



**Stony Brook**  
**University**

## Prelaw Studies

Forming a Foundation for Legal Studies

From its beginnings more than a half-century ago, Stony Brook University has been characterized by innovation, energy, and progress, transforming the lives of people who earn degrees, work, and make groundbreaking discoveries here.

Today Stony Brook is one of only 62 members of the prestigious, invitation-only Association of American Universities. Listed among the top 1 percent of the world's universities in the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*, Stony Brook University is consistently named one of the best values among public universities by *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*.



Priority Application Deadline:  
**January 15**

We accept both the Common  
and SUNY applications

E-mail: [enroll@stonybrook.edu](mailto:enroll@stonybrook.edu)  
Phone: (631) 632-6868  
[www.stonybrook.edu/admissions](http://www.stonybrook.edu/admissions)

### Prelaw At Stony Brook

As a pre-law student at Stony Brook, you will discover countless avenues to help you prepare for law school. A challenging academic curriculum, one of the nation's largest academic libraries, exciting internship opportunities, extensive support services, and focused student organizations provide the foundation for a comprehensive pre-law education at Stony Brook.

### Excel

Because there is no specific major or list of courses required or recommended for entrance to law school, at Stony Brook, you'll be encouraged to choose a course of study that you enjoy and one in which you can excel. Stony Brook offers more than 60 majors, making it easy for you to find the program that suits you best.

Law schools will look most closely at your cumulative grade point average and your score on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). In addition to grade point average and LSAT scores, other factors, such as extracurricular activities, work



*continued on next page*

*continued from cover text*

experience, recommendations, and the rigor of your academic experience will also be reviewed. Most law schools will be looking for students with a well-rounded liberal arts education.

Law schools want students who can think critically, write well, and have an understanding of our society. You'll want to take courses that include critical analysis, logical reasoning, and written and oral expression. Stony Brook offers many such courses, including Logical and Critical Reasoning, Argumentative Writing, Advanced Analytic and Argumentative Writing, and Public Speaking. Many of our seminar courses provide an opportunity to research an issue, write a significant paper, and make an oral presentation to a class of peers.

The LSAT is frequently taken by pre-law students in October of their senior year of undergraduate studies. Some students take the test in June upon completion of their junior year. It is important to select courses during your first three years of college that will help you improve the skills needed to perform well on the LSAT and to be successful in law school.

## Prepare

You'll want to prepare for the LSAT well in advance of sitting for the exam. There are LSAT prep courses, including Kaplan, Princeton Review, and courses using Cambridge materials, among others. Some students do well with these courses; others study on their own. Many knowledgeable about the test recommend using Triple Prep Plus, available through the Law School Admission Council. Pick up the LSAT registration booklet at the Academic and Pre-professional Advising Center.

Most law schools are looking for a GPA of 3.0. Averages above this are helpful in getting into more competitive law schools; marks slightly below this average can be offset with higher-than-average LSAT scores. The LSAT is marked on a scale of 120-180. A score of 152 puts the student in the upper half of the test, which is viewed as sufficiently competitive to gain admission to law school. More competitive law schools are looking for scores in the upper 150s and 160s.

## Connect

With other students...Stony Brook has a vibrant pre-law program with a number of student organizations which will actively assist you in examining your potential for pursuing a career in law. Two of these organizations are Phi Alpha Delta and the Stony Brook Pre-Law Society.

With advisors...Stony Brook's Academic and Pre-Professional Advising Center has trained advisors ready to provide you with the guidance and information you need to succeed at Stony Brook, helping you get the most out of each semester. All enrolled students receive the Please Be Advised e-mail, distributed biweekly, which contains valuable information on academic policies as well as pre-law programs and events. Later in your undergraduate career you'll consult with the pre-law advisors to discuss planning an application strategy, developing your personal essay, and preparing for the LSAT. Our Career Center has career counselors and the resources to help you explore and make the right decisions concerning your future.

With faculty...At Stony Brook, faculty members hold regular office hours and will make themselves available to meet





with you to discuss course-related material. Many also serve as sponsors for internships, research, and independent studies. In addition, our Undergraduate Colleges and Living/Learning Centers promote interaction between students and faculty with common academic interests. All of these programs offer excellent opportunities for your teachers and mentors to become familiar with your intellectual abilities, leadership potential, and other qualities and skills relevant to a law school admission committee.

### Explore

The legal profession is broad and multifaceted, with many areas of specialization and many types of employers. The best way to learn about the range of opportunities in the field is to speak with attorneys who practice different types of law.

At Stony Brook, you'll have many opportunities to get out and see the courts in action and speak with attorneys about the practice of law. Both the Academic & Pre-Professional Advising Center and the student-run Pre-Law Society organize discussions with attorneys and judges, and field trips to observe court proceedings and participate in in-chambers discussions with judges. In addition, Stony Brook's

Department of Political Science offers a number of law-related courses which may serve to affirm your interest in studying law, including Business Law, Criminal Law, Gender Issues in the Law, Administrative Law, and Supreme Court Decision Making.

### Experience

Our internship program is a great way for pre-law students to gain experience working in the area of law while earning credit. You can participate in legislative internships in Albany and Washington, D.C. or in local internships with private lawyers, the local courts, and the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office.

Earn up to six credits for semester internships during the academic year, and up to six for each summer term. While working for academic credit under the supervision of both University faculty and professional staff at a cooperating agency or organization, you'll have the opportunity to: test your career intentions; improve intellectual skills in writing, quantitative analysis, research, and administration; increase understanding of social, political, and economic forces; and acquire work experience useful for seeking entrance to law school.

### Enjoy

You can expect law schools to look closely at your extracurricular activities. What kind of jobs have you held while in college? Have you been involved in campus activities? Have you held any leadership roles in student government, fraternity, sorority, or residence halls? Your outside activities will help an admission committee to determine how well you have organized your time and how well you have handled responsibilities.

At Stony Brook, cultural and religious groups, intramural and varsity sports, sororities, fraternities, and student newspapers and magazines abound. With more than 300 active clubs and organizations, you have your pick of fun and worthwhile activities.

### Succeed

Pre-law students at Stony Brook have been very successful in gaining admission to law school. 82% of our graduates who applied were accepted to one or more law schools for Fall 2013, and more than a thousand Stony Brook graduates have gone on to law school over the last decade. Our graduates have attended virtually every major law school in the east and many more highly competitive law schools throughout the country.



## Accredited Law Schools Where Stony Brook Students Have Gained Admission 2008 - 2013

**More than a thousand Stony Brook graduates have gone on to law school over the last decade. Eight-two percent of our graduates who applied were accepted to one or more law schools for Fall 2013.**

Albany Law School of Union University\*  
American U-Washington College of Law\*  
Atlanta's John Marshall Law School  
Appalachian School of Law  
Arizona State University\*  
Ave Maria School of Law  
Barry University-Dwayne Andreas School of Law\*  
Benjamin Cardozo Law School\*  
Boston College School of Law  
Boston University School of Law\*  
Brooklyn Law School\*  
California Western School of Law  
Cambell University  
Capital University Law School  
Catholic U of Amer Columbus Sch of Law  
Chapman University School of Law\*  
Charleston School of Law\*  
Charlotte School of Law\*  
Chicago-Kent College of Law\*  
City U of New York School of Law\*  
Cornell Law School\*  
Creighton University School of Law  
DePaul University College of Law\*  
Drexel University School of Law\*  
Earle Mack School of Law, Drexel University  
Elon University School of Law  
Faulkner U Thomas Jones School of Law\*  
Florida A&M University  
Florida Coastal School of Law\*  
Florida State University College of Law\*  
Fordham U School of Law\*  
George Mason University School of Law\*  
George Washington U School of Law\*  
Georgetown University Law Center\*  
Golden Gate University School of Law\*  
Harvard Law School  
Hofstra University School of Law\*  
Howard University School of Law  
Indiana U School of Law-Bloomington  
John Marshall Law School\*  
Lewis and Clark Law School  
Liberty U School of Law  
Loyola Law School-Loyola Marymount U  
Marquette University Law School\*

Michigan State U College of Law\*  
Mississippi College School of Law  
New England Law-Boston\*  
New York Law School\*  
New York University School of Law  
North Carolina Central University\*  
Northeastern University School of Law\*  
Northwestern University School of Law\*  
Nova Southeastern University  
Ohio State University\*  
Oklahoma City U School of Law  
Pace University School of Law\*  
Pepperdine University School of Law\*  
Pennsylvania State U Dickinson\*  
Phoenix School of Law  
Quinnipiac University School of Law\*  
Roger Williams University\*  
Rutgers U School of Law-Newark\*  
Santa Clara University School of Law\*  
Seton Hall University School of Law\*  
Southern Illinois University School of Law  
Southern University Law Center  
St John's University School of Law\*  
St Thomas University School of Law\*  
Stetson University College of Law\*  
Suffolk University Law School\*  
Syracuse University College of Law\*  
Temple University  
Texas Southern University  
Texas Wesleyan University School of Law  
Thomas Jefferson School of Law\*  
Thomas M. Cooley School of Law\*  
Touro College-Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center\*  
Tulane University Law School\*  
University of Baltimore School of Law\*  
University at Buffalo Law School SUNY\*  
U of Calif Hastings College of the Law\*  
U of Calif Irvine School of Law\*  
University of Chicago Law School  
University of Colorado Law School  
University of Connecticut School of Law\*  
University of Detroit Mercy School of Law  
University of Florida  
University of Illinois College of Law

University of Kentucky College of Law\*  
University of Maine School of Law\*  
University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law  
University of Miami School of Law\*  
University of Michigan Law School  
University of Minnesota Law School  
U of New Hampshire School of Law\*  
University of North Carolina\*  
University of the Pacific  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh School of Law\*  
University of San Diego School of Law\*  
University of San Francisco\*  
University of Southern California Law School\*  
University of St. Thomas - Minneapolis\*  
University of the District of Columbia\*  
University of Texas School of Law\*  
University of Virginia School of Law  
University of Wisconsin Law School  
Valparaiso University Law School\*  
Vanderbilt University Law School\*  
Villanova University School of Law  
Wake Forest University School of Law\*  
Washburn University School of Law  
Washington and Lee University\*  
Washington University School of Law\*  
Western New England University School of Law\*  
Widener University School of Law  
William and Mary Law School  
Whittier Law School\*  
Widener University School of Law\*  
Yale Law School

\*2013 Applicant Acceptances