




PennState
Dickinson Law

LL.M. PROGRAM





DICKINSON LAW
OFFERS ONE OF
THE OLDEST AND
MOST PRESTIGIOUS
MASTER OF LAWS
PROGRAMS.

FINDING THE RIGHT LL.M. PROGRAM CAN BE A CHALLENGE.

Here's why students like you
are choosing Dickinson Law.



As one of the nation's **oldest law schools** and as a member of **world-renowned public research institution The Pennsylvania State University**, Dickinson Law prepares its students for a competitive, global market.



Dickinson Law is **ABA-accredited** and located in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, a beautiful college town just 20 minutes from the state's capital in Harrisburg and about two hours north of the nation's capital in Washington D.C. Regional attractions include Hershey (the home of Hershey's chocolate) and Gettysburg, the site of the most famous battle of the United States Civil War.



Our program is a **24-credit, one academic year course of study**. Our LL.M. cohort is kept intentionally small (no more than 20 students) to foster greater interaction with faculty and J.D. students, as well as to cultivate relationships with alumni, judges and lawyers in nearby metropolitan legal markets beyond Harrisburg and Washington, D.C., including Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, and Wilmington. We're also a short drive from Penn State College of Medicine, Penn State Hershey Medical Center, and Penn State Harrisburg.



LL.M. students may enroll in a rich array of courses, as well as a **focused course of study in a specialized field**, taught by our globally renowned faculty, including many Fulbright scholars and grant recipients.



As your legal knowledge grows, so will your opportunities to put it to work. LL.M. students may earn **experiential learning** credits that will give them real-world practice skills.



We believe that **cultural diversity** enriches everyone's educational experience, and we strive to maintain an **inclusive community**. Our Law School family includes students who have served in the military, self-identify as students of color and/or as members of the LGBTQ community, are first-generation graduate students, and are first-generation college students.



All LL.M. applicants are considered for **merit-based scholarships**, including up to 50 percent of tuition for exceptionally qualified students.

Ranked #47 of 1,000 institutions globally for the quality of education of its students and the research excellence of its faculty by the 2020 Center for World University Rankings

PROFESSION-READY CURRICULUM

Our curriculum provides all courses necessary to sit for the New York bar examination, and we provide individual counseling to students who want to pursue this option.

REQUIRED COURSES

To earn the LL.M. degree, students must earn a minimum of 24 credits, must enroll in at least 12 credits per semester and complete with a passing grade the following courses:

- LL.M. Legal Research
- LL.M. Legal Writing
- Introduction to the United States Legal System

In addition, students must enroll in one course from the following list:

- Civil Procedure
- Constitutional Law I
- Contracts
- Criminal Law
- Criminal Procedure
- Property
- Torts

The academic deans may waive any of the course requirements where students have satisfactorily completed equivalent courses at another U.S. law program or in a common law country.

CONCENTRATIONS

To complete the degree requirements, LL.M. students may enroll in a rich array of courses offered in the law school curriculum, including a focused course of study in one of the specialized fields below:

- Arbitration, Mediation and Negotiation
- Business Law
- Constitutional and Administrative Law
- Criminal Law and Procedure
- Cyber Law, Data Privacy and Information Security
- Elder Law
- Health Law and Policy
- Intellectual Property and Innovation
- International Trial Advocacy
- Public Interest Law
- Security Law
- Tax Law
- Trial Advocacy and Litigation

“The biggest surprise was the fact that professors here actually have the time and are actively willing to help out and give advice. Back in my law school, you were lucky if you could ‘catch’ a professor to discuss something from the course or have some advice on a paper.”



Mekan Karayev '20, LL.M.

Fulbright Scholar
Pursuing a Master of International Public Policy at
Wilfrid Laurier University, Ontario, Canada

LIFE ON CAMPUS

At Dickinson Law, your education includes more than lawyering skills.



INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

We are as committed to welcoming people of diverse cultures and lifestyles as we are to preparing them to become the next generation of profession-ready attorneys. Dickinson Law defines diversity broadly to include racial and ethnic minorities; women; individuals with disabilities; members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and queer (LGBTQ) community; veterans; first-generation students; adult learners; and any others who have experienced subordination, marginalization, or isolation in academic communities because of their identity status.



GET INVOLVED

We make it easy to become involved in the Dickinson Law community. Our students collaborate with faculty on research projects and participate in a variety of student organizations. Below are just some of the opportunities that await you.

- Animal Legal Defense Fund
- Asian Pacific American Law Students Association
- Black Law Students Association
- Business Law Society
- Center on Children and the Law
- Center for Government Law and Public Policy Studies
- Center for International Trial Advocacy
- Center for Public Interest Law and Advocacy
- Criminal Law Society
- Environmental Justice Law Society
- Federalist Society
- Health Law and Policy Society
- Intellectual Property Law Society
- International Law Society
- Intramural Sports
- Latino/a Law Student Association
- Middle Eastern Law Student Association
- Military Law Caucus
- Moot Court Board
- OutLaw
- Phi Alpha Delta – Burr Chapter
- Public Interest Law Fund
- Speakers Trust
- Student Bar Association
- Women’s Law Caucus



THIRD THURSDAYS

While faculty-student interaction happens daily at Dickinson Law, “Third Thursdays” are special. On the third Thursday of every month, you’ll gather with faculty and staff in the Ridge Commons to unwind, socialize, and enjoy good food and music.

MIND AND BODY WELLNESS

To help you manage the stress that comes with the study of law, we offer free yoga and mindfulness classes at the Law School taught by certified instructors. Off campus, you’ll find a number of fitness centers, yoga and pilates studios, meditation centers, acupuncture practitioners, massage therapists, and chiropractors within easy walking distance. We think you’ll discover that learning how to channel stress and clear your mind helps you develop more creative solutions to your clients’ problems.



PREPARING FOR A REWARDING LAW CAREER

One of the unexpected but exciting aspects of lawyering is collaborating with professionals from other disciplines and practicing your skills while giving back to the surrounding community. At Dickinson Law, you can take advantage of our many professional and community partnerships.




MEDICINE IN THE COURTROOM

As a Dickinson Law student, you'll be given a unique opportunity to participate in a mock medical malpractice trial with Penn State Children's Hospital's pediatric medicine residents. Together, Dickinson Law students and pediatric residents present an abbreviated civil trial centered on the issues of proving and defending against claims of medical negligence. Trial preparation begins with a dinner at Penn State College of Medicine, where you'll meet your medical resident partners. Then, as the plaintiff and defense prepare their respective cases, you'll connect with physician witnesses through phone interviews, emails, and virtual sessions. Finally, you'll present your case in Dickinson Law's signature Apfelbaum Family Courtroom & Auditorium to a jury drawn from the community.

In addition to practicing their trial advocacy skills and receiving immediate feedback from jurors, law students gain experience working closely with physicians, exposure to the professional culture of medicine, and a unique opportunity to sit down with fellow professionals in a non-adversarial setting to discuss whether the medical malpractice system needs to be reformed.



A woman with glasses and a striped sweater is sitting at a wooden desk in a modern law library, working on a laptop. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The library has large windows, bookshelves, and a comfortable seating area with a dark armchair and a colorful bag. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

THE H. LADDIE
MONTAGUE JR.
LAW LIBRARY IS A
STATE-OF-THE-ART
RESEARCH FACILITY
WITH ACCESS TO A
WIDE RANGE OF
RESOURCES AND
SERVICES.

ENTREPRENEURIAL PARTNERSHIP

Students interested in entrepreneurship will have the opportunity to work alongside students and faculty from Penn State College of Medicine and Penn State Harrisburg, bringing discoveries to the marketplace as part of Invent Penn State, a University-wide initiative to drive innovation, economic development, and student career success. As part of our dedicated focus on innovation and entrepreneurship in health law, our faculty experts and students can directly contribute to the advancement of healthcare innovation at Penn State, throughout the Capital region, and beyond through connections and collaborations with principal investigators, practitioners, government officials, nonprofit entities, and other academic experts locally, nationally, and globally.



MILLER CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST LAW AND ADVOCACY

Our Miller Center for Public Interest Law and Advocacy is the hub of public interest law at Dickinson Law. The Center creates practice experiences for students through pro bono service and provides ongoing support for public interest practitioners through training and resources. Dickinson Law students have provided pro bono legal research and other support to attorneys from the Legal Services Corporation, public defenders and court-appointed criminal defense counsel, and state and national public interest organizations. Students may also become involved in project-based service, such as Wills for Heroes (co-sponsored by the Pennsylvania Bar Association Young Lawyers Division), the Pennsylvania Innocence Project, Bethesda Mission Legal Intake Clinic, and the Dauphin County Bar Association Expungement Clinic.



CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY

Led by Professor Dermot Groome, the Center leverages Dickinson Law’s historic strength in preparing successful trial attorneys to address the need for specialized training for lawyers appearing before international tribunals. Through the Center, Dickinson Law extends its leadership in trial advocacy to institutions around the world, providing an outlet for faculty to expand their expertise, and helping our students develop critical, global-lawyering skills and an appreciation for the complexities of international dispute resolution systems. The Center also provides students with access to semester-in-residence internships at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals—both located in The Hague, Netherlands—where they work side-by-side with senior prosecutors on some of the most significant international criminal cases being prosecuted today. Educational benefits include hands-on instruction in international criminal law, exposure to different legal cultures, and instruction in the management of large, complex trials and alternative approaches to the introduction of trial evidence.

As global citizens and ambassadors, our students use their skills to apply the international treaties and customary laws that govern state conduct and private interactions and elevate public awareness on important international law and human rights issues, and develop global competencies for both personal development and professional advancement.



Dickinson Law’s Center for International Trial Advocacy created and conducted a first-of-its-kind trial advocacy training program in 2017 and 2018 for the International Criminal Court Bar Association at the International Criminal Court, The Hague, Netherlands, furthering the Law School’s commitment to supporting the quality of international justice.

Dickinson Law 3Ls Erin Varley, Tanner Jameson and Adam Kohl (far right) with former Dean Gary S. Gildin (center) and David Hooper QC, president of the International Criminal Court Bar Association, inside the International Criminal Court.

TWO GREAT ALUMNI NETWORKS

As a graduate, you'll become part of two loyal alumni networks—Dickinson Law alumni and Penn State University alumni—providing access to over 708,000 loyal and enthusiastic Penn State alumni worldwide, including LL.M. alumni working around the world as distinguished lawyers, statespersons, business leaders, innovators, and advocates.

LL.M. ALUMNI MENTOR MATCH

Ask any successful graduate: nothing kick-starts a legal career like having a great mentor. You will benefit from the largest dues-paying alumni network of its kind in the world before and after graduation. Through dedicated programming like our Alumni Mentor Match Program, you are partnered with an alum who will serve as a mentor for you. This experienced attorney will listen and offer advice on how to navigate the many challenges you will face during law school and as you enter the legal profession. Your alumni mentor can provide insight about his or her field of practice and the legal market, and may be instrumental in helping you launch your career.

CAREER PLANNING

Dickinson Law's Career Services Office makes getting to know you a priority so that we can offer a personalized approach to legal career advising. We work with you to help you determine your interests and achieve your professional goals. During your time at Dickinson Law, we'll help connect you with prospective employers in your desired practice area and geographic location. To help you navigate today's job market, we offer a number of resources that go above and beyond traditional career services, including but not limited to:

- Individual meetings to begin to map out a plan for your time here and beyond
- A professional development series, including workshops on resume writing, cover letters, networking, and job search resources, such as social media
- Personalized review of your job application materials
- Interview preparation, including mock interviews with practicing attorneys
- Assistance in securing school-year and post-graduate employment
- Small group events with individuals using their law degrees in many different ways



MEET OUR ALUMNI

As a Dickinson Law graduate, your degree carries national and international recognition.



Xiaomin Chen '90, LL.M.

Managing Partner, DeHeng Chen, LLC
Global Partner, DeHeng Law Offices
New York, NY
U.S.

XIAOMIN CHEN '90, LL.M.

Dickinson Law was the first school Chen attended in the U.S. "I lived and studied alongside American students; all were very friendly and helped me feel at home. The student body was very collaborative; we helped each other with our studies. The American students also helped me a lot in daily life: for example, I had no car, and they drove me to buy groceries before they helped me buy my own bicycle. Our professors were likewise supportive. I have so many warm and beautiful memories from my time at Dickinson Law."

"The U.S. is a country that follows the common law system, which is different from the civil law system in other countries—including China, where I learned civil law when I first began my legal studies. My LL.M. motivated me to continue studying and practicing common law, eventually culminating in my earning my J.D."

"The Law School provided a wonderful experience to a scholar from abroad, being located in a typical 'American-style' town, with picturesque landscapes and friendly people forming my first impression of this place."

Chen is admitted to the bars of New York State, the United States Supreme Court, and the United States Court of International Trade. He is qualified for the Bar of the People's Republic of China. From 2012 to 2015, he served as the General Counsel for China General Chamber of Commerce USA (CGCC), the largest trade association of Chinese companies in the United States. He is currently a member of the Legal Counsel Committee of CGCC. He was selected as a New York Metro "Super Lawyer" in Business/Corporate Law by Thomson Reuters from 2012-2017.





Deslyn Siniu '18, LL.M.

Department of Justice and Attorney General,
Legal Policy and Governance Branch
Papua New Guinea

“It was a wonderful opportunity to pursue a Master of Laws and to receive a typical western legal education that has equipped me with an international perspective of law.”

DESLYN SINIU '18, LL.M.

Siniu's goal after earning her LL.M. was to join a national intelligence organization dealing with anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing. While completing her studies at Dickinson Law, she received an employment offer she couldn't refuse. Today, Siniu works in the Department of Justice and Attorney General, Legal Policy and Governance Branch in Papua New Guinea, where she focuses on anti-money laundering and terrorism financing.

“Being a new student here was a challenge, but experiencing first-hand the assistance and support from the staff, and the professors taking time to know me was reassuring and speaks volumes about the Dickinson Law community. The exposure to the different practices of law and concepts taught by the professors was valuable and practical. This exposure was relevant to my career plan, which revolved around counter-terrorism and money laundering, and gave me the confidence to pursue it.”

Siniu was inspired by the quality and high teaching standards of the professors in their respective fields, as well as their professional approach towards students.

“Dickinson Law is unique and embraces a wide variety of backgrounds and diverse cultures. This is a great place to boost your legal career.”

Prior to attending Dickinson Law, Siniu was a legal officer in the Proceeds of Crime and International Crime Cooperation Unit in the Office of the Public Prosecutor in Papua New Guinea.



Dr. AHCENE BOULESBAA '78, LL.M.

Advisor Minister's Office
United Arab Emirates Ministry of Justice
Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

DR. AHCENE BOULESBAA '78, LL.M.

Dr. AHCENE BOULESBAA took the recommendation of his English language professor at Boston University to attend Dickinson Law due to its history as the oldest law school in Pennsylvania and its small size, which allowed him to develop close academic and social relationships with the legal community.

“Upon joining Dickinson Law, I really found what I was looking for. The environment was so friendly and welcoming. The late Professor Joseph B. Kelly was the foreign students' advisor. He was a great academic and personal mentor. I took with him four courses, including my thesis on Contract Law in the Civil and Common Law systems, which propelled the launch of my career to earn a second LL.M. degree and a Ph.D. in International Law.”

In addition to earning two law degrees, Boulesbaa published various law articles in established law journals, including *Human Rights Quarterly*, *Georgetown Immigration Law Journal*, and in a book about the United Nations Convention Against Torture and the Prospects for Enforcement. He also served as professor of international law at UAE University Law School for several years, and as adjunct professor at University of Sharjah Law School UAE where he taught international law, administrative law, and legal terminology.

“I consider myself a real example of the world-class legal education at Dickinson Law. Students are taught how to face the legal challenges of the present and contribute to the solutions of legal problems posed by the changing needs of the world community in the future.”

“The closeness between students and professors was one reason why I recommended Dickinson Law so highly to my students. In fact, two students and four judges from the UAE have attended Dickinson Law upon my recommendation.”

Boulesbaa practiced in an advisory capacity with Ports and Customs of Dubai for many years and managed the Legislations and Legal Studies. He also worked at Salans International Law Firm.

LIVE AND LEARN IN CARLISLE

The Dickinson Law campus is perfectly situated in the town of Carlisle within the greater Harrisburg metropolitan area.



MORE TO OFFER

Studying abroad is about more than attending classes, writing papers, and taking exams. At Dickinson Law, not only will you receive a solid legal foundation, but you will also have the opportunity to experience multiple aspects of American culture while living in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

Carlisle continuously ranks as one of the country's most livable small towns due in part to the diversity of the people and institutions, amenities, and array of things happening here. The cost of living consistently rates below the U.S. average, making it an affordable, cost-efficient option for attending law school. Everything you need is within easy walking or biking distance. In fact, most Dickinson Law students find reasonably-priced housing close to the school for just that reason.



There's a balance in Carlisle. As a springboard to nearby major legal markets and networking opportunities on the East Coast, you'll find that you're close to policy makers and professionals who will be ready collaborators. The slower pace of life in town moves in counter-rhythm to the intensity of academic activity on campus—giving you the space to focus on your personal and professional growth.

Beyond our campus sits a region of unparalleled beauty and culture. Known for its historic charm, Carlisle features our valued neighbors, Dickinson College and the U.S. Army War College; a variety of restaurants, shops, and galleries; an independent movie theatre; a downtown farmers market; and much more.

If you need a big city fix, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Baltimore, and New York City are all easily accessible by car or train. Whatever you crave, it's easy to find an adventure just a short trip away.



Often referred to as "the gem of downtown," the historic Carlisle Theatre presents musical concerts, performances, films, live theatrical productions, and programming for children and families. Established in 1939 and renovated in 1993, the Theatre is Carlisle's downtown source for entertainment.



Not only is Carlisle near major U.S. cities, it also features several ways to experience local Pennsylvania culture.

- Because most students live in Carlisle, it is easy to make plans with your classmates. You can watch a movie at the local independent theater, try foods at local restaurants, or observe a U.S. court case at the Cumberland County Courthouse. Other local activities include skiing, hiking, and bicycling.
- Downtown Carlisle is a ten-minute walk from the Law School. Every weekend, the farmer's market brings locally produced fruit and vegetables.
- Each fall, Carlisle is host to Corvettes at Carlisle, which brings more than 5,000 American sports cars to the city. The event culminates in a parade within five minutes of the Law School.



MAKE OUR HOME YOUR HOME FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

We are well-positioned in the heart of a vibrant legal community offering a diverse selection of career-building opportunities.

1834
FOUNDED
IN 1834,
WE ARE
ONE OF
THE
OLDEST
LAW
SCHOOLS
IN THE
NATION.



8
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state and federal
courthouses near the
Law School

including

courthouse just a
few blocks
from the Law School.

Our proximity to the state capital opens the doors to internships, networking, and cultural experiences beyond the classroom.

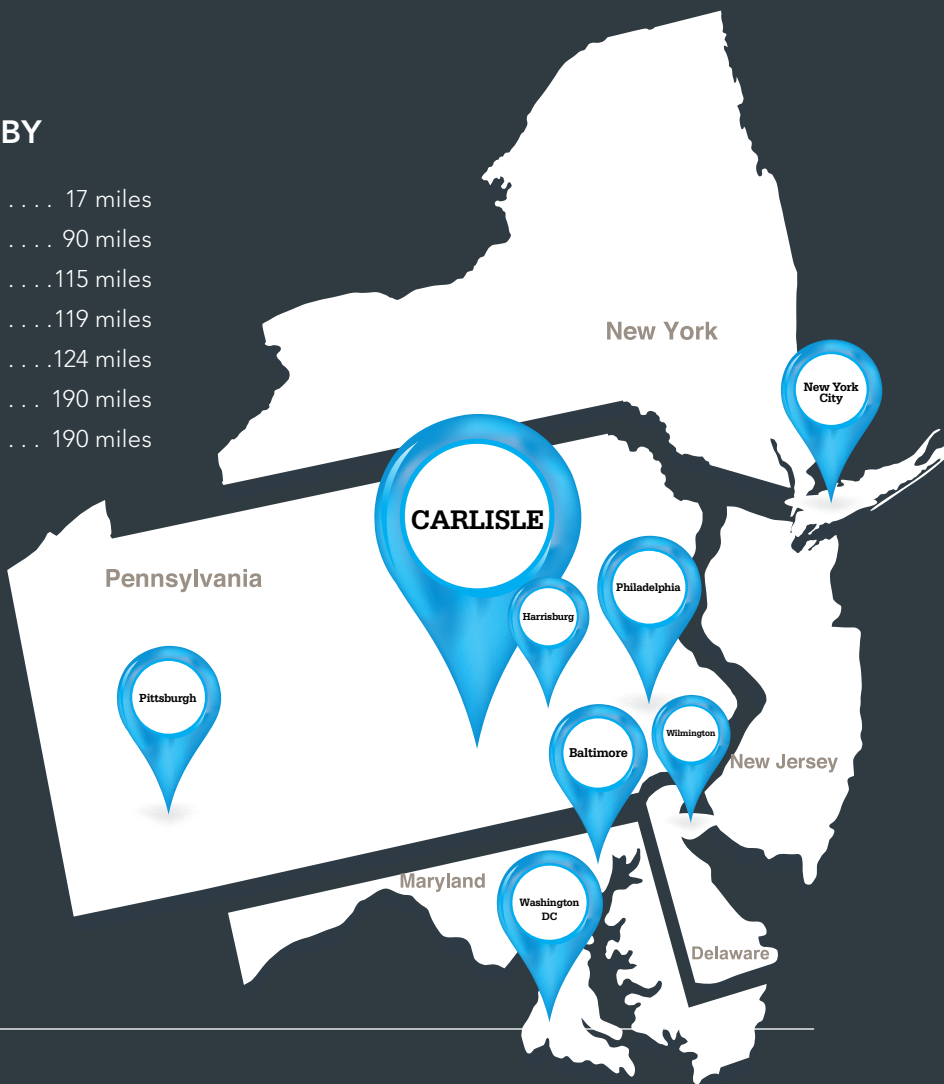
19,198

Carlisle’s estimated population in 2019*

*Source: census.gov

LEGAL MARKETS NEARBY

Harrisburg	17 miles
Baltimore	90 miles
Washington, D.C.	115 miles
Wilmington	119 miles
Philadelphia	124 miles
Pittsburgh	190 miles
New York City	190 miles



RECREATION

46 miles



of the Appalachian Trail meander through Cumberland Valley, with its halfway point located in Boiling Springs—a short drive from campus.

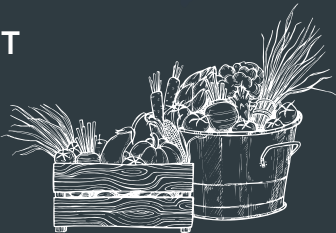
MUCH MORE

Carlisle features a variety of restaurants, shops, and galleries; an independent movie theater; and more.



FARMERS MARKET

You’ll find a year-round, producer-only farmers market on the square in downtown Carlisle to satiate your appetite with fresh-picked vegetables, seasonal fruits, hearth-baked breads, and more.



RENT

\$475

is the average rent in Carlisle if sharing an apartment with a housemate.

ACCOMPLISHED FACULTY

Your professors have spent years practicing law, and they continue to interact nationally and internationally with the legal profession through pro bono litigation, mediation, advisory committees, and scholarship.



Laurel Terry

Professor of Law
H. Laddie Montague Jr. Chair in Law

“Community is important to me. I think my most lasting scholarly legacy won’t be my publications but will be the students I have influenced and the networks that I have tried to build.”

ENGAGED SCHOLARS

In addition to our dedicated full-time faculty, you’ll learn from an adjunct faculty of practicing attorneys and judges who translate years of legal experience into exercises in critical thinking and problem solving. Their experience becomes your experience as you prepare to represent your clients at the local, state, national, and international levels.

The Dickinson Law faculty believes that its scholarly and teaching missions should be complementary. Our professors believe that having both a solid

understanding of existing theory and the ability to develop new theories is indispensable to our students’ ability to operate as legal professionals in an increasingly global, diverse, and sophisticated legal environment.



Gary S. Gildin

Professor of Law,
Hon. G. Thomas and Anne G.
Miller Chair in Advocacy

"I am a steadfast believer in the professional obligation of every lawyer to provide assistance to the underrepresented. Ironically, this is one of the most selfish things a lawyer can do."

Medha Makhoul

Assistant Professor of Law
Director, Medical-Legal Partnership Clinic



"A guiding principle of my teaching is to challenge students to inform theory with practice and practice with theory—not only in law school, but throughout their legal careers."



Mohamed a

Assistant Professor of Law

"Bring your curiosity and personality into the classroom, and I will match your contribution with a presentation of the complexities of the law that is simultaneously accessible and memorable."



OVER THE YEARS,
OUR GRADUATES
HAVE INCLUDED
THE NATION'S
FINEST ATTORNEYS,
JUDGES, GOVERNMENT
AND CORPORATE
LEADERS,
AND LEGAL
EDUCATORS.

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PennState
Dickinson Law

CONNECT WITH US



CAMPUS SECURITY CRIME STATISTICS: The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act and Pennsylvania Act of 1988 require that crime statistics for Pennsylvania colleges and universities be made available to applicants upon request. Penn State's combined Annual Security and Annual Fire Safety Report includes statistics for the previous three years concerning reported crimes that occurred on campus, in certain off-campus buildings owned or controlled by the University, and on public property within or immediately adjacent to and accessible from the campus. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as those concerning alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, the reporting of crimes, sexual assault, and other matters. You may obtain this information for the Penn State campus to which you are applying by accessing the website at www.police.psu.edu/clery/. A printed copy of the report may be obtained by writing to University Police & Public Safety, The Pennsylvania State University, Eisenhower Parking Deck, University Park, PA 16802-6703 or by calling 814-865-1864.

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. U.Ed. DSL 19-04

This publication is available in alternative media on request.