

# South CAROLINA



UNIVERSITY OF  
**South Carolina**

Joseph F. Rice School of Law

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA SCHOOL OF LAW



**The Joseph F. Rice School of Law was dedicated on November 10, 2023.**

See inside for details.





**629 STUDENTS  
ENROLLED OUR  
J.D. PROGRAM**

Hanging in the Rice School of Law's grand lobby is Dale Chihuly's Burnished Bronze and Garnet Chandelier, 2017, 11.5' x 10.5' x 9.5'.

## Putting Passion into Practice The Academic Program

The Juris Doctor (J.D.) program is a three-year, full-time program requiring 90 credits.

**YOUR FIRST-YEAR** courses cover basic legal principles and prepare you for more specialized courses your second and third years. First-year courses are:

- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Property
- Torts
- Introduction to the Legal Profession
- Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I & II

**UPPER-LEVEL ELECTIVES** encourage you to follow your passion or find a new one. We offer more than 100 upper-level electives in areas such as Business and Commercial Law, Children and Family Law, Environmental Law, Health Law, Intellectual Property, International and Comparative Law, Labor and Employment Law, Litigation, Probate and Estate Planning, Real Estate Law, Sports & Entertainment Law, Taxation, and Technology Law.



Our Children's Law Center and academic concentration connect students with practitioners and policy makers working at the heart of legal issues in this critical area of law and practice.

## Faculty

USC Joseph F. Rice School of Law employs more than 50 full-time and numerous adjunct professors, including judges and practicing attorneys. Their expertise and insight provide familiarity and context to the most current and pressing legal issues.

## Experiential Learning Rice School of Law offers a variety of hands-on learning opportunities.

**CLINICS** offer 2L and 3L students the opportunity to represent actual clients under the supervision of full-time faculty.

### Clinics include:

- Carolina Health Advocacy Medicolegal Partnership (CHAMPS)
- Criminal Practice
- Domestic Violence
- Education Rights
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Veterans Legal Clinic
- Youth Defender

**EXTERNSHIPS** allow students to gain legal experience, academic credit, and develop valuable professional connections while closely observing the work of attorneys in those settings. Externships are available through federal and state agencies, such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the South Carolina Attorney General's Office, as well as in corporate legal offices, legislative committees, and federal and state court, in the following areas:

- Administrative Law
- Children's Law
- Criminal Law
- Family & Small Business
- In-House Counsel
- Judicial
- Public Interest

**120 EXTERNSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES  
AVAILABLE EACH YEAR**

**CAPSTONE COURSES** encourage you to apply the skills you've learned by working with lawyers, judges, professors, and peers in a simulated practice environment in such areas as Federal Criminal Practice, Small Business Organizations, Civil Litigation, and Real Estate Transactions.

**SUMMER PUBLIC INTEREST INTERNSHIPS** allow students to apply to work with organizations assisting South Carolina community members unable to obtain legal assistance on their own. Since public interest opportunities are often unpaid, the law school secured dedicated funding for student stipends, exhibiting our commitment to community service.

**PRO BONO PROGRAM** is the first entirely voluntary Pro Bono Program in the nation and offers students the opportunity to get involved in more than 25 service projects, strengthening professional skills and building contacts while giving back. Because it is voluntary, the program emphasizes how pro bono services are an inherent part of a lawyer's professional identity.

## Combination and Dual-Degree Programs

Enhance your degree by choosing from 12 combination or dual-degree programs available at USC Rice School of Law, including the highly ranked International MBA program at the Darla Moore School of Business, and in collaboration with the nationally recognized environmental program at Vermont Law School. Combine your J.D. with a master's in:

- Accountancy
- Business Administration
- Criminology & Criminal Justice
- Earth and Environmental Resources Management
- Economics
- Environmental Law and Policy (Vermont Law)
- Health Services Policy and Management
- Human Resources
- International Business Administration
- Mass Communication
- Public Administration
- Social Work

## 25+ STUDENT-LED PRO BONO PROJECTS HELPING THE COLUMBIA COMMUNITY



Named in honor of the late Honorable Karen J. Williams, the 300-seat courtroom hosts jury trials and appellate hearings in addition to classes and mock trial and moot court competitions.

## RICE SCHOOL OF LAW MOCK TRIAL TEAM WON THE 2023 CRIMSON CUP HOSTED BY THE HARVARD LAW SCHOOL MOCK TRIAL ASSOCIATION AND HAS RANKED IN FORDHAM LAW'S TOP 10 TEAMS FOR TRIAL COMPETITION PERFORMANCE SINCE 2016.

**MOOT COURT AND MOCK TRIAL** programs provide opportunities to perfect your oral advocacy skills in either an appellate or trial setting at both regional and national competitions.

Statistics cited in this publication are for the 2022-2023 academic year.





The courtyard provides outdoor space for students adjacent to the Nelson Mullins Student Commons and the Counselor's Café.

## Collaborations and Partnerships

As a student at the USC Joseph F. Rice School of Law, you can choose from an array of programs designed to complement your formal classroom learning, build skills, and enhance competencies to advance your career.

### THE CAROLINA LAW RESEARCH SCHOLARS PROGRAM

enables eligible South Carolina residents access to our most robust scholarship program. Full tuition is offered for the 1L year along with fee waivers for the 2L and 3L years. Scholars also earn a stipend while engaged in research or projects with law faculty or other legal professionals. To be considered, candidates must have an LSAT score of 163 or higher and a 3.70 UGPA or higher as reflected in the CAS Report.

**THE CHILDREN'S LAW CENTER** offers classes, research opportunities, and training for students, practitioners, policy makers, and professionals involved in children's safety and well-being. The center prioritizes hands-on experiences, connecting you with experts in their field.

**THE NATIONAL ADVOCACY CENTER** houses the U.S. Department of Justice's premiere training facility and is located directly on the university campus. The Rice School of Law frequently collaborates with the NAC, offering our students access to national and international experts that can't be found anywhere else..

### THE UNIVERSITY'S RULE OF LAW COLLABORATIVE

works with national and international organizations to strengthen the rule of law around the world. Selected students participate directly in the work of the Collaborative.

### THE NELSON MULLINS RILEY & SCARBOROUGH CENTER ON PROFESSIONALISM

enriches student experiences through mentoring, research, and events that promote professionalism, civic leadership, and public service in the practice of law.

## Preparation for Practice

**UNIFORM BAR EXAMINATION** is a uniformly administered and graded bar examination with a portable score that can be used to apply for bar admission in other participating states or jurisdictions. More than two-thirds of states in the U.S., including South Carolina, have adopted the UBE. It is designed to test knowledge and skills that every lawyer should be able to demonstrate prior to becoming licensed to practice law. For more information about bar examinations, visit the National Conference of Bar Examiners' website or contact the bar admission agency in the state where you expect to practice.

**JOURNALS** are industry publications run by student editors who select and edit articles submitted by legal scholars. Consider joining one of our four scholarly journals:

*South Carolina Law Review*

*American Bar Association Real Property,*

*Trust & Estate Law Journal*

*South Carolina Journal of International Law & Business*  
*Journal of Law & Education*

**LAW STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS** connect you with like-minded members of the law and university communities, strengthening your interpersonal and leadership skills. We have more than 30 student organizations, allowing you to explore any aspect of the law that interests you.



## The University of South Carolina Joseph F. Rice School of Law is named for Joe Rice (USC JD '79; BSA '76).

He started practicing in Barnwell, SC after graduating from law school in 1979. Working closely beside his mentor, the late Ron Motley (USC JD '71; BA '66), Joe structured some of the most significant resolutions on behalf of workers injured by asbestos-related products and served as lead negotiating counsel on the 1998 National Tobacco Settlement.

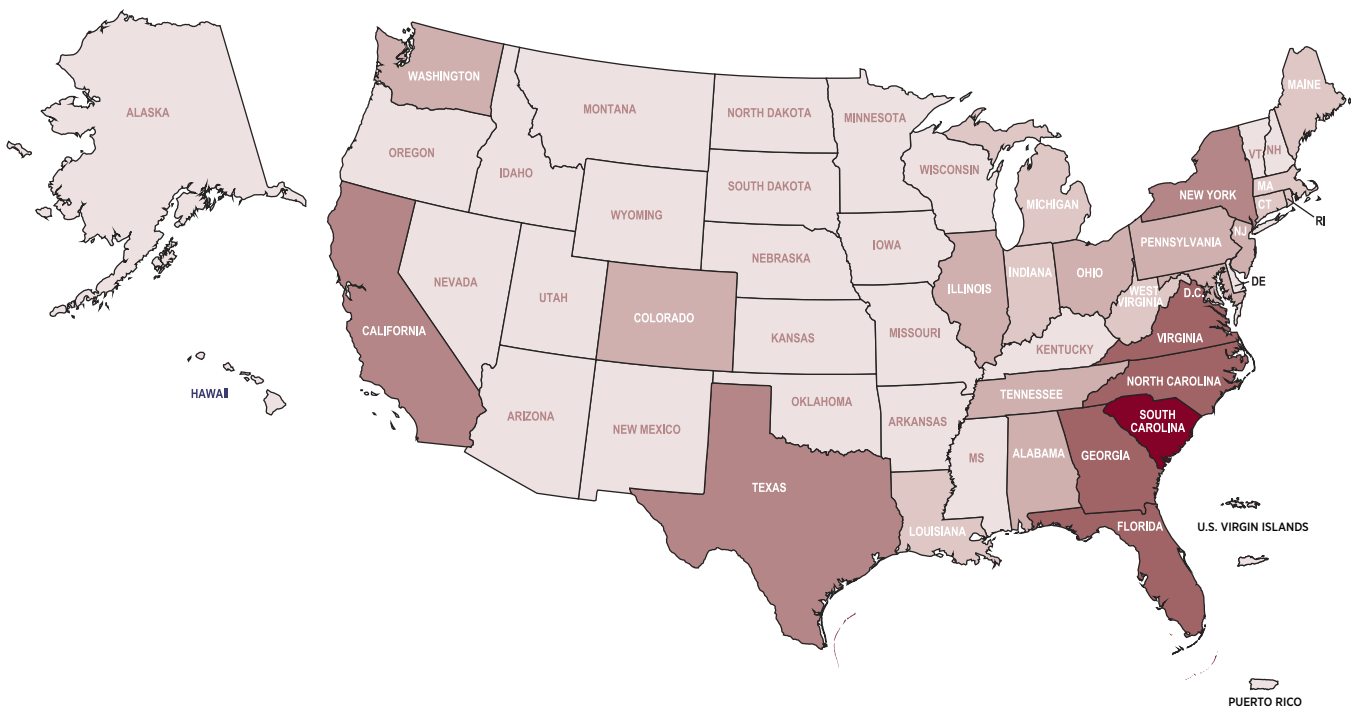
In 2003, Joe co-founded Motley Rice LLC, currently one of the nation's largest plaintiffs' litigation firms. Motley Rice remains headquartered in Mt. Pleasant, SC, where Joe leads more than 120 attorneys who handle individual, class action and multi district litigation in a variety of areas including: occupational disease, medical device and pharmaceutical injuries, securities fraud, consumer protection, whistleblower rights, anti-terrorism, environmental contamination, catastrophic injuries, premise and product liability and wrongful death.

He is very active in the firm's cause-driven litigation for clients. He currently serves as a co-lead lawyer for more than 3,000 plaintiffs in National Prescription Opiate MDL 2804 aimed at combatting the alleged over-distribution and deceptive marketing of prescription opioids. As chair of the Negotiating Committee, he has worked to reach over \$50 billion in settlements for communities nationwide. He also serves as co-lead in the national AFFF MDL 2873 litigation and on the resolution committee of the Camp Lejeune Water litigation.

Joe Rice, along with his wife Lisa (USC BA '77), and daughter Ann E. Rice Ervin (USC JD '06; BA '09) have provided numerous resources to the University over the years. Their gifts provide for endowed scholarships, professorships as well as championing the law school's Children's Law Program.

## Alumni Connections

Although most of our 12,000-plus alumni are based in the United States, USC Joseph F. Rice School of Law graduates can be found throughout the world, mentoring and employing students long after earning their J.D. The shades of garnet on the map correspond to the concentration of our alumni across the United States.







## USC and Columbia

Columbia is the state capital and one of South Carolina's largest cities, yet it retains a small-town charm. The Rice School of Law anchors Columbia's legal corridor

and is located just steps from the State House, the South Carolina Supreme Court, the South Carolina Court of Appeals, the National Advocacy Center, and law firms large and small.

Columbia is rapidly growing into a regional hub for corporate relocation, college and professional students, and tourism. The city is relaxed and friendly, without pretense. Areas like the Vista, Five Points, and Main Street all border campus and provide shopping and entertainment, while nearby lakes, rivers, and parks provide recreational activities to keep you grounded. Local attractions include the Congaree National Park, the Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden, and Lake Murray.



### THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA IS THE PALMETTO STATE'S FLAGSHIP UNIVERSITY.

The University of South Carolina attracts and retains students from all over the country and the world. The USC system educates more South Carolinians than any other institution in the state. The vibrant university community includes just over 42,000 students - hailing from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries - enrolled in highly regarded undergraduate, honors, graduate, and professional programs. South Carolina also has the Carnegie Foundation's top-tier designation for research activity and community engagement, reflecting its dedication to academic excellence.

**35** STATES OUR STUDENTS CALL HOME (PRIMARYLY HAILING FROM THE CAROLINAS, GEORGIA, VIRGINIA, AND FLORIDA)

**30+** NUMBER OF ACTIVE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT RICE OF SCHOOL LAW

**12+DC** STATES WHERE RICE SCHOOL OF LAW 2021 GRADUATES ACCEPTED THEIR FIRST JOB



The Coleman Karesh Reading Room is a place for quiet, focused study inside the law library.



## Fall 2023 Entering Class Profile

### Class of 2026

**1908** Applicants 642 admitted (33.6%)

**204** Entering Class (31.78%)

**120** Residents (58.82%)

**84** Non-Residents (41.18%)

**34** Minority Students (17.35%)\*

**102** Female (50%)\*

**101** Male (49.51%)\*

**1** non-binary (0.49%)\*

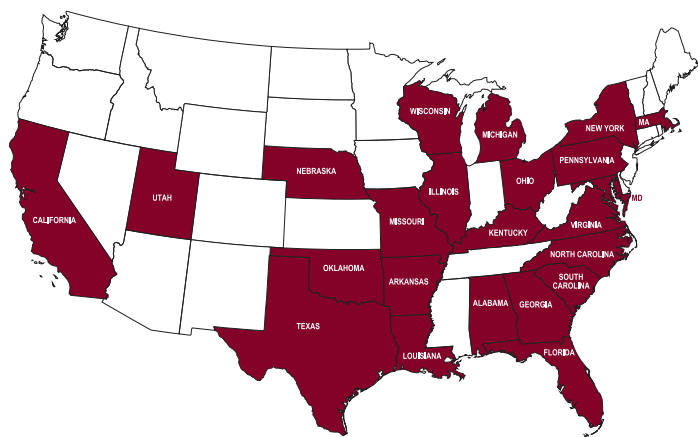
\*Of candidates disclosing race, ethnicity, and gender

**162/3.84** 75th percentile UGPA & LSAT

**160/3.70** Median UGPA & LSAT

**156/3.45** 25th percentile UGPA & LSAT

#### MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2026 HAIL FROM 23 STATES



**83 undergraduate schools represented in the entering class, including:** University of South Carolina-Columbia (53), Clemson University (24), Wofford College (10), University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (7), University of Georgia (6), The Citadel (5), Furman University (3), Lander University (3), Sewanee: The University of The South (3), University of Alabama (3), Virginia Tech (3), Auburn University (2), Coastal Carolina University (2), College of Charleston (2), Converse College (2), Davidson College (2), Florida State University (2), Grove City College (2), Hampden-Sydney College (2), Liberty University (2), Ryerson University (2), University of South Carolina-Upstate (2), University of Virginia (2) and one each from 60 other colleges and universities.

\*A complete list of undergraduate feeder schools is in the Class Profile at Entering Class Profile - School of Law | University of South Carolina

\*\*All data are accurate as of 8/14/23 but could change before the class profile is verified by the American Bar Association in October 2023

## Graduate Employment Summary

### Class of 2022

#### SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATES GET JOBS

Rice School of Law graduates engage in experiences that open their eyes – and open doors – to employment opportunities. Eighty-five percent (85%) of Rice Law graduates accepted jobs requiring bar passage, surpassing the national percentage of 79.9%, which set a historic high employment rate for this “gold standard” employment outcome. Thirty-seven (37), or 18.59% of Class of 2022 graduates, continued the pattern established by previous classes of accepting judicial clerkships at a significantly higher rate than all law graduates nationwide, when fell to 10.1% for the Class of 2022.

**92.96%** employed or accepted offer of employment 10 months after graduation

**97.82%** of all employed graduates accepted a job for which bar passage was required or a JD was an advantage

**20%** of all employed graduates (18.59% of all graduates) accepted a judicial clerkship

**16** number of states and Saudi Arabia where graduates accepted a job

### Employment Profile as of March 15, 2023

(ABA reporting date)

**170** In jobs requiring bar passage

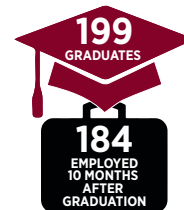
**10** In JD advantage jobs

**3** In professional jobs

**3** Pursuing a post-JD degree in a specialized area

**11** Unemployed and seeking a job

**0** Employment status unknown



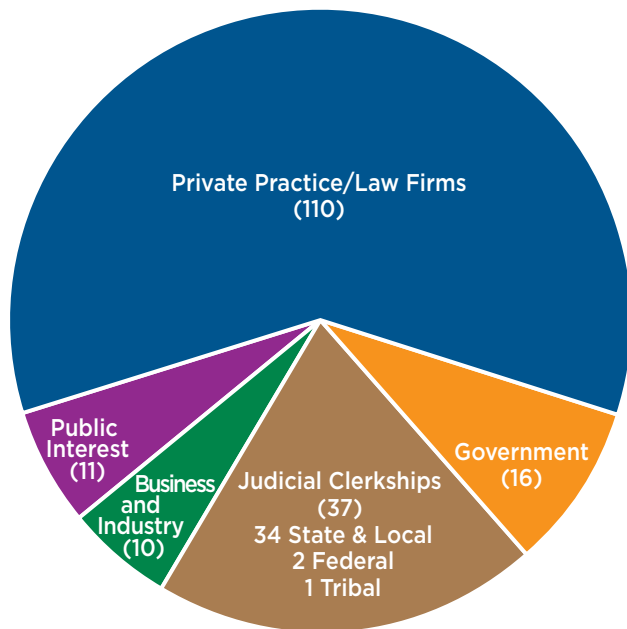
Detailed information about these summary findings is in the ABA mandated employment disclosure, *Employment Summary of 2022 Graduates*, available on our website at law.sc.edu.





## Employment – Class of 2022

### Employment Types – 184 Employed Graduates



#### NUMBER OF JOBS BY SIZE OF FIRM

| Number of Jobs | Number of Attorneys |
|----------------|---------------------|
| 9              | 501+                |
| 10             | 251-500             |
| 12             | 101-250             |
| 8              | 51-100              |
| 11             | 26-50               |
| 21             | 11-25               |
| 37             | 1-10                |
| 0              | Solo                |

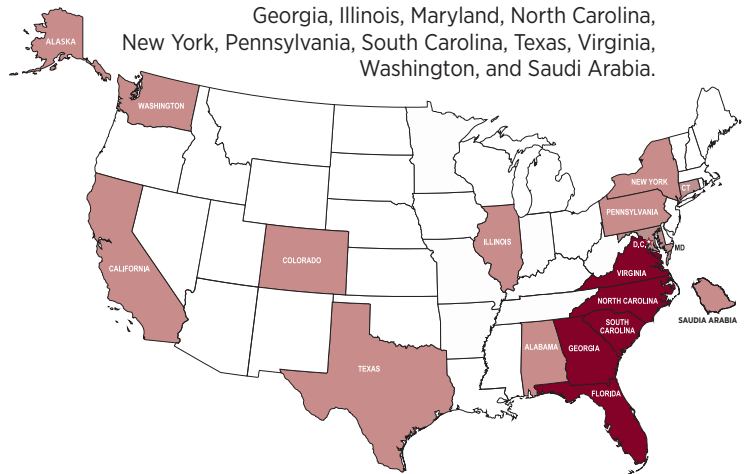
#### CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

A student's success in the job search process is enhanced by self-awareness and active engagement in career exploration activities. Rice Law's Office of Career and Professional Development emphasizes individualized career planning to help students discover opportunities, choose satisfying jobs, envision a career pathway, and create strategies to reach their goals. Our team of professionals has years of experience in law practice, in the court system, and in the career and professional development of law students.

To speak with a career consultant, call **(803) 777-8479**. For detailed information about Rice Law's graduate employment outcomes, go to [law.sc.edu/career](http://law.sc.edu/career).

#### 2022 GRADUATES WERE EMPLOYED IN 16 STATES

While most graduates accepted jobs in the Carolinas, Georgia, and Florida, 2022 Rice Law graduates were also working in Alaska, Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Saudi Arabia.



#### JOBS & SALARIES REPORTED BY JOB TYPE – CLASS OF 2022\*

Starting salaries for law graduates vary dramatically within and between employment sectors and based on the location of the employer. Ask us, or any law school you consider, about the availability of jobs that appeal to you, the frequency and nature

**Law Firms**  
\$45,000–\$205,000

**Business & Industry**  
\$65,800 – \$150,000

**Government (includes Judicial Clerkships)**  
\$30,000–\$65,000

**Public Interest**  
\$50,000–\$85,000

of hiring new graduates in each sector, and the availability of entry-level jobs within the typical geographic 'reach' of the law school.

\*These salary ranges are based upon reported salaries for full-time, long-term positions for which bar passage was required or a JD was an advantage.

#### EMPLOYERS OF THE CLASS OF 2022

More than 150 employers in 16 states hired our most recent graduates. Continuing the law school's long history of serving the judiciary, 37 of our graduates secured career-launching judicial clerkships at the state tribal and federal level. Our graduates are serving their country in the Army Judge Advocate General Corps and their communities through positions with state and federal government agencies, prosecutor's offices, public defender's offices, and legal service organizations. Our graduates joined law firms in large markets and small towns.





## Law School Courses

### First Year Courses

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- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Property
- Torts
- Introduction to the Legal Profession
- Legal Research, Analysis and Writing I & II

### Upper Level Courses

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#### Business Law

- Advanced Topics in Family Business law
- Antitrust Law and Trade Regulation
- Banking Law
- Business Associations
- Business Torts
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate In-House Counsel Practice Fundamentals
- Corporate Tax
- Drafting Business Agreements
- Family Business Law
- Financing the Start Up Business & Venture Capital Financing
- Income Tax
- Intellectual Property
- International Business Transactions
- International Intellectual Property
- International Trade Law
- Law & Economics
- Law & the Political Economy
- Lean Law Firm Lab
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Nonprofit Organizations Clinic
- Partnership & LLC Taxation
- Securities Regulation
- Small Business Capstone Course
- Social Impact of Business Activity Seminar
- Trademark Law

#### Children's and Family Law

- Advanced Family Law
- Caretaking, the Family and the Law
- Carolina Health Advocacy Medicolegal Partnership (CHAMPS) Clinic
- Children & the Courts
- Children's Law Externship
- Constitutional Issues in Public Education
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Education Law & Policy
- Education Rights Clinic
- Family Law
- Federal Indian Law
- Gender Based Violence Seminar
- Juvenile Justice
- Parents, Children & the State
- Poverty Law & Policy
- Special Education Law
- Youth Defender Clinic

#### Commercial Law and Bankruptcy

- Banking Law
- Bankruptcy
- Commercial Law Seminar
- Consumer Law
- Secured Transactions
- Sales

#### Constitutional Rights

- Civil Rights Law
- Constitutional Issues in Public Education
- Eighth Amendment Law & Litigation
- Free Speech and Democratic Theory
- Employment Discrimination
- Liberty Seminar
- State Constitutional Law
- The Constitution & National Security
- Women and the Law
- Voting Rights Seminar

#### Criminal Law

- Advanced Evidence
- Criminal Adjudication
- Criminal Law Externship
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Criminal Procedure
- Criminal Trial Practice
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Eighth Amendment Law & Litigation
- Federal Criminal Practice Capstone
- Gender Based Violence Seminar
- Police Law & Policy
- Race, American Society, and the Law
- Regulation of Vice
- Restitution and Unjust Enrichment
- Restorative and Transformative Justice Seminar
- SC Criminal Law and Procedure
- Trial Advocacy
- Wrongful Conviction Seminar
- Youth Defender Clinic

#### Environmental Law

- Administrative Law
- Beach Law Seminar
- Climate Change Seminar
- Coastal Law
- Coastal Law Field Lab
- Energy Law
- Environmental Law and Policy
- Environmental Law of Natural Resources
- Environmental Law of South Carolina
- International Environmental Law
- Land Use Planning
- Water Law

#### Health Law

- Administrative Law
- Bioethics Seminar
- Food & Drug Law
- Food Law & Policy
- Health Law & Policy
- Health Law: Finance and Organization
- Insurance
- Intersection of Health Law and Technology
- Public Health Law
- Topics in Insurance Law

#### Intellectual Property Law

- Copyright Law
- Intellectual Property
- International Intellectual Property
- Patent Application Preparation
- Patent Law
- Trademark Law

#### International and Comparative Law

- Comparative Law
- Indigenous Justice
- International Business Transactions
- International Commercial and Investment Arbitration
- International Environmental Law
- International Human Rights Law
- International Trade Law
- Rule of Law Seminar
- Russian Law and Legal System
- Seminar on Comparative Inequality
- Transnational Law

#### Labor and Employment Law

- ADR in Employment Law Workshop
- Disability Law
- Employment Discrimination
- Individual Employment Law
- Principles of Labor Law
- South Carolina Workers Compensation

#### Litigation

- Administrative Law
- ADR in Employment Law Workshop
- Advanced Civil Procedure
- Advanced Evidence
- Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Appellate Advocacy
- Civil Litigation Capstone Course

- Complex Civil Litigation
- Conflict of Laws
- Criminal Practice Clinic
- Criminal Trial Practice
- Domestic Violence Clinic
- Electronic Discovery
- Evidence
- Federal Courts
- Federal Criminal Practice Capstone
- Interviewing, Counseling, and Negotiation
- Problems in Professional Responsibility
- Topics in Insurance Law
- Trial Advocacy
- Youth Defender Clinic

#### Probate and Estate Planning

- Elder Law
- Estate Planning
- Fiduciary Administration
- Income Tax
- Wills, Trusts, and Estates

#### Real Estate Law

- Environmental Law and Policy
- Estate Planning
- Land Use Planning
- Real Estate Transactions I & II
- Real Estate Transaction Capstone

#### Taxation

- Corporate Tax
- Income Tax
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Nonprofit Organizations Clinic
- Partnership & LLC Taxation
- Small Business Capstone Course
- State and Local Tax
- Tax Policy Seminar
- Tax Practicum
- Taxation of Property Transactions

#### Technology Law

- Bioethics Seminar
- Climate Change Seminar
- Copyright Law
- Cybersecurity Law and Policy
- Data Privacy
- Electronic Discovery
- Energy Law
- Environmental Law and Policy
- Intellectual Property
- International Intellectual Property
- Patent Law
- Products Liability
- Technology Law & Criminal Prosecution
- Technology and the Practice of Law
- Technology Law: Law of the Newly Possible
- The Future of the Legal Profession
- Trademark Law
- Transportation Law
- Use of Force, Sanctions, and Technology Transfer Law

### Combination Degree Programs

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- Law and Accountancy, J.D./M. Acc.
- Law and Business Administration, J.D./M.B.A.
- Law and Criminology and Criminal Justice, J.D./M.A.
- Law and Economics, J.D./M.A.
- Law and Earth and Environmental Resources Management, J.D./M.E.E.R.M.
- Law and Health Administration, J.D./M.H.A.
- Law and Human Resources, J.D./M.H.R.
- Law and International Business Administration, J.D./I.M.B.A.
- Law and Mass Communication, J.D./M.M.C.
- Law and Public Administration, J.D./M.P.A.
- Law and Social Work, J.D./M.S.W.

### Dual-Degree Program

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- Law and Environmental Policy (from Vermont Law School), J.D./M.E.L.P.



**Campus Map**

