

There are many reasons to study law.

The common goal is to bring about positive change in a world where rights are contested and justice can be complex.

At Osgoode, we encourage you to think differently.

To reflect on what has value. To welcome diverse views. And once grounded in the fundamentals, to choose your own path, gaining practical experience as you find solutions to important legal challenges. Throughout our long history, we've always viewed the practice of law as far more than a means to an end. It's a journey that takes you from deciding what matters to creating meaningful impact.

And it starts here.



Qasid Iqbal

Class of 2020

2019 participant in the Feminist Advocacy: Ending Violence Against Women Clinical Program

"The Feminist Advocacy program transformed my understanding of gender-based violence. I see the issue through a new lens, and feel better equipped to recognize and respond to such violence — both professionally and personally."



EXPLORE NEW WAYS OF THINKING

Law is not just about applying the rules to resolve issues.

It's an invitation to dig deeper, ask tougher questions, push past conventional thinking and explore unexpected angles. It demands that we be open-minded, weighing different perspectives while considering the broader social context.

Studying at Osgoode will transform how you think about collaboration and conflict, equity and individual rights, how law shapes entitlements, as you learn to break through the barriers to progress.

"Osgoode's faculty are frequently sought after for their expertise.
As teachers, they offer students deep insight into our foundational legal concepts as well as a rich understanding of how law and the legal system operate to make a difference in society."

Dean Mary Condon



Osgoode helps students discover new pathways, both intellectual and professional. Our renowned faculty challenge you to think differently, connecting contemporary legal issues to both theory and evolving social realities. Our academic programs, experiential learning offerings and supportive culture help to deepen your understanding and broaden your career possibilities.

You'll find unique opportunities to explore the many legal fields and make an impact long before you graduate. Your research activities can extend beyond courses and seminars to include collaboration with faculty experts on cutting-edge legal projects in a range of areas. You can contribute to initiatives that inform public policy, change the law and achieve meaningful community impact.

Graduates leave Osgoode equipped to make a difference in a variety of sectors, roles and organizations. Our alumni include practising lawyers in diverse areas of specialization, as well as judges, government and non-profit leaders, entrepreneurs and academics. What unites them is the intellectual scope and agility they've developed through a legal education defined by engagement, innovation and the pursuit of excellence.

REFLECT ON WHAT HAS VALUE

We believe that practical legal solutions must be grounded in ethical principles – and vice versa.

Our unique first-year course, Ethical Lawyering in a Global Community, immerses you from day one in the underlying values that anchor professional responsibility. And throughout your time at Osgoode, we encourage you to reflect on those values, determining where theory and practice intersect to create outcomes with lasting impact.

At every stage of your Osgoode education, we encourage you to explore the ethical dimensions of what you're learning and identify meaningful ways to participate in the legal profession.

Learning through service. Osgoode treats service to society as an integral part of legal education. Our partnership with Parkdale Community Legal Services, which dates back more than 40 years, and our on-site community legal aid clinic (CLASP) offer students direct experience navigating questions related to poverty, immigration, employment, criminal law and other complex issues. Other Osgoode partnerships enable students to conduct legal work related to environmental justice, investor protection and mediation.

A focus on public interest work. Osgoode was the first Canadian law school to introduce, in 2006, a public interest graduation requirement. As you fulfill this 40-hour volunteer commitment, you'll promote access to justice and engage with community members in a variety of settings. Along the way, you'll identify new areas of interest, sharpen your legal skills, meet mentors and build your network.

A commitment to Indigenization. In 2018 we introduced the Indigenous and Aboriginal Law graduation requirement. All students must now complete at least one course connected to Indigenous laws, Aboriginal law and aspects of professionalism and/or practice skills related to serving Indigenous clients. Although this graduation requirement is new, Osgoode has long been an active centre of research and learning with respect to Indigenous peoples and the law. Our Intensive Program in Indigenous Lands, Resources and Governments launched in 1994.

Global reach. Students seeking to tackle global issues or pursue international careers find significant opportunities at Osgoode. In addition to learning about international dimensions of law in many core courses, you can choose to structure your entire program of study through the International, Comparative and Transnational Law (ICT) curricular stream; pursue the International and Transnational Law Intensive Program or Immigration and Refugee Law Intensive Program; or immerse yourself in legal issues affecting communities across the globe, through our Ian Scott summer internship program or the student-directed International Legal Partnership.

Here are a few of the more than 200 projects you might choose to fulfill the Osgoode Public Interest Requirement:

Providing free legal services to those in need and supporting access to justice and law reform projects through **Pro Bono Students Canada**.

Delivering law-related educational programming and acting as a mentor to high school students from low-income neighbourhoods as part of Law In Action Within Schools (LAWS).

Collaborating with
Innovation York, Norton
Rose Fulbright Canada LLP
and Bereskin & Parr LLP
through the IP Innovation
Clinic, a needs-based
innovation-to-market
intellectual property
legal clinic.









42 countries of origin

14 languages spoken at home

15% self-identify as having a disability

28% self-identify as being from a low-income household or community

6% have caregiving responsibilities

GAIN INSIGHTS FROM A DIVERSE COMMUNITY

Sound legal thinking manages to settle differences while celebrating difference.

That spirit of inclusion defines Osgoode and the wider York community, where we welcome students of diverse backgrounds, experience and perspectives. Our faculty members offer similarly varied outlooks and approaches while sharing a commitment to opening doors for all. At Osgoode, you can count on having your views heard – and finding others who share them.

A commitment to diversity and inclusion informs all aspects of Osgoode, from our holistic admissions policy to the supports we provide to students with different learning needs. In addition to lowering barriers and promoting equity, Osgoode works to foster a culture of collaboration and exchange, ensuring everyone benefits from our richly varied campus community. Every incoming class is divided into four smaller sections in which students learn, socialize and often form lifelong friendships.

Seeking out exceptional students. Our admissions policy aims to identify outstanding students whose abilities are evidenced by social engagement and non-academic achievements as well as LSAT results and academic performance. We're also committed to initiatives that reduce socio-economic barriers to enrolment, such as our Income Contingent Loan Program and the Access to Law and Learning Program, a free LSAT prep course. These strategies help to ensure that each student cohort comprises many voices and perspectives, reflecting many dimensions of diversity - from culture, language and migration status to income, gender, sexuality and ability. In addition to enriching the Law School, these policies benefit society in general by promoting the continued diversification of the legal profession.

Supporting success for all. Osgoode is committed to providing supports and accommodations to ensure an equitable learning environment for students with physical, medical, sensory, mental health or learning disabilities. For example, our Dean's Scribes Program pairs anonymous scribes with students who require the assistance of a note-taker, and our on-site wellness counsellors offer professional counselling services for JD students.

Showing what's possible. Our extraordinary full-time faculty bring a wide array of experience, perspectives, teaching strategies and evaluation methods to their work at Osgoode. Our expert adjunct faculty include respected lawyers and judges who offer relevant, insightful perspectives on current trends and issues in legal practice. All are united in their commitment to supporting students' growth and achievement. As you progress through the program, you'll work closely with these talented scholars, practitioners and teachers, building your legal knowledge and skills in a range of settings, from lecture halls and libraries to community clinics and seminar rooms.

PROBLEMS IN THE REAL WORLD

Our deep commitment to hands-on legal education sets Osgoode apart.

Experiential learning is embedded in our curriculum and our overall approach to preparing you for a future career. You can choose from a wide range of opportunities, including in-depth clinical programs, skills-based praxicum courses, and internships in Canada and abroad. All deepen your practical knowledge as you tackle issues in the public, private and non-profit sectors.

Applying theoretical knowledge in real-world settings

deepens your understanding of how the law functions and enhances your readiness for practice. Before you graduate, you'll have many opportunities to serve clients directly, develop practical legal skills and build professional networks. You leave Osgoode not only with a prestigious degree but with the confidence that comes through hands-on learning.

Osgoode is a recognized leader in combining theory,

practice and reflection, having launched the first-ever
Office of Experiential Education at a Canadian law school. We offer
the most diverse and innovative array of internships, skills-based
courses and clinical programs of any Canadian law school.
Critically, these programs all incorporate time for reflection,
ensuring that students have opportunities to contemplate their
experiences – and consider their implications. And our school has
a history of outstanding success in local, national and international
mooting competitions – attesting to the effectiveness of our
Mooting and Lawyering Skills Program in helping students develop
and refine legal research, drafting and advocacy skills.





Clinical Programs

Advanced Business Law Workshop I: Corporate Finance
Advanced Business Law Workshop II: Mergers & Acquisitions
Anti-Discrimination Intensive Program
Community and Legal Aid Services Program
Criminal Law Intensive
Disability Law Intensive Program
Environmental Justice and Sustainability Clinical Program
Feminist Advocacy: Ending Violence Against Women Clinical Program
Immigration and Refugee Law Intensive Program
Innocence Project

Innocence Project
Intellectual Property Law and Technology Intensive Program
Intensive Program in Indigenous Lands, Resources and Governments
International and Transnational Law Intensive Program
Investor Protection Clinic
Mediation Clinical Program

Osgoode Business Clinic

Poverty Law Intensive at Parkdale Community Legal Services

CREATE YOUR OWN PATH FORWARD

Choice shouldn't be something that has to wait until graduation.

In your upper years at Osgoode, you create a unique program of study that spans our diverse course offerings. And you choose how you prefer to earn credit, whether by taking part in a lecture or seminar, developing a research paper, serving as senior editor for an Osgoode-based law journal, participating in a clinical program, taking a graduate course in another York faculty, or pursuing an international exchange at a partner law school.

At Osgoode, you'll actively shape your entire law school experience.

Curricular choice. Building on the strong foundations of your first year of study, you can explore a flexible and expansive upper-year curriculum. We offer more than 150 lecture courses and interactive seminars, ranging from more traditional subjects to emerging legal fields.

Specialized streams. Students with defined interests can focus on one of the following four optional curricular streams:

- International, Comparative and Transnational Law
- Labour and Employment Law
- Litigation, Dispute Resolution and the Administration of Justice
- Tax Law

Joint programs. You can expand your scope by pursuing one of four joint degree programs:

- Juris Doctor/Master of Business Administration (JD/MBA) with the Schulich School of Business
- Juris Doctor/Master of Environmental Studies (JD/MES) with the Faculty of Environmental Studies
- Juris Doctor/Master of Arts in Philosophy (JD/MA) with the Department of Philosophy
- Juris Doctor/Bachelor of Law (Civil) (JD/LLB (Civil)) with l'Université de Montréal, Faculté de Droit

Enrichment activities. Osgoode offers a wealth of opportunities to complement your academic work – from our summer internship programs to research collaborations, work in student government and editorial roles with Osgoode-based law journals. Whether your goal is to connect and collaborate with fellow students or dive into a research project with faculty support, we work with you to find the right fit.



First-Year Courses

- Ethical Lawyering in a Global Community (intensive at the start of the Fall and Winter terms)
- Public and Constitutional Law
- Tort Law
- Contract Law
- Criminal Law
- Legal Process I
- Legal Process II (civil procedure and dispute resolution)
- Property Law
- Legal Theory Seminar or one of many elective Perspective Options

Upper-Year Course Offerings

Your extensive options include: business law, constitutional and administrative law, family law, health law, human rights law, Indigenous law, intellectual property law, labour law, legal information technology, legal theory, natural resources and the law, property law, regulatory law, social justice, equality and the law, taxation law, transnational law. To explore the full range of courses and seminars, visit osgoode.yorku.ca/courses

ALL THE BENEFITS ADD UP

Osgoode has many dimensions that set us apart.

And when you put them all together, they add up to a great legal education, valuable personal growth and a solid foundation for building your future career in any number of rewarding fields.

Learn about Indigenous law, Aboriginal law and

unique aspects of practice and professionalism

related to serving Indigenous clients.

Advanced Research Opportunities Foundational First-Year Program Advance your skills and collaborate with Ensures a solid grounding in the core **Ethical Lawyering in a Global Community** areas of Canadian common-law and faculty through a supervised research paper or work on a cutting-edge research project. Unique first-year course focused on questions development of relevant legal research, of professionalism and ethics, as well as writing and reasoning skills. the global dimensions of law and legal practice. **Co-curricular Offerings** Select co-curricular courses that **Local and Global Summer Internships** enhance the for-credit programming Apply learning in context by participating in one of and develop marketable skills our many paid summer law internships. for your future career. **Joint Programs Opportunities to Study Abroad** • JD/MBA Pursue an international exchange at one of our • JD/MES partner law schools across several continents. • JD/MA Philosophy • JD/LLB Civil (with l'Université de Montréal) **Mooting and Lawyering Competitions** Refine your research, drafting and advocacy skills while continuing Osgoode's tradition of success in local, national and international competitions. **Upper-Year Lectures and Seminars** More than 150 courses and seminars, from traditional areas to emerging legal fields. **17 Unique Clinical Programs** The most extensive and innovative clinical offerings in Canada, spanning criminal, business, Indigenous, human rights, international, poverty law and more. **Research and Writing Requirements** Solidify research and writing skills through a seminar, course or faculty-supervised research paper of your **Praxicum: Experiential Learning** choice in both 2L and 3L. By combining theory, practice and reflection, this unique graduation requirement better prepares you for your future career. **Indigenous and Aboriginal** Law Requirement

12 Osgoode Hall Law School 13

Osgoode Public Interest Requirement

a 40-hour law-related public interest placement.

Improve access to justice while building practical skills through

OUR ALUMNI



Marie Henein
Class of 1989
Criminal Lawyer, Henein Hutchison LLP

"It was because of CLASP that I was able to first walk into a criminal courtroom and that moment inspired me to keep walking back in. Osgoode allowed me the breathing room that I needed to take my first steps as a lawyer and for that, I will be forever grateful."

Dale Lastman
Class of 1982
Chair, Goodmans LLP

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"I have had the honour of teaching securities law to Osgoode students, as well as hiring them at Goodmans LLP. I am always impressed by the curiosity, passion and intelligence that Osgoode students exhibit."





The Honourable Andromache Karakatsanis Class of 1980

Supreme Court of Canada

"My time at Osgoode – and at Parkdale Community Legal Services – taught me that the law helps shape society and directly impacts people's lives. And I learned skills that have helped me throughout a diverse career."



Nikhil Handa
Class of 2009, JD/MBA
CFO, Supreme Cannabis

"Although I've never practised law, in fact
I've never been called to the bar, my
law degree helps me in my job every day."

Jonathan Davey
Class of 2008
National Director, Aboriginal Financial Services,
Scotiabank

"The education I received at Osgoode has been integral to my ability to work effectively with Indigenous communities in both the public and private sector. The exceptional faculty nurtured my interest in understanding Indigenous peoples and the law while providing unwavering guidance in the classroom and beyond."



Naveen Hassan
Class of 2014

Borden Ladner Gervais LLP

"With Osgoode's support and guidance I was able to explore different career paths, which put me steps ahead in terms of identifying the type of legal work I knew I wanted to do after graduation."

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

We're here for you

Student Success and Wellness

Osgoode is committed to supporting students' academic achievement and personal well-being.

To help students do their best work in the classroom and beyond, we offer:

- The support of the Associate Dean (Students), a faculty member who coordinates sessions on key academic skills and carries out individual consultations with students.
- The **Dean's Fellows Program**, which pairs an upper-year mentor with each first-year course.
- Necessary accommodations for those facing challenges arising from physical, medical, sensory, mental health or learning disabilities.

Osgoode supports students' well-being with offerings such as:

- Dedicated on-site professional counsellors, exclusive to our students
- Wellness programming

- Weekly yoga classes
- Mindfulness sessions
- Mental health awareness events

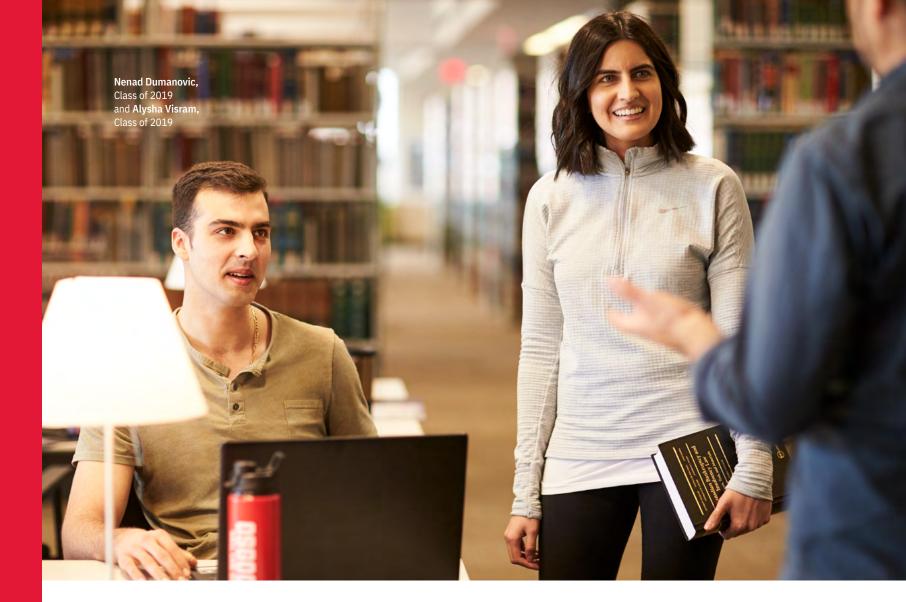
Extended Time Program

Students whose life circumstances – such as parenting or other caregiving responsibilities, financial hardship, illness or disability – prevent them from studying full-time may be able to enrol through the Extended Time Program, which makes it possible to take roughly half the usual course load.

Resources for Indigenous Students

Osgoode and York University work together to provide a welcoming environment for Indigenous students, offering culturally safe support services and programming.

- Our Program Manager and Special Advisor, Indigenous & Reconciliation Initiatives
 provides mentorship, support and advice specifically for Indigenous JD students
 and promotes Indigenization within the Law School.
- The Osgoode Indigenous Students' Association (OISA) and York's Centre for Aboriginal Student Services support and connect Indigenous students in a variety of ways.
- The Law School hosts an honouring ceremony to recognize Indigenous students at Convocation.
- Our annual Anishinaabe Law Camp offers Indigenous and non-Indigenous law students an introduction to Anishinaabe legal concepts, principles, pedagogies and modes of reasoning.
- Skennen'kó:wa Gamig is a dedicated safe cultural space on campus for formal and informal use by Indigenous students, staff and faculty.
- Our on-campus traditional Counsellors share Indigenous knowledge, teachings and wisdom through sharing circles and one-on-one counselling.
- OISA hosts an annual career panel which connects Indigenous JD students with diverse employers.



Launching your career

The Career Development Office helps you define and achieve your immediate and long-term goals. It offers a full suite of services, including individual counselling and career coaching, résumé review, mock interviews, networking events, job postings, workshops and formal recruitment processes.

Students also have a wide range of opportunities to network with our accomplished alumni and a diverse array of legal employers. You can connect through events and career panels as well as through more formal channels such as our **Alumni Mentor Program**; this program pairs you with upper-year students and graduates who can offer valuable advice and personal perspectives on different career paths, as well as networking links.

Osgoode graduates are successful in securing a wide range of **articling** placements. In the class of 2019, approximately 95% of respondents secured articling positions – with 76% of these in private practice, 9% in government, 3% in public interest organizations, 1% in business/industry and 4% serving clerkships across all levels of court. Others pursued alternative opportunities following graduation.

Osgoode offers **select co-curricular courses** that serve to enhance the broad range of for-credit curricular offerings. Examples of past courses include Financial Literacy, Lawyering through an Anti-Lawyering and Anti-Oppression Lens and French Legal Terminology.





Our alumni community

As an Osgoode graduate, you join an elite community of more than 15,000 alumni shaping the legal landscape in Canada and across the globe.

Many alumni remain deeply engaged with our school throughout their careers, as mentors and instructors, donors and advisors. During your time as a student and later as a graduate, you'll have opportunities to connect – both formally and informally – with this extraordinary network that extends across private practice, policy development, business, government, politics, social activism and academia.

Class of 1929 Call to the Ba



Makele Saidi Class of 2015 **Director of Corporate Engagement** (Central Canada), Catalyst

"I know I made the right choice by choosing Osgoode, not just for the home it became, but for the doors it opened."

BY THE NUMBERS

In 2019-2020

More than

million

in financial support was awarded.

More than

in need-based bursaries was granted.

of students who submitted a complete bursary application received funding.

Bursaries ranged between

\$1,500-15,000

per student, with additional funding available for those with the highest need.

Class Entering 2020

(as of May 25, 2020)

Median cumulative undergraduate GPA: 3.7

Median LSAT: $82^{\scriptscriptstyle{\mathrm{nd}}}$ percentile

Highest Degree

17% Graduate Degree (PhD or MA)

80% Honours

1% Bachelor

2[%] Other

Undergraduate Study

14% Arts & Sciences

12% Business

16% Humanities

8% Pure Sciences

50% Social Sciences

Age

78% 20–25

12% 26–29

10% 30+

Residency

83% Ontario

14% Outside Ontario

3% Outside Canada





Your application to Osgoode

Applications are due **November 1.** You can apply online at ouac.on.ca/olsas

Application Categories

Indigenous: Osgoode seeks to improve representation of Indigenous people in the legal profession and therefore encourages applications from such individuals. Indigenous applicants must provide documentation corroborating their identification with and connection to their Indigenous community.

General: All other applicants should apply in the general category.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible to apply you must:

- (90 credits) at a recognized university. If you have less than three years of study, or no university study, you are eligible if, as of September of the year of admission, you:
 - (i) are at least 26 years of age, and
 - (ii) have a minimum of five years of non-academic experience.
- Write the Law School Admission Test (LSAT).
 The LSAT is offered multiple times each year.
 Upcoming test dates are available at lsac.org.
 We will accept scores from tests taken between
 June 2016-January 2021.*
- 3 Be proficient in the **English** language. Proof of English Language Proficiency is required unless:
 - (i) English is your first language, or
 (ii) you have completed a minimum of 1 year of full-time study at an accredited post-secondary institution in a country (or institution) where English is the official language of instruction.
- * Applicants wishing to be considered for the Income Contingent Loan Program must write the LSAT by November 2020.

Application Components

- Online application form
- All post-secondary transcripts (we consider your cumulative GPA for all undergraduate university study)
- LSAT score (we consider your highest score)
- Two reference letters (minimum one academic)
- Personal statement
- Autobiographical sketch
- Language proficiency score, if applicable
- Financial Statement (required to be considered for entrance scholarships and the Income Contingent Loan Program)

Osgoode's Holistic Admissions Policy

Our admissions policy seeks to identify a diverse and outstanding group of students whose exceptional academic abilities, varied achievements and sustained engagement will positively contribute to the Law School, legal profession and community. We encourage applicants to identify barriers they face in seeking to enter the legal profession, and we place a priority on opening doors to communities traditionally under-represented in the legal profession.

When reviewing applications we do not apply any weighting or formula but rather review all components of the application holistically. **We consider strength in:**

- Post-secondary academic achievements
- LSAT scores
- Varied life/non-academic experiences and achievements
- Sustained social and intellectual engagement
- Overcoming challenges
- Written and oral communication

We do not set minimums for cumulative GPA and LSAT scores, but successful applicants generally have a CGPA of an Aor better and an LSAT score in the 80th percentile or better.

Timing of Decisions

Offers are made on a rolling basis from early December until June. Most offers are made in January or February.

Financial support

Financial Aid

Osgoode is committed to ensuring that financial constraints don't deter talented, dedicated people from pursuing a legal education. Our innovative and robust financial aid program is designed to help make your legal aspirations a reality.

Our funding programs, which provide more than \$5 million in student support, include:

- Financial need-based bursaries
- Entrance and upper-year scholarships
- Course and essay prizes
- Discretionary awards for outstanding achievement beyond the classroom
- Summer internship awards
- Emergency funding for students facing unexpected financial circumstances

In addition to our more traditional financial aid programs, we've developed other progressive approaches for improving access to legal education and reducing debt upon graduation:

Canada's first ever Income Contingent Loan Program (ICLP).

Each year, selected students pursue our program fully funded by a combination of bursary and loan funding. These students are required to repay the loan portion of their funding during the 10 years following graduation only if their income is sufficient. This program is designed for applicants who face significant socio-economic or other financial barriers to a legal education. Applicants must complete the Financial Statement, including supplemental ICLP form, available with the online application.

The Wendy Babcock Social Justice Award Program. This back-end debt relief program offers significant funding to graduating students who have high educational debt and are pursuing careers in social justice.

Help accessing other funding. The Financial Services Office maintains a database of externally funded awards and assists students in accessing auxiliary sources of support, including government aid and professional lines of credit.

For more information about Osgoode financial aid, please contact financialservices@osgoode.yorku.ca

Make history with us.

Since its founding in 1889, Osgoode has built a proud history of preparing talented people to make their mark. Generations of illustrious alumni – including Supreme Court justices, scholars, activists, and government and business leaders – have begun their journeys here.

Many Osgoode alumni have broken historical barriers, becoming the first members of their communities to serve as judges or legislators. As a student you not only join a prestigious community, you take up the proud legacy reflected in our motto:

Through law to justice.



Osgoode is where you'll create your pathway to a meaningful, rewarding career.

Guided by superb faculty and collaborating with exceptional peers, you'll soon see the kind of difference you can make in your community, in the legal profession and in the progress of justice – whether in local neighbourhoods or across the world.

We're ready to help you get started fulfilling your potential and creating impact.

Take the first step and get your application in motion today.

CONTACT US

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT SERVICES:

Osgoode Hall Law School 1012 Kaneff Building, York University 4700 Keele Street Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3

Tel: **416-736-5712** Fax: 416-736-5618 **osgoode.yorku.ca**

Admission questions: admissions@osgoode.yorku.ca

Speak to a Student Ambassador: recruitment@osgoode.yorku.ca

Ontario Law School Application Service ouac.on.ca/olsas

Law School Admission Council (LSAT) **lsac.org**

World Education Service (WES Foreign Transcript Evaluations) wes.org

National Committee on Accreditation (NCA) flsc.ca

Indigenous Law Centre, University of Saskatchewan usask.ca/nativelaw

JOINT PROGRAM CONTACTS:

Schulich School of Business, York University schulich.yorku.ca/programs/mba-jd

Faculty of Environmental Studies, York University yorku.ca/fes

Department of Philosophy, York University https://phil.laps.yorku.ca

Université de Montréal droit.umontreal.ca/en/home



