

Roger Williams University

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School of Law Publications

8-2023

Orientation 2023 : Roger Williams University School Of Law

Roger Williams University School of Law

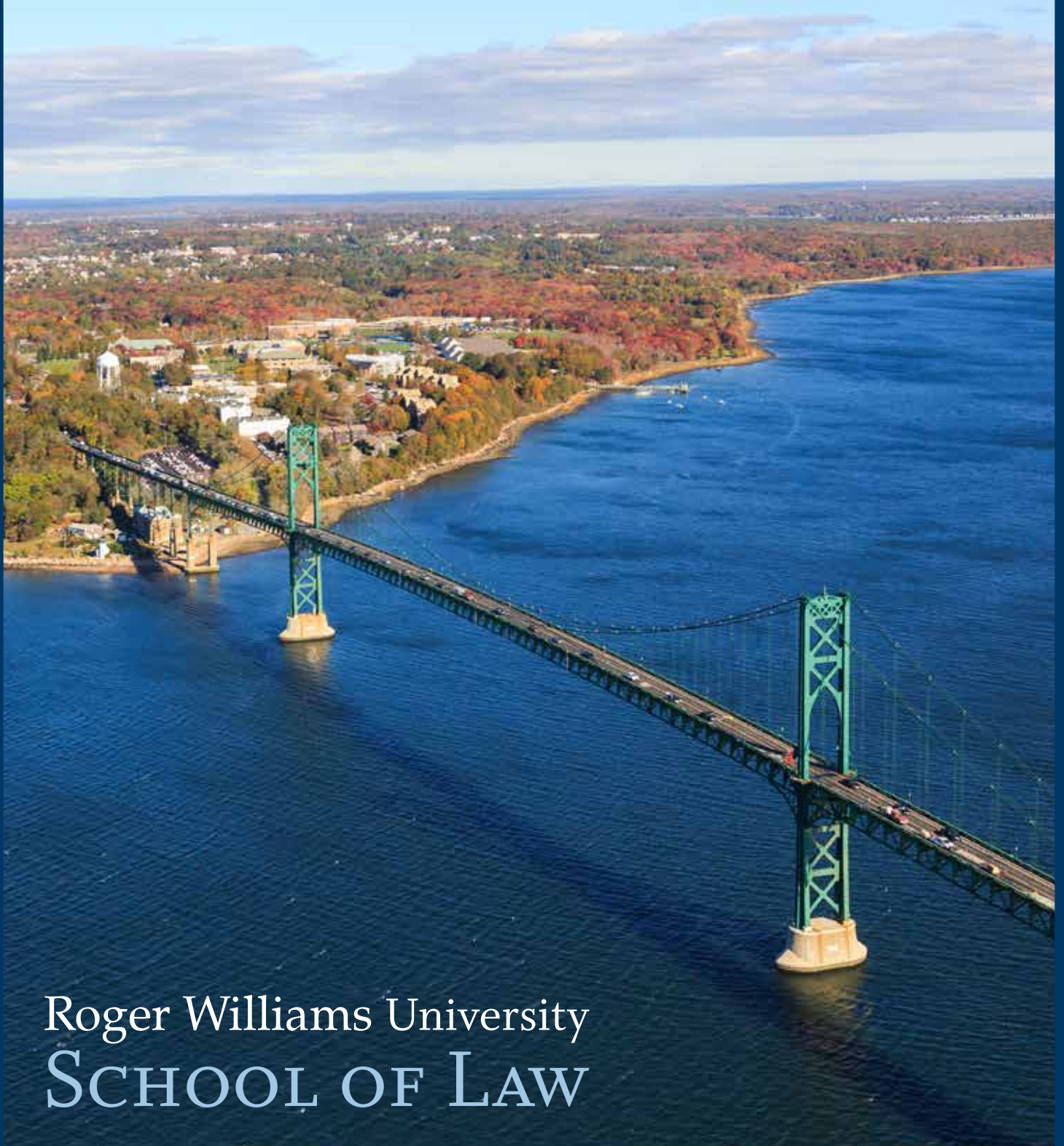
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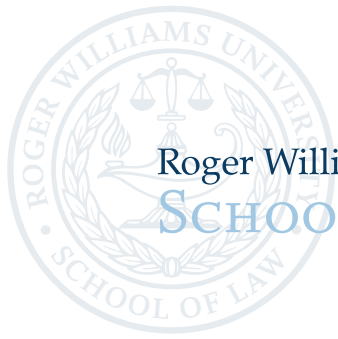
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Orientation 2023

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9—FRIDAY, AUGUST 11



Roger Williams University
SCHOOL OF LAW



Roger Williams University
SCHOOL OF LAW

August 9, 2023



Welcome to Roger Williams University School of Law! We are so excited to begin working with you. Law school is an exciting and transformative experience, and being a lawyer—and a law student—is a wonderful way to work for change and justice in the world.

But first things first. Our objective over the next few days is to help prepare you for the study of law and to welcome you to the RWU Law community. My law school colleagues and I hope that you will find this week's orientation to be a helpful mix of academic, professional, social, and emotional programming. By the end of the week, you will know us and your classmates much better—and you should have a better idea of what will be expected of you in your first classes. You also will know much more about the programs we have at RWU Law to support you during your time here.

There will be a lot of information coming at you this week, but we have done our best to focus only on the most important matters. What **MUST NOT** get lost in the shuffle, however, is what brought you here. You are here because you deserve to be. You are here because you want to help make the

world a better place in your own unique way as a lawyer. You are here because we believe you can do just that. The study of law is exciting, and what lawyers do matters—perhaps now more than ever.

So, enjoy the next few days! Congratulate yourself on being here. Know that we are thrilled that you are part of the RWU Law community. And good luck on this first step in your legal education journey!

All my best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "GWB".

Gregory W. Bowman
Dean and Professor of Law

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.
First Floor Lobby

Registration / Check In
Business Attire Required

10:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Room 283

Your Journey Starts Here – Meet the Academic Excellence Team
Lorraine N. Lalli, Associate Dean of Student Life and Operations
Kathryn M. Thompson, Director of Academic Excellence
Justin R. Kishbaugh, Ph.D., Associate Director of Academic Excellence
Morgan Beltre, Inclusive Excellence Program Coordinator

Welcome to law school! Dean Lalli will provide a brief introduction to RWU Law and an overview of the Orientation Program. Professors Thompson and Kishbaugh will explain the resources available through the Academic Excellence Program and how the program can help you transition successfully to law school while you build a network of support.

10:30 – noon
Room 283

Inclusion and Belonging at RWU Law
Safie Sagna, Ph.D., Director of Diversity & Outreach

During this interactive session, you will learn about the important resources and information related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging at RWU Law. In addition, we will talk about the importance of diversity and discuss the dangers of binary thinking. Furthermore, you will engage in reflection activities both individually and in small groups.

noon – 1:00 p.m.

Lunch (Lunch Provided)

Success in law school requires support from your colleagues and others in the Law School community. We have arranged for all incoming students to have a group lunch with a member of the RWU Law staff or faculty on either Wednesday or Thursday. This lunch will provide an opportunity for you to learn more about each other and your new school community. Please look for an email with your lunch assignment.

1:00 – 2:15 p.m.
Room 283

Thriving as a 1L - Tips from the Academic Excellence Teaching Fellows
Kathryn M. Thompson, Director of Academic Excellence

During this session Professor Thompson and the Academic Excellence Teaching Fellows will share specific advice on what you can do during your first year to help you transition to law school. The teaching fellows have recently traveled the path ahead of you and are eager to share useful advice and to welcome you to law school.

2:30 – 3:45 p.m.
Room 283

Introduction to Professor Kishbaugh and the Writing Center

Justin R. Kishbaugh, Ph.D., Associate Director of Academic Excellence

This session will provide information on how RWU Law's Writing Center can help you hone the writing skills and cultivate the writing habits necessary to become a lawyer or, in other words, a professional writer.

4:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Room 283

The Practice of Law Starts Now – Welcome Program and Oath of Professionalism

Michael W. Donnelly-Boyles, Associate Dean, Enrollment and Strategic Initiatives

Gregory W. Bowman, Dean, Roger Williams University School of Law

Ioannis Miaoulis, Ph.D., President, Roger Williams University

Nicole J. Benjamin '06, President, Rhode Island Bar Association

Brett V. Beaubien '16, President, RWU Law Alumni Association

Jonte' T. McKenzie, '24, President, Student Bar Association

Paul A. Suttell, Chief Justice, Rhode Island Supreme Court

**Roger Williams University
Law Student Oath of Professionalism**

I, [NAME], as I engage in the study of law, do solemnly swear:

- To display integrity and civility to all with whom I come in contact;*
- To respect the law and the legal system;*
- To seek justice; and*
- To adhere to the Roger Williams University School of Law Honor Code.*

This I do swear.

9:00 – 10:15 a.m.
Room 283

First Things First – Preparing for Classes & Making Time for It All
Kathryn M. Thompson, Director of Academic Excellence

During this session students will have an opportunity to begin to hone legal thinking skills and to begin developing the time management skills necessary for success in law school and law practice.

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Room 283

Preparing to be a Professional Writer
Justin R. Kishbaugh, Ph.D., Associate Director of Academic Success

During this session, students will have an opportunity to work on exercises to help them begin developing the skills and habits necessary for excellent legal writing.

11:45 – 12:30 p.m.

Lunch (Lunch Provided)

Success in law school requires support from your colleagues and others in the Law School community. We have arranged for all incoming students to have a group lunch with a member of the RWU Law staff or faculty on either Wednesday or Thursday. This lunch will provide an opportunity for you to learn more about each other and your new school community. Please look for an email with your lunch assignment.

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Room 283

AccessLex Presentation: Financial Planning for Law Students
Leah Young, AccessLex Regional Director for Financial Education
Kathryn Politano, Assistant Director, Financial Aid
Tina Bacon, Assistant Director, Financial Aid

From developing a simple spending plan to outlining your three-year financial plan, smart money strategies lay the foundation for every law student's personal and professional success story. Learn to apply core concepts of personal finance to make confident decisions about money and better achieve your short and long-term goals. Law school is an investment—make the most of yours!

1:30 – 2:00 p.m.
Room 283

Career Development, Your Career Planning Starts Today
Jodi P. Haley, Assistant Dean of Career Development
Christopher Gerlica, Associate Director of Career Development
Nina Abbenante, Assistant Director of Career Development

You will meet the members of the Office of Career Development and learn about the resources and programs we offer, what you can be doing during your first year to prepare for your job search, and what to expect during the employer visits on Friday, August 11.

2:10 – 2:30 p.m.
Room 283

Introduction to First Year Courses – Legal Practice

This session will provide an overview of your first-year Legal Practice course and introduce you to your Legal Practice faculty. This skills course trains students in the traditional methods of case and statutory analysis, legal research and writing.

2:40 – 3:30 p.m.
Rooms 262, 286

Introduction to First Year Courses – Civil Procedure, Contracts, Torts, Criminal Law

During this session, we will introduce you to your fall semester professors who will teach Civil Procedure, Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts. Professors will review course policies and provide recommendations for academic success in their course. Please select the session to attend based on your fall semester schedule: Section A – Room 262; Section B – Room 286

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Various Locations

Optional Sessions and Library Tours

- **Marine Affairs Institute Open House**

3:00 – 4:30 p.m., Suite 284

Visit the Marine Affairs Institute for an informal opportunity to check out the extensive Marine Affairs library and learn more about this center of excellence at RWU Law. Institute attorneys, staff and current Marine Affairs students will be on hand to answer your questions and share their experiences.

- **Meet & Greet with Safie Sagna, Ph.D., Director of Diversity & Outreach**

3:00 – 4:30 p.m., Room 244

Please stop by Room 244 to meet Dr. Safie Sagna and to learn more about upcoming programs and events sponsored by the Office of Diversity & Outreach.

- **Financial Aid Open Office Hours**

3:00 – 4:00 p.m., Room 287

If you have questions about your financial aid package or need advice or input on financing your legal education, please visit the Office of Financial Aid.

- **Law Library Tours**

3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Law Library Lobby

Advanced registration required. The Law Library is the center of any law school – a place where first year law students spend hundreds, perhaps thousands of hours. This tour will familiarize you with the library services and resources. Additional tours are scheduled on Tuesday, August 15. Please check your email for a registration link.

9:00 – 9:45 a.m.
Room 283

Introduction to Academic Technology

Raquel M. Ortiz, Assistant Dean for Library and Information Services

The law librarians will walk you through various systems needed for wireless printing, access to course materials, and legal research. Please bring your laptop.

9:45 – 10:15 a.m.
Room 283

Law School Essentials: Who's Who at RWU Law

Colleen Brown, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Professor of Law

This session will provide an introduction to various administrative offices including library services, student services, and disability support.

10:30 – 11:15 a.m.
Room 283

Your Professional Responsibility: Academic and Community Standards

Colleen Brown, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Professor of Law

Lorraine N. Lalli, Associate Dean of Student Life & Operations

Brittany Ortiz '24, Honor Board Chair

As members of the legal profession, law students are held to high ethical standards. This session will provide an overview of the Student Handbook and the Honor Code.

11:15 – 11:30 a.m.
Room 283

Maintaining Wellness in Law School

Lorraine N. Lalli, Associate Dean of Student Life & Operations

Christopher J. Bailey, Ph.D., Director, RWU Counseling Center

Success in law school isn't just about academics. This session will introduce you to some of the tools and supports for your mental health and wellness in law school.

11:30 – noon

Lunch on Your Own (Lunch Provided)

12:00 – 12:15 p.m.

Board Buses for Legal and Judicial Office Visits

Buses will load at the front of the Law School for a 12:15 p.m. departure for Providence, RI for visits to local legal and judicial offices in the Capital City. Students who elect to drive to Providence should arrive to their assigned location by 12:45 p.m. to meet their group.

Anticipated return to campus by 4:00 p.m.

ADDITIONAL ORIENTATION EVENTS

Please mark your calendar for these additional events being held during the first several weeks of the fall semester. Additional information will be shared by email and posted online.

International Student Orientation Session (Required for Students on F-1 Visa Status)

Tuesday, August 15, noon – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Room 244

Welcome and Welcome Back Barbeque Hosted by the Student Bar Association

Thursday, August 17, 12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Location: School of Law, Front Lawn

1L Public Interest Luncheon

(Transfer Students are Welcome)
Friday, August 18, 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Bay View Room

The Multicultural Afternoon Social

Tuesday, August 22, 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Location: Law School Rogers Café

First Gen Student Meet and Greet

Monday, August 28, noon– 1:30 p.m.
Location: Bay View Room

Student Bar Association Organization Fair

Wednesday, August 30, 12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
Location: Law School Second Floor Atrium

Honors Program Gathering

Wednesday, August 30, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.
Location: Bay View Room

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023-24

Fall Semester | 2023

Orientation & Registration – First Year Students	August 9 - 11, 2023
First Day of Classes	Monday August 14
Last Day to Register – Returning Students	Monday August 14
Returning Students Orientation (Required)	Wednesday August 16, noon
Last Day to Drop/Add Classes	Monday August 21
Labor Day Holiday – No Classes	Monday September 4
Indigenous Peoples Day – No Classes	Monday October 9
Make-Up Day (Follow Monday Schedule)	Tuesday October 10
Veterans Day Holiday Observed – No Classes	Friday November 10
Thanksgiving Holiday – No Classes	November 22-24
Last Day of Regularly Scheduled Classes	Monday, November 27 (Follow Friday Schedule)
Reading Period/Make Up Days if Necessary	November 28-29
Final Examinations	November 30 - December 15

Spring Semester | 2024

Classes Begin	Monday January 8, 2024
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – No Classes	Monday January 15
Last Day to Drop/Add Classes	Tuesday January 16
President's Day Holiday – No Classes	Monday February 19
Make-Up Day (Follow Monday Schedule)	Tuesday February 20
Spring Break – No Classes	March 11-15
Last Day of Regularly Scheduled Classes	Tuesday April 23
Reading Period/Make-Up Days if Necessary	April 24-25
Final Examinations	April 26-May 10
Commencement	Friday May 17

Summer Semester | 2024









Classes Begin	Monday May 20, 2024
Memorial Day Holiday – No Classes	Monday May 27
Last Day to Drop/Add Classes	Tuesday May 28
Holiday Make-Up Day (Follow Monday Schedule)	Tuesday May 28
Juneteenth Holiday – No Classes	Wednesday June 19
July 4th Holiday – No Classes	Thursday July 4
Last Day of Classes	Tuesday July 23
Reading Period/Make-Up Days if Necessary	July 24-26
Final Examinations	July 29-August 2

Roger Williams University

CAMPUS MAP

Map Key:

1. Parking and Information
2. Alumni and Admission Center
3. Cummings School of Architecture
4. Administration Building
5. School of Engineering, Computing and Construction Management
6. Feinstein College of Arts and Sciences and School of Justice Studies
7. Stonewall Terrace
8. Willow Hall
9. Cedar Hall
10. Center for Student Development
11. Fine Arts Center
12. Maple Hall
13. Mario J. Gabelli School of Business
14. Global Heritage Hall
15. University Library
16. The Commons
17. Global & Community Engagement
18. Marine and Natural Sciences Building
19. Richard L. Bready Mount Hope Bay Sailing & Education Center
20. Bayside Courts (Whitecap, Tidewater, Sea Breeze, Driftwood)
21. Mail Room
22. Campus Recreation Center
23. ELS Language Center
24. School of Law, Education Department and Law Library
25. Performing Arts Center
26. North Campus Residence Hall
27. Performing Arts Annex
28. Richard L. Bready Applied Learning Laboratories
29. Facilities, Purchasing, Public Safety Headquarters and Human Resources
30. U.S. Sailing Association Headquarters
31. Intercultural Center
32. Queer and Trans Resource and Advocacy Center (QTRAC)

-  Dining Areas & Snack Bars
-  Bookstore
-  Citizen's Bank ATM
-  Santander Bank ATM
-  Bank of America ATM
-  Emergency Phone
-  Campus Shuttle Stops
-  Electric Vehicle Charging Station



OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

Roger Williams University

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Welcome to RWU Law



Roger Williams University
SCHOOL OF LAW

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