THE NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW
BUILDING LEGACY
Deciding whether or not to pursue a law degree can be difficult. Deciding where to apply to law school can also present some challenges. However, if you do decide to pursue a law degree then I believe it is easy to understand why the North Carolina Central University (NCCU) School of Law should be high on your list of law schools to consider.

NCCU School of Law has earned its designation as an established leader in legal education. The high quality presence of our alumni in the practicing bar, the judiciary and in government service is the greatest testimony to the law school’s firm standing within the world of legal education. We are committed to stellar classroom instruction. Our law professors are devoted to helping students inside, as well as outside, the classroom to broaden their grasp of legal issues. In addition, our summer internships provide a wide range of valuable work experience and resume building opportunities.

Our law school has twice been ranked the No. 1 Best Value Law School in the Nation by The National Jurist Magazine. In addition, U.S. News and World Report has ranked NCCU School of Law among the Top Ten Most Popular Law Schools in America.

It is easy to understand why our students, faculty and alumni are so excited about our law school. I strongly encourage you to look closely at NCCU School of Law. I am confident you will like what you see.

Raymond C. Pierce, Dean and Professor of Law
OUR MISSION

The mission of the North Carolina University School of Law is to produce competent and socially responsible members of the legal profession.

The mission of the North Carolina University School of Law is to produce competent and socially responsible members of the legal profession. NCCU School of Law accomplishes its mission by providing a challenging and broad-based education program that stimulates intellectual inquiry of the highest order and instills in each student a deep sense of professional responsibility and personal integrity. Founded in 1939 to provide an opportunity for a legal education to African-Americans, the School of Law now provides this opportunity to one of the most diverse student bodies in the nation. This environment of diversity better prepares our students to effect positive change in the broader society.

“CENTRAL’S SUCCESS IS A TRIBUTE TO ITS DEDICATED FACULTY AND TO ITS GRADUATES WHO HAVE BECOME INFLUENTIAL PRACTITIONERS, SUCCESSFUL POLITICIANS AND RESPECTED MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY IN NORTH CAROLINA.”

Irvin W. Hankins, III
Past President, North Carolina State Bar
The NC Courage University School of Law seeks students who are likely to make a positive contribution to the legal profession and society at large by reason of their intellectual attainments, demonstrated emotional maturity, self-discipline, and ability and capacity to benefit from the school’s educational program. Applicants who have overcome economic, societal or educational obstacles make a very important contribution to the diversity of the student body and serve as role models of achievement. Students pursue legal education from diverse academic disciplines such as English, philosophy, medicine, dentistry, history, environmental studies, economics, criminal justice, public administration, political science, accounting, music, psychology, engineering, mathematics, chemistry and biology. We attract both national and international applicants who are evaluated for admission based on a range of attributes, including academic achievement, performance on the Law School Admission Test (LSAT), personal and professional experiences, intelligence, reasoning ability, individuality of thought and creativity, initiative and motivation, judgment and maturity, oral and written communication skills, integrity, leadership ability and their potential contribution to the legal profession.

NC Courage University School of Law received more than 3,200 applications and matriculated 172 Day Program students and 34 Evening Program students in 2010. Our student-to-faculty ratio is 17:1. The law school was ranked No. 1 in the nation for the best value for two years in a row, according to The National Jurist and prelaw magazines’ Best Value Law Schools report. The magazines’ rating system was based on three factors: the law school’s affordable annual tuition, 86% bar-passage rate and employment rate of 87% within nine months after graduation.
NCCU School of Law Faculty consists of more than 70 tenured, tenure track, clinical and adjunct professors.

The faculty members of the NCCU School of Law are dedicated to the mission of student success. Our professors and instructors spend substantial time teaching, mentoring and advising. Faculty members have also gained national recognition for their scholarship and service. Founded to educate African-Americans, the law school's commitment to diversity in the legal profession is reflected in the diversity of its faculty. The School of Law’s curriculum is challenging and intellectually demanding. It prepares the student to be an effective member of the legal profession, whether as a practicing attorney, member of the judiciary, or other legal professional in government, business, or education. The curriculum includes a writing program in each of the three years of full-time law study or four years of part-time law study, focusing on general legal writing, appellate writing and advocacy writing. NCCU School of Law offers every student an opportunity to become thoroughly grounded in the fundamentals of the law. The curriculum does not focus on the legal rules of any particular jurisdiction. Instruction is based on national materials and casebooks. Important North Carolina distinctions are also discussed. Emphasis is placed on the development of good legal analytical skills that are useful in any career choice.
NCCU School of Law ranks as one of the top four law schools for its clinical opportunities.

THE MISSION OF THE CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Clinical Legal Education Program of NCCU School of Law is committed to producing excellent attorneys who are sensitive to addressing the needs of people and communities that are traditionally underserved and under-represented by the legal profession. Through a diverse body of clinical courses, we offer students an opportunity to pursue justice in a variety of legal disciplines. We teach students to respect the legal process and the dignity of all clients regardless of their station in life. We believe that sensitizing future lawyers to the importance of serving these under-represented clients advances fairness and equity in the justice system, founding principles of the NCCU School of Law.

THE NEWEST ADDITION TO THE CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

NCCU School of Law recently added the Low Income Taxpayer Clinic (LITC) as the newest addition to the school’s nationally ranked legal clinical program. The LITC will assist individuals who are experiencing problems with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The LITC is staffed with students and practitioners who have an interest in tax law. Through courses in areas of tax law and a clinical training program, participants learn how to address various tax-related issues. In keeping with the university’s motto of “Truth and Service,” the LITC serves as a forum for practitioners to provide pro bono services to the community while allowing students to gain valuable practical experience.
STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

In addition to receiving a rigorous and stimulating classroom experience, NCCU School of Law students have the opportunity to enhance their educational experience by participating in organizations.

Student organization members share unique talents, interests, skills and goals enriching the lives of each other and the School of Law. On-campus co-curricular activities and competitions allow NCCU School of Law students to hone verbal and practical skills.

NCUC School of Law is a student-oriented environment. Students play an integral part in the governance of the school. In addition to membership in the Student Bar Association (SBA), selected day and evening students participate on faculty and administrative committees, providing invaluable insight and ideas.

African Law Students Association
American Constitution Society (ACS)
Black Law Students Association (BLSA)
Christian Legal Society (CLS)
Civil Rights and Constitutional Law Society
Delta Theta Phi
Environmental Law Society (ELS)
Federalist Society
Future Lawyers for Community Advancement (FLCA)
Hispanic Law Students Association (HLSA)
Innocence Project
Intellectual Property Society and Trademark Moot Court Board
International Justice Mission
International Law Society
Journal of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Law (JBPL)
Know Your Rights
Law Students for Reproductive Justice (LSJR)
Moot Court Board
Native-American Law Students Association (NALSA)
National Lawyers Guild
NCCU Animal Law Society
NCCU Law Student
Outlaw Alliance
Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity (PAD)
Phi Delta Phi Legal Fraternity (PDP)
Public Interest Law Organization (PILO)
Sports and Entertainment Law Society (SELS)
Student Bar Association (SBA)
Trial Advocacy Board
Women’s Law Caucus
The School of Law surged ahead in its effort to integrate technology with the 2011 launch of Technology Assisted Legal Instruction and Service (TALIAS).

It is an ambitious project that combines teaching, technology, and the public service component that is the law school’s hallmark.

Through videoteleconferencing, TALIAS connects NCCU with 22 Legal Aid offices and the state’s four other historically black universities: Elizabeth City State, Winston-Salem State, Fayetteville State, and North Carolina A&T. The law school can use the video link to reach more clients served by its 12 clinical programs, which pair law students with low-income residents who need free help with everything from paperwork to representation in court. The students are supervised by practicing attorneys. In addition to supporting the law school’s clinical efforts, TALIAS is being used to provide information seminars on legal topics such as foreclosure and workplace rights.

TALIAS marks the next step in the law school’s continuing effort to offer top-shelf instruction for its students and is a complement to the virtual classrooms, distance learning, and lecture capture capabilities already in use. Never satisfied, professors are exploring ways to use TALIAS for even more applications in the coming years.
Whether you know Durham as the “City of Medicine” or the “Bull City,” it’s easy to see why so many residents and businesses call it home.

Located halfway between the Great Smoky Mountains and the beaches of the Atlantic Ocean, Durham is home to world-class medical facilities, art and science museums, Durham Bulls Triple A baseball and the Research Triangle Park (RTP).

With the birth of RTP in the 1950s, Durham began to evolve from a manufacturing center into a global center for information technology, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and medicine. The city of Durham, once celebrated worldwide for its tobacco products, is now known as the “City of Medicine,” with more than 300 medical and health-related companies and medical practices contributing $1.5 billion annually to the local economy.
A successful career in the law is a happy career in the law. The Career Services Office (CSO) staff invites you to explore the broad range of career opportunities available to you as a NCCU School of Law student and graduate. Your career path may be traditional or it may be one of the many alternatives that are enhanced by a Juris Doctorate Degree. The purpose of the CSO is to help you assess these goals and provide you with the tools and resources to conduct your search in the most effective way possible. Because each student and alumnus presents unique credentials, experiences, and geographic and practice preferences, one-on-one meetings with the CSO staff can best facilitate assessing options, refining goals and developing job search strategies. Career planning and placement services include workshops and seminars on resume preparation, interviewing techniques and job search strategies, as well as an on-campus interview program.
DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

By national standards, NCCU’s Law School is considered a small law school, yet it has produced more African-American graduates than North Carolina’s other law schools. Quite a few of these African-American graduates—as well as graduates of other races—have gone on to earn widespread recognition. Among them are:

**ROBERT GLASS** graduated in 1951 and later became the first African-American Assistant United States Attorney in Connecticut. He also served as a judge for juvenile court and superior court, and as an administrative law judge. In 1987, he became the first NCCU alumnus to sit on a state supreme court and the first African-American justice to sit on the Connecticut Supreme Court.

**FLOYD MCKINNON SR.** graduated in 1951 and went on to become National Executive Director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). In 1978, he launched Soul City, N.C., the first new town sponsored primarily by African-American enterprise.

**LEROY R. JOHNSON** graduated in 1957 and became the first African-American member of the Georgia Senate since Reconstruction. He also became the first African-American to head a legislative delegation, and the first African-American to be named chairman of a standing committee in the Georgia General Assembly.

**SAMMY CHESS JR.** graduated in 1958 and became the first African-American Special Superior Court Judge in North Carolina.

**CLARENCE C. “BUDDY” MALONE** graduated in 1959 and started the first African-American law firm in Durham. His office became a training ground for many young lawyers graduating from NCCU.

**MAYHARD JACKSON** graduated in 1963 and became the first African-American mayor of Atlanta in 1974. At age 35, he became the youngest person to be elected to the office.

**BRIDGTON E. JOHNSON** graduated in 1967 and was the first African-American to be appointed to the North Carolina Court of Appeals. While serving on the appellate court, he rose to the rank of Senior Associate Judge and served as the state’s first African-American chairman of the North Carolina Judicial Standards Commission.

**G.L. LEWIS** graduated in 1959 and was first woman appointed to a position of Superior Court Judge east of Greensboro, N.C. in 2000.

**CAROL A. JONES** graduated in 1974 and was the first African-American woman to be appointed to Chief District Judge in Halifax County, N.C. in 2003.

**HENRY W. OKERSON** graduated in 1973 and was the first Native-American to graduate from law school in the state of North Carolina. He was sworn in as the special judge of the Superior Court of the Lumbee Tribe in 2006.

**FRANK E. TURNER** graduated in 1973. In 1990, Turner was the first African-American judge to serve on the Court of Appeals or any other court in Howard County, Md. He was appointed by then Governor William Schaefer. In 1995, he was the first African-American to be seated in Howard County.

**WILLIE GARY** graduated in 1974 and opened the first African-American law firm in Martin County, Florida in 1975. In 1995, Gary won a verdict of $500 million, one of the largest jury verdicts in U.S. history.

**MICHAEL P. EARLEY** graduated in 1976. He became the first NCCU Law School alumnus to serve as Attorney General and Governor for the state of North Carolina.

**WANDA G. BRYANT** graduated in 1982 and became the first woman and African-American assistant district attorney in the 13th Prosecutorial District of North Carolina.
Performance-based Admissions Program (PBAP) participants spend two weeks during the summer at the law school, where faculty members provide instruction in one substantive course and one writing course. In addition to teaching the basic skills needed for successful matriculation, such as preparing for class, organizing and outlining course material, and briefing cases, School of Law professors work with PBAP students on a more intensive, one-on-one basis than is ordinarily the case at most law schools.

There is a traditional grading component with PBAP because faculty members provide written evaluations to students twice over the two-week period. Students, however, are also evaluated on intangible characteristics, such as work ethic and ability to absorb constructive criticism. These factors weigh heavily in evaluating the student’s potential, making intensive student-instructor contact a vital PBAP component. Students who perform satisfactorily, with both objective scoring and the intangibles, are typically offered admission to either the Day or Evening Program.
APPLICATION DEADLINE
Application materials submitted through the Law School Admissions Council's (LSAC) electronic services will be considered postmarked on the day that they are electronically submitted.

Candidacy Assembly Service (CAS) report files must be completed at LSAC or on or before March 31st of the year of anticipated enrollment. Any materials submitted after the deadline will not be processed. The CAS report will be deemed incomplete and, therefore, will not be accepted.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION
NCCU School of Law requests that applicants submit only two (2) written recommendations through LSAC’s letter of recommendation service. It is important that the recommender be able to comment honestly about the applicant’s ability to do well in law school and in the legal profession upon graduation.

PERSONAL STATEMENT
The School of Law is particularly interested in applicants who, by virtue of their background and experience, will add to the intellectual climate and diversity of the student body. The personal statement is required and provides the reviewer the best opportunity to evaluate who you are beyond your undergraduate GPA and LSAT score(s).

The Office of Admissions requires that the personal statement be electronically attached to the online application for admission. All personal statements must be received at the Office of Admissions or processed by LSAC on or before March 31st of the year of anticipated enrollment.

The personal statement must be no more than two (2) pages, typed and double-spaced, (Times New Roman, and 12 pt font size) and be a clear and well-drafted document. The contents of the personal statement must be the applicant’s own words, thoughts, and work product. It should highlight your unique characteristics, which may include:

- Your educational experiences;
- Your occupational experiences;
- Any economic disadvantages;
- Your significant or extracurricular activities;
- Your talents and special interests;
- Any involvement in community actions or public service;
- Your course of study;
- Any grade trends;
- Any post-undergraduate studies;
- Any significant work experience; and
- Any other personal experiences that have influenced your life.

TUITION

In-State tuition and fees per semester $5,327.49
Out-of-State tuition and fees per semester $12,171.49

There is no spring semester enrollment. Applicants have the option of applying to one or both law school programs (Day, Evening, or both Day and Evening) on the same application and for one $40 application fee.

Applicants are encouraged to read the admissions information for each program (Day Program or Evening Program) and carefully select the programs that best meet their objectives. Switching programs after submission of the initial application is not permitted. Applicants who submit their Application for Admission without indicating the program(s) to which they intend to apply will automatically be considered for the Day Program only.

The $40 non-refundable, non- refundable application fee must be paid through LSAC’s fee collection service to submit the on-line application.

The Law School accepts online applications only, beginning October 1st through March 31st of the year of anticipated fall enrollment.

The Office of Admissions requires that the personal statement be electronically attached to the online application for admission. All personal statements must be received at the Office of Admissions or processed by LSAC on or before March 31st of the year of anticipated enrollment.

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“Although N.C. Central University School of Law has had to struggle through some difficult periods in its 70-year history, the School of Law has emerged as a significant contributor to legal education and the legal profession in North Carolina.”

Sarah Parker
Chief Justice, North Carolina State Supreme Court
North Carolina Central University
SCHOOL OF LAW
640 Nelson Street
Durham, North Carolina 27707
Address Service Requested

Truth and Service