

WOMEN'S LAW ASSOCIATION

ALUMNI RELATIONS NEWSLETTER



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What is the Women's Law Association (WLA)?

WLA at Suffolk University Law School is a student organization for all women students at Suffolk Law. If you are a woman at Suffolk Law, you are already a member. WLA is dedicated to promoting women in Law and fostering alumni relationships. We strive to offer mentoring, support services and lecture series throughout the year that target the personal and professional issues pertaining to today's woman lawyer. WLA is a venue for all students to involve themselves with legal and social issues confronting women as lawyers and women as people. All students are welcome!

Congratulations to our graduating executive board members! We truly appreciate all of the hard work you have put in over the years to make WLA stronger.

Esther Teresinski, President
Grace Becker, Vice President
Jessica Valerio Florian, DEI
Lily Calderin, Mentorship Coordinator
Mercy Johnson, Mentorship Coordinator
Johanna Esko, Mentorship
Natalie Hendrick, Mentorship



A Q&A with Maria Infantine, a trailblazing female leader in Intellectual Property Law

By Kaitlyn Miller

★ **Maria Infantine, J.D. Class of 2007** ★

Maria serves as the Managing Partner for Innsbruck Records, a global management, label, media, and distribution company representing and collaborating with a broad array of local and international artists, labels and publishers. Maria empowers musical artists to navigate the business and technological complexities of the modern music industry. She is an advocate for artists in intellectual property protection, copyright education, and negotiating licensing contracts to ensure favorable terms. Maria also manages the distribution process with third party vendors to ensure accurate and comprehensive reporting on sales, demographics, and quarterly royalties.

Q: What is the most fulfilling aspect of your current position?

A: "Empowering artists by navigating complex industry landscapes, securing copyright protection, and brokering favorable licensing opportunities to maximize career potential."

Q: How important is having a technical or STEM background to excelling in her field of law?

A: "A technical background is essential for a comprehensive understanding of the music industry, as digital innovation now intersects with nearly every facet of music law."

Q: What initially drew you to Intellectual Property Law, were there any pivotal moments that shaped your career path?

A: "As an artist in the 1980s / 1990s, I navigated the music industry without guidance. While I had a management company for tours and publicity, they offered no education on copyright protection, nor did they involve me in licensing decisions or maximizing revenue through royalties and recording rights. I went to law school specifically to learn more about Intellectual Property, become an advocate for artists in an increasingly technical business. I wanted to be an advocate for artists, equipped with the knowledge and pedigree to properly navigate this complex business, ensure artists are informed, and secure their rights."

Q: Looking back, which courses at Suffolk Law did you find the most helpful in preparing for a career in IP law?

A: "All SULLS courses related to Copyright, Trademark, Patent, Contracts, Writing Skills."

Q: What is the best way for law students to break into the IP field today?

A: "The best way for law students to break into the intellectual property field is through a combination of specialized coursework, practical experience with clinics or internships, a focus on networking (and for patent or trademark law, a scientific / technical background)."

"Be your own advocate, know your worth and always maintain the highest integrity."

Q: What advice would you give women law students entering your field?

A: "For women entering the IP field, build authentic relationships, trust, loyalty and cultivate self-confidence. Be your own advocate, know your worth and always maintain the highest integrity. Your reputation is very valuable. Find a work-life balance that meets your expectations and focus on long-term career goals. Don't be afraid to carve out your own niche if the perfect opportunity doesn't exist."

Q: How did you build your professional network in the IP space?

A: "While finalizing law school in 2007, I sought a niche career merging legal advocacy with direct music industry engagement. When traditional firm roles didn't align with this goal, I strategically secured a position as a Litigation IT Consultant at MetLife, specializing in building/coordinating a Business Intelligence Data Warehouse and tracking complex cases. Simultaneously, I proactively broke into the entertainment industry, offering pro-bono work with artists to build experience in the NYC music industry. Additionally, in 2008, I began collaborating with Emmy Award, 3x Grammy nominated, Genie (Oscar) and multi-platinum award winning Producer / Mix Engineer and nominated Songwriter, Roman Klun. We merged our respective formidable networks to form a music label and recording studio, Innsbruck Records in 2011. As an active Recording Academy member, I am passionate about mentoring the next generation of industry professionals and staying at the forefront of music events. I recently achieved a major milestone by securing a licensing agreement with the Recording Academy, the family of Chuck Mangione, and Fulwell Entertainment for an on-air In-Memoriam tribute, featured at the 68th Annual Grammy Awards (CBS/Paramount+) on February 1, 2026. Furthermore, I am currently leading efforts to secure a posthumous Grammy Hall of Fame induction for acclaimed artist, Chuck Mangione."

Q: What skills should law students focus on developing if they want to practice IP Law?

A: "Both technical and soft skills are needed and valued!"

★ **Strong Technical & Scientific Background**

"I worked in the Biotechnology sector in the 90s and have a graduate certificate (Clinical Trial Design and Project Management) from Northeastern."

★ **Analytical Thinking and Problem-Solving Skills**

"I also consulted for several years in NYC in various capacities (Program / Project Management at MetLife, KPMG, The College Board, Teachers' Retirement System of the City of New York through global leader, Experis IT)."

★ **Attention to Detail**

"Accuracy in drafting documentation (i.e., contracts, licensing agreements, distribution agreements, royalty statements, patents or trademarks as applicable)."

★ **Commercial Awareness / Business Acumen**

"Aligning IP strategy with artist / client centered business goals."

★ **Research and Applying to Documentation**

"Ability to conduct research and define next steps and deliverables."

★ **Communication & Stakeholder Engagement**

"Facilitate strategic meetings and discussions with internal and external partners."



Reflections from Graduating WLA Members

By Michele Sandfardino

Comparison is the thief of joy.

-Christiana Ricci

While it feels like forever in the moment, law school flies by. Take a minute to look around, take it all in & enjoy yourself!

-Johanna Esko

Whatever you are struggling with, another law student has been through before, and you will make it through as well. EVERYONE is lost :)

-Grace Becker

This journey isn't easy but you will grow more capable of handling the hard moments as you find your rhythm. Stay motivated and keep going.

-Jessica Valerio Florian

This is a marathon, not a sprint. You do not have to prove your worth every single day. You are allowed to have off days, and you are allowed to feel unsure sometimes.

-Natalie Hendrick

Be consistent and patient. You belong here!

-Mercy Johnson

Tuning Out the Noise: Surviving 1L Spring with WLA Mentor, Shannon Carmichael

By Isabella Testa

After finishing my first semester, I was reminded of the realities of 1L Spring. New classes, job applications, dark and dreary weather, constant chatter about grades and interviews. I have called this “the noise.”

Navigating the spring semester as a 1L means managing all of this at once. In the fall, you have more guidance as you ease into law school. Now, with one semester completed, you proved you are ready to take on more responsibilities. I have learned that you have to tune out this “noise” by focusing on yourself and the things you can control.

I had the opportunity to speak with my WLA mentor, Shannon Carmichael (JD '27), about how she survived 1L Spring and successfully “tuned out the noise.” I met Shannon through WLA’s mentor-mentee program that pairs 1Ls with upperclassmen with similar career interests. Shannon and I would meet throughout the semester for coffee to catch up and would always bestow invaluable advice, whether it was about classes, professors, networking, or the job search.



Shannon Carmichael, JD '27

We met at Bakey, known for its decadent babkas. I updated her on how my semester was going. I was relieved to be done with midterms and the memo (for now), but the summer job search was still hanging over my head. I asked her when I should start worrying. “There are so many things you can’t control,” she told me. It’s true. You can’t control other people’s connections or job offers. You can’t obsess over your fall semester GPA either. You can only move forward.

Instead, she encouraged me to focus on what is in my control. Network, apply to as many positions as possible, network some more, study hard this semester. She called this “maximizing my luck” to put yourself in the best position for job opportunities. Approaching law school with this mindset grounds me and reminds me to focus on what truly matters: staying on top of classes and building my attorney network, not doomscrolling on LinkedIn.

When I asked Shannon about her 1L Spring, she admitted she was unsure and overwhelmed too. What helped her throughout 1L Spring was speaking to older students and alumni who had already been through it. “Suffolk has so many kind people who want to help you,” she said. “Lean on those resources and know that you have them.”

Shannon reflected on her second year, “Next year is so much better. You have a better handle of your schedule and who you are as a law student and a person.” After our conversation, I felt relieved. Shannon’s advice showed me that 1L Spring is an opportunity to grow personally and professionally.

“Law school is so awesome. You’re almost there!” she reminded me.

With Shannon’s perspective, 1L Spring feels less overwhelming by focusing on what we can control and looking forward.

Celebrating Our WLA President: Esther Teresinski

By Jordyn Jennings

As the semester winds down and our 3Ls and 4Ls prepare to trade their casebooks for bar prep, we managed to sit down with "busy bee" Esther Teresinski for a little exit interview. If you have spent any time at Suffolk Law recently, you have likely seen Esther balancing the demands of a JD/MBA while navigating several organizations on campus.

Hailing from the Midwest, Esther initially joined the Women's Law Association (WLA) to find a community and make friends outside of her class section. She hit the mentorship jackpot early on when she was paired with a mentor who was also from the Midwest, which helped Boston feel a little more like home. Her favorite memory of the club actually centers on the support she received during a vulnerable moment. In her second year, when she was not published on a journal, her WLA peers, including a mentor who was the VP of WLA at the time, rallied around her to remind her she was valued even though many did not know her well yet. That sense of community shaped the kind of upperclassman she wanted to become, one who leads with grace and shows the type of love and community that WLA has given her.

Esther has held many positions while on the Executive Board for WLA. After a stint on the Events Committee and serving as Vice President, she stepped up as President with a clear mission to make WLA the most influential organization on campus and ensure women have a loud, clear voice in every room. In her time in the Association, she has worked to make WLA the best organization it can be. For example, she was instrumental in breaking into traditionally male-dominated spaces, such as ensuring female representation on business law panels. Her secret to managing it all includes a Boston coffee passport, where every Saturday is a trip to a new shop with her boyfriend, and learning the art of delegation so WLA can keep thriving long after she has graduated.

With parents who are serial entrepreneurs, Esther has always had a passion for the business side of the law. This interest is taking her to KPMG to work in their state and local M&A division after graduation. Because the Bar Exam apparently is not enough of a challenge, she is planning to tackle the CPA exam afterward. We wish her luck with those tests and know she will rock them!

As she prepares to join the alumni ranks, Esther has some sage advice for current students to stay confident in their own values and treat every relationship professionally because your classmates are your future co-workers. She knows this is easier said than done and has had her own moments of doubt, but she would want 21-year-old 1L Esther to know it is worth it. She also wanted to share a simple message of "Thank you" for the alumni who built the foundation she stood upon. She emphasized that the impact of past members is still felt within the WLA today. For those alumni who may not have been involved in the club during their time at Suffolk, she says that it is never too late to get involved. She notes that alumni involvement is one of the things students end up loving most about the Suffolk experience.

We will miss Esther's energy on campus, but we cannot wait to see her crush it in the M&A world. If you see her at a local cafe this summer trying a new coffee while buried in her bar prep books, do not be scared to say hi!

WOMEN OF SUFFOLK LAW NETWORKING EVENT

BY DENNA LAING



This year we launched our Alumni Mentorship Program that pairs current students with alumnae. We had 42 pairs in our inaugural match with students ranging many legal interests, all law school years, day and evening students and alumnae ranging graduates from 2025 to 1972 in many legal fields. We have over 300 alumnae in our database and strive to grow this group. The next pairing will be Fall 2026, so keep an eye on your emails or our LinkedIn page if you would like to be a part of this program.

WLA held WLA's Got You! in the fall, where we held workshops for cover letter and résumé review, interview prep and head shots. The Women of Suffolk Law Networking Night was our capstone of this event where we brought those skills to life building real world connections. This Event welcomed mentorship pairs, alumnae and other WLA members at Bell in Hand for a night of conversation and connection.

PLUS...NETWORKING TIPS!

Courtesy of Professor Catherine Alman MacDonagh, cofounder of the Legal Mocktail. The Legal Mocktail is an experiential networking training program for professionals in legal fields.



General Advice

Try to arrive on time, particularly if there is a speaker or programming

Wear your name tag on the right side so it is in the natural sight line

Try to find two things in common with the other person you are speaking with

Focus on being interested versus interesting

To remember names, try repeating them throughout the conversation

Before the Event

Try to learn information about other attendees and determine who you might want to meet

Prepare yourself by coming up with some questions to ask and practicing a self introduction

At the Event

Position yourself near the door or food table, where there is more traffic

Try to meet a lot of people, but balance quantity and quality

Try to think of yourself as a host rather than a guest. Focusing on introductions not selling.

After the Event

Keep your promises – follow up within 3 business days

Capture your new contacts in your database and use social networking to make more connections

Exploring Global Legal Opportunities at Suffolk Law

By: Paris McWilliam

Suffolk University Law School offers students more than a rigorous legal education—it provides unique opportunities to engage with the global legal community. A central hub for these opportunities is the International Student Law Association (ISLA), a student-led organization dedicated to supporting international students and fostering interest in international law.

ISLA serves as a platform for students to explore cross-border legal issues, connect with peers from diverse backgrounds, and engage with practitioners in international law. The organization hosts networking events, panels, and workshops covering topics ranging from human rights law to international criminal law, bridging the gap between classroom learning and global practice.

Suffolk's commitment to international legal engagement is also reflected in its connections to renowned practitioners. Notably, Brenda Hollis, an internationally recognized prosecutor with extensive experience handling complex war crimes cases, recently engaged with students to share insights from the front lines of international accountability. Her work exemplifies the practical, real-world experiences Suffolk strives to bring to its students, highlighting how law can have a global impact.

In addition, Suffolk students have the opportunity to get involved with initiatives such as the Ukraine Accountability Project (UAP), which focuses on documenting and analyzing potential war crimes and human rights violations in Ukraine. The project allows students to contribute to meaningful research, legal analysis, and advocacy efforts, providing hands-on experience in international criminal accountability while addressing pressing global crises. Beyond ISLA and UAP, Suffolk offers a variety of study abroad and international externship opportunities. Programs include the Galway Study Abroad Program, which compares U.S. and Irish criminal and family law, and the Summer International Legal Externship Program, which places students in public interest and private sector organizations worldwide. Recent placements have included Bergs & More in Italy, the European Court of Human Rights in France, and the Raoul Wallenberg Institute of Human Rights in Sweden, providing practical experience in diverse legal systems. Through ISLA, connections with global legal leaders like Hollis, and initiatives such as the Ukraine Accountability Project, Suffolk equips students to pursue impactful international legal careers. Whether a student is interested in human rights, cross-border corporate law, or global policy, Suffolk provides the resources, mentorship, and network to make a meaningful impact worldwide.

Brenda J. Hollis is a leading American international criminal lawyer with extensive experience prosecuting high-profile war crimes cases. She was appointed by the United Nations to serve as Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone in 2010, after years of involvement with the court. There, she played a central role in building and leading the case against Charles Taylor, a Liberian politician and former warlord who served as the 22nd president of Liberia from 1997 to 2003. He played a central role in the Liberian civil wars and was later convicted of war crimes and crimes against humanity for his involvement in Sierra Leone's conflict.

Earlier in her career, Hollis worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, where she helped prepare the case against Slobodan Milošević. She also served as a legal consultant around the world, training judges and prosecutors and assisting victims in bringing claims before international bodies such as the International Criminal Court. Throughout her career, Hollis has been deeply involved in investigating atrocities, drafting indictments, and advancing accountability for international crimes, making her a key figure in modern international criminal justice.



Brenda Hollis

Expanding the Curriculum: Innovative Courses Shaping Suffolk Law Students

By Denna Laing and Devin McKinney

Professor Johnson

Access to Justice (Fall, 2 Credits)

*REAL credit
eligible*

This course examines the growing “justice gap,” the disparity between the civil legal needs of low-income Americans and the resources available to meet those needs. Students explore how unmet legal needs related to housing, health care, and financial security disproportionately affect marginalized communities, including people of color, immigrants, the elderly, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community. Through discussion and critical analysis, the course evaluates the causes of the justice gap and the initiatives aimed at addressing it, while encouraging students to consider structural solutions and the role new attorneys can play in expanding access to legal services. Grades are based on participation and a final project.

“Access to Justice is a course that provides a meaningful look at the barriers many individuals face in obtaining legal help, including barriers that are often overlooked. The course challenged me to think critically about how the legal system can better serve those who need it most. Through discussions and practical perspectives, I developed a deeper appreciation for the role lawyers play in expanding access to legal resources. It was a valuable experience that reinforced my commitment to using the law to make a positive impact.” - Lily Calderin, 3L

Cannabis Law (Fall, 2 Credits)

As the legal status of marijuana continues to evolve across the United States, this course examines the complex legal landscape created by the tension between federal prohibition and expanding state legalization. Students explore the wide range of legal issues facing businesses operating in the cannabis industry, including regulatory compliance, federal-state conflicts, and emerging policy developments. Through discussion and practical analysis, the course equips students with the tools needed to navigate this rapidly changing area of law. Assessment is based on class participation and a final presentation.

Professor Lucien



Testimonial:

“Professor Laury Lucien does a great job at providing a comprehensive and detailed overview of cannabis laws in Massachusetts. We learned all the proper steps required to open a dispensary and begin sales. I enjoyed the step-by-step lectures which go in depth regarding community requirements and ordinances. This course offers valuable insights for not only opening a dispensary, but any other heavily regulated business.”
- Katarina Stephenson, 3L

A limited number of students can opt to fulfill their legal writing requirement through this course

Professor
Gavis &
Professor
Mauldin

Design Thinking (Fall, 3 credits)

group project

experiential
credit
eligible

This class introduces students to the concept and fundamentals of Design Thinking and Legal Design, which involves using empathy research to understand how the legal system interacts with the public and designing solutions to better serve clients. Starting with a learning "boot camp" and then moving quickly to collaborative exercises. Students will be assigned to a team of 4-5 students who will work throughout the semester on a real-world problem. The teams will work collaboratively to understand their clients or problem area and to propose solutions. The teams will be coached by the instructors throughout the semester with active participation by each team member and working towards a final presentation.

"This design thinking course reframes our approach as lawyers from mechanical rule application to more thoughtful problem solving. It emphasizes disciplined empathy by methodically stepping into a client's perspective to identify the underlying problems before stepping into a solution headspace. All in all, this course highlights how purposeful problem definition makes legal analysis more effective. The entire course is group-based, which may initially seem intimidating but in practice it creates a collaborative environment that sparks creativity and fresh perspectives. Design Thinking was the most rewarding and memorable course I took during my time at Suffolk Law!" - Alexia Davos, 3L

What is Generative AI and the Delivery of Legal Services ?

Generative AI for Lawyers explores the intersection of lawyering and generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as Chat-GPT. It will equip students with an introductory understanding of the technology behind generative AI, as well as its applications in law, ethical considerations, and the evolving legal landscape surrounding AI. Through a combination of lectures, guest speakers, and practical exercises, students will acquire foundational knowledge of generative AI, its ethical implications, and its potential utility in legal practice. The class will explore key topics such as the basics of generative AI technology, ethical guidelines, the role of AI in document drafting, and its emerging influence in legal research. The objective is to equip students with the essential skills and understanding to make informed and responsible decisions about incorporating generative AI tools into their legal workflow.

What are people saying about the course?

"The AI and the Delivery of Legal Services course examines how emerging technology is shaping the future of the legal profession. During class, students can experiment with various AI platforms, including ChatGPT, Claude, and Perplexity, to better understand their practical applications in legal work. The course also encourages thoughtful discussion about the opportunities and ethical considerations associated with integrating AI into legal practice. Through hands-on exercises and discussion, I have been able to gain insight into how technology is transforming the delivery of legal services." -Lily Calderin, 3L

More important info?

Class is typically taught by Professor O'Leary or Professor Martin. Experiential credit eligible. Offered for 2 Credits in the Fall or Spring.

Cybersecurity Law and Policy (Spring, 2 Credits)

This course explores the legal and practical challenges that arise in the wake of a cyber incident, from the operations of sophisticated threat actors to the financial and reputational consequences of a major data breach. Drawing on real-world experience and case studies, the course examines the critical role lawyers play in helping organizations respond to breaches, negotiate with threat actors, and comply with complex regulatory obligations. Each week features guest speakers, including global cyber incident response specialists and members of the FBI Boston Cyber Task Force, offering students insight into the fast-evolving cybersecurity landscape.

Professor Seusing



guest speakers

“Cybersecurity Law and Policy examines the full scope of a cyber incident, from the way threat actors operate as sophisticated criminal organizations to the catastrophic financial and reputational fallout that a data breach can cause a company. Professor Christopher Seusing (Suffolk Law '06) brings in guest speakers each week, including global cyber incident response specialists and a member of the FBI Boston Cyber Task Force. Professor Seusing is a practicing cybersecurity attorney with 20 years of experience and regularly draws on real cases and stories from his own work. This course shows how indispensable legal counsel is in helping companies respond appropriately to a breach, negotiate with threat actors, and navigate the complex web of regulatory obligations that follows a breach.”
- Anna Gargiulo, 2L

LAWYERS AS LEADERS

This course is designed to provide a foundation to help prepare students to seek or accept positions of leadership or successfully serve in current leadership roles. It will provide students with leadership training, including an understanding of the fundamentals of leadership; the theory, principles, and skills of leadership; as well as the ethics and diversity of leadership. Through this course, students will embark on a leadership journey, understanding that leadership is a mindset, not a title or position. Students will develop their leadership through practice, reflection, and feedback, in an interactive, inclusive learning setting utilizing multiple modes of learning such as readings, diagnostics, presentations, journaling, discussions, and teamwork. Students will develop greater confidence and competence in their own leadership skills needed and expected by legal employers.

“Professor Vinson's Lawyers as Leaders course has been one of the most thoughtful and engaging classes I have taken here at Suffolk. The course has encouraged me to reflect on my values, leadership style, and the kind of impact I hope to have within the legal profession. Through these reflections, I have gained a clearer understanding of the type of lawyer and leader I aspire to be. Overall, this course has been an invaluable experience that challenges students to think intentionally about how they will lead and contribute throughout their legal careers.”
- Eva Ravesi, 3L

group presentation

REAL credit eligible

Professor Vinson

Pass/Fail

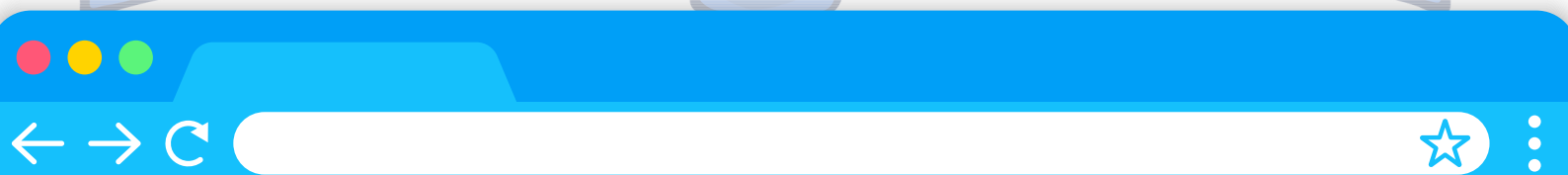
Spring, 2 Credits

Mental Health Law (Spring, 3 Credits)

Professor Honig

Mental health issues arise in a variety of civil and criminal matters handled by both private practitioners and attorneys working in the public sector. This course will help students develop an understanding of civil and criminal mental health law, with a focus on Massachusetts law in addition to covering fundamental principles derived from national and international law. The course will offer practical tools and guidance for working in this complex area and will also examine current trends and issues in mental health law.

"Mental Health Law has been an eye-opening course that has expanded my understanding of Massachusetts legislation regarding mental health law, current procedures for sections and commitments, and the differing interpretations of how individuals are impacted by these laws. This class has provided several opportunities to practice real-life scenarios, including how to interview clients and what advice to give them. I have really enjoyed how interactive the class is and its focus on differing perspectives." - Mercy Johnson, 3L



Modern LPS (Spring, 3 Credits) Professor O'Leary

A skills-based experiential course aimed at fine-tuning and expanding the basic practice skills learned in LPS, but through the angle of modern approaches and technology tools lawyers use to deliver legal services today. Students will receive hands-on practice with document automation, structure, and security; legal research analytics; Generative AI; E-discovery; "justice tech" and legal process improvements; the business of law practice; remote lawyering best practices; cybersecurity basics; and developing a modern online presence and social professional network. The class is a combination of group discussion, exercises, guest speakers, and workshops with minimal lecture. Students will complete several short and varied skills assignments throughout the course that cumulatively satisfy the law school's general legal writing requirement.

★★★★★ Ali Yamakaitis, 3LE

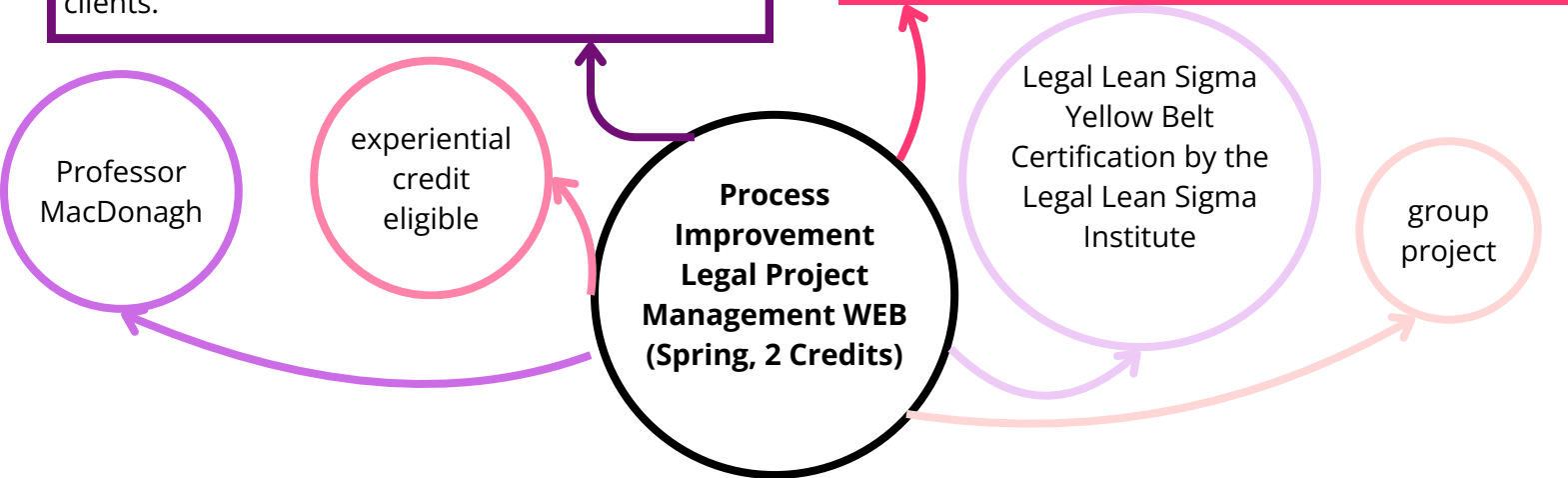
"I have recommended Modern LPS to a countless number of classmates because it stands out as a top-tier practical course at Suffolk Law. The course structure sharpened my professional skills by providing a curriculum that applied modern technology directly to real world legal practice, touching on topics such as document automation and AI. As always, Professor O'Leary's instruction was exciting and provided for a collaborative and balanced classroom environment."

Comments:

Through this course you will gain a Hotshot AI certification. It is also legal writing requirement eligible or experiential learning credit eligible.

This course introduces students to process improvement and legal project management, two approaches that help lawyers deliver legal services more efficiently, effectively, and predictably. Through examples and case studies drawn from law firms and legal departments, students learn how structured methodologies can improve the pricing, performance, and delivery of legal work. The class combines lectures with simulations and in-class exercises to emphasize practical application of these concepts. Students also have the opportunity to earn Legal Lean Sigma Yellow Belt Certification, complete a collaborative group project, and receive experiential credit while gaining skills increasingly valued by employers and clients.

"The Process Improvement and Legal Project Management course offers a refreshing perspective on how legal work can be approached more strategically. Through team-based projects and frameworks like DMAIC, we analyzed real operational challenges and developed solutions grounded in data and collaboration. The experience showed me that effective lawyers do not just solve legal problems. They also improve the systems that shape how legal services are delivered. It was one of the classes that connected legal education with the practical realities of legal practice and demonstrated what the profession can look like when new approaches are openly embraced." - Gaby Brown, 3L



21st Century Lawyer (Spring, 2 Credits)

This course provides students with key business and professional information regarding the operation of a sustainable law practice in the emerging new legal market. Students will learn to generate creative legal business solutions. Topics include building a low-cost law practice; providing exemplary client service; setting market prices for legal work; marketing a law practice; and crafting an online presence for your law firm. Students will be expected to work both in groups and individually, as well as to make class presentations.

experiential credit eligible

"One of the highlights of my legal education was taking 21st Century Legal Profession at Suffolk, which offered a fascinating look at how artificial intelligence is reshaping the practice of law. The class gave us the rare opportunity to engage with innovators and practitioners who are actively driving that change—conversations that were as inspiring as they were eye-opening. I was also fortunate to take the course under Professor Teninbaum, whose expertise and passion for the subject made a lasting impression on me and deepened my appreciation for the intersection of law and technology."

- Jess Perillo, JD '25

Dean Teninbaum, Professor Proia

Spring Events Recap

By Denna Laing



Galentines

In February we held this annual event to continue to foster relationships within our student mentorship program and the WLA community while eating sweet treats. This year, we welcomed new mentor/mentee pairings that were matched in January! WLA Mentorship Committee made 90 pairings this year!

Women in Unionized Employment Panel

WLA partnered with LELA and NLG to hold a panel that focused on how unions respond to specific issues women face in the workplace, such as sexual harassment, maternity and family leave, and Title VII violations. The panelists included Leah Barrault, Rebecca Pontikes and Anna Bottrell and was moderated by Professor Yamada.



Women in Tort Law Panel

WLA & TLS hosted a panel of extraordinary women in areas of tort law such as medical malpractice, insurance defense, product liability, and many others. Panelists included Marissa Palladini from the Karen Reed civil defense team, Sarah Howie of Diller Law and our former WLA President, Madi Welsh! This panel was moderated by Professor Carol Kelly.

Dinner & Dialogue

One of our biggest annual events of the year! Students and faculty mingled at this annual event that was co-sponsored by CLS. Students thanked the faculty and met faculty they otherwise wouldn't have crossed paths with, helping them decide future class schedules.



Registration Brunch

This annual event took place before spring registration to give 1Ls a chance to ask upperclassmen about classes and professors over coffee and breakfast foods!

Unity in Bloom

At this event we teamed up with MESALSA for a unifying dinner celebrating Eid al-Fitr, Holi, Easter, and Nowruz.



Upcoming!:

Asian Heritage Month & End of Year Celebration

Co-sponsored with MESALSA and APALSA

Children's Right to Health Panel

Co-sponsored with Journal of Health and Biomedical Law

Congratulations

2026 - 2027 WLA E-BOARD

Treasurer

Nina Evangelista (3L)

President

Denna Laing (4LE)

Vice-President

Emily Kelly (2L)

Secretary

Claire Baboyan (3LE)

**MARKETING & PROMOTIONAL
COMMITTEE**

Eliana Kimmelmann (2L)
Maddie Bansback (2L)

**ALUMNI RELATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Paris McWilliam (3L)
Sarahann Adams (2L)
Kenzie Olsen (3L)
Erin O'Connor (2L)
Kayla Polakow (2L)
Veronica Polanco (2L)
Olivia Scuncio (3L)
Bella Testa (2L)
Grace Zolkowski (2L)

DEI COMMITTEE

Leah Batarseh (3L)
Priscilla Gonzalez (2L)
Emelin Lavoie-Argueta (2L)
Tiana Gallagher (3L)
Elizabeth Hernandez-Pease (2L)

MENTORSHIP COMMITTEE

Andrea Caradonna (3L)
Madi Pellegri (3L)
Cenia Lowry (2L)
Elise Ayala (2L)
Brooklynn Fashempour (2L)
Paige Pusateri (2L)
Juliette Silahian (2L)

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

Mairead Kelley (2L)
Sydney Pulvidente (3LE)
Olivia Altman (2L)
Serena Gilbride (2L)

EVENTS COMMITTEE

Charlotte Dressler (2L)
Jennifer Salvadore (2L)
Kaitlin Morgan (2L)
Josephine Beckett (2L)
Jillian Bianchi (2L)
Savannah Dolan (2L)
Belle Souza (2L)
Jessie Shen (2L)

Coordinator Assistant Coordinator Final positions to be filled in the Fall

THANK YOU

for reading and engaging with us!

If you would like to get more involved, follow us on social media or reach out to Denna or Paris.



THIS ISSUE WAS DESIGNED BY KENZIE OLSEN AND OLIVIA SCUNCIO