

# MENTOR RESOURCE GUIDE

## OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

The Office of Student Affairs serves as Denver Law's primary focal point for engaging, counseling and advising of students. The office is a great starting resource for students' questions about how to get involved with the myriad opportunities offered by the law school. The office also assists with academic advising, counseling for certain personal matters, crisis intervention, disability services and accommodations, and Bar application support.

**Key Contact:** Jessica Boynton, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs  
[jboynton@law.du.edu](mailto:jboynton@law.du.edu)

Rm. 115

**Web Address:** [www.law.du.edu/student-affairs](http://www.law.du.edu/student-affairs)

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Students take the same courses during their first year (or first year and one half for evening students). Following the first-year courses, students must complete three additional courses, and have the option to select a Certificate Program.

### First Year Courses

- Constitutional Law
- Property Law
- Civil Procedure
- Torts
- Contracts
- Criminal Law

In addition to the above courses, first year students have two semesters of the introductory legal research and writing course, Lawyering Process. The course includes first semester motion drafting and second semester brief drafting, followed by first-year oral arguments.

### Required Upper Division Courses

- Administrative Law
- Evidence
- Legal Profession

### Certificate Programs

Denver Law offers five Certificate Programs:

- Constitutional Rights and Remedies
- Corporate/Commercial Law
- Environmental and Natural Resources Law
- International Legal Studies
- Intellectual Property Law Certificate
- Workplace Law

## STUDENT-RUN ORGANIZATIONS

Denver Law has a variety of student organizations and journals that allow students to connect with their peers and with faculty.

### Law Review & Journals

Students can apply to be on the [Denver Law Review](http://www.denverlawreview.org/candidacy/). The law review publishes four issues each year. Candidacy begins after spring semester final exams each year (<http://www.denverlawreview.org/candidacy/>).

In addition, Denver Law has the five following journals:

- Denver Journal of International Law and Policy (<http://djilp.org/student-candidacy/>)
- Sports and Entertainment Law Journal (<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/sports-and-entertainment-law-journal/candidacy>)
- Transportation Law Journal (<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/transportation-law-journal/candidacy>)
- University of Denver Criminal Law Review (<http://www.law.du.edu/index.php/university-of-denver-criminal-law-review/candidacy>)
- University of Denver Water Law Review (<http://duwaterlawreview.com/contact/#contact-info>)

Students should visit the individual journals' websites, provided above, to learn details about candidacy and application periods.

### Student Organizations

Denver Law currently has the following student organizations, though students may form new organizations at any time:

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| • Alternative Spring Break                         | • Children's Legal Advocacy Group          | Community Day                           |
| • American Civil Liberties Union                   | • Christian Legal Society                  | DPCD                                    |
| • American Constitution Society                    | • Colorado Entrepreneur Organization       | • Diversity Advocates                   |
| • Amnesty International                            | • Construction and Real Estate Law Society | • DU Law Democrats                      |
| • Asian Pacific American Law Students' Association | • Corporate Governance Society             | • DU Law Health and Wellness Commission |
| • Black Law Students' Association                  | • Criminal Law Association                 | • Elder Law Society                     |
| • Business Law Society                             | • Denver Law Partnership with              | • Federalist Society                    |
|  |  | • Free Thought Society                  |
|  |  | • Health Law Society                    |
|  |  | • Honor Board                           |
|  |  | • Hospitality Law Association           |
|  |  | • Intellectual Property Law Society     |

- International Law Society
- J. Reuben Clark Law Society
- Jewish Law Students Association
- Land Use Law Society
- Latino Law Students Association
- Law Student Ambassadors
- Law Students for Sensible Drug Policy
- Middle East and North African Law Society
- Moot Court Board
- Muslim Law Students Association
- National Lawyers Guild
- National Women Law Students Organization
- Native American Law Students' Association
- Natural Resources & Environmental Law Society
- OUTLaws
- Phi Alpha Delta
- Phi Delta Phi – Brewer Inn
- Public Interest Law Group
- Race to the Bottom
- Spanish Speaking Lawyers Association
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Student Bar Association
- Student Trial Lawyers Association
- Student Veterans Association

The [Student Bar Association](#) (SBA) is the official resource and liaison for the student body in matters involving school administration, faculty, and student services. Students should contact current SBA leadership for details on the SBA leadership election process.

## ACADEMIC RESOURCES

Most academic assistance to students is provided through the Academic Achievement Program (AAP).

**Key Contact:** Multiple  
**Web Address:** <http://www.law.du.edu/aap>

### AAP Leaders

AAP Leaders are outstanding upper level students who provide first year students with support in their 1L courses. AAP Leaders coordinate with professors of 1L classes and frequently attend class lectures. They meet individually with students and hold group sessions that cover topics such as case reading and briefing, note taking in class, outlining, exam preparation, and exam writing.

### AAP Resource Center

The AAP Resource Center (Rm. 457) allows students to check out free study aid materials for first year courses.

### Writing Clinic

The Writing Specialist, Kate Stoker, works with students to improve their legal writing skills. Students can schedule appointments with Kate on TWEN to receive assistance on their writing assignments, revise professional writing samples, and general writing

concerns. Kate also provides writing workshops and sends weekly writing tips e-mails. Finally, Kate can connect students who love to write with the many national legal writing competitions.

**Key Contact:** Kate Stoker, Professor & Writing Specialist  
kstoker@law.du.edu  
Rm. 472A

**Web Address:** <http://www.law.du.edu/writingclinic>

## TRIAL ADVOCACY RESOURCES

The Center for Advocacy oversees and supports the development of activities and events in both the mock trial and moot court arenas. Except for the Moot Court Board and its competitions, David Schott is the key contact for all trial advocacy inquiries:

**Key Contact:** David Schott, Advocacy Program Director  
dschott@law.du.edu  
Rm. 390H

**Web Address:** <http://www.law.du.edu/the-center-for-advocacy>

### Trial Courses

Students interested in trial advocacy, including the potential of having a concentration in Advocacy, are encouraged to look at the "[Litigation Paths](#)" that provide guidance on possible second, third and fourth year courses. Courses offered through the Center for Advocacy include:

- Trial Practice I – Basic Courtroom Skills
- Trial Practice I – Intensive
- Trial Practice I – Basic Courtroom Skills / Commercial Law
- Trial Practice II – Advanced Courtroom Skills
- Trial Practice II – Deposition Skills
- Trial Practice II – Litigation Technology
- Trial Practice II – Motions Practice
- Trial Practice II – Voir Dire
- Trial Practice III – Criminal Procedure Practicum
- Trial Practice III – National Trial Team
- Trial Practice III – Trial Practicum
- Trial Practice III – Mentors Practicum
- Trial Practice III – Instructors Practicum
- Day One – Criminal Practice Lab
- Day One – Civil Practice Lab

## Moot Court Teams

Denver Law has [seven moot court teams](#) that compete at various levels. The teams include:

- ABA Appellate
- Intellectual Property Law
- [Jessup – International Law](#)
- [NALSA - Native American](#)
- [Pace Environmental](#)
- Workplace Law
- Vis – International Commercial Arbitration

In addition, Denver Law's [National Trial Team](#) begins holding informational sessions and tryouts around March of each year.

## The Hoffman Cup & the Advocates Cup

The Hoffman Cup & The Advocates Cup are jointly run by the Center for Advocacy and the Moot Court Board.

The Hoffman Cup is the premiere trial advocacy tournament at Denver Law. Selection to compete for The Cup is based on merit points that take into account a student's experience and advanced coursework.

The Advocacy Cup typically begins in February. It is a great opportunity for students to develop and sharpen their trial advocacy skills. Teams of four students compete and two of the team members must be 1Ls.

## Moot Court Board Intra-School Competitions

The [Moot Court Board](#) provides students with high quality legal scenarios under realistic conditions. The student-run board manages and produces six advocacy competitions per academic year, including the:

- Negotiations Competition
- Trial Competition
- Appellate Competition
- Client Counseling Competition
- International Appellate Competition
- Motions Competition

Competitions are advertised heavily, but students can contact the current leaders of the Moot Court Board for additional information.

## BAR PASSAGE

Bar Passage at DU is driven by the DU Bar Success Program. Scott Johns is the key contact for the program and encourages students to contact him early and frequently:

**Key Contact:** Scott Johns, Director, DU Bar Success Program  
[sjohns@law.du.edu](mailto:sjohns@law.du.edu)  
Rm. 455L

**Web Address:** [www.law.du.edu/barprep](http://www.law.du.edu/barprep)

### DU Bar Success Program

The DU Bar Success Program is a free bar prep program available to all graduating students and alumni. It provides instruction, coaching, and feedback throughout the two-month study period immediately prior to the bar exam. The series includes a variety of strategic workshops, practice mock bar exams, individual consultations, and timely feedback on writing assignments. It is intended to serve as a supplement to, and not a replacement for, a commercial bar prep course.

### Legal Analysis Strategies (L4032)

Legal Analysis Strategies is a course offered to graduating students that provides instruction, guidance and feedback to develop foundational skills necessary to achieve success on both the bar exam and in the legal profession as skilled legal analysts. The course primarily focuses on core bar exam subjects (constitutional law, contracts, property, evidence, torts and criminal law/procedure) and includes diagnostic evaluations.

## CAREER RESOURCES

The Office of Career Development and Opportunities (CDO) serves as the primary resource for students seeking jobs, internships, or clerkships. The CDO hosts a variety of workshops, panels, seminars and speed networking events. Students are encouraged to contact the main careers e-mail address ([careers@law.du.edu](mailto:careers@law.du.edu)) so that they can be directed to the appropriate contact within the office, depending on their interest and services needed.

### Individualized Career Assistance

Six Career Consultants each specialize in different areas of law practice or alternative career opportunities. Students are encouraged to schedule an appointment early in their second semester to develop a resume and writing sample and to discuss career plans.

### DU Law Careers Online Symplicity

Symplicity is the online career database students and alumni can access to locate and apply for employment and internship opportunities. Students should keep their online profile up-to-date and visit the postings on the site frequently.

## On-Campus Interviews (OCI)

OCI interviewing occurs throughout the year, with most employers selecting and interviewing candidates at the beginning of each semester. Students apply for OCI interviews through Symplicity.

## Resource Center

The CDO has a Resource Center that contains a variety of career development materials.

## Career Fairs

The CDO facilitates two large career fairs each year, and often hosts additional fairs.

## Partners at Law (PALs)

PALs are brunch and dinner events that facilitate interaction between students and attorneys based on their interest and practice area. There are typically four events per year. Students should contact the CDO to register for a PALs event and can view upcoming PALs events at <http://www.law.du.edu/career-development-and-opportunities/pals>.

# EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING RESOURCES

In 2013, Denver Law launched its Experiential Advantage™ Curriculum (“EAC”). The EAC includes, among many other initiatives, the Legal Externship Program, the Clinical Programs, Semester in Practice, and the DU/CU Legal Residency Program.

## Legal Externship Program

Legal externships are for-credit internships that are accompanied by a seminar. The Externship Program places over 450 externs each year. Students must attend an orientation before the start of their semester of externship. Students obtain externships by searching the externship Supervisor Attorney database to identify desired externships and applying through the Externship Office. Externship seminars include:

- Child Advocacy Externship Program
- Corporate Externship Program
- Criminal Defense Externship Program
- Criminal Prosecution Externship Program
- Environmental Externship Program
- Government Agency Externship Program
- Holistic Juvenile Defense and Advocacy
- Hybrid Immigration Externship Program
- Judicial Externship Program
- Nonprofit Externship Program
- Private Firm Externship Program
- Racial, Social and Economic Justice Externship Program
- Resource Center for Separating and Divorcing Families

**Key Contact:** Alexi Freeman, Legal Externship Director  
afreeman@law.du.edu  
Rm. 365M

**Web Address:** [www.law.du.edu/legal-externship-program](http://www.law.du.edu/legal-externship-program)

## Clinical Programs

Founded in 1904, the Student Law Office is believed to be the oldest clinical program in the country. Students learn lawyering skills with real world clients under the supervision of a clinic faculty. Clinics include:

- Civil Litigation Clinic
- Civil Rights Clinic (Two Semesters)
- Community Economic Development Clinic (Two Semesters)
- Criminal Defense Clinic
- Environmental Law Clinic (Two Semesters)

Applications for the year-long clinics are taken in the spring of each year for the following fall. Applications for the semester clinics are taken each semester.

**Key Contact:** Laura Rovner, Ronald V. Yegge Clinical Director  
lrovner@law.du.edu  
Rm. 365E

**Web Address:** [www.law.du.edu/clinics](http://www.law.du.edu/clinics)

## Semester in Practice

The Semester in Practice gives students the opportunity to develop practice skills by fulfilling 15 credits (12 field work credits plus a three credit graded seminar). Students work full-time during the externship (40 hours per week). In this capstone experience, offered to students in their last year of law school, students have significant exposure to the substantive law in their externship, and focus on skills and professional identity in their seminar.

## DU/CU Legal Residency Program

The DU/CU Legal Residency Program is a partnership initiative with CU Law that provides new graduates with 12-18 months of valuable legal training and experience, and employers with legal staffing at reasonable costs. Participating organizations hire one or more residents from a pool of new JD graduates provided exclusively by the two Colorado law schools. Legal Residents are paid by the employer and follow a Learning Agenda which outlines the type of work the resident performs, the types of skills the resident builds and facilitates regular, meaningful feedback.