

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF LAW

INSTITUTIONAL INFORMATION

Public/private	Public
Student-faculty ratio	15:1
% faculty part-time	30
% faculty female	33
% faculty minority	23
Total faculty	53

SURVEY SAYS...

Diverse opinions accepted
in classrooms
Great research resources
Great library staff

STUDENTS

Enrollment of law school	647
% male/female	57/43
% out-of-state	15
% full-time	100
% minority	24
Average age of entering class	24

ACADEMICS

Academic Experience Rating	86
Profs interesting rating	87
Profs accessible rating	98
Hours of study per day	4.88

Academic Specialties

Commercial law, constitutional law, corporation securities, environmental law, international law, property, taxation, intellectual property law, water law, law & bioterrorism, law & science, health care law, military law

Combined Degrees Offered

JD/MBA, 3 years; JD/MPA, 3.5 years; JD/MS-Agricultural Economics, 3–3.5 years; JD/MS-Accounting (Taxation), 3–3.5 years; JD/MS-Environmental Toxicology, 3–4 years; JD/PFP-Personal Financial Planning, 3–3.5 years; JD/MS-Biotechnology, 3–4 years; JD/MS-Crop Science/Horticulture/Soil Science/Entomology, 3–4 years; JD/MD-Doctor of Medicine, 7 years

Clinical program required	No
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Academics

Students dole out praises for Texas Tech's rigorous and practical JD program, which really "teaches you what you need to know to be a good lawyer." From day one, real-world principles are incorporated into the learning experience, and throughout the program "the instruction [features] a good balance of the Socratic Method with practical advice." During the 1L curriculum, "emphasis is put on legal writing and research so that we are able to go straight into practice during the summer of our first year." 1Ls also participate in a "year-long legal practice requirement," which "gives you a fantastic foundation before you step your foot in the real world." In addition to curricular offerings, the school offers an incredible breadth of "opportunities to gain practical experience through procedure classes, barrister competitions, clinics, and national competitions."

While the JD curriculum is "rigorous and demanding," it would be very difficult to slip through the cracks at Texas Tech. When they start the program, students are grouped into sections that serve as a support network during 1L, and "all of the first-year classes have upper-level students as tutors to supplement your classroom hours." The teaching staff is also committed to student success, and maintains consistent office hours so that students "can stop by and talk to professors at any time." A totally user-friendly experience, "the resources provided by the school are top-notch and they've designed everything to revolve around the student and their schedule." To top it all off, the school has completed the construction of the Lanier Professional Development Center building, which added 34,000 square feet to the law school building. The school is already equipped with a first-rate library, and "the library staff is amazing and always available."

When its time to start looking for a job or clerkship, Texas Tech maintains "a great reputation in the Texas legal markets as producing hard-working, effective lawyers." Students choose Tech precisely for this reputation and are proud of the results. A third-year student asserts, "I've been told on several occasions that a firm would rather pick up a Tech Law graduate who knows what to do when he steps foot in the office than some Ivy League grad who knows more about theory and less about how to get the job done." While career placement is highly successful in Texas, many students feel that the school could improve its national reputation and help "out-of-state students find jobs in their home states." In general, students would like their top school to take a more leading role in the national legal community, urging the administration to "spend more money to attract more nationally-known, rather than regionally-known, guest speakers and employers."

Life

The surprisingly friendly and open atmosphere at Texas Tech is all due to students who aren't afraid to "help one another, encourage one another, and be kind to one another." No need for first-year jitters. You'll quickly feel at home at Texas Tech, thanks to a "tremendous student-run mentoring program for incoming students." Within the law school, there are a number of students clubs and organizations—plus many more in the larger university—and if you're married, there are "resources and social networking opportunities for students with spouses and their families." Conservative politics predominate, but students reassure us that "you can survive as a liberal." In fact, "the Tech democrats are more active than the republicans," and everyone listens to and respects different opinions.

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If you've never been to West Texas, a student dryly describes it for us as "a vast, treeless, invariably flat expanse of dirt...They even have tumbleweeds here—like out of a John Wayne movie or Looney Tunes." Although it sounds a bit inhospitable, students say the advantage to Lubbock's small city environment and arid landscape is that there are fewer distractions, which makes it easier to focus on your homework. More importantly, "Lubbock is a great environment for law students to partner with local lawyers and learn the ropes." "The Lubbock legal community is extremely strong and polite, and the relationship is emphasized over the case," one student says.

If you are looking for nightlife and social outlets, "Lubbock is not the most exciting town on the universe." However, students guarantee us that the lively campus community can make life surprisingly entertaining. For sports fans, "there is a very good football team on the field," and the basketball team isn't too shabby either. On top of that, the law school's friendly students "have managed to carve out a pretty decent social life. The bars here are okay, but the law students will sponsor various events and they are typically very fun."

Getting In

Texas Tech evaluates students based on their previous academic performance, LSAT scores, letters of recommendation, and personal statements. While no specific pre-law curriculum is required, the admissions committee favors students who have a background in public speaking, reading and writing skills, an understanding of public institutions and government, and the ability to think both creatively and critically.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Career Rating **71**
 Rate of placement (nine months out) 90.45
 Average starting salary \$66,881
 State for bar exam TX, NM, FL, AZ, MD
 Pass rate for first-time bar

Employers Who Frequently Hire Grads
 Jones, Day Reavis & Pogue; Thompson & Knight; Haynes & Boone; Thompson & Coe; Cousins & Irons; Strasburger & Price; Cooper & Scully.

Prominent Alumni
 Karen Tandy, Senior Vice President, Motorola, Inc.; Brian Quinn, Chief Justice, 7th Court of Appeals for Texas; Philip Johnson, Texas Supreme Court Justice.

Grads Employed by Field (%)
 Business/Industry (17)
 Government (17)
 Judicial Clerkships (5)
 Other (1)

Legal writing	
course requirement	Yes
Legal methods	
course requirement	Yes
Legal research	
course requirement	Yes
Moot court requirement	No
Public interest	
law requirement	No

ADMISSIONS

Selectivity Rating	80
# applications received	1,576
% applicants accepted	34
% acceptees attending	38
Average LSAT	156
LSAT Range	154–159
Average undergrad GPA	3.44
Application fee	\$50
Regular application	Rolling, up to 3/15
Regular notification	Rolling
Early application program	Yes
Early application deadline	11/1
Early application notification	1/15
Transfer students accepted	Yes
Evening division offered	No
Part-time accepted	No
LSDas accepted	Yes

Applicants Also Look At

University of Texas at Austin,
 University of Houston, University of
 New Mexico, University of Oklahoma,
 Baylor University, Southern
 Methodist University, South Texas
 College of Law

International Students

TOEFL required	
of international students	Yes
Minimum TOEFL	
(paper/computer)	550/213

FINANCIAL FACTS

Annual tuition (in-state/ out-of-state)	\$11,660/\$19,100
Books and supplies	\$1,000
Fees	\$2,878
Room & board	\$12,957
% first-year students receiving some sort of aid	90
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% of aid that is merit based	47
% receiving scholarships	65
Average grant	\$2,481
Average loan	\$17,866
Average total aid package	\$18,098
Average debt	\$57,362