

AN INTRODUCTION TO

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

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Creating Community and Leading by Example



TITO MOROLAKE ADETULA

From her first moments on Harvard Law School's campus, Bolatito "Tito" Morolake Adetula '24 expressed an unmatched commitment to mentoring and advising students, and building a more supportive, inclusive environment at Harvard Law School.

As president of the Board of Student Advisers, a student-led support organization which mentors first-year students, Adetula demonstrated exemplary leadership and advocacy skills, and actively encouraged students to pursue their interests and form meaningful relationships with their professors.

As a teaching fellow for multiple courses across multiple disciplines, she supported students in the Cyberlaw Clinic, and in Family Law and Constitutional Law classes. And through the First-Year Legal Research & Writing Program, she helped students hone their research and writing skills, and bring balance to their busy lives as 1Ls.

In all of her roles, including leadership roles in Harvard's Black Law Students Association, Adetula dedicated countless hours to meeting with students whenever they needed support, whether it be personal, professional, or school-related.

At graduation, Adetula was named the inaugural winner of the Yvonne L. Smith Award, which recognizes a graduating student who has demonstrated an exemplary dedication to supporting other students. As one of her nominators noted: "Regardless of how you know Tito, you are lucky to have her in your life. She makes the people around her feel special, and that's an enormous gift."

85+

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

75%

OF STUDENTS JOIN
A SCHOLARLY JOURNAL

5

ASSIGNED ADVISORS
FOR EACH 1L STUDENT

Motivated by Service

PHOEBE M. KOTLIKOFF

Phoebe M. Kotlikoff '24, who made history as one of the first women to serve on a U.S. Navy submarine, is drawn to challenging herself in new situations.

A native of Ithaca, New York, Kotlikoff never considered a military career until she visited the U.S. Naval Academy. She loved the regimentation and discipline, but, she said, it was “jarringly different” socially and culturally from anywhere she had been. Yet, she realized she would thrive.

While she was a student, two dramatic changes shaped her future, influencing her to become a lawyer. First, in 2011, the military’s Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell policy, which prohibited openly gay people from serving, was repealed. Second, the Navy decided to integrate submarine service with women. “I started to feel that the people I saw as real change agents were predominantly lawyers,” she explained.

At HLS, she loved the classes and the feeling that she had command of a skill set. “It reminds me a lot of being technically proficient in the Navy,” she said. “Law is something I can really sink my teeth into and understand.”

Kotlikoff served as president of the Harvard Law Armed Forces Association and vice president of the Women’s Law Association. She was also a military reservist throughout law school, and, during her 2L year, she gave birth to her son Henry.

She is now a clerk for New York’s highest court, and is considering serving the government at the local, state, or federal level one day.

500+

COURSES IN THE
HLS CURRICULUM

7:1

STUDENT TO FACULTY RATIO

Tireless Advocacy for Clients

ARJUN GANANATHAN

Throughout law school, Arjun Gananathan '24 displayed an unwavering commitment to examining and interrogating the criminal legal system through a lens of racial equity.

Gananathan began his clinical work at Harvard Law School with an externship placement at the Suffolk County District Attorney's Office-Child Protection Unit through the Child Advocacy Clinic. He completed the Youth Advocacy & Policy Lab's Fellows Program, an immersive program for students interested in the youth law field, and he served as a teaching fellow for the program's Art of Social Change class, co-leading a learning community of students. He was a student attorney in the Criminal Justice Institute, a criminal defense clinic representing indigent clients in the Massachusetts court system during his 3L year, and he completed valuable pro bono work as a member of the Harvard Prison Legal Assistance Project and the Mississippi Delta Project.

His meaningful contributions to challenging case round discussions made him a leader in the classroom, said one of his mentors, adding that he brought "a kind of sanctity" to difficult conversations, "demonstrating to his peers how to respond to the serious injustices with respect."

The 2024 winner of HLS's Ralph D. Gants Access to Justice Award, he is now an attorney at a Washington, D.C. firm, where he hopes to cultivate a pro bono public defense practice and involve himself in the firm's many criminal justice reform projects.

An international student from Malaysia, Gananathan believes that representing clients is the greatest honor of the legal profession. "I am fortunate to have engaged in such legal work through Harvard Law School's clinics, and I owe all my gratitude to my clinical mentors."

630+

PRO BONO HOURS
COMPLETED BY AN AVERAGE
HLS STUDENT LAST YEAR

~90%

OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATE
IN CLINICAL WORK

48

CLINICAL AND PRO BONO
OPPORTUNITIES



**“The people in the
clinical program
have made me the
advocate I am.”**

ARJUN GANANATHAN '24

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

APPLICATION OPENS: Mid-September

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Mid-February

APPLICATION COMPONENTS

- Application Form
- Written Statements
- Resume
- Letters of Recommendation
- LSAT or GRE Score
- Transcript(s)
- Interview (by invitation)

For more information, or to request a need-based fee waiver, please visit this website:



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Read Harvard Law School's full Non-Discrimination and Anti-Bullying Policies:

bit.ly/hls-non-discrimination

1L Class by the Numbers

7,235 APPLICATIONS
793 OFFERS OF ADMISSION
560 NEWLY ENROLLED 1LS

56
LANGUAGES

11%
FIRST-GEN AND/
OR LOW-INCOME
STUDENTS

 19 INSTRUMENTS
PLAYED

53% WOMEN

22% LGBTQ+

9% INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

 48 STATES, D.C., PUERTO RICO
20 INTERNATIONAL LOCATIONS

19 CURRENT AND
FORMER MILITARY
SERVICE MEMBERS

146 UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTIONS

 74 STEM MAJORS

21 VARSITY ATHLETES  5 KAYAKERS

4 LATTE ART ENTHUSIASTS

2 JEOPARDY! CONTESTANTS

25  TEACHERS

Information current as of August 22, 2024