriculum and developing personal networks.

Required Individual Meetings with the Associate Director

CRES students are required to set up a meeting with the CRES Associate Director prior to course selection for the upcoming academic year. This is a brief meeting where each associate is given individual time to meet with the Center’s Associate Director and ask academic advice, as well as confirm that they are working toward meeting all CRES-related curriculum requirements.

Faculty & Professional Staff

The Center has two full-time faculty who specialize in real estate: Professors Korngold and Tracht. Distinguished Adjunct Professor James Hagy is also affiliated with CRES and directors The Rooftops Project – Property Perspectives for Not-for-Profit Organizations (www.nyls.edu/RooftopsProject ). In addition, there are many other full-time and adjunct faculty who are affiliated with the Center. For a complete list of the full-time and adjunct faculty affiliated with the Center, please visit: www.nyls.edu/CRESFaculty .

Professor Gerald Korngold is the Program Chair of the Center for Real Estate Studies. Students may contact Professor Korngold with any questions regarding the Center for Real Estate Studies.

For More Information

If you would like more information about the Center for Real Estate Studies, please visit our website: www.nyls.edu/realestate . You may also contact the Center via email: realestate@nyls.edu or phone: (212) 431-2135.
The Impact Center for Public Interest Law

New York Law School’s Impact Center for Public Interest Law engages students with a dynamic program that explores the relationship between social justice and law. Impact Center faculty members are accomplished practitioners and scholars and are committed to developing socially conscious lawyers dedicated to utilizing law as an agent of social change. Impact Center faculty work closely with students to study and work in the areas of criminal justice, voting rights and political participation, racial justice, social entrepreneurship, anti-discrimination law, civil liberties, economic justice, education law, environmental law, family law, immigration law, international human rights law, labor and employment law, and mental disability law. The Impact Center offers students a diverse array of projects to bring together the theory they learn in the Center’s curriculum with practical experience in clinics, externships, project-based learning courses, and capstone projects.

The Impact Center is open to all students at New York Law School. In their first year, students are encouraged to participate in the Social Justice Salon Series, sign up for the Center mailing list, and attend Center events. Starting in their second year, students may join the Impact Center, which offers students a focused course of study and opportunities to engage in advocacy in areas of law related to social justice. The Impact Center has four basic requirements. First is the Colloquium requirement. Day division Center students satisfy this by participating in the Impact Center Colloquium and evening division students by taking Law, Public Policy, and Social Change. Second, Impact Center students will take one of four Center gateway courses and two electives that focus on the same area of social impact law. Third, students will satisfy the annual Impact Center community requirement. Finally, students will complete a capstone experience that is linked to one of the Center’s advocacy initiatives. Impact Center students who select the Criminal Prosecution Track will follow the curricular requirements described at the end of this section.

Impact Center faculty and their areas of expertise are listed below. Impact Center faculty play several roles in the Center, including creating and supervising advocacy initiatives, participating in the Salon Series, teaching Center courses, supervising capstone projects, hosting events, sponsoring symposia, supervising Law Review notes and comments, teaching project-based learning courses, and moderating Justice Speaks lunches. Impact Center faculty are also available for consultation with Center students about course selection, writing projects, externships, and career plans.

Faculty Advisory Board
Susan Abraham Criminal Law, Social Change Advocacy
Deborah N. Archer Anti-Discrimination Law, Economic Justice, Civil Rights, Social Change Advocacy, Racial Justice
Lenni Benson Immigration Law
Robert Blecker Criminal Law
Frank A. Bress Criminal Law
Camille Broussard Legal Research, LGBT Rights, Social Change Advocacy
Carol Buckler Legal Ethics, Access to Justice
Kirk D. Burkhalter Criminal Law
Eugene Cerruti  
**Criminal Law**

Stephen J. Ellmann  
**Civil Liberties, Social Change Advocacy**

Kris Franklin  
**Anti-Discrimination Law, LGBT Rights, Family Law**

Doni Gewirtzman  
**Constitutional Law and Theory, Civil Liberties, Public Interest Fellowships**

Mercer “Monte” Givhan  
**Criminal Law, Economic Justice**

Anne Goldstein  
**Anti-Discrimination Law, Labor and Employment Law**

Lawrence M. Grosberg  
**Anti-Discrimination Law, Social Change Advocacy**

Lisa Grumet  
**Children’s and Family Law**

Kim Hawkins  
**Economic Justice, LGBT Rights**

Mariana Hogan  
**Criminal Law**

Arthur Leonard  
**Anti-Discrimination Law, Labor and Employment Law, Sexuality and the Law**

Richard Marsico  
**Anti-Discrimination Law, Education Law**

Carlin Meyer  
**Family Law**

Frank Munger  
**Poverty Law, Economic Justice**

Lynnise Pantin  
**Economic Justice, Immigration Law**

Michael L. Perlin  
**Mental Disability Law, Criminal Law, International Human Rights Law**

Edward A. Purcell, Jr.  
**Civil Rights Litigation, Federal Courts**

Rebecca Roiphe  
**Criminal Law, Legal Ethics**

David Schoenbrod  
**Environmental Law**

Andrew Scherer  
**Poverty Law**

Nadine Strossen  
**Civil Liberties Law**

Lynn Su  
**Criminal Law**

Daniel Warshawsky  
**Criminal Law**

Erika Wood  
**Criminal Law, Social Change Advocacy, Voting Rights**

**STAFF OF THE IMPACT CENTER**

Deborah Archer  
Co-Director

Richard Marsico  
Co-Director

Andrew Scherer  
Policy Director

Lisa Grumet  
Associate Director

Victoria Eastus  
Assistant Director

Hazel Weiser  
Assistant Director

**REQUIREMENTS**

To complete the Impact Center affiliation successfully, students are required to:

1. Complete the Impact Center Colloquium requirement;
2. Complete an approved gateway course and two electives in a particular area of social justice law;
3. Complete the Center’s annual community requirement; and
4. Fulfill the Center capstone requirement in the final year of enrollment.
These requirements are described below.

1. **Impact Center Colloquium**

All Impact Center students must satisfy the Impact Center Colloquium requirement. The Colloquium is designed to develop a sense of shared experience among Impact Center faculty and students, an awareness of problems faced by lawyers involved with social justice issues, and the ability to think critically about them. Day division students satisfy the requirement by enrolling in the Impact Center Colloquium in the fall of their second year. Evening division students satisfy it by enrolling in either the Impact Center Colloquium or in Law, Public Policy, and Social Change in any semester before they graduate.

*Impact Center Colloquium: Legal Practice for Social Change (2 credits)*

The Impact Center Colloquium is a required, graded, two-credit seminar exclusively for Impact Center affiliates and associates. It is taught by a member of the Impact Center faculty. All day division students must take the Colloquium in the fall semester of their second year. Colloquium students learn about the potential of law to effectuate social change. The class will examine different approaches to social change through law, consider critiques of these models and alternative approaches, and study organizations involved in social change through law.

*Law, Public Policy, and Social Change (2 credits)*

Law, Public Policy, and Social Change will challenge students to consider the various roles that lawyers play in movements for social change and the political nature of litigation, judicial decisions, and social change. Students will explore the efficacy of the law as an instrument for social change by studying past and present examples of lawyers working to advance public policy, including the work conducted by lawyers to end legal segregation of the public schools, to try to establish economic rights for poor people, and to organize the growing movement to reform education and public safety policies that contribute to the school-to-prison pipeline.

2. **Impact Center Gateway courses**

Each Center student will complete one of the following gateway courses in their second year (day division students) or before graduation (evening division students). These courses provide an overview of issues and law common to social impact lawyering.

*Anti-Discrimination Law*

*Civil Rights Law*

*Entrepreneurship for Social Change*
3. Impact Center Electives

Each Impact Center student will complete two additional electives related to social impact lawyering. Center members are required to meet with Assistant Dean and Center Assistant Director Victoria Eastus to ensure that their plans of study are approved. Electives should prepare students for their Capstone experience.

4. Annual Impact Center Community Requirement

Impact Center Students must complete at least ten hours of Impact Center service or participation over the course of the year, which may include any of the activities listed below. Students are responsible for keeping track of their hours and reporting on their hours at the end of each semester by completing a form that will be provided. Here are the activities that may count toward the hours requirement:

a) **Planning, volunteering at, or attending an event.** Events may include symposia organized or co-sponsored by the Impact Center; Salon Series events; events organized by Impact Center Projects and Institutes; student Capstone presentations; Justice Speaks lunches, or other events subject to approval.

b) **Drafting and completing one or more blog posts** that are approved for publication for the blog of the Impact Center or one of the affiliated Projects or Institutes. The current Project and Institute blogs are: JustFamilies.org, for the Diane Abbey Law Institute for Children and Families; Race2Justice for the Racial Justice Project; The Pop Tort for the Center for Justice and Democracy, and SafePassageProject.org for the Safe Passage Project.

c) **Other projects** sponsored by the Impact Center Co-Directors, Associate and Assistant Directors or the Project and Institute Directors, or proposed by students subject to approval.

5. Impact Center Capstone Project

All Impact Center students must complete a capstone project in their final year of enrollment. These projects are designed by Center faculty and sponsored by one of the Impact Center’s advocacy initiatives. Students will select their capstone project in the spring semester prior to their final year. Center Students satisfying the capstone will make an oral presentation about their project to members of the Impact Center community at the end of the school year. The capstone project will also include some form of written work to be assigned by the project’s faculty supervisor.

**Advocacy Initiatives**
Center for Justice and Democracy
Criminal Justice Project
Diane Abbey Law Institute for Children and Families
Health Law & Patient Safety Institute
The Criminal Prosecution Track

Day division students who join the Impact Center and who select the Criminal Prosecution Track will be required to take the following courses:

- Professional Responsibility: Criminal Practice;
- Criminal Procedure: Investigation;
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication;
- A third course related to criminal law; and
- One of the Criminal Prosecution Clinics (New York County, Kings County, Richmond County) with a presentation to the Impact Center community about their experience and how their work advanced social justice.

Evening students who select the Criminal Prosecution will be required to take the following courses:

- Criminal Procedure: Investigation;
- Criminal Procedure: Adjudication;
- a course that focuses on criminal prosecution (to be approved by the director of the Criminal Prosecution Track);
- and either Trial Advocacy or the Post-Conviction Innocence Project.

All students in the Criminal Prosecution Track will complete the Impact Center Community requirement, which may also include participation in the Criminal Law Society.
Introduction

The Innovation Center for Law and Technology (the Innovation Center) is New York Law School’s center for the study of technology, innovation, and society. The Institute develops and applies theories of information and communication to analyze law and policy. It also engages with the community to address real-life problems and to promote justice, equality, and new ideas.

Our doctrinal fields of study include privacy, copyright, patent, trademark, Internet law, trade secret law, entrepreneurship and related fields. The Innovation Center also focuses on legal and policy issues in information technology, fashion, media, entertainment, publishing and associated industries. We also address social concerns related to technology and the internet, including, online harassment, cyberbullying, data mining, revenge porn, voxing, and other issues.

The goals of the Innovation Center are as follows:

(1) to provide opportunities for New York Law School students and faculty to study the fields of intellectual property and technology law;
(2) to advance student knowledge in these fields;
(3) to provide ways to connect students and faculty to industry and practice groups;
(4) to engage in the development of the law in our areas of expertise; and
(5) to engage with the community to address gaps in the law and ensure access to justice.

Our Programs

We are excited to launch several new programs this coming year, including:

- **Innovation Fellows**: Distinguished alumni will join the Innovation family as fellows who will work with us as educators and potential future employers.

- **Internet Safety**: We will create an entire initiative, host conferences, and provide direct clinical service to help victims of online harassment obtain justice.

- **Master Classes**: Leading practitioners from the community will teach 1 hour informative courses on recently litigated cases in their area of expertise.

- **Privacy Education**: You will help educate middle school students in NYC about online privacy and how to protect themselves online. We will work together to create the largest database of easily understood privacy policies in the world.
• **Patent and Trademark Office Clinic**: If you have a science background, you can join this clinic and be able to practice in front of the PTO.

• **“Lunch with a Lawyer” series**: We will hear from practicing lawyers, both recent graduates of NYLS and other leading attorneys, about what they do and how to get a job in the IP field.

• **“IP in the Federal Courts”**: A regular series briefing the NYLS community on leading intellectual property cases journeying through the federal courts.

**Student Opportunities**

As an Innovator, you have the chance to drive the innovation agenda at NYLS through the following opportunities:

• Competing for **awards and scholarships** in the IP field, including in entertainment, music, and fashion law;

• **Earning a certificate** for excellence at graduation by specializing in one of several subspecialties, including *Privacy and Data, Entrepreneurship, Patent Law*, and *Intellectual Property*;

• **Publishing case alerts** and **white papers** on cases of first impression on law and technology in the federal courts;

• Meeting leading practitioners, policy makers, and academics in IP and privacy;

• Applying to join the **Innovation Scholars** program, a paid fellowship for students to help lead the Innovation Center;

• Completing a capstone project that **makes a difference in the community**;

• Improving the **public’s understanding** of privacy and data tracking by educating secondary school students and parents;

• **Planning a panel** or conference on a particular area of interest to you; and

• **Networking with practicing professionals** and meeting distinguished alumni through our Master Class and Innovation Fellows program.

This non-exhaustive list are just some of the many other programs and opportunities.
Curricular Opportunities

Our curriculum is driven by our belief that law powers innovation. We teach you to be innovators: innovators in thought, in technology, in solving problems. The law is one of our tools; New York City is one of our classrooms.

As a member of the Innovation Center, you will find a rigorous and exciting curriculum focused on answering the following questions:

1. What are the legal challenges posed by new technologies? How can we use or reform the law to encourage innovation?
2. How have new and changing technologies forced legal rules to evolve? And why have some laws remained ossified despite great technological change?
3. Do current laws adequately and fairly inspire innovation? Do current laws protect victims of the darker sides of new technologies?
4. How can the practice of law be improved with new technologies?
5. How do we protect innovators and all individuals from possible encroachments on our rights from technology?

More specifically, the Innovation curriculum includes:

**Required Courses**

Intellectual Property

and

Any **two** of the following: Copyright Law
Internet Law
Patent Law
Information Privacy Law
Trademarks and Unfair Competition

**Required Experiential Capstone**

All affiliated students must complete some **experiential education** as part of a culmination of their law and technology education. To complete the experiential capstone requirement, students must complete (1) an experiential class for credit and (2) a “Center citizenship” project outside the classroom.

For the experiential class for credit requirement, students may:
- Participate in an Innovation Center clinic, or
- Taking the course, Litigating an IP Case, or
- Complete an IP- or privacy law-related externship placement, or
- Write a note for law review on an IP- or privacy law-related topic.
For the outside-the-classroom experiential requirement, students may:

- Write a white paper on a specific question of law and technology under the supervision of a faculty member, or
- Complete an Innovation Center project or working with a community-based organization on a topic of law and technology, or
- Work with a faculty member on a project to be determined.

Students will have the opportunity to present their work at Innovation Scholars Day at the end of the Spring Semester.

**Elective Courses**

All affiliated students must take **two** of the following (in addition to the courses above):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Copyright Law</th>
<th>Entertainment Law</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internet Law</td>
<td>Fashion Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patent Law</td>
<td>Media Law</td>
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<td>Information Privacy Law</td>
<td>Sports Law</td>
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<td>Trademarks and Unfair Competition</td>
<td>Visual Persuasion and the Law</td>
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<td>Art Law</td>
<td>IP Licensing and Drafting</td>
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<td>Patent Litigation</td>
<td>Taxation of Intellectual Property Transactions</td>
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<td>FDA Law</td>
<td>Electronic Discovery</td>
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<tr>
<td>Litigating an IP Case</td>
<td>Advising Entrepreneurs</td>
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**Institute Citizenship**

We ask that our affiliates commit to planning or volunteering for at least one of our events, to attending at least 6 hours of Innovation Center programming per year, and to drafting at least one client “alert” per semester.

**Center Faculty**

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Affiliated Faculty: Richard Sherwin (richard.sherwin@nyls.edu)
Richard Chused (richard.chused@nyls.edu)
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**Center Staff**

Associate Director: Sarah Ross (sarah.ross@nyls.edu)
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