

USD SCHOOL OF LAW EXPANDS PRACTICE-READY PROGRAMS

In 2012-13, University of San Diego (USD) School of Law law students worked more than **85,000 hours** in a wide variety of settings: counseling and representing pro bono clients, performing legislative and regulatory advocacy, serving in public agencies, clerking for judges, and counseling start-up companies on business and intellectual property issues.



CLINICS

Client-Focused Clinics

USD's 11 client-focused clinics provide exceptional legal training for students and pro bono assistance to low-income individuals and families as well as to veterans in disputes over their GI Bill and other benefits.

- Appellate Clinic
- Civil Clinic
- Education and Disability Clinic
- Entrepreneurship Clinic
- Federal Tax Clinic
- · Immigration Clinic
- · Landlord Tenant Clinic
- Small Claims Clinic
- · State (California) Income Tax Clinic
- State (California) Sales & Use Clinic
- Veterans Clinic

Placement & Public Policy Clinics

In addition to the school's 11 client-focused clinics, USD offers students faculty-supervised clinical education through eight placement and policy clinics.

- · Child Advocacy Clinic
- · Criminal Law Clinic
- · Energy Law & Policy
- Environmental Clinic
- · Intellectual Property Clinic
- · Land Use Clinic
- · Public Interest Law
- · Technology Entrepreneurship Clinic

Clinic Statistics

- Program founded in 1971
- Number of student interns in 2012-13: 215
- Number of hours logged by student interns in 2012-13: 43,920
- Average number of cases open at any given time: 304
- Number of client cases closed in 2012: 688

Legal Clinic Highlights

Immigration Clinic

USD law students interview, counsel and represent clients with immigration related problems such as asylum, immigrating family members, naturalization, deportation, and issues related to the federal government's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Students train in the practical application of immigration law and casework as well as actively participate at Immigration Court hearings and community outreach. Weekly meetings are organized with the clinic's faculty supervisor to discuss immigration law issues, practice techniques, and case management.

Veterans Clinic

Students represent veterans and military family members who have disputes with predatory lenders and for-profit educational institutions over the use of GI Bill funds and related loans. This clinic provides pro bono legal services including advice, identification and filing of potential claims, and representation in civil litigation, arbitration and other forms of dispute resolution. Weekly group meetings are combined with individual case conferences to provide intensive personal training in litigation techniques, problem solving and case management.

FIELD PLACEMENT PROGRAMS

Students who participate in USD School of Law's Field Placement Programs work for private firms, not-for-profit organizations, and public interest agencies in California as well as nationally and internationally.

Field Placements

- Agency Internships & Externships
- Corporate Counsel Internship Program
- Entertainment, Sports & Intellectual Property (ESIP) Internship Program
- International Internships
- Mediation Internship Program
- · Washington, D.C. Externship Program

Field Placement Statistics

- Number of student interns in 2012-13: 125
- Number of hours logged by student interns in 2012-13: 22,440

Field Placement Highlights

Corporate Counsel Internship Program

The Corporate Counsel Internship program allows students to receive up to three academic credits for working in the legal department of a corporation, company or other business entity. Students participate firsthand the operations of a corporate legal department and gain an understanding of the legal issues addressed by corporate counsel. Recent placements include Rady Children's Hospital and San Diego based corporations such as General Dynamics, Sony, Pfizer and Jack in the Box.

Washington, D.C. Externship

The Washington, D.C. Externship program allows students to spend a semester working in Washington D.C. with a government agency, non-profit or advocacy organization, or in a judicial placement. Students earn a full semester of academic credit while residing in Washington. Placements include the Environmental Protection Agency, Securities and Exchange Commission, Department of Justice, Department of State, House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and D.C. Attorney General.

International Internship Highlights

Law and Development Associates, Accra, Ghana

Law and Development Associates is a multi-disciplinary consulting company that specializes in improving the fundamental human rights of Ghanaians through legal reform. Student interns drafted solutions for the Office of the President, Ministry of Justice, and the Attorney General's Department; researched the forestry and wildlife policies and laws of Ghana to ensure compliance with environmental commitments; and worked with the Ministry of Health to analyze health insurance and health related education in Ghana.

Office of the United States Trade Representative, Beijing, China

The Office of the United States Trade Representative is responsible for developing and coordinating U.S. international trade, commodity and direct investment policy, and overseeing negotiation with other countries. Working under the Minister Counselor for Trade Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing, student interns researched, analyzed, and wrote briefing materials and reports, planned logistics for senior official visits, and drafted official correspondence.

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP PROGRAM

USD's Judicial Externship Program provides students the unique opportunity to translate their academic legal education into adjudicative research and writing. Students serve as externs for judges in state or federal trial or appellate courts and improve their understanding of the court system while building skills in research, writing, observation and oral communication.

Judicial Externships

- Federal
 - U.S. Court of Appeals
 - U.S. District Court
 - U.S. Magistrate
 - U.S. Bankruptcy Court
- State
 - California Court of Appeal
 - Superior Court of California

Judicial Externship Statistics

- Number of student externs in 2012-13: 82
- Number of hours logged by student externs in 2012-13: 19,440

Judicial Externship Highlights

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Working with Judge M. Margaret McKeown of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and her clerks on some of the most important appeals decision for the largest circuit in the country, externs gain an invaluable view of how cases move from the trial through the appellate process. Cases include federal areas of employment, intellectual property, corporate disputes and criminal issues. Externs research issues presented to the court, draft portions of the written disposition of a case, and prepare briefs to assist the judge for oral arguments.

U.S. District Court

Students gain broad exposure to litigation in federal district courts working in San Diego and throughout the country on federal trial level matters of law, reviewing and analyzing party positions, preparing bench memoranda, assisting with pretrial, trial and post-trial motions, and researching issues related to preparation of the final dispositions.



CLINICAL FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

In 2013, Margaret Dalton and Michael Devitt were named tenured clinical professors at USD School of Law.



Margaret Dalton
Professor of Law and Faculty Director for Clinical
and Placement Education

Margaret Dalton is a professor of law and the faculty director for clinical and placement education at USD School of Law. She is also the school's supervising attorney for the Education and Disability Clinic and affiliated faculty with the Center for Education Policy and Law. From 2004 to 2013, Dalton served as the administrative director for USD's Legal Clinics, where she created four new client clinics and helped create the Ninth Circuit Appellate Clinic. She has served as a consultant for the California Judicial Council's Committee on Access and Fairness, the National Association of Child Advocates, and the California Office of Women's Health. Dalton received numerous awards for her work on behalf of children with special needs and has been quoted on children's issues in media outlets such as National Public Radio, U.S. News & World Report, the Boston Herald and the Los Angeles Daily Journal. In addition to teaching classes in education and disability law, Dalton leads academic oversight of the law school's current and future clinical programs.



Michael Devitt
Professor of Law

Michael Devitt is a professor of law and lead professor of the Ninth Circuit Appellate Clinic at USD School of Law. His teaching and research are focused in the areas of military justice and national security, evidence, appellate advocacy, securities accounting, and professional responsibility. From 1999 to 2013, Devitt served as a visiting professor and then a professor-in-residence at USD. He received the school's award for excellence in teaching in 2010 and 2012. Prior to joining USD, Devitt was the managing partner of a law firm, where he represented clients in complex civil litigation cases in state and federal courts. He was lead counsel in several high-profile cases dealing with fraudulent financial reporting, winning his clients hundreds of millions of dollars in combined recoveries. Devitt is a frequent lecturer on evidence, financial reporting, accounting, litigation, ethics and other legal topics. In addition to his teaching and research activities, Devitt is developing new initiatives to improve and expand USD School of Law's clinical and advocacy programs.

