Law

What can I do with this degree?

Studying the discipline of law focuses on the principles and regulations in an established community, learning how legal problems are solved and learning that law is the antithesis of anarchy. There are many career opportunities in this field because it is always in high demand in all parts of the United States and the world.

**Law Skills**

- Authoritative
- Advocacy
- Communication
- Comprehension of Written Language
- Critical Thinking
- Legal Analysis and Reasoning
- Negotiation
- Problem Solving
- Research
- Understanding Human Values

**AREAS OF SPECIALTY**

**...in Business Law**

**Areas of Interest**

- Antitrust
- Banking
- Bankruptcy/Reorganization
- Contracts (insurance, construction, franchising)
- Corporate (securities, mergers and acquisitions, and international commercial law)
- Entertainment
- Private Groups Contract
- Regulated Industries (utilities, food and drugs, communications and transportation)
- Securities Compliance
- Tax
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**Possible Work Settings**

- Banks
- City and County Law Offices
- Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

**Professional Organizations**

- American Bar Association [http://www.americanbar.org/aba.html](http://www.americanbar.org/aba.html)
- Professional Associations and Organizations [http://www.thecre.com/fedlaw/legal91.htm](http://www.thecre.com/fedlaw/legal91.htm)

**.....in Computer Law**

**Areas of Interest**

- E-Lawyering
- Information Resources
- Intellectual Property
- Risk Management
- Senior Claims
**Possible Work Settings**

- Corporations
- Federal, State, and Local Government
- Law Firms
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**Professional Organizations**

- American Intellectual Property Law Association  
  [http://www.aipla.org/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.aipla.org/Pages/default.aspx)

**....in Criminal Law**

**Areas of Interest**

- Constitutional Cases
- Criminal Defense
- Criminal Investigation
- Prosecution
- Public Defender
- White Collar Criminal Defender

**Possible Work Settings**

- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Private Law Firms
- U.S. or State Attorney General Office
- U.S. Supreme Court

**Professional Organizations**

- Association of Federal Defense Lawyers  
  [http://afda.org/](http://afda.org/)
- National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers  
- National Organization of Black Law Enforcement  
  [http://www.noblenational.org/](http://www.noblenational.org/)

**....in Immigration Law**

**Areas of Interest**

- Customs Inspection
- Legal Administrator

**Possible Work Settings**

- Department of Homeland Security
- Immigrations Offices

**Professional Organizations**

- American Immigration Lawyer Association  
- National Immigration Project  

**....in Education**

**Areas of Interest**

- Bar Examiner
- Law School Placement
- Professor
Possible Work Settings

- All Branches of the Military
- Attorney General's Office
- Business and Law Schools
- Colleges and Universities
- Congress
- Federal Courts of Appeal
- Government Branches
- Judge’s Office and Courts
- Paralegal Schools
- Public and Private School Districts

Professional Organizations

- Education Law Association  https://educationlaw.org/
- National Home Education Legal Defense  http://www.nheld.com/

...in Family Law

Areas of Interest

- Custody and Divorce
- Domestic Relations
- Elder Law
- Juvenile Law

Possible Work Settings

- County Law Offices
- Family Law Offices
- Juvenile Detention Centers
- State Courts

Professional Organizations

- Association of Certified Family Law Association  http://www.acfls.org/
- National Association of Counsel for Children  http://www.nacchildlaw.org/

...in Health Law

Areas of Interest

- Doctors and HMO’s
- Legal-Medical Ethics Committees
- Malpractice
- Public Policy

Possible Work Settings

- Clinics
- Hospitals

Professional Organizations

- Public Health Lawyer Association  http://www.phla.info/

...in Environmental Law

Areas of Interest

- Admiralty Attorney
- Environmental Claims
- Game Law Enforcement
- Land Use
- Natural Resources and Energy Law
- Nuisance and Trespass
- Toxic Torts
Possible Work Settings

- Energy Companies
- Forestry Offices
- Real Estate

Professional Organizations

- Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide [https://www.elaw.org/](https://www.elaw.org/)

... in International Law

Areas of Interest

- International Commercial
- Public International

Possible Work Settings

- International Law Firms
- Legal Aid Society
- Public Interest Groups

Professional Organizations

- International Law Student Association [http://www.ilsa.org/](http://www.ilsa.org/)
- International Legal Association [http://www.hg.org/international-assoc.html](http://www.hg.org/international-assoc.html)

... in Labor Law

Areas of Interest

- Agents
- Arbitration and Mediation
- Employment
- Government
- Management
- Union

Possible Work Settings

- Employment Offices
- Government Branches
- Union Offices

Professional Organizations


... in Property Law

Areas of Interest

- Housing and Leasing
- Intellectual Property
- Real Property
- Wills and Trusts
Possible Work Settings

- Real Estate
- State Courts
- U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

Professional Organizations

- Association of Real Estate Law License Law Officials  https://www.arello.org/
- National Association of Realtors  http://www.realtor.org/

....in Public Interest

Areas of Interest

- Civil Rights
- Constitutional Law
- Consumer Protection
- Interest Groups
- Poverty

Possible Work Settings

- Political Action
- Public Interest Advocacy Groups

Professional Organizations

- U.S. PIRG  http://www.uspirg.org/

....in Taxation Law

Areas of Interest

- Business Tax
- Estate Planning
- Government Tax
- Pension and Retirement
- Personal Income Tax

Possible Work Settings

- Bankruptcy Administrations
- City and County Law Offices
- Corporate Offices
- Internal Revenue Service

Professional Organizations

- National Association for Tax Professionals  http://www.natptax.com/
- National Tax Association  http://www.ntanet.org/
- Tax Foundation  http://taxfoundation.org/

....in Boutique

Areas of Interest

- Agricultural Law
- Aviation Law
- Election
- Maritime/Admiralty Law
- Sports and Entertainment Law
### Other Career Paths in the Legal Industry

#### Education
- Judicial Branch Educator
- Law Librarian
- Law School Career Counselor
- Legal Reporter
- Legal Search Consultant
- Legal Writing Instructor
- Paralegal Educator

#### Civil Rights
- Affirmative Action Officer
- Children’s Advocate
- Civil Rights Analyst
- Civil Rights Investigator
- Conciliation Specialist
- Equal Opportunity Compliance
- Human Rights Administrator

#### Court Support Staff
- Bailiff
- Court Administrator
- Court Clerk
- Court Interpreter
- Judicial Law Clerk
- Official Court Reporter

#### Litigation Support
- Bail Bond Agent
- Criminologist/Forensic Psychologist
- Demonstrative Evidence Specialist
- Forensic Accountant
- Legal Nurse Consultant
- Legal Videographer
- Private Investigator
- Private Process Server
- Trial Consultant

#### Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Arbitration Administrator
- Arbitrator
- Dispute Resolution Professional
- Domestic Resolution Specialist
- Hearing Officer
- Mediator

#### Legal Support
- Legal Reception/Secretary
- Legal Technology Consultant
- Legal Word Processor
- Paralegal

#### Analysts and Examiners
- Contract Administrator
- Eligibility Worker
- Insurance Claims
- Patent Agent
- Title Examiner, Real Estate

### Resources

#### Texas State University - Student Organizations
- Phi Alpha Delta (Prelaw) [http://www.studentorgs.txstate.edu/pad/](http://www.studentorgs.txstate.edu/pad/)
- Phi Delta Phi Prelaw Honor Society [https://www.facebook.com/groups/PhiDeltaPhiTexasState/members/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/PhiDeltaPhiTexasState/members/)

#### Job/Internship Search Links
- American Bar Association [http://www.americanbar.org/about_the_aba/employment_at_the_aba.html](http://www.americanbar.org/about_the_aba/employment_at_the_aba.html)
- MS Legal [http://www.mslegalsearch.com](http://www.mslegalsearch.com)
Additional Resources

- Equal Justice Works  http://equaljusticeworks.org/
- Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA)  http://www.hnba.com/
- Latino Justice Legal Education Division  http://latinojustice.org/legal_education/
- Law School Transparency  http://www.lawschooltransparency.com/
- Ms. JD  http://ms- jd.org/about-us
- National Association of Law Students with Disabilities  http://www.nalswd.org/resources.html
- The National Black Law Students Association (NBLSA)  http://www.nblsa.org/

Career Library Resources

- Careers in Law by Gary A. Munneke (2004)
- Career Opportunities in Law and the Legal Industry by Susan Echaore-McDavid (2007)
- Ferguson’s Careers in Focus: Law by Ferguson Publishing (2001)
- Prelaw Magazine, A National Jurist Publication
- The Law School Buzz Book by The Staff of Vault (2007)

Thinking about Law School?

- Two-Year Law School Admissions Timeline  Law School Timeline
- LSAT & Law School Preparation  http://www.txstate.edu/slac/PreLaw/lsat.html
- The Council on Legal Educational Opportunity (CLEO)  http://cleoscholars.com/
- Schedule an appointment by email with Dr. Carol Dochen, Texas State’s LSAC Prelaw Advisor and Director of the Student Learning Assistance Center (SLAC), at Carol@txstate.edu

Information for this handout compiled from:
Texas State University Career Services and LSAC Prelaw Advisor, Career Resources Center at South Texas College of Law, Career Services at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, and Careers in Law by Gary A. Munneke