

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School

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■ The Dean's Introduction

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School has been educating lawyers and leaders in Georgia since 1933 and now attracts students from around the country. We provide a rigorous, high-quality program of legal education that produces competent and ethical lawyers who are dedicated to helping people, especially in underserved communities. We intentionally instill in our students a sense of obligation to the community and to the legal profession—an obligation to pursue justice, rather than mere personal gain, and to improve society, rather than to solely advance personal ambition. Whether our graduates remain in law practice, become judges, enter politics, or succeed in business, these rich values stay with them.

■ The Mission

The mission of the Law School is to prepare highly competent and professional lawyers who possess a strong social conscience, continually demonstrate high ethical standards, and are committed to the improvement of the legal system and society. The school is dedicated to providing a quality educational opportunity to nontraditional or adult learners and to other significantly underserved segments of the community. We emphasize the highest standards of ethical and professional conduct. As Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall once said, "There's only one kind of reputation a young lawyer gets in a hurry." Graduates of this law school are trained to do the right thing.

■ Atlanta Living

The Law School campus is centrally located in midtown Atlanta, the social, cultural, and economic hub of the South. It is in close proximity to Atlanta's largest law firms, as well as government offices, state and federal courts, and nonprofit legal organizations. Atlanta also boasts an extensive array of arts, music, sports, and recreational events, making it an exciting place to live.

■ Facilities, Library, and Modern Technology

The Law School is housed in a modern, nine-story building located on one of the major streets in Atlanta. The facilities of the school continue to undergo major renovations, adding new classrooms and new trial and appellate courtrooms.

The Law School has made the inclusion of new technologies throughout the school a priority. All students and faculty enjoy direct and unlimited access to wireless Internet, massive online legal databases, as well as new state-of-the-art technology in multiple classrooms that allows for interactive learning experiences. Students can take both midterm and final exams on their laptops and download them to the school's network.

Our library spreads over three floors, contains over 200,000 total volumes and equivalents, and provides students and faculty with access to all legal materials necessary to learn the skill of legal research.

■ Dedicated Faculty

The John Marshall faculty makes the difference in the student experience and is committed to students' success throughout their legal education and beyond. The faculty is dedicated to providing an intellectually rigorous academic program while instilling the highest sense of professional, ethical, and moral responsibilities that are required of members of the legal profession. All of our faculty members have extensive practical experience in their respective fields of expertise, bringing real-world experience into the classroom. Our student-faculty ratio is the lowest in Georgia and one of the best among American law schools. All first-year and required courses are taught in small classes, and professors are easily accessible to their students outside of class. Our small class sizes and low faculty-to-student ratio create a supportive environment where students can enjoy learning and express their views.

■ Commitment to Diversity

Because John Marshall's educational environment focuses on an interactive learning process, a diverse student body is essential to providing a broad range of perspectives in the classroom and the Law School community. The fall 2007 entering class of 185 students was made up of 50 percent women and 28 percent minorities. The student body is not only ethnically diverse, but it is varied in life experience and professional backgrounds. In the 2007 entering class, the median age of full-time students was 24, and the median age of part-time students was 31.

■ The Legal Program

John Marshall's rigorous program of study is designed toward the development of intellectual, analytical, and lawyering skills. From the first-year curriculum, with its predetermined set of core courses, through the third year, with courses that emphasize practical skill development, the degree program is designed to promote analytical reasoning, precision in both oral and written communication, and problem-solving skills. A broad variety of elective courses allow upper-class students to pursue their areas of interest.

Full-time and Part-time Law Study. John Marshall remains dedicated to providing access to legal education to both traditional and nontraditional students by offering both full-time and part-time law programs. Individuals who are unable to devote full time to the study of law may attend either the part-time evening or part-time day program.

The **Legal Skills and Professionalism Program** takes a holistic approach to preparing students for success during and after law school. Beginning with writing, the program teaches legal skills and professionalism. The same tools that students use to draft documents in their writing classes are employed to solve legal problems in Negotiations, Mediation, Trial Advocacy, Client Interviewing and Counseling, and other skills courses. In addition, a professionalism component is built into every course in the program, preparing students to confront and resolve real-world professionalism issues as they learn to solve legal problems and meet client goals. The Law School faculty come with diverse law practice backgrounds, including

criminal defense and prosecution, administrative law, domestic relations practice, and corporate/transactional work.

Academic Support. Tools for academic growth and professional success are not only fostered through interactive classroom teaching, but also individually and in small groups. The Director of Academic Support meets individually with students and also plans lectures and special programs to assist in the development of students' legal writing, studying, and exam skills.

Pro Bono and Externship Programs. The director of pro bono and externships encourages students to be involved in pro bono work, both legal and nonlegal. The director also supervises students in externships throughout Atlanta, including externships for academic credit. Externship placements include the ACLU, Atlanta City Council, Atlanta Legal Aid Society, district attorneys and public defenders offices throughout the city, the Landlord/Tenant Mediation Project, the Georgia Innocence Project, the Georgia Court of Appeals, and the Southern Center for Human Rights, among others. In 2007, John Marshall established the Micronesian Externship Program which places students in judicial chambers and government law offices in Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, the Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau.

■ Career Development

The Office of Career Development offers individualized, professional advice to students about their personal career goals and tailors strategies to assist students in reaching those goals. In addition to providing résumé and interview workshops to facilitate job searches, John Marshall also participates in the Georgia Law School Consortium to plan job fairs and other state-wide recruiting efforts, such as judicial clerkships; placement with prosecutors, public interest agencies, and public defenders; and minority recruiting. As a member of the National Association of Law Placement, John Marshall allows its students the opportunity to attend regional

hiring consortia that attract private and government recruiters throughout the Southeast.

■ Accreditation

John Marshall Law School was provisionally approved by the American Bar Association on February 14, 2005. With provisional approval, John Marshall Law School students and graduates are entitled to the same recognition given to students of fully approved law schools. The ABA accreditation process is designed to assure quality legal education among approved schools. John Marshall Law School has carefully planned to not only meet, but exceed, the standards for full approval.

■ Admission

The Admissions Committee is committed to finding a well-rounded and diverse group of students. In addition to the candidate's academic record and standardized test results, the Admissions Committee will examine with particular care those factors that indicate a high probability for success in law study. Such factors include life experiences, personal or family hardships overcome, demonstrated personal and professional achievements, ability to overcome life's obstacles, the capacity for rigorous intellectual study, the self-discipline demanded by the profession, and a commitment to be of service to the profession and society as a whole.

■ Law School Visits

The Office of Admissions makes numerous college visits and holds open houses throughout the year to provide prospective students with information and guidance about the law school admission process. Please visit our website for additional information regarding the dates and times of events. We also invite you to contact us for a personalized tour, to sit in on a class, or to meet personally with an admission professional.

Applicant Profile


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This grid includes only applicants who earned 120–180 LSAT scores under standard administrations.

LSAT Score	GPA								
	3.75 +	3.50–3.74	3.25–3.49	3.00–3.24	2.75–2.99	2.50–2.74	2.25–2.49	2.00–2.24	Below 2.00
155–180	Likely					Possible			
150–154	Likely				Possible				
145–149	Likely			Possible					
120–144	Unlikely								

 Likely

 Possible

 Unlikely