

Prelaw at NYU

A Presentation for CAS Transfer Students

Preparation for Law School

Choose a Major that interests YOU

- At NYU, there is no such thing as a prelaw curriculum
- Law school admissions committees welcome applicants from ALL majors; they are most interested in how well you do academically
- If you choose a non-liberal arts major, however, be sure to take elective courses that strengthen your analytical research, writing and communication skills.

Get Involved

- Join volunteer and community service activities on and off-campus that interest you, and be sure to take on a leadership role
- The activities you choose do not have to be directly related to law

Attend Our Prelaw Events

- If you haven't done so, sign up to receive our newsletter, The Legal Brief - contains a list of upcoming prelaw events and other useful information for prelaw students

Start to Research Law Schools

- Consider factors such as national/regional schools, location, faculty, resources, student body, special programs, and cost, for instance.
- Your prelaw advisor in the Preprofessional Advising Center can help you decide what law schools can be good fit for you
- [ABA-Approved Law Schools list](#)

Admissions Criteria for Law School

Law Schools consider:

- LSAT scores
 - The LSAT scores range from 120-180
 - Some law schools are accepting GRE scores as a suitable substitute for the LSAT
 - LSAT is offered six times a year
- Undergraduate cumulative GPA
- Letters of Recommendation
 - Law schools prefer 2 letters from professors
 - Admissions officers find most helpful if the professors assess your skills in comparison with peers
- Personal Statement
 - Your time to shine - it's a way to tell the admissions committee what makes you qualified to go to law school, and why you chose that particular school
 - Avoid cliché statements
 - Grammar and spelling must be impeccable
- Résumé
 - Any extracurriculars, internships, work experience should be added here
 - Use the opportunity to showcase your skills and abilities relevant to the study of law
- Other admissions criteria (diversity statement, addendum)

Other Factors

- Rigor of the applicant's major and courses
- Honors courses and seminars
- Carrying light or heavy credit loads
- Overloading on pass/fail classes or lower-level courses
- Withdrawals from courses or repeating multiple times
- Working while simultaneously attending college
- History of poor performance on standardized tests
- Extracurricular activities
- Undergraduate research
- Demonstrated leadership on- and off-campus

Meet with a preprofessional advisor to discuss any of these factors and how you should address them in your application

What you can do now to prepare for law school in the future

- There **ARE** things you can do now and throughout your time in college to best prepare yourself for law school admissions – **DO NOT WAIT** until you apply.
- Get to know at least one faculty member well enough for them to write you a convincing letter of recommendation.
- Join a few prelaw related clubs and organizations at NYU.
- Get to know some law students and lawyers through mentoring programs, shadowing, internships, workshops, info sessions, and law school visits.
- Do your best academically!

Working with the Preprofessional Advising Center

The **Preprofessional Advising Center's** staff of advisors provides individual advising as well as workshops, seminars, and other programs throughout the academic year to assist you in preparing for law school and, ultimately, a career in the law.

Our weekly email newsletter, **The Legal Brief**, features events, articles, announcements, and job listings that are of interest to prelaw students. You can join the listserv now by going on our website, <http://cas.nyu.edu/prelaw.html> and clicking on "Join the Prelaw Listserv to Receive The Legal Brief."

We encourage you to watch the [Prelaw Overview](#) on our website and meet with a preprofessional advisor often throughout your time at NYU to discuss your path to law school.

Contact us

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