

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE



Studies and career options for
Hampden-Sydney students
interested in a career in the law

*Hampden-Sydney offers
a robust education that
motivates students to
think critically, respond
to the world persuasively,
and flourish personally.
Hampden-Sydney
graduates employ the
intellectual competence
acquired from their
liberal arts education to
excel in all areas within
the legal profession.*

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

WWW.HSC.EDU

PREPARING FOR A CAREER IN Law

MINDSET

- Law places high value on analytical acumen and excellence in writing and speaking.
- ANY major at Hampden-Sydney can provide students appropriate preparation for law school.
- Prospective law school candidates must have consistently high GPAs and test well on the LSAT.
- Nearly one-eighth of our alumni have earned law degrees or work in the legal profession.

ACADEMICS

Just as no particular major is ideally suited for the legal professions, no particular course is going to be the key that gets you into—or makes you successful in—law school. We encourage students to follow a broad course of study to develop the habits of thoroughness, intellectual curiosity, logical thinking, analysis of social institutions, and clarity of expression that are the hallmarks of liberal arts education. Those skills are employed throughout the Hampden-Sydney curriculum, beginning with our required rhetoric program.

The following courses are not prescribed for pre-law students, but they do address issues and thought processes that may be helpful starting points for students considering the legal profession.

Constitutional Law (Government & Foreign Affairs) *Economics of Law* (Economics)
International Law (Government & Foreign Affairs) *English Etymology* (Classics) *Logic* (Philosophy)
Literary Criticism (English) *Psychology of Law* (Psychology) *Alternative Religions* (Religion)

PROGRAMS & CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Pre-Law Advisor** – Students interested in the legal profession should contact the Pre-Law advisor, Professor Celia Carroll, during their first semester on campus.
- **The Pre-Law Society** – Organizes visits to law schools and courts, hosts info sessions with representatives from regional law schools, and sponsors LSAT prep sessions.
- **The Union Philanthropic Literary Society (UPLS)** – The College's oldest club hosts weekly debates on controversial topics, allowing students to develop public speaking and debating skills.
- **The Ethics Bowl Team** – Competes in the annual Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges Ethics Bowl competition. The event emphasizes critical thinking and oral rhetoric under pressure.
- **Moot Court** – Co-hosted by the Pre-Law Society and the Government Department, Moot Court provides students opportunities to refine their argumentation skills.
- **Model Organization of American States Team** – Competes each year in DC at the Model OAS exercise in international diplomacy, policy development, advocacy, and parliamentary debate.
- **Phi Alpha Delta** – The world's largest law fraternity has a chapter on campus.
- **Writing Center and the Ferguson Center for Public Speaking** – Offers students advice and practice with public speaking, writing, and editing throughout their college careers.
- **The Student Court & Other Campus Organizations** – Campus organizations, including the Student Court, provide challenging opportunities to sharpen practical decision-making skills.

PREPARATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

- **Career Education and Vocational Reflection Office** – Offers opportunities to practice networking, resume and cover letter writing, interview preparation, and general work place etiquette.
- **Career Development Library** – Contains publications that provide thorough introductions to different careers within the legal profession.
- **Internships** – As in many other competitive professions, networking to find quality internships after your junior and senior years is very important for aspiring lawyers. Remember to consider summer opportunities beyond the traditional summer at a law firm as you seek this positions. The goal should be to find a position that allows you to connect to and pursue your interests.
- **Career Exploration Panels** – The Pre-Law Society hosts career exploration panel discussions with Hampden-Sydney alumni who have completed the JD or LLM degrees.

GRADUATE STUDIES

- **The Juris Doctorate (JD)** – Students frequently will enroll in law school to pursue a JD degree the fall after they receive their undergraduate diploma, but this is not the only way to enter the field.
- **The Master of Law (LLM)** – Students who wish to establish specialties in particular legal fields may enroll in a Master of Law program following completion of the JD degree. SMU, for example, offers a program in tax law. An LLM can also be a valuable degree for persons interested in teaching.
- **Dual-Degree Programs** – Many attorneys who chose to specialize in a particular field during law school end up pursuing a dual degree. The most common are JD/MBA and JD/MPA programs.
- **LSAT** – Students must set aside time to prepare for the rigorous Law School Admissions Test. Hampden-Sydney professors hold free LSAT review sessions each fall.
- **JAG** – Students interested in the study of law and military service can combine these two interests by pursuing admission to the Judge Advocate General's program with one of the military services.
- **Public Service** – Law Schools seek a diverse class and appreciate applicants with non-traditional post-collegiate experiences such as AmeriCorps, Teach for America, the U. S. military, or the Peace Corps to help expand the breadth of the Socratic dialogue of the law school classroom.

HAMPDEN- SYDNEY COLLEGE

Forming good
men and good citizens

*Hampden-Sydney
graduates hold positions
in private practice;
serve in local, state,
and federal government
agencies; have received
local, state, and federal
judicial appointments;
practice as in-house
counsel with private firms
and non-profits;
or use their JD in business
and other fields.*

RECENT LAW SCHOOLS
ATTENDED BY OUR GRADUATES



UNIVERSITY OF
VIRGINIA
SCHOOL OF LAW



SAM ROSTEN '09

Staff Attorney at the United States Courts, Mobile, AL

While at Hampden-Sydney, Sam was a member of the Student Court, a captain of the football team, and a recipient of the Gammon Cup and the Harrison Award for poetry. He graduated *summa cum laude* in Economics & Commerce and is graduated in 2012 from the University of Alabama School of Law, where he was a member of the Alabama Law Review and Honor Court. Immediately after graduation, he served a one-year clerkship in D.C. for the Honorable Eric G. Bruggink on the United States Court of Federal Claims. Until his move in 2016 to the United States Courts, Sam spent three years as an Associate with Helmsing Leach Herlong Newman & Rouse, PC in Mobile, AL.

J.B. BILLINGS-KANG '05

University of Virginia School of Law, Associate, Venable LLP

J.B. was a *summa cum laude* Phi Beta Kappa Classics major and served as the President of ODK and the Chairman of both Good Men Good Citizens and the Senior Class Campaign at Hampden-Sydney. At UVA Law he served on the Lile Moot Court Board, the *Virginia Journal of Social Policy and the Law*, and the *Virginia Sports and Entertainment Law Journal*. J.B. is an associate in Venable LLP's commercial litigation group, representing national and international clients in a variety of disputes ranging from contractual claims to political asylum matters.



MATT MICHAEL '95

University of Chicago Law School, Associate, Arnold & Porter LLP

Matt graduated *summa cum laude* with honors in political science, served on the Honor Court, and was President of Circle K. He earned an MPP at Georgetown University and his JD with honors from the University of Chicago. Matt clerked for the U.S. District Court (W.D. Va.), and has since specialized in white-collar defense work, most recently involving matters arising with foreign bribery and internet gambling. He previously worked on the widely publicized settlement in *United States v. KPMG LLP*. Matt has been admitted to practice by three state bars, and before courts at the federal district and appellate levels (including the U.S. Supreme Court).

ROBERT HURT '91

Mississippi College School of Law, U.S. Congressman, Virginia's Fifth District

While at Hampden-Sydney, Robert was an English major, a brother of the Kappa Sigma fraternity, and a member of the Student Development Committee. After graduating from Law School he served as the Chief Assistant Commonwealth Attorney for Pittsylvania County before joining a general law practice in Chatham, Virginia. In 2001 he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates and in 2007 he was elected to the Senate of Virginia. In the fall of 2010, Robert was elected to represent Virginia's fifth district in the United States Congress.



BRAWNER GREER '90

Wake Forest Law; VP, Business & Legal Affairs, NBC Universal Theme Parks

A brother of Beta Theta Pi and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa while at Hampden-Sydney, Brawner graduated with honors in economics and earned a full academic scholarship to Wake Forest University School of Law. After working as an associate at McGuire Woods, Brawner became vice president and associate general counsel for the Paramount Pictures theme parks. In 2002, he joined Universal as the lead business and legal affairs executive for Universal Creative, which is responsible for all design and construction at Universal theme parks worldwide. Brawner has worked on such well-known projects as Shrek 4-D, The Simpsons Ride, and the Wizarding World of Harry Potter, and is currently working on a new Transformers attraction.

CHARLES CABELL '74

William & Mary Law School, Partner, Williams Mullen LLP

Charles admits he was a bit unfocused during his first year or two at Hampden-Sydney. "Without the total H-SC experience—a psychology major, strong relationships, and advice from several faculty members—I would never have matured into a responsible 4.0 student my senior year nor gotten into the law school of my choice." Charles is now a partner at Williams Mullen, where he focuses on commercial real estate, corporate, estate planning, and the representation of institutions of higher education.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH MEN LIKE THESE, PLEASE CONTACT THE CAREER EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL REFLECTION OFFICE AT (434) 223-6105 OR VISIT WWW.HSC.EDU/CAREER-EDUCATION.HTML FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PRE-LAW PROGRAM, CONTACT DR. CELIA CARROLL, CCARROLL@HSC.EDU