

Brooklyn Law School's 2010 Entering Class Profile

Brooklyn Law School's 2010 Entering Class is comprised of 486 students who were selected from nearly 6,000 applicants. 417 students have chosen to enroll in our full-time division, while 69 are enrolled in the part-time division. Their class represents a desirable diversity of background and experience, as well as an exciting mix of social, geographic, and cultural characteristics.

Their birthplaces span five continents and 26 countries. They are legal residents of 35 U.S. states - the farthest is Hawaii - including the District of Columbia, and two foreign countries. With a classwide average age of 24, the youngest among them is 20 and the oldest is 40.

They graduated from 158 colleges and universities and collectively pursued 63 different fields of major academic study. 68% took at least one year off between college graduation and law school entry to pursue other endeavors; 12% of them have been out of college for at least five years. 22 have earned master's degrees in various disciplines prior to entering law school, in fields ranging from linguistics to forensic psychology.

A wide range of experience is the rule for Brooklyn Law students, and they are very true to form.

Included among them are: a former New York correspondent for the Washington Post; an aerospace engineer; a former economist at the U.S. Department of Labor; an independent movie producer; a synchronized swimming instructor; a former manager for the Walt Disney Company; a certified USA Hockey official; an architect; a former animal cruelty investigator for The Humane Society; a former Pennsylvania State Tennis Doubles Champion; and a musician who has performed at the White House. Among them is a professional model with a role in a Jimmy

Buffet video, and a U.S. Naval Officer who served as a State Department liaison to the Royal Australian Navy.

Some of them have worked for companies like Ford Motor, Comcast, LG Electronics, Microsoft, Bloomberg, Simon & Schuster, and the Weinstein Company, while others have worked as analysts, managers and consultants for some of the nation's leading financial institutions, including JP Morgan Chase, Merrill Lynch, Barclays Capital, and Citi Group. Not surprisingly, a number of them have also worked as legal interns, researchers and paralegals at some of the nation's most prestigious law firms and government agencies. These include positions at U.S. Attorney and District Attorney Offices across the country, as well as with Offices of the Public Defender, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the White House.

On the international front, this year's class speaks 36 languages and dialects other than English. 89 of them speak at least three languages -- ranging from Arabic to Swahili, Russian, Creole, Afrikaans, varying Chinese dialects, and several of India's official languages, including Gujarati and Hindi.

One classmate worked on increasing LGBT awareness in Shanghai, while another provided aid and protection to refugees as a project manager at a refugee settlement in Zambia. Four of them were Peace Corps volunteers around the world. One of them has traveled to over 70 countries; another has worked in Nigeria as a counselor for victims of human trafficking. Some of them put their language skills to the test while teaching English in such places as Pakistan, Czech Republic, Tanzania, South Korea, China, Argentina, and Japan.

Among them is a former assistant editor for UNICEF's State of the World's Children Report; a former intern at the Istanbul Policy Center; and a former International Parliamentary Scholar at the Bundestag in Germany.

Many graduated with top honors. One was a teaching fellow at Harvard, several were Pell and Capstone Scholars, and many were in the Honors Programs at your respective colleges. They became experts in a wide range of areas, reflected in their theses on topics ranging from noise pollution in the transit system, to lie detection, and political cybernetics. As journalists, they have been published in on-campus publications at McGill, Skidmore, Tufts, Amherst, Holy Cross, Washington University, and Columbia.

The arts have not escaped their interest either – among them are several tap dancers, classically trained pianists and violinists, several guitarists and band members, a songwriter, and a bagpiper; a professional stage manager, an installation artist, a professional DJ, and a calligraphist. One of them co-founded his own record label, while another performed guitar on a Guns N’ Roses Tribute album. Among them are interns for *Rolling Stone Magazine*, Christie’s, and both the Boston and Virginia Museums of Fine Arts. Within the entertainment realm, some worked at: HBO, MTV, ESPN, and the Biography Channel. One was a production assistant on the John Travolta movie, *Taking of Pelham 123*.

Additionally, print and television media were popular choices. They have interned and worked at *Newsday*, *NPR*, *Fox News*, *InStyle Magazine*, *Marie Claire*, *Random House*, *Conde Nast*, and *Fodor’s Travel*. One of them was senior editor for the *Let’s Go* travel series in Southern Africa, Brazil, and Ireland.

Several are entrepreneurs, starting their own businesses ranging from renting gas grills to developing mini golf courses, selling sea salt, and designing jewelry which sales benefit charities.

In keeping with our reputation as a center for public interest, this class includes many who have demonstrated a serious commitment to serving the public. Some were interns for

Lawyers for Children, the New York Civil Liberties Union, and the American Civil Liberties Union. Many have been involved with such organizations as: the American Cancer Society, Habitat for Humanity, Amnesty International, Girl Scouts of America, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, the Red Cross, Planned Parenthood, Special Olympics, the YMCA and Meals on Wheels. Several others have taught in elementary schools and high schools throughout the United States, including three who did so through Teach for America.

Several of them have dedicated themselves to protecting the safety of the citizens of our country and other countries. Included among them are two U.S. Marines; a U.S. Navy Officer; a Captain in the U.S. Army; and six certified EMTs. One of them is the Associate Director for the World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program, helping firefighters who worked on 9/11 receive medical treatment and benefits.

On the political front, we are certain that their experiences will provide for diverse viewpoints in class discussions. Many were senatorial or congressional interns, including those who worked for Hillary Clinton, Charles Schumer, Kristin Gillibrand, John Shimkus, George Allen and John Tierney. Several also worked for state or city governments including the Massachusetts State House and the New York State Assembly. One of them is the former External Affairs Liaison for Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, and another was Special Assistant to New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn. One was an investigator for the New York City Civilian Complaint Board, while another was a policy consultant for the City's Department of Education. Several also worked as field organizers on the presidential campaign of Barack Obama.

For the thrill-seekers among them (assuming politics isn't thrilling enough) their class includes a competitive luger, several mountain climbers, and a triathlete. One person biked 2,700 miles from Canada to Mexico, while another has scaled the highest peaks in six countries.

Others with an athletic inclination include: a certified personal trainer, a competitive figure skater, a horseback riding instructor, runners in the Surf City and Paris Marathons; and several competitive Irish dancers.

Many have actively competed in sports at a high level, including: captains of the Vassar and Johns Hopkins soccer teams, the Michigan lacrosse team, the Bucknell golf team, UC Riverside's track and field and cross-country teams, Colby College's basketball team, and George Washington University's rugby team.

Some of them worked behind the cheering crowds, interning for the New York Mets, the New York Islanders, the Buffalo Bills, the Philadelphia Flyers, and the Philadelphia Phillies, while others worked in sports marketing and advertising. One was Promotions Manager for our very own Brooklyn Cyclones.

So many stories. All in all, we are thrilled with the extraordinary blend of students who have converged from many different paths to arrive at this singular point.