Classroom skills are tested, expanded and honed in an extensive externship program with placement opportunities in the government, private sector and industry organizations. Through these externships, program participants expand their understanding of securities law, polish their professional skills and develop personal contacts from which they often gain advice and support when pursuing future employment. Students must complete either one or two externships, depending on their chosen course load.

The following is a partial list of organizations where CUA students have successfully completed externships:

- U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
- Division of Trading and Markets
- Division of Enforcement
- Office of Internet Enforcement
- Office of International Affairs
- Office of Compliance and Inspections
- Financial Industry Regulatory Authority
- Office of General Counsel
- Office of Enforcement
- Office of Market Surveillance
- Commodities Futures Trading Commission
- New York Stock Exchange, Washington Office
- North American State Securities Administrators

Our securities alumni are an inestimable resource for the program. Their successes stand as a measure of the program’s achievements over the years. The important positions they hold within government, self-regulatory organizations, private law firms and industry demonstrates the high esteem in which they are held. Beyond their own achievements, however, our graduates make significant contributions to our program year after year. They are willing to mentor current students and coach them on such skills as how to prepare for the profession, how to look for jobs and how to present themselves in interviews. Committed program alumni frequently return to the law school to present expert lectures on topics ranging from corporate corruption to the internalization of our securities markets to computerized market execution systems. Our securities alumni are eager to be a part of the substantive and extracurricular aspects of the program.

“"The CUA securities program is a program that other law schools are just now attempting to emulate. Its offerings and close relationship with alumni at the Securities and Exchange Commission and on Capitol Hill provided me with opportunities that launched my career in the securities industry.”"  

Chris Concannon, 1994
Executive Vice President
NASDAQ Stock Exchange

All students with an interest in securities law may apply for the program. Successful graduates must fulfill course requirements, gain externship experience, attend program lectures, satisfy the writing component and achieve the required grade point average. For more information and to obtain an application, please visit our Web site at: http://law.cua.edu/clinics/institutes/.

http://law.cua.edu/clinics/institutes/
One of the most successful certificate-granting law programs in the nation’s capital, the Securities Law Program continues to seed the ranks of key governmental and regulatory agencies with its graduates. Program alumni occupy prominent leadership positions in such organizations as the Securities and Exchange Commission and The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, and in private firms.

The program is the culmination of a two-decade effort by its director, Professor David Lipton. Since the program’s inception in 1980, it has assembled a broad core assortment of classroom offerings and a network of externships with regulatory agencies, leading private firms and associations. Professor Lipton was also instrumental in forming and maintaining the school’s active Securities Alumni Practice Group as well as the Student Securities Law Association and the Securities Regulation Moot Court Competition.

Several factors combine to make the Securities Law Program unique. A talented pool of adjunct faculty supplements the contributions of our full-time professors bringing a vast breadth of experience and knowledge. Many of these instructors have practiced with federal regulatory agencies, self-regulatory organizations and private firms. In addition, our Washington, D.C., location affords some of the most valuable externship experiences in the country, with such agencies as the Securities and Exchange Commission, FINRA, national law firms and regional brokerage firms.

Nearly 10 essential courses comprise the heart of the program. They cover the basics of distributions and trading as well as more specialized matters such as investment management companies, enforcement issues, market regulation, investment advising, banking and securities, corporate finance, derivatives, securitization of assets, securities law research as well as current issues in securities regulation.

Core courses are supplemented by an array of required business and financial offerings.

The program is a multi-layered discipline of courses and externships designed to ensure that its graduates are sophisticated, professional and well-rounded securities practitioners.

The guiding philosophy of the Securities Law Program is expansive; education does not stop at the classroom door. Many other opportunities are available for students to expand their understanding of the field of securities regulation, including:

- An engaging variety of externships that allow students to apply their classroom-learned skills in a practical setting.
- A speaker series that brings prominent leaders in the securities regulation field to the campus for interactive lectures.
- A nationally ranked securities moot court program.
- An active alumni base with a keen interest in the development of the securities careers of current students.
- A uniquely involved securities law student organization that associates academic and social events for both students and alumni.

"It’s great to be able to work with students with a genuine interest in securities law, which is obviously fostered by the securities law program at CUA. I am impressed with their commitment and desire to learn as much as they can from their internships. The new certificate program should provide students with an even greater understanding of securities law before they launch their careers."

Katherine A. England, 1981
Assistant Director
Division of Trading and Markets
Securities and Exchange Commission

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Message from the Director

What is it that makes a law student want to concentrate on securities law? Perhaps it is the knowledge that when you become an attorney, you will be participating in the legal effort to sustain and advance the most sophisticated financial economy in the world. Maybe it is the challenge of working with the sharpest and most technically attentive minds in any field of legal practice. And then, it could be that you want to play a role in bringing the greatest good to the most people.

Whatever your motivation for considering a career in securities law, the Columbus School of Law is committed to providing you a comprehensive, experiential based, motivational program with a proven professional track record. Our securities program has been turning out some of the finest securities lawyers in the country for the past several decades. Our graduates are partners at virtually every major law firm in the Washington, D.C., area and at corporate and securities law firms in many of the nation’s financial centers. Our graduates hold prominent positions with federal regulatory agencies such as the Securities and Exchange Commission as well as self-regulatory agencies such as The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

The law school’s securities program is designed to instill competencies in regulatory and case analysis, familiarity with financial and market policy, and writing and speaking abilities. It offers academically credited work experience within the securities field, lectures from distinguished practitioners and mentor programs with successful graduates of our institution. This training provides a relaxed and nourishing atmosphere of hard work that also allows you to preserve your own identity and values.

— David A. Lipton

Co-Curricular activities

Winners of the National Moot Court Competition.

History & Goals

of the program

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

Of the numerous articles and books includ- ing his nationally recognized Treatise on Broker-Dealer Regulation.

• Has served on multiple advisory and adjudication committees of The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority.

• Served as a director of the Municipal Securities Rule Making Board.

• Has lectured nationally and internation- ally on issues of securities regulation, mar- ket regulation, broker-dealer regulation and corporate finance.

• Served as a Visiting Attorney Fellow at the Division of Trading and Markets of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

• B.A., Cornell University; M.A., Columbia University; J.D., University of Michigan.

Message from the Director

• A uniquely involved securities law student organization that associates academic and social events for both students and alumni.

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The end result is that today our Securities Law Program graduates some of the best prepared, most well connected and most experienced specialists in securities and corporate law of any law school in the country.

Academic Curriculum

courses & descriptions

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Core courses are supplemented by an array of required business and financial offerings.

Required Courses

Corporations
Security Regulation: Issuance
Security Regulation: Trading

Elective(s) (two or three required)
Securities Markets Regulation Seminar
Securities Regulation: Enforcement Procedures and Issues
Securities Regulation: Investment Company and Management Companies
Securities Regulation: Enforcement Procedures and Issues
Securities Regulation: Investment Advisers Act
Corporate Finance Seminar
Securities Regulation: Derivatives
Securities Regulation: Securitization Transactions

Master’s Program

Beginning in 2005, the Securities Program began offering an LL.M. in Securities Regulation. Designed for the student or practicing attorney who previously did not focus upon securities law, this program utilizes many of the assets of the certificate program.

Message from the Director

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— David A. Lipton

Co-Curricular activities

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