

Pre-Law Advising Sheet for Mount Holyoke Faculty

MHC Resources for Students and Alumnae who are Pre-Law

- Pre-Law Advisor at the Career Development Center (Katya King, call x2080 to make appointment). Please note that both senior and alumna applicants are encouraged to consult with Pre-Law Advisor
- J-Term LSAT prep-course taught by Kaplan, ½ price for MHC community (register at www.kaplan.com, contact Katya King for possible further subsidy if on financial aid)
- Career and law school application resources in CDC Library
- Internship opportunities through CDC (contact Assistant Director for Internships, x2080)
- Alumnae network and alumnae in law volunteering as mentors to MHC students (see LifeNet on MHC Alumnae Association website)

Law School Facts

- Law schools do not require nor desire any particular undergraduate major; students should choose a field in which they excel and which challenges them to think critically, and read and write analytically
- Average age of law school matriculants is 25; more than ¾ of MHC law school candidates apply as alumnae
- LSAT scores and UGPA are the most important factors in law school admissions
- LSAT preparation is extremely important, strategies are eminently learnable
- As of summer 2006, law schools are no longer required to average multiple LSAT scores when reporting scores of accepted applicants (still, students should ideally take LSAT only once)
- Suggested time line for students applying to law school in their senior year
 - Winter/Spring Junior Year: Study for LSAT
 - June Junior Year: Take LSAT
 - Summer Junior to Senior Year: Prepare applications
 - Fall Senior Year: Apply early in application cycle

Common Mistakes by Law School Applicants

- Inadequate preparation for LSAT, taking LSAT when not ready
- Applying late in the rolling application cycle
- Applying without LSAT scores in hand, choosing institutions whose median scores vastly exceed candidate's scores
- Not seeking critical feedback on application essays