

Naveen Thomas

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Brooklyn Law School

Associate Professor of Law 2026–Present

Assistant Professor of Law 2023–26

- **Courses:** Business Associations, Contract Drafting and Negotiation, Contracts, Secured Transactions
- **Committees:** Appointments, Clinical Appointments, Experiential Learning, Pension

New York University School of Law

Adjunct Professor of Law 2016–Present

Director, Business Transactions Clinic 2019–23

Associate Director, Business Transactions Clinic 2018–19

Senior Fellow, Business Transactions Clinic 2016–18

Jacobson Fellow in Law and Business 2014–16

- **Courses:** Business Transactions Clinic, Contract Drafting

University of Chicago Law School

Executive Director, Corporate Lab Transactional Clinic; Lecturer 2012–14

- **Courses:** Advanced Contract Drafting: General Corporate Agreements, Corporate Lab Transactional Clinic, Leadership

PUBLICATIONS

- [*Controlling Shareholder Primacy*](#), 95 Fordham Law Review (forthcoming 2026)
- [*Agency Problems in Contract Design*](#), 59 Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review 77 (2025)
- [*Mythical Adverse Effect*](#), 73 Emory Law Journal 869 (2024)
- [*Contract Logic*](#), 171 University of Pennsylvania Law Review Online (2023)
- [*Rational Contract Design*](#), 74 Alabama Law Review 967 (2023)
- [*Golden Shares and Social Enterprise*](#), 12 Harvard Business Law Review 201 (2022)
- [*How to Design and Conduct Negotiation Simulations in Contract Drafting Courses*](#), 20 Tennessee Journal of Business Law 661 (2019)
- [*Regulating Sovereign Wealth Funds Through Contract*](#), 24 Duke Journal of Comparative & International Law 459 (2014)
- [*Sovereign Wealth Funds: Evolving Perceptions and Strategies*](#), 44 BNA Securities Regulation & Law Report No. 50 (2012), with Clare O'Brien and Tania Mattei

EDUCATION

Columbia University School of Law <i>Juris Doctor</i> , 2009	New York	2006–09
Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne & Sciences Po <i>Master of Global Business Law</i> , 2009	Paris	2008–09
New York University <i>Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude with Honors in Philosophy</i> , 2005	New York	2001–05
▪ Majors: Philosophy and Economics ▪ Minor: French Studies		

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Thomas Law PLLC <i>Founder & Principal</i>	New York	2014–Present
Shearman & Sterling LLP <i>Associate, Mergers & Acquisitions</i>	New York & London	2009–12
<i>Summer Associate, International Arbitration & Capital Markets</i>	Paris & New York	2008
Barros & Errázuriz Abogados <i>Summer Associate</i>	Santiago de Chile	2007

APPEARANCES

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- Presenter, “The Sovereign Shareholder,” Private Law and Multicultural Identities Workshop, Arona, Italy (Jul. 14, 2026)
 - Presenter, “The Sovereign Shareholder,” National Business Law Scholars Conference, UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law (May 27, 2026)
 - Presenter, “The Sovereign Shareholder,” Grunin Center for Law and Social Entrepreneurship Legal Scholars and Educators Convening, New York University School of Law (Jun. 4, 2026)
 - Panelist, “Developing your Scholarship and Scholarly Agenda,” New York University School of Law Scholarship Clinic (Apr. 20, 2026)
 - Presenter, “Rational Contract Negotiation,” 18th Annual International Conference on Contracts (KCON XVIII), University of Florida Levin College of Law (Feb. 20, 2026)
 - Presenter, “Rational Contract Negotiation,” Eighth Annual BYU Winter Deals Conference, Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School (Feb. 6, 2026)
 - Presenter, “Controlling Shareholder Primacy,” Institute for Law & Economics Junior Faculty Workshop, University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School (Jan. 23, 2026)
 - Commentator, “Beyond the Box: Reimagining Legal Agreements for Resilience, Alignment, and Emotional Intelligence in Social Enterprise,” 2025 Symposium on Legal Issues in Social Entrepreneurship, Impact Investing, and Sustainable Development, New York University School of Law (Oct. 7, 2025)
 - Presenter, “Controlling Shareholder Primacy,” Metropolitan Junior Scholars’ Workshop, Fordham School of Law (Sept. 5, 2025)
 - Panelist, “The Current State of Corporate Purpose Discourse” and “Business Law Workshop: Fireworks Over Delaware,” 2025 SEALS Annual Conference (Jul. 31, 2025)

- Presenter, “Controlling Shareholder Primacy,” National Business Law Scholars Conference, UCLA School of Law (Jun. 25, 2025)
- Panelist, “Developing your Scholarship and Scholarly Agenda,” New York University School of Law Scholarship Clinic (Apr. 7, 2025)
- Presenter, “Controlling Shareholder Primacy,” Seventh Annual BYU Winter Deals Conference, Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School (Mar. 14, 2025)
- Presenter, “Agency Problems in Contract Design,” 2025 AALS Annual Meeting Business Law Works-in-Progress Panel (Jan. 11, 2025)
- Presenter, “Agency Problems in Contract Design,” Cardozo Metropolitan Junior Scholars’ Workshop, Cardozo School of Law (Sep. 20, 2024)
- Presenter, “Agency Problems in Contract Design,” 17th Annual International Conference on Contracts (KCON XVII), University of Bristol Law School (Jun. 20, 2024)
- Presenter, “Agency Problems in Contract Design,” American Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting, University of Michigan Law School (May 17, 2024)
- Presenter, “Agency Problems Contract Design,” Sixth Annual BYU Winter Deals Conference, Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School (Mar. 14, 2024)
- Presenter, “Pedagogy Panel on Experiential Exercises in Business Law,” 2024 AALS Annual Meeting (Jan. 4, 2024)
- Presenter, “Teaching the Choice between Vagueness and Precision in Contracts,” Eighth Biennial Conference on the Teaching of Transactional Law and Skills, Emory University School of Law (Oct. 6, 2023)
- Presenter, “Mergers & Acquisitions—Mythical Adverse Effect,” and Moderator/Discussant, “The Intersection of Business and Contract Law,” National Business Law Scholars Conference, University of Tennessee College of Law (Jun. 16, 2023)
- Presenter, “Mythical Adverse Effect,” American Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting, Boston University School of Law (Jun. 9, 2023)
- Featured Guest, “Meghan Parts Ways With Her Business Partner,” *This Is Small Business* Podcast (Apr. 4, 2023), at 21:47–34:54 (explaining legal issues relating to a separation of partners in a small business)
- Presenter, “Transactional Design—Mythical Adverse Effect,” Fifth Annual BYU Winter Deals Conference, Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School (Mar. 9, 2023)
- Featured Guest, “Rod & Pernel Divide and Conquer,” *This Is Small Business* Podcast (Aug. 23, 2022), at 21:10–34:10 (explaining assorted legal considerations for cofounders of small businesses)
- Presenter, “Heuristic Approaches to Legal Drafting,” 2022 AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (May 10, 2022)
- Presenter and Moderator, “Legal Considerations for Startups,” New York University Stern School of Business (Apr. 6, 2022)
- Moderator, “Reconfiguring Supply Chains Post-COVID-19” (NYU Journal of Law & Business Spring Conference), New York University School of Law (Mar. 25, 2022)
- Panelist, “Corporate and Commercial Law,” New York University Undergraduate Law Society (Feb. 23, 2022)

- Presenter, “Structural Innovation in Social Enterprise,” 2022 Trends in Entrepreneurship Report, organized by the University of North Carolina Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise (Jan. 27, 2022)
- Presenter, “Rational Contract Design,” 2021 AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (Apr. 30, 2021)
- Presenter, “Social Enterprise Law in the US,” Universidad Autónoma de San Luis Potosí, Mexico (Nov. 13, 2020)
- Panelist, “Transactional Clinics in US Law Schools,” Makerere University School of Law, Uganda (May 21, 2020)
- Presenter, “Negotiation Exercises in Contract Drafting Courses,” Sixth Biennial Conference on the Teaching of Transactional Law and Skills, Emory University School of Law (Jun. 2, 2018)
- Guest Lecturer, “Drafting Commercial Contracts: Provisions and Remedies,” New York University School of Law Institute for Executive Education (Jan. 11, 2018)
- Presenter, “Teaching Client Counseling,” Fourteenth Annual Transactional Clinical Conference, University of Missouri Kansas City School of Law (Apr. 24, 2015)
- Visiting Professor, US Contract and Copyright Law, Vellore Institute of Technology Law School, India (Mar. 16–17, 2015)
- Panelist, “Providing Clinical Legal Services to the University Community,” Thirteenth Annual Transactional Clinical Conference, DePaul University College of Law (Apr. 27, 2014)
- Presenter, “Collaborations between Law School Clinics and Business School Accelerators,” Texas A&M University School of Law Center for Law and Intellectual Property Summit (Feb. 28, 2014)
- Presenter, “How Sovereign Wealth Funds are Impacting Infrastructure Projects in Emerging Markets,” Duke University School of Law Symposium on Investment in Emerging Markets (Oct. 25, 2013)

OTHER

- **Languages:** English (native), French (fluent), Spanish (fluent), Portuguese (conversational)
- **Qualifications:** New York State Bar (2010), University of Cambridge Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults (CELTA) (2006)