

# Public Policy and Regulation

**Lawyers working with public institutions must understand the complex relationship between law and public policy to be effective at shaping it.**

**Virginia's public policy and regulatory law focus draws its strength from faculty members who bring to the classroom their experiences working for government or other institutions. These connections benefit students in a variety of ways.**

The Law School's proximity to Washington, D.C., provides rich opportunities for a close-up view of how regulations, policies and the government interact. The location also allows top government lawyers and Washington-based practitioners to teach part-time at Virginia, which exposes students to the concrete issues they may one day face as government officials, practicing lawyers or

policy advocates.

Virginia's alumni connect the school and students to Washington and other public policy networks. The Law School's graduates work for the White House, Congress, the Justice Department, the military and numerous federal agencies.

► [law.virginia.edu/uvalawalumni](http://law.virginia.edu/uvalawalumni)



**As part of the State and Local Government Policy Clinic, Kara Hafermalz '23 was among students who helped state lawmakers develop the Virginia Literacy Act—bipartisan legislation to ground literacy instruction in science-based reading research.**

**The legislation passed the General Assembly unanimously and was recently signed into law by Gov. Glenn Youngkin.**

► Professor Saikrishna B. Prakash testified before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee about presidential power and questions raised by the Mueller report, which was led by Special Counsel Robert Mueller III '73.

## COURSES AND SEMINARS

- Administrative Law
- Advanced Administrative Law
- Advanced Crimes and Defenses (JAG)
- Advanced Topics in Law and Public Service
- Advanced Topics in Professional Responsibility (JAG)
- Advanced Topics in the Law of Armed Conflict (JAG)
- Advancing the Commitment to Service Through Law Firm Pro Bono
- Animal Law
- Antitrust
- Antitrust Review of Mergers in a Global Environment
- Artificial Intelligence and Democracy
- Banking and Financial Institutions
- Baseball
- Bioethics and Law Internship Seminar: Health Policy and Administration
- Bioethics and the Law Seminar
- Biotechnology and the Law
- Blood Feud
- Border Policy and Politics
- Business and Governmental Tort Liability
- Cannabis Legalization
- Children and the Law
- Civil Rights Litigation
- Climate and Debt
- Climate Change Law
- Climate Law and Climate Ethics
- Constitutional Law and Economics
- Contemporary Challenges in Military Justice
- Contemporary Housing Policy Debates
- Corporate Social Responsibility Seminar
- Crimmigration Law: Intersection of Criminal and Immigration Law
- Critical Analysis of the Military Justice System (JAG)
- Critical Race Theory and Criminal Justice
- Cryptocurrency Law and Policy
- Cybersecurity and Privacy Boot Camp
- Designing Democracy: Participation
- Designing Democracy: Representation
- Digital Evidence from Theory to Practice (JAG)
- Economic Statecraft and Public International Law
- Education Inside U.S. Prisons Seminar
- Education Law Survey
- Emerging AI Legal Issues
- Employee Benefits Law
- Employment Law: Health and Safety
- Employment Law: Wage and Hour Regulation
- Energy and Environmental Products Trading and Commodities Regulation
- Energy Regulation and Policy
- Environmental Law
- European Union Law
- Federal Income Tax
- Federal Regulation of Investment Companies
- Feminism and the Free Market
- Food and Drug Law
- Food Systems Law and Policy
- Genetics and the Law
- Genetics and the Law: Exercises in Rulemaking
- Geopolitics, Law and the World Economy
- Government Contract Law
- Government Ethics: Conflicts of Interest, Lobbying and Campaign Finance
- Government Secrecy
- Health Care Marketplace: Competition, Regulation and Reform
- History and Evolution of Victims' Rights (JAG)
- Housing Law and Poverty Seminar
- Immigration Law and Policy
- Immigration Law and Policy
- Innovating for Defense
- International Human Rights (JAG)
- International Settlement of Disputes: Methods and Forums
- International Trade Law and Policy
- Internet Law
- Introduction to Legal Aspects of Cyberspace Operations (JAG)
- Land Use Law
- Law and Artificial Intelligence
- Law and Economics
- Law and Economics Colloquium
- Law and Economics Workshop
- Law and Inequality Writing Seminar
- Law and Leadership in the Public Interest
- Law and Public Service
- Law and Riots
- Law and Technology Colloquium
- Law of Corruption
- Law of Sea, Air and Space Operations (JAG)
- Law of the Police I: Rules, Rights and Regulation
- Law Reform and Impact Litigation Seminar
- Law, Inequality and the Political Process
- Law, Literature and Social Policy Seminar
- Legislation
- Legislation and Regulation
- Legislative Drafting and Public Policy
- Litigating the 2024 Presidential Election
- Litigation and Public Policy
- Litigation Skills and Professional Liability Law
- Management of BigLaw Firms: Balancing Culture and Profits
- Medicalization and the Law
- Monetary Constitution Seminar
- Monument Litigation
- National Security Law Proseminar I and II (JAG)
- Native American Law
- Natural Resources Law and Policy
- New Research in Criminal Justice
- Pain and the Law
- Parental Choice in K-12 Education
- Philosophical Legal Ethics
- Poverty in Law, Literature and Culture
- Poverty Law and the Lawyer's Role
- Poverty Law, Advocacy and Policy
- Practical Perspectives on Policing: Fair and Effective Policymaking by Law Enforcement
- Privacy
- Privacy Law and Theory Seminar
- Property, the Police Power and Emergencies
- Public Interest Law and Advocacy Skills
- Public Law Colloquium
- Public Utility Regulation Seminar
- Race, Education and Opportunity
- Race, Meritocracy and Justice on Campus
- Regulation of Political Advocacy Seminar
- Regulation of the Political Process
- Regulatory Law and Policy
- Religious Freedom and Reproductive Rights
- Reparations: Identity, Law and Politics
- Reproductive Ethics and Law
- Reproductive Rights and Justice
- Rights of the Accused (JAG)
- Rules
- Second Amendment and Gun Violence Colloquium
- Securities Regulation
- Securities Regulation (Law & Business)
- Single People and the Law
- Social Identity, Critical Theory and the Law
- Special Topics in Client Services (JAG)
- Stakeholderism and Business Law
- State and Local Government Law
- State Attorneys General
- Taboo Trades
- Ten-Year Checkup of the Affordable Care Act
- The Business of Banking and Prudential Regulation
- The Executive Branch: Comparative and Political Aspects
- The January 6th Investigation and How Courts Can Shape Congress' Power to Investigate
- The Right to Protest
- Theory and Practice of Biodiversity Conservation
- Topics in Banking and Financial Regulation
- Urban Law and Policy
- U.S. Refugee and Asylum Law Seminar
- Veteran Benefits and Retirement Planning (JAG)
- War Crimes and Atrocity Law (JAG)

### CLINICS

- Advanced Community Organization and Social Enterprise Clinic
- Community Organization and Social Enterprise Clinic
- Environmental Law and Community Engagement Clinic
- Housing Litigation Clinic
- Immigration Law Clinic
- Nonprofit Clinic
- State and Local Government Policy Clinic

These courses represent the 2022-25 school years. Not all courses are offered every year.

## A **PARTNERSHIP** to help rural communities

**Antonella Nicholas '23 co-authored a paper with Professor Andrew Block identifying the systemic causes behind some of the problems facing rural Virginia. The article inspired state legislation to establish a cabinet secretary for rural affairs.**

As part of Block's State and Local Government Policy Clinic, Nicholas worked with clinic client Del. Carrie Coyner to increase funding for a health department in the westernmost regions of the state.

"That experience opened my eyes to some of the challenges rural counties face," Nicholas said. "Living in a rural area makes everything harder on almost every level—less access to broadband, geographic isolation, rural residents are on

average lower-income, they have less education, and their economy has been decimated for several reasons. So I was thinking about those questions last year, and Andy asked me if I'd be interested in being his research assistant this year working on these issues for a paper he was asked to write."

The two presented their paper, "Those Who Need the Most, Get the Least," at the University of Richmond Law Review symposium "Overlooked America: Addressing Legal Issues Facing Rural United States."

Both the Virginia House and Senate sponsored bills during the 2024 session establishing a rural affairs secretary and will consider them again in 2024.



► Professor **Bertrall Ross** leads a student lab that is exploring the use of vouchers and other incentive systems to increase outreach to low-income voters. The lab, *Designing Democracy: Participation*, is sponsored by UVA Law's Karsh Center for Law and Democracy, which Ross co-directs.



► The author of "Wasting a Crisis," Professor **Paul G. Mahoney** has weighed in on fixing problems associated with Dodd-Frank legislation and the rush to regulate following financial crises.



► Before turning to academia, Professor **Ashley S. Deeks** served as the assistant legal adviser for political-military affairs in the U.S. State Department's Office of the Legal Adviser and as an embassy legal adviser at the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.



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### **J.D.-M.P.P.** **PUBLIC POLICY PROGRAM**

The Law School offers a dual-degree program with the University of Virginia **Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy**, in which a student may obtain both a J.D. and a Master of Public Policy degree (M.P.P.) in four years instead of five. Students who have been admitted to the program may elect to start in the Law School or the Batten School.

### **FACULTY**

Virginia's professors have extensive experience in public policy through government posts, as consultants and as volunteers. Still others have worked for NGOs and advocacy organizations focused on shaping public policy. Examples of current and past work include:

- Alice Abrokwa**  
senior counsel, Education Department Office for Civil Rights; senior attorney, National Center for Youth Law; trial attorney, Disability Rights Section, Justice Department Civil Rights Division
- Barbara Armacost**  
attorney-adviser, Justice Department Office of Legal Counsel
- Aditya Bamzai**  
member, Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board; attorney-adviser, Justice Department Office of Legal Counsel
- Ashley S. Deeks**  
White House associate counsel and deputy legal adviser to the National Security Council
- Michael Doran**  
attorney, Office of Tax Policy, Treasury Department
- John F. Duffy**  
member, Administrative Conference of the United States; attorney-adviser, Justice Department
- Kristen Eichensehr**  
special assistant, State Department Office of the Legal Adviser
- Amanda Frost**  
staff attorney, Public Citizen; worked for the Senate Judiciary Committee
- Rachel Harmon**  
senior policy adviser for Criminal Justice, White House Domestic Policy Council; trial attorney, Justice Department
- John C. Harrison**  
counselor on international law, State Department; deputy assistant attorney general, Justice Department Office of Legal Counsel
- Edwin Hu**  
senior economic policymaker, White House National Economic Council; chief economist, SEC Commissioner Robert J. Jackson Jr.
- Cale Jaffe**  
director, Virginia office, Southern Environmental Law Center
- Chinh Q. Le**  
legal director, Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia
- Michael A. Livermore**  
member, Administrative Conference of the United States; executive director, Institute for Policy Integrity
- Paul G. Mahoney**  
member, Securities and Exchange Commission Investor Advisory Committee
- John Monahan**  
member, Committee on Law and Justice of the National Research Council; member, Institute of Medicine
- Thomas B. Nachbar**  
judge advocate, U.S. Army Reserve; senior adviser, Department of Defense, Office of Rule of Law and Detainee Policy
- Richard M. Re**  
attorney, Criminal Appellate Section, Justice Department
- Bertrall Ross**  
member, Administrative Conference of the United States; member, Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court
- Elizabeth A. Rowe**  
member, Leadership Council, The Sedona Conference
- Katie Homer Ryan**  
deputy counsel, U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee; various roles in policy on children and the law
- A. Sprightley Ryan**  
inspector general, Smithsonian Institution
- Molly Bishop Shadel**  
attorney-adviser, Justice Department Office of Intelligence Policy and Review
- Paul B. Stephan**  
counselor on international law, State Department; consultant to Treasury Department, IMF, World Bank and OECD