



**SOUTHWESTERN**

LAW SCHOOL  
Los Angeles, CA

*Commencement*

**May 2023**

The Rose Bowl  
1001 Rose Bowl Dr., Pasadena, CA 91103



# SOUTHWESTERN

## LAW SCHOOL Los Angeles, CA

108th Commencement Ceremony | Friday, May 19, 2023

### **Processional**

Grand Marshals  
Board of Trustees  
Commencement Speaker  
Administration  
Faculty  
Graduates

### **National Anthem**

Lindsay N. Roginski '23

### **Welcome**

Darby Dickerson, President and Dean  
Lauren B. Leichtman '77, Chair, Board of Trustees

### **Class of 2023 Address**

Dylan Gunaratne '23

### **Conferral of Honorary Doctor of Laws Degrees**

Board Chair Leichtman '77  
Dean Dickerson  
Recipients:  
Susan Westerberg Prager  
Gloria Rachel Bloom Allred

### **Commencement Address**

Gloria Rachel Bloom Allred

### **Conferral of Degrees—Master of Laws, Juris Doctor**

Board Chair Leichtman '77  
Dean Dickerson  
Professor Catherine L. Carpenter '76, Grand Marshal  
Professor Dennis T. Yokoyama, Grand Marshal

### **Greetings from the Alumni Association**

Alicia Matricardi '06,  
President, Alumni Association Board

### **Recessional**

Grand Marshals  
Board of Trustees  
Commencement Speaker  
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Graduates



# Commencement Speaker & Honorary Degree Recipient

**Gloria Rachel Bloom Allred**



Gloria Allred is a founding partner of Allred, Maroko & Goldberg (AM&G), with offices in Los Angeles and New York. Her firm has been the leading women's rights private law firm in the nation for 47 years, winning hundreds of millions of dollars for victims. Allred has won countless honors for her pioneering legal work on behalf of victims who have been discriminated against due to gender, race, age, physical handicap, sexual orientation, sexual harassment, or because they have AIDS. AM&G is also well-known for its work on behalf of victims of rape, child sexual abuse, and battered women. Allred also founded the Women's Equal Rights Legal Defense and Education Fund. In 1986 at the White House,

President Ronald Reagan presented Allred with the President's Volunteer Action Award for Outstanding Volunteerism for her work on child support. Allred also received the President's Award from the National Association of Women Lawyers.

President Barack Obama has introduced Allred as "one of the best attorneys in the country." Allred has also been voted by her peers as one of the best lawyers in America. Allred is also a three-time Emmy nominee for her commentaries on KABC television in Los Angeles. Her nationally syndicated television show "We the People, with Gloria Allred" was also nominated in 2012 for a Daytime Emmy Award.

In January 2014, Allred received the Lifetime Achievement Award from The National Trial Lawyers for her trailblazing and pioneering role in combating injustices and winning new rights, especially for women and minorities. She was also honored at the 2016 International Women's Forum World Leadership Conference with the IWF Women Who Make a Difference Award. In July 2018, she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Organization for Women for her enduring commitment to fighting injustices against women. In 2017, Netflix announced "Seeing Allred," an original documentary about Allred and her battles for justice. "Seeing Allred" launched globally on Netflix in February 2018 and is still streaming on Netflix. In February 2018, Allred received the Lenore Kramer Award for Excellence from the Women's Caucus of the New York State Trial Lawyers Association. Allred was honored to be inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in September 2019 in Seneca Falls, New York. Also, in September 2019, California Rural Legal Assistance presented her with the Dolores Huerta Adelita Award, which honors women who are trailblazers in their communities.

In January 2021, Allred received the Lifetime Achievement Award from American Lawyer Magazine for her work as "a true trailblazer." Allred was honored in November 2021 to be one of the rare recipients of the Praeses Elit Award by Trinity College Dublin Law Society for the advancements she has made for women's rights and civil rights throughout her career. In October 2022, Allred was the grateful recipient of the LGBTQ+ Lawyers Association of Los Angeles Co-President's Award, their highest honor given to an individual who exemplifies and advances the values and goals of the Association and who has made outstanding contributions to the LGBTQ+ legal and broader community. Allred is the author of "Fight Back and Win, My Thirty-Year Fight Against Injustice - and How You Can Win Your Own Battles."



# Honorary Degree Recipient

## Susan Westerberg Prager

Dean Emerita | Professor of Law



A legal education trailblazer many times over, Susan Prager served as Southwestern's 11th Dean and CEO from 2013 to 2021, the first woman in the history of the law school to serve in the post. Dean Prager led Southwestern through the difficult enrollment challenges faced by legal education across the U.S. beginning in 2013, making Southwestern stronger in the process. She also led Southwestern during the most unusual first 16 months of the pandemic in 2020-2021. She joined Southwestern following five years as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), the nation's principal representative of America's law

schools and the scholarly society of the law teaching profession. Dean Prager had previously held other leadership positions in higher education, including 16 years as Dean of UCLA School of Law, President of Occidental College, and Provost of Dartmouth College.

After law school, she practiced law in North Carolina and then returned to her alma mater as a member of the UCLA law faculty, teaching community property, family law, wills and trusts, California legal history, and historic preservation law.

After a decade on the UCLA law faculty, she was named UCLA's Dean—one of only two women in that capacity in the country. While at UCLA, Dean Prager became the second woman elected President of the AALS. She also served on the Law School Admission Council and the Council of the ABA Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

Dean Prager was a Trustee of Stanford University for 14 years and a Vice President of the Board. She became the first female director of the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company (Pacific Life), and her 36 years of service make her the longest-serving outside director in company history. Before law school, she worked for U.S. Senator Thomas Kuchel, U.S. Congressman Paul McCloskey, and California Assemblyman John Veneman.

Throughout her career, Dean Prager has strongly advocated intellectual, gender, cultural, and racial diversity and inclusion. She has been honored with the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF) Legal Services Award and the Madrina Award of the UCLA Latino Alumni Association. And the Santa Monica Bay Keeper Circle Award recognized her early support for environmental programs. The UCLA Law Alumni Association presented its first Lifetime Achievement Award to Susan Prager. She also received The Edward A. Dickson Award, the greater UCLA Alumni Association's highest honor. Recent honors include the Ernestine Stahlhut Award from the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles (2017) and the California Lawyers Association Bernard E. Witkin Medal for her career of extraordinary service to justice and legal scholarship in California (2022). Most recently, Southwestern created the Susan Prager Excellence in Teaching Award. The endowment provides a substantial monetary prize every year, in perpetuity, to a Southwestern Law School professor who makes a significant difference in the lives of students in the same way Dean Prager has done over the course of her nearly 50 remarkable years in higher education.

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B.S., J.D., Professor of Law and Co-Director, Trial Advocacy Honors Program

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J.D., Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Associate Professor of Law and Director, Entertainment and the Arts Legal Clinic



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B.A., J.D., Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills, Director, Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills Program, and Co-Director, Negotiation Honors Program

**Faisal Kutty**

B.A., LL.M., Ph.D. (ABD), Associate Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills

**Christine L. Lofgren**

B.A., J.D., Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills

**Jonathan M. Miller**

B.A., J.D., Professor of Law

**Janet Nalbandyan '04**

B.A., J.D., Associate Professor of Law and Co-Director, Externship Program

**Janet Philibosian '04**

B.A., M.A., J.D., Associate Professor for Academic Success and Bar Preparation

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B.S., M.B.T., J.D., Professor of Law

**Susan Westerberg Prager**

A.B., J.D., Professor of Law and Dean Emerita

**Andrea Ramos**

B.A., J.D., Clinical Professor of Law, Director, Clinical Programs, and Director, Immigration Law Clinic

**Orly Ravid '14**

B.A., J.D., Associate Professor of Law and Associate Dean, Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute

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B.A., J.D., LL.M., Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Associate Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Administration

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B.A., J.D., Clinical Professor of Law and Director, Children's Rights Clinic

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B.A., J.D., Professor of Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills

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and 2022-23 Kenneth & Harle  
Montgomery Foundation Scholar

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B.S., J.D., Associate Professor  
of Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills

**Tracy L. Turner**

B.A., J.D., Professor of Legal Analysis,  
Writing, and Skills and Associate Dean  
for Learning Outcomes

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B.S., M.P.M., J.D., LL.M., Irwin R.  
Buchalter Professor of Law and 2022-  
23 Kenneth & Harle Montgomery  
Foundation Scholar

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B.A., M.A., J.D., Clinical Professor  
of Law, Director, Community  
Lawyering Clinic, and Director, Public  
Interest Law Concentration

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A.B., M.S., J.D., Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Clinical Professor of Law and  
Vice Dean

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Associate Professor of Law

**Bryce Woolley**

B.A., J.D., Associate Professor for  
Academic Success and Bar Preparation

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B.A., M.S., J.D., Professor of Law

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Chair Emerita

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B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Legal  
Analysis, Writing, and Skills Emeritus

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B.A., J.D., Ph.D., Dean Emeritus and  
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B.S., J.D., M.Acc., Professor of Law  
Emeritus

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B.B.A., J.D., Professor of Law Emeritus

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B.E.S., J.D., LL.M., Irwin R. Buchalter  
Professor of Law Emeritus and Director  
Emeritus, Biederman Entertainment  
and Media Law Institute

**Christine Metteer Lorillard**

B.A., M.A., Ph.D., Professor of Legal  
Analysis, Writing, and Skills Emerita

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B.A., J.D., Paul E. Treusch Professor  
of Law Emeritus in Residence

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B.A., J.D., Professor of Law Emerita

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B.A., J.D., LL.M., Professor of Law  
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B.A., M.A., J.D., Professor of Law  
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B.A., M.I.A., J.D., Irwin R. Buchalter  
Professor of Law Emeritus

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B.A., J.D., LL.M., Dean Emeritus and  
Professor of Law Emeritus

**Linda A. Whisman '83**

B.A., M.L.S., J.D., Associate Dean for  
Library Services Emerita and Professor  
of Law Emerita

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**Rahul Agrawal**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor  
of Law

**Natalia Anthony '21**

Bachelor's Degree, J.D., Adjunct  
Associate Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Professor of Law

**Sally Avitsian '03**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor  
of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Professor of Law

**David Bell**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor  
of Law

**Ally Bolour '96**

B.S., M.B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate  
Professor of Law

**Nicholas Bond '13**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor  
of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

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B.A., M.A., J.D., Adjunct Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

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B.S., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law





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B.S., J.D., Writing Center Specialist

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B.S., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

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B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Ethan Tyer '00**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Sandra Vargas '18**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Melissa Vasquez-Myers**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Kaimipono Wenger**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Laura Wesley**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Ayano A. Wolff '15**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Pantea Yashar**

B.A., J.D., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

**Iryna Zaverukha**

B.S., J.D., LL.M., Adjunct Associate Professor of Law

## Research Librarians

### James Britt

B.A., J.D., M.S.L.I.S., Head of Public Service and Adjunct Professor of Law

### David McFadden

B.A., M.S.L.S., Senior Reference Librarian and Adjunct Professor of Law

### Dinah Minkoff

B.A., M.S.L.S., J.D., Head of Collection Services and Adjunct Professor of Law

## Administrators

### President & Dean | Chief of Staff

#### Darby Dickerson

President and Dean

#### Marisela Cervantes

Chief of Staff and Assistant Corporate Secretary

### Vice Deans

#### Anahid Gharakhanian

Vice Dean and Co-Director of the Externship Program

#### Julie K. Waterstone

Vice Dean

### Faculty Administrators

#### Catherine L. Carpenter '76

Co-Director, Moot Court Honors Program and Co-Director, Southwestern's Evening Program

#### Alexandra D'Italia

Director of the Writing Center and Co-Director, Moot Court Honors Program

#### Bridgette M. de Gyarfas '94

Co-Director, Southwestern's Evening Program

#### Joseph P. Esposito '89

Co-Director, Trial Advocacy Program

#### Margaret F. Hall

Associate Dean and Law Library Director

#### Hila Keren

Associate Dean for Research

#### Cristina C. Knolton

Director, Legal Analysis, Writing, and Skills Program and Co-Director, Negotiation Honors Program

#### Janet Nalbandyan '04

B.A., J.D., Associate Professor of Law and Co-Director, Externship Program

#### Andrea Ramos

Director, Clinical Programs

#### Orly Ravid '14

Associate Dean, Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute

#### Natalie Rodriguez '12

Associate Dean for Academic Innovation and Administration

#### Harriet M. Rolnick

Associate Dean for SCALE®

#### Bill H. Seki '88

Co-Director, Trial Advocacy Honors Program

#### Byron G. Stier

Associate Dean for Strategic Initiatives

#### Tracy L. Turner

Associate Dean for Learning Outcomes

### Non-Faculty Administrators

#### Frank Acosta

Director of Facilities

#### Marcie Canal

Associate Dean of Operations and Risk Management and Deputy Title IX Coordinator

#### Nydia Dueñez '10

Associate Dean, Dean of Students and Diversity Affairs

#### Michael Garcia

Director of Campus Safety and Security

#### Lisa M. Gear

Associate Dean for Admissions

#### Wesley Holland

Registrar

#### Jessica Johnson

Assistant General Counsel and Title IX Coordinator

#### Suzanne Kunz

Director of Financial Aid

#### Debra L. Leathers

Associate Dean for Institutional Advancement

#### Steven Lopez

Chief Communications & Marketing Officer

#### Robert Mena

Associate Dean for Student Affairs

#### Sean Murphy

Chief Information Officer

#### Jeff Poltorak

Vice President for Institutional Advancement

#### Laura T. Ponder

Chief Financial Officer

#### Oscar Teran

Associate Dean of Career Services

#### Julie Xanders

General Counsel and Corporate Secretary

## Emeritus Staff

#### Doreen E. Heyer

Senior Associate Dean for Academic Administration Emerita



# Candidates for the Degree of Master of Laws

## General LL.M. Program

**S**outhwestern's General LL.M. Program is designed for students who have already earned a law degree in the United States or abroad and would like to continue their legal studies in a particular area according to their individual goals. To earn the LL.M. degree, students complete 24 units of post-J.D. coursework on a full- or part-time basis. Students work closely with their Southwestern faculty advisor to develop a detailed course of study tailored to their own interests from a comprehensive selection of more than 150 electives and core courses.

### **Lucía Belén Araque L \***

Abogada, Universidad de Buenos Aires - Argentina  
Especialista en Derecho Internacional de los Derechos Humanos, Universidad de Buenos Aires - Argentina

### **Angin Mgrdunts**

Bachelor of Laws, Artsakh State University - Armenia  
Master of Laws, Artsakh State University - Armenia

### **Yana Avanesyan**

Bachelor of Laws, Artsakh State University - Armenia  
Master of Laws, Yerevan State University - Armenia

## LL.M. Program in Entertainment and Media Law

**D**rawing on the resources and activities of the Donald E. Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute, Southwestern established the first LL.M. degree in Entertainment and Media Law at an American law school. To qualify for the specialized LL.M. degree, students must already possess a J.D. degree and complete a minimum of 24 units of post-J.D. coursework on a full- or part-time basis. By virtue of Southwestern's extremely broad range of nearly 60 entertainment and media law courses, students can select a general group of courses or pursue a more focused entertainment or media law curriculum.

### **Hilal Khalil Homaidan**

B.A., Emerson College  
J.D., City University of New York School of Law

### **✧ José Siderman-Fulbright Human Rights Fellow**

Established by the family of José Siderman, the José Siderman-Fulbright Fellowship at Southwestern provides the opportunity for an Argentine law graduate to earn an LL.M. degree in Civil Liberties and Human Rights at the law school and spend the following summer as an intern at the ACLU or another civil rights organization.

\* December 2022 Graduate

\*\* July 2023 Graduate

\*\*\* December 2023 Graduate

# Candidates for the Degree of Juris Doctor

## Full-Time Day Program

**S**tudents who choose Southwestern’s full-time day program complete their J.D. degree in three academic years of full-time study. During this time, they pursue a broad-based legal education with opportunities to focus on a particular area of the law. All first-year students participate in the designated curriculum. Second- and third-year students combine required courses with a wide range of electives to tailor a program suited to their interests and goals. Students take the designated curriculum of 15 units each semester during their first year and a course load of 10 to 16 units each semester thereafter. Students must complete 87 units to graduate.

**Jason S. Abrams**

B.A., University of California, Davis  
M.S., Boston University

**Sergo Aivazov**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Jenai A. Alford**

B.A., Pepperdine University

**Sultan R. Alshawa**<sup>1</sup>

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Denya A. Amador Ayala**

B.S., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Dena Amini**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Jonathan Aminpour**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Jonah Anderson**

B.S., California State Polytechnic  
University, Pomona

**Gor N. Asryan**

B.A., University of California,  
San Diego

**Andrew A. Baeza**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Anita Baghoomian**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Jennifer K. Barnes**

B.A., University of California,  
San Diego

**Nicholas Barrios**

B.S., Texas A&M University

**Sarkis S. Bederian**

B.S., California State University,  
Los Angeles

**Matthew Behboud**<sup>NL ♦</sup>

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Nima J. Bencohen**

B.S., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Mno M. Bogosyan**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**James J. Bohan-Mendoza**<sup>L</sup>

B.S., California State University,  
Northridge

**Aaron A. Bowers**<sup>V</sup>

B.S., University of Southern California

**Sareen Boyadjian**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Ryan D. Braun**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Shenika Butler**

B.A., Arizona State University

**Emilie M. Cabrera**<sup>L</sup>

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Diana Cazares**

B.A., California Baptist University

**Anthony C. Chavez**<sup>L</sup>

B.S., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

The following notation after a graduate’s name denotes participation in the corresponding program during law school. For a full description of the honors programs, refer to pages 22 and 23.

M – Moot Court Honors  
Program

N – Negotiation Honors  
Program

T – Trial Advocacy Honors  
Program

S – Student Bar Association

L – *Southwestern Law Review*

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International Law*

J – *Journal of International Media  
and Entertainment Law*

C – *Law Commentator*

V – Military Veteran

\* December 2022 Graduate

\*\* July 2023 Graduate

\*\*\* December 2023 Graduate

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**Thomas H. Chen <sup>S</sup>**

B.S., California State University,  
Long Beach

**Vivian Chen <sup>TI</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Berkeley

**Iniah C. Clark <sup>NV</sup>**

B.A., Norfolk State University

**Mollie M. Clinton <sup>TJ</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Mimon L. Cohen**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Angela Darbinian**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Peter Demerdjian <sup>L</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Christopher D. Derhartounian**

B.S., Northern Arizona University

**Emma M. Detamore**

B.A., Portland State University

**Juliet M. Di Pietro <sup>I</sup>**

B.A., Florida State University

**Giuliano C. Dorian**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Austin E. Dragoo**

B.S., Liberty University

**Salai M. Escobar**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Lauren Espina <sup>I</sup>**

B.A., University of San Francisco

**Ida Farahmand**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**David Fernandez**

B.S., Union Institute & University

**David B. Fisher <sup>N</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Elmer S. Flores**

B.A., University of California,  
San Diego

**Damon M. Fournier <sup>L</sup>**

B.A., University of San Francisco  
M.Ed., Portland State University

**Drew E. Frey <sup>N</sup>**

B.S., University of California, Davis

**Kaitlyn E. Fry <sup>T</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Cruz

**Renato A. Fuentes**

B.A., University of California, Riverside

**Aimmy Galvan Sanchez <sup>S</sup>**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Ivan Garcia <sup>N</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Jessica D. Garcia <sup>M</sup>**

B.A., Azusa Pacific University

**Nathalie N. Garcia**

B.A., University of California, Riverside

**Olga D. Garcia**

B.A., University of California, Riverside

**Chase C. Gardella <sup>N</sup>**

B.S., University of Puget Sound

**Jacqueline R. Garner <sup>L</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Andrew R. Gianelli <sup>TL</sup>**

B.A., University of Colorado, Boulder

**Elizabeth V. Gillett**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Nicolas A. Gomez <sup>I</sup>**

B.A., California State University,  
Long Beach

**Jesse Arianna M. Gonzales**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Deena J. Goodman <sup>\*</sup>**

B.A., University of Melbourne -  
Australia

**Daniel Gopstein**

B.A., Loyola Marymount University

**Mierna Hagehassan**

B.A., California State University,  
Fullerton

**Hrach Hamzoian**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Brandon A. Hirschberger <sup>\*</sup>**

B.S., California State University,  
Dominguez Hills

**Brian A. Infante <sup>NI</sup>**

B.A., Loyola Marymount University

**Edward R. Isaac**

B.S., Arizona State University

**Laura Estefanni Isais Ayon**

B.A., University of California, Berkeley

**Aaron S. Jablon <sup>I</sup>**

B.A., University of Central Florida  
M.S., University of Central Florida

**Cooper E. Jacobs** ♦ \*

B.A., University of Wisconsin, Madison

**Brandon I. Kahenasa**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Yeghia G. Kamarian**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Emily M. Karsik** <sup>c</sup>

B.A., The Master's College

**Bruce S. Kasra**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Vahe Khachikyan**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Khatchig Khatchadourian** <sup>v</sup>

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Tarek S. Kholaki**

B.F.A., California State Polytechnic  
University, Pomona

**Allyson Klein** <sup>L</sup>

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Oren Kohen**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Taylor S. Kruse** <sup>T</sup>

B.A., University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Akinlolu E. Kuteyi**

B.A., Carleton University - Canada

**Tiffany Lam**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Tara M. Lee**

B.A., Michigan State University

**Collier T. Litel**

B.A., McNeese State University

**Keith A. Lollis** <sup>N</sup>

B.S., Arizona State University

**Andrew E. Lutfala** <sup>M</sup>

B.A., University of Puget Sound

**Christen L. MacLeod**

B.A., California Lutheran University

**Milene R. Malekmehr** <sup>\*\*\*</sup>

B.A., University of Southern California

**Katelyn A. Marshall**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Anthony J. Martirosyan**

B.A., University of Southern California

**Gerard W. Matar**

B.S., California State University,  
Northridge

**Kenneth J. M'Balé**

B.A., University of Maryland

**Claire C. McCall** <sup>M</sup>

B.A., University of California, Riverside

**Elizabeth Y. McKinney**

B.A., California State Polytechnic  
University, Pomona

**Andrew J. Meily** <sup>I</sup>

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Vivian M. Meza**

B.A., Arizona State University

**Anush Minasyan**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Andrea R. Mirzakhanian**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara  
M.A., Columbia University

**Alec Mitchell** <sup>\*</sup>

B.A., University of Southern California

**Camelia Mayoli Moher**

B.A., University of California, Merced  
B.S., University of California, Merced

**Joshua J. Molchan**

B.A., California State University,  
Long Beach

**Louis A. Montenegro** <sup>v</sup>

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Shazir Mucklai** <sup>\*</sup>

B.S., University of Texas, Dallas

**Vianney Ariadne Munoz** <sup>M</sup>

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Ani Nalbandian**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

The following notation after a graduate's name denotes participation in the corresponding program during law school. For a full description of the honors programs, refer to pages 22 and 23.

M – Moot Court Honors  
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Program

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Program

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L – *Southwestern Law Review*

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International Law*

J – *Journal of International Media  
and Entertainment Law*

C – *Law Commentator*

V – Military Veteran

\* December 2022 Graduate

\*\* July 2023 Graduate

\*\*\* December 2023 Graduate

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**Victoria Nalbandian**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Hannah G. Nava-Holstein <sup>L</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Jessica N. Navar**

B.S., University of Southern California

**Isamar A. Negrete Buitrago <sup>NS</sup>**

B.S., California State University,  
Long Beach

**Jennifer Ordonez**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles  
M.A., Loyola Marymount University

**Cansu Pinar Ozhabes**

B.S., Istanbul University - Turkey  
M.S., Northeastern University

**Lily Pahlevani <sup>T</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Anna M. Pasano <sup>\*</sup>**

B.A., Loyola Marymount University  
M.D.R., Pepperdine Caruso School  
of Law

**Caitlin Patterson**

B.A., California State University,  
Long Beach

**Tina Petrosian**

B.A., University of California, Santa  
Barbara

**Raquel Piloyan**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Michael D. Pimentel**

B.A., University of California, Riverside

**Angel Z. Ransby**

B.S., University of Florida

**Maddonna Razi <sup>N</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Berkeley

**Stephanie Rendon**

B.A., California State University,  
Long Beach

**April Rivera <sup>L</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Davis

**Tiffany I. Romo**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Maya B. Rosen**

B.A., University of California, Santa  
Barbara

**Anthony Rubino <sup>L</sup>**

B.B.A., Villanova University

**Desiree Ruiz Alfaro <sup>NC</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Alexis Salinas**

B.A., California State University,  
Fullerton

**Sarah M. Sallee**

B.S., California State University,  
San Marcos

**Armando Sanchez <sup>T</sup>**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Daniela Sanchez**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Shane M. Sandvig**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Ithzel Santana**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Arya Sharifan**

B.S., California State University,  
Northridge

**Harrison A. Shiels**

B.A., University of Michigan

**Elizabeth Y. Shim**

B.A., University of California, Irvine  
M.A., Biola University

**Annie Shin <sup>I</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
San Diego

**Paulina G. Silva <sup>NI</sup>**

B.S., California State University,  
Northridge

**Scott S. Silva <sup>\*</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**John S. Solan**

B.S., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Elliot T. Solandt**

B.A., St. Lawrence University

**Ajeth S. Srikanthan**

B.A., Wilfrid Laurier University -  
Canada

**Imani T. Stafford <sup>\*\*</sup>**

B.B.A., University of Texas, Austin

**Alexis C. Stoker <sup>N</sup>**

B.A., California State Polytechnic  
University, Pomona

**Akash A. Swami**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Bitu R. Tahmasbi<sup>1</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Dellya F. Talas**

B.A., University of California,  
San Diego

**Araxi A. Tashchyan**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Stephanie M. Thackeray<sup>ML</sup>**

B.S., Florida State University  
M.A., University of South Florida

**Julia S. Unger<sup>ML</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Cruz

**Ricardo R. Uribe**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Abimelec M. Vargas Reyes**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Aleksandra Vysotskaia**

Bachelor of Law, Lomonosov Moscow  
State University - Russia

**Jenna H. Whelan<sup>1</sup>**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Stuart M. Williams**

B.F.A., New York University

**Ashley C. Wold<sup>TL ♦</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

**Grigory G. Yagubyan**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Andrea Yeam<sup>1</sup>**

B.S., University of California, Riverside

**Emma A. York-Spaeth<sup>1</sup>**

B.A., San Francisco State University

**Brandon T. Zenevitch**

B.A., West Virginia University

**Yiting Zhang<sup>1</sup>**

B.A., University of Washington

**Olivia O. Zorayan<sup>L</sup>**

B.A., University of California, Irvine



The following notation after a graduate's name denotes participation in the corresponding program during law school. For a full description of the honors programs, refer to pages 22 and 23.

M – Moot Court Honors  
Program

N – Negotiation Honors  
Program

T – Trial Advocacy Honors  
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S – Student Bar Association

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International Law*

J – *Journal of International Media  
and Entertainment Law*

C – *Law Commentator*

V – Military Veteran

\* December 2022 Graduate

\*\* July 2023 Graduate

\*\*\* December 2023 Graduate

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# Candidates for the Degree of Juris Doctor

## Part-Time Evening Program

The evening program is a four-year comprehensive course of study designed for students who would like to pursue their J.D. degree on a part-time basis. The program's schedule provides a way for students to attend law school while maintaining their full-time work responsibilities.

**Julia F. Alarcon**

B.A., California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

**Aram Bagrazyan**<sup>L</sup>

B.A., Greensboro College

**Slater T. Brennan**

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

**Brittanie N. Burns-Tucker**<sup>S</sup>

B.A., San Francisco State University  
M.A., University of California, Irvine

**Eve Canton**<sup>S</sup>

B.A., Brooklyn College

**Elena Cordonean**<sup>ML</sup>

Bachelor's Degree, State University of Moldova - Moldova  
Master's Degree, State University of Moldova - Moldova  
Master's Degree, Academy of Public Administration Office of the President of the Republic of Moldova - Moldova

**Alejandra Cortez**

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

**David M. Ferrell**<sup>V</sup>

B.A., Savannah State University

**Eduardo Garfias**<sup>\*\*\*</sup>

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

**Karine Harutyunyan**

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

**Kelvin D. Hoang**

B.A., California State University, Long Beach

**Bintu Juneja**

B.S., California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

**Jennifer K. Karvunidis**<sup>L</sup>

B.S., University of Evansville

**Jacob Lee**<sup>NS</sup>

B.A., Occidental College

**Jennifer L. Levy**

B.S., California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

**Veronique E. Linares**<sup>S</sup>

B.A., California State University, Northridge

**Teresa D. Martinez**

B.A., University of California, Berkeley

**Dean Matsuyama**<sup>M1</sup>

B.A., University of California, Irvine  
M.P.A., California State University, Northridge

**Michelle L. McNamara**

B.A., Wagner College  
M.A., University of Southern California

**Kathleen Moskowitz**

B.S., Arizona State University  
M.A., University of North Carolina at Charlotte

**Antonino Patti**<sup>ML\*</sup>

B.A., University of California, Berkeley  
M.B.A., California State University, Northridge  
M.U.R.P., California State University, Northridge

**Mordehai Peretz**

B.A., University of California, Berkeley

**Osiris A. Perez**

B.A., University of California, San Diego

**Betzy E. Portillo**

B.A., University of California, Irvine

**Natasha A. Riches**

B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

**Jennifer S. Rivera**

B.A., California State University, Northridge

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M – Moot Court Honors Program

N – Negotiation Honors Program

T – Trial Advocacy Honors Program

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L – *Southwestern Law Review*

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J – *Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law*

C – *Law Commentator*

V – Military Veteran

\* December 2022 Graduate

\*\* July 2023 Graduate

\*\*\* December 2023 Graduate

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**Lauren N. Romero** <sup>C</sup>  
B.A., University of California,  
Santa Cruz

**Julissa E. Salgueiro**  
B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Kristen Acaya Sanders**  
B.S., California Lutheran University

**Michael E. Seager** <sup>L</sup>  
B.A., College of Charleston

**Matthew L. Trumble** <sup>\*</sup>  
B.A., Western Colorado University

**Ke Yang** <sup>1</sup>  
B.S., Sichuan University - China  
M.S., University of Illinois at Urbana  
Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana

**Meline Yedigaryan**  
B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Ofelia S. Yerzinkyan**  
B.A., University of California, Davis

**Marvel J. Zhigalin** <sup>1</sup>  
B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Lilian Zohrab** <sup>L S</sup>  
B.A., California State University,  
Fullerton

# Candidates for the Degree of Juris Doctor

## PLEAS and Part-Time Day Programs

**P**LEAS (Part-Time Legal Education Alternative at Southwestern) is one of the nation's few part-time day programs designed to accommodate students with child- or elder-care responsibilities. Established in 1981, the four-year PLEAS schedule is typically arranged to enable parents and guardians to attend law school while their children are in school. A select number of other students are granted a similar schedule. Part-time day students attend classes with traditional full-time students, taking a designated curriculum during the first two years of study. Students have many opportunities for elective courses and externships during the final two years. Students take 8 to 11 units each semester and attend two summer sessions. Students must complete 87 units to graduate.

**Rita Blikian**  
B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Alexis D. Ekai reb**  
B.A., Loyola Marymount University

**Aaron L. Goldenberg** <sup>\*</sup>  
B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Rebecca Mikhail** <sup>\*</sup>  
B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

**Max G. Moshkovich** <sup>\*</sup>  
B.S., California State University,  
Northridge

**Kevin P. O'Neill**  
B.A., Drexel University

**Taurin J. Robinson** <sup>PL</sup>  
B.A., Pepperdine University  
M.A., Pepperdine University

**Mariam L. Sarkisyan** <sup>\*</sup>  
B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

**Yaniv Yasmeh**  
B.A., Loyola Marymount University

The following notation after a graduate's name denotes participation in the corresponding program during law school. For a full description of the honors programs, refer to pages 22 and 23.

M – Moot Court Honors  
Program  
N – Negotiation Honors  
Program  
T – Trial Advocacy Honors  
Program  
S – Student Bar Association

L – *Southwestern Law Review*  
I – *Southwestern Journal of  
International Law*  
J – *Journal of International Media  
and Entertainment Law*  
C – *Law Commentator*

PL – PLEAS  
<sup>\*</sup> December 2022 Graduate  
<sup>\*\*</sup> July 2023 Graduate  
<sup>\*\*\*</sup> December 2023 Graduate  
♦ Southwestern Torch Bearer



# Candidates for the Degree of Juris Doctor

## SCALE®—Two-Year J.D. Program

**E**stablished in 1975, SCALE is the first two-calendar-year accelerated J.D. course of instruction in the nation. SCALE students learn fundamental legal principles and develop core lawyering skills through an integrated curriculum that utilizes hypothetical problems as a teaching method while encompassing all essential subject matter taught in traditional required courses. Hands-on experience is provided in class and through externships in professional legal settings. SCALE's intensive workload relies on total immersion and is designed to begin acclimating students to the rigors of law practice.

### **Shelby P. Banks**

B.S., California Polytechnic State  
University, San Luis Obispo

### **Christina Belmonte<sup>N</sup>**

B.A., University of Redlands

### **Morgan C. Bennett**

B.B.A., Loyola Marymount University

### **Michael P. Bourgi<sup>\*</sup>**

B.S., University of La Verne

### **Mario A. Castellanos**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

### **Alana M. Chester<sup>T</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

### **Meshi Chitrit**

B.A., University of California, Riverside

### **Haley Grace Clark<sup>T</sup>**

B.A., University of the Ozarks

### **Madalyn S. Cohen**

B.A., Emerson College

### **Elizabeth Corbett<sup>N</sup>**

B.B.A., Pace University  
B.S., Pace University

### **Nikole DeBonis<sup>JS</sup>**

B.A., Chapman University

### **Angelica Gonzalez<sup>S</sup>**

B.A., California State University, Long  
Beach

### **Zachary E. Gorokhovsky<sup>I</sup>**

B.A., American Jewish University  
M.A., Case Western Reserve University

### **Sydney Graus**

B.A., California State University,  
Northridge

### **Dylan Gunaratne<sup>LS\*\*\*</sup>**

B.A., California State University,  
Los Angeles

### **Michael P. Hanna**

B.A., University of Nebraska

### **Yanina Harutyunyan**

B.S., University of Southern California

### **Borna Houman**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

### **Elana Jason**

B.A., University of California,  
Los Angeles

### **Samuel D. Johnson<sup>ML\*\*\*</sup>**

B.S., University of Michigan

### **Rachael Krishnan<sup>M\*</sup>**

B.A., University of Notre Dame  
M.A., Azusa Pacific University

### **Robert Kwan<sup>\*</sup>**

B.A., University of California,  
Santa Barbara

### **Tsen-Yin Lin<sup>N</sup>**

B.A., University of Southern California

### **Martha D. Ludlum**

B.A., Bryn Mawr College  
M.B.A., Columbia University

### **Dylan Michael Malinoff<sup>\*</sup>**

B.A., University of Southern California

### **Nicolas R. Marchese**

B.A., Fordham University

### **Herbert M. Martinez**

B.S., College of William and Mary

### **Kelly K. Mayer<sup>N</sup>**

B.S., American University

### **Morgan L. McCarthy**

B.A., University of Southern California

### **Neil S. Nabavi**

B.A., University of California, Riverside

### **Jennifer J.R. Nessary<sup>NS</sup>**

B.A., California State University,  
Long Beach

**Carter J. Nott**<sup>S ♦</sup>  
 B.A., University of California, Davis

**Michael J. Nourafshan**  
 B.S., Boston University  
 M.S., Pepperdine University

**Liana Ohanian**  
 B.S., California State University,  
 Northridge

**Lorenzo Orozco, Jr.**  
 B.A., Columbia University

**Erica Park**<sup>I</sup>  
 B.A., Pepperdine University

**Sarah E. Paset**<sup>I</sup>  
 B.S., University of California,  
 Los Angeles

**Amrita Sanjiv Patil**<sup>T</sup>  
 B.A., California State University,  
 Northridge

**Sandy Pham**<sup>I</sup>  
 B.A., University of California,  
 Los Angeles

**Shayan Rahbar Vafae**  
 B.A., University of California,  
 Los Angeles

**Lindsay N. Roginski**<sup>T</sup>  
 B.A., Saint Mary's College of California

**Constanze A. Rowe**<sup>NJ</sup>  
 B.B.A., Texas A&M University

**Jacob L. Schwartz**  
 B.S., University of Miami

**Madison S. Shepard**  
 B.A., University of California, Berkeley

**Carlos Suarez Hernandez**  
 B.A., University of California,  
 Santa Barbara

**Ethan K. Taase**  
 B.A., California State University,  
 Long Beach

**Nathaniel Tafoya**  
 B.A., University of Arizona

**Kalin A. Woodward**<sup>♦</sup>  
 B.A., California Lutheran University  
 B.S., California Lutheran University

**Chandler J. Wren**  
 B.S., Oregon State University

**Lauren A. Ybarra**  
 B.A., California State Polytechnic  
 University, Pomona

**Zain A. Zaidi**  
 B.A., University of California, Irvine

## J.D./M.B.A. Program

**I**n partnership with The Peter F. Drucker and Masatoshi Ito Graduate School of Management of Claremont Graduate University, Southwestern established a concurrent-degree program for students who wish to earn a J.D. and Master's of Business Administration (M.B.A.). To earn the M.B.A. degree, students apply 10 units earned at the law school to the 48 units required for the M.B.A. degree and complete the remaining 38 units at Drucker.

**Benjamin Refoua**<sup>BSC</sup>  
 B.S., University of Southern California  
 M.B.A., Drucker School of Management

**Jessica N. Smith**<sup>NICBFD ♦</sup>  
 B.A., University of California, Santa  
 Barbara  
 M.B.A., Drucker School of Management

**Serena Yaghoubi**<sup>BFD</sup>  
 B.A., University of California,  
 Los Angeles  
 M.B.A., Drucker School of Management

**Ellen Zakharian**<sup>NBFD</sup>  
 B.A., University of California,  
 Los Angeles  
 M.B.A., Drucker School of Management

The following notation after a graduate's name denotes participation in the corresponding program during law school. For a full description of the honors programs, refer to pages 22 and 23.

M – Moot Court Honors Program	L – <i>Southwestern Law Review</i>	
N – Negotiation Honors Program	I – <i>Southwestern Journal of International Law</i>	
T – Trial Advocacy Honors Program	J – <i>Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law</i>	B – J.D./M.B.A.
S – Student Bar Association	C – <i>Law Commentator</i>	FD – Full-Time Day Program
		SC – SCALE Program
		♦ Southwestern Torch Bearer

# Student Organizations

## Moot Court Honors Program <sup>M</sup>

**T**he Moot Court Honors Program provides students with the opportunity to develop oral and written advocacy skills through competitions in appellate advocacy. Students who excel during the annual Moot Court Intramural Competition are invited to interview for Southwestern's nationally recognized Moot Court Honors Program. Those selected represent Southwestern in regional and national interscholastic competitions as oralists, brief writers, or board advisors. Members of the Moot Court Board of Governors are selected based upon scholarship and participation in previous competitions. Southwestern's moot court teams regularly win major regional and national awards for brief writing, oral appellate advocacy, and overall team excellence and have earned a reputation as one of the most active and successful moot court programs in the country.

## Negotiation Honors Program <sup>N</sup>

**T**he Negotiation Honors Program provides students with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate core lawyering skills in the context of negotiating. Members of the program take part in competitions that allow them to apply the skills of legal research, writing, advocacy, and client counseling through negotiation exercises, expanding their experience in all aspects of legal practice. Top performing students in the annual Negotiation Intramural Competition are eligible to interview for the Negotiation Honors Program. The Negotiation Board of Governors, made up of experienced team members, coordinates both the intramural competition finals and team preparation for interscholastic competition.

## Trial Advocacy Honors Program <sup>T</sup>

**T**he Trial Advocacy Honors Program provides students with the opportunity to develop oral advocacy skills through the annual Trial Advocacy Intramural Competition, the JEBS (Joseph Esposito/Bill Seki) Competition, and interscholastic competitions in which Southwestern students compete against students across the nation. The program prepares students to be effective courtroom advocates who are able to conduct direct- and cross-examinations and present compelling opening statements and closing arguments. Students who excel in the Intramural rounds are eligible to apply for positions in the Trial Advocacy Honors Program and represent Southwestern in regional and national trial competitions. The Trial Advocacy Board of Governors, made up of experienced team members, coordinates both the Intramural Competition finals and team preparation for interscholastic competitions.

## *Southwestern Law Review* <sup>L</sup>

**T**he *Southwestern Law Review* is a student-edited journal that publishes scholarly articles and commentary on California and federal law from prominent jurists, law professors, practitioners, and students on the *Law Review* staff. Each student member of the *Law Review* has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement and writing skills. Students ranked in the top ten percent of the first-year day and SCALE classes and second-year evening and PLEAS classes, as well as students who excel in the annual Summer Write-on Competition, are invited to participate. Members of the *Law Review* Executive Board are selected based upon scholarship, editing skills, legal research skills, extensive personal interviews, and overall contribution to the *Law Review*. Recent volumes of the *Southwestern Law Review* have examined environmental law, the First Amendment, labor law, family law, public interest law, health law, copyright, criminal procedure, the right to privacy, sexual harassment, and the federal and state statutes of limitation.

## *Southwestern Journal of International Law*<sup>1</sup>

The *Southwestern Journal of International Law* publishes scholarly notes and articles contributed by students and members of the legal community on issues that complement Southwestern's extensive course offerings and faculty expertise in international and comparative law. Participation in the *Journal* allows students to develop their legal writing and research skills along with their substantive knowledge of topics covered by the *Journal*. Any Southwestern student in good academic standing who has completed at least the first-year day or SCALE program or at least the second year of a part-time program may compete in the summer Write-on Competition to earn a place on the *Journal* staff. Members who are recognized for outstanding contributions to the *Journal* are selected to serve on the Editorial Board during the subsequent year. Symposia, with proceedings later published in the *Journal*, have included "In the Shadow of Territorial Conflict Symposium: Legacies of Soviet-era Media Control and Speech Norms," "Fake News and Weaponized Defamation: Global Perspectives," and "Freedom of Information Laws on the Global Stage: Past Present and Future."

## *Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law*<sup>1</sup>

The *Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law* is a semi-annual publication produced by Southwestern's Donald E. Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute in cooperation with the Forums on Communications Law and the Entertainment and Sports Industries of the American Bar Association. The Board of Editors is composed of Biederman Institute faculty and members of the Forums' committees. Students who are interested in entertainment and media law are selected to work with the Board on research, technical editing, and other tasks. The first of its kind, the *Journal* promotes scholarship focused on the international dimension of media and entertainment law and addresses all aspects of international and comparative law in these areas, including topics related to content, regulation, intellectual property, distribution, publishing, internet and technology, and transactions.

## *Student Bar Association*<sup>s</sup>

The Southwestern Student Bar Association (SBA), to which all students automatically belong, has been recognized several times as "the most outstanding student bar association" in the region and nation by the American Bar Association/Law Student Division and other entities. The SBA Board of Directors is composed of elected executive officers; the American Bar Association/Law Student Division representative; class representatives; and directors of appointed committees. The SBA sponsors programs and events to promote student interests, provides a variety of extracurricular experiences for students and encourages community service. Among the activities recently presented by the SBA and student organizations are the SBA Safe Spaces Series, PILC Trivia Bowl, Midnight Club and Sunrise Club, Hoover Toy Drive, and Bison Week festivities.

## *Law Commentator*<sup>c</sup>

The *Law Commentator* is a student-run news magazine produced by and for the Southwestern student body in print and online formats. The student editors develop editorial and news policies and determine coverage. Features of the publication include articles and commentary by students, faculty, and administrators on-campus programs and events, student accomplishments, alumni profiles, legal issues in the news, and media and entertainment developments.



# Awards and Scholarships

Latin degrees cannot be determined until all grades have been completed and GPAs have been calculated.

## Dean’s Academic Leadership Award

The Dean’s Academic Leadership Award was established by the Board of Trustees to provide scholarships to the highest-ranking upper-division students.

Matthew Behboud	Antonino Patti	Stephanie M. Thackeray
Dylan Gunaratne	Michael E. Seager	

## Dean’s List

The top ten percent of each class (SCALE, day program, or part-time), based on annual GPA, determines who is on the Dean’s List at the end of each academic year.

Gor N. Asryan	Dean Matsuyama
Aram Bagrazyan	Claire C. McCall
Matthew Behboud	Anush Minasyan
James J. Bohan-Mendoza	Max G. Moshkovich
Emilie M. Cabrera	Hannah G. Nava-Holstein
Anthony C. Chavez	Antonino Patti
Alejandra Cortez	Natasha A. Riches
Damon M. Fournier	Tiffany I. Romo
Chase C. Gardella	Anthony Rubino
Andrew R. Gianelli	Michael E. Seager
Nicolas A. Gomez	Stephanie M. Thackeray
Dylan Gunaratne	Ashley C. Wold
Allyson Klein	Meline Yedigaryan
Andrew E. Lutfala	

## Dean’s Fellows

Upper-division students in the top of their class are invited to serve as Dean’s Fellows. Selection is based upon their expertise and experience with particular courses and professors. Dean’s Fellows work with students on overall preparation and comprehension of coursework, and help students develop effective study strategies to maximize their opportunities for academic success.

Jonathan Aminpour	Claire C. McCall
Gor N. Asryan	Anush Minasyan
Matthew Behboud	Hannah G. Nava-Holstein
James J. Bohan-Mendoza	Lorenzo Orozco, Jr.
Mario A. Castellanos	Sarah E. Paset
Anthony C. Chavez	Antonino Patti
Thomas H. Chen	Mordehai Peretz
Vivian Chen	Raquel Piloyan
Iniah C. Clark	Tiffany I. Romo
Elizabeth Corbett	Maya B. Rosen
Elena Cordonean	Desiree Ruiz Alfaro
Ida Farahmand	Michael E. Seager
David B. Fisher	Jessica N. Smith
Damon M. Fournier	Alexis C. Stoker
Ivan Garcia	Julia S. Unger
Nicolas A. Gomez	Chandler J. Wren
Angelica Gonzalez	Ke Yang
Dylan Gunaratne	Andrea Yeam
Brian A. Infante	Meline Yedigaryan
Herbert M. Martinez	Lilian Zohrab
Dean Matsuyama	Olivia O. Zorayan
Kelly K. Mayer	

## Dean's Merit Award

The Dean's Merit Award was established by the Board of Trustees to provide scholarships to upper-division students who have demonstrated academic excellence and are in the top thirty percent of their class.

Sultan R. Alshawwa	Nicolas A. Gomez	Antonino Patti
Denya A. Amador Ayala	Deena J. Goodman	Betzy E. Portillo
Gor N. Asryan	Zachary E. Gorokhovskiy	Mandonna Razi
Aram Bagrazyan	Dylan Gunaratne	Natasha A. Riches
Matthew Behboud	Mierna Hagehassan	April Rivera
James J. Bohan-Mendoza	Borna Houman	Taurin J. Robinson
Ryan D. Braun	Brian A. Infante	Tiffany I. Romo
Emilie M. Cabrera	Samuel D. Johnson	Maya B. Rosen
Mario A. Castellanos	Yeghia G. Kamarian	Anthony Rubino
Anthony C. Chavez	Jennifer K. Karvunidis	Desiree Ruiz Alfaro
Vivian Chen	Khatchig Khatchadourian	Armando Sanchez
Iniah C. Clark	Allyson Klein	Shane M. Sandvig
Elizabeth Corbett	Jennifer L. Levy	Michael E. Seager
Elena Cordonean	Martha D. Ludlum	Arya Sharifan
Alejandra Cortez	Andrew E. Lutfala	Annie Shin
Peter Demerdjian	Nicolas R. Marchese	Paulina G. Silva
Emma M. Detamore	Herbert M. Martinez	Stephanie M. Thackeray
Juliet M. Di Pietro	Dean Matsuyama	Julia S. Unger
Austin E. Dragoo	Kelly K. Mayer	Jenna H. Whelan
Ida Farahmand	Claire C. McCall	Ashley C. Wold
David B. Fisher	Anush Minasyan	Chandler J. Wren
Damon M. Fournier	Max G. Moshkovich	Ke Yang
Drew E. Frey	Vianney Ariadne Munoz	Andrea Yeam
Kaitlyn E. Fry	Hannah G. Nava-Holstein	Meline Yedigaryan
Jessica D. Garcia	Carter J. Nott	Lilian Zohrab
Chase C. Gardella	Liana Ohanian	Olivia O. Zorayan
Jacqueline R. Garner	Lorenzo Orozco, Jr.	
Andrew R. Gianelli	Sarah E. Paset	

## Biederman Scholars

The Donald E. Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute of Southwestern established the Biederman Scholars program in an effort to recognize academic excellence and expand opportunities for promising future entertainment lawyers. Students selected as Biederman Scholars are eligible for special entertainment and media law educational, networking, and other mentoring opportunities. To be considered as a Biederman Scholar, students must be in the top twenty percent of their class, have excelled in Copyright, and have a demonstrated interest in entertainment, media, sports, or music law. Candidates are selected by the Biederman faculty and Associate Dean of the Biederman Institute.

Anthony C. Chavez	Anthony Rubino
Dylan Gunaratne	Desiree Ruiz Alfaro

## Wildman/Schumacher Scholarship

The Wildman/Schumacher Scholarship program was established in 1983 in memory of Paul W. Wildman, who served Southwestern for 28 years as a student, faculty member, dean, and president, and Southwestern's founder, John J. Schumacher, who championed legal education opportunities for students from a wide range of backgrounds and actively encouraged the enrollment of women and students of color long before other institutions did so.

Jenai A. Alford  
 Denya A. Amador Ayala  
 Dena Amini  
 Jonathan Aminpour  
 Jonah Anderson  
 Gor N. Asryan  
 Andrew A. Baeza  
 Anita Baghoomian  
 Aram Bagrazyan  
 Shelby P. Banks  
 Jennifer K. Barnes  
 Nicholas Barrios  
 Christina Belmonte  
 Nima J. Bencohen  
 Morgan C. Bennett  
 Rita Blikian  
 Mno M. Bogosyan  
 Ryan D. Braun  
 Slater T. Brennan  
 Emilie M. Cabrera  
 Mario A. Castellanos  
 Diana Cazares  
 Anthony C. Chavez  
 Thomas H. Chen  
 Vivian Chen  
 Alana M. Chester  
 Haley Grace Clark  
 Iniah C. Clark  
 Mollie M. Clinton  
 Elizabeth Corbett  
 Peter Demerdjian  
 Emma M. Detamore  
 Juliet M. Di Pietro  
 Giuliano C. Dorian  
 Austin E. Drago  
 Lauren Espina  
 David M. Ferrell  
 David B. Fisher  
 Damon M. Fournier  
 Drew E. Frey  
 Kaitlyn E. Fry  
 Renato A. Fuentes  
 Olga D. Garcia  
 Chase C. Gardella  
 Jacqueline R. Garner  
 Andrew R. Gianelli  
 Nicolas A. Gomez  
 Jesse Arianna Gonzales  
 Angelica Gonzalez  
 Zachary E. Gorokhovskiy  
 Sydney Graus  
 Dylan Gunaratne  
 Mierna Hagehassan  
 Michael P. Hanna  
 Karine Harutyunyan  
 Brandon A. Hirschberger

Borna Houman  
 Brian A. Infante  
 Edward R. Isaac  
 Aaron S. Jablon  
 Elana Jason  
 Samuel D. Johnson  
 Brandon I. Kahenasa  
 Jennifer K. Karvunidis  
 Bruce S. Kasra  
 Khatchig Khatchadourian  
 Allyson Klein  
 Oren Kohen  
 Rachael Krishnan  
 Akinlolu E. Kuteyi  
 Tiffany Lam  
 Jacob Lee  
 Tara M. Lee  
 Jennifer L. Levy  
 Tsen-Yin Lin  
 Collier T. Litel  
 Keith A. Lollis  
 Andrew E. Lutfala  
 Christen L. MacLeod  
 Milene R. Malekmehr  
 Nicolas R. Marchese  
 Katelyn A. Marshall  
 Herbert M. Martinez  
 Anthony J. Martirosyan  
 Kelly K. Mayer  
 Kenneth J. M'Balé  
 Claire C. McCall  
 Elizabeth Y. McKinney  
 Michelle L. McNamara  
 Andrew J. Meily  
 Vivian M. Meza  
 Rebecca Mikhail  
 Anush Minasyan  
 Alec Mitchell  
 Camelia Mayoli Moher  
 Louis A. Montenegro  
 Max G. Moshkovich  
 Vianney Ariadne Munoz  
 Neil S. Nabavi  
 Ani Nalbandian  
 Victoria Nalbandian  
 Hannah G. Nava-Holstein  
 Isamar A. Negrete  
 Buitrago  
 Carter J. Nott  
 Liana Ohanian  
 Lily Pahlevani  
 Erica Park  
 Sarah E. Paset  
 Amrita Sanjiv Patil  
 Antonino Patti  
 Mordehai Peretz

Tina Petrosian  
 Sandy Pham  
 Raquel Piloyan  
 Betzy E. Portillo  
 Shayan Rahbar Vafae  
 Angel Z. Ransby  
 Mondonna Razi  
 Benjamin Refoua  
 April Rivera  
 Taurin J. Robinson  
 Maya B. Rosen  
 Constanze A. Rowe  
 Anthony Rubino  
 Armando Sanchez  
 Daniela Sanchez  
 Shane M. Sandvig  
 Ithzel Santana  
 Jacob L. Schwartz  
 Arya Sharifan  
 Madison S. Shepard  
 Annie Shin  
 Jessica N. Smith  
 John S. Solan  
 Elliot T. Solandt  
 Ajeth S. Srikanthan  
 Imani T. Stafford  
 Alexis C. Stoker  
 Carlos Suarez Hernandez  
 Akash A. Swami  
 Ethan K. Taase  
 Nathaniel Tafoya  
 Delya F. Talas  
 Araxi A. Tashchyan  
 Stephanie M. Thackeray  
 Abimelec M. Vargas Reyes  
 Aleksandra Vysotskaia  
 Jenna H. Whelan  
 Stuart M. Williams  
 Ashley C. Wold  
 Kalin A. Woodward  
 Chandler J. Wren  
 Grigory G. Yagubyan  
 Yaniv Yasmeh  
 Lauren A. Ybarra  
 Andrea Yeam  
 Emma A. York-Spaeth  
 Zain A. Zaidi  
 Ellen Zakharian  
 Brandon T. Zenevitch  
 Yiting Zhang  
 Marvel J. Zhigalin  
 Lilian Zohrab

## **George and Katrina Woolverton Public-Service Award**

**E**stablished in 2010 through the generosity of Southwestern alumni George '75 and Katrina '02 Woolverton, the George and Katrina Woolverton Public-Service Award is given to one graduating student in recognition of demonstrated and extraordinary dedication to public-interest law activities while at Southwestern.

Angelica Gonzalez

## **Woolverton Family Public-Interest Award**

**T**he Woolverton Family Public-Interest Award honors one graduating student in recognition of exceptional dedication to public-interest law activities while at Southwestern.

Jesse Arianna M. Gonzales

## **Harvey L. and Lillian Silbert Public-Interest Fellowship Program**

**T**he Harvey L. and Lillian Silbert Public-Interest Fellowship Program was established in 2000 by the Harvey L. and Lillian Silbert Foundation. This program permits students who are selected as Silbert Fellows to receive grants that will enable them to work and gain legal experience at non-profit public interest organizations. The Silbert Foundation's generous gift not only assists numerous legal service providers but also benefits Southwestern students by providing them an opportunity to gain practical legal experience and exposure to public-interest work.

Herbert M. Martinez

## **Public-Interest Law Summer Grant Program**

**T**he Public-Interest Law Committee's Summer Grant Program was established in 1990 with the mission of providing financial support to students seeking full-time summer clerkships with a nonprofit legal services organization providing no cost legal assistance to underserved, marginalized communities. This program makes it possible for students to acquire the practical experience necessary to address the needs of indigent communities. Recipients are selected annually based on the merit of their proposed summer clerk positions, participation in on-campus public-interest activities, community work, and commitment to pro bono or public-interest career practice.

Christina Belmonte  
Aaron A. Bowers  
Meshi Chitrit  
Emily M. Karsik  
Katelyn A. Marshall  
Vivian M. Meza  
Camelia Mayoli Moher  
Hannah G. Nava-Holstein

Anna M. Pasano  
Stephanie Rendon  
Jennifer S. Rivera  
Armando Sanchez  
Carlos Suarez Hernandez  
Abimelec M. Vargas Reyes  
Kalin A. Woodward

## **Public-Interest Law Service Award**

**S**outhwestern's Public-Interest Law Service Award honors selected graduating students who demonstrated significant dedication to public-interest law activities while at Southwestern.

Jennifer K. Karvundis  
Herbert M. Martinez  
Vivian M. Meza

Tina Petrosian  
Betzy E. Portillo  
Julissa E. Salgueiro



## Public-Service Program

Southwestern's Public-Service Program was established in 2009 to encourage students to perform 25 hours of service each year as part of the legal profession's responsibility to ensure equal access to justice for all communities. In partnership with civil legal aid, nonprofit services organizations, and government agencies, students provide direct legal services, litigation and policy advocacy, and community legal education in a wide variety of settings and contexts. Students who perform a minimum of 75 hours of public-service throughout their law school experience receive special recognition at commencement and have the notation "Public-Service Distinction" placed on their law school transcript.

Jonah Anderson  
Aaron A. Bowers  
Diana Cazares  
Meshi Chitrit  
Austin E. Dragoo  
Lauren Espina  
Nathalie N. Garcia  
Angelica Gonzalez  
Mierna Hagehassan  
Emily M. Karsik  
Jennifer K. Karvunidis  
Christen L. MacLeod

Katelyn A. Marshall  
Herbert M. Martinez  
Vivian M. Meza  
Andrea R. Mirzakhanian  
Camelia Mayoli Moher  
Vianney Ariadne Munoz  
Lorenzo Orozco, Jr.  
Cansu Pinar Ozhabes  
Tina Petrosian  
Betzy E. Portillo  
Julissa E. Salgueiro  
Stephanie M. Thackeray

## Judge Harry Pregerson Public-Service Fellows

Made possible by a grant from the Rodan Family Foundation in honor of the esteemed 9th Circuit Judge, the Judge Harry Pregerson (JHP) Public-Service Fellows are selected students who demonstrate exceptional dedication to public-service, and who are most likely to dedicate their legal careers to working on behalf of underserved communities and causes. Through funded summer fellowships, specialized training, leadership development, and facilitated interaction with practitioners, academics, and like-minded students, JHP Public-Service Fellows also serve as an integral part of creating service-minded culture, community, and leadership at Southwestern.

JHP Public-Service Fellows undergo a competitive committee review process comprised of Southwestern faculty, staff, and alumni who select JHP Public-Service Fellows on the basis of merit, potential for leadership, and demonstrated commitment or significant achievements in the fields of public-service.

Angelica Gonzalez  
Vivian M. Meza  
Vianney Ariadne Munoz

Lorenzo Orozco, Jr.  
Tina Petrosian

# The History of Academic Dress

VINTAGE SOUTHWESTERN CLASS PHOTO



The traditional academic attire that we see as a colorful part of Commencement exercises had its beginnings in the Middle Ages when the university first developed as an institution of higher learning.

The most important centers of intellectual life in the 10th century were the monasteries—centers least affected by the disorders of the time. The relative stability of the monastic life left monks free to develop systematic graded education for the first time in the history of Western society. The first students were monks and priests, and the costumes they wore were more for protection from the weather than as distinctive regalia for the scholarly way of life. Caps were a necessity in the cold, drafty buildings and capes and hoods were also worn for warmth. In later centuries, as the British universities passed from the control of the monasteries, the costumes took on brighter colors, and the hood was singled out as the item to be made distinctive for various degrees by color, trimming, and lining.

The use of caps, gowns, and hoods has been continuous in the United States since Colonial times—the tradition having been transplanted from Oxford and Cambridge to the New World. However, the dress code was modified and the vivid colors so prevalent in Great Britain were eliminated. Prior to 1895, faculty academic costumes varied widely from university to university. Since few people knew the distinguishing marks or colors for the various degrees, the dress code was standardized for all American universities. At the same time, students began a movement which would spread throughout the country to make academic regalia an integral part of the commencement ceremony. A desire to make the festivities more impressive and interesting as well as to add grace and dignity to the ceremony led the students in this successful endeavor.

Southwestern students participating in today's commencement ceremony are wearing regalia for the degrees of Master of Laws and Juris Doctor. The gowns have full, rounded sleeves marked with three purple velvet bars. The academic hoods for both degrees bear purple and white edging identifying Southwestern Law School as the institution conferring the degree. The purple tassel signifies a legal studies degree.

Students who have been on the Dean's List (top ten percent of each class at the end of each academic year) or participated in academic co-curricular honors or extracurricular service programs are wearing stoles in distinguishing colors as follows: Dean's List—scarlet with white lettering; Dean's Fellow—light green with white lettering; Moot Court Honors Program—white with purple lettering; Negotiation Honors Program—green with white lettering; Trial Advocacy Honors Program—purple with white lettering; *Law Review*—gold with purple lettering; *Journal of International Law*—purple with gold lettering; *Journal of Media and Entertainment Law*—silver with purple lettering; Los Angeles Public-Interest Law Journal—maroon with silver lettering; Student Bar Association—navy blue with gold lettering; *Law Commentator*—light blue with white lettering; and the Public-Service Program—blue with white lettering. Southwestern Torch Bearers are wearing silver cording, honoring their connection with Southwestern alumni, faculty, or staff members. Military Veterans are wearing red, white, and blue chords. Students with concentrations are distinguished as follows: Civil Litigation and Advocacy—gold; Criminal Law and Advocacy—teal; Critical Race, Gender, and Sexuality Studies—forest green; Entertainment and Media Law—purple; Labor and Employment Law—white; Public Interest Law—burgundy; and Technology Law and Entrepreneurship—royal blue.

# Congratulations, Graduates!



*This program contains official lists of names of graduates who received degrees in December 2022 and unofficial lists of names of candidates for May and July 2023 graduation. Degree conferral for anticipated May and July 2023 graduates is not official until final grades for the student's final semester or term have been entered and graduation requirements have been verified. Southwestern's official registry for conferral of degrees is the Registrar's Office.*