

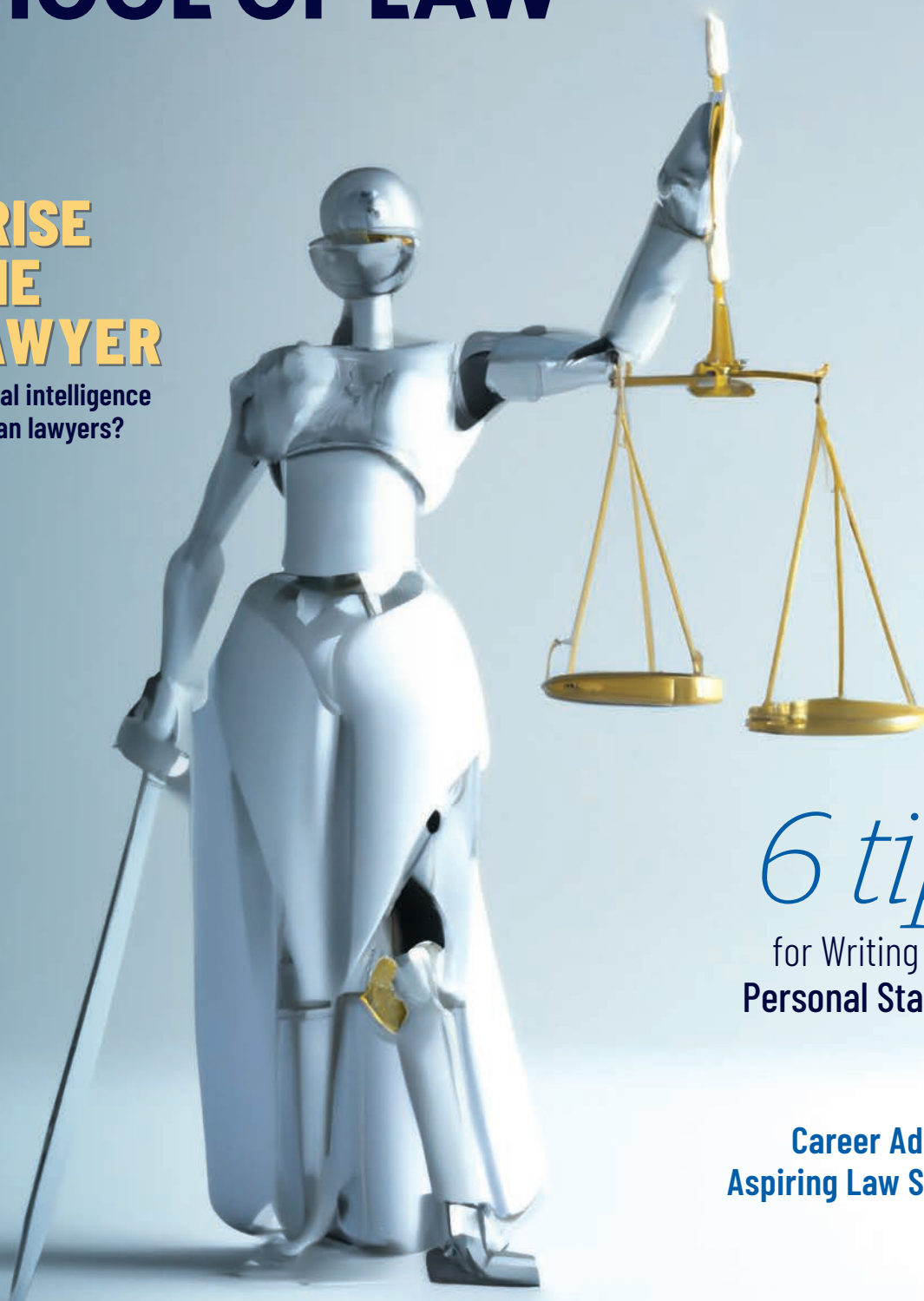
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
JD ADMISSIONS 2023|24



THE PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

THE RISE OF THE AI LAWYER

Could artificial intelligence
replace human lawyers?



Cover image
created with
the assistance
of the AI system
DALL-E 2

6 tips
for Writing a Great
Personal Statement

**Career Advice for
Aspiring Law Students**



Between classes, the Martha Piper Plaza Fountain — located in the center of campus — turns on to tell you how much time you have to get to class.



YOUR FUTURE STARTS HERE

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The House Post of 'qiyəplenəx' (Capilano), carved by Musqueam artist Brent Sparrow Jr., represents the historic and ongoing relationship between the Peter A. Allard School of Law and the Musqueam people in the pursuit of Indigenous justice and education.

The Peter A. Allard School of Law is located on the UBC Point Grey (Vancouver) campus, which sits on the traditional, ancestral, unceded territory of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) First Nation. The land we are situated on has always been a place of learning for the Musqueam, who for millennia have passed on their culture, history and traditions from one generation to the next on this site.





Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation

The challenge of reconciliation is for all Canadians, all law schools and all lawyers. At the Allard School of Law, we are committed to meeting this challenge and to providing the educational foundation for young lawyers to contribute to reconciliation throughout their careers.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action number 28 specifically addresses Canadian law schools, ensuring that all law students take a course in Aboriginal people and the law. Allard Law's Indigenous Settler Legal Relations course builds on Call to Action 28, but the relationship of legal education to the Commission's Calls to Action neither begins nor ends here.

Law mediates the relationship between Indigenous peoples and their governments and Canadian governments on local, provincial and national levels, and we are committed to training lawyers, Indigenous and non-Indigenous alike, who will respond to the Calls to Action and to the challenge of reconciliation. Reconciliation demands that we integrate Indigenous perspectives into all our courses, and we continue to work to meet this objective.

The Reconciliation Pole, carved by 7idansuu (Edenshaw), James Hart, Haida Hereditary Chief and Master Carver, encourages everyone who comes across it to learn more about the history of Indian residential schools and to understand their role in reconciliation.
Photo: Hover Collective / UBC Brand & Marketing

**BRING YOUR
CURIOSITY,
INTERESTS AND
PASSION AND WE
WILL PROVIDE YOU
WITH A RIGOROUS,
INSPIRING AND
SUPPORTIVE
LEARNING
EXPERIENCE.**



YOUR JOURNEY

YEAR 1

Build a solid foundation in legal principles through a thorough curriculum taught by inspiring faculty experts.

First-year core courses include Aboriginal and Treaty Rights, Advocacy, Contracts, Criminal Law & Procedure, Indigenous Settler Legal Relations, Introduction to Public Law and the Charter, Legal Research & Writing, Property Law, and Torts.

Learn in small cohorts to build life-long friendships and connections that fuel success.

Find the career you want with the support of a dedicated team of Career Services professionals who will work with you throughout your law school journey.

YEAR 2 AND 3

Expand your interests through an expansive offering of mandatory and elective upper-year courses.

Build your practical experience and apply your classroom learning to real-life situations through an array of clinical programs, moots and experiential courses.

Hone your skills and deepen your knowledge by completing an optional concentration or specialization.



CONCENTRATIONS AND SPECIALIZATIONS

Specialization in Indigenous
Legal Studies

Business Law Concentration

Specialization in Law
& Social Justice

Specialization in Environmental and
Natural Resource Law

LEARN MORE AT
ALLARD.UBC.CA/CONCENTRATION

JOINT-DEGREES WITH PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

University of Hong Kong (LLB/JD)
Melbourne Law School (JD/LLM)

GRADUATION AND BEYOND

Go on exchange to leading law schools around the world through our Go Global Program.

Go on exchange at one of our numerous partner universities around the world, including the University of Copenhagen in Denmark or Keio University in Japan.



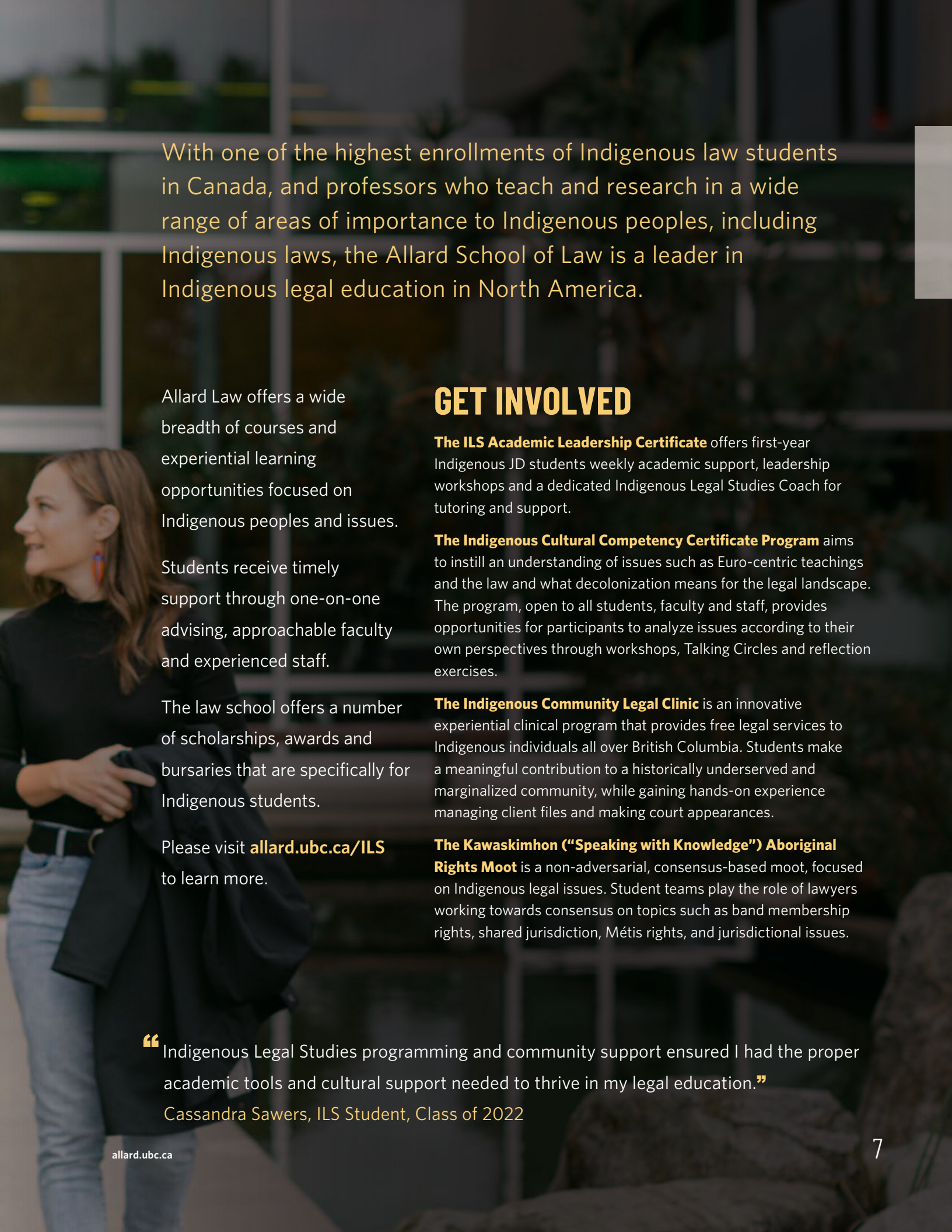
With the support of our Career Services Office, over 96.5% of graduates from the class of 2022 who were seeking articling positions were able to secure an articling position within nine months of graduation.

Join a community of more than 350,000 UBC alumni and over 11,000 Allard Law alumni working in all areas of the legal profession around the globe.

Notable alumni include Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of Canada, a former Prime Minister of Canada, Attorney Generals of Canada, ambassadors and diplomats, government leaders, executive directors of non-profits, CEOs of multinational corporations, and internationally acclaimed authors.

INDIGENOUS LEGAL STUDIES





With one of the highest enrollments of Indigenous law students in Canada, and professors who teach and research in a wide range of areas of importance to Indigenous peoples, including Indigenous laws, the Allard School of Law is a leader in Indigenous legal education in North America.

Allard Law offers a wide breadth of courses and experiential learning opportunities focused on Indigenous peoples and issues.

Students receive timely support through one-on-one advising, approachable faculty and experienced staff.

The law school offers a number of scholarships, awards and bursaries that are specifically for Indigenous students.

Please visit allard.ubc.ca/ILS to learn more.

GET INVOLVED

The ILS Academic Leadership Certificate offers first-year Indigenous JD students weekly academic support, leadership workshops and a dedicated Indigenous Legal Studies Coach for tutoring and support.

The Indigenous Cultural Competency Certificate Program aims to instill an understanding of issues such as Euro-centric teachings and the law and what decolonization means for the legal landscape. The program, open to all students, faculty and staff, provides opportunities for participants to analyze issues according to their own perspectives through workshops, Talking Circles and reflection exercises.

The Indigenous Community Legal Clinic is an innovative experiential clinical program that provides free legal services to Indigenous individuals all over British Columbia. Students make a meaningful contribution to a historically underserved and marginalized community, while gaining hands-on experience managing client files and making court appearances.

The Kawaskimhon (“Speaking with Knowledge”) Aboriginal Rights Moot is a non-adversarial, consensus-based moot, focused on Indigenous legal issues. Student teams play the role of lawyers working towards consensus on topics such as band membership rights, shared jurisdiction, Métis rights, and jurisdictional issues.

“Indigenous Legal Studies programming and community support ensured I had the proper academic tools and cultural support needed to thrive in my legal education.”

Cassandra Sawers, ILS Student, Class of 2022

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Step outside the lecture hall and develop your skills with hands-on, real-life opportunities. Our diverse programs will help you find your interests and gain the confidence and experience employers are seeking.

COMPLETE YOUR MANDATORY EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT BY CHOOSING A WIDE VARIETY OF CLINICS, EXTERNSHIPS OR MOOTS DURING YOUR 2ND OR 3RD YEAR.

CLINICS AND EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

By working in one of our legal clinics, you will gain practical skills such as legal drafting and evidence analysis and learn how to advocate for clients before the courts and tribunals. You will also make a significant contribution to providing access to justice by serving community members who would otherwise be unable to afford legal services. When participating in our externship programs, you will gain valuable experience in a specific practice area while working alongside lawyers and judges.

BUSINESS LAW CLINIC

Students provide supervised, business-oriented legal advice to small businesses, entrepreneurs and non-profit organizations.

CORPORATE COUNSEL EXTERNSHIP

Students are placed in the legal department of a business where they learn directly from experienced corporate counsel in a supportive educational environment and apply concepts learned in the classroom to practical legal and business matters.

CRIMINAL CLINIC

Students work as counsel on a number of criminal files, as either defense counsel or Crown counsel. Students' work focuses on trial preparation, plea negotiations and conducting trials and sentencing hearings.

JUDICIAL EXTERNSHIP

Students work for a group of provincial court judges and engage in legal research and memoranda drafting and editing.

INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY LEGAL CLINIC

The Clinic serves the Indigenous community. Students focus on representing persons in numerous areas of law, including Indigenous legal issues, criminal charges, civil claims, family law, residential tenancy, wills and access to social assistance.

UBC INNOCENCE PROJECT

Students focus on investigating whether a wrongful conviction of serious crimes may have occurred, evaluating new evidence, and assisting in making innocence applications to the Department of Justice.

INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS CLINIC

Students work on pressing human rights and global justice concerns through hands-on work on international cases and projects.

RISE WOMEN'S LEGAL CLINIC

Students help provide legal advice to clients of low to moderate income who identify as women, with a focus on family law matters and practice in related areas of law.

LAW STUDENTS' LEGAL ADVICE PROGRAM

Students help provide legal research, representation and advocacy services to low-income residents of the Greater Vancouver region on a range of civil and criminal matters.

“Working at Rise Women’s Legal Clinic provided an invaluable opportunity to gain experience applying the law outside of the classroom and to help women in need of legal guidance — all while receiving expert mentorship from my supervising lawyers.”

Hannah Goodridge
Class of 2023

FIND THE EXPERIENTIAL COMPONENT THAT’S RIGHT FOR YOU. LEARN MORE AT [ALLARD.UBC.CA/EXPERIENTIAL](https://allard.ubc.ca/experiential)



Allard Law's 2022 Wilson Moot team at Allard Hall, with professor and coach Hoi Kong (centre).

MOOT COURT

Gain valuable courtroom experience by participating in a simulated court hearing (moot) in your first year. You'll also have the chance to participate in a moot in second or third year as part of Allard Law's experiential learning program.

Coached by professors and practicing lawyers, you'll gain experience analyzing complex issues and making written and oral arguments — skills that will put you on the path to becoming a great lawyer.



“Experiential learning opportunities are one of the best ways to experience different aspects of legal practice while in law school. The skills and confidence you gain from a mooting experience are invaluable. It may seem intimidating, but everyone around you — including your teammates, coaches, volunteers and judge — want to see you learn, grow, and succeed.”

Jayden Friesen-Kehler,
Allard Law student

JD students Na Young Bae (left) and Jayden Friesen-Kehler (right) after the MacIntyre Cup moot held in Calgary, Alberta.

Last year, upper-year students could choose to apply to participate in one of more than 10 different moots, including:

THE JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COMPETITION is the largest moot court competition, with over 700 law school teams competing annually. Student teams take sides in fictional disputes between countries, focused on timely issues of public international law.

THE JULIUS ALEXANDER ISAAC MOOT is a competitive moot typically held at the Ontario Court of Appeal, administered by the Black Law Students' Association of Canada. The moot focuses on issues of equity and diversity, often incorporating elements of critical race theory into the problem.

THE GALE MOOT COMPETITION is a national moot that attracts teams from across Canada. Student teams focus on a criminal law topic, often involving the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Final rounds are argued before at least one Supreme Court of Canada Justice.

THE CANADIAN CORPORATE AND SECURITIES LAW COMPETITION provides an opportunity to meet — formally and informally — with judges, corporate and securities regulators, academics and practitioners to debate legal issues of importance to the Canadian business community.

GET A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EACH OF OUR MOOTS AND LEARN MORE AT ALLARD.UBC.CA/MOOTS

THE RISE OF THE AI LAWYER

Could artificial intelligence replace human lawyers?



This image was created with the assistance of DALL·E 2 — an AI system that generates images and art from a description in natural language.



For years it's been promised that artificial intelligence would lead to a revolution in law. But will AI change how people access legal services? And could it really replace human lawyers?

AI and robotics expert **Professor Kristen Thomasen** weighs in.

THE USE AND POPULARITY OF AI CHATBOTS LIKE CHATGPT HAVE SEEMINGLY EXPLODED OVER THE PAST YEAR. WILL THIS ACTUALLY BE A REVOLUTION IN THE WAY WE WORK — IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION OR ELSEWHERE — OR IS THIS MOSTLY HYPE?

There is a lot of hype right now, and that hype is partly driven by the fact that the scale of some of these large database-driven chatbot systems we're seeing right now is fairly new. And with this larger scale comes new possibilities both for benefit and for harm.

The hype can help catch the attention of more people who wouldn't have been thinking about the issues with chatbots or AI more generally before, but it's really important to frame the issues accurately — which isn't always what we see in the promotion or media coverage of the technologies that are coming out right now. It's good to question and be critical of the hype. We need to be thinking more about who is developing these technologies and for what uses.

SHOULD WE BE CONCERNED ABOUT THE USE OF CHATBOTS OR MACHINE LEARNING, SPECIFICALLY WHEN USED IN A LEGAL CONTEXT?

Chatbots have existed for a long time, and there's over a decade of legal scholarship that's been growing around the ethical and legal concerns raised by these tools. Computer scientist Joseph Weizenbaum was an early investigator of human-chatbot interaction and created the first chatbot in the 1960s, but later became critical of the way chatbots could be used to manipulate people.

Research has repeatedly shown that when a chatbot or machine learning system is trained on data about people, these systems can replicate biases that exist in the data, such as reiterating sexist, misogynistic or racist tropes. If the people who design or use the systems aren't attuned to these concerns, the default output is to reiterate the status quo. We're basically saying, "quantify the world as it is right now, or as it has been in the past, and continue to repeat that, because it's more efficient."

“There is a perception among law and policy-makers that innovation is almost inherently beneficial and we need to allow it to happen.”

In a specific example in the United States, courts used a machine learning system to assess the risk that defendant would commit another criminal offence. These assessments can affect sentencing in a criminal trial and research demonstrated that racial bias was very much entrenched in the system — as a result, longer sentences were given to Black people than to white people, including those who later committed more severe crimes.

The system didn't explain its recommendations, raising the risk that the human judges who reviewed the recommendations would simply defer to the machine because there was a perception it was unbiased or more accurate.

THERE ARE INCREASING CALLS FOR BETTER REGULATION OF AI AND TO PAUSE ITS DEVELOPMENT. COULD NEW LAWS PROVIDE SAFEGUARDS?

There's a lot of work that laws can do to respond to concerns about AI systems — though there is also a perception among law and policy-makers that innovation is almost inherently beneficial and we need to allow it to happen. So, I'm a bit skeptical about whether that work will be done through the law.

One area where the legal system should have a role is in proactively mitigating foreseeable harms. Laws can be used to develop clearer structures around how AI can be used, including when it comes to making administrative decisions within government. These tools can be given the power to deny someone benefits, for example, which can be utterly life destroying.

I'd like to see more legal scaffolding around how AI systems are used and that could include a pause or moratorium on the development or use of different kinds of technologies, especially in particular contexts. For example, there are calls for a ban on facial recognition systems, which are an anonymity-destroying technology.

I'm not saying “do not create systems that can parse through data and identify patterns or insights,” but there needs to be strong boundaries and limits on when and how that kind of system can be used and to make sure there's human accountability, recourse, and oversight.



LOOKING AHEAD 10 OR 20 YEARS, COULD AI EVER REPLACE LAWYERS?

I don't think that a computer system can ever truly replace the work of a lawyer. It can aid the work of a lawyer, but the work of a lawyer is also interpersonal and relational, so I don't see a computer system ever replacing that. Wealthy people will almost certainly continue to benefit from human lawyers and the more comprehensive, hands-on approach that an actual lawyer can provide.

That said, there are some lawsuits nowadays where the volume of material is so large that no team of articling students or lawyers would be able to get through it all. AI systems could potentially help minimize the amount of human effort needed to review and prepare for legal action. Some law firms are already creating their own in-house AI tools, which can improve aspects of legal work while maintaining client confidentiality.

But in a lot of instances, what we're seeing is more hype than reality, and many systems are more limited than what they're being sold to be. And there's an associated risk of shifting public policies based on the use of technologies that won't pan out in the ways they've been promised.

For example, it concerns me that the growing number of systems that purport to help individuals with their legal claims could become a justification for governments to stop investing in legal aid and making sure human lawyers are accessible. People who can't afford lawyers could be stuck with automated systems that aren't relational, don't explain themselves and might not be accurate. Through the guise of improving access to justice, we'd be deepening an access to justice crisis. I hope this doesn't come to pass. 🦾

“AI systems could potentially help minimize the amount of human effort needed to review and prepare for legal action.”

Dr. Kristen Thomasen is one of Canada's leading experts in robotics law and policy, specializing in drone regulation and the privacy impacts of robotic technologies and AI. At Allard Law, she teaches Tort Law, as well as Law, Robotics & Society, which explores the legal and policy implications of robotic and AI systems.



CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

THE SUPPORT AND NETWORKS TO ACHIEVE YOUR CAREER GOALS

Allard Law's Career Services Office team offers support ranging from one-on-one career advising and resume review to networking opportunities and career fairs.

Our dedicated team of professionals at the Allard Law Career Services Office will work with you to help you achieve your career goals. From coaching and training to career fairs and networking events, you are supported for success from day one all the way to graduation and up to 20 months afterwards.

In 2022, over **96.5%** of students who sought articling positions were successful — one of the highest rates in the country.

LEARN ABOUT ALL
THE SERVICES OFFERED
BY THE CAREER
SERVICES OFFICE AT
ALLARD.UBC.CA/CSO



FINDING YOUR CAREER PATH

“I gave this advice to a friend who was just starting law school: the most important thing is to understand what you hope to gain from the experience. You don't have to have a firm plan about your future career, but understand how law school builds upon your understanding of the world. Understand which tools you're trying to develop and ask the questions that feel relevant to you.”

Aaron Pete, Class of 2022

CAREER ADVICE FOR ASPIRING LAW STUDENTS



WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH YOUR LAW DEGREE?

Career Services
Office Assistant
Dean **Stephanie Mui**
explains how you can
successfully navigate
the twists and turns
of your legal career.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO NEW LAW STUDENTS WHO AREN'T SURE ABOUT THEIR CAREER PATH?

That is normal for many students. One of the best things about law school is that you'll be introduced to so many new ideas and experiences that will wind up shaping your career, sometimes in unexpected ways.

You might come to law school thinking you really want to do employment law, but then you take a certain course or meet somebody at a firm who does criminal law, for example, and then suddenly start thinking about what life might be like as a defense attorney.

Come with an open mind and embrace the many opportunities that are going to be presented to you.

BESIDES BECOMING A LAWYER, WHAT OTHER CAREER OPTIONS ARE OPEN TO LAW GRADS?

I think our grads can do almost anything they want with their degree. Our students who decide not to practice law go into many different areas, for example in government, finance, management consulting and journalism. We've also seen our grads really

succeed as entrepreneurs who have started their own businesses.

Law students gain so many transferable skills, in part because our curriculum teaches you how to think critically, see both sides of an argument and clearly advocate for your position.

WHAT MAKES ALLARD LAW A GOOD CHOICE FOR STUDENTS LOOKING TO LAUNCH THEIR CAREERS?

Legal professionals around the world know Allard Law as one of the top law schools in Canada.

Perhaps not so coincidentally, our students do extremely well in terms of finding articling positions. Continuing our historical trend of incredibly high placement rates, in 2022 96.5% of grads who wanted an articling position were able to get one. That's one of the highest rates in the country! I think that speaks not only to Allard Law's reputation, but also to the quality of students we tend to attract and the resources that are available to help students put their best foot forward. 🙌



At the Allard School of Law, your professors are innovative teachers and scholars who have gained national and international recognition for their contributions in areas ranging from human rights to environmental sustainability to business law. They're also dedicated to helping you build a strong foundation for your legal career, exploring your interests and discovering new ones.

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FACULTY
MEMBERS

MEET OUR PROFESSORS

PROFESSOR EMMA CUNLIFFE studies how courts decide the facts of contested cases, with a focus on expert evidence, implicit bias, and legal processes regarding gendered and racialized violence, particularly those impacting Indigenous people. At Allard Law, Professor Cunliffe teaches criminal law, evidence, jurisprudence and seminars in factual reasoning and research methodologies. From 2021 – 2023, she served as the Research and Policy Director at the Mass Casualty Commission.



PROFESSOR CAROL LIAO is the Distinguished Scholar at the Dhillon Centre for Business Ethics and co-leads the Canada Climate Law Initiative. Her research focuses on corporate law and sustainability. She is the recipient of the 2021 Influential Women in Business Award, the 2022 BCBusiness Women of the Year Award, and was named one of Canada's Top 100 Most Powerful Women by the Women's Executive Network.

PROFESSOR JOEL BAKAN is an internationally renowned legal scholar whose work examines the social, economic and political dimensions of law. He is the author of the award-winning and critically acclaimed books and documentary films *The Corporation* (2004) and *The New Corporation* (2020). Professor Bakan has worked on landmark legal cases and government policy and frequently serves as a media commentator.



PROFESSOR JOCELYN STACEY is an expert in environmental crises and how law creates, regulates and prevents these events. She works closely with BC First Nations on Indigenous jurisdiction in times of crisis, serves as President of the Pacific Centre for Environmental Law and Litigation, a non-profit society dedicated to training law students and young lawyers, and is a member of the Research Council of the Public Order Emergency Commission.

BROWSE ALL OUR FACULTY MEMBER PROFILES AT [ALLARD.UBC.CA/FACULTY](https://allard.ubc.ca/faculty)



PROFESSOR JOHNNY MACK

**PUSHING 'BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES
OF COLONIAL PEDAGOGY'**

"As an Indigenous scholar and teacher, I work to interrupt the conventional stories we tell ourselves about ourselves and our relations to law by centering Indigenous ethics," says Professor Johnny Mack.

In recognition of his exceptional teaching, Professor Mack received the 2022 George Curtis Memorial Award for Teaching Excellence and was a recipient of UBC's Killam Teaching Prize. "Being recognized and singled out faculty-wide for excellence in teaching is immensely heartening and meaningful," he says.

Professor Mack is from the Toquaht Nation (Nuu-cihah-nulth) and is an assistant professor at the Allard School of Law. His teaching, which focuses on Indigenous legal orders and Canadian Aboriginal and treaty rights, employs a critical decolonial ethic, emphasizing the social and historical context surrounding the relationship between Indigenous law and Canadian law.

In a word, Professor Mack describes his teaching as *intersubjective*. "A nerdy word, I realize, but what I mean is that I try to invite the students into a shared intellectual and critical space where we can identify key concepts or tensions in the law and process them together," he explains. "I do not really know how to preside over students and lecture — I do much better coming beside them as a guide and interlocutor."

Despite growing up as a deeply analytical thinker who was captivated by new ideas, Professor Mack says he didn't consider higher education as a serious option for most of his life. "I was a teenage runaway and high

school dropout and found myself in a fair bit of trouble,” he explains. “At the outset, returning to school was a means of getting out of trouble and I quickly found myself taking refuge in ideas about history, power, law and colonization. These ideas changed the world for me.” It was this same passion for new ideas that put Professor Mack on the path to becoming a law professor.

For Professor Mack, one of the most rewarding parts of teaching is helping facilitate those lightbulb moments of clarity for his students, where he can see complex ideas about the law and its relationship to the social world click into place. “The discussion that follows just takes off to a higher level of analysis,” he says.

Professor Mack’s student nominators credit his unique approach to pedagogy for encouraging a high level of critical and analytical thinking in the classroom — and for creating a space where Indigenous students feel safe sharing Indigenous-specific experiences and legal knowledge. They describe him as deeply committed to student learning and inclusivity, and note that his scholarship on Indigenous legal traditions, which he brings into his teaching, is pushing the boundaries of law and equally deserving of recognition.

Recent Allard Law graduate Chelsea Gladstone is one of Professor Mack’s nominators. She put his name forward for his ongoing dedication to decolonial legal innovation and for the important role he plays as an Indigenous mentor in law.

“Professor Mack approaches his teaching using an anti-hierarchical method and this makes the classroom feel safe and inviting for student participation and reciprocal learning,” Chelsea explains. “For Indigenous students, this is especially important because law school can feel foreign to our ways of knowing and being, but Professor Mack makes a conscious effort to push beyond the boundaries of colonial pedagogy and he reinvents new ways for students to learn and engage with legal theory.”

Chelsea, who is a member of the Haida Nation, says she’s particularly grateful to Professor Mack for inviting Indigenous students to draw on their ancestral Indigenous legal knowledge, and plans to bring the legal tools that she learned in law school back to her community. “Professor Mack made me feel like I have a place in law as a Haida student and transformed my experience at Allard in a positive way,” she adds.

Allard Law graduate Laura Beaudry, who is Cree and Métis, says she nominated Professor Mack in part because he was the first professor she had who critiqued the law and allowed students to feel comfortable doing the same. “If we don’t push back against the status quo, then the problems we see in the law will never change,” she explains. “Professor Mack gave us the space to do that without judgement.” 🗨️

“If we don’t push back against the status quo, then the problems we see in the law will never change. Professor Mack gave us the space to do that without judgement.”

Laura Beaudry,
Class of 2022

A PLACE TO LEARN, PLAY & THRIVE

It's easy to see why Vancouver ranks among the most livable cities in the world. A multicultural city set on the doorstep of a beautiful landscape, Vancouver provides endless possibilities. Named "greenest city" in the world, Vancouver boasts numerous large parks, city beaches and highly walkable, bikeable and transit-friendly neighbourhoods. A diverse and rich food culture, thriving city life and access to mountains, forests and the ocean provide the opportunity for year-round adventures.

A MILD CLIMATE WITH ADVENTURES IN EVERY SEASON

Vancouver's four seasons and mild winters provide ample opportunities to explore the outdoors and enjoy everything the city has to offer. Year-round temperatures average around 2°C to 25°C. Summers are pleasantly warm and winters rarely dip below freezing for long.



Source: Walk Score® by Redfin



Source: Destination Vancouver

5 THINGS TO SEE AND DO AROUND VANCOUVER

1

VANCOUVER SEAWALL

Bike or walk the world's longest uninterrupted waterfront path. The 28km "Seawall" seaside greenway extends around downtown, through the world-renowned Stanley Park (bigger than New York's Central Park!), and continues to Kits beach. Follow designated bike paths to continue through to Jericho Beach, Spanish Banks Beach, and on to the UBC campus.

2

CITY BEACHES

A beach is just a short walk or bus ride away. The clothing-optional Wreck Beach is 490 steps down from the UBC campus. A local favourite, Kits Beach (pictured) is a 20-minute bus ride from campus, providing ample sun, sand, volleyball, people watching and a large saltwater outdoor pool.

3

SUSHI

Vancouver is well known for its variety and quality of Asian food and sushi is a local favourite. Whether it be cheap and cheerful combos or treating yourself to one of Vancouver's world-class sushi restaurants, you will soon find your favourite spot.

1



2



3



4



5



4

GARIBALDI LAKE

The turquoise-coloured water and glacier backdrop makes Garibaldi Lake a popular hike. The numerous trails in and around Vancouver provide opportunity for all level of hikers and makes it easy to enjoy the forests and mountains.

5

GROUSE MOUNTAIN

Less than an hour's drive from UBC, explore Vancouver's local skiing and snowboarding mountains. Grouse Mountain, one of Vancouver's three local ski hills, is accessible by bus and accommodates all snow seekers. In the summer, enjoy hiking, ziplining and a wildlife refuge.

← - - - **USA BORDER (WASHINGTON STATE)**

Catch a Seattle Mariners baseball game, a 3-hour road trip south of the border.

YVR AIRPORT

How about a sun vacation? From Vancouver, a 6-hour direct flight to Hawaii or 5 hours to sunny destinations in Mexico.

DOWNTOWN VANCOUVER

STANLEY PARK

LOOKING FOR A SHORT GETAWAY?

← - - - **OKANAGAN VALLEY**

Explore the Okanagan Valley's wineries, orchards, beaches and warm summers — a scenic 4-hour drive east.



PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

VANCOUVER ISLAND

Take a scenic 90-minute ferry ride to beautiful Vancouver Island and explore the wilderness parks, marvel at the orcas, black bears and other wildlife, or enjoy the charming, slower-paced city of Victoria.

WHISTLER BLACKCOMB SKI RESORT

Carve up the slopes at North America's largest ski resort, Whistler-Blackcomb — just 2 hours north of Vancouver. Or choose from 13 other major ski resorts around BC. In the summer, explore the many hiking trails, lakes and expansive network of mountain biking trails.

GROUSE MOUNTAIN SKI RESORT

Less than 1 hour away from UBC, enjoy skiing & snowboarding all winter or hike the grueling 2,830 steps up the "Grouse Grind" in the summer.

A group of about eight young men are in a black kayak on a blue body of water. They are all wearing red life jackets and smiling. One man in the foreground is holding a black paddle. In the background, there are blue mountains and a city skyline under a clear blue sky. A large red and white ship is visible on the water.

FIND YOUR PASSIONS

**WITH OVER 350 CLUBS AT UBC
AND OVER 30 AT THE LAW SCHOOL,
IT'S EASY TO FIND YOUR NICHE
AND MEET LIKEMINDED FRIENDS.**



EVENTS & WORKSHOPS

Explore new topics and expand your interests by attending lunch-and-learns, expert panels, student-organized events and wellness workshops held throughout the year at Allard Hall.

Among other programming, students interested in legal research and advocacy work can attend the many events offered through our Centres, which host local and international law experts. Engage with a diverse community of students and professors on pressing issues through each of our Centres:

THE CENTRE FOR ASIAN LEGAL STUDIES

is the largest group of academics teaching and researching Asian legal issues in Canada, focusing on the law and legal culture of East and Southeast Asia.

THE CENTRE FOR BUSINESS LAW is a vibrant intellectual hub for the scholarship and practice of business law and financial policy within Canada and internationally.

THE CENTRE FOR FEMINIST LEGAL STUDIES is dedicated to fostering inclusive feminist engagement through research, teaching and community building.

THE CENTRE FOR LAW AND THE ENVIRONMENT is a hub for creating and spreading knowledge, ideas and practices about the role of law in securing a healthy environment and a sustainable society.



“One of my favourite things about law school was all of the free events! Most days I could drop by a classroom next door during lunchtime, grab some food, and sit down for discussions on topics like border policy or domestic violence prevention. Allard Law provided an open opportunity to engage and learn with flexibility.”

Allison Hu, Class of 2022

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Allard Law students can contribute to *The UBC Law Review* and *The Canadian Journal of Family Law*.





Beaty Biodiversity Museum at UBC



Museum of Anthropology at UBC

THE LAW STUDENTS' LEGAL ADVICE PROGRAM

This student-run organization provides free legal advice to those who would not otherwise be able to afford it. It is one of the largest providers of free legal services in BC and advises 5,000 clients each year at clinics located throughout the Lower Mainland.



Downtown Vancouver

STUDENT GOVERNMENT


The *UBC Law Student Society* and the *Indigenous Law Students Association* are two student organizations with a governance role to get involved in.





STUDENT SUCCESS AND SUPPORT

*Allard Law students in front
of Allard Hall.*



We're here to support you throughout your studies at the Allard School of Law. Whether it's wellbeing support from our in-house counsellor, academic advising or advice for finding a summer job, we're here to help.

STUDENT SUPPORT

ACADEMIC SUCCESS & PEER TUTOR PROGRAM

Attend academic workshops to build your skills and get matched with upper-year student volunteers who provide guidance on study skills, learning strategies and exam writing tips.

CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

With dedicated staff to assist you, the CSO offers one-on-one advising, professional development workshops, recruitment and networking events, a resource library and online career portal. Our Public Interest Coordinator is available to support students who are interested in a public interest law career or in working for a non-profit organization. Learn more at allard.ubc.ca/cso.

INDIGENOUS LEGAL STUDIES

Indigenous Legal Studies provides student advising to Indigenous students and those interested in participating in Indigenous Legal Studies offerings, including courses, the Specialization in Indigenous Legal Studies, the Kawaskimhon Moot, and the Indigenous Community Legal Clinic. Indigenous JD students may participate in the ILS Academic Leadership Certificate, comprised of weekly small group academic and leadership sessions throughout the year. Learn more about the services offered by Indigenous Legal Studies on page 6 and at allard.ubc.ca/ils.

LAW LIBRARY AT ALLARD HALL

The Law Library has been the 'heart' of the Allard School of Law since it first opened in 1945. Located on three floors of Allard Hall, the Law Library houses a comprehensive research collection. As part of the UBC Library system, students can access materials across campus or through our connection with other Canadian academic law libraries. Learn more at law.library.ubc.ca.



ORIENTATION WEEK

Orientation prepares you for your first year of law school. It's also a great way to meet other first years, professors, senior students, and staff who are here to support you.



ON-CAMPUS SERVICES

As a student at the Allard School of Law, you have access to the many support services at UBC. This includes, but is not limited to:

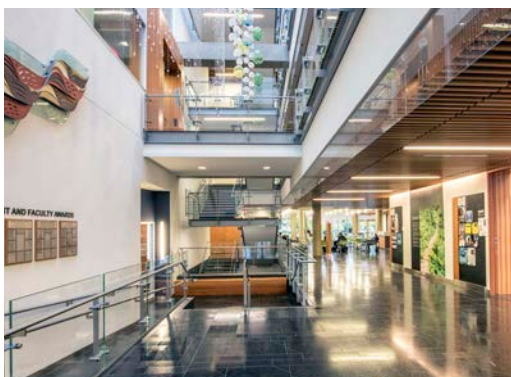
- Centre for Accessibility
- Counselling Services
- Financial Advising through UBC's Enrolment Services Advisors
- Health Services
- UBC First Nations House of Learning



MODERN FACILITIES TO HELP YOU LEARN

The UBC campus has been located on the traditional, unceded territory of the *xʷməθkʷəy̓əm* (Musqueam) people for most of its 100-year history. More than four square kilometers in size, the stunning UBC Vancouver campus is surrounded by forest on three sides and ocean on the fourth, and is just a 30-minute bus ride to Vancouver's downtown core.

Built in 2011, Allard Hall is an environmentally sustainable building that offers light-filled, state-of-the-art classrooms and an abundance of space for studying and socializing, surrounded by a backdrop of mountains and ocean.



Book a tour with one of our student ambassadors at allard.ubc.ca/tours or view our virtual building tour at allard.ubc.ca/vrtour.



BY THE NUMBERS

MOST RECENT ENTERING CLASS (2022)



196
STUDENTS

YOUNGEST
21 years
old

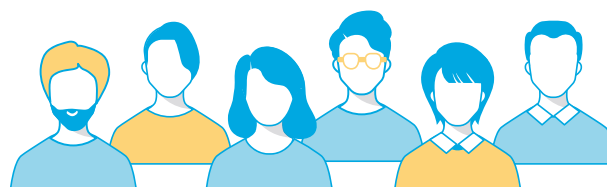
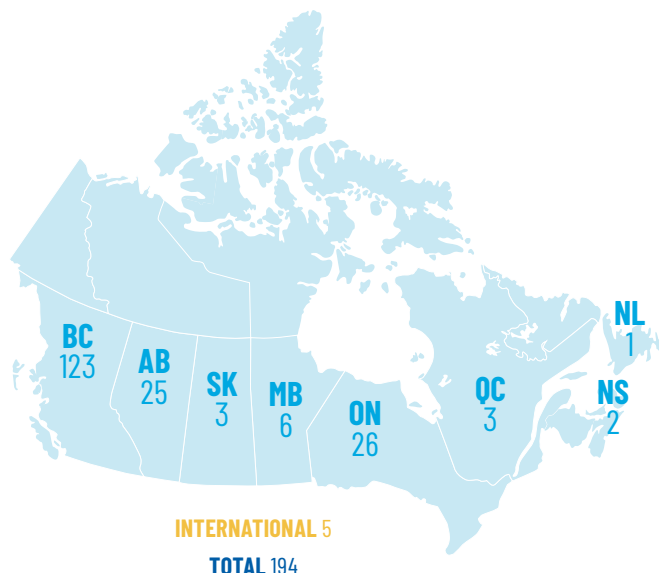
40+ YEARS OLD:
7 students

25%
of students' parents
did not complete a
bachelor's degree



112
incoming students
speak a second
language

More than
24
different languages
spoken



116
students identify
as a woman

62
students identify
as a man

13
students identify
as Non-binary,
Transgender,
Two-spirited,
and/or Questioning

Racialized
(not including
Indigenous Peoples):

89
students

Indigenous
Peoples:

17
students

67
students self-
identified as
members of the
LGBTQ+ community

39
students
self-identify
as having an
accessibility need

The data on this page represents information from the self-reported incoming students survey and application data. Visit allard.ubc.ca/demographics for more detailed information.



ADMISSIONS AND HOW TO APPLY



HOW TO APPLY

Complete the online application form at allard.ubc.ca/apply and submit the following materials:

- 1 **Personal Statement**
- 2 **Official Transcripts**
- 3 **LSAT File Number**
- 4 **Supporting Documents**
(+ any other documents that may apply to your specific situation)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

First-year applicants are given the option to apply under one of three different categories. While most people will fall under the General category, we encourage prospective applicants to review all three categories in order to decide which fits them best.

GENERAL APPLICANTS

Your academic performance, LSAT score and personal statement are given equal priority in this category.

General applicants must have the following to be eligible for selection:

- undergraduate degree from a university, or
- completed three years (minimum 90 credits) from a university, 30 credits of which must be at the upper level

You will need to submit undergraduate transcripts, an LSAT score and a personal statement with your application.

**JANUARY IS THE LAST LSAT SCORE WE ACCEPT.
ALLARD CONSIDERS YOUR BEST LSAT SCORE.**

DISCRETIONARY APPLICANTS

Because of special factors in life, you may not satisfy one or more of the requirements for general applicants, but may have other relevant achievements and experience. The Admissions Committee has the discretion to take into account factors such as:

- a disability or special needs
- membership in a historically disadvantaged group
- financial or personal challenges
- relevant personal achievements
- relevant work experience, including volunteer work
- contributions to your community
- other relevant factors

To be eligible, you must have completed at least two years of a program leading toward a university degree. Applicants with at least three years completed will also be considered for admission under the General category.

Discretionary applicants must submit the same documents as General applicants, plus two letters of reference, an expanded personal statement and documents that support any special circumstances.

**SEPTEMBER
15**

Applications
open

**DECEMBER
1**

Deadline to
apply for
first-year
students

**APRIL
30**

Deadline to
apply for
upper-year
students



INDIGENOUS APPLICANTS

If you are of First Nations, Inuit or Métis ancestry, you are invited to apply through the Indigenous category. Your application will also be automatically considered under the General category.

Applicants under the Indigenous category must have the following to be eligible for selection:

- undergraduate degree from a university, or
- three years (minimum 90 credits) from a university, 30 credits of which must be comprised of upper-level courses

We will prioritize applicants who:

- are involved with or committed to Indigenous communities and organizations, and
- intend to use their legal training to advance Indigenous concerns and interests.

Indigenous applicants must submit undergraduate transcripts, an LSAT score, a personal statement, two academic letters of reference and evidence of their Indigenous identity; this can be a photocopy of an enrolment card, an ancestry document, or any other document from the federal, provincial, territorial or Indigenous government that supports your self-identification.

Applicants who are considering applying under the Indigenous category are encouraged to email Indigenous Legal Studies at ils@allard.ubc.ca for further information.

JD/MBA PROGRAM

Applicants interested in this four-year joint program are required to apply to both the Allard School of Law and the Sauder School of Business. You may indicate your desire to be considered for this joint program on your application form. Scores from both the LSAT and GMAT are required. Learn more at: allard.ubc.ca/jdmba.

TRANSFER

Applicants who started their JD at another Canadian law school may apply to transfer to Allard Law after completing their first year. If the first-year curriculum differs from that offered at UBC, an applicant may be required to complete one or more first-year classes in conjunction with their upper-level classes.

VISITING (LETTER OF PERMISSION)

Students enrolled in a law program at an approved law school may request permission from their current school to attend one year or one term of either the second- or third-year program at Allard Law.

FINANCES

In 2022, we distributed over **\$1.1 million in bursaries** to students who demonstrate financial need. We also award numerous scholarships based on academic merit and other accomplishments, such as leadership and community service. Visit allard.ubc.ca/finance to learn more.

TUITION

TUITION AT THE ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW FOR 2023/24:



DOMESTIC

\$427.51
Per credit

\$13,680.32
Full year



INTERNATIONAL

\$1,300.64
Per credit

\$41,620.48
Full year

All accepted applicants are automatically considered for entrance scholarships based on academic merit.

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions about tuition or funding your studies, we have a designated team of Enrolment Service Advisors available to assist you with any financial-related questions. Contact them at es.lawsupport@ubc.ca.

SCHOLARSHIPS & BURSARIES

HOW MUCH WILL I GET IN BURSARIES?

Use our online calculator to estimate what you could receive from our bursary program at allard.ubc.ca/bursarycalc.

NEW ALLARD LAW AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS INDIGENOUS, BLACK OR AS A PERSON OF COLOUR

We're committed to building a law school community that celebrates diversity, equity and inclusiveness. This includes providing support to help overcome the financial barriers to attending law school to members of groups that have historically been excluded from higher education. Learn more on our blog at allard.ubc.ca/ediawards.

FEES & BOOKS

STUDENT FEES

approximately
\$1,300 per year

JD TEXTBOOKS

approximately
\$1,600 in first year and
\$1,400 annually in your
second and third years

LEARN MORE AT
[ALLARD.UBC.CA/FINANCES](https://allard.ubc.ca/finances)



6 TIPS

FOR WRITING A GREAT PERSONAL STATEMENT

As part of your JD application to Allard Law, most applicants — those applying under the General Category — will need to submit a personal statement. The personal statement is your opportunity to present us with a clear picture of who are, what's important to you, and why you're interested in Allard Law.

There isn't a set of "right answers" and each person's unique circumstances will shape their personal statement.



REACH OUT TO OUR STUDENT AMBASSADORS TO GET A FIRST-HAND IMPRESSION OF LAW SCHOOL AND LIVING IN VANCOUVER, OR TO ASK ANY OTHER QUESTIONS.

**VISIT
ALLARD.UBC.CA/AMBASSADOR
TO LEARN MORE.**

- **ANSWER THE QUESTIONS.**

It can be easy to get carried away with your response and forget about what was being asked. Read the questions carefully and don't forget to circle back to them.

- **TELL US SOMETHING NEW.**

Find a way to answer the questions in interesting and compelling ways by pulling from past experiences that are unique to you.

- **USE CRITICAL REFLECTION.**

When revisiting your personal experiences, think about what happened and note things that you would do differently or that you were happy about in the end.

- **PROVIDE SPECIFIC EXAMPLES.**

We're eager to read about how you are a great public speaker, or a highly organized and focused individual, or a natural leader, but it's not enough to simply state that you possess a certain skill or ability; back it up with evidence. Talk about how you have used these skills and how will you continue to use them.

- **RELATE THINGS BACK TO ALLARD LAW.**

We're interested in knowing why think you would be a good fit for Allard Law. Research the school and reflect on why you want you want to study here.

- **BE HONEST.**

Focus on telling us about who you are rather than what you think we want to hear.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



WHAT UNDERGRADUATE COURSES SHOULD I TAKE TO ENSURE I GET INTO THE ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW?

There is no specific educational background that will guarantee admission into the Allard School of Law. Instead, we suggest that you study in a field that you are interested in, and one in which you will excel. We encourage applicants from diverse backgrounds and fields of study to apply. We have accepted past applicants from a variety of programs including Architecture, Criminology, Forestry, Commerce, Science, International Relations, and Engineering.

DO YOU OFFER PART-TIME OPTIONS?

Yes. To be eligible for the part-time program, students must demonstrate special needs resulting from such factors as family responsibilities or financial or health problems. Applicants must include an additional letter outlining their request and demonstrating their need to study part time. A maximum of ten students per year will be admitted on this basis.

WHEN ARE OFFERS SENT OUT? DOES APPLYING EARLY INCREASE MY CHANCE OF RECEIVING AN OFFER?

Offers are given on a “rolling admission” basis. If we receive a file that is complete and is highly competitive, an offer may be made as early as November. However, we honour the December deadline as well as the January writing of the LSAT, and do not fill all our spaces early. A majority of General Category admission offers are made between December and June. Offers to students who have submitted Discretionary and Indigenous Category applications, which undergo a holistic review of additional documentation, are made between February and June.

VIEW ALL OUR FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AT [ALLARD.UBC.CA/FAQ](https://allard.ubc.ca/faq).



DEAN'S WELCOME

A COMMUNITY TO DISCOVER AND NURTURE YOUR PASSIONS

One of our greatest strengths is the remarkable diversity of experiences and achievements that our students, faculty and staff bring to the law school. Being part of the Allard Law community provides you an ideal entry point into the legal profession. The connections you make here will inspire you and help you succeed — and many will turn into lifelong friendships.

Our core curriculum will provide you with an exceptional legal education. Our unique experiential learning opportunities offer you unmatched real-world experiences where you will develop in-demand skills and discover your interests. And as a leader in Indigenous legal education in North America, we are committed to decolonizing law school and to ensuring Indigenous legal orders, knowledges, and perspectives are integrated across our courses. You will join a community committed to reconciliation as a critical and foundational aspect of learning and practicing law.

At Allard Law you will be learning from leading scholars who are dedicated to teaching and mentorship. Our professors are internationally recognized in areas such as criminal law, environmental law, international law, business law, Indigenous legal studies, and social justice. First-year classes are taught in small groups of 50 students, ensuring you get to know your classmates

and your professors. The staff at Allard Law take pride in delivering exceptional services and support to our students, including academic, wellness, career and professional development support.

As someone who recently moved to Vancouver, I'm continually inspired and energized by the natural West Coast beauty of Vancouver. From sandy ocean beaches on the UBC campus to the local North Shore mountains, there is no shortage of opportunities to connect with nature and the land. Studying law in one of the world's most multicultural, vibrant cities — and one of Canada's major legal employment markets — provides an incredible opportunity to nurture your passions and launch your legal career.

I encourage you to reach out to our admissions team and ambassadors to see if Allard Law is the right choice for you and to learn more about the opportunities that await you. I look forward to meeting you soon.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Ngai Pindell".

Ngai Pindell
Dean and Professor, Peter A. Allard School of Law



Steps away from Allard Hall, the UBC Rose Garden offers panoramic ocean and mountain views.



PETER A. ALLARD SCHOOL OF LAW

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

QUESTIONS? WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

Email: admissions@allard.ubc.ca

Phone: 604-822-6303

Email a student ambassador:
ambassadors@allard.ubc.ca

Peter A. Allard School of Law
University of British Columbia
Allard Hall 1822 East Mall
Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z1

ALLARD.UBC.CA



Photography by: Martin Dee, @edb3_16,
Hover Collective, Paul Joseph, UBC Brand &
Marketing, Macy Yap