

Chapter 1 : What Can You Do With a Law Degree? – School of Law – University of St. Thomas – M

Nov 22, A. A law degree doesn't guarantee that you'll have a career in law. It does guarantee you will have a degree and most likely a student loan. In North America, there seems to be a glut of lawyers.

Many work in firms that have several hundred lawyers in cities around the world. In recent years it has become increasingly common for associates to join a law firm with the expectation that they will gain experience for a number of years but not stick around for a partnership decision. In order to bill clients and to get credit for work performed, firm lawyers keep track of the activities they perform each day. Sometimes lawyers record their activities in increments of time as short as six minutes. Government Many government lawyers work at the local level, but state governments and the federal government also hire lawyers to perform a multitude of tasks. The Federal government Most federal government agencies have legal counsel. These agencies include, but are not limited to, the U. In addition, the United States Congress offers many exciting opportunities for lawyers to develop and help pass legislation. Finally, attorneys also serve in all branches of the military. Many of these agencies look favorably on hiring permanently from the pool of students who have participated in a government honors or internship program. We subscribe to this list on your behalf. The username and password change each year; please contact the Career Services Office to obtain the current ones. These jobs are on Capitol Hill, in non-profits, think tanks, institutions, the government and in corporations and professional firms. The monthly publication is accessible online at [http:](http://) Locally, many attorneys also work in city or county law offices, as well as in local agencies and commissions. Lawyers represent just about every government agency you can name. Judicial Clerkship Judicial clerks are a subset of government lawyers, but warrant separate mention. Judicial clerks research and draft memoranda and opinions for judges. Often, these intellectually-stimulating and prestigious positions are short-term. Frequently, recent law graduates will spend a year or two clerking before embarking on their legal careers. These permanent positions are typically available only to people admitted to the state bar. Many judges will accept a volunteer intern to work with them during the summer of their first year or during the academic year. For a more detailed explanation about judicial clerkships, see the Judicial Clerkships page on the Career Services website. Public Interest Many public interest lawyers work for legal-aid societies, which are private, non-profit agencies designed to serve economically disadvantaged people. These lawyers might represent the poor in landlord-tenant disagreements, or negotiate child visitation rights for individuals who cannot afford private attorneys. In Mississippi, public interest attorneys include public defenders who are often private practitioners contracted by the court to take on the criminal cases for indigent people who would otherwise be unrepresented. Still other public interest lawyers work for non-profit organizations that seek to change the law. Lawyers might strive to strengthen environmental laws, to protect the rights of children in foster care or to advocate for racial and religious tolerance. Non-profit organizations often struggle for funding. As a result, many are willing to provide non-paying internships to interested law students. Even after law school, public interest lawyer positions are not high paying. But because they offer other rewards, these positions are often highly competitive. Learn more about public interest opportunities at pslaw.net. You may want to read their fact sheet first pdf. Large companies often have correspondingly large legal departments and a number of in-house attorneys who specialize in specific issues. Traditionally, many in-house attorneys obtain their positions when they are working in a law firm and are asked by a client to join the company. In-house lawyers often report that they enjoy greater control over their time than their law firm counterparts. Such a setting can be in a field that is law-related and uses legal knowledge in different way or a law school graduate can decide to do something totally unrelated to the practice of law. The following list is not exhaustive, but it highlights some areas that hire law school graduates. A word of caution: Sizeable law firms often have a variety of non-practice related employment. Legally trained people work in areas of business development, clerk and attorney recruitment, law firm finances, human resources or managing office work flow. Graduates interested in these law firm positions usually have a business, accounting or human resources background. Some law school graduates will end up working in the political process. Of course that includes the more obvious jobs like legislative

representatives and local state and national government levels. But many graduates will represent the legislative and legal interests of corporations, trade and professional associations, public interest advocacy groups and political action committees. Legal Publishing and Journalism: Most law students use either Lexis or Westlaw as research tools during law school. Several print and electronic media concentrate primarily on legal news. For those students with backgrounds in publishing or journalism, jobs with legal publishers as well as print or electronic media might also provide law-related employment. Law school graduates often work in law schools as well as colleges and universities. Lawyers teach in law schools, colleges, and at other educational levels. Many lawyers who hope to become professors first gain teaching experience by working as an adjunct professor and teaching one course while working elsewhere full time. Practicing lawyers who want to teach also often look for publishing opportunities. While some people go on to jobs in faculty positions, many other law school graduates work in non-academic portions of colleges, universities and law schools as well. Financial planning, investment banking, estate planning: Law school graduates may work in bank trust departments, brokerage firms, insurance companies, development offices for preparatory schools, hospitals and universities. Often an undergraduate major in accounting or finance would be helpful as well as tax law classes, in addition to a legal education. Law Related Job Titles.

You can, in fact, do a lot with a J.D. besides practicing law, contrary to popular belief. The transferable skills that a law degree helps you develop are useful in a variety of non-law related professions.

Background on legal education in common law countries[edit] To become a lawyer and practice law in most states and countries, a person must first obtain a law degree. While in most common law countries a Bachelor of Laws or LL. The degree is earned by completing law school in the United States , Canada , Australia , and other common law countries. Many who hold the degree of Juris Doctor are professionals committed to the practice of law , and may choose to focus their practice on criminal law , tort , family law , corporate law , or a wide range of other areas. The majority of individuals holding a J. The word legum is the genitive plural form of the Latin word lex and means "of the laws". When used in the plural, it signifies a specific body of laws, as opposed to the general collective concept embodied in the word jus, from which the words "juris" and "justice" derive. The highest research degree in law is the S. There are also variant doctoral degrees, such as the D. Most schools require an LL. Like the PhD, the SJD degree generally requires a dissertation that is graded often by two graders , orally defended by an exam known as Viva Voce and then often published as a book or series of articles. The "Doctor of Laws" LL. International situation[edit] Historically, the LL. Over the past years, however, specialized LL. In Finland, an LL. The Dutch Order of Lawyers NOVA require these courses for every potential candidate lawyer who wants to be conditionally written in the district court for three years. Most universities offer only a small number of LL. One of the most popular LL. Some law schools allow LL. Eur Master of European Law. In the Netherlands and its former colonies, the title used was Meester in de Rechten Mr. Moreover, some programs are conducted in more than one language, give the students the opportunity to undertake classes in differing languages. Requirements[edit] LL. There are exceptions to this but an undergraduate degree or extensive experience in a related field is still required. Most programs require students to write a thesis. Some programs are research oriented with little classroom time similar to a M. Some associations provide LL. Australia[edit] In Australia , the LL. However, some universities permit a non-law graduate to undertake variants of the degree. Unique variants of the LL. Other variants of the LL. These courses are usually more specialised than a standard LL. Canada[edit] In Canada, the LL. Students can choose to take research based LL. Canadian law graduates pursue LL. Canadian law graduates in most of the provinces in Canada must complete an internship with a law firm known as "articling" and a professional legal training course, as well as pass professional exams in order to be called to the bar in a province. Upon having received a certificate of accreditation from the National Committee on Accreditation, foreign law graduates would then have to obtain articles with a law firm, take the professional legal training course, and pass the professional exams to be called to the bar in a province. China Mainland [edit] The LL. The course is flexible and allows students to study Mandarin and assists with organizing work experience in Beijing and other cities in China. It normally takes two years, but can be completed in one and a half years if students take the required credits in time. The Master of European and International Law is taught in English, open for international students and can be studied as a single master programme. The course is taken over two years, with the first covering online lessons through video and assignments, the second year is for the dissertation and an online defense is required at the end. Students are required to attend Beijing for an introductory week in September to enroll and meet students and staff. Students also have the opportunity to take work experience at a top five law firm in China. The entrance requirements are: The course is flexible and allows students to study French. Germany[edit] In Germany , the LL. As such, Master of Laws programmes are generally open not only to law graduates, but also to graduates of related subjects or those displaying a genuine interest in and link to the particular LL. Some graduates choose to undertake their LL. On the other hand, many professionals now take career breaks in order to study for an LL. Hong Kong[edit] LL. India[edit] In India , the thrust of legal education is on the undergraduate law degrees with most of those opting for the undergraduate law degree either going forward to enroll themselves with the Bar Council of India and start practicing as Advocates or giving legal advice without being eligible to appear in courts a consequence of non-enrollment.

With the establishment of these universities, focus in specialization has been shifted to newer areas such as corporate law , intellectual property law , international trade law etc. Ireland[edit] A number of universities and colleges in Ireland offer LL. Hibernia College offer a completely online LL. They are often called "laurea specialistica", that is, the second step of the Bologna plan European curriculum , and in this case they last two years. In Alto Adige programs are also taught in German, as in Bolzano. In Italy the term "master" often refers to a vocational master, 6 or 12 months long, on specific areas, such as "law and internet security", or "law of administrative management", is often taught part-time to allow professionals already working in the field to improve their skills.

Chapter 3 : 8 Other Jobs You Can Get With A Law Degree | TheRichest

Non-Legal. Work Settings for Legally-Trained People. Law school graduates work in a multitude of non-legal settings. Such a setting can be in a field that is law-related and uses legal knowledge in different way or a law school graduate can decide to do something totally unrelated to the practice of law.

As you ponder your future, you are likely asking a very important question - what can I do with a law degree? In the Office of Career and Professional Development, we educate students about the variety of settings in which lawyers work and help them craft a personalized plan for their path to meaningful employment. During the Employment Workshop series designed for first year law students, we will explore careers in some of the most common areas of legal employment, such as those listed below, as well as alternative legal careers. Also, during the one-on-one counseling sessions that will take place throughout your law school career, we will focus on developing the path to employment that is right for you. Often they represent companies or individuals and are paid on an hourly or contingency fee basis. There are many different paths to a career in private practice; clerkships, internships, externships, and summer associate positions are all great ways to gain the skills and experience needed to become a successful private practice attorney. The CPD office is available to work with you and help you discover what path is best for you. It is an opportunity to work directly with judges on a daily basis, observe courtroom proceedings, review written work product and court filings, write complex legal documents with guidance from judges, and, ultimately, learn what works and what does not in practice from the judges themselves. As such, a judicial clerkship is a further investment in your career that will push your legal research, writing, and advocacy skills to the next level. Because of this great experience, legal employers highly value judicial clerkships in evaluating potential candidates. A clerkship also provides a unique connection with judges and other clerks and can lead to lifelong relationships with very influential legal professionals. The Career and Professional Development Office is prepared to help our students and graduates land judicial clerkships. We have worked hard to gather information about the evaluation and hiring process, and we know the ins and outs of the application procedures. We are able to provide detailed guidance with regard to preparing effective resumes, cover letters, writing samples, and other application materials, and we are able to provide realistic mock interviews utilizing faculty, staff, and alumni resources. The University of St. Thomas School of Law has worked hard to form relationships with judges from a variety of courts in a variety of locations around the region and nationally, and we can tap into a constantly expanding network of current and former judicial clerks to help support our students and graduates in their search for a judicial clerkship. An in-house attorney works for a company and provides direction to the organization while also providing insight on how to minimize risk and be successful. Corporate counsel roles may vary depending on the size of the organization and the overall type of business. The field of compliance is a growing market. Each year a number of school of law graduates work in a compliance role after graduation. Organizations in a variety of fields utilize the services of compliance professionals, including banking and finance, healthcare, retail, manufacturing, and more. Attorneys who work in public interest, government, or with nonprofit organizations often provide legal services to underserved populations, engage in legal reform, or further interests shared by the public and address an overarching public concern. There are many different areas of law that fall under the public interest umbrella and where you can make an impact as a law student or practicing attorney after graduation. Examples of subject areas: State and federal government, legal services organizations, policy advocacy organizations, nonprofit organizations, public interest law firms.

Chapter 4 : 9 Non-Legal Jobs You Can (Really, Truly) Do With A Law Degree | Above the Law

Graduates with a law degree can also find positions working in the finance, business, marketing, administration, copy center, secretarial (as legal assistant, for example), research, publishing, editing, law recruitment, library or IT department of a large law firm.

Email Copy Link Copied What can you do with a law degree? You become a lawyer, duh. Not so fast -- the answer is not so clear for many. Maybe you graduated from law school or you are a newly minted member of the legal profession. You find that the study or practice of law is not what you had expected and you are planning a career change. What do you do with your law degree? But is this quip true? You can, in fact, do a lot with a J. The transferable skills that a law degree helps you develop are useful in a variety of non-law related professions. Lawyers are typically a bright bunch of people. Had they not been lawyers, or if they ever contemplate a career change, there is no telling how they would have used or could use their skills and abilities in another way. These alternative careers are just a few of the options available. Advocates for authors are called literary agents. Moreover, literary agents can help negotiate the book deal, something a former lawyer is well equipped to do. Before she started Happy Herbivore Inc. Nixon was an attorney. Since lawyers are trained to write effectively, many lawyers translate their writing, investigation, and problem-solving skills into communication jobs such as reporting, public relations or publishing. Some lawyers blog for a living, like Kat Griffin of Corporette. Contrary to working in a traditional law practice, being a freelance writer or a blogger gives the former lawyer more mastery and control over his or her time, as well as the potential for increased job satisfaction. They are trained to see problems and fix it, but also to avoid problems altogether. They can easily parlay their expertise in corporate law and knowledge about business associations and equity into starting a new business. The number of lawyers-turned-entrepreneur or CEO is endless. Star Jones was a lawyer before she became a host on The View, competed on The Celebrity Apprentice and wrote two books. Geraldo Rivera was a lawyer before he hosted his show named after him. Ana Quincoces was a lawyer before she starred on the Real Housewives of Miami and become a chef and a cookbook author. Combining their legal analysis, personality, presence and gift of gab, some lawyers go on to host successful TV shows of their own. Thus, many lawyers become legal recruiters, policy analysts, social commentators, and political strategists. Some lawyers decide to teach in another discipline entirely, while others decide to teach at the high school level instead. Other lawyers participate in university life by becoming Dean of Student Services or Alumni Relations or Career Services " positions for which their varied vocational experiences have prepared them. And still, other legal practitioners become adjunct professors, teaching law or another subject altogether part-time to law students. Bringing their practical knowledge into the classrooms often helps law students ground their abstract knowledge by seeing it at work in the real-life experience of their professors.

Chapter 5 : Jobs for law graduates outside the legal sector | TARGETjobs

An individual with a law degree can work in private practice as a lawyer, serve the government as legal counsel, or practice as a legal-aid lawyer for non-profits, according to the University of Mississippi School of Law.

Kind of weird coming from a lawyer career coach, I know. But hear me out. Take a minute to think about how many law grads you know who went to law school without a g. Or maybe you knew you wanted to be a lawyer since you were a kid. Many of us were hoping to enter a profession that would provide us with an intellectual challenge, prestige and a cushy salary. Some wanted to be lawyers in order to please their parents or prove they could make something of themselves. Still others brought a genuine desire to help the greater good. But why am I telling you what you already know? I want you to understand that virtually no one knew exactly what they were getting into when they enrolled in law school. Unless you were somehow a lawyer before attending law school, there was no way for you to know what practicing law would be like. You had a rough idea based on internships, what professors told you most of whom never worked outside academia and all those anecdotes from lawyers who warned you about the suckitude of the legal profession. Unfortunately, the only way for you to find out if law is your calling is to become a lawyer. So why are lawyers so damn hard on themselves when they realize law is a bad fit? For better or for worse, you believed that going to law school would make a lawyer out of you. Not just any lawyer, either. One who embodied the ideals you held as an eager law student. Because you let your family down. But what if you already use your law degree in everything you do? Think back to law school orientation when they told you that your mind would never be the same. That law school would turn your brain into an analytical machine the likes of which no lay person would be capable of nor interested in understanding. Sure enough, your legal training forever transformed you. Seriously, were there no editors involved?! You can barely stand to watch bullshit legal dramas or movies. You also find it perfectly reasonable to challenge underlying assumptions of even the most innocent arguments. The object is to identify what you were looking for in a job when you decided to go to law school. You might be able to find it by tweaking your current job arrangement. So tell me, what will you be doing with your law degree? Is Your Career On Track?

Chapter 6 : What Can You Do With A Law Degree - Can You Go To Law School With Any Degree

A law degree is a gateway to a career as a solicitor or barrister, but it is not the only path you can choose; there are many options beyond the legal profession that are available to you.

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Twelve jobs you can do with a law degree
The skills you gain through legal training are transferable to many different roles beyond qualifying as a solicitor or barrister. As such, recruiters in a range of industries offer jobs to law graduates. Planning is a career option recommended for those with a law degree, according to the Royal Town Planning Institute. The competencies you are developing during your law degree and legal work experience are relevant in many alternative careers. Analytical and research skills, for example, are needed by not just solicitors or barristers but most other professions. Likewise, good communication and problem-solving skills are directly transferable to many careers including management, town planning and consultancy work. There are also roles where legal knowledge as opposed to skills, is particularly useful – such as HR or tax advisory work. Jobs for law graduates: Their work includes maintaining records about an organisation, preparing reports and keeping directors up to date with legal developments. They are likely to work with directors and senior staff and may be involved in planning, finance and arranging insurance. Vacancies are advertised in the national press and their respective websites, and through specialist recruitment agencies. Those who join the Fast Stream are guaranteed a series of intensive job placements designed to prepare them for senior managerial positions. Fast streamers move between projects and sections within their departments and take up postings in other departments and agencies. Application is via an online process with an annual deadline in early November, and recruiters are looking for an ability to work under pressure, attention to detail and commercial awareness – all traits which are encouraged on a law degree course. Atkins welcomes applications from law graduates for four of their graduate roles, including surveying and facilities management. The ability to apply technical knowledge to analyse problems, teamworking and attention to detail all skills developed on a law degree are sought for these roles. The City is a honey pot for graduates, with most graduate opportunities found in investment banks covering corporate finance, markets, fund management, private-client services, and IT and operations, insurance broking and accountancy. As with many graduate roles, City careers involve a stringent recruitment process. Read our investment banking and finance advice to help you narrow down your options. Experience of debating and mooting at university gave me confidence when giving presentations and speaking to clients. Being able to anticipate both sides of an argument is useful when recommending a stock. Tax consultancies, including the Big 4 accountancy firms, seek graduates in law as well as accounting, tax or business. They look for evidence of problem solving, persuasion, gaining the trust of clients and organisational skills during their recruitment process. Your law degree may exempt you from some of the exams tax practitioners sit to gain the professional qualifications to become a tax consultant. You can qualify as a town planner by taking a RTPI-accredited postgraduate degree after any degree. There are a few training schemes available and most posts will be advertised individually when they become vacant. A background in law nurtures good attention to detail, an ability to write succinctly and good research skills – all useful attributes in publishing. Management consulting requires analytical thinkers who can work with everyone, from the chief executive to the operative, to help an organisation achieve its objectives or implement substantial changes to its working practices. Good research skills are essential in consulting: While some consultancies recruit continuously, many have application deadlines between October and December – see the employers listed in our consulting section to apply. Graduates can enter loss adjusting careers with many degree backgrounds, although some employers such as GAB Robins tell us that they particularly welcome applicants from a law background. Many of the skills developed on a law degree and during legal work experience transfer well to this field: Most employers prefer a numerate, business or law-based degree. General management training might involve spending time in different departments including human resources HR, general management at branch or department level, for example, and sales and marketing. More specialist programmes cover financial management and IT. There is often the opportunity to work towards professional

qualifications, such as a Chartered Institute of Management Accountants CIMA qualification. If you are thinking of staying in law, there are massive changes to the way solicitors qualify are on the horizon with the new SQE exam. Do you know how they will affect you?

Chapter 7 : 5 Reasons Not to Get a Law Degree - CBS News

What do people who study law do after graduation? Due to the wide range of crucial industries and services that are actively seeking law graduates, law degrees are one of the most useful university qualifications one can hold when looking for employment.

Will I have to quit my job when doing online legal degree programs? Frequently Asked Questions Q: What areas are offered for specialization to students enrolled in online 1 yr degree programs in law and legal studies? Students can always consider the option of earning degrees through online schools and begin a successful career. Degree programs are available in all fields of study such as business, arts, law, and medicine. Students interested in law can also pursue online 1 year degree programs in law and legal studies, and can specialize in the following areas: What are the different practice areas available after completion of Law and Legal Degrees? After the completion of Law and Legal Degrees, students can practice law in a number of different professional areas. Following are a few areas: Can you name the courses taught in online Law and Legal Degrees? Online Law and Legal Degrees emphasize on a comprehensive set of courses including the history of American legal system, philosophy of law, legal actions, conflicts resolution, research methods, and law functions in society, The courses offered in these degrees vary with the area of specialization chosen. What kinds of careers can I pursue with online law degrees? A degree in law can open up the doors to various law careers. The job position and salary will depend upon your specialization and level of degree earned. Some of the main careers that can be opted for in law include the following: Online law degree programs can be completed in which specialization areas? Law is a very vast field covering all kinds of areas. The career opportunities are lucrative and broad. One can specialize in all kinds of law areas. Some of the main law specialization areas have been mentioned here: Is an online law degree recognized by employers in the industry? Online law degrees are recognized by employers in the industry as long as the program is accredited. Online education has gained much popularity over the years and is accepted by many industries. It is important to make sure you earn a degree from a school that is accredited by the relevant agency. Take a look at our page for more detail. The purpose of an online legal degree program is that students are able to pursue full time work while studying for their chosen degree. You can take the program online which will allow you more comfort and flexibility regarding the timings and the course content. What is covered in a Law Degree Online, can you tell me briefly? A law degree will basically provide students with in-depth knowledge of the judicial system and legal industry. Students will learn about various aspects of law and how trials are conducted. The coursework will however vary slightly from school to school and will depend upon the type of degree being pursued. Can you give me some information about online law degree accredited program? If you are interested in earning a law degree, there are a number of accredited schools that offer online law degrees. The coursework is typically covered online via lectures and videos. What can you do with a law degree? A law degree opens up many doors for you in a number of legal and related professions. With respect to legal careers, candidates can choose to become lawyers, judges, mediators, or magistrates. There is also the option of pursuing corporate and public administration careers such as in a corporate firm or in public policy. Prospective salaries will vary depending on which career path you intent to follow. Can I go back to school to earn a paralegal degree? Yes, you can go back to college to earn a degree in paralegal studies. Many colleges are offering degree completion programs, short course, diplomas, and certificate programs designed for working individuals. You can also opt for online paralegal degrees. This mode of learning can be tailored to suit our lifestyle and work schedule. I am disabled and wish to pursue a degree in law. Can I become a lawyer despite my disability? Did you know that there are over 2. Online learning has made education more accessible for individuals with disabilities. However, the effectiveness of online learning also depends on the kind of disability you have. In an online degree program, you can study from the comfort of your home without having to worry about travelling. What law degree program should I pursue after a master in business and education? With a master in business and education, you are well equipped to pursue a degree in several branches of law. One of the most obvious choices could be a public policy law degree. Another degree you

could go for could be a business law degree. There are many law schools in the United States who would be willing to accept graduates with non-law backgrounds. Currently, I have a masters degree in business leadership and i want to pursue a PhD in human right law. I would prefer a program that is online. What university can I apply to? There are very few universities in the United States that offer accredited programs in human rights law online. A PhD program would require you to research extensively and take around years of your time. Common graduation requirements include a doctoral dissertation.

Chapter 8 : Online Law Degree, What Can You Do With A Law Degree

Casey Berman of Leave Law Behind discusses the truth behind the phrase "you can do anything with a law degree" and lists nine real-life, non-legal jobs that are in fairly good alignment with.

Chapter 9 : What Can You Do With a Law Degree? | The University Of Mississippi School of Law

Whether you have an associates degree, bachelors degree, masters degree, or doctoral degree in an area of law and/or law enforcement, you have many options to choose from. Entry Level Law Careers Below are just a few of the many career options you will have once you receive a law degree.