

Gabriela Miranda
UC Hastings Law School - Fall 2015



My name is Gabriela Miranda and was raised in the San Fernando Valley. I am a first generation Mexican-American with parents who immigrated from Mexico. My first language is Spanish and I am the first in my family to attend a four-year university and graduate school. In 2012 I graduated from UC Riverside and majored in Philosophy, with a minor in Spanish. During the three years after graduation I interned at Public Counsel in their Asylum Clinic and worked at a family law and immigration law firm. Due to my lack of understanding of the law school application process I knew it was necessary to ask for help. I applied and was accepted into the UCLA Law Fellows Program and was chosen as a Sidley Austin Law Scholar. Both programs allowed me to learn the application process and greatly alleviated the costs associated with applying to schools and studying for the LSAT. I am attending UC Hastings School of Law so I may begin to pave the way for other students of color to achieve a higher education. I want to become a corporate or tax attorney so I may represent my culture in a field of law that suffers from a lack of diversity. Ultimately I want to empower individuals in my community and protect their small and/or local businesses.

LAMC has always been a big part of my life. Mission College is where my mother and I both learned English. While she took ESL classes I was at the day care center. After graduating college, Mission is where I spent countless hours studying for my LSAT. After taking the test, I attended their Paralegal courses and learned about the Pathways program from Professor Jordan. Since Mission has always provided my family and I with countless opportunities, I felt it was only right to give back and help LAMC students in any way possible.

Ray Gosen
Florida Coastal Law School - Fall 2015



I am a 24 year old Lebanese-American citizen, and my name is Ray Gosen. I grew up in the North East San Fernando Valley before moving to Beirut, Lebanon during my sophomore year of high school.

After graduating high school, I attended Notre Dame University in Lebanon and then transferred to Los Angeles Mission College (LAMC) in the Fall of 2012. While living in Lebanon, the injustices I saw motivated me to pursue a career in the public sector. One year later I was elected President of the Associated Student Organization (ASO) at LAMC. During my tenure as ASO President clubs such as the cultural connections club as well as the LGBTs club were drafted under my leadership. I also helped in the formation of the law club and was amongst the first members to become a Pathways Scholar.

Concurrently enrolled in California State University Northridge (CSUN) at the time, I obtained his Bachelors degree in Psychology in May of 2015. Through the mentorship of professors such as Jason Bordbar and attorneys such as David Jordan and Paul Seraydarian, I set my mind on attending law school and becoming a human rights attorney.

After graduating from CSUN, I transferred to Florida Coastal School of Law where I currently reside happily while I pursue my Juris Doctorate degree. I plan to move back to California after graduation where I will work and help community college students pave a pathway to law school.

Jennifer Thornton

Paralegal Graduation 2013 , Jennifer Thornton and Prof J.



My desire for a formal education in law resulted from the sum total of events: personal, academic and professional. I enrolled in Community College, to complete my general educational requirements that enabled me to transfer into a University and graduate at 50 years of age with a Bachelor's degree. My plan was to continue on to a Masters and work as a Librarian, but I began to question was this what I really wanted to do?

While I was pondering my path, I enrolled in the Paralegal program with Mission College, graduated in 2013 and was hooked on law. While exploring my options for law school, muddling through the LSAT, Professor David Jordan, Esq. Director Los Angeles Mission College Paralegal Studies Program, sent out an email invitation to "Boot Camp" at the University of West Los Angeles Law School (UWLA). I attended and was delighted to see Prof. Jordan also in attendance. The school was/is a perfect match for me because of its part-time program, tuition, practicing attorney/professors and location. I am now a 1L (first year law).

Because I have been involved as a volunteer/Board member for a non-profit that's focus is on people with barriers to employment (formally incarcerated/drug addiction) my future goal is to represent those that cannot afford an attorney. As challenging as it is, I can't stress enough how exciting the world of law is, and anyone who is interested in becoming a lawyer I say DO IT!

Andy Aguilar
Glendale College of Law - Fall 2015



Spring 2015 Graduation Ceremony
Los Angeles Mission College

My journey to law school started when I obtained a real estate sales license. While taking the courses to qualify for the RE Licensing Test I was exposed to contract law and a bit of tort law. It was very intriguing to me how the law works and how powerful it is to have knowledge of it. As a Realtor I have been able to see how important law is in everyday life.

During the time I was getting my RE license I was also going to Mission College and working on my general studies. I had the great pleasure of taking a business law class with Professor Jordan which only made my interest in law grow. After that class I decided I wanted to become an attorney. I originally planned to go to CSUN from Mission until I found a way to go straight into law school. This was exciting news to me because I was ready to start my new journey as a law school student.

I graduated from Mission in spring 2015 with three associates degrees and enrolled in Glendale University College of Law. I plan to graduate in 2019 with a Juris Doctorate degree and then take the bar exam to obtain a license to practice law. I believe in helping people and there is a real need for good lawyers, which is why I have chosen this path. I would like to work in real estate law and later have my own firm. Thank you to Mission College and especially to Professor Jordan for guiding me towards my goals.
