



# Syracuse University

## College of Law Terms

### 1L, 2L, 3L

A student's "level" in law school. Rather than freshman, junior, senior. 1L for first year students, 2L for second year students, 3L for third year students. (See also, *JDI*)

### ADJUDICATION

A legal ruling or judgment. It refers to the legal process of settling a dispute.

### APALSA

Acronym for *Asian Pacific Law Student Society*. It is a campus org whose aim is to bring attention to Asian-American issues, and to provide a support system for students in the Asian-American community.

### APPEAL

If a party disagrees with a court's decision they can challenge it by "appealing" to a higher court to review the case. This can result in either; "affirming" the lower court's decision, "reversing" the decision, or affirming/reversing only part of the judgment.

### BARBRI

This is one of the "big three" bar prep companies (see also; Kaplan, Themis). You will meet student and sales representatives on campus and even receive free materials. For more information visit [www.barbri.com](http://www.barbri.com)

### BLSA

Acronym for *Black Law Students Assoc.* It is a campus org whose aim is to further the academic, professional, and cultural goals of students in the BIPOC community in the college of law. It is an affiliate of the National Black Law Student Assoc. (NBSLA) For more information visit [www.facebook.com/syracuseblsa](https://www.facebook.com/syracuseblsa)

### ABA

Acronym for *American Bar Association*. It is an association of lawyers and students, not specific to any one jurisdiction in the country but rather a national representative of the legal profession as a whole. Membership during or after law school is voluntary.

### AHS

Refers to the *Travis H.D. Lewin Advocacy Honor Society*. It is a group of second and third year students who participate in oral advocacy competitions in the appellate, dispute resolution and mock trial settings. If you are interested in participating in moot court, mock trial, or ADR competitions you can find more information at

<http://law.syr.edu/academics/advocacy-program/moot-court-program/moot-court-honor-society>

### ATRIUM

Refers to the open common space on Dineen Hall's first floor. It is a large room filled with plenty of tables and natural light, directly between the Barclays library and the Gray courtroom.

### BARNES CENTER

Located on main campus between the Dome and Carnegie Library, the Barnes Center at the Arch is the hub for student wellness. It houses fitness and sports facilities, as well as the university medical offices. If it deals with student wellness, it's at the Barnes Center

### BLUEBOOK

A citation and style guide for the legal profession. You will learn how to apply the bluebook rules in your LCR I,II,III courses.

### ACS

Acronym for *American Constitution Society*. It is a campus org focused on trending topics in constitutional law. You may be invited to join or attend discussion with visiting speakers. For more information visit [www.acslaw.org](http://www.acslaw.org).

### AMICUS CURIAE

Latin for *friends of the court*. It refers to a person or group that is not a party to the suit but, due to a strong interest in the matter, will petition the court for permission to submit a brief with the intention of influencing the court's decision. These briefs are called "amicus briefs."

### ATTACK OUTLINE

A shorter version of a class outline, typically one page. It may cover either broad strokes of the class or one specific topic.

### BAR ASSOCIATION

A shorter version of a class outline, typically one page. It may cover either broad strokes of the class or one specific topic.

### BLACK LETTER LAW

Refers to the settled rules of law and legal principles that are old, fundamental, and settled.

### BOND ROOM

One of the college of law's many mock courtrooms. Named after the local, and longtime supporting firm; Bond, Schoeneck & King, which hosts an annual ADR competition.

For more information visit [www.bsk.com](http://www.bsk.com)

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### BOOK BRIEF

As opposed to a "paper brief" which is prepared separately, a book brief refers to the annotations and highlights within the casebook or along its margins.

### CAMPUS WEST

Off-campus apartments where many law students reside. It is located on Henry St., east of Dineen Hall, across the Raynor parking lot

### COLD-CALL

Refers to a professor posing a question to a student during a class discussion, with no advance warning.

### CLINIC

A law school program that provides free legal services to real clients and hands-on experience to 2L and 3L students

### EQUITABLE RELIEF

In law, the typical remedy is monetary damages. However, not every issue can be remedied monetarily. In such cases, the court may award "equitable" remedies such as a restraining order, injunction, specific performance, compelling a part to do, or abstain from doing some action.

### EX PARTE

Latin for *from a party*.

(In CivPro) party motions that may be granted without a response from the opposing party. (generally orders that are only in place pending other hearings, such as a temporary restraining order).

(In legal ethics) contact with the opposing party absent their legal counsel, or contact with the judge without the opposing party. Ex parte contact is unethical.

### CALI

Acronym for *computer assisted legal instruction*, it is a website that provides free lessons and study aids on various law school subjects. Many students find them useful as a review tool.

For more information visit [www.cali.org](http://www.cali.org)

### CASEBRIEF

The short summary of a case (typically prepared by each student), commonly comprised of the; facts, issue, rule, holding, and rationale of the case.

### CONSIDERATION

(In contracts) that which is given, promised, or forborne by one party in exchange for the promise or undertaking of another party.

### ESLS

Acronym for *Entertainment & Sports Law Society*, a campus org consisting of students interested in this area of law. Each year, ESLS organizes a sports and entertainment law symposium to discuss trending legal issues.

### FEDSOC

Short for *The Federalist Society of Law and Public Policy*. A campus org comprised of conservative and libertarian students who host fair, serious and open debates regarding the role of the court and trending topics in public policy and law. For more information visit [www.fedsoc.org/chapters/NY/syracuse-student-chapter](http://www.fedsoc.org/chapters/NY/syracuse-student-chapter)

### FLIPPED CASE METHOD

The action of reading case summaries or briefs *before* reading the opinion. The idea being that a brief introduction to the material will provide a general overview of the case, highlight important issues, and assist your understanding.

### CALL OF THE QUESTION

The question, usually at the end of a fact pattern, which poses the legal issue you must answer in your analysis/application.

### CASEBOOK

The main book for most of your law school courses, it will contain "condensed" cases on particular areas of law.

### CIVPRO

Short for *Civil Procedure*, a first year course on the procedural rules of federal courts.

### DINEEN HALL

The building which houses our college of law, it is where most, if not all of your classes will be held. Named after alumni Robert Emmet Dineen (L'24) and Carolyn Bareham Dineen (L'32). Built in 2014, it was the only law school at the time with a fireplace, which is celebrated each year during the *College of Law Fireplace Lighting Ceremony*.

### ESTOPPEL

(In contracts) the action of prohibiting another party from raising a claim, they are "estopped."

(In CivPro) the principle that a claim cannot be "relitigated once it has been decided on its merits." Also known as *Red Judicata*.

### FGLSA

Acronym for *First Generation Law Student Assoc*. It is campus org that seeks to build a community of first generation law students facing similar obstacles by offering the opportunity to connect with other students, acquire mentors, and network with attorneys who have successfully navigated similar issues.

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### HYPO

Short for *hypothetical*. It refers to a scenario, partially or completely fictional, that raises an issue of law which must be answered. It is like a math problem, but for lawyers.

### INDEMNIFY

To hold a party "harmless," or otherwise protect the party against loss or damage by reimbursing them for any losses incurred.

### IRAC

A structural format used to answer legal questions. It is an acronym for; *Issue, Rule, Application (or analysis), and conclusion*. Most professors prefer exams to be answered using this format or CREAC (*Conclusion, Rule, Explanation, Analysis, Conclusion*).

### JDR

Short for *Juris Doctor Residential*. It refers to Syracuse University College of Law's residential program. Residential students attend both on-campus and online classes\*.

### LAW REVIEW

A student-run journal that edits and publishes academic articles. At the end of your 1L year you will have the opportunity to *grade-on* or *write-on* to this publication. Many employers look for this qualification in applicants.

### MOOT COURT

Competition where students prepare and argue fictional cases. At the Syracuse University College of Law, this competition is organized by the AHS's Appellate division. (See also; *AHS*)

### ILC

Acronym for *Innovation Law Center*, an experiential learning program where students interested in the development of new technologies complete research projects. It is affiliated with the *New York Science and Technology Center*. For more information visit [www.innovation-law-center.syr.edu](http://www.innovation-law-center.syr.edu)

### INTENT

Not to be confused with "intentional," it refers to whether a party wanted to achieve a certain result. It is an element of most torts and will be heavily discussed in Torts and Criminal law.

### KAPLAN

You may have encountered them in your LSAT prep. In law school, Kaplan is one of the "big three," bar prep companies. (See also; Barbri, Themis) You will meet student and sales representatives on campus and even receive free materials. For more information visit [www.kaptest.com/bar-exam](http://www.kaptest.com/bar-exam)

### MARSHALL STREET

Short for *The Federalist Society of Law and Public Policy*. It is a campus org comprised of conservative and libertarian students who host fair, serious and open debates regarding the role of the court and trending topics in public policy and law.

### MAXWELL

Short for *Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs*. It is here that public administration, national security, terrorism, international relations, and many other public affairs courses are offered. It is named after alumni George Holmes Maxwell and is located east of Dineen Hall on Crouse Dr. For more information visit [www.https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/about-the-maxwell-school/](http://www.https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/about-the-maxwell-school/)

### IN CAMERA

A judge's office (chambers). When an issue is discussed "in-camera" it is away from the courtroom and jury.

### IP

Acronym for *intellectual property*, which includes; copyrights, trademarks, trade secrets, and patent law.

### JDI

Short for *Juris Doctor Interactive*. It refers to Syracuse University College of Law's online-only program. JDI students do not attend on-campus classes.

### LALSA

Acronym for *Latin American Law Student Assoc*. It is campus org that seeks to build a space for students of hispanic and latino descent to connect with other students of similar backgrounds.

### MARSHALL STREET

A main street located south of the Syracuse University campus, which houses most of the eateries including; Chipotle, Five Guys, Starbucks, Varsity Pizza, and others. It is a short walk away from Dineen Hall.

### MPRE

Acronym for *Multi-state Professional Responsibility Exam*. It is an exam that measures your knowledge of legal ethics. Most states (including N.Y.) require students pass the MPRE in order to sit for the Bar Exam. (See also, *PR; The Bar*)

### NEWHOUSE

Short for *Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communications*. It is located north-east of Dineen Hall on Waverly Ave.

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### NSSA

Acronym for *National Security Student Association*. It is campus org that hosts discussions on emerging challenges in national security law and policy. Unlike other orgs, membership consists of both law students and graduate students from the Maxwell school. (See also, *Maxwell*)

### ORGS

Short for *Organization*. It refers to the student-led clubs that you can participate in. Some of these clubs are regional chapters of larger, national organizations, while some exist only on the Syracuse University College of Law. During your first month of classes SBA will host an "Org week" where you can learn more about each organization. Throughout the academic year, orgs host discussions, luncheons, debates, mixes, and other events.

### PRO BONO

Uncompensated volunteer legal services, generally offered for the societal greater good. Some law schools require that students perform and report a minimum number of pro bono hours. Many states also have a pro bono hours requirement in order to participate in the Bar Exam.

For more information on the Syracuse University College of Law's Pro Bono requirement visit <http://law.syr.edu/academics/academic-handbook/>

### RARARA

A structural format used to answer **short** legal questions. It is an acronym for; *Rule-Application, Rule-Application, Rule-Application*.

### OCI

Short for *On-Campus Interview*. The office of Career Services will coordinate with employers to conduct interviews in a manner convenient to students by hosting employers on-campus. You will receive more information about OCI from Career Services throughout the semester.

For more information visit <http://law.syr.edu/uploads/docs/career-services/on-campus-faq-2019.pdf>

### OUTLINE

A condensed and organized summary of a course. It is generally prepared by each student throughout the semester and is the most common study method in law school.

### PROCEDURAL HISTORY

The path of a case through the legal system. In law school, most cases you read will be appellate decisions, these cases will sometimes discuss the lower court's ruling, which party was successful, and what remedy (if any) was awarded, professors refer to this information as the *procedural history* of the case.

### REMAND

After an appellate court resolves an issue, they can send the claim back to the trial court (remand the case) to continue the case at the trial level.

### SYMPPLICITY

Refers to the online platform OCS will make available for students where job openings can be found, applications sent, resumes and cover letters verified, and interviews scheduled. Indeed, but for law students. Access is granted on 1L fall. (See also, *OCS*)

### OCS

Short for *Office of Career Services*. This office is located in Dineen Hall's second floor, in suite 214. It provides support to students and alumni in developing their career paths.

### PR

Acronym for *Professional Responsibility*, a course offered the spring of 1L year covering legal ethics. This course aims to prepare students to sit for the MPRE and to succeed in the legal profession. (See also, *MPRE*)

### PROMISSORY

(In contracts) engaging in an agreement to do something, or a promise for some future act.

### QUIMBEE

Study-aid company, commonly used by students for their concise commercial briefs, video case summaries and review quizzes. Unlike other study aids, access requires a paid subscription.

For more information visit [www.quimbee.com](http://www.quimbee.com)

### SOCRATIC METHOD

Pedagogical approach where professors asks questions rather than lecture students. Student's answers to these questions form the class discussions and "flush-out" the relevant legal principles.

While it is the most commonly use method of teaching in law school, some professors do not use this method, opting instead for volunteer participation, panel discussions, or a hybrid-socratic structure. You should consult your course syllabus to learn more about your professor's approach.

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### SPIN

Acronym for *Syracuse Public Interest Network*. It is campus org focused on bringing together students and alumni with an interest in advocating for the public interest.

### THE DOME

The 49,000-seat domed sports stadium, it is sometimes referred to as simply *The Stadium* but it is historically (and famously) known as *The Carrier Dome*. It is home to the Syracuse Orange football, basketball and lacrosse teams. It also hosts concerts, championships and other regional events. It is located west of Dineen Hall on Forestry Dr.

For more information visit [www.syracuse.edu/life/campus-highlights/the-dome](http://www.syracuse.edu/life/campus-highlights/the-dome)

### THEORY

Off-Campus private apartment building where many law students reside. It is located about three blocks north of Marshall St. at 919 East Genessee St.

For more information visit [www.theorysyracuse.com](http://www.theorysyracuse.com)

### WHITMAN

Short for Syracuse University's *Martin J. Whitman School of Management*. It is the building where advanced business M.S. and M.B.A. courses will be held. It is located east of Dineen Hall on University Ave.

It is named in honor of alumni and former professor Martin J. Whitman '49, '08.

For more information on Professor Whitman visit [www.whitman.syr.edu/about/leadershipandvision/martinjwhitman.aspx](http://www.whitman.syr.edu/about/leadershipandvision/martinjwhitman.aspx)

### THE BAR

Unlike a "bar association," The Bar refers to (1) the Bar Exam, administered by each state's board of bar examiners, the disciplinary body of lawyers which governs each state's legal professionals. Successfully completing the Bar Exam is required in order to practice law. For more information visit [www.nybarexam.org](http://www.nybarexam.org).

### THE QUAD

Refers to the *Kenneth A. Shaw Quadrangle*, an open green space located in the middle of main campus in between Hendricks Chapel, Link Hall, Carnegie Library. This space has been part of Syracuse University since it's founding, and it is named after former professor and former Syracuse University Chancellor Kenneth A. Saw. For more information on Chancellor Shaw visit [www.whitman.syr.edu/shaw](http://www.whitman.syr.edu/shaw)

### TORT

A civil wrong, that does not arise out of a breach of contract, for which a court may provide a remedy in the form of damages.

### WLSA

Acronym for *Women Law Student Assoc*. It is campus org that seeks to provide a forum for discussion of legal issues and ensure the advancement of women in the legal profession and in law school. *WLSA* also organizes events and creates alumni networks where students can learn, and support one another.

### THE CAFÉ

Refers to the *Neoporent Café*, located in the basement level of Dineen Hall, across the Gray Courtroom. It offers prepared meals during the day and a small dining hall where you can enjoy your breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

### THEMIS

Another one of the "big three," bar prep companies. (See also; *Barbri, Kaplan*) You will meet student and sales representatives on campus and even receive free materials.

For more information visit [www.themisbar.com](http://www.themisbar.com)

### WESTCOTT

A vibrant neighborhood located east of main campus. It is home to students, professors and other faculty and staff, as well as local residents at all income levels.

### WESTLAW

One of three legal research platforms (along with *LexisNexis* and *Bloomberg Law*) which allows users to research legal opinions, statutes, legal articles, legal encyclopedias, legal dictionaries and other secondary sources. Think of it like google, but for law students.

You will receive your student access to ALL these platforms on 1L fall and you will learn to use these tools during your legal research and writing courses.

You will meet student and sales representatives on campus for these companies and even receive free promotional materials.