University of New Mexico Law: Doing it right for decades.

We’re leading, not shrinking.

SMALL SCHOOL. BIG VALUE.
From the Dean

This law school stands in a privileged position within legal education—a position that calls us to lead.

Our position is distinctive. During a challenging time for legal education, we are not shrinking—we are building. We’re replenishing our faculty as some colleagues who formed this special school retire and continue to guide us. We’re not reducing our student body. Our alumni and friends are supporting us so we can offer more aid than ever before and maintain our stunningly low tuition.

We are leading by staying focused on our mission and teaching well—providing our students with the formative feedback that allows them to grow the skills they need to enter the profession.

I am honored to be a member of this academic and professional community. I encourage you to read about what this law school has been doing right for decades.

Best,

David J. Herring
Dean

1. Small by design.

In 1950, we enrolled 53 law students. By design, the size of our incoming classes has only slightly more than doubled in 64 years. “Applications soared, but we didn’t increase the size of our student body,” says former Dean and Professor Emeritus Leo M. Romero. “To be effective, we’ve resisted that intentionally for over 60 years.”

2. Affordable tuition.

Our tuition has always been remarkably affordable. Students graduate to jobs that put their legal training to use. Affordable tuition plus a student-centric education equals a high return on their investment.

3. Diversity.

More than half of our students are women and more than half are minorities. From the beginning, diversity has been a core value of this law school, enriching the classroom experience and strengthening our community.

4. Student centric—before it was a trend.

Quality in teaching is far and away our most important responsibility. It has been since our founding. For decades, we’ve shaped conscientious and employable practitioners.

43 years of investment in our Clinic.

As a result, we have always had a top-ranked program and client-ready graduates who benefit from the inclusion of both our tenured clinical and tenured traditional-course faculty teaching in our Clinical Legal Education program.
Decades of experiential learning.

We’ve integrated experiential learning techniques into our doctrinal non-clinical courses for decades. Our pioneering Clinical Program is inclusive and required.

Faculty who add value and stay.

More than half of our tenure-track faculty have been at the law school for over seven years. Our faculty experience a profound sense of community in teaching and program development that demonstrates commitment, expertise, and loyalty.

Service to state.

“From its inception, the UNM School of Law has reflected the best parts of New Mexico: its Southwest congeniality and authenticity, a desire to continually improve upon itself and a commitment to serving the citizens of the state.” — R.E. Thompson, former President and Shareholder, Modrall Sperling, from 60 For 60: Shaping Law in New Mexico Since 1950.

Teaching social responsibility.

UNM first-year law students are required to volunteer for community service. Many students then pursue this passion to serve upon graduation. Of our 2013 graduates, 46% are working in government or public interest.

Students active in the Bar from day one.

“Judges and leading practitioners are part of the law school’s community,” says Associate Professor Dave Sidhu. “This close, dynamic relationship translates into tangible opportunities and experiences for our students—judges and attorneys routinely guest lecture in classes and enrich the learning environment in many other ways.”
Our Law School is one of the best educational values in the country.

UNM Law consistently ranks high in educational value. PreLaw magazine ranked UNM Law 11th nationwide in 2014. Our students graduate with their career options less constrained by debt.

We outpace the national rate for long-term jobs by 15%.

According to the latest data provided by the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, UNM School of Law students outpace the national rate for securing long-term jobs that require bar passage by 15%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School name</th>
<th>Average indebtedness of 2013 graduates who incurred law school debt</th>
<th>Percent of grads with debt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Denver (Sturm)</td>
<td>$130,981</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Colorado—Boulder</td>
<td>$115,866</td>
<td>77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arizona State University (O'Connor)</td>
<td>$107,809</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arizona (Rogers)</td>
<td>$90,898</td>
<td>82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Utah (Quinney)</td>
<td>$85,473</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech University</td>
<td>$75,399</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of New Mexico</td>
<td>$73,292</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From U.S. News & World Report, part of Best Law Schools 2015

“Most law students come to law school for one reason—they want to get a full time job as a lawyer. I’m proud to say that here at UNM, we far exceed the national average in placing our students in full time jobs requiring bar passage.”

— Max Minzner
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs & Professor of Law
Karelitz Chair in Evidence & Procedure
We’re small by design.

For over 60 years, we’ve kept our class size small to facilitate ongoing, meaningful student-faculty interaction. We value the ability to provide one-on-one guidance and enjoy the benefits of our cohesive law school classes. Our faculty members are organized around the common goals of sharing their love of the law and devoting themselves to helping students succeed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student-to-faculty ratio:</th>
<th>9:1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research/writing first year class size:</td>
<td>14-20 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper division median class size:</td>
<td>12 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinic class size:</td>
<td>8 students or less</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“I walked into class and learned everyone’s name in the first week because of the small size. I’ve talked with dozens of friends at other law schools. I tell them my third year courses had fewer than 12 students each, that I personally knew the judges who guest lectured…they can’t even fathom that.”

— Alex Flores
Class of 2013
B.A., Public Policy, George Washington University
M.P.A., Public Policy, Princeton University
Judge Advocate Officer (JAG), United States Marine Corps
Our students rate their law school highly.

When asked how our students feel about their law school, they rated it 4th nationwide. *Above the Law* asked current law school students to rate their schools in four key areas on a scale from 1 (“very unsatisfied”) to 4 (“very satisfied”). Below is how UNM Law fared.

**UNM Law: 3.5 overall out of 4**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Rating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quality of faculty and academic instruction:</td>
<td>3.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Practical/clinical training for the practice of law:</td>
<td>3.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career counseling and job search help:</td>
<td>3.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social life:</td>
<td>3.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial aid advising:</td>
<td>3.24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From *Above the Law*, 2013

"The University of New Mexico School of Law isn’t just a law school, it’s a community that embraces you. The faculty, staff, and students are truly interested in your ideas, interests, and goals. It is a transformative experience that not only challenges you, but it enlightens your purpose.”

— Santee Lewis  
Class of 2014  
Navajo Nation
Our Clinical Law Program is a leader in clinical legal education.

Pioneering
UNM’s Clinical Law Program was one of the first in-house, live-client clinical programs. Our Clinical Law Program continues to place near the top in national rankings.

Inclusive
All students have the opportunity to experience clinic with core clinical, traditional course, visiting, and emeriti faculty.

Required
UNM was one of the first law schools to make its clinical program mandatory. Students receive six law school credits while on the front lines of public service, representing real clients.

Collaborative
We’re active participants and partners with the Courts, the Bar, New Mexico communities, and legal educators nationwide.

“For over four decades, the University of New Mexico School of Law has had a mandatory clinical program. We continue to expand experiential learning opportunities across the law school curriculum and are moving toward creating a truly integrative model of legal education.”

— Aliza Organick
Professor of Law
UNM Teaching Fellow
LEADING IN LEGAL EDUCATION

Shaping New Mexico’s Legal System

Professor Leo M. Romero
A.B. 1965, Oberlin College
J.D. 1968, Washington University
L.L.M. 1972, Georgetown University
Member of the New Mexico and District of Columbia Bars

Former Dean and Professor Emeritus Leo Romero has had an impact on the New Mexico legal system in the areas of criminal law and judicial selection.

Romero’s scholarship has influenced the development of criminal doctrine by the courts of New Mexico. He has written nine articles on various subjects in criminal law, and those articles have been cited 11 times by the New Mexico Supreme Court and Court of Appeals. The Public Defender Appellate Division has consulted with Romero on homicide issues on appeal.

Shortly before Romero was appointed dean, voters approved a new method of selecting judges. At the early stage of this system, Romero oversaw the development of the procedures that continue to govern selection commissions, wrote the “Rules Governing Nominating Commissions,” and authored a law review article comparing the new system to the former electoral method.

“Leo by his foresight and direction set the standard on how a dean should properly conduct the judicial selection process. New Mexico is fortunate he provided a template for all subsequent deans to follow.”

—Joseph F. Baca
Chief Justice, Retired

Professor Leo M. Romero
Former Dean
Emeritus Professor of Law
Battling Against Predatory Lending Practices

Professor Nathalie Martin
B.A. 1983, St. Olaf College
J.D. 1986, Syracuse University
L.L.M. 1998, Temple University
Member of the Massachusetts, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania Bars

Professor Nathalie Martin has studied payday, title loans, and high-cost installment loans, as well as predatory mortgage loans. Her projects include several empirical studies funded by the National Conference of Bankruptcy Judges, including one that funded curbside interviews of payday loan customers.

Martin is a regular blogger at Credit Slips, the nation’s leading blog on debt and credit issues, and has appeared on CNN, ABC, CNBC, and other television networks. She has been quoted in the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times, and many other newspapers.

Recently, an amicus brief written by Martin and Professor Emeritus Fred Hart aided the New Mexico Supreme Court in invalidating a mortgage foreclosure due to a lack of standing. In another New Mexico Supreme Court decision, the Court relied on Martin’s empirical research in finding a high-cost installment loan to be unconscionable. Her work has been cited by various state courts as well as by the United States Supreme Court.

“Every law professor hopes that what he or she has written will be read and relied upon by a court. Nathalie Martin is one of the few who has had the satisfaction of seeing tangible results from her scholarship.”

—Richard Alderman
Interim Dean and Director of Consumer Law Center, Houston Law Center
Selected as one of only 26 “Best Law Teachers” in the U.S.

Professor Steven K. Homer
A.B. 1991, University of Chicago
J.D. 1994, Harvard Law School
Member of the New Mexico Bar

Last year, Professor Steven Homer was featured in the book, *What the Best Law Teachers Do*, the culmination of a four-year study to identify extraordinary law teachers who have had a significant, positive, and long-term impact on their students. Homer’s students were quoted discussing the link between careful reading and persuasive writing, focusing on the purpose in writing, and the importance of editing. One former student, now working in a law firm, said those practices have been so ingrained that when his colleagues need to chop out extraneous verbiage, they say, “do the Homer thing.”

This summer, Homer and the Legal Analysis and Communication faculty re-engineered the program’s first-year curriculum. Using a measurable and student-centric approach, they evaluated the desired outcomes and rebuilt the writing sequence from the outcomes up. The program now has a much greater focus on reading, research, and professional presentation.

“Professor Homer is an outstanding teacher. He expects excellence from every student and from himself. He treats every student with respect. After his students graduate and enter the practice, they assess their own performance by asking, “What would Professor Homer think?” It was an honor and delight to study Professor Homer and his current and former students for the Harvard University Press publication, *What the Best Law Teachers Do.*”

—Gerry Hess
Professor of Law, Gonzaga University School of Law

Professor Steven K. Homer
Director of the Legal Analysis and Communication Program
Advancing Tribal Sovereignty in Tribal Terms

Professor Jeanette Wolfley
Assistant Professor of Law
B.A. 1979, University of Minnesota
J.D. 1982, University of New Mexico
Member of the Colorado, Idaho and Wyoming Bars

Professor Jeanette Wolfley, enrolled in the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, joined the UNM Law School faculty in fall 2013. She teaches Tribal Water Rights, Federal Jurisdiction, Tribal Economic Development, and Tribal Natural and Cultural Resources Law courses.

This summer, she received grant money to work with a tribal court and engaged a third-year law student to work with a Pueblo Tribal Court to draft pro se guidance documents and procedures. Her interest in this project is to protect the integrity of the tribal court system.

Wolfley brings a wealth of practical experience and perspective to legal education, having practiced law for over 30 years, representing Tribal clients’ interests in a wide variety of matters. She advocates for tribes to preserve their homelands and strengthen their self-governance by promoting tribal governmental institution-building and revitalizing tribal laws based on their community values.

“Jeanette emphasizes the importance of the Tribes’ oral and written histories to support and confirm their legal positions. As a Tribal member, she brings an invaluable perspective to protect treaty rights, our environment, and our homeland.”

—Nathan Small
Chairman of the Fort Hall Business Council of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Exemplifying Public Service

Professor Dawinder “Dave” S. Sidhu

B.A. 2000, University of Pennsylvania
M.A. 2003, Johns Hopkins University
J.D. 2004, George Washington University
Member of the Maryland Bar

Professor Dave Sidhu served as a 2013-2014 Supreme Court Fellow. This “exceptional opportunity,” Chief Justice Roberts noted, allows just four “creative, talented, and energetic individuals” to contribute to and learn about the federal judiciary. As a Supreme Court Fellow, Sidhu supported the U.S. Sentencing Commission, which sets national policy on sentencing for all federal judges, and received a distinguished service award.

Sidhu’s interests include criminal law, constitutional law, and national security. His scholarship has been cited in briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court and by leading scholars. His commentary has been published by the New York Times, Washington Post, and SCOTUSblog, among others.

Sidhu founded a constitutional literacy program at UNM Law and set the law school up as one of only four educational institutions that may send legal observers to attend military commissions at Guantanamo.

“Dave Sidhu is a star. He has written an excellent article on evidence-based sentencing and has been a terrific asset to the economic crimes policy team. Dave also initiated a program for inner city students in Washington D.C. You don’t need to do a Moneyball risk assessment to know that Dave will be a leader in the legal profession.”

—The Honorable Patti B. Saris
Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission,
Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts
Transforming the Legal Landscape for People with Disabilities

Professor James W. Ellis
A.B. 1968, Occidental College
J.D. 1974, University of California, Berkeley
Member of the District of Columbia Bar

Since Professor Jim Ellis joined the UNM Law School faculty in 1976, he has methodically created the academic study of the law of developmental disability, changing the legal landscape for people with disabilities in far-reaching, profound, and enduring ways.

In addition to his scholarship, Ellis has filed briefs in over 20 cases in the U.S. Supreme Court on the behalf of people with intellectual disabilities. He has tirelessly testified before state legislatures across the country in support of bills to protect and advance the rights of people with intellectual disabilities.

For 30 years, he has invited teams of law school students and faculty to participate in this work. Students are offered a unique opportunity to collaborate with faculty to help with legal and psychological research, records review, and checking citations. They learn every facet of constructing a brief and see how arguments are made at the highest level.

“…He is my ideal of a law teacher who has made a real difference in the quality of justice. Jim is also the truly rare, modest human being who teaches by example not only what a great teacher and humanist can do, but what a great teacher and humanist can be.”

—Anthony Amsterdam
Professor Emeritus,
New York University
School of Law
WE’RE NOT SHRINKING

We’re adding three new faculty.

“We’re not shrinking. We’re adding three new faculty.”

—David J. Herring
Dean

Professor Scott England adds legal writing expertise.

Scott England, who was a visiting lecturer in UNM’s Legal Analysis and Communication Program during the 2013-14 academic year, joins the permanent faculty within the legal writing team. He teaches Elements of Legal Argumentation I and II. Before arriving at UNM, England was a member of the faculty at the University of Alabama School of Law for nine years, where he taught legal writing and legislative drafting.

Prior to his teaching career, England helped draft a proposed criminal code for Illinois as a staff attorney for the Illinois Criminal Code Rewrite and Reform Commission. He also worked as a litigation associate at Chicago’s Hopkins & Sutter, focusing mostly on public utility law, municipal law, and insurance insolvency law.

Professor Mary Leto Pareja will focus on health law.

Mary Leto Pareja joins the permanent faculty and will focus her teaching and research on health law. Pareja has been teaching at the UNM School of Law since the fall of 2005, primarily in the Business and Tax Clinic. She also has taught Torts, Small Business Law and Policy, Employee Benefits Law, Estate and Retirement Planning, and Sales of Goods.

In addition, Pareja travels to Madrid, Spain each summer as part of UNM Law’s Madrid Summer Institute, where she teaches Spanish law students about U.S. law and the common law legal system.

Professor Mary Pareja
Assistant Professor
A.B., 1991, Smith College
J.D., 1996, Georgetown University of Law Center

Professor Scott England
Lecturer III
B.A. 1995, Truman State University
J.D. 1998, Northwestern University
Member of the Illinois Bar
WE’RE NOT SHRINKING

We’re attracting more visiting faculty.

Professor Maryam Ahranjani
Visiting in Fall 2014
Ahranjani is visiting from American University Washington College of Law, teaching Constitutional Rights and students in the Marshall-Brennan Program.

Professor Lucrecia R. Jaramillo
Visiting in 2014-2015
Jaramillo is teaching Elements of Legal Argumentation I and II. Previously she worked as supervising attorney at the Senior Citizens’ Law Office in Albuquerque.

Professor Kenneth Murchison
Visiting in Spring 2015
Murchison taught at the Paul M. Herbert Law Center at Louisiana State University for nearly 34 years. He has authored seven books and more than 40 law review articles. He will teach Environmental Law.

Professor Sarah Steadman
Visiting in 2014–2015
Steadman is teaching Family Law and in the Community Lawyering Clinic. She has a private practice focused on elder and disability law and has taught four semesters in the Clinic.

Professor Scott Taylor
Visiting in 2014–2015
Visiting from the University of St. Thomas School of Law, Taylor has developed a national reputation as an authority on taxation in Indian Country. He previously taught at UNM Law and returns to teach a Tribal Courts Seminar, serve as Guest Editor of the Tribal Law Journal, and supervise the Southwest Indian Law Clinic in Spring 2015.

Professor Serge Martinez brings economic development expertise.

Prior to joining the UNM Law School, Serge Martinez directed the Community and Economic Development Clinic at the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University since founding the clinic in 2006. Martinez also founded the first law school clinical program in Taiwan while serving as a Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Professor at the National Taiwan University College of Law in Taipei.

At UNM Law, Martinez works with students in the areas of community economic development, entrepreneurship, and start-up businesses. He is also enabling the law school to participate fully in Innovate ABQ, a collaborative initiative among UNM, its Science and Technology Center, the business community, and government.

Professor Serge Martinez
Assistant Professor
A.B, 1994, Brigham Young University
J.D., 1999, Yale Law School
Member of the New York State Bar

Professor Serge Martinez
Assistant Professor
A.B, 1994, Brigham Young University
J.D., 1999, Yale Law School
Member of the New York State Bar
As a native New Mexican and the first Hispanic woman to be elected an ABA officer, I’m proud to support the commitment my law school has to its students, faculty, alumni, our State, and its Bar. This law school has fostered extraordinary relationships across the entire legal community.

—Mary T. Torres
Secretary
American Bar Association
Beall & Biehler, Attorneys at Law
J.D., 1992, UNM School of Law