

EQUAL JUSTICE UNDER LAW



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON  
COLLEGE of LAW

WASHINGTON, DC

# BUSINESS LAW PROGRAM



# ABOUT THE PROGRAM

**The Business Law Program at American University Washington College of Law** includes a dynamic and comprehensive curriculum, rich experiential learning opportunities, and a vibrant community of student organizations and events. With a wide range of course offerings covering topics from antitrust to Regulation Z, the curriculum is designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills essential for practicing business law, both domestically and internationally.

Students gain hands-on experience through clinics and externships that span both transactional and litigation practices, equipping them with practical legal skills and a deeper understanding of business complexities and key legal issues. The program also fosters valuable connections by offering robust alumni networking and professional development opportunities.

Beyond the classroom, students engage in transactional and negotiation competitions, network with employers and alumni, and participate in business-related arbitration and securities moots. The Business Law Program is a thriving and ever-evolving community, continually seeking and developing new opportunities to enhance the student experience.

## JD/MBA PROGRAM: EARN A DUAL DEGREE IN FOUR YEARS

The JD/MBA program provides students the opportunity to develop expertise in both law and business, preparing them for a wide range of careers in either field. This dual-degree program provides a distinctive perspective, combining the analytical rigor of legal training with the strategic thinking essential in business. Graduates are equipped to approach challenges with the precision of a lawyer and the strategic mindset of a business leader.

By allowing certain courses to count toward both degrees, the program enables students to complete the JD and MBA in less time than pursuing them separately, making it a highly efficient path to career success.

## COMPLIANCE AND ETHICS CERTIFICATE

The Compliance and Ethics Certificate offers specialized training in one of the fastest-growing areas of business law. Students can focus on one of three concentrations—Corporate Compliance, Financial Institutions, or Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance (ESG)—gaining core competencies in compliance laws and regulations. Through this program, students develop a deep understanding of the legal, regulatory, and ethical frameworks that drive compliance, while learning to implement effective corporate compliance strategies. This certificate equips students with the skills necessary to navigate the evolving landscape of compliance in today's business environment.

## DIGITAL ASSET LAW PROJECT

The Digital Asset Law Project explores the legal, regulatory, compliance, and policy challenges posed by the rapidly evolving world of digital assets and transformative financial technologies. As the digital asset market expands, there is an increasing demand for legal professionals who understand these technologies and can engage in the ongoing debate surrounding their value, regulatory status, and appropriate legal and policy frameworks. A UWCL's Business Law Program serves as a premier training hub for aspiring lawyers in this space.

The Digital Asset Law Project hosts a series of events and webinars, including the inaugural Digital Asset Law Conference in Fall 2022, addressing critical issues such as the emerging regulatory landscape and financial technology innovations.

# PROGRAM COURSES

## BASIC COURSES

- Antitrust Law
- Corporate Bankruptcy
- Business Associations
- Corporate Finance
- Federal Personal Income Tax
- International Business Transactions
- International Contracts & Sales
- U.S. and International Banking & Financial Institutions
- Lawyer Bargaining
- Securities Regulation
- Taxation of Business Entities
- Environmental Law

## ADVANCED CUTTING-EDGE COURSES

- Climate Change and the Law
- Deals: Mergers and Acquisitions
- Digital Asset Law
- International Business Negotiations
- International Debt Workouts
- Corporate Governance
- Private Equity & Venture Capital
- Critical Perspectives on Environmental, Social, and Corporate Governance
- ESG Law and Drafting
- Business Law Compliance and Ethics
- Law of Information Privacy
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In addition to law firms of all sizes, corporations, and nongovernmental organizations, AUWCL students have benefitted from externships or internships with important business law agencies and organizations, including:

- Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB)
- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA)
- The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)
- The World Bank
- U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC)
- The Financial Services Roundtable
- U.S. Department of Commerce
- U.S. Department of the Treasury, United States Mint

## GREAT SPEAKERS SERIES

The Business Law Program's great speaker series features notable speakers in both the public and private sectors of business law. Recent speakers include: **CFTC Commissioner Caroline D. Pham**, who discussed *Commodities Regulation in the 21st Century*; **PwC Financial Services Regulatory Partner Jacob Sciandra**, who opined on recent *FDIC proposed corporate governance banking standards*, and **Former US Treasury Secretary and White House Chief of Staff Jack Lewis**, who addressed the *economic and political legacy of the financial crisis and future economic challenges!* Other notable speakers include CFTC Commissioner Christy Goldsmith Romero, Former CFTC Chair Chris Giancarlo, SEC Commissioner Hester Pierce, and former SEC Chairs Mary Shapiro, Mary White, and Elisse Walter.

## STUDENT INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- American University Business Law Review
- Blockchain & Cryptocurrency Law Society
- Business Law Society
- Tech, Law, and Security Society
- Community Economic and Equity Development Clinic
- Information Security & Privacy Law Society
- Intellectual Property Clinic
- International Trade and Investment Law Society
- JD/MBA Club
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Tax Clinic
- Transactional Law Society





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