SUMMER SPRINGBOARD
Look Inward. Go Upward.



Trial Law Infosheet

New student admissions for Summer 2027 are open

2-Week Course

This is a two-week program where you'll focus on one course for the entire duration.

Program Highlights

- Assume the role of trial attorney as you try a challenging case by researching evidence, preparing and crafting arguments, and preparing and examining witnesses
- Experience a unique view of the legal profession that is personal and insightful from seasoned lawyers or legal scholars
- Explore all roles of a challenging case acting as defense attorneys, prosecutors, witnesses, jurors, or judge
- Visit a courthouse and sit in on an active trial

2027 Dates

Georgetown ($5,798)
- Session 1: June 20 - July 02

UC San Diego ($5,998)
- Session 2: June 27 - July 9
- Session 2: July 11 - July 23
- Session 3: July 25 - August 6

Berkeley ($6,298)
- Session 2: June 20 - July 2
- Session 6: July 18 - July 30

Duke University ($5,798)
- Session 2: July 11 - July 23

Academic Program Overview

In their first class, students will be introduced to a challenging case. Over the course of the entire program, they will fight for their side's victory until the final decision is ultimately made by the judge. Along the way, the legal teams need to select a jury, craft and present opening arguments, and explain evidence, as well as prepare witnesses for cross-examinations and finish with a strong closing argument. By using an experiential learning approach, students will quickly engage in the topic, and the instructor introduces the underlying theory and concepts as students tackle these issues while trying to win their case.

Excursions

In previous years students met with Mike Thompson who led them on a behind the scenes tour of the Law school, and also visited the Chief Justice of the local Superior Court. Students received a one-of-a-kind experience as a first-hand witness to a sentence hearing at the New Haven County Courthouse. Students also got to spend time with Judge Brian Fisher, a judge on the New Haven District Superior Court in Connecticut. In addition, they heard from a state attorney and public defenders to get all perspectives from the justice system. Students got to try on the Judge's robe and sit in the jury booth while learning about courtroom proceedings. In Georgetown, students met with Jennifer Anderson, an Associate Judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. They visited the Moot Court at the Georgetown Law school, which attorneys often use to prepare for oral arguments before the court. In San Diego, students visited the San Diego Superior Court and got to do a mock trial. They also visited Cal Western School of Law.

Instructors

Georgetown - Dennis Clark, JD

Dennis Clark, currently serving as a prosecutor and instructor, brings over a dozen years of experience in the law field. With roles as a prosecutor in Maryland and Washington, D.C., Dennis has conducted nearly 50 jury trials and numerous bench trials, navigating a range of legal proceedings from suppression hearings to sentencing and violation-of-probation cases, including presentations to the grand jury. In addition to his prosecutorial duties, Dennis has been sharing his expertise as an instructor of Criminal Procedure and trial advocacy courses at American University's Washington College of Law since 2016. Simultaneously, he plays a pivotal role in training new AUSAs (Assistant United States Attorneys) in his primary position. Dennis holds a Bachelor of Arts in French Studies and Spanish from Colby College and earned his Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America.

Berkeley - Marlo Nisperos

Judge Marlo Nisperos was appointed to the Solano County Superior Court on March 12, 2024. Prior to being appointed, she served as Administrative Law Judge for the State of California. Judge Nisperos practiced criminal and family law and served as a Deputy District Attorney in Solano County. She graduated from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, and earned her bachelors of arts degree in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from Mills College. Judge Nisperos served as the inaugural President of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Solano County, a Regional Governor for the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association, a Director on the Solano County Bar Association board, and as Vice President of Sacramento Filipino American Lawyers Association.

Berkeley - Phillip Babich

Phillip Babich counsels clients on all areas of commercial real estate, including real estate development, acquisitions, sales, land use and development approvals and permits. In addition, as a litigator, Phillip handles disputes involving land use and zoning; property rights; declarations of covenants, conditions and restrictions (CC&R's); real estate development; energy project development; eminent domain, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This includes administrative appeals, writ actions, actions in eminent domain, and civil trials. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of San Francisco School of Law.

UC San Diego and Duke - To Be Announced

Courses are taught by accomplished and passionate faculty recruited from many area colleges, universities and professional forums. Each faculty member is selected for their subject area expertise and proven ability to both challenge and captivate students.

Tuition Information:

Apply by November 30 to lock in the lowest prices of the year. Tuition increases on December 1.

Residential Students:

- **Includes:** all meals, lodging, excursions, academic course, weekend excursions
- **Excludes**: optional airport pickup and drop off service (available for an additional fee)
- **Tuition**: See prices under 2027 dates

Commuter Students:

- **Includes:** lunch, academic course, excursions, programming from 9am to 5:15pm, Monday-Friday
- **Excludes:** lodging, breakfast, dinner, weekend excursions
  - Weekend excursions can be added on for $125 per day
- **Tuition:**
  - UC San Diego and Berkeley: $3,298
  - Georgetown and Duke: $2,998

Supplements:

- **Application fee**: Starting at $99 (mandatory, non-refundable)
- **Tuition Protection Plan**: Allows for cancellation for any reason up until the day of the program. Click here for more info.

More info on Airport Transfer

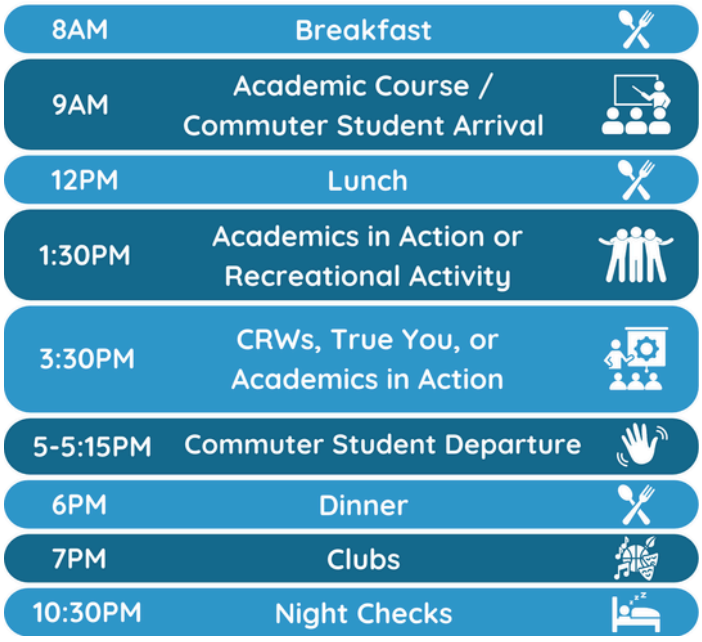
More info on Unaccompanied Minor Service

Apply Now!

Course Structure

There are nine 3-hour class sessions over the two-week course. During week one, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday - Friday. During week two, students have class from 9am-12pm Monday through Thursday. Afternoons in both weeks are dedicated to students' preferred College Readiness Workshops (CRW), True You, and Academics in Action, with Academics in Action including academic excursions, guest speakers, and course-related activities, such as an instructor-led project or student-led, independent study.

Typical Schedule



Schedule above is a sampler; real schedules may vary based on program and academic track.

Summer Springboard programs are not run by our campus partners (with the exception of Cal Poly, University of Washington Foster School of Business, and NYSID which are run in partnership with SSB). Universities and their affiliated departments and partners do not control and are not responsible or liable in any manner for any part of the Summer Springboard program.

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