

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

YOU CAN DO ANYTHING
WITH A DEGREE FROM
HAMPDEN-SYDNEY COLLEGE

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“If you are planning to apply to law school, you should be aware of the considerable advantages you will have as a graduate of Hampden-Sydney College.”



CHRISTOPHER PEACE '98 IS AN ADVOCATE FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND EDUCATION, AS WELL AS A DELEGATE IN THE VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

“Hampden-Sydney faculty encouraged me to consider classical and contemporary notions of justice, which has enriched my experience as a law student.”

J. PHILIP LAND, JR. '06
*University of South Carolina
School of Law, Class of 2011*
President, Student Bar Association
Law School Senator, Student Government
Secretary-Treasurer, Hampden-Sydney
Student Government



PHILIP LAND '06, AS PRESIDENT OF THE STUDENT BAR ASSOCIATION, CARRYING THE MACE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA LAW SCHOOL GRADUATION CEREMONY.

Preparing for a career in Law at Hampden-Sydney College

From its earliest days, Hampden-Sydney has been guided by men trained in the law—among them James Madison, Paul Carrington, Patrick Henry, and Thomas Reade. Hampden-Sydney alumni include one U.S. President, 12 Senators, 35 Congressmen, 8 ambassadors, 12 governors, and more than 150 state representatives—most of whom were also law school graduates.

Hampden-Sydney enjoys an excellent reputation in preparing students for the study of law. Five to ten percent of each graduating class gains admission to law schools (see a selected list on the back). Although many students applying to law school directly after graduating from Hampden-Sydney are immediately admitted, others choose to spend a year or more in other activities, usually business or graduate studies, before enrolling.

The Curriculum

Law schools generally agree that students considering a career in law should adopt a broad, liberal arts course of study which develops solid analytical and writing skills, intellectual curiosity, and self-discipline, and which exposes them to the perennial issues and values of social and political life.

Because admission to law school is intensely competitive, law schools place considerable emphasis on objective measures of a student's abilities, such as grade-point average and the results of the Law School Admission Test (LSAT). Law schools are also interested in the rigor of a candidate's academic program, extracurricular activities, and the recommendations of instructors. Hampden-Sydney's liberal arts curriculum and the opportunity for substantial involvement in campus activities enable students to establish a solid foundation for their professional training and career.

The Pre-Law Society

The Hampden-Sydney Pre-Law Society informs students about the practice of law and associated vocations, prerequisites to the study of law, and law school admission requirements and application procedures. It also offers orientation programs, guest speakers, trips to courts of law, and workshops on the law school application process, preparing for the Law School Admission Test, interviewing with law schools, and finding internships.

Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest

Launched in 1996, the Wilson Center for Leadership in the Public Interest offers a wide variety of public service, leadership, and civic education programs.

Students in the *James Madison Public Service Certificate Program* (an academic minor) complete coursework in ethics, economics, and political science, with the goal of preparing themselves for significant roles in government or with non-profit organizations. Each student in the program completes an internship with a related research project. Interns have been placed with federal, state, local, and foreign government agencies, including the White House, the U.S. Senate, the European and Australian Parliaments, Washington thinktanks, and the American Embassies in Brazil, England, and Turkey.

Some Alumni in the Law

Chris Peace '98 has pursued many career paths since graduating in 2002 from the University of

“At Hampden-Sydney, I learned to think critically and look for essential facts and principles, to dig beneath the surface, and to act with honor and integrity, all of which are required to succeed at law school and in this profession.”

ORRAN BROWN '78
English Major
JD 1981, Harvard University
Attorney, Founder, and President,
BrownGreer PLC



Richmond law school, all of them law-related. "Hampden-Sydney College provides an exceptional experience for young men interested in pursuing a career in the law or virtually any other profession," he says. "I served three years in student government and in leadership positions in my fraternity, building lasting personal relationships and learning leadership skills. I was an English major, and the composition and grammar and rhetoric skills I



"To be an effective advocate for my clients, I must be able to mold facts into clear, concise, persuasive arguments. I learned these skills at Hampden-Sydney and am forever grateful for the College's commitment to teaching the fundamentals of persuasive writing."

RHETT OWENS '04
Political Science & English Major
JD, Cumberland School of Law

honed there enabled me to succeed in law school and beyond. Communication is critical to success in law and public policy."

Orran Brown '78 says he did well in high school without having to study very hard. At Hampden-Sydney, however, he had to learn time management and proper study skills.

Brown managed his studies well enough to have time to serve on the Student Court his junior and senior years; he was chairman the second year. He was also one of three students tied for valedictorian, with perfect 4.0 averages.

Brown went on to Harvard Law School and is now a founding partner in the Richmond law firm BrownGreer PLC. He specializes in settling and administering high-profile

class-action cases, such as the Phen-Fen diet drug, the Dalkon Shield intra-uterine birth control device, and the BP oil spill.

Rhett Owens '04 received his B.A. *magna cum laude* from Hampden-Sydney and his J.D. *cum laude* in 2008 from Cumberland School of Law at Samford University. While attending law school, Rhett was Chief Justice of the Moot Court Board and an Honor Court Justice for his class. Rhett practices in the commercial litigation group of Burr Forman and was named to the 2010 Leadership UAB by the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He says he likes the law "because it's an occupation that requires you to use your brain."

Hampden-Sydney graduates and the law

Law schools that have admitted H-SC students (partial sample)

Harvard University	William & Mary Law School
Yale University	University of Georgia
Chicago University	Wake Forest University
Columbia University	University of Richmond
Cornell University	Washington & Lee University
Duke University	University of North Carolina
Boston College	Drake University
New York University	University of Texas
Georgetown University	Hamline University
Vanderbilt University	University of Southern California
University of Alabama	Mercer University
George Mason University	Cumberland Law School
Emory University	Campbell University
Southern Methodist University	University of South Carolina
San Diego University	Widener University
Miami University	University of Indiana
University of Dayton	University of Denver
University of Pittsburgh	Dickinson University
University of Akron	University of Colorado
New England School of Law	University of Oregon
Michigan State University	Boston University
University of Virginia	UCLA

Law-related positions held by H-SC graduates (partial sample)

White House Staff	US Senate, Commerce Committee
Office of the Vice President	US House of Representatives,
US Defense Intelligence Agency	Committees on Administra-
Office of Senators Allen (VA), Byrd	tion, Homeland Security
(WV), Coverdell (GA), Senator	Campaign Managers for candidates
Helms (NC), Hollings (SC),	in many state elections
Hutcheson (TX), Snowe (ME),	US Department of State
Thurmond (SC), Warner (VA)	US Foreign Service
Office of Congressmen Boucher	US Departments of Commerce,
(VA), Cantor (VA), Coble	Education, Energy, and Labor
(NC), Goode (VA), Miller	US Treasury Department
(FL), Packard (CA), Tate (WA)	State Corporation Commission
Office of the Governor (VA)	(CA)
Office of the Attorney General	Pennsylvania State Legislature
(TX)	(staff)
Office of the Secretary of Public	Virginia State Legislature
Safety (VA)	(delegates, senators, staff)
Chesapeake Bay Foundation	Texas State Legislature (staff)
Office of the Chief of Staff,	Budget Office, Hanover County
Governor Gilmore (VA)	(VA)
Director, Governor Gilmore's	Democratic National Committee,
New Majority PAC	Chief of Operations
Office of the Secretary of	City and County managers
Technology (VA)	Attorneys General and assistants
US Drug Enforcement Agency	Commonwealth's attorneys
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Judges (federal, state, and local)

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