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# SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF LAW



**CATALOGUE** 2000-2001

# Southern New England School of Law

333 Faunce Corner Road, North Dartmouth, MA 02747 (508) 998-9400 1-800-213-0060 www.snesl.edu

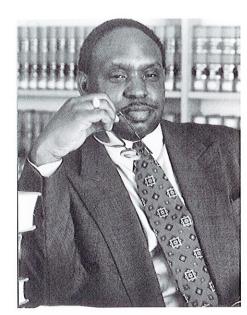
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# Dean's Message

Thank you for expressing an interest in attending Southern New England School of Law. Until recently our law school has been one of the best-kept secrets in New England. We are a small, young, independent, not for profit law school and we are rapidly increasing in stature and visibility. The school is located in North Dartmouth, Massachusetts, which is one hour from Boston, Massachusetts and one-half hour from Providence, Rhode Island. Law school can be very challenging. It ought to be. Lawyers frequently hold the fate of society's most vulnerable in their hands. The practice of law is a profession not a vocation. To succeed candidates must be bright, articulate and willing to work extremely hard. Not everyone has the ability to be successful, but finding the law school that best meets your needs is the first step in achieving that success.

Southern New England School of Law has an outstanding faculty and they are readily accessible. Our student faculty ratio of 17:1 is one of the best in the country. Students who have an opportunity to work closely with faculty in an intimate classroom environment tend to perform better. Our curriculum is rigorous, thus, Southern New England School of Law provides each student with a well rounded education. We strive to produce lawyers who are competent and compassionate. The great civil rights lawyer Charles Hamilton Houston, Jr. was fond of saying that "lawyers can either be parasites or social engineers." It is my hope that every Southern New England School of Law graduate will do all that she or he can to make the law more accessible to all regardless of their sex, race or sexual orientation. If you are committed to securing a quality legal education and



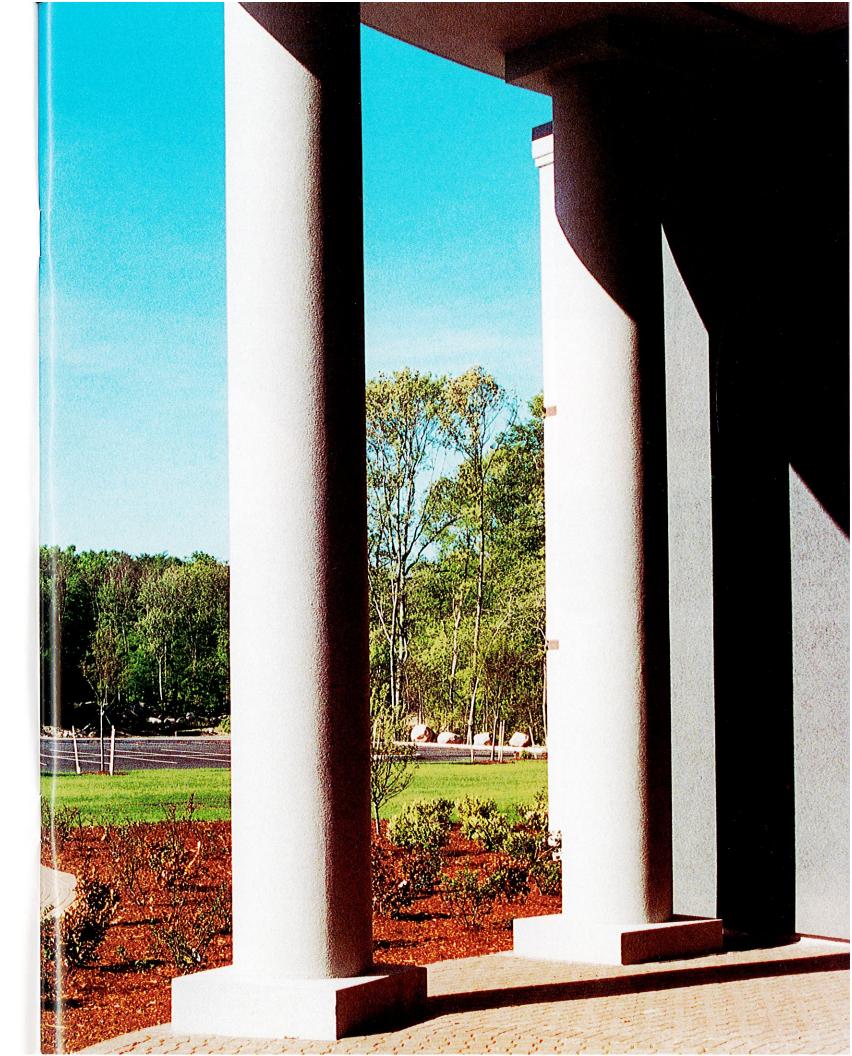
looking to thrive in a warm and friendly environment then Southern New England School of Law is the school for you. Our faculty and staff look forward to helping you achieve your dream.

Sincerely,

Robert V Ward Ir Dean



Francis J. Larkin, Chancellor, Clarence Thomas, U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Robert V. Ward, Jr., Dean





# Legal Education at Southern New England School of Law

At Southern New England School of Law we see ourselves as building on a solid tradition of American legal education while also providing an innovative approach to preparing students for the practice of law. The educational program at the Law School maintains the traditional focus on assuring that students acquire the necessary degree of competence in the law - both knowledge of substance and analytical skills. This approach centers on a classroom experience in which professors foster discussion that explores the underpinnings of legal principles and the development of legal doctrines. This type of education prepares a student to grapple with legal issues as a practitioner at a deep level.

In addition to this traditional component, the Law School provides students with the opportunity to begin developing practical legal skills. The Law School offers clinical courses which focus on the day to day problems and tasks of practicing lawyers. There are also clerkship opportunities that put students to work in law firms and courthouses. In this way, the full-time faculty, supplemented by an adjunct faculty of accomplished judges and practicing lawyers, prepare students to face the reality of practicing law while still in school.

The educational program also introduces students to the fundamental human questions connected with the study and practice of law. In all its courses, but especially in those designated as "Perspective" courses in the curriculum, professors and students examine such issues as whether laws must be just to be legitimate, the special role lawyers have in a society premised on the rule of law, and the fundamental political questions which arise under our constitutional order. By pondering these types of questions students begin to understand the responsibilities that come with being a lawyer. Such inquiries also

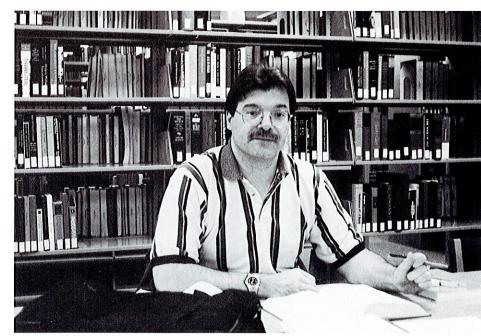
begin to prepare them to face the challenges involved in the practice of law in American society today.

We believe that there is more to legal education than instilling a knowledge of the law. The best education is one that takes place in an atmosphere of cooperation and collegiality. The hallmark of the faculty is that they are deeply devoted to helping students learn. Professors are available to students for individual help and work with them to realize their highest potential. Both the professional accomplishment and personal satisfaction of the faculty is measured by the success of their students in mastering the law.

We treat each person as an individual and welcome the varied backgrounds and experiences of all our students. In the admissions process, students are evaluated on an individual basis to assure that their abilities and potential are truly recognized. In addition to a Full-time Day Program, the Law School offers an Evening/Weekend Program and

a Part-time Day Program which provide an opportunity to obtain a legal education to those who might not otherwise be able to pursue this goal.

All of these elements combine to make legal education at Southern New England School of Law a unique and exciting experience. A graduate of Southern New England School of Law has both the intellectual training necessary for the successful practice of law and an appreciation of the human qualities necessary to make the practice of law a satisfying and worthwhile career.



"The flexibility afforded by the school's evening program provides a unique opportunity for comprehensive legal study to those with significant business experience and commitments. My professional career has been enhanced immeasurably by the exceptional educational experience here at SNESL."

Felix S. Betro, CPA

#### The Law School

Southern New England School of Law is an independent, non-profit educational institution accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to award the Juris Doctor degree. This degree-granting authority allows the Law School's graduates to sit for the Massachusetts bar examination.

The Law School offers full and parttime programs in its day division and a part-time evening/weekend program. The part-time programs are particularly suited to the needs of those who want a legal education but because of family or employment responsibilities cannot attend a traditional program. Students in all programs receive a comprehensive legal education that grounds them in knowledge and understanding of the law, legal institutions and the responsibilities of the bar.

The Dean is fully informed as to the Standards and Rules of Procedure for the Approval of Law Schools by the American Bar Association. The Administration and the Dean are determined to devote all necessary resources and in other respects to take all necessary steps to present a program of legal education that will qualify for approval by the American Bar Association. The Law School makes no representation to any applicant that it will be approved by the American Bar Association prior to the graduation of any matriculating student.

To learn more about the law school's efforts to obtain approval from the American Bar Association, for further information about the law school's accreditation by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges or to review the documents granting such accreditation, contact the Office of the Dean at (508) 998-9600, ext. 149.

The Law School is located in a newly constructed, state-of-the-art facility in North Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Blending contemporary and traditional architecture, the spacious building provides a comfortable setting for student-faculty interaction, library study and student activities. Besides featuring bright amphitheater classrooms, the Law School has many private areas for individual and group study. In addition, the student lounge provides a relaxed atmosphere for study breaks and eating. The building also meets the needs of the physically challenged.

The beautiful southern coast of Massachusetts is just minutes away from the Law School, with many beaches, small harbors and wildlife sanctuaries. The University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, the North Dartmouth Mall, the New Bedford Regional Airport, and many restaurants and pubs are all within a few miles of the Law School. In addition, the Law School is only one hour from Boston and Worcester, 30 minutes from Providence, Rhode Island, and 30 minutes from Cape Cod.

#### The University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

The Law School and the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth have established a close working relationship to enhance the educational programs and services offered to their students. The 5600 student Dartmouth campus is part of the statewide University of Massachusetts system. The University campus is located only three miles from the Law School. A joint library use agreement makes the University library collection available for Law School students and faculty. A program has been developed enabling a student to earn a bachelor's degree from the University and a Juris Doctor degree from the Law School in six years rather than the usual seven. University student services such as the Counseling Center are available to Law School students. A Committee on Institutional Cooperation, consisting of representatives of both schools, is continuing to investigate and implement other joint programs and identify additional areas in which shared use of resources will improve the educational experience provided to the students at both schools.

# SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF LAW

#### The Faculty

The Law School's full-time faculty is made up of individuals with diverse backgrounds and experiences. They all share, however, a love of teaching and a deep commitment to the study of law. Students should expect a classroom atmosphere in which critical thinking and careful analysis are fostered by robust discussion and give-and-take among students and instructor.

In addition to its full-time faculty, the Law School utilizes adjunct instructors to teach some courses. The adjunct faculty is made up of distinguished judges and accomplished, practicing lawyers from Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Their practical insight and real-life experiences add a special and very important dimension to the legal education of stu-

All the members of the faculty at the Law School take a conspicuous personal interest in each student and are available for frequent consultation and individual attention. Faculty members are devoted to helping students learn and foster a close camaraderie with students, which is a distinguishing feature of the Law School.

#### Students

Many of the students are traditional students coming to law school immediately after completing undergraduate degrees. Yet others come to the Law School having spent some years in the workplace or at home. They are physicians, nurses, educators, business persons, private industry representatives, and public servants. The cultural and experiential diversity of the student body is nearly as large as its overall number.

The majority of students at the Law School come from Massachusetts, Rhode Island and the Northeast. In recent years, however, the student population has increasingly been drawn from the Mid-Atlantic, Mid-West, South, and Southwestern regions of the United States. The age, gender, cultural and experiential diversity of the Law School's student body, coupled with an energetic faculty, generates a classroom dynamic that is exciting and enriching.

#### **Student Activities**

The Student Bar Association (SBA) was established on October 6, 1990. It serves as the official student association of Southern New England School of Law. The organization is made up of student representatives from each class and is governed by an executive board consisting of a president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. The SBA supports and encourages academic excellence and professional growth among students, works to insure the rights of students to acquire a quality legal education in a just and reasonable manner, and interacts on behalf of the students with other constituencies at the Law School. Every student is required to pay dues to be considered a member in good standing.

The SBA sponsors academic, professional and social activities. Guest speakers are brought to the Law School to discuss legal, political and social issues. The SBA runs a student picnic in conjunction with orientation weekend and a number of dinner/dances are held throughout the year. The SBA also sponsors a monthly newspaper, Res Ipsa, to communicate current and upcoming events to the student body and the local community.

The Law School has a Moot Court Society which provides students with the opportunity to improve written and oral advocacy skills. Student teams research and prepare a legal brief and compete in oral arguments against other schools. Students have participated in the Jessup International Law Competition, the National Moot Court Competition, the Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition, Cyber Crime's Moot Court Competition and the Bankruptcy Moot Court Competition.

A Student Senate of the Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, International, one of the three leading professional law fraternities in the world, was established at the Law School in the spring of 1993. Membership in Delta Theta Phi is open to all students enrolled at the Law School. The principal objective of Delta Theta Phi is "to unite fraternally congenial students of the law, to lead them and their fellow students to high scholarship



and legal learning, ... to promote justice, ... and to advance the interests of every college of law with which this Fraternity shall be associated." Membership in the Fraternity provides students with an opportunity for contact with students at other law schools as well as with alumni members in the legal profession throughout the country.

Several other student organizations are active at the Law School including a chapter of the Black Law Students
Association, an Environmental Law Society, the Family Law Society, the Hispanic Bar Association, an International Law Students Association, the Jewish Law Students Association, the Justinian Law Society, the Legal Association of Women, Res Ipsa, the Rutherford Institute, the St. Thomas More Society, the Sports Law Society and the Yearbook.



"Small class sizes enable all students to participate in class discussions and professors to give individual attention to students. The whole atmosphere encourages and fosters student participation and builds relations between professors and students."

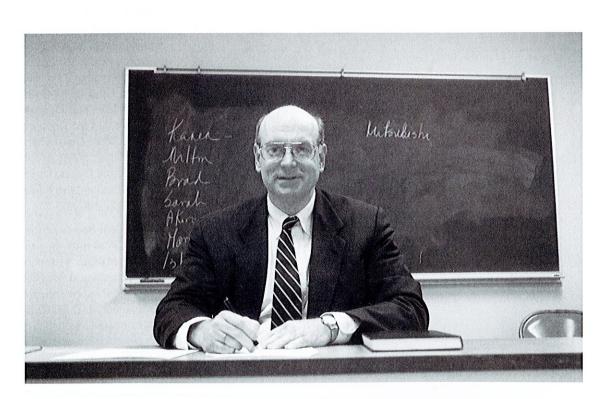
Scott Bartell 2002

#### Housing

The Law School has no on-campus housing. However, the Admissions Office maintains an updated list of houses and apartments that are available to rent in the area, ranging from single bedroom apartments to multi-bedroom homes. Locations vary from within a mile of the School in a rural setting, to metropolitan environments within five miles of the Law School. Rents vary from about \$400 to \$1200 per month. Students are also encouraged to refer to the Student Bulletin Board located in the Student Lounge. Students often post opportunities to share apartments in order to lower rental rates.

#### Alumni Association

The Southern New England School of Law Alumni Association was formed to promote the Law School in the academic and legal communities. The Alumni Association's mission is to work closely with the Law School to expand employment opportunities for graduates and to assist the Law School's fundraising activities. The Alumni Association's mission also includes keeping alumni informed about the Law School and organizing social events.



Professor Dwight Duncan

The atmosphere of cooperation and collegiality that characterizes the law school also pervades the library. The librarians are skilled professionals and are available to help students with the legal literature in all its aspects. They provide formal and informal legal research assistance, no matter how technical, how obtuse, or how difficult the problem, form or material. You will find them teaching in the classroom, publishing on the website and socializing with students at law school functions. Students know the library for its relaxed atmosphere, comfortable seating and custom designed study carrels and tables. In addition to an informal lounge and small group study rooms, the library has two electronic classrooms and a computer lab.

At the heart of the library is an integrated network, which includes an online catalog; CD-ROMS; interactive videos; word processing; e-mail and Internet access. The school's website at <a href="https://www.snesl.edu">www.snesl.edu</a> provides links to major legal sites on the Internet and is constantly evolving.

Library staff train students in computerassisted legal research including Lexis-Nexis, Westlaw, Loislaw, our CD-ROM collection, word-processing and the Internet. Introductory, advanced and topical sessions are offered.

Resource sharing provides students access to materials in other community libraries. Through interlibrary loan and through memberships in the Massachusetts Library and Information Network, the SouthEastern Massachusetts Library

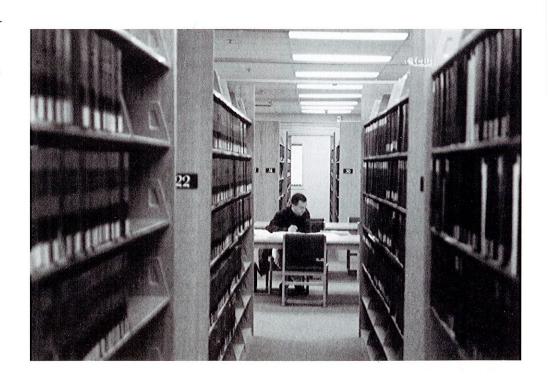
System, almost any source can be borrowed. The library enjoys a special relationship with the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, which provides law students enhanced library services and borrowing privileges.

The law library provides access to legal literature in all formats, as necessary practical response to the current state of the legal literature. The library's mission is to provide reliable, accurate, efficient and friendly service to all users. In addition to serving students and faculty, the library is committed to serving the local bar, and the community of southeastern Massachuetts.



"Sometimes it's not about the name, size or prestige; it's about what you do with it. A legal education at Southern New England can open doors never thought imaginable."

Mark A. Waller



#### Dean

#### Robert V. Ward, Jr.

Professor of Law and Dean

J.D. Suffolk University School of Law B.S. Northeastern University

For nearly twenty years, Dean Robert V. Ward, Jr. has served as a legal educator and administrator in Massachusetts. From 1982 until he was appointed to the position of Dean at Southern New England School of Law in 1999, he served as Professor of Law at New England School of Law where he taught Evidence, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Prisoner's Rights, and Race and the Law. He served as Director of the Charles Hamilton Houston Enrichment program, an academic achievement program designed to increase the number of minority students on campus and to ensure their success after admission and coached the school's

Dean Ward currently serves on the Executive Committee of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS) Section on Academic Support Programs and is a member of the faculty of the American Academy for Judicial Education. He formerly served on the Judicial Nominating Council, which assists in the selection of candidates for all levels of the Massachusetts judiciary and on the Special Judicial Nominating Committee for the Statewide Juvenile Court.

regional mock trial team.

Dean Ward served as Chairperson of the Massachusetts Victim and Witness Assistance Board, the body which is responsible for distributing funds collected from criminal defendants under Mass. General Laws Chapter 258B to eleven District Attorney offices in the Commonwealth. As Chief of the Victim Compensation and Assistance Division of the Attorney General's Office, he reformed the Commonwealth's procedures for compensating victims of violent crime, under Mass. General Laws Chapter 258A.

He served as Minority Student Coordinator at Suffolk University School of law. In that capacity, he acted as an advisor to the President, counseling miniority and international students in the areas of academics and career planning. He also served as an Assistant District Attorney for Suffolk County. In that

position, he prepared and presented cases before the grand jury, drafted appellate and trial briefs and memoranda, prosecuted all offenses within the jurisdiction of the District Court and conducted probable cause hearings for major felonies.

Dean Ward has written extensively on legal topics. He is the author of Consensual Searches, the Fairytale that Became a Nightmare; Fargo Lessons Concerning Police Initiated Encounters, 15 Touro Law Review 451 (Winter 1999); Race Relations and Conflicts in the United States: Hate Crime, 32:2 Gonzaga Law Review 511 (1997); Consenting to a Search and Seizure in Poor and Minority Neighborhoods: No Place for a Reasonable Person', 36:3 Howard Law Journal 239 (Winter 1993); and A Kinder, Gentler System: An Examination of How Crimes Victims Have Benefitted from the Women's Movement, 15 New England Journal on Criminal and Civil Confinement 161 (1989). He is co-author of *Teaching* Race and Law Through Narrative, 30:2 Wake Forest Law Reviews 323 (1995).

Dean Ward has been a Visiting Professor at Northeastern University College of Law and at the University of Idaho College of Law. He has served as an adjunct faculty member at Suffolk University School of Law.

Dean Ward received his Juris Doctor from Suffolk University School of Law and earned a B.S. in Political Science from Northeastern University. He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar Association and the Massachustts Black Lawyers Association. He has been admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, the federal courts, the Nez Perce Tribal Court, and the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Court.

Dean Ward lives with his wife, Eleanor Jaynes, in Milton, Massachusetts. He serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Learning Project Elementary School in Boston and the Crime and Justice Foundation in Boston. He has been a volunteer coach in the Beacon Hill / Back Bay / South End Little League for more than 20 years.

#### Chancellor

#### Francis J. Larkin

Professor of Law and Chancellor

LL.D. (Hon. c.) Southern New England School of Law

(Hon. c.) Anna Maria College LL.M. Georgetown University

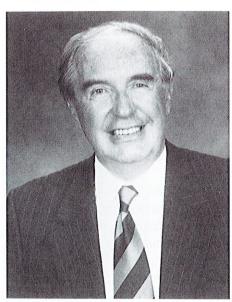
Law Center

Georgetown University LL.B. Law Center

College of the Holy Cross

Hon. Francis J. Larkin, a former Massachusetts Judge, is Chancellor, Dean Emeritus, Professor of Law and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Law School.

A graduate of Holy Cross College and the Georgetown University Law Center, Judge Larkin has previously taught at Georgetown and Boston College, where he also served as Associate Dean. A retired Colonel in the U.S. Army Jag Corps, he is active in the American Bar Association, serving as Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Judges Journal and as a member of the ABA's National Coalition on Justice.



Hon. Francis J. Larkin

#### **Faculty and Senior** Administration

#### Philip E. Cleary

Professor of Law

LL.D. (Hon. c.) Southern New England School of Law

J.D. Boston College Law School

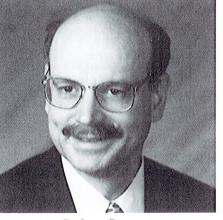
M.A. Harvard University

A.B. Boston College

Professor Cleary is an honors graduate of Boston College Law School, where he was Revisions Editor of the UCC Reporter-Digest. He served as a Law Clerk to the Massachusetts Trial Court. He has taught at the Law School since 1983 and was appointed a full-time faculty member in 1988. Before that appointment, he practiced law in Boston, primarily in civil litigation. He has published an article in the Massachusetts Law Review, which has been cited by the Supreme Judicial Court. He tried the first case in the country involving private employee drug testing and has delivered two papers on that subject. Professor Cleary was Dean of the Law School from 1988 to 1992. Professor Cleary teaches Torts, Conflicts, and Commercial Law.



**Professor Cleary** 



**Professor Duncan** 

#### Dwight G. Duncan

Associate Professor of Law

J.C.D. Pontifical Athenaeum of the Holy Cross (Rome)

J.C.L. Pontifical Athenaeum of the Holy Cross (Rome)

J.D. Georgetown University Law Center

Harvard College A.B.

Professor Duncan is an honors graduate of Georgetown University Law Center. A native Washingtonian, he practiced law there with the telephone company, now part of Bell Atlantic. He is a member of the Massachusetts and Washington, D.C., bars. Professor Duncan has written articles on legal, moral, and religious issues. He has argued several cases before the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court and the Appeals Court, and has written briefs for the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Pro-Life Legal Defense Fund and serves on the Board of Advisors of Massachusetts Citizens for Life and the Observer of BC, Inc. His interests include legal history and legal philosophy. Professor Duncan teaches courses in Constitutional Law, Legal Ethics, Religion and the Law and Bioethics.

"I try to develop in my students an awareness of the relationship between law and culture, between the rules by which society structures itself and the values it holds dear. These issues are central to my courses in Constitutional Law, which is where law and values intersect in our society, and Legal Ethics, which shapes the way a lawyer approaches his practice and the people he encounters there."

Professor Dwight Duncan

#### Ralph D. Clifford

Associate Professor of Law

New York Law School

Duke University

After finishing law school, Professor Clifford practiced law concentrating in trial practice and high technology law. Additionally, he was an adjunct faculty member of the University of Bridgeport Law School teaching Law, Science & Technology. He is the author of a case book about computer law and has written and lectured extensively concerning computer law. He is a member of the bars of the States of Connecticut, New York, and Massachusetts. Professor Clifford teaches Property, Civil Procedure, and Computer Law.



Professor Clifford



Professor Hillinger

# Michael G. Hillinger

Associate Dean and Professor of Law

J.D. Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William & Mary

Ph.D. Columbia University M.A. Columbia University

A.B. University of Pennsylvania

Before joining the full-time faculty of the Law School in 1989, Professor Hillinger was the Director of Legal Writing and Appellate Advocacy at the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, College of William and Mary. He also served as Law Clerk to Judge Walter Hoffman of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. Before beginning law school in 1980, Professor Hillinger taught history and political science for eleven years at Hampton Institute in Hampton, Virginia. He is coeditor of Commercial Transactions -Secured Financing: Cases, Materials, Problems; he has also published articles in the Bankruptcy Developments Journal, in the Commercial Law Journal, and in the Northern Illinois University Law Review, Professor Hillinger teaches Consumer Bankruptcy, Secured Transactions and Contracts.

#### Irene M. Scharf

Associate Professor of Law

J.D. Suffolk University Law School B.A. The University at Albany

A member of Phi Beta Kappa and a 1978 honors law school graduate, Professor Scharf engaged in the private practice of law for several years and then was counsel to administrative agencies at the local and state levels. Before coming to the Law School, she taught at the State University of New York, the University of Puget Sound School of Law, and Boston University Law School. Professor Scharf is the co-author of Washington Methods of Practice, civil practice volumes in the Washington Practice Series; she also has published articles in the Duke Law Journal, Hawaii Law Review, Houston Law Review, Albany Law Review and Emory International Law Journal. Professor Scharf was a Special Assistant Attorney General for Massachusetts, working on the tobacco litigation. She is a member of the Massachusetts and New York bars and teaches Torts, Constitutional Law, Dispute Resolution Clinic, Legal Clerking, and Immigration Law. She also directs the Legal Writing Program.



**Professor Scharf** 

"The students who participate in our clinical programs develop a sense of confidence about their lawyering skills that they will take with them into law practice. The popularity of the clinical programs attest to the students' feeling that the courses help build bridges with practicing lawyers and develop skills that are necessary once the students become practicing lawyers."

Professor Irene Scharf



**Professor Dunlap** 

#### Justine A. Dunlap

Assistant Professor of Law and Director of Clinical Programs

J.D. Case Western Reserve University

B.A. Ohio State University

Professor Dunlap joined the faculty as Director of Clinical Programs in the summer of 1998, after teaching in the Legal Clinic at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. A graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Law, Professor Dunlap began her legal career at the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia. She was also an adjunct faculty member at Catholic University School of Law and American University School of Law. She has published law review articles and practice manuals in the areas of child abuse and mental health law.

#### **Frances Howell Rudko**

Associate Professor of Law

J.D. University of Arkansas Ph.D. University of Arkansas

M.A. University of ArkansasB.A. Southern Methodist University

Professor Rudko joined the full-time faculty of Southern New England School of Law in the fall of 1992. She entered the private practice of law upon graduation from law school in 1973. A member of the Arkansas and Massachusetts bars, she served as a municipal judge in Arkansas and was a law clerk to Judge H. Franklin Waters, Chief Judge of the United States District Court: Western District. A member of Phi Beta Kappa and the University of Arkansas Bar Review, she holds an M.A. and Ph.D in history. Her published works include Truman's Court: A Study in Judicial Restraint and John Marshall and International Law: Statesman and Chief Justice, book reviews and law review articles. She taught American History, World History, Constitutional and Legal History at the University of Arkansas and Ohio State University. Her current research includes studies of Justices John Marshall and Joseph Story. Professor Rudko teaches Contracts, Evidence, International Law and Legal History, and 14th Amendment: An Instrument for Change.



Professor Rudko



**Professor Most** 

#### Marguerite I. Most

Assistant Professor of Law and Director of the Law Library

J.D. University of North Carolina School of Law

M.L.L. University of Washington B.A. University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Professor Most serves as Library Director and a member of the faculty. Professor Most came to the Southern New England School of Law in January, 1999 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she was Assistant Director of Research, Information and Access Services, and Assistant Clinical Professor. Prior to her appointment at the University of North Carolina, she worked at Duke University and University of San Diego Law Libraries. She is a member of the North Carolina bar and practiced law for several years before entering the law library field. At the University of North Carolina she taught first year Legal Research and an Introduction to American Law course for foreign exchange students. She has also taught Legal Process. She teaches Advanced Legal Research.

# Cynthia M. Conward

Assistant Professor of Law

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J.D. New England School of Law M.A. Assumption College

B.A. University of Massachusetts

at Dartmouth

Prior to being appointed to the faculty, Professor Conward served as Assistant Regional Counsel for the Massachusetts Department of Social Services. Her litigation work included prosecuting care and protection proceedings, CHINS petitions, adoptions and guardianships. She is also a member of CPCS which represents low income individuals in family law matter. She continues to pursue her interest in these matters by teaching Family Law, Juvenile Law, Probate and Juvenile Practice, Law Clerking and supervising the family law clinic. Professor Conward is the advisor to the Southern New England School of Law chapters of the Black American Law Students' Association (BLSA) and the Legal Association of Women (LAW).



**Professor Conward** 

"As a practicing attorney I saw first-hand the growing and changing nature of law. I emphasize this experience to my students so that they have an awareness that the ability to practice law often means knowing how the law is going to change."

Professor Cynthia Conward

# **Adjunct Faculty**

#### Henry M. Arruda

Adjunct Professor of Law

University of Connecticut School of Law

Boston College

Law Offices of Henry M. Arruda

#### Hon. Robert V. Cauchon

Adjunct Professor of Law

LL.B. Suffolk Law School

Yale University

Chief Justice (retired), Massachusetts Land Court

#### Ronald A. Cavallaro

Adjunct Professor of Law

LL.M. Boston University School of Law

**Boston University** J.D. School of Law

Boston College

Legal Counsel, Rhode Island Department of Employment & Training

#### Francis J. Clark

Adjunct Professor of Law

Suffolk University Law School Northeastern University

Law Offices of Francis J. Clark

#### Elspeth B. Cypher

Adjunct Professor of Law

Suffolk University Law School

Emerson College

Chief of Appellate Division, Bristol County District Attorney's Office

#### Francis A. DiLuna

Adjunct Professor of Law

Franklin Pierce Law Center

M.Ed. Salem State College

Suffolk University

Roche, Carens & DeGiacomo

#### **Anne Walsh Folino**

Adjunct Professor of Law

Southern New England School of Law

M.A.T. Georgetown University Rosemont College

#### James F. Freeley, III

Adjunct Professor of Law

Boston College Law School Wesleyan University

Freeley and Freeley

#### Hon. George Jacobs

Senior Adjunct Professor of Law

LL.D. (Hon. c.) Southern New England School of Law Harvard Law School J.D.

A.B. Harvard College

Associate Justice, Appeals Court of Massachusetts

#### Hon. Robert J. Kane

Senior Adjunct Professor of Law

Boston College Law School A.B. Fairfield University

Associate Justice, Edgartown District Court

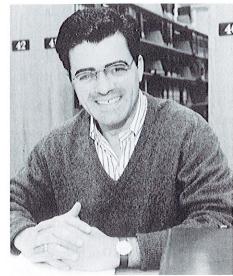
#### Nina E. Keaney

Adjunct Professor of Law

Boston College Law School

Smith College B.A.

Senior Law Clerk, Superior Court of Massachusetts



"In the classroom I make a special point to

draw on my courtroom experiences and chal-

lenge students with the real-life problems that

lawyers face day in and day out."

Professor Henry Arruda

#### William A. Manganiello

Adjunct Professor of Law

Southern New England School of Law

University of Massachusetts, Boston

#### John A. Markey, Jr.

Adjunct Professor of Law

University of Connecticut School of Law

College of the Holy Cross

#### Jeffrey P. Medeiros

Adjunct Professor of Law

LL.M. Boston University Law School

Southern New England School of Law

University of Massachusetts, B.S. Dartmouth

#### Berry B. Mitchell

Adjunct Professor of Law

Ph.D. Columbia Pacific University M.S.J.A. University of Denver,

College of Law

University of Tennessee

ADR Administrator/Mediator - Early Neutral Evaluator, United States District Court of Rhode Island

#### David P. Mullen

Adjunct Professor of Law

Suffolk University Law School

Suffolk University

Deputy Chief Counsel, Massachusetts Highway Department

#### Hon. James P. Rooney

Adjunct Professor of Law

Boalt Hall, University of California at Berkley School of Law

Cornell University

Administrative Law Judge, Massachusetts Department of **Environmental Protection** 

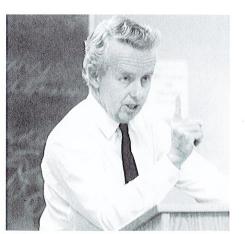
#### Andrew K. Spongberg

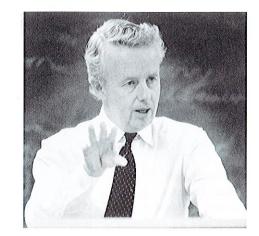
Adjunct Professor of Law

Southern New England School of Law

Tulane University School of Medicine

Medical Practice, New England Ear, Nose and Throat





Judge Robert Kane, Senior Adjunct Professor of Law

# **Academic Programs and Regulations**

The Law School offers three programs leading to the Juris Doctor degree: a full-time day program, a part-time day program, and an evening/weekend program.

#### The Day Programs

The full-time day program requires three academic years to complete. The part-time day program is designed for students who cannot devote full time to the study of law but would find the evening/weekend program inconvenient because of family or employment responsibilities. The part-time day program takes about four and one-half years to complete. Part-time students may accelerate their course of studies by taking up to a total of 12 credits during summer sessions and complete the program in four years.

#### The Evening/Weekend Program

The Law School's evening/weekend program is particularly suited to the needs of those who want a legal education but because of family or employment responsibilities cannot attend a traditional program. Classes in the program are offered on weeknights and Saturday during the day. This permits students who hold full-time jobs to attend law school. Students are, of course, subject to the same reading requirements as at any law school. Despite their work and family commitments, students find that this is manageable. The program thus provides a unique opportunity for persons with family or employment responsibilities to obtain a legal education. The program takes about four and one-half years to complete. Students may accelerate their course of studies by taking up to a total of 12 credits during summer sessions and complete the program in four years.

#### **Program Requirements**

Courses required to be taken are Contracts, Property, Torts, Civil Procedure, Legal Writing, Legal Methods, Constitutional Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Legal Ethics, Commercial Law and Trusts and Estates. Students are also required to take at least one "perspective" course, to be chosen from such courses as Jurisprudence, Religion and the Law, Law and Literature, and Legal History; and one "code" course, to be



chosen from such courses as Secured Transaction, Bankruptcy and Federal Tax; and one "practice" course. Full-time students take Contracts, Property, Torts, Civil Procedure, Legal Writing, and Legal Methods in their first year; and part-time students take Legal Writing, Property, Torts, and Legal Methods in their first year.



Professor Ralph Clifford

# Academic Requirements and Regulations

In order to receive the Juris Doctor degree, a student must complete a minimum of 89 hours of credit, successfully complete all course requirements, have a grade point average of at least 70, satisfy all probationary requirements and fulfill all financial obligations to the Law School. All students are also required to take comprehensive examinations after each year of study except the last. These tests are in addition to the final examinations given in each course.

Candidates who complete their degree requirements satisfactorily and whose academic record the faculty considers outstanding may be recommended for a degree with honors: Cum Laude, Magna Cum Laude, or Summa Cum Laude. The grading scale is as follows:

Excellent	90 to 10
Above Average	80 to 89
Satisfactory	70 to 79
Unsatisfactory	60 to 69
Failure (no credit)	40 to 59

The rules governing academic conduct at the Law School are found in the Student Handbook, which every student receives at fall registration. All students are charged with knowledge of the Student Handbook and are bound by its rules.

#### Clinical Programs

#### **Legal Clinic**

The development of legal skills and values are central to legal education. To aid in this development, Southern New England School of Law offers students several clinical opportunities. The Legal Clinic began in 1998 and was originally housed with a local legal services office in downtown New Bedford. Starting in Fall 2000, the Legal Clinic will operate out of the Law School. Clients with family law problems are referred to the clinic from the New Center for Legal Advocacy, the legal services office.

The Legal Clinic is a law office within the Law School. Students represent clients in court under the supervision of a faculty member. The clinic obviously focuses on the technical skills of lawyering, but it also allows students to wrestle with the ethical issues present in the practice of law. A clinical experience is a prime way for students to put into action the classroom knowledge they have been accumulating. Law School is no longer an academic exercise, it is real-life experience.

#### **Mediation Clinic**

Additionally, the school offers a Mediation Clinic every other fall. Students enrolled in this clinic develop skills in alternative dispute resolution through mediation in local district courts.

#### **Legal Clerking**

The Law School also offers an externship class that places in a variety of law office and judicial settings. The workplace experience is then examined and reflected upon in a class seminar setting, which permits students to analyze the skills and values of lawyering. The school also encourages students to combine theory and practice by working for a few hours each week in a placement that is connected to a doctrinal course. For instance, a student could work at a public defender's office for five hours each week while enrolled in Criminal Procedure. The student would also be meeting regularly with the Criminal Procedure professor to explore connections between the workplace and the materials being studied in class.

#### **Practice Courses**

The Law School's belief in the necessity and value of experience led it to enact a practice course requirement in 1998. This requirement can be met by enrolling in one of the clinics, Legal Clerking or a variety of other classes such as Trial Practice.



"The faculty takes a vested interest in each student. They set high expectations for class preparation and the development of analytical skills, and they also take the extra step to ensure each student has the support needed to be successful. It's really been a great experience."

Patrick Cook

2003

# **Description** of Courses

#### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW 3 credits

Organization and procedure of federal and state administrative agencies, boards and bureaus; legislative, executive, and judicial powers; delegation of power; due process; judicial control over administrative agencies; constitutional limitations.

#### ADR PRACTICE 3 credits

This one semester course examines the procedural, practical and theoretical aspects of settlement as an alternative to trial. The course will focus upon the following methods of alternative dispute resolution: Arbitration, Early Neutral Evaluation, Mediation, Summary Jury/Bench Trials, and briefly touch upon some other settlement mechanisms. Methods of instruction will include lecture and Socratic method. In addition, students will be required to engage in extensive role playing in order to apply acquired knowledge and concepts to realistic situations involving each of the ADR methods covered. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### ADR SEMINAR 1 credit

Students in this Legal Clerking Seminar may be placed at state agencies such as the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination, at a court or at other non-profit organizations to assist in mediations and other processes aimed at resolving cases prior to trail. Must have completed or be enrolled in ADR Practice. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

#### ADVANCED ELECTRONIC LEGAL RESEARCH 3 credits

This course will provide an introduction to legal resources on CD-ROM and the Internet and offer advanced training on the two major Computer Aided Legal Research systems, LEXIS and WESTLAW. The Library's electronic classroom will be utilized for the

instruction portion of this course. Readings will be assigned from a selection of materials, including LEXIS and WESTLAW manuals, research guides, and Internet publications. Students will be required to create an electronic homepage on a legal subject of their choice. Prerequisite: Legal Research & Writing.

#### ADVANCED LEGAL RESEARCH 3 credits

This course is designed to reinforce basic American legal research skills and to introduce specialized methods and sources of legal research in some of the following areas: administrative law; statutory research; legislative history; international law; non-legal sources and computer-assisted research. Students will be taught to evaluate research tools in electronic, print and other formats and to develop efficient research techniques. Research problems and topical pathfinder required. Includes classroom and computer lab components. Prerequisite: Legal Research & Writing.

#### ANATOMY OF A HOMICIDE 2 credits

This course is designed to provide the student with an overview of the medical and legal aspects of homicide investigation, the course will be co-taught by a lawyer and a forensic anthropologist, both have had experience with homicide investigations. The course will focus on specific legal and medical techniques and skills brought to bear in the investigation. These special topics will be presented by specialists in the various fields. Real and contrived case files will be used. The course culminates with an all day mock murder trial. Two to four externships will be available to students for an additional one credit. These law clerks will work in the homicide division of the Bristol County District Attorney's office and work directly with the attorney on active cases. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### **BIOETHICS**

#### 3 credits

This course explores the relationship between modern medical technology and the law. Subjects include genetic engineering, surrogate motherhood,

reproductive technologies, AIDS, proxy decision-making, right to refuse treatment, living wills, and organ transplants. Special attention will be given recent Constitutional, statutory and regulatory developments, with consideration of potential conflict with religious perspectives. Satisfies the Perspective requirement.

#### **BUSINESS ORGANIZATIONS** 4 credits

This course examines the basic forms to business organizations. The law of sole proprietorships, partnerships and corporations will be explored. Topics include the authority and responsibility of partners and the relationship between corporate directors, officers, shareholders and creditors. The course will also cover the principles of agency law.

# **BUSINESS TORTS**

#### 3 credits

Topics include fundamentals of unfair business practices; the elements of protection provided by trademarks, copyrights, and patents; regulation of deceptive and predatory problems concerning infringement of intellectual property interests.

#### CIVIL PROCEDURE I & II 6 credits

Introduction to procedural rules governing non-criminal disputes. Focus on the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, including jurisdiction, service of process, venue, parties, pleading and discovery, the right to jury trial, the trial process, appellate review, and res judicata.

#### **COMMERCIAL LAW** 4 credits

A study of the law of sales and lease of goods, negotiable instruments, and bank deposits, based primarily on Articles 2, 2A, 3, and 4 of the Uniform Commercial Code.

# **COMPARATIVE LAW**

#### 3 credits

An introduction to legal systems other than those derived from the Anglo-American Common Law. The primary focus will be on the legal systems of continental Europe, including the

# ern New England School of Law

333 Faunce Corner Road

North Dartmouth, MA 02747-1252 (508) 998-9400 1-800-213-0060

www.snesl.edu

#### APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Fall 2001

or print clearly. Mail the completed application and \$50.00 application fee to the Committee on 3. Make check payable to S.N.E.S.L.

LAW SCHOOL ADMISSION TEST (LSAT) and also must register with the LAW SCHOOL DATA SDAS).

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# **RECOMMENDATION**

#### (If the recommendation is

#### **Southern New England** School of Law

333 Faunce Corner Road North Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747-1252

We have received your application for admission. Thank you for your interest in Southern New England School of Law.

As soon as a decision is made on your application, you will be notified by mail.

Admissions Office

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Signature Please Print or Type Name \_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Common Market and the Socialist and former Socialist states. Satisfies the Perspective requirement.

#### COMPUTER LAW 3 credits

This course presents the legal issues associated with the development, use, and abuse of computer technology, including software proprietary rights, contractual and employment issues, tort and criminal standards, and evidentiary problems.

#### CONFLICT OF LAWS 3 credits

Name c

This course examines the question of the extra-territorial effects of law through a treatment of the concepts of domicile and jurisdiction, the enforceability of foreign judgments, and various choice-of-law theories in the multistate and multinational context and their applications to tort, contract, property and family law. Prerequisite: Civil Procedure.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL LAW I & II 6 credits

The history of the U.S. constitutional interpretation and current doctrine concerning judicial review, the federal-state system, the Commerce Clause, separation of powers, freedoms of speech and religion, due process and equal protection. Special attention is given to current controversies regarding the "right of privacy" and affirmative action.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL LAW: THE FOURTEENTH AMENDMENT AS AN INSTRUMENT OF CHANGE 3 credits

This course will focus on the history and development of the Fourteenth Amendment with special emphasis on the recent debate on Affirmative Action, federalism and the nuances of section 5 power. A paper will be required. The course will provide the student with a more comprehensive grasp of Fourteenth Amendment law than provided in the regular survey course. Satisfies the Perspective requirement. Prerequisite: Constitutional Law.

#### CONSTRUCTION LAW 3 credits

This course will deal with all aspects of Massachusetts private and public construction contract law, Bidding of a contract, award of a contract, claims, remedies, procedures, insurance and surety requirements and the Massachusetts lien law will be examined. Students will analyze and review construction contract problems and will be required to participate in classroom discussions. A written final examination will be given. Prerequisite: Contracts.

#### CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY 4 credits

Introduction to Debtors' rights and Creditors' remedies, including state collection law. Primary focus on individuals in bankruptcy, including Chapters 7, 12 and 13. The course also will deal with Chapter 11 as it pertains to individuals. Satisfies the Code requirement.

#### **CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY** SEMINAR

1 credit

This Legal Clerking Seminar places students with bankruptcy practitioners to interview and advise clients and to prepare bankruptcy filings. Must have completed or be enrolled in Consumer Bankruptcy. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

#### CONSUMER PROTECTION LAW AND REMEDIES

3 credits

The first half of the course will introduce students to consumer law by following traditional consumer law remedies. The second half of the course will focus on Chapter 93A with a thorough examination of several highly litigated areas: Motor Vehicle Complaints; Debtor-Creditors Disputes; Business Disputes; Insurance Violations; Real Estate Transactions; and Litigant Conduct. There will be three chronological aspects to the course (1) The Development and Evolution of Chapter 93A, (2) Public Enforcement and Private Remedies; and (3) Initiating Litigation: Legal Grounds for a Chapter 93A Claim, Procedural Issues, and Defenses and Exemptions.

#### **CONTRACTS I & II** 6 credits

Study of the development of common law concepts of enforceable promises. Encompasses the basic principles controlling the formation, performance, and termination of contracts. Includes the doctrines of offer and acceptance, consideration, conditions, breach, damages, third-party beneficiaries, assignments, and the Statute of Frauds.

#### **CRIMINAL LAW**

3 credits

A study of substantive criminal law concentrating on the elements of the common law crimes and defenses.

# CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

3 credits

Limitations placed on police practices by federal and state constitutions and statutes. The course will focus on the law of search and seizure, pre-trial identification, electronic surveillance, the right to confrontation, the right against self-incrimination, and the right to counsel, including the application of the Miranda rule.

#### **CRIMINAL PROSECUTION SEMINAR**

1 credit

In this Legal Clerking Seminar, students work under the supervision of a **Bristol County Assistant District** Attorney, preparing prosecutions in all types of misdemeanor cases. Cases most often handled are DWI, domestic violence, larceny and assault and battery. Prerequisite: Criminal Law. Highly recommended: completion or enrollment in Criminal Practice and Criminal Procedure. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

#### DRAFTING WILLS AND TRUSTS 3 credits

In this course, students will get handson experience in the drafting of wills and trusts. Prerequisite: Trusts and Estates, Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION 3 credits

This course will survey the law of employment discrimination and wrongful termination of employment. The developing body of federal employment discrimination statutory and case law will be explored, with attention also to Massachusetts law. This course will examine the Massachusetts common law of wrongful termination of employment. The course will provide a good introduction to this area of law for students who anticipate representing plaintiff/ employees and/or defendant/employees, as well as advising businesses on employment-related issues.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL LAW** 3 credits

A basic course covering a broad spectrum of environmental issues, major environmental statutes and legal doctrines that apply to environmental controversies. This course will be a case study of the issues, policies, procedures and resolutions of environmental matters facing society today.

#### EVIDENCE I & II 6 credits

Study of the rules and standards regulating the admission of evidence at trial. Topics include competency of witnesses, qualification, examination, cross-examination, and impeachment of witnesses, objections, waivers, offers of proof, relevancy, the hearsay rule and its exceptions, the opinion rule, expert testimony, privileges, judicial notice, and demonstrative evidence.

#### FAMILY LAW 3 credits

A survey of the law of marriage, marital property, marital rights and duties, divorce, separation, annulment; law of parent and child; law of guardian and ward; contract and tort rights and liabilities of infants and married women; domicile and jurisdiction for divorce; and constitutional limitations and requirements.

#### FAMILY LAW/JUVENILE LAW SEMINAR

1 credit

Students enrolled in this Legal Clerking Seminar may be placed in a public agency that handles cases involving domestic relations or juvenile law. Possible placements include the Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Legal Services and other similar offices. Must have taken or be enrolled in Family Law or Juvenile Law. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

#### FEDERAL COURTS

3 credits

Examination of judicial federalism, including such topics as the bases for the exercise of federal judicial power; original jurisdiction of the Supreme Court; the Eleventh Amendment; suits in federal court against state officials; restrictions on federal judicial power such as the various abstention, equitable restraint and anti-injunction doctrines; Supreme Court review of state court decisions; habeas corpus; removal; federal question jurisdiction; and federal common law.

#### FEDERAL INCOME TAX 4 credits

A study of the non-business taxpayer, characteristics of income, inclusions and exclusions, personal deductions, exemptions and credits, sales and other dispositions of property, capital gains and losses. A study of the gross income and deductions of the business taxpayer, including expenses and losses incurred in business or profit seeking activities, bad debts and worthless securities, depreciation, amortization, investment credit, and depletion. Satisfies the Code requirement.

#### HEALTH LAW 2 credits

This course will survey the rapidly evolving field of health law issues. The course will include a study of the laws and regulations applicable to licensing and assuring the quality of health care organizations. Anti-trust laws as they apply to medical organizations will be reviewed as well as medical ethics and medical liability issues.

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#### HISTORY OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND **CIVIL LIBERTIES**

3 credits

This course is a chronological study of the constitutional development of civil rights and civil liberties in the United States, during four periods of constitutional development: Colonial through 1801, 1800-1877, 1877-1933 and 1933 to the present. The student should gain an appreciation of the status of civil rights and liberties as currently defined through an in-depth look at the historical origin and evolution of these concepts, should acquire a factual knowledge of the development, and obtain an understanding of the relationship between the concepts of civil rights and liberties and the need of the society. Satisfies the Prespective requirement.

#### IMMIGRATION LAW 3 credits

An examination of the constitutional, statutory, and administrative elements of immigration law. Topics include the immigrant and non-immigrant visa system, political asylum and refugees, exclusion and waivers of exclusion, deportation and relief from deportation, and acquisition and loss of United States citizenship. Also includes appeals to administrative agencies and federal

#### IMMIGRATION LAW SEMINAR 1 credit

Students enrolled in this Legal Clerking Seminar may be placed with Catholic Social Services under the supervision of an immigration attorney. They will handle various immigration law issues, including asylum, relief from deportation, permanent residency, and naturalization. Must have taken or be enrolled in Immigration Law. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

#### INDEPENDENT LEGAL RESEARCH

The course provides individual students with the opportunity to complete an independent legal research and writing project under the supervision of a full-time faculty member with expertise in the area studied. This course is restricted to students who have completed their second year of study and are in academic good standing with a cumulative grade point average of at least 75. No student may receive credit for more than one independent legal research project without prior permission. Pass/Fail.

#### **INSURANCE LAW & PRACTICE** 3 credits

A survey of insurance law and the insurance contract. Topics include consideration of insurance in the public interest, protection of property and person, selection and control of risk, exceptions, warranties, representations, concealment, and the making, enforcement, and termination of the insurance contract, and the rights incident thereto.

The course will offer extensive skills exercises and simulations in the form of client interviewing, drafting pleadings, drafting interrogatories, taking a deposition, and preparing and arguing a summary judgment motion. Enrollment Limit: 12. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY 3 credits

A review of the legal protection of artistic, technical, and business creativity through the law of copyrights, patents, trademarks, and trade secrets.

#### INTERNATIONAL LAW 3 credits

In this introductory course, five areas of international law are examined in depth: the process by which international law is made and developed; the process by which international law becomes a part of the law of the United States; the international law doctrine of jurisdiction of states; the doctrine of sovereign immunity in United States law; and the application of international human rights law in the United States courts. The student should gain an ability to work with international law issues as they arise in the mainstream law practice.

#### INTERVIEWING, COUNSELING AND NEGOTIATING

3 credits

This course will focus on developing the skills of interviewing, counseling and negotiating both by studying the theories behind these techniques as well as practicing them through classroom simulation. Limited enrollment. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### ISSUES IN MASSACHUSETTS TORT LAW

3 credits

This course is a detailed, practice-oriented study of selected topics in Massachusetts Tort Law. The approach to the subject will be multidisciplinary, focusing both on substantive tort law and on issues of evidence and procedure that affect tort practice. The topics to be studied include products liability, medical malpractice, social host liability, statutes of repose and limitations, and governmental liability under the Massachusetts Tort Claims Act and related statutes. Prerequisite: Torts. Satisfies the Practice Course require-

#### JURISPRUDENCE 3 credits

This course examines Anglo-American philosophy of law. Topics include the debate between the natural law tradition and legal positivism, the relation between law and morality, Critical Legal Studies, the rule of law and its relationship to justice, rights-talk, and punishment. Contemporary authors like John Rawls, John Finnis, and Ronald Dworkin will be considered. Satisfies the Perspective requirement.

#### **JUVENILE LAW** 3 credits

This course focuses on the role of the iuvenile justice system in the United States, with particular emphasis on how the state defines and controls deviant behavior by juveniles.

#### LABOR LAW

3 credits

A study of employee-union-management relations as regulated by the National Labor Relations Act. Issues include the organizational process, representation elections, collective bargaining, and strikes and picketing activities.

#### LAND USE REGULATION 3 credits

A basic review of the current status of land use regulations and their development, exploring the areas of zoning, subdivisions, and conservation law. A 'hands on' study beginning with the enactment of local zoning and subdivision regulations, through the representation of petitioners before local boards to the appeal process. The course will cover recent cases, state and federal, involving "regulatory takings" and the consequences thereof. Course will equip practitioners to recognize land use issues and properly advise clients as to the best procedures to achieve land use goals.

#### LEGAL CLERKING

3 credits

To complement their doctrinal education, students can enroll in one of over 50 placements in a public or private law office, or a judicial or ADR clerkship. In addition to enrolling in the Legal Clerking class, law office clerks work under the supervision of a practicing lawyer, gaining practical skills in a realworld setting. Judicial externs receive a first-hand look at the judicial process and have been placed in state and administrative courts. ADR externs work with lawyers who specialize in ADR and with the various ADR institutions and agencies. In class, students discuss their experience and focus on various issues of professional responsibility that they encounter in law practice. They also may discuss how to set up a new law office, and study the theory and practice of

important pre-trial skills such as interviewing, counseling, and negotiating. Students may enroll in the Legal Clerking Program only once. Prerequisite: Must be in academic good standing and have completed 45 credit hours of law school study. Must have completed or be enrolled in Legal Ethics. Enrollment limited to 12 students. Prior permission of the professor is required to register for this course. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement. Pass/Fail.

# LEGAL CLERKING SEMINARS 1 additional credit

While enrolled in Legal Clerking, students may enroll in a class in the substantive area of their clerkship. Students in the Legal Clerking Seminar will meet with their doctrinal professors to discuss issues arising in the course of their clerkship placements. This also is available to students enrolled in Legal Clerking who are enrolled in or who already have taken one of the following substantive courses: ADR Practice, Consumer Bankruptcy, Consumer Protection Law and Practice, Criminal Law, Criminal Practice, Employee Benefits Law, Employment Discrimination, Family Law, Federal Taxation, Immigration Law, Juvenile Law, Labor Law, Massachusetts Civil Practice, Massachusetts Criminal Practice or Massachusetts Workers' Compensation Law. Pass/Fail.

# LEGAL CLINIC 6 credits

Students, supervised by a law professor, spend one semester providing legal services to indigent clients in the New Bedford area. Cases range from family law to landlord-tenant law to government benefits. The Legal Clinic is located in downtown New Bedford, alongside one of the city's legal services offices, the New Center for Legal Advocacy.

Clinic students average approximately 20 hours per week on clinic work. Students are responsible for substantial handling of their clients' legal matters.

Prerequisite: Must be in academic good standing and have completed 45 credit hours of law school study. Must have completed or be enrolled in Legal Ethics and Evidence. Must be eligible for Rule 3:03 certification. Enrollment limited to 8 students. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

# LEGAL ETHICS 3 credits

This course examines the moral and legal responsibilities of lawyers and judges in the practice of their profession. The A.B.A. Model Code and Model Rules are used as a guideline in considering ethical dilemmas that confront the conscientious professional. The course focuses on the lawyer-client relationship, the attorney's role as an officer of the court, and how professional requirements can be integrated with other obligations as citizen, family member, friend, and believer.

# LEGAL METHODS 1 credit

This course teaches legal terminology, the structure of the legal system, how the law develops, and how lawyers analyze the law.

# LEGAL RESEARCH AND WRITING I & II

3 credits each

This course aims at developing students' legal research and writing abilities through writing exercises and research topics related to the drafting of memoranda.

# MASSACHUSETTS CIVIL PRACTICE

3 credits

This course involves a survey of civil practice in the several departments of the Massachusetts trial court and before various administrative bodies. The jurisdiction of these courts and agencies will be studied together with the procedures involved in the processing and litigation of typical cases in these forums. Attention also will be given to the appellate process in Massachusetts.

Students will be exposed to a sampling of the documentary forms used in a variety of civil cases. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### MASSACHUSETTS CIVIL PRACTICE SEMINAR 1 credit

In this Legal Clerking Seminar, students may be placed at a court or administrative agency such as the Massachusetts Department of Industrial Accidents or the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination and may assist on cases or conduct fact or legal investigations, as are needed. Must have taken or be enrolled in Massachusetts Civil Practice. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

# MASSACHUSETTS CRIMINAL PRACTICE

3 credits

This course is a primer on the fundamentals of practicing Criminal Law in the Superior and District Courts of Massachusetts. The course will survey the cycle of complaints and indictments and examine the procedural and substantive rules for each step in the process. Case studies will be utilized to illustrate common problems and questions that new lawyers face. As a result of taking this course, students will appreciate the roles and duties of lawyers practicing in the criminal courts of Massachusetts. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

# MEDIATION CLINIC 3 credits

Students in this course will study and practice the principles of interviewing, client counseling, negotiating, arbitrating, and mediating. At the beginning of the course, students will undergo intensive training in mediation, after which time they will mediate small claims actions in a local district court.

Prerequisite: Must be in academic good standing and have completed 45 credit hours of law school study. Must have completed or be enrolled in Legal Ethics and Evidence. Enrollment limited to 6 students. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

# MEDICAL MALPRACTICE 2 credits

A detailed study of all aspects of medical malpractice litigation including problems of proof and the role of the expert witness; hospital liability problems; the function of hospital medical staff; hospital and medical staff by-laws as they relate to and control the relationship and performance of the hospital administration and the medical staff.

# MINI CLERKSHIPS 1 credit

Students enrolled in certain doctrinal courses may be placed five (5) hours per week in a law office doing work in the substantive area of the course. Those courses include ADR Practice, Consumer Bankruptcy, Consumer Protection Law, Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Employee Benefits Law, **Employment Discrimination, Family** Law, Federal Taxation, Immigration Law, Issues in Massachusetts Tort Law, Juvenile Law, Labor Law, Massachusetts Civil Practice, Massachusetts Criminal Practice and Massachusetts Workers' Compensation Law. The professor will meet with those students every other week during the semester to discuss issues of law arising in their placements. This option is appropriate for students who have already taken Legal Clerking or Legal Clinic, or who do not have the time for those classes but still want to acquire some real-life experience in a law office setting. There is no limit to the number of times a student may enroll in a mini clerkship. However, students may not enroll in Legal Clerking or Legal Clinic and a mini clerkship simultaneously. Pass/Fail. Prerequisite: Must be in academic good standing and have completed 32 credit hours of law school study. Enrollment is contingent upon availability of an appropriate placement and the permission of the doctrinal pro-

#### MOOT COURT

3 credits

This course allows students to prepare briefs and appellate oral arguments in various areas of law. Students then present their work in competitions around the country. Enrollment is limited to upper division students in academic good standing. Prerequisites: prior permission from the Moot Court team's faculty supervisor and from the director(s) of the school's Moot Court program. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### MUNICIPAL LAW

3 credits

This course will review the principles of law as they relate to municipal government. The course will review the types of municipal government, the power and authority of municipalities, and the origin of such power and authority. The class will explore various authorizations issued by municipalities as well as procedures concerning the means to acquire various licenses, permits and certificates.

# PROBATE AND JUVENILE COURT PRACTICE

3 credits

This course introduces students to Family Court practice, including bench trials in both probate and juvenile courts. It will include such topics as divorce and care and protection/termination of parental rights proceedings. Students will have the opportunity to introduce evidence, examine witnesses and frame arguments in motion hearings, and a mock trial. Prerequisites: Legal Ethics and Evidence. Limited enrollment.

Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.

#### PRODUCTS LIABILITY

3 credits

A study of the problems of product-related injury to persons and property. The major concentration will be on liability for injuries caused by defective and dangerous products, with additional consideration of product safety legislation and regulatory alternatives to litigation.

# PROPERTY I&II 6 credits

Starting with the historical evolution of concepts of real and personal property, this course studies the rights and duties of owners and possessors. Also includes evidence of ownership or right to possession, title assurance, commercial and non-commercial transfers of interests in property and the rescission,

# PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION SEMINAR

modification, interpretation, and perfor-

mance of transfer agreements and

1 credit

documents.

This Legal Clerking Seminar places students in the offices of experienced litigators in New Bedford to work on civil cases that will have an impact on large numbers of people. Many of the cases involve employment issues such as discrimination, ERISA, workers' compensation, and consumer law. Must have completed or be enrolled in one of the following courses: Consumer Protection Law, Employee Benefits Law, Employment Discrimination, Labor Law or Massachusetts Workers' Compensation Law. Must be enrolled in Legal Clerking.

# RACE AND THE LAW 3 credits

This course will use popular films to examine various aspects of race relations. Specifically, the course will focus on how people of color and the issues that impact on their lives is portrayed on the silver screen.

Participants will be asked to view selected films. They also will read background materials which underscore the themes raised by those films. These readings will be drawn from case law, legal periodicals and nonlegal writings. The goal is to add context and thus gain a clearer understanding of the role race plays in law and society.

Topics to be discussed include: urban life/ghetto culture, the criminal justice system, interactions with police, prisons,

family, segregation in the military, lynchings, interractial relationships and reparations.

Students will be expected to submit a diary or journal each week. The journal should contain their reflections on the films, readings and class discussions. Students also will lead class discussion on particular topics. They will be expected to gather reading materials for the class. Students will work in small groups.

At the end of the semester, each student will stubmit a 10-12 page paper which will be an analysis of the topic that they taught during the semester. Grades will be based upon class participation, the journals, class presentation and the final paper. Satisfies the Perspective requirement.

# REAL ESTATE LAW 3 credits

The Real Estate Law course will provide an in-depth view of the laws dealing with: the purchase and sale of residential real estate; zoning of land; wetlands protection and how it affects the landowner; subdivision control and its importance in the development of land; foreclosure of real estate mortgages; summary process; and nominee trusts.

# RELIGION AND THE LAW 3 credits

This course will examine the historical relationship between religion and the law, beginning with the Torah in ancient Israel, and extending throughout the Western world with the advent of Christianity. Special attention will be given to the problem of the relationship between church and state, as well as the public accommodation of religious conscience and practice, as developed in the Supreme Court's jurisprudence of the First Amendment. Satisfies the Perspective requirement.

#### REMEDIES

3 credits

A study of the remedial and procedural problems arising from requests for specific relief, as opposed to money damages. Topics include injunctive and declaratory relief, the contempt power, and problems on interlocutory relief.

# SECURED TRANSACTIONS 4 credits

A survey of commercial lending transactions, with particular emphasis on Article 9 of the Uniform Commercial Code. Satisfies the Code requirement.

# TAX SEMINAR 1 credit

Students in this Legal Clerking
Seminar are trained through the VITA
program and volunteer to aid lowincome and elderly clients who need
assistance filing tax returns.

Prerequisites: Must have completed or
be enrolled in Federal Taxation. Must be
enrolled in Legal Clerking.

# TORTS I&II 6 credits

A study of the civil wrongs arising from breach of duties imposed by law as distinguished from duties created by agreement or contracts, including trespass to personal and real property, conversion, negligence, deceit, injurious falsehood, defamation, malicious prosecution, nuisance, invasion of privacy, false imprisonment, and strict liability.

#### TRIAL PRACTICE

3 credits

This course introduces students to the practice of bench trials and jury litigation. It includes such topics as how to introduce evidence, examine witnesses, and frame arguments. All students participate in videotaped exercises and in a mock trial. *Prerequisite: Evidence. Limited enrollment. Satisfies the Practice Course requirement.* 

# TRUSTS & ESTATES 4 credits

Survey of law relating to decedents' estates, trusts, and future interests. Administration and probate; intestate succession; execution, revocation, revalidation and contest of wills; creation and termination of trusts; charitable trusts; future interests; powers of appointment; perpetuities.

# WOMEN, LAW AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM

3 credits

This course examines present day issues concerning women and the law in the context of legal history. Students will study the historical relationship between women and the law by tracing the history and evolution of women's status from Biblical law, through English common law, and to modern Western law. The course also examines modern legal issues, perceived differences in the treatment of women in the legal system, whether women perceive the law differently than men perceive it, as well as the history of women as members of the bar and how women lawyers have affected the law. Satisfies the Perspective require-

#### **Admissions**

#### Admission Requirements

Individuals who will have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university by the time of their law school enrollment are eligible to apply for admission. All applicants must also take the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). The Law School's LSAT code number is 5194. All applicants must also register with the Law School Data Assembly Service (LSDAS). Official transcripts of an applicant's college, graduate and professional school work must be submitted directly to Law School Admission Council (LSAC) which will analyze the transcripts and provide copies to the Law School as part of the LSDAS Report. Information about the LSAT and LSDAS may be obtained

Law School Admission Services Box 2000 Newtown, PA 18940 (215) 968-1001

#### Open Houses, Campus Visits and Applicant/Student Telephone Conferences

The Law School sponsors open houses throughout the year which provide prospective students the opportunity to learn more about the Law School. A short speaking program featuring the Dean and faculty members introduces prospective students to the Law School and to legal education. Student speakers discuss activities at the Law School and describe what it is like being a law student. Visitors can tour the Law School with students and observe a typical first year class if they wish. Following the program, refreshments are available in the Student Lounge, providing individuals the opportunity to speak informally with students and members of the administration, faculty and staff.

Prospective students who are not able to attend an open house or would like to learn more about the Law School are encouraged to visit the Law School at any time or visit our web site at www.snesl.edu. Individuals should contact the Admissions Office to schedule a visit.

The Admissions Office runs an Applicant/Student Telephone Conference program that provides applicants or prospective applicants an opportunity to talk to current students about the school.

The Admissions Office developed the program after determining that at the school's Open Houses, visitors found talking to students a very helpful way to learn about the faculty, programs, library resources and overall atmosphere at the school. Because many prospective applicants live too far away to make an Open House visit feasible, the Admissions Office established the Telephone Conference program to put prospective applicants into direct contact with those who know most about what the school is really like from a student's perspective - the students themselves!

#### Admissions Procedure

Applicants must submit a completed application form accompanied by a non-refundable application fee of \$50. This fee is not credited toward tuition. Application forms may be obtained by contacting the Admissions Office at (508) 998-9400, nhebert@snesl.edu, or writing to:

Admissions Office Southern New England School of Law 333 Faunce Corner Road North Dartmouth, MA 02747-1252

The Law School uses a rolling admission schedule with applications considered when they are complete. The application period begins in the fall and runs to June 30. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit their applications well before the June 30 deadline. The Committee on Admissions may consider applications received after the deadline if seats are still available in the entering class.

Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation. One of the letters must be from a faculty member who taught the student either in college or in graduate school. Students coming directly from college or from another graduate program may submit recommendations from two faculty members. Applicants who have been employed must also submit a recommendation from someone (preferably an employer or supervisor) who has known them in the course of their employment. The Law School recommends that your letters be submitted through the LSAC letter of recommendation service that serves all member schools. This service is included in your LSDAS Registration subscription. Your letters will be copied and sent to us along with your LSDAS Report, or as received. To use this service, follow the directions for submitting letters outlined in the LSAT/LSDAS Registration and Information Book. Be sure to fill out and give each letter writer a letter of recommendation form from the LSAT/LSDAS Registration and Information Book. If a letter writer wishes to write specifically about your qualifications for this Law School, he or she must send the letter directly to the Law School, accompanied by the form included in the catalogue.

Applicants are also required to submit a brief (one or two page) typed personal statement, explaining their reasons for wishing to study law. This statement should also explain any other information that you feel may assist the committee in its review of your application.

#### Admissions Decisions

The Law School accepts or rejects an application for admission after careful consideration of several factors. The Committee on Admissions reviews the applicant's academic record in undergraduate and graduate school, the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) score, as well as recommendations, work experience, and reasons for wishing to study law.

The Committee on Admissions may defer making decisions on completed applications until it has had the opportunity to review a substantial percentage of the applications for the coming year.

Every applicant who is accepted must submit a non-refundable \$300 seat deposit to reserve a place in the entering class. This deposit must be made by the date specified in the acceptance letter. An additional payment must be made before actual registration and is normally due when the accepted applicant pre-registers during the summer before enrollment. If the student does enroll, both the seat deposit and the additional payment are credited toward the first semester's bill.

In addition to submitting the payments listed in the previous paragraph, accepted applicants who enroll must provide the Law School with official transcripts of all academic work (undergraduate, graduate and professional) undertaken before their enrollment in the School. Official transcripts should be sent from the issuing institution directly to the Law School. Individuals who are completing an undergraduate or graduate program should have the transcripts sent after the final grades and the award of the degree have been recorded. Accepted applicants will not be considered to have satisfied this condition of their admission until the transcripts have been received by the Law School.

#### Three-Plus-Three Program

The University of Massachusetts
Dartmouth and the Law School have
established a joint program that will
offer significant advantages to interested,
qualifying students. This program offers
a fast track to a law degree in six years
rather than seven years. The program
leads to the award of a bachelor's degree
by the University and a Juris Doctor
degree by the Southern New England
School of Law.

This program allows qualified University undergraduates to substitute the first year at the Law School for the senior year at the University. The program is aimed primarily at students who enter the University with a strong interest in law already formed, or who develop such an interest early on. Upon successful completion of the first year at the Law School, the 31 credits earned will be transferred to the University as free elective credits or appropriate credit toward requirements, sufficient to complete University requirements for the bachelor's degree. The student will then graduate from the University with the rest of his or her class.

University juniors who meet the program requirements are eligible for admission to the Law School after successful completion of three-quarters (i.e., no less than 90 credits) of the work acceptable for the bachelor's degree at the University. Students interested in the program are encouraged to make their interest known to a University pre-law adviser as early as possible, preferably before the end of the third semester, to insure adequate advisement in meeting the eligibility requirements for accelerated admission to the Law School. Additional information can also be obtained directly from the Law School Admissions Office.

#### Orientation

An orientation program is held each year for new students prior to the start of classes. It consists of introductory academic sessions, informational meetings and social events. A packet of information about the orientation program is sent to new students during the summer. All new students are required to attend.

#### Transfer Admissions

Students who have successfully completed one or more years at a law school accredited by the American Bar Association or at a state approved law school may apply for admission with advanced standing. Transfer applicants must submit an LSDAS report as well as an official transcript and a letter of good standing from their previous law school in addition to the normal application materials. At least one letter of recommendation from applicants who have attended another law school should be from a faculty member who had the student in class. The Dean of the Law School will determine the amount of transfer credit on a case-by-case basis. Generally, no transfer credit will be given for courses taken more than four years ago.

#### Transfer Credit

To be acceptable for transfer credit, courses must meet the following requirements:

- 1. The course must have counted for at least 2 semester credits or 3 quarter credits.
- 2. The student must have earned a grade considered "satisfactory" by the school where the course was taken, but in no event will transfer credit be given for courses in which the student received a grade of less than 70 or its equivalent (2.0 on a 4.0 scale). Transfer credit will not be given for Pass/Fail courses.
- Credit for multi-term courses will be given only if the student has completed the entire course and received a satisfactory grade in every term.
- 4. The courses may not have been taken more than four academic years before the student's matriculation at the Law School.

#### Foreign Applicants

Applicants with undergraduate degrees earned outside the United States or Canada must establish that the education is at least the equivalent of a bachelors degree from an accredited institution within the United States. Unless the degree granting institution has a college code listed by the Law School Data Assembly Service, the applicant must arrange for a separate analysis of their academic credentials.

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If English is not the first or primary language of an applicant, the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) must be taken in addition to the LSAT.

The Law School is authorized under federal law to enroll nonimmigrant alien students. Students in this category must comply with certain regulations in order to maintain their status.

Details regarding all of the above requirements can be obtained from the Office of Admissions. Because of the additional time needed to complete various requirements, applicants are urged to contact the Admissions Office as early as possible.

# Registration With State Bar Examiners

Many jurisdictions require applicants to register early in their law school career. It is highly recommended that all students contact the jurisdiction of their choice and investigate the registration policy. Any questions should be directed to the Admissions Office.

# Financial Information

#### **Tuition And Fees**

Tuition for the 2000-01 academic year is \$17,986 for the full-time day program and \$644 per credit for the part-time day and evening/weekend programs. The Law School is committed to keeping the cost of a legal education as affordable as possible. Tuition rates and fees are subject to change without notice.

Students are required to pay a Registration Fee each year. The fee is due with fall registration and is not refundable. New students must also pay a one-time Building Fee. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that students enrolled in institutions of higher education participate in a student health insurance program or have comparable coverage in another health benefits program. Students who do not have a comparable health benefits program and do not file a written waiver of participation will be required to participate in the Law School's health insurance program and will be charged a fee to cover the cost of insurance.

\$70.00 Registration Fee. \$350.00 Building Fee (one-time fee for new students). \$75.00 Student Activity Fee \$75.00 Late Registration Fee. \$150.00 Graduation Fee (charged to students in their final semester).

Students will not be permitted to take a final examination if they are financially delinquent on the day the examination is scheduled.

#### Financial Assistance

The Law School offers a number of options to assist students in financing their legal education. Under the federal Family Education Loan program, students may apply for Stafford loans. The school also offers Citi Assist loans through Citibank and Nellie Mae's EXCEL and Nellie Mae's GradEXCEL loans as private loan options. Scholarship grants may be available from the Law School to qualified students. Information about each of these programs, including application procedures and deadlines, is available from the Financial Aid Office. Financial aid policies and procedures are detailed in the Student Handbook.

The Tuition Management Systems payment plan is offered by the Law School as an alternative means of tuition financing. With this plan, students can budget annual education costs over an eight or ten month period, depending on the student's grade level, instead of paying the entire cost of each semester in advance. The plan may be used in conjunction with any other financial assistance, such as scholarships, grants, or loans. The payment plan is not a loan - it is a convenient and affordable way to pay for education.

A number of students currently enrolled at the school receive employersponsored tuition reimbursement to help

"As a "non-traditional" student, I received the opportunity to achieve my life-long goal of becoming an attorney-at-law. The faculty and staff have all been enthusiastic and supportive. The flexible part-time program has allowed me to get a first-rate legal education at my own pace while maintaining a full-time job."

Patricia Bloom-McDonald 2002



defray their tuition costs. The Law School has received approval of its J.D. program from the Veterans Administration. For further information you should contact your nearest Veterans Affairs Office. Local and county bar associations often offer scholarships for qualified and deserving students. Application for scholarships can be made by contacting your local bar association. Some students have been allowed deferments for past loans from undergraduate and graduate schools while attending the Law School. Students still paying on previous loans may be eligible for a deferment until they complete their law degree. For more detailed information on this subject, students should contact their loan originator. It is important to make arrangements for financial assistance early in the application process to assure completion before the first tuition payment deadline.

It is the policy of Southern New England School of Law to comply with Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and regulations promulgated pursuant to that Act by the federal government. As required, the law school has designated several individuals to assist enrolled or prospective students in obtaining financial assistance information and general consumer information about the law school. These individuals are available on a full-time basis, upon reasonable notice, through the normal administrative working hours of the law school to answer questions about financial assistance and to provide information about the law school.

These designated individuals include Sandra Leger Silva, Director of Financial Aid; Nancy Fitzsimmons Hebert, Director of Admissions; and Carol Vidal, Registrar. Each can answer questions in their particular areas of expertise.

For each financial aid program available to students, the school makes available a program description, application procedures and forms, student eligibilty requirements, criteria for selecting aid recipients, and criteria for determining the amount of a student's award. Students have a right to request such information. More specific information is available by contacting the Financial Aid Office, at (508) 998-9600, ext. 157.

The law school also makes available the costs of attending the institution, including tuition and fees charged to fulltime and part-time students; estimated costs of necessary books and supplies; transportation costs for commuting stu-

dents and students living off-campus; and any additional costs of a program in which the student is enrolled or expresses an interest. It also provides information about the school's academic programs, including current degree and other educational and training programs; the school's instructional and other academically related facilities; and the school's faculty and other instructional personnel. The school also makes available for review copies of documents regarding the associations, agencies or governmental bodies that accredit, approve or license the school and its programs. Such information is available by contacting any of the persons designated above.



Surya Dutt Kunduri 2001 and Tracy Little 2001

#### **Tuition Refund Policy**

Each semester, the law school announces a time period during which individual courses may be added or dropped. Students may drop courses until the end of this Add/Drop period and will receive a full refund or tuition credit, whichever the law school deems appropriate, for courses dropped up to that date. No tuition refunds or credits will be given for courses dropped after the end of the Add/Drop period.

A student who withdraws from all their courses, takes a leave or is dismissed from the School may be entitled to a refund of tuition subject to the refund schedule. For purposes of this section, the effective date of a leave or withdrawal is the date upon which notice is received by the Registrar's Office or the last date of attendance.

#### 1. Southern New England School of Law Refund Policy

The Southern New School of Law Refund Policy is calculated according to the following schedule:

Refund 100% of the tuition charges if the student withdraws from the institution on or before the first day of classes.

Refund 90% of the tuition charges if a student withdraws within the first day to the end of the first 10% of the semester.

Refund 50% of the tuition charges if a student withdraws between the end of the first 10% and the end of the first 25% of the semester.

Refund 25% of the tuition charges if a student withdraws between the end of the first 25% and the end of the first 50% of the semester.

No refund after the first 50% of the semester.

#### 2. Return of Title IV Aid

For students receiving Title IV funding (Stafford Loans), the law school has adopted the new Return of Title IV Aid policy, effective May 31, 2000, in order to conform with the updated version of the Higher Education Amendments of 1998. Withdrawing students with federal loans will be subject to both the Return of Title IV Aid *and* the Southern New England School of Law Refund Policy, which is detailed above.

According to federal regulation, students receiving Stafford loans who withdraw from or stop attending classes on or before completing 60% of the semester, calculated in calendar days, are required to return all or a portion of the federal funds awarded.

Refunds made under the Return of Title IV Aid policy will be paid, first, to the Unsubsidized Stafford Loan program and then to the Subsidized Stafford Loan Program.

Additional information about the Return of Title IV Aid policy as well as examples of its application, are available in the Financial Aid Office.

#### Annual Campus Security Reports

In accordance with U.S. Department of Educational regulations, Southern New England School of Law publishes a Campus Security Report each year. This report is compiled by the Supervisor of Security and Maintenance and the Associate Dean and is distributed to all students annually.

The Campus Security Report includes a list of the titles of each person or organization to whom students and employees should report crimes, of the procedures and facilities for reporting crimes and other emergencies on campus, and the policies for the school's response to such reports and for making timely reports of crimes to the campus community. Among other things, the report also includes statistics on the oncampus occurrences of crimes, if any; a statement of the policies concerning the security of and access to all campus facilities and security considerations used in the maintenance of campus facil-

Copies of the report or additional information about its contents may be obtained from the Associate Dean, at (508) 998-9600, ext. 119.



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# **Student and Career Services**

An integral part of a student's law school experience is preparing for what follows law school: a legal career. The objective of the Career Services office is to help students make informed decisions about career paths and develop personal strategies to attain career goals. The approach the office uses to meet this objective is individual attention. Starting in a student's first year and continuing after graduation the Coordinator of Career Services meets with students one-on-one to provide the advice and direction that is suited to each student.

Career Services seminars are also offered throughout the year. These seminars provide students with assistance in such areas as resume writing, interviewing skills and designing a job search. These seminars are followed-up with individual meetings to review resumes, practice interviewing skills and discuss job search strategies. The office provides students with career services informational packets which educate students about career issues and help them think through their career options. Contacts with the alumni and prospective employers are also being established to enhance the position of the Law School's graduates in the job market.

Another area of focus is addressing the needs of students who plan to practice on their own or with a small group of lawyers. The Career Services office offers advice, training and seminars specifically designed to help students meet the challenges of setting up a law office and establishing a law practice. Seminars such as "How to Organize and Establish Your Own Law Practice" are offered, and practicing lawyers are brought to the School to share their experience and advice with students.

#### **Student Support Services**

Through an arrangement with the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth, students may seek short-term psychological counseling from the professional staff of the UMass Dartmouth Counseling Center. Student contact with the Counseling Center is confidential and without charge. The Counseling Center also provides a series of seminars at the Law School addressing topics such as time management, stress management and exam anxiety. These programs are coordinated by the Law School's Office of Student Services.

#### Academic Support Program

The Law School is dedicated to assisting all of its students maximize their individual abilities. By providing students with additional instruction,

guidance and encouragement as they confront the rigors of the study of law, the Academic Support Program (ASP) helps them fulfill the Law School's primary mission of educating men and women for membership in the legal profession. By focusing on improving students' abilities to analyze and think critically, the ASP complements the educational program's traditional focus on developing students' analytic skills in the law. Further, by providing students with personalized instruction and recognizing the different learning styles of students, the ASP positively contributes to the Law School's commitment to treating each person as an individual. In addition, by both recognizing that students of varied backgrounds have different learning styles and offering instruction that acknowledges these differences, the ASP provides a positive example that the Law School welcomes the varied backgrounds and experiences of its students.

The program consists of the following components: (1) First Year Academic Reinforcement Groups, (2) First Year Student Mentoring Program (in conjunction with the Student Bar Association), (3) Study Skills Seminars, (4) Academic Counseling and Tutoring, and (5) Supplemental Bar Exam Assistance. The program is described in detail in the Student Handbook.



"While a student at SNESL, I worked part-time in the law library and took an advanced legal research and writing class. Both of these experiences helped to develop my research and writing skills which I use regularly in class and while working for an attorney."

Tamara Sweeney

2001

# Alumni Spotlight



Attorney Jennifer J. Harrington

#### Jennifer J. Harrington, '98

When I first embarked upon my legal career, I had no idea what to expect or what lay ahead of me. I was certain that law school whould be a challenge, but it was a challenge that I had always wanted to take and I was given the opportunity to fulfill my dreams at Southern New England School of Law.

I soon discovered that law school involved a series of hurdles that needed to be overcome. By selecting Southern New England School of Law, I increased my chances of success without even realizing it, because at Southern New England there are a number of hidden assets not available at most other law schools. I found that the faculty was there for you, the student, every step of the way. They prepared you with the tools for success and assisted you in succeeding during law school and into the future. Additionally the library, administration and fellow students were exceptional!

Three years after I began my journey, I had achieved my goals. I am currently working as an attorney in Easton, Massachusetts for the law firm of LYNCH & LYNCH. We practice primarily in the areas of insurance defense and civil litigation. I will always be thankful to Southern New England School of Law for the education I received, the friendships I made and the position I hold today.

#### Andrew K. Spongberg, '96

I enjoyed the intellectual challenge of law school, the academic rigor, the self imposed discipline of studying and learning a new "language" as well as a new way of looking at the world and its problems. I enjoy a continual relationship with Southern New England School of Law. After passing the Massachusetts Bar Examination, I was asked to teach Health Law at the law school.

In my thirtieth year of practice in Otolaryngology and Head and Neck Surgery, I am actively incorporating my legal training in my leadership role at Hawthorn Medical Associates LLC. My field is health law compliance. In keeping with this specific interest, I wrote the organizations "Compliance Program" and oversee its implementation. I will expand my consulting in this rapidly growing field of health law as time and energy allows.



Dr. Andrew K. Spongberg

#### Sabine Coyne, '94

Embarking on the journey through law school was initially a scary prospect. I found the accomplished faculty at Southern New England School of Law to be extremely friendly and approachable, making my experience enjoyable. The legal writing skills and trial techniques I acquired helped mold me into a confident attorney.

As an Assistant District Attorney in

Norfolk County, I prosecute Sexual Assault
and Domestic Violence cases in District and
Superior Court. In my travels throughout the
county courts over the past several years, I
am asked where I went to law school. It is
with great pride to tell everyone about
Southern New England.

I am forever grateful to the law school for two gifts, my law degree and my husband, Derek, also a SNESL graduate.



Assistant District Attorney Sabine Coyne



State Representative Naughton

#### Eileen Slattery Naughton '94

As a Rhode Island State Representative, it is my obligation to carry out the public trust in the most accountable and efficient way possible. The legal education I received at Southern New England School of Law empowered me with the necessary knowledge and resources to represent my constituents in the manner they deserve. I am deeply indebted to the law school. I know that in the years ahead the law school will continue to grow and do great things.



Attorney Joseph C. Ferreira

#### Joseph C. Ferreira '92

I thought being a Law Clerk to the Justices of the Superior Court would be a great opportunity after listening to Massachusetts Appeals Court Justice Jacobs - a Senior Adjunct Professor at Southern New England School of Law describe the role of a law clerk. When I received the offer, I thought about it for 3 seconds and accepted. After an intensive orientation I was assigned to the Superior Court in Barnstable. Reality hit quickly when I was asked to draft a Memorandum of Decision and Order for a summary judgment motion. Each day after that continued to present new opportunities and a diverse range of tasks - from performing evidentiary research and writing on rape and murder cases, to analyzing memoranda submitted on summary judgment motions.

A special relationship exists between Judges and Law Clerks. Every Judge is always accessible to his/her clerk and daily contact is inevitable. Besides sharing their wealth of knowledge and experience in handling cases, the judges are extremely personable. In the midst of their hard work judges make clerking a very interesting and enjoyable experience.

During my clerkship people often asked me about Southern New England School of Law. They wanted to know if they should apply and whether I was adequately prepared to meet the challenges of a Superior Court clerkship. The answer I always gave was a resounding "yes." The Law School has extremely capable and dedicated faculty, including some of the Commonwealth's brightest jurists. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been part of the Law School's growing years and it is now pleasing to watch others expand that which we and our predecessors started.

#### Christopher Markey '94

Being from the New Bedford area, Southern New England gave me an opportunity to attend law school in the place I grew up. Southern New England's evening/weekend program was also a crucial factor in allowing me to pursue my goal of becoming a lawyer. The atmosphere at Southern New England and the concern shown to me and other students by the faculty and administration help me deal with the challenges of being a part-time student.

I am currently an Assistant District Attorney in Bristol County, where I have had the opportunity to handle cases in the District Court, assist in the prosecution of murder cases in the Superior Court and argue before the Appeals Court and the Supreme Judicial Court. The faculty at Southern New England developed my skills in legal analysis and argumentation and taught me how to think on my feet. I have found these skills to be essential for success in the courtroom.



Assistant District Attorney Christopher Markey

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**Public Services Coordinator** 

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Korin A. Munsterman, B.A., M.L.S., Director of Information Technology

#### Directions

From Boston (about one hour), take Route 93 south to Route 24 south to Route 140 south to Interstate 195 west to Massachusetts exit 12-B.Take right onto Faunce Corner Road. The Law School is less then 3/10ths of a mile on the right.

From Worcester (about one hour), take Route 146 south to Interstate 95 south to Interstate 195 east. Take Massachusetts exit 12, Faunce Corner Road. Take a left onto Faunce Corner Road. The Law School is less than 3/10ths of a mile on the right.

From Cape Cod (about 30 minutes), take Interstate 195 west to Massachusetts exit 12-B, Faunce Corner Road. Take a right onto Faunce Corner Road. The Law School is less than 3/10ths of a mile on the right.

From Providence (about 30 minutes), take Interstate 195 east to Massachusetts exit 12, Faunce Corner Road. Take a left onto Faunce Corner Road. The Law School is less than 3/10ths of a mile on the right.



# MISSION STATEMENT OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND SCHOOL OF LAW

Southern New England School of Law is a private, independent, not-for-profit law school whose primary objective is to educate men and women for membership in the legal profession. The Law School provides its students the intellectual and practical training necessary for the practice of law and instills in them an appreciation of the human qualities necessary for the practice of law to be a satisfying and worthwhile career.

The Law School seeks to accomplish these objectives by providing its students with an educational program based on three principles. First, the Law School's educational program includes the traditional focus on developing students' analytical skills in the law. Second, the Law School provides students with the opportunity to begin developing practical legal skills so as to have a realistic grasp of what practicing law means. Finally, the educational program at the Law School is designed to introduce students to the fundamental human questions connected with the study and practice of law so that they may more fully understand the responsibilities of being a lawyer and thus be better prepared to face the challenges involved in the practice of law in American society.

The Law School fosters an atmosphere of cooperation and collegiality because it believes that the best education is one that takes place under those circumstances. The Law School faculty is made up of professors devoted to helping students learn. Scholarship is a part of this endeavor because it results in a richer and deeper learning experience for both professors and students. In addition, the Law School recognizes its obligation to serve the local bar and community, as well as society at large. The Law School sees this responsibility as another opportunity to enhance the learning experience of all members of the Law School community.

The Law School is committed to treating each person as an individual and welcomes the varied backgrounds and experiences of its students. Accordingly, the admissions process evaluates applicants to assure that a person's abilities and potential are truly recognized. The Law School also offers, in addition to a Full-time Day Program, an Evening/Weekend Program and a Part-time Day Program which gives the opportunity to obtain a legal education to those who might not otherwise be able to pursue this goal.

# ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2000-2001

#### **Fall Semester**

August 26	Orientation
August 28	First Day of Classes
September 4	Labor Day - No classes
September 29	Rosh Hashanah - No night classes
September 30	Rosh Hashanah - No day classes
October 9	Yom Kippur/Columbus Day - No classes
November 23-26	Thanksgiving Vacation - No classes
December 9	Classes End
December 15-22	Final Examinations
December 23 - January 7	Semester Break - No classes

#### **Spring Semester**

January 8	Classes Begin
January 15	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No classes
February 19-24	February Vacation - No classes
April 9-15	April Vacation - No classes
April 16	Patriot's Day - No classes
May 1	Classes End
May 9-17	Final Examinations

#### **EQUAL ACCESS**

The Southern New England School of Law welcomes qualified students regardless of race, age, religion, color, creed, sex, handicap, or national or ethnic origin. The Law School is committed to equal opportunity in the administration of its admission policies, educational programs and employment practices.

#### RESERVATION OF RIGHTS TO MODIFY

The information in this catalogue is descriptive in nature and is not intended to form a binding contract with an applicant or student. The Southern New England School of Law reserves the right to make any changes it deems appropriate in the contents of this catalogue, including but not limited to admissions standards, curriculum, graduation requirements, tuition and fees.

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