

Pre-Law Resources & Events at SJSU

Advisors

Professors Étienne Brown and Rebecca Chan (both in the Philosophy Department) offer free individual consultations to students at any stage of the law school application process, from applications, choosing a school, to finding pre-law activities at SJSU.

Étienne Brown: etienne.brown@sjsu.edu

Rebecca Chan: rebecca.s.chan@sjsu.edu

Professor Edith Kinney (Justice Studies Department) is the advisor for the Legal Studies Minor and similarly is available to assist pre-law students.

Edith Kinney: edith.kinney@sjsu.edu

Resources for Pre-Law Students:

- SJSU Pre-Law: <https://www.sjsu.edu/prelaw>

Pre-law advising helps students navigate information on legal careers, preparing for law school, and applying to law school. The website connects students with people and resources available on campus.

- SJSU RCP: <https://www.sjsu.edu/rcp>

The Record Clearance Project (RCP) gives students hands-on experience with the law, the court system, and the people involved. The RCP is a unique undergraduate curriculum that students would not otherwise gain outside of law school, enabling them to use the law and their education to change lives.

- Canvas Page: *Contact Prof. Rebecca Chan to be added to this page*

SJSU students can access pre-law updates, resources, and events through the Canvas page. This includes law school fairs, TestMaster LSAT workshops, and fellowship opportunities.

- Innovation and Law Minor:
<https://www.sjsu.edu/ide/undergraduate-programs/program-verview/innovation-and-law.php>

SJSU's Interdisciplinary Engineering Program offers the Minor in Innovation and Law, which teaches students about the legal frameworks impacting technology and venture development. This program also covers the entrepreneurial process and intellectual property rights. The minor is open to all SJSU students, regardless of science or engineering background, and can expand career options in technology-related law.

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Classes for SJSU Pre-Law Students:

PHIL 15: Philosophy of law
PHIL 137: Puzzles in Innovation and Law
PHIL 195: Seminar in Philosophy of Law

JS 15: Introduction to legal studies
JS 103: Courts and Society
JS 185 Special Topics in Law and Justice
JS 140: The Record Clearance Project
JS 144: Criminal Law

POLS 108: Political Participation
POLS 120: Law and Society
POLS 121A: Constitutional Law: The Supreme Court
POLS 121B: Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties
POLS 121C: Constitutional Law: Civil Rights

ENGL 2: Critical Thinking & Writing

ENGR 130 & 131: Taught by SJSU alum and practicing IP attorneys that are open to anyone.

ECON 141: Law and economics

ENVS/POLS 124: Introduction to Environmental law

COMM 147P: Argumentation and Persuasion in Courts of Law

Justice Studies Department Internship Opportunities:

Prof. [John Halushka, Ph.D.](#) coordinates internships for the Justice Studies Department
john.halushka@sjsu.edu

Clubs for Pre-Law Students:

- SJSU Mock Trial Team

SJSU Mock Trial Team, registered under the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA), offers undergraduate students a chance to learn, practice, and exercise trial skills and advocacy, as well as develop legal skills such as legal reasoning, critical thinking, and teamwork. For more information on how to join, please email sjsumocktrial@gmail.com

- SJSU Pre-Law Society

This organization provides support and resources for students who are interested in exploring possibilities of applying to law school. For more information on how to join please email sjsuprelaw1@gmail.com

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- Alpha Phi Sigma Honor society (Justice Studies Department)
<https://www.alphaphisigmasjsu.org/>

The National Criminal Justice Honor Society at SJSU recognizes academic excellence of undergraduate, graduate students of criminal justice.

- Pi Sigma Alpha Honor society (Political Science Department):
<https://www.sjsu.edu/polisci/undergraduate-program/psa/index.php>

Pi Sigma Alpha is the National Political Science Honor Society, and is the only honor society for college students of political science and government in the United States. Pi Sigma Alpha aims to expand student's knowledge about political issues and ideology. Upcoming events include online-style education and various opportunities aimed to enhance networking.

Legal Education Resources:

- MTO Fellows Program: <https://www.mto.com/diversity/mto-fellows-program>

The fellowship from Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP is an innovative outreach program offered to 25-40 diverse, prospective law students each year. The Fellows Program includes a firm-sponsored, customized LSAT course, as well as monthly workshops providing guidance on the law school application process and tools to succeed in law school and beyond.

- Legal Education Access Pipeline (LEAP): <https://www.legalpipeline.org>

The mission of LEAP is to diversify the legal profession by preparing underrepresented students to become successful law school applicants, lawyers, and agents of social change. LEAP includes weekend workshops, individualized mentoring, soft skills development, hands-on exposure to the legal profession, and admissions counseling.

- UCLA Fellows Program: <https://law.ucla.edu/life-ucla-law/diversity-inclusion/outreach>

This program is designed to encourage and prepare high-potential undergraduate and graduate students for a career in law, increase the pipeline of diverse students interested in law, and demystify the law school experience. The program format is made up of several components, and includes a series of Saturday Academies held at the law school. These academies offer professional-level instruction by UCLA Law faculty in which Law Fellows are exposed to cases and a variety of other materials taught in law school.

- Immigrants Rising:
https://immigrantsrising.org/wp-content/uploads/Immigrants-Rising_Law-School-Resource-Guide-for-Undocumented-Students.pdf

Immigrants Rising provides a pre-law fund to help undocumented students pay for LSAT prep and applications, as well as programming to help with the application process.

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- Financial Aid for Undocumented J.D. Students at UC Berkeley Law: <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/admissions/jd/financial-aid/prospective-entering-students/financial-aid-undocumented-j-d-students/>

Information on financial aid opportunities for undocumented students at UC Berkeley Law, including answers to frequently asked questions and additional resources for undocumented students.

- Going to Law School? What undocumented students need to know: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kBKC407kk1s&t=4352s>

- King Hall Outreach Program (KHOP) at UC Davis Law

King Hall Outreach Program (KHOP) helps college students from underrepresented communities prepare for the law school admissions process. In addition to providing mentoring and pre-law advising during the school year, the program hosts eligible college juniors and seniors for a series of weekend sessions in which students gain knowledge about the law school admission process, learn writing, analytical, and logical reasoning skills, develop study techniques for taking the LSAT and explore career paths available to law school graduates.

- Trials: <https://trials.atfoundation.org/>

Trials is a partnership between the Advantage Testing Foundation, NYU School of Law and Harvard Law School. A fully subsidized summer study program, Trials aims to provide students from underrepresented backgrounds at the nation's top law school by providing LSATs practice and allowing students to explore their field of interest in law. In addition, the program provides participants the opportunity to garner practical experience through networking and observation of attorneys in practice.

- Yale Law School Launchpad Scholars Program: <https://law.yale.edu/launchpad>

The Yale Law School Launchpad Scholars Program, supported by Latham & Watkins LLP, is for applicants who are planning to apply to law school in the fall of 2024, with the goal of enrolling in law school in the fall of 2025. The program is open to current college students as well as college graduates. Applicants must have a minimum undergraduate GPA of 3.3. There is no cost to apply to, or participate in, the program.

LSAT & Admission Resources:

- The Law School Admission Council (LSAC) <https://www.lsac.org/>

LSAC provides materials for prospective law students to practice with official LSAT content and get familiar with the actual test interface through LawHub. LSAC also partners with Khan Academy to provide interactive lessons, instructional videos, and a personalized practice plan based on students' strengths and areas for improvement.

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- 7Sage

7Sage offers LSAT preparation materials, such as video tutorials, practice exercises, detailed explanations, and analytics to help identify strengths and weaknesses. The platform also provides live virtual classes and personalized tutoring services, as well as a comprehensive admissions consulting package. The starting price for their basic package is \$70 per month.

- LSAT Demon

LSAT Demon is a subscription service providing customized LSAT practice questions, tests, and tutorials. It offers access to practice exams, real-time feedback, and study plans to fit students' different schedules and goals. The starting package, which provides limited access to testing materials, costs \$90 per month.

- PowerScore Books

The PowerScore LSAT study guides cover logic games, logical reasoning, and reading comprehension. Each book includes in-depth explanations of test concepts, as well as practice questions and full-length practice tests.

- LSData

LSData is a website that offers information and resources related to law school admissions, law schools, and the legal profession. Users can create a profile and share their LSAT scores and GPA to get a sense of their chances of admission at different law schools, based on data from other applicants with similar credentials.