

LAW

UF LAW DIVERSITY



UF | Levin College of Law
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA

Classrooms filled with men and women from diverse backgrounds and experiences lead to a better education and a healthier understanding of how the world works.

At the Levin College of Law, we understand this. We also understand that classrooms filled with a mosaic of personalities contribute to valuable dialogue in our increasingly global and multicultural world. Most important, they result in much-needed diversity in the legal profession and, ultimately, in a more just legal system. For these reasons, one of the core missions at the University of Florida law school is to actively try to fill our classrooms with a balance of students of every race, religion, class, belief system and sexual orientation. We still have a way to go, but we are moving in the right direction.

The Fredric G. Levin College of Law at the University of Florida has qualities that may be right for you. As the oldest and most prestigious law school in the state, UF is recognized as one of the nation's most comprehensive, highly regarded law schools as well as one of the best values available.

With about 400 students in each entering class, the college is sizeable enough to support an abundance of interests, aptitudes and talents. In the average entering class, students come from more than 90 different colleges and universities throughout the country and abroad. About 23 percent of entering students in 2005 were minorities, with female enrollment at 45 percent.

Many students come straight from college, but others bring work experience in professions as varied as classical music and journalism, law enforcement and professional football.

Other factors are pretty impressive, too:

- One of only five law schools in the country to house an academic research and resource center devoted to the study of race and race relations
- Newly-expanded facilities and technology are state-of-the-art and are designed around a central courtyard to foster personal connections
- New legal information center is the largest in the Southeast and among the top 20 in the country
- Graduate Tax Program consistently ranks in the nation's top two (No. 1 among American Association of University public schools)
- Children and Family Law considered among the best
- No. 12 in Environmental Law (No. 5 among AAU public schools)
- No. 13 in Trial Advocacy in 2005 (No. 3 among AAU public schools)
- In the "Top 10 Law Schools for Hispanics," according to *Hispanic Business Review* (fourth time in last five years)




OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

The energy and diversity of our students foster useful discussions out of the classroom, too. The law school has more than 40 student groups, including the Asian & Pacific American Law Student Association, Christian Legal Society, Jewish Law Students Association and Spanish American Law Students Association.

In 2005, a member of the Florida chapter of the Black Law Student Association served as the president of the National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA), helping increase membership in the organization by 33 percent and participation in trial competitions by 50 percent. Other members of UF's BLSA chapter continue to serve in leadership roles in the national organization.



Facilities



It is easy to desire a more diverse student body, but it is the muscle behind the mandate that communicates who and what the Levin College of Law truly hopes to be.

Initiatives with students, faculty and staff currently include:

- **Recruitment assistance** from current students and alumni
- **Individualized attention** for applicants during the admissions process
- **A personal welcome** and assistance with the transition to law school
- **Conferences, classes** and other functions to discuss race, ethnicity and sexual orientation issues
- **Financial and administrative support** for student minority organizations
- **Legal Ease**, a series of discussions in which professors and practicing attorneys share tips for dealing with the stresses of law school, balancing life and work, and finding the right career path. Confidential group counseling sessions also are available for minority law school students
- **Social events** such as a barbecue, ice cream get togethers and music night
- **A weekend-long reunion**, with a prominent banquet speaker, held annually for current and past members of the UF chapter of the Black Law Students Association
- **A “Wall of Distinction,”** a historical chronology of the college’s diversity efforts and the accomplishments of distinguished minority alumni. A kiosk in the library will feature Virgil Hawkins and the story of his struggles to gain admittance in the 1950s
- **A diversity advisory group** that systematically assesses the quality of life of the law school community as a whole and for minority groups within that community. The guiding principle is that intolerance will not be tolerated.
- **Mentoring programs** with supportive law firms and alumni




PEOPLE POWER

Individuals give the college its distinct and lively personality, with many students going on to become lifelong friends and colleagues.

- **Faculty** members, who are recognized internationally for excellence in teaching and scholarship, interact closely with students to provide an accessible, supportive environment.
- Highly qualified **students** come from just about every continent with a wide variety of backgrounds, interests and life experiences. Despite, or maybe because of, this range of individuality, students embark on an educational quest that is meaningful and rewarding.
- A supportive **administration and staff** hold their number-one objective to be providing students with an extraordinary academic experience. The Levin College of Law is among a small number of law schools with a dean-level position charged with building a stronger, more diverse community and enhancing communication channels and support for all students.



People



Gainesville ranks as one of the best places to live in the nation, thanks to a dynamic community, lush natural environment and the benefits of a major university.

THE GAINESVILLE EXPERIENCE

Gainesville is the consummate big college town, and the University of Florida is the consummate big college campus. Even the busiest law student will find time to take advantage of the constant cultural and sports events, as well as enjoy the lush natural environment.

The university offers a surprising assortment of activities – theatre, dance, music, numerous student organizations, and a student center with activities ranging from bowling to trivia night.

There are several UF institutes and organizations that support multiculturalism, including the Asian American Student Union, Institute of Black Culture, Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures, Native American Indian Council and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Affairs.

There also is a sizable international student population in Gainesville, with more than 130 countries represented.

COME FOR A VISIT

We would be happy to provide you with a tour of the law school, which is available weekdays when classes are in session. Current law students will host your 30-minute walking tour so you can ask questions and get a sense of what it's like to be a student at UF. To schedule a tour, call 352-273-0890 or toll-free 877-429-1297.

These helpful students, who are part of the Student Recruitment Team, also can help you apply to the Levin College of Law. In addition, Admissions Office staff members are available to assist you, answer questions about the status of your file, and meet with you for a prearranged counseling appointment.



PLEASE APPLY

Our goal is to admit individuals whose backgrounds suggest they will make the most of the rich resources at UF. The college reviews the whole file of an applicant — looking at, for example, achievements, insights gained and disadvantages overcome — with the goal of building a community that respects each member's views, beliefs and differences.

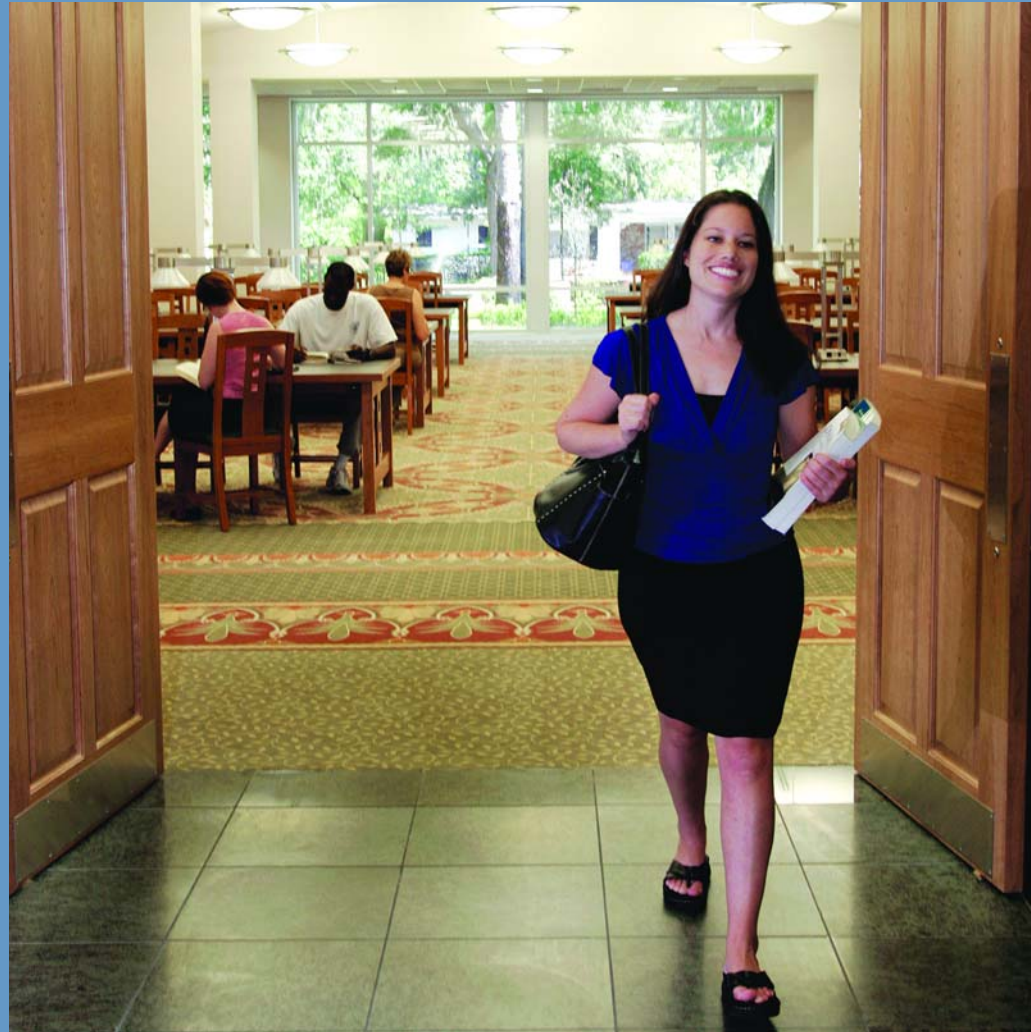
Public universities in Florida, including UF, are prohibited from choosing applicants based on race or ethnicity.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Our Financial Aid Office can provide a great deal of assistance. Scholarships are available to those who show high achievement or financial need as well as those who are first-generation college graduates or who graduated from a historically minority institution.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Admissions Office
141 Bruton Geer Hall
P.O. Box 117622
Gainesville, FL 32611-7622
(352) 273-0890
www.law.ufl.edu



Apply

Diversity

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