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100+

University of Michigan Law School

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100+ REASONS YOU BELONG
Michigan has long been known as a different kind of law school—where high-achieving students manage to treat each other with kindness. Your classmates have your back here, as a recent student commencement speaker attested. Flying home to be with his sick mom toward the end of the academic year, he made a hasty Facebook post asking his fellow students for advice, then turned his phone off for takeoff. When he landed a couple of hours later and turned his phone back on, he found that 50 classmates had already replied with referrals to doctors and hospitals and information about the condition. Yup, it’s like that here.
To paraphrase: The law helps those who help themselves. So, since 1977, Michigan students have supported other students who want to do public-service work with an annual auction (read: huge party where various deans debase themselves in various ways [#75]) to raise money for public-service scholarships. And things got even better recently when two major gifts paved the way for the Law School to support IL summer funding for ALL students, regardless of job sector—making it the most inclusive program at any top law school.

GEOGRAPHIC DIVERSITY

Have we mentioned that we scored an Antarctic a few incoming classes ago? Well, sort of. She worked there, at any rate. But the fact that our incoming students come from every continent shouldn't obscure the fact that our graduating students work on every continent, too. Well, except Antarctica. We're working on that.

SERENITY. NOW.

Visit the serene landscapes of Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Walk the wooded and riverside trails at the Nichols Arboretum (more commonly known as The Arb). Breathe a little easier: think a lot more clearly.
The 25 percent of Michigan Law students who elect to start school after Memorial Day get more than just a head start on 75 percent of their classmates. They also get to enjoy Ann Arbor at its laid-back, traffic-free best (#51). The lunch lines are shorter. There’s the Ann Arbor Summer Festival, aka Top of the Park, the city’s largely free music and film festival. There’s the Peony Festival at the Arboretum (#4) and the huge Ann Arbor Art Fairs. That’s right, Fair’s As in, more than one, all going on at the same time. And for those who may need to work out some first-term aggression, there’s even kickball.
6
GLASS COMIC STRIPS
Because everybody should go to a law school where ambulance chasing is explicitly condemned in leaded glass. Or where the concept of “mayhem” is illustrated by what appears to be a clear-cut case of roughing a U-M kicker.

7
CLINICS
Yep. Eighteen of ’em. Want to help kids? Free the wrongfully convicted? Represent the poor? Work on international business deals? Assist veterans who face legal barriers to basic needs? You can do all that and more, and you can do it earlier at Michigan Law because Michigan is one of the few states that allows second-year law students to represent clients in court. The clinics even include options for 1Ls. Why wait to pick up those real-world lawyering skills employers look for in new associates?

8
EARLY INTERVIEW WEEK AND ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWING
More than 300 students meet potential employers representing more than 600 offices. Good things ensue.
9 SLAUGHTERMELON

In Prof. Len Niehoff’s classes, learning is an active process—and a messy one. In his Evidence course, students learn about a murder case in which an elderly woman was killed by repeated stabs to the head with a trench knife. To show his students the power—and troublesome nature—of demonstrative exhibits, Prof. Niehoff brings a knife and a human-head-sized watermelon to class. He stabs the melon with the knife slowly and dramatically. One, two, three, four, five. Ouch.
SOUL FOOD LUNCHES

They only happen twice a year—kind of like the equinox, but the Black Law Students Association Soul Food Lunches are worth the wait. You especially don’t want to miss the macaroni and cheese.

TALK

This dynamic student-led speaker series allows students to learn more about one another—not just by TALKing, but also by listening.
THERAPY DOGS
When you’re dog-tired from studying for exams, a visit with these therapeutic pets in the library will brighten your day.

THE BEST OF THE BRIGHTEST

Legendary Michigan Law Prof. L. Hart Wright, who died in 1983, was so revered by the students he taught that a teaching award was established in his honor. Each year, students vote for the recipient of this esteemed award.

DEBT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
Following the career path of your choice shouldn’t be all about the money. With Michigan Law’s innovative debt management program, it won’t be. We’ll help you make your own path—even if you won’t necessarily get rich doing it.
The Faculty

They can't all be former senior White House policy advisors or former assistant treasury secretaries, but those who aren't seem to have been theoretical physicists, taught at struggling high schools in the South Bronx, or helped free refugees in Nepal. They may be really smart, but they're not really scary.
Ann Arbor is a tree-lined enclave full of smart people and cultural offerings that top those of many larger cities. Don't just take our word for it; magazines and websites that rank such things have called Ann Arbor one of the Best Towns for Young Singles, one of the top-five America's Happiest Cities, one of the 10 Best Cities for Families, and Best Midwest Food Town. With 157 municipal parks and only slightly more people (114,000) than trees (100,000), with world-class museums and music, with top-notch local coffee and beer; Ann Arbor also has been ranked one of the most livable cities in the United States.

**They'll Brie Right With You**

Get together a couple of times a year with faculty in Aikens Commons (#37) for an informal chat. Chablis, and some Camembert. We call them wine and cheese receptions, but a beer or two has been spotted there, too.
PARTISAN PARTNERSHIP

Something's clearly awry when the right and the left get together and cooperate, but Michigan Law is one of those places where it sometimes happens. You know, like Capitol Hill used to be. The Federalist Society and the American Constitution Society don't always co-sponsor events, but when they do, you don't want to miss them.

FISKE FELLOWSHIPS

1955 graduate Bob Fiske decided a long time ago that public service and private practice weren't mutually exclusive. Fiske ought to know—he managed a distinguished career as senior counsel at Davis Polk & Wardwell and as U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, as well as a stint as independent counsel on the Whitewater investigation. So naturally the Michigan Law fellowships he founded more than a decade ago stress public service, and each year, three graduates gain undergraduate and law-school student debt repayment assistance for three years, as well as a first-year stipend.

JDs IN THE D

That's D, as in Detroit—the once-maligned city east of Ann Arbor that is in the process of a striking makeover. This student group hosts Detroit Month at the Law School, works with organizations and individuals to revitalize Detroit, and helps to make the Motor City become less Edsel and more Corvette.
It must be intensely satisfying for the lawyer who finds the crucial piece of DNA evidence that frees a wrongly convicted prisoner. How much more so for the lawyer who frees an innocent prisoner when there's no cut-and-dried DNA to be had? It's what the students and faculty in the Law School's Innocence Clinic focus on every day, with eight exonerations in its first several years and more in the pipeline.

**Clinic Guarantee**

So you want to practice law while you're still in school? You want to represent children, families, small business owners, the wrongly convicted, human trafficking victims, asylum seekers, startups, and more? You've come to the right place. Every student can take at least one upper-level clinic—guaranteed.

**First in Transnational Law**

As the first law school in the United States to require all students to take Transnational Law, an introductory course on the international dimensions of law, Michigan is helping students gain the legal chops necessary to practice on a global level.
Fling a frisbee or fire a football out on the grass of this patch of pastoral peace at the heart of the University, surrounded by the buildings of what is generally regarded as the most beautiful law school in the country.
The 1837 statute creating the University provided that the Law "Department" include a professor of international law. We were ahead of our time then, and we've been building on the momentum ever since. Dean Mark West is an authority on the Japanese legal system. Prof. Nicholas J. Howson is one of America's foremost experts on Chinese law. Christine Chinkin, a William W. Cook Global Law Professor at Michigan and a professor of international law at the London School of Economics, is a leading expert in public international law, international human rights, and especially women's rights. Prof. Reuven Avi-Yonah lends world-renowned expertise on international taxation, and leads Michigan's tax LLM program. Prof. Vikramaditya Khanna is widely consulted on matters of Indian law; Prof. Daniel Halberstam is an internationally recognized authority on the European Union; Prof. Laura Beny is a prominent voice on Sudan and South Sudan; and Prof. Steven Ratner is a foremost expert on public international law. The list goes on. Michigan Law may be in the middle of the continent, but it draws international scholars as if it were on the coast.

Visit the largest maximum-security prison in the country. Work with an organization that assists low-income homeowners who are facing foreclosure. Volunteer with the Native American Law Students Association to work on tribal law. Legal Alternative Winter Breaks (LAWBreaks) offers service-learning experiences for Michigan Law students during the traditional spring break of the academic calendar. The settings couldn't be much more different than the beach in Cancun or the nightclubs of Cabo—but that is, of course, the point.
28 CULTURE SHOW

The Culture Show, hosted each year by the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association, celebrates the rich tapestry of the Law School. (Note: Group levitation is not always on the program.)

29 EXTERNSHIPS

Receive a full semester's worth of credits while spending the winter term with leading intergovernmental and nongovernmental institutions and nonprofit organizations in Geneva, India, South Africa, and at the AIRE Centre in London. See the world, and the law, with new eyes.
Means and medians can only take you so far. You're not going to be besties with one of your classmates because of her LSAT score. So even though Michigan Law is an exceptionally selective place—by any objective measure—you will join a student body that's engaging and interesting along non-measurable lines, too (#3). Three-quarters of a recent incoming class took a year or more off after earning their undergraduate degrees, for example. They hailed from 152 different undergraduate institutions—essentially, every college and university you've ever heard of. Among their ranks were Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, and military veterans, 16 who participated in Teach for America, and eight who had earned Fulbrights. A former pro golfer and a former pro runner were in the same class as a former pyrotechnician and a senior talent producer from CNBC. One lucky classmate was a wine educator for VIPs. Our point: if the variety is this good before law school, imagine what it will be like after.
FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

The Law School’s Pro Bono Pledge is a voluntary program that encourages all students to donate 50 hours of free legal work during their student careers. Approximately 200 students take part each year, generating an annual average of 9,000 hours of free legal work—all benefiting people who need the legal help but otherwise wouldn’t have been able to afford it. That’s a lot of pro bono publico.

LAWYERS CLUB LOUNGE

Play piano in a bay window, or park a 757 in the middle of the most elegant airplane hangar ever. Either seems possible in the vast Lawyers Club Lounge. Besides bordering possibly the most dignified playground in the world, in the form of the Law Quad, the Lawyers Club Lounge also happens to be attached to the newly reconstructed and totally modernized Lawyers Club housing complex. Win/win/win.

CORPORATE BAD-ASSERY

She has been an investment banker with Goldman, Sachs & Co. in New York, where her clients included Fortune 100 companies pursuing equity and debt financings, and she worked as a lawyer representing companies in mergers and acquisitions. Prof. Alicia Davis shares that expertise with you in classes such as Enterprise Organization and the Law and Economics Workshop.
There's Even a Cloister

You don't have to live like a monk to get an inkling of what it feels like to live in a monastery. Well, minus the vows of silence and the hair shirts. Our Law Quad is universally acknowledged as one of the most beautiful law campuses in the world, but students who live in the Lawyers Club have a different phrase for it. They call it "the front yard" (#34, #55, #89).
Need a little boost while prepping for finals? Pop into the Kirkland & Ellis Café, inside the stunning Robert B. Aikens Commons, for a quick cup of coffee. Crack a book in the semi-private study cubicles—dubbed couch-icles—on the Commons’ lower level. Or take a break and watch your Wolverines beat up on the team of the week inside the elegant glassed-in media room. The space is the crossroads of the Law School, and you never know who you’ll bump into there.
JENNY RUNKLES AWARD

Commemorating the life of Michigan Law 2L Jenny Runkles, who was killed in a car accident in the summer of 2001, the Jenny Runkles Award goes each year to the 2L who best exemplifies her sunny disposition and unwavering commitment to improving the Law School and society through devotion to public service and diversity.
GETTING HITCHED
Finding your perfect match in life seems to have some similarities to finding the perfect match for law school. So it's no wonder Admissions Dean Sarah Zearfoss, an acknowledged expert in the latter, has also been known to dabble in the former; as in the recent case when classmates who wouldn't have met without her asked her to marry them in the inner courtyard (#64). She has since married two more couples: another pair of alumni and a couple who met through Michigan Law connections. So while nobody's sure exactly which denomination granted it, Dean Z. among her many other powers, also has the authority to marry.

MAIZE+BLUE=GREEN

Building on Michigan Law's strong history in environmental law, begun in the 1960s by pioneer Prof. Joseph L. Sax, Michigan's Environmental Law & Policy Program is one of the most extensive in the country. The program, led by Prof. David Uhlmann, includes several lectures throughout the year, a series of career panels, conferences, and symposia. The Environmental Law Society and an environmental law journal (#78) further enhance the options for students who are interested in the field.

BLOOD FEUDS
We'd say something about this class, but Prof. Bill Miller, an expert in saga-era Iceland and other feuding cultures whose class is so famous it ended up as a question on Jeopardy, might chase us down and bury an atgeir in our heads. And, oh yeah, you might also have him for your first-year Property Law course.
THE LAW

You haven't seen this much green carpet since the last time you went to the Big House (#79). But trust us, the overall effect is pastoral—or as pastoral as can be expected in one of the world's greatest collections of legal research materials. And thanks to the natural light and all that green, you hardly even know that you're underground, in one of the most architecturally innovative library additions ever.

LEGAL PRACTICE PROGRAM

It's not all theory at Michigan Law. Our Legal Practice Program, with 11 full-time instructors, ensures each first-year student small-class opportunities to learn fundamental skills in legal research, analysis, and writing. Average class size: less than 25.

BUTCH CARPENTER SCHOLARSHIP

Aiden J. "Butch" Carpenter was well known to U-M before he enrolled in law school here. Butch started on the Wolverines football team as a defensive end and was team captain. An injury prevented a career as a professional athlete, so the Flint, Michigan native decided on a law career in order to give back to his community. He died suddenly in 1978, at the age of 28, before completing his legal studies. To honor his legacy, the Butch Carpenter Memorial Scholarship Fund was created; it awards scholarships annually to three promising members of the Black Law Students Association who have demonstrated a commitment to community economic development.

ANN COULTER

For those wondering about Michigan Law's commitment to a true diversity of ideas (#19), we have two words: Ann Coulter. The often controversial conservative commentator graduated from Michigan Law. Order of the Coif, in 1988—after serving as an editor on the Michigan Law Review. See? We're not all hippies (#15).
The ties between Michigan Law and the U.S. Supreme Court are myriad: Five of the justices have visited the school in recent years; many faculty have clerked for the high court, and many have argued cases at the court—including Profs. Sam Bagenstos, Richard Friedman, David Moran, and John Pottow. Not to mention the 10 alumni who have clerked there in the past 10 years. You might say there's a direct line between the granite buildings in A2 and a certain marble structure in D.C.

So, let's say you're a 2L or a 3L and you'd like to work directly with a Fortune 500 company on some business deals. A pipe dream? Not if you join the Transactional Lab & Clinic.
TUX REDUX

Who says prom has to end with high school? The Law School Student Senate does it up right each spring, complete with formalwear, a photographer, and recent themes such as “The LSSS Promtanic,” “Space Prom,” and “The Barristers’ Ball.”

Grades and test scores matter, to be sure, but we also look at the whole person. We don’t just want to know each student can succeed—we want some idea of what each student will bring to all the other students. It’s one of the key ways we maintain a vibe that’s unique among top law schools (#1, #30).

DOWN ON MAIN STREET

A collection of good restaurants and an even better vibe, Main Street has been named one of the top-15 Greatest Main Streets in America by Travel & Leisure magazine (see more rankings, #17). Eat a nice meal (at the outdoor seating offered by many restaurants during warmer months), people-watch, see a show at The Ark (#107), buy gifts at The Peaceable Kingdom, taste-test some dark-chocolate-covered cherries at Cherry Republic, or ditch the cherries and get a truffle at Schakolad. Remember to get your free dinner on your birthday at one of the many Main Street Ventures restaurants, including The Chop House, Real Seafood Company, and Gratzi.
EMPLOYERS LOVE RECRUITING HERE

Don't take our word for it; read what a hiring partner from a prominent firm had to say: "We want people who we're going to enjoy spending time with when we're working long hours together on an important matter. That's what we get from Michigan Law graduates, and that's why we love recruiting in Ann Arbor."

PIPS

When they're not singing backup to Gladys Knight, the PIPS—Public Interest/Public Service Faculty Fellows—are pursuing knowledge and justice from the unique perspective of ace practitioners, transplanted to academia. Whether they led the ACLU or the environmental crimes section of the Justice Department, they're ready to share their hard-won knowledge with you—every day.
If there's anything cooler than a miniature, wood-paneled courtroom, complete with judge's bench, jury box, and gallery, it's a miniature wood-paneled courtroom with an enormous television screen that rises out of the furniture through the magic of robotics. If that's not enough, there's enough additional computing power to launch and land a space shuttle, all designed to help students review and improve their courtroom performances.

LAWYERS CLUB: WHERE THE OLD MEETS THE VERY, VERY NEW

Living in a castle is pretty sweet, especially with the Lawyers Club's renovated interiors making the living spaces just as appealing as the Collegiate Gothic exterior, which architecture fans have been swooning over for the a century.
Our ironic male-beauty contest (or should that be "ironic-male beauty contest"?) includes faculty mockery, male law students with bare torsos (some six-packs, some half-barrels), and a chance to ridicule several generations of patriarchal pageants.


Picasso, Monet, Whistler, Gis, Oldenburg, Haring. Just across the street from the Law School.

Want to clerk for a state court, a federal district court or court of appeals, or even the U.S. Supreme Court (#47)? Or how about a prominent international court, including the International Court of Justice? Michigan Law has surpassed 100 clerkships for each of the last three years, and we perennially are in the top five law schools for sending graduates to clerkships.
DOMINICK'S AND ASHLEY'S

On the one hand, buckets of sangria. On the other, dozens of handcrafted beers on tap. Either way, we'd say that ... er ... jussa minnie ... jdf-ug jpo[ ksdj ... zzzzz.
FAMOUS ALUMNI

Senior White House officials such as Valerie Jarrett. Titans of business, including Sam Zell. Michigan Governor Rick Snyder. Cabinet secretaries, senators, federal judges. Media figures such as Bob Woodruff. Entrepreneurs, including Groupon founders Brad Keywell and Eric Lefkofsky. They are some of the 21,000 alumni around the world connected by their time at Michigan Law. It’s an exclusive club, but also a friendly and welcoming one (#1).

LIVING-ROOM LAW

Michigan Law’s always-popular in-home mini-seminars help small groups of students learn and think about subjects that may be a little off the traditional law school path. Just as important, the seminars help them connect with faculty right in the professors’ homes. You can learn why we should “Blame Canada,” how baseball and the law intertwine, and how to develop a solid work-life balance—from married professors who will take turns teaching you and putting their kids to bed.

CORE VETS

Have you served in the armed forces? Then check out MILVETS, the new Michigan Law Veterans Society. And we thank you for your service.
ZINGERMAN'S DELI

The center of my gastro-deli universe. That's what celebrity chef Mario Batali said about Zingerman's, a culinary destination that offers otherworldly pastrami, brisket, and corned beef sandwiches—and even a good selection of vegetarian options, such as Sheila's Viva Las Vegan. The Zingerman's empire also includes a Creamery, Bakehouse, coffee shop, and the Roadhouse, a sit-down restaurant on the west side of town with no fewer than six types of mac & cheese, including one with pimento and bacon and another with three-peppercorn goat cheese. You may now commence drooling.

CATHARINE MACKINNON

There aren't many scholars who are irrefutable pioneers in their areas of expertise, but Michigan Law's Prof. Catharine MacKinnon qualifies—in three different areas. She more or less single-handedly convinced the U.S. Supreme Court that sexual harassment is sex discrimination under the law, then followed that up with a strong argument that pornography is both sex discrimination and a form of human trafficking. And her international work has led to a $745 million verdict against Radovan Karadzic in an international trial that also established that rape and forced impregnation is a form of genocide. Sexual inequality under the law will never be the same.
Several picnics, actually, One was at the beginning of the year, for Service Day. One at the end of the year, for well, the end of the year. The Quad gets invaded plenty of other times, too, for Holi (F106), pumpkin carving and miscellaneous mayhem all year long.
It seems a little unfair to call them grotesques when they're so darned cute. We guess you could call them gargoyles, but the architects wouldn't like it. So around here we call them Atlas figures, in part because they seem to be holding up Hutchins Hall. Among the squashed-looking, individually carved stone figures are some University presidents, a frolicking tennis player, and a sturdy footballer. Check them out in the archways and other out-of-the-way places around the Law Quad.

RARE BOOK ROOM

With more than 60 titles published before 1500, the Rare Book Room in the Law Library is a haven of papyrus pages and leather bindings. The oldest volume dates back to 1468, and the oldest piece, a manuscript, dates to the mid-1300s—nearly a century before the invention of the printing press.
MAGNUM "OPIS"

The Organization of Public Interest Students. It's a healthy sign when more than 650 students—nearly two-thirds of the student body—are part of a group dedicated to making Michigan Law grads better able to do good in the world.

The reason "moot" rhymes with "woof." Picture a panel of three federal judges, a room of rapt faculty members, and two students who've been preparing for months. The Campbell competition is one way to define courtroom drama.
Ann Arbor rocker Bob Seger once claimed he was going to Kathmandu, but Ann Arbor academic Prof. Jim Hathaway, who heads up Michigan Law's Program in Refugee and Asylum Law, actually did it. And once he got there, he helped mediate a thorny refugee dispute between Nepal and Bhutan—let's see the Silver Bullet Band try that one.
VAUDEVILLE AND DECO

Ann Arbor can boast two historic theaters within one block. The Michigan Theater, which opened in 1928 as a movie palace and vaudeville venue, was renovated in the 1980s to its original grandeur; it continues to be a popular concert venue, and theater-goers can still hear ditties played on a Barton Theater Pipe Organ before viewing indie, foreign, and classic films. The State Theater, built in 1942 in a Deco style, was designed by C. Howard Crane, also the architect for Detroit's Fox Theater. The State shows a mix of mainstream and indie films, but is best known for pulling cult favorites from the vaults for Saturday midnight showings.

THE RIGHTS STUFF

When public school students are facing disciplinary actions, they and their families are often on their own. But thanks to the Student Rights Project, which is overseen by faculty adviser Debra Chopp, law and social work students, along with community members, are trained to advocate for public school students in suspension and expulsion hearings. It's a great way to work on your interviewing, oral advocacy, and collaboration skills—not to mention helping vulnerable kids at a key moment in their development.
So maybe skydiving with a world-renowned international and comparative law expert isn’t your thing. Maybe challenging a professor in the “Nerd Olympics” is more your style. Or a night singing karaoke with one of the nation’s top bankruptcy gurus and an international law expert? Perhaps a round of whirlyball with three professors who allege that the bumper car-lacrosse-basketball mashup is a “great American sport!” All of these can be yours, and benefit a good cause, too, thanks to the annual Student Funded Fellowships (#2) auction.

Whether measured by geographic spread (during the past five years, 47 states plus D.C., with the largest percentages going to New York City, Chicago, Michigan, Washington, D.C., and California, and 3 percent going abroad), or the nature of post-grad employment (18 percent clerkships, 57 percent firms, 22 percent public interest and government, with the average overall employment rate almost 96 percent), career opportunities abound.
OLD SCHOOL, NEW SCHOOL

You’ve got to feel for the architects who drew the assignment of designing South Hall, the Law School’s newest academic building. See the handful of iconic, landmark buildings on State Street? The ones that form the heart of one of the world’s great public universities? We’d like this building to be just like those. But not too much like those. They need to be even better. After the first few years of occupancy and a LEED Gold Certification (#103) from the U.S. Green Building Association, students, faculty, and staff say: “Mission accomplished.”
STUDENT JOURNALS

With a total of eight student-led journals, students can take a deep dive into just about anything, from telecommunications and technology to international law.

FOOTBALL

We're pretty sure those 100,000+ maize-clad maniacs aren't gathering at Michigan Stadium for a tiddlywinks match. The Big House—the largest football stadium in the nation—must be seen from inside to be believed. Don't like football? The city's streets are deserted as soon as the first quarter starts—it's a great time for getting your errands done.

UNIVERSITY CRESTS

Whether you went to Harvard or the North Carolina Training College, look for your college seal immortalized in stained glass inside the Reading Room.

OUTLAWS

And we're not talking Billy the Kid. Michigan Law's LGBTQ+ group turns 35 in 2016, but that doesn't mean they're slowing down their efforts to make Michigan Law a welcoming place for everyone.
PHID PHUN

A 100-year-old house, just one block from the Law School, that serves as the residential community for Michigan Law's chapter of Phi Delta Phi—a co-ed legal fraternity founded at U-M all the way back in 1869. Not only is it a living space (with uber-cheap rent) for some students, it also is home to a huge bash or two each year for all law students. Costumes are optional, but, please note: Clothing is not.

STUDY 'ROUND THE WORLD

The Law School's Bates Fellowship is just one way to learn how the rest of the world does law. There are also externships in Geneva, India, and South Africa (#29), the AIRE Centre in London, fellowships in the Program for Refugee and Asylum Law (#72), clerkships at the International Court of Justice, and plenty of other opportunities.

THE INLAND SEAS

Here in Michigan, our sandy shores are kissed by four of the five Great Lakes, more than any other state or Canadian province—accounting for the fact that, next to Alaska, Michigan's coastline is the longest of any state. But really, "lakes" is a misnomer. When the weather goes to work on these powerful inland seas, it's easy to see why Michigan also has more lighthouses than any other state and more shipwrecks than the Bermuda Triangle. With natural resources like this, no wonder we're environmental law leaders.
HUMAN TRAFFICKING CLINIC

A chance to fight modern-day slavery like a 21st-century John Brown? Yes, yes, we have that here.
They're yours, signed, sealed, delivered. And they want to know: you'll date them on the regular (tell me, would you? - From Stevie Wonder to Just A Teen, Law School's singing. Headnotes: Have Valentine's Day covered.

One more way in which being part of a small unit in a massive research university can be a big help. Law students, if they're so inclined, may take up to 12 credit hours of nonlaw coursework as part of their degree.

Almost since the school's founding in 1859, Michigan Law has been a magnet for international students. Our first Japanese students graduated in 1879—several years before legal barriers to immigration were dropped—and by 1890, two of our first six LLM graduates also were Japanese. Since then, thousands of international students from every continent have graduated Michigan Law and many have gone on to distinguished careers both in the United States and in their home countries. Today, one of the most rewarding aspects of a Michigan Law education is the opportunity to study alongside JD and LLM students who come, quite literally, from all over the world.
Law student Juan Tienda was a force in the legal and Latino communities. He headed La Raza Law Students Association, advocated for migrant workers, and volunteered with prison inmates. In 1976, before his final year of law school, a car accident ended his life. He is remembered through a scholarship in his name, which honors Latino law students who demonstrate a commitment to working with underserved Latino populations.
First things first. Literally. Whether you start in the summer or in the fall, a prime feature of Orientation Week involves giving back to the community. Whether it's by painting and sprucing up a public park, sorting canned goods at a food bank, or harvesting kale at one of the area's organic farms, the first order of business at Michigan Law is helping make the world a better place. And the good works don't stop at graduation; many of our alumni gather in cities around the world for alumni service days.
STUDY SPACES

If you like to study in a grand room with sound-absorbing cork floors, head to the Reading Room. Need a space where you can collaborate with your classmates? Check out the lower level of Aikens Commons. In search of a cozy spot during the winter? Take your books and laptop to the Jeffries Lounge on the first floor of South Hall, and snuggle up near the fireplace. No matter your studying style, we’ve got you covered.
When Detroit and Michigan's Wayne County decided to go after gun manufacturers for deliberately taking advantage of a thriving illegal secondary market in weapons, Michigan Law's Sherman Clark, Kirkland & Ellis Professor of Law, was there to help them out. After that, you know he'll be on hand to help out if you're struggling in his torts class, stuck on a point of evidence, or having trouble mastering one of his sports law concepts.

The Law School launched the Child Advocacy Law Clinic in 1976, the first clinical law program in America to specialize in problems of child abuse and neglect and children in foster care. Since then, Michigan Law has developed one of the most respected and influential child-law programs in the country, and, in 2009, was named the National Quality Improvement Center on the Representation of Children in the Child Welfare System.
The first woman to graduate from an American law school and to be admitted to the bar? Yes, she (Sarah Killgore) went here. The first African American to graduate from the University of Michigan? Also a Law School grad (Gabriel Hargo). Famed trial lawyer and iconoclast of the Scopes Monkey Trial also went here. So did the first black big league ballplayer (Moses Fleetwood Walker, all the way back in 1884) and the GM who signed Jackie Robinson and thereby broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball (Branch Rickey). Want to break new ground in your career? You'll have big shoulders to stand on (#61).

STICKY FLOORS AND SHARKBOWLS

Rick's? Rick's.

Sure, it's inelegant, but for a taste of the true Big Ten undergrad experience, there's no place like it. Remember, as a law student at Rick's American Cafe, you're a tourist—not a resident. You WILL be allowed to leave.

Seating? Who needs it. Your feet adhere to the floor anyway. And is that an aquarium in your hand, or are you enjoying a sharkbowl?

MAP OUT YOUR FUTURE

The Michigan Access Program (a.k.a. MAP) seeks to build community among all students across racial, ethnic, and cultural lines, create mentoring relationships, and provide a smooth transition into Law School by helping to demystify the first-year experience. Added bonus: The demystification starts early, so you get to meet faculty members and some of your classmates a week before your first term begins.
YOST ICE ARENA

Just a few blocks from the Law Quad, Yost, named after Michigan's pioneering football coach and athletic director, may be the best place on earth to see a college hockey game. Even if the only printable crowd chant seems to be "IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT! IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT! IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT!", which breaks out every time the Wolverines score on a hapless opposition goalie. Plus, Michigan Law's very own hockey team plays there, and free skating nights are offered for students.
THE POETRY OF PLACE

The dew is in the grass, a silver moon is rising, and golden light spills from arched stained glass to kiss majestic elms. Heaven, or an evening outside the Reading Room!
There's a reason Michigan Law boasts one of the most popular reunion programs around: People here tend to actually like each other. A lot. So when the opportunity to get together again first arises, five years after graduation, alumni respond. And then they keep on responding.

PROFS. BAGLEY AND MORTENSON

Two young faculty members who clerked for U.S. Supreme Court justices, won Michigan Law's top teaching award, and are widely cited in their areas of legal expertise. But, really, the most important thing to know about them is their perennial willingness to host the Law Students for Reproductive Justice's sex ed trivia night.

GOLD-LEVEL LEED CERTIFICATION

Sure, going to law school in what appears to be a 14th-century monastery is about as hip and retro as it gets. But let's face it, heating those old medieval rookeries meant throwing half a tree into a fireplace about the size of a two-car garage. Not so at Michigan Law, whose South Hall academic building (M77) earned gold-level LEED certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.
Speak softly, and carry a giant inflatable club. That may seem to be the message of Midway Madness, but it's really just an off-kilter celebration, sponsored by Alumni Relations, of the halfway point between matriculation and graduation. Fore!
ENTREPRENEURIAL ZEAL

Private entrepreneurial investor Sam Zell (BA '63, JD '66) knows a good investment when he sees one. So he decided to seed the Zell Entrepreneurship and Law (ZEAL) Program at his alma mater to train law students to think not just like lawyers but also like entrepreneurs. In today's climate, an entrepreneurial or innovative mindset is extremely valuable for young lawyers representing businesses ranging from startups to behemoths, and for lawyers yearning to leverage their law training by entering the business world themselves. Through ZEAL, law students feed off a University-wide entrepreneurial ethos by representing student startups from across the campus and also enter—and win—entrepreneurship idea competitions on their own. Investing some time in the program and its Entrepreneurship Clinic may be the best investment you ever make.

WITH FLYING COLORS

Holi, the Hindu festival of color, comes to the Law School each spring, thanks to the South Asian Law Students Association. A joyful celebration of spring and general mischief, a key component is dousing friends and family with handfuls of brightly colored and allegedly washable powders. Oh, and there are generally some good eats, too.

FOLK, HIP-HOP, AND CLASSICAL

Need some music to give your brain a break from memorizing the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure? At Ann Arbor's landmark music venue, The Ark, you can hear up-and-coming folk and roots artists (including, on occasion, a law student) as well as established singers. The annual Ann Arbor Folk Festival at the much-larger Hill Auditorium benefits The Ark, and draws the likes of Emmylou Harris, Amos Lee, and Ryan Adams. The Blind Pig is home to a much more raucous sound: rock, hip-hop, and electronic music. If you prefer the likes of Itzhak Perlman, Audra McDonald, and Yo-Yo Ma, the University Musical Society highlights classical music, dance, and theater, while the Kerrytown Concert House is an intimate venue that offers classical and experimental music.
BY THE NUMBERS

"Academic Life" and "Law School Community" are just about tied for lead dog in our index, and we figure that's exactly as it should be. Michigan Law is first and foremost an exercise in both, surrounded by things like "Ann Arbor," "Campus," and "Your Future"—the way a supporting cast surrounds an Academy Award-winning actor.

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Campus Safety Statement
Each year, the University of Michigan prepares an "Annual Security Report" and "Annual Fire Safety Report." The report, which is issued each October 1, contains detailed information on campus safety and security policies, procedures, and programs, including information on emergency services, security telephone numbers, sexual assault policy, stalking laws, handling obscene phone calls, sexual harassment policy, dealing with workplace violence and threats, police agencies, health services, counseling services, safe transportation after dark, safety tips, and alcohol and drug policies and programs. The report also includes statistics concerning crimes on campus. If you would like to receive a complete copy, visit the U-M Division of Public Safety and Security website at dpss.umich.edu or call (734) 763-8391.

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