

GEORGETOWN LAW

2026 JD ORIENTATION

FACULTY TALKS

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

Accommodation requests related to a disability should be made by August 12th, 2026 to the Office of the Dean of Students at lawdeanofstudents@georgetown.edu.

Title of Talk: How Can You Represent Those People?

Speaker: [Professor Abbe Smith](#)

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 202

Time: 10:00AM

Talk Description: Professor Smith is Director of the Criminal Defense and Prisoner Advocacy Clinic, which offers students an intensive experience in indigent criminal defense and prisoner advocacy. She will discuss her book, GUILTY PEOPLE, as well as her own evolution as a criminal defense lawyer.

Title of Talk: Law School for Libertarians and Conservatives

Speaker: [Professor Randy Barnett](#)

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 203

Time: 10:30AM

Talk Description: Whatever school they attend, libertarian and conservative law students face special challenges. In this session, Professor Barnett -- who also directs the Georgetown Center for the Constitution -- will candidly identify these challenges, and offer tips for meeting them at Georgetown Law, so you can get the most from your law school experience.

Title of Talk: Asylum and the Southern Border in the Trump and Biden Administrations

Speaker: [Professor Andrew Schoenholtz](#)

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 203

Time: 1:00PM

Talk Description: The right to have an asylum claim adjudicated is guaranteed by treaty and by the Refugee Act that Congress passed in 1980. For decades, both Republican and Democratic administrations honored the law, providing protection and safety in the United States for hundreds of thousands of people fleeing from political, religious, and other forms of persecution in their own countries. This orientation talk will provide background on U.S. asylum law, details of how the first Trump administration subverted it, an assessment of what the Biden administration did and did not do to restore the asylum system so that the nation meets its

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obligations to refugees, and the most significant ways in which the second Trump administration has ended asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border. It will also highlight roles that lawyers and law students have played and continued to play in representing asylum seekers and challenging restrictions on asylum. Professor Andrew Schoenholtz is a Faculty Director of Georgetown's asylum law clinic, the Center for Applied Legal Studies, and the Faculty Director of the Human Rights Institute.

Title of Talk: Exploring the Frontier of Generative AI's Legal Landscape

Speaker: [Professor Paul Ohm](#)

Room: McDonough Hall, Room 202

Time: 1:30PM

Talk Description: In just a few short years, the rise of generative AI systems that can produce surprisingly compelling text, images, video, and audio, has transformed the landscape of content creation. It has also raised countless fascinating and tricky legal questions about copyright, speech, privacy, the future of work, and beyond. Join Professor Ohm, a technology law scholar and computer scientist, as we navigate the emerging legal challenges and opportunities presented by generative AI.