



Georgia State University | COLLEGE OF LAW

ESTATE PLANNING & ELDER LAW

Advising Contacts:

Faculty	Administrative Staff
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Discover

Lawyers who pursue a career in these fields are primarily counselors and planners. They work with individuals and families to help plan for the use and disposition of their resources both during life and at death. Estate Planners typically help clients with the mechanisms used for managing the transfer of property (primarily wills and trusts) and also advise clients on tax planning and asset protection. Estate Planners must be familiar with intrafamily dynamics, planning for incapacity, guardianship and conservatorship, charitable giving, retirement plan benefits, and life insurance. Many lawyers combine an Estate Planning practice with an Elder Law Practice. In addition to Estate Planning, Elder Law lawyers aid older individuals and their families in health care planning, choosing housing options, and planning for the use of government benefits, such as Medicare and Social Security. Alternatively, some lawyers combine Elder Law with Special Needs Law. These lawyers aid individuals and families in navigating the complex arena of public assistance for individuals with disabilities and older individuals. Finally, in either of these fields, lawyers may choose to act primarily as litigators for contested cases.

Learn

Foundational Courses <i>These courses provide a good introduction to the fields of Estate Planning and Elder Law.</i>	Advanced Courses <i>These elective courses will provide a deeper dive into specific topics.</i>	Writing Courses <i>The following courses will hone writing skills and may qualify as a legal writing course for the College of Law's writing requirement.</i>
Wills, Trusts & Estates Law & the Elderly	Estate Planning Seminar (Wills, Trusts & Estates is a prerequisite) Estate & Gift Tax Employee Benefits	Estate Planning Seminar Law & the Elderly

<p>Clinics <i>Students who participate in a clinic are exposed to a practice area through the representation of actual clients under faculty supervision.</i></p>	<p>Externships <i>Externships place students in a wide variety of placements where they work directly under the supervision of a practicing attorney.</i></p>	
<p>Tax Clinic I & II Olmstead Disability Rights Clinic GSU Law Volunteer Clinic for Veterans</p>	<p>Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman GA Dept. of Public Health GA Advocacy Office</p>	

All course descriptions are available online through the [COL Bulletin](#).

Network

Students should seek out connections with practitioners and other students, both within Georgia State and throughout the legal community. Adjunct professors can be an excellent resource both for guidance and employment opportunities. Professional Bar associations also welcome student participation and may offer reduced membership rates for students. Some bar sections and committees look for students to provide research or other assistance.

Professional Organizations

[ABA Law Student Division](#)

[Estate Planning Section of the Atlanta Bar](#)

[Elder Law Section of the Atlanta Bar](#)

Student Organizations

Estate Planning & Wealth Management Society



Student Competitions

[ABA Annual Law Student Tax Challenge](#)

[ABA Real Property, Trust and Estate Law Student Writing Competition](#)

[ACTEC Mary Moers Wenig Student Writing Competition](#)

[American College of Tax Counsel Tannenwald Writing Competition](#)

[Florida Bar National Tax Moot Court Competition](#)