An inclusive and welcoming community

A diverse law school is much more than a rainbow of faces. It’s a team of students, faculty, administrators, and staff united in the core belief that a spectrum of backgrounds, perspectives, and experiences makes the whole group stronger. This belief prepares students for ethical practice in an increasingly global legal marketplace. A tangible commitment to diversity is inseparable from Loyola University Chicago School of Law’s mission of social justice, equality of opportunity, and service to others. Loyola is dedicated to the Jesuit principle of fostering an inclusive environment, and structures its curriculum, cocurricular activities, and student services accordingly.

About

30%

of Loyola law students are persons of color—a testament to Loyola’s commitment to diversifying the legal profession.

LOYOLA LAW STUDENTS ARE DIVERSE IN

- **Gender:** 56% female, 44% male
- **Age:** 24-49
- **Race:** 29.4% students of color
- **Geography:** 30 states represented
- **Non-Illinois:** 59.3% out-of-state residents
- **Educational background:** 118 undergraduate institutions/51 majors represented
- **Religion, political affiliation, and sexual orientation:** Loyola welcomes students from every faith, ideology, and orientation

(Statistics are from the 2014 entering class)

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“Loyola’s investment in its students far surpasses the bounds of legal instruction within the classroom or clinic. It is a blessing to have the support of Loyola faculty and administration to nurture my development not only as a law student, but as a whole person.”

—Aryelle Berry, 3L
The Loyola faculty models diversity while bringing important expertise to justice and equal-opportunity issues:

- **Critical race theorist Juan Perea** focuses his scholarship on race relations and race inequality, particularly for the Latino community.
- **Wing-Tat Lee Chair in International Law James Thuo Gathii** is renowned for his scholarship in international human rights and trade.
- **Steven Ramirez**’s areas of specialization include the law as it relates to poverty and race.

**NEARLY 30**

**40+**

Loyola was one of **ten** schools to receive the Law School Admission Council’s 2014 Diversity Matters Award for its commitment to minority student outreach programs. The law school also received this honor in 2013 and 2012.

**ISSUES OF JUSTICE**

Annual conferences and symposia that explore issues of equality and justice include:

- Race and the Law Symposium
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture
- Public Interest Law Convocation
- International Law Review Symposium
- Wing-Tat Lee Lecture in International and Comparative Law

**NEARLY 30**

**40+**

Nearly 30 alumni movers and shakers in law firms, the judiciary, and nonprofit organizations make up the **Dean’s Diversity Council**, which advises the dean on curricular, admission, and mentoring initiatives for underrepresented students.

Scholarships open doors

Loyola is committed to keeping quality law education accessible to talented students from varying economic circumstances. A wide array of scholarships and grants opens the door to a consistently diverse student body.

Passion for public service

Loyola’s strong focus on social justice creates myriad opportunities—clinics, immersion experiences, and volunteer and service opportunities—for lending a hand to members of the community. Many Loyola law alumni go on to practice public interest or pro bono law.

International insights

The successful practice of law today requires a global viewpoint. Loyola’s curriculum, immersion/service trips, student competitions, and student-run publications give students a valuable grounding in international and comparative law.

**EYES ON ISSUES**

The Loyola faculty models diversity while bringing important expertise to justice and equal-opportunity issues:

- **Neil Williams** is faculty advisor to Loyola’s Black Law Student Association and former president of the Midwestern People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference.
- **Emily Benfer** is chair of the American Association of Law Schools Poverty Law Section Executive Committee and faculty advisor for Loyola’s annual Norman Amaker Public Interest Law and Social Justice Retreat.
- **Laura Caldwell** is founder and director of Life After Innocence, a program supporting people exonerated of crimes as they reenter society.
- **Alexander Tsesis** teaches and writes about civil rights.

#### Loyola’s commitment to diversifying the legal profession is reflected in its student body.

**WIDENING PERSPECTIVES**

**Masters of competition**

Minority-focused teams have taken impressive honors in student competitions—including national titles for the Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition for Asian and Pacific American students and the Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Competition for African American students.

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