

# Pre- Law Workshop Getting into, College, Law School, and Beyond



## **PRE-LAW WORKSHOP – GETTING INTO COLLEGE, LAW SCHOOL, AND BEYOND**

Interface has designed this program to not only help students with an interest in law improve their chances of getting into college and law school, but to provide the students with a host of critical information, in a fun and interactive program.

The 8 sessions will help students strengthen their resumes for their college applications, understand how to get into a top law school, learn about the standardized tests for law school admissions, learn about what it takes to excel in law school from actual students at top law schools, learn about finding a position as a lawyer, understand the American legal system, and learn about fascinating areas of law.

Interface is excited that internationally-known lawyers, including a key architect of critical international global climate agreements, and an international human rights lawyer who has helped implement human rights reforms throughout the world, have agreed to speak to the students!

Students will also work on articles related to the law, will get their articles reviewed by professional writers, and will receive a list of publications where they can submit their work.

# Program Overview

## WHAT YOU GET

- Instruction by attorneys, law students, prep experts, and professional legal writers
- The class is limited to **12** students to allow for a lot of interaction and feedback. So, apply early!
- Each class will last 60 minutes.
- Students will receive guidance about activities they can participate in to strengthen their college applications.
- With the instructor's guidance, students will work on an article related to law, and will receive feedback on it, and instructions for submitting it.
- Students will receive a list of publications that accept teen writing. If students have their work accepted for publication, that's a great way to strengthen their resume!



## OPTIONAL

Students can be teaching assistants for future Pre-Law Classes, which will help them further strengthen their college resumes!



# CLASS BREAKDOWN

**Session 1:** What Students Interested in Pre-Law Must Know and Do Now. We'll discuss how high school students can figure out whether they want to study law and pursue a law career.

We'll also discuss what pre-law students can do now to improve their chances of getting admitted to a top college, We'll discuss what colleges are looking for, what kind of activities will enhance your chances of being admitted – and how to find/create those opportunities -- and common mistakes to avoid. We'll also discuss colleges that offer programs of particular interest to pre-law students.

**Session 2:** What You Need to Know in College to Get Into a Great Law School

Once you're in college, you'll need to understand what you should do over the next four years to improve your chances of getting into a top law school. We'll discuss what top law schools are looking for, including majors, grades, activities, and testing. Test prep expert Ben Paris will introduce you to the LSAT and GRE, the standardized testing for law schools (all schools accept the LSAT, and some schools allow students to substitute the GRE for the LSAT).

**Session 3:** What You Need to Know About Succeeding in Law School – Advice from Students/Recent Graduates of Top Law Schools.

Current law students and recent graduates from schools including Harvard Law School will talk about their applications, what law school is really like, and how to succeed as a law student and beyond. Graduates will also talk about the job search after law school.

**Session 4:** Overview of the American Legal System. If you're interested in studying law in America, you should have an understanding of the American legal system! In this class, students will be introduced to the American legal system. We'll discuss the state and federal court system, and how they interact.

In the second half of the program, students will work on a short piece of writing that will address an area of law, or an issue in law, that interests them. The goal is for each student to write a piece that can be submitted for publication. If students have their work published, this will greatly strengthen their college resume.

Also, to help students understand the range of options available in the legal profession – and to introduce them to fields they may be interested in -- students will hear from distinguished lawyers in various fields of legal practice. Each session will include a Q & A with the lawyers!

**Session 5:** Introduction to International Human Rights Law. Guest speaker Kathryn Zoglin has worked on human rights projects around the world, and has been a lecturer on human rights for courses at Stanford Law School and UC Berkeley. Ms. Zoglin will introduce students to international human rights law. She will also discuss her international work, including her work as the Deputy Director of the American Bar Association's Rule of Law Initiative programs in Morocco and Algeria, where she was responsible for implementing women's rights and judicial reform programs, as well as her human rights work in Jordan.

**Session 6:** Introduction to Environmental Law and Climate Change. Guest speaker Ken Alex, a key architect of critical international climate change agreements, has been called "the most consequential environment authority California has ever known." Mr. Alex was also the primary architect of the Under2 Coalition, an organization of 220 sub-national governments that are most committed to action on climate change, and will likely be key partners in implementing the most impactful solutions. Mr. Alex is currently the Director of Project Climate at UC Berkeley School of Law, and will be speaking about law and climate change.

**Session 7:** Introduction to International Business Law. This session will include a guest speaker who practices international business law. Topics addressed will include what the practice of an international business lawyer is like, and what students should focus on as undergraduates and in law school if they're interested in careers in international business law.

**Session 8:** Additional Guest Speaker and Student Writing Discussion. We will share and discuss the students' writing pieces related to law. Feedback will help students improve their writing before they submit it for publication. Based on the interests of the students in the workshop, we will also bring in a guest speaker to discuss another area of legal practice.

## **SUSAN GOODKIN – INSTRUCTOR**



Ms. Goodkin is a graduate of Harvard College, Harvard Law School and Oxford University, where she studied on a Rhodes Scholarship, the world’s most prestigious academic scholarship. Ms. Goodkin is a writer and college and graduate school consultant whose articles have been published in magazines and leading newspapers throughout the United States. As a consultant, she specializes in helping students improve their resumes for college; she has helped many of her college advisees create blogs and publish their fiction and non-fiction work, which over the past few years alone has helped her students get into colleges including Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Caltech, MIT, Princeton, and U.Penn. She has also helped students get accepted to law schools including Harvard, Columbia, U. Chicago, Duke and Berkeley. A former courtroom attorney, Susan’s presentation skills have made her a sought-after speaker, both nationally and internationally, on topics including how to get into top colleges in the United States.

## **KEN ALEX – GUEST SPEAKER**

Mr. Alex, who has been called the “the most consequential environment authority California has ever known,” is the architect of multinational agreements on climate change, as well as the primary architect of the Under2 Coalition, an organization of 220 sub-national governments (representing 43 percent of world GDP and 1.3 billion people) that will likely be key partners in implementing the most impactful solutions to climate change. Mr. Alex is currently the Director of Project Climate at UC Berkeley School of Law’s Center for Law, Energy and the Environment. In that role, he collaborates with UC Berkeley’s California-China Climate Institute, which is led by former California Governor Jerry Brown in partnership with Xie Zhenhua, China’s Special Representative for Climate Change Affairs. The California-China Institute partners with the Institute of Climate Change and Sustainable Development at Tsinghua University. Mr. Alex is a graduate of Harvard Law School.

## **KATHRYN ZOGLIN – GUEST SPEAKER**

Kathryn Zoglin has worked on human rights projects around the world, and has been a lecturer on human rights for courses at Stanford Law School and UC Berkeley. As Deputy Director of the American Bar Association’s Rule of Law Initiative programs in Morocco and Algeria, Ms. Zoglin was responsible for implementing women’s rights and judicial reform programs, as well as overseeing the first clinical legal education project in Morocco. As Freedom House’s Senior Program Manager, Middle East and North Africa, she oversaw a range of legal reform and human rights projects. Ms. Zoglin is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School.

## **BEN PARIS – GUEST SPEAKER**

Mr. Paris is an NYU Law graduate and a national test prep expert with over 25 years of experience. He is a former Curriculum Director for Kaplan Test Prep and wrote Kaplan’s LSAT course. Mr. Paris has published dozens of test prep books, trained hundreds of teachers, written thousands of question explanations, and personally taught thousands of students how to succeed on standardized tests. He is also a national writer and speaker on standardized testing.