Discover your calling in life

AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW
Going to law school is a rigorous yet rewarding time in one’s life. It shapes who you are and the type of lawyer you will be. Given that, who will you trust with the cultivation of your mind? What anchors their thoughts and grounds their philosophy? At Ave Maria School of Law, we provide full access to a community with high academic standards, rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition, with the full support of inspiring faculty and staff committed to professional excellence. Making the choice to join the Ave Maria School of Law community is the first step in discovering your calling. 

So, are you ready?”

–Kevin Cieply President and Dean
FALL 2015 ENTERING CLASS PROFILE

WHO WE ARE
Ave Maria School of Law (AMSL), Southwest Florida’s law school, offers a high quality legal education with a commitment to professional excellence, rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition. Inspired by Pope John Paul II’s encyclical Fides et Ratio, Ave Maria School of Law offers a distinctive legal education — an education characterized by the harmony of faith and reason. Formed by outstanding professional training and a distinctive educational philosophy, Ave Maria’s graduates are equipped for leading positions in law firms, corporate legal offices, the judiciary, and national, state, and local government.

RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE
CATHOLIC: 64%
OTHER CHRISTIAN: 29%
MUSLIM: 1.7%
DID NOT INDICATE: 3%
OTHER: 2.3%

DEMOGRAPHICS
MEN: 53%
WOMEN: 47%
DIVERSITY: 39%
HISPANIC LATINO: 20%
BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN: 12%
AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKAN NATIVE: 1%
ASIAN: 3%
AVERAGE AGE: 28
AGE RANGE: 21-59

LOCATION
NUMBER OF STATES REPRESENTED: 23
UNDERGRAD INSTITUTIONS REPRESENTED: 71

LSAT & GPA PROFILE

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<td>142</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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info@avemarialaw.edu
“**Ave Students are not your typical law students. Ave students are committed to giving back to their community, and that dedication to helping others directly translates into the day-to-day life on campus. Law school is tough and competitive, but that doesn’t stop us from helping one another overcome obstacles and strive for success. I’ve met some of my best friends here at Ave, and without them I would not be where I am today.**”

–Drew Riordan ’16, SBA President

**AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW HONOR CODE**

I am a member of the Ave Maria School of Law. I will act honestly, temperately, chastely, and with integrity.

I will guard against dishonesty of purpose and deed.

I will not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do.

I will treat all others with fairness and equality respecting their rights and human dignity.

I will strive to be morally courageous and do what is right regardless of the consequences.

I will take responsibility for my actions and decisions and will hold others accountable for theirs.

I will hold myself to the highest standards of personal and professional conduct, and will encourage others also to do so.

I will obey the law, the rules of professional conduct for lawyers, and this code. I will report to the appropriate authority all violations which I observe or of which I become aware.

I will ensure that these principles guide my performance, behavior, and conduct at all times.
ACADEMICS

We offer a rigorous and varied academic program, based on the foundation of faith and reason. AMSL requires 90 credit hours for graduation, including a core curriculum of 74 credit hours and six credit hours of experiential courses. In addition, we fully support our students in preparing for the bar examination by offering intensive courses that focus on test-taking abilities, advanced essay writing and multistate bar exam questions.

“I came to Ave Maria School of Law because of the smaller class size. You are able to interact with the faculty easier and on a more personal level.” – Alyse Casale ’16

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YOUR CALLING

“The Ave Maria faculty are dedicated to providing their students with a rigorous legal education that is steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition and that focuses on combining a mastery of core doctrinal subjects and legal skills with a commitment to the highest moral and ethical ideals of the legal profession.”

– Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Associate Professor, Ted Afield

FACULTY

Our faculty and staff are fully invested in enriching the legal education of our law students. Their approach is one of vocation as many dedicate their lives to the service of others, to protect the sanctity of life, and protect human dignity. Our faculty is experienced in the actual practice of law, so they are lecturing not just from theory, but from real life experience.

- 3 served as members of the United States Army Judge Advocate General’s Office (JAG)
- 4 of our faculty have clerked for federal judges
- A majority of our faculty members have advanced degrees in addition to their J.D.’s
- 8 LL.M. degrees
- Since 2008, the doctrinal faculty have produced 3 books, 5 book reviews;
  8 encyclopedia entries; 18 book chapters and 64 law review articles.
- They have written 39 pieces for law-related and other publications
- Presented or served as panelists at 60 academic conferences and civic gatherings

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“Ave Maria is located right next to one of the best elementary schools in Collier County. My kids were able to walk to school every day. I could visit them at lunch on my breaks and I picked them up every day and never missed a beat as a dad while I was in law school.” – Joshua Molandes ’14
“My service at AMSL gives the privilege of introducing students to a noble and learned profession. I hope to help them see that their degree will give them tremendous power for good or ill in the lives of others and they must bear that in mind as they endeavor to craft a worthwhile life in the law. I also hope we can enjoy some laughs as we make our way down the arduous road to professional competence.”

– Patrick T. Gillen, JD, PhD, Associate Professor of Law
“One of the unique aspects about Ave Maria School of Law is its faith and the community it fosters. Here, students and faculty are encouraged to not only strive to be the best attorney, but also to grow individually, personally and in your faith.”

– Leesha Newkirk-Crouch ’14

“For too long, legal educators have viewed law as nothing more than a judge’s whim or a legislator’s fancy—public officials deciding what’s most efficient for society and labeling it a law. At AMSL, we buck this trend. We believe that law is rooted in something eternal and unchangeable. We have a God-given sense of what’s right and wrong, and the law should reflect that sense.”

– Timothy Tracey, Associate Professor of Law

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“One of the things at AMSL which I find amazing is the student organizations. There is plenty of opportunity to not only network with people from the outside but also network among ourselves with our student body.”

- Sharitza Lopez-Rodriguez ’16

Ave Law
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EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

AMSL provides a high quality legal education that allows you to not only discover but develop your passion. Our scholarly programs, externships, clinics and organizations offer a variety of options to gain knowledge and experience while working with some of the top faculty in the country.

CERTIFIED LEGAL INTERN (CLI) PROGRAM
AVE MARIA LAW REVIEW
AVE MARIA INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL
RESEARCH, WRITING AND ADVOCACY PROGRAM (RWA)
ADVANCED CRITICAL THINKING (ACT)

MOOT COURT PROGRAM
OVER 22 STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
PRO BONO RECOGNITION PROGRAM
OVER 23 EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
CLINICS
  Estate Planning and General Practice Clinic
  Human Trafficking Law Clinic
  Mediation Law Clinic
  Patent Law Clinic

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“Through individual advocacy and community outreach, students are able to foster human dignity and the common good. It is rewarding that former students often contact me to tell me about their continued efforts to use their legal expertise and skills to serve others.”

–Elizabeth M. Donovan, Director of Experiential Education and Associate Clinical Professor of Law
“Career services help students with the practical aspects of their job search that aren’t taught in class. They help with your interview skills, build your resume, land internships and jobs.” – Olivia Ferrell ’16

Your Calling

Career Services

The Office of Career Services works to develop, encourage and empower Ave Maria School of Law students as they begin the pursuit of their passion for the legal profession. Our mission is in direct alignment with and supports Ave Maria School of Law’s vision and mission in fidelity to the Catholic Faith to build a community, serve the common good, educate, and develop students who will become lawyers with the finest legal, ethical and professional skills.

During the spring 2015 semester, Ave Maria School of law students spent a combined total of 451.3 hours serving underserved populations through the Pro Bono Recognition program.

68% of the students in the class of 2016 have interned in the legal field during their law school career.

64.5% of our class of 2014 were either employed or enrolled in a full-time LLM program 10 months after graduation. Of the employed students, 83.3% were employed for a position that required bar admission or where a JD degree provided an advantage to their employment.

3.6% Highest percentage of Federal Clerkship among the top Catholic Law Schools, 2nd highest in Florida

Over 50 Employers a year on campus for On-Campus Recruitment (OCR)

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Pursue

ADMISSIONS
Ranked one of the nation’s most outstanding law schools by Princeton Review and the best Catholic Law School in the United States for the Devout by The National Jurist’s PreLaw Magazine, Ave Maria School of Law has enrolled students from 49 states and abroad and from more than 200 colleges and universities. They range in age and bring diverse backgrounds in career and educational experience. We have a 57% acceptance rate of those who apply to AMSL. Alumni of AMSL are now practicing law in more than 40 states and several other countries.

FINANCIAL AID
We offer a wide range of merit, service and military based scholarships to help those who would like to attend Ave Maria School of Law. Approximately two-thirds of students receive scholarships ranging from $2,500 up to full tuition. In addition, qualified students can finance their education through a variety of sources, including scholarships, federal loans and work-study programs.

Tuition for the 2015-16 Academic Year:
$39,450

FACILITIES AND HOUSING
AMSL provides a wireless, state-of-the-art learning environment that encourages independent as well as collaborative legal study.

113 Rooms available in on-campus housing
We offer one, two and three-bedroom apartments for both single and married students. There are also multiple villas with one to three bedrooms, single car garages and yards. The AMSL campus is conveniently located next to Vineyards Elementary School and Vineyards Community Park, and minutes away from downtown Naples and the beaches on the Gulf of Mexico.

HOW TO APPLY
If you are passionate about attending Ave Maria School of Law, please apply for admission through our website. For questions, contact our Admissions office directly at (239) 687-5420 or info@avemarialaw.edu.
“There isn’t a typical student here at Ave Maria School of Law. We actually have a very diverse campus with students from many different faiths but I think we still share a common thread in the mission that we want to be lawyers who live with integrity.”

– Danica Sun ’14
Are you ready?

AVE MARIA SCHOOL OF LAW

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info@avemarialaw.edu

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Ave Maria School of Law recognizes the inherent value and dignity of all members of the human family. It values equal opportunity, and seeks racial, cultural and ethnic diversity. The Law School prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability or status as a veteran or disabled veteran. The Law School maintains its Catholic character, but is open to persons of all religious faiths who respect the goals of Ave Maria School of Law, as adopted by the Board of Governors. It does not discriminate on the basis of religion, except to the extent that applicable laws and constitutional provisions respect its right to act in furtherance of its religious objectives. The Law School fully accepts the teachings of the Catholic Church with regard to homosexual conduct and sexual conduct outside the bonds of matrimony, as set forth by the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. Consistent with those teachings, the Law School does not discriminate on the basis of an individual’s sexual orientation without regard to homosexual conduct or other actions that undermine the Law School’s Catholic identity.