

# LSAC Legal Education Brief Series: The 2021 LGBTQ+ Law School Survey

## Law School Curriculum

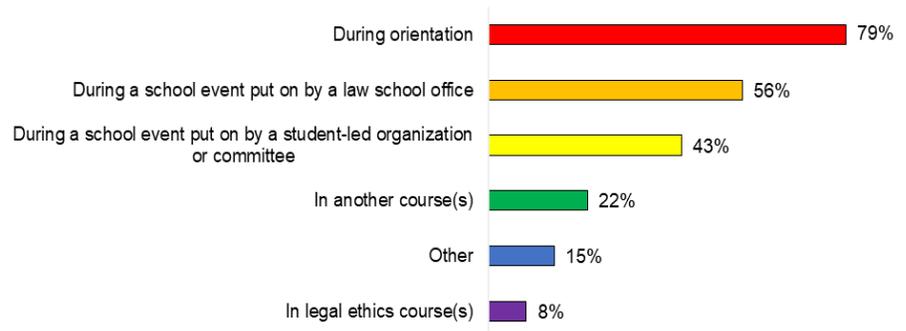
### DEI Inside and Outside of the Classroom

Data from the 2021 LSAC LGBTQ+ Law School survey indicate that more work is needed in order for schools to effectively weave Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) into the classroom through both curricula and pedagogy. Schools currently tend to rely primarily on DEI training and programming led by law school offices and student organizations—activities that take place outside of the formal learning environment. As schools continue to work on addressing inequity to improve student diversity, inclusion, and sense of belonging, it is crucial to highlight that the adoption of inclusive curricula and pedagogy must be a priority if schools are going to effectively support DEI efforts and the development of future leaders.

#### *DEI Training Offered to Students*

Of the schools that reported offering DEI training to students ( $n = 96$ ), most schools reported offering such training during orientation (Figure 1). Other common settings where DEI training is offered include school events hosted by a law school office (56%) and events organized by students (43%). It is less common for schools to incorporate DEI training for students into the classroom, such as in legal ethics or professionalism courses (8%) and in other law courses (22%).

**Figure 1: Setting of DEI Training Offered to Students ( $n = 96$ )**



Source: 2021 LSAC LGBTQ+ Law School Survey data

#### *LGBTQ+ Centered Course Offerings*

Legal education has come a long way over the last two decades, now offering more courses related to race, ethnicity, gender, and other DEI-centric topics; however, LGBTQ+-related topics are not typically the sole focus of any course. Of the 99 schools that responded to this question, 47% did not offer courses that focused exclusively on LGBTQ+ issues during the 2019-2020 academic year, and 35% reported that they offered one course that focused exclusively on LGBTQ+ issues. It is more common for LGBTQ+ topics to be included among other topics in law school courses: Of the 91 schools that responded to this question, 96% reported that they offer courses that include, but do not focus exclusively on, LGBTQ+ issues

To learn about recruitment, admission, orientation, engagement, and more, [download the full report online](#).