Law
Clinics
When a Brooklyn resident sued a car dealership and bank for luring him into a refinancing scheme, the trial court dismissed the case. It was an ominous precedent that endangered consumer rights throughout the state of New York. But when the plaintiff's legal counsel appealed, they made such an effective argument that the Appellate Division, First Department, unanimously agreed to reverse the decision. This ruling granted protection not only for the client, but for every New York State consumer.

Remarkably, most of the winning legal team's members were Fordham Law clinic students who were not yet out of law school. Supervised by full-time clinical faculty members dedicated to experiential learning, the students played key roles representing their client: interviewing, researching relevant statutes, poring through relevant cases, and drafting appellate briefs.

For nearly 30 years, our clinical and experiential program has been helping Fordham Law students develop the lawyering skills they need to tackle the real work they'll do in whatever field of law they choose. All of our 17 clinics offers something valuable and different. They explore timely issues while helping real people through areas as varied as immigrant rights, mediation, prosecution, securities litigation, and criminal defense. While most clinics work with clients, some focus on legislation, and others do projects in areas such as human rights and international law.

In Fordham's Entrepreneurial Law Clinic, students assist early-stage startups in New York's burgeoning entrepreneurship scene and use tools of entrepreneurship to create positive social impact. Practicing in the New York metropolitan area, where the entrepreneurial spirit exists on every street corner, students work with clients to form entities, structure compensation for founders, and other legal-business matters.

Students who do not choose clinical courses have other great experiential opportunities. Many students cut their teeth at externships with nonprofit and government organizations in New York City and beyond. Others hone their abilities on simulated cases with professional actors.

All Fordham Law Clinics share a common mission: giving our students direct responsibility for real issues that affect real people. This kind of hands-on training and experience gives Fordham lawyers the great benefit of a running start—one that goes a long way in helping our graduates reach the top of today's demanding legal marketplace, both public and private.
Clinical Quick Facts

Fordham Law’s Dispute Resolution Program is ranked 13th by the 2019 U.S. News & World Report.

Fordham Law’s Clinical Training program is ranked 25th by the 2019 U.S. News & World Report.

Each year approximately 400 students participate in Fordham’s live-client clinics and simulation courses.

Chi Adanna Mgbako was named the 2017 recipient of the Association of American Law Schools’ Section on Clinical Legal Education’s M. Shanara Gilbert Award, one of the most prestigious honors available to a clinical professor of law.

Since its inception in 2009, the Samuelson-Glushko Intellectual Property and Information Law Clinic has helped register 43 trademarks and two design patents for individuals, companies, and nonprofit organizations.

17 Live-Client Clinics

Community Economic Development
Consumer Litigation
Corporate Social Responsibility
Criminal Defense
Entrepreneurial Law
Family Advocacy
Federal Litigation
Federal Tax
Immigrant Rights
International Human Rights
International Law and Development in Africa
Legislative and Policy Advocacy
Mediation
Presidential Succession
Queens D.A. Prosecution
Samuelson-Glushko Intellectual Property and Information Law
Securities Litigation and Arbitration

Students from Fordham Law’s Family Advocacy Clinic secured a Brooklyn high school student access to specialized education, following two semesters of advocacy on the student’s behalf. Under the guidance of Professor and Associate Dean Leah Hill, the clinic’s students worked to challenge the Department of Education regarding the quality of instruction received by the student at a Brooklyn public school. The clinic prepared a sophisticated challenge to the DoE, which included extensive evidence, witnesses, and a thorough theory of the case.