

MOUNT HOLYOKE
CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER
PHONE 413-538-2080 / FAX 413-538-2081

ACCELERATED INTERDISCIPLINARY LEGAL EDUCATION (AILE) PROGRAM

Joint B.A./J.D. Program with Columbia Law School
(Columbia Admissions web site: http://www.law.columbia.edu/jd_applicants)
We encourage all applicants to visit this website for more detailed information about the program

Applicants have the option to submit a paper or electronic application Columbia Law School. Applicants applying electronically should use the LSDAS electronic application available at www.lsac.org. If you wish to apply, please contact Kimberly Parent, Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School, in the Career Development Center to discuss your plans in early November.

TYPE: Nomination by Mount Holyoke College required. Apply as a Junior.

PURPOSE: Columbia Law School, in conjunction with Mount Holyoke and a select number of undergraduate institutions, offers a unique opportunity for concurrent study in law and another discipline to outstanding college students who will have completed their junior year requirements by August 2009. The AILE Program permits its participating students to complete their undergraduate and legal education in one year's less time than is typically the case. What would ordinarily take seven years will be accelerated to six years.

While studying law, students incorporate into their program, after their first year in law school, the equivalent of twelve hours of interdisciplinary study in the graduate faculties and /or professional schools of Columbia University. Students will receive the bachelor's degree from Mount Holyoke after completing an agreed-upon proportion of law and graduate school interdisciplinary work. At the end of the third year of law school, participants will be awarded the Juris Doctor degree by Columbia University.

ELIGIBILITY: Basic requirements are:

- Must complete Mount Holyoke's distribution and physical education requirements, and junior year by August 2009
- Candidates applying for admission to the 2009 entering class as a regular applicant, may submit LSAT scores earned on or after the June 2004 administration, but no later than the December 2008 administration. Early decision applicants must take the LSAT no later than October 2008.
- Must have high LSAT scores (typically 170 and above)
- Must have a high GPA (typically a 3.7 and above)

SELECTION CRITERIA: The program is limited to students with outstanding academic credentials. Mount Holyoke may nominate eligible students for the program and they will be considered by Columbia University for admission to the law school class entering in the fall of 2009. Acceptance into the program is as competitive as regular admission to Columbia Law School, therefore high LSAT scores and a high GPA are strongly recommended. In addition to demonstrating a high degree of intellectual competence and an explicit interest in pursuing interdisciplinary work while developing their capacity to handle legal concepts and materials, nominees must also possess qualities of leadership and maturity that show promise of outstanding professional service. Financial aid will be awarded strictly on the basis of need in accordance with the general policies governing all scholarship grants and loans at the Law School.

APPLICATION PROCESS: At Mount Holyoke the program is administered by the Dean of the College and the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School in the Career Development Center (CDC). Interested juniors should schedule an appointment to discuss their eligibility early and must meet with the Pre-Law Advisor in the CDC in early November 2008 to discuss their plans and qualifications.

PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE, LAMINATE OR BIND ANY PART OF THE APPLICATION FORM OR SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS, AS THEY WILL BE COPIED FOR REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE ON FELLOWSHIPS!

NOMINATION PROCESS & DEADLINES:

Program Administered by Dean/Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School

Monday, November 3, 2008

Meet with Kimberly Parent, Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School.

Friday, December 12, 2008

Applicants must provide the following materials to Kimberly Parent, Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School in the CDC by the last day of classes in December, 2008:

- A **2-3 page personal statement** clearly explaining why you are interested in attending law school during your senior year of undergraduate study and how you are prepared to do so
- An **unofficial or official Mount Holyoke transcript and one official transcript for any other college-level work completed (including study abroad)**
- **Official LSAT scores** (when available)
- A **resume**
- **Two letters of recommendation** from faculty members

In addition to the above-listed application materials, the following information must be submitted to Columbia Law School:

- **Biographical Information Sheet**
- **Personal Profile Sheet**
- **Dean's Appraisal(s)/Certification(s)**
- **Application Fee (\$70)**

Please note that it is your responsibility to ensure that each portion of the application, including letters of recommendation, is received by the appropriate deadline. If you will be requesting transcripts from other institutions or letters of recommendation from outside the College (particularly outside the U.S.), do not wait until the last minute to do so, as these materials can take several weeks to reach us. If you anticipate a problem meeting a particular deadline, please contact the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School

QUESTIONS? If you have questions about eligibility requirements or application procedures, or if you would like advice in assembling your application, please contact the Interim Coordinator & Advisor for Scholarships, Fellowships, Pre-Law, and Graduate School in the Career Development Center, X2080.