

# BLUEPRINT

The Duke Law Blueprint is a powerful set of principles for leadership growth that is integrated into every aspect of our community. The Blueprint maps a collaborative commitment by students and faculty to work together toward knowledge, application, and improvement of the law. It also underlines the expectation that your experience here will be transformative of the whole person, and not merely a means to obtain a formal credential.

Great lawyers must be intellectually disciplined, creative at problem-solving, and able to think critically. None of these skills are compromised here. But great lawyers also require a strong ethical compass, leadership skills, and the ability to adapt to unanticipated circumstances. They need to work well in teams and know how to bring out the best in others. They must be able to create a positive vision. The Duke Blueprint serves to build these capacities.

## ENGAGE *intellectually*

Interact thoughtfully with your professors and classmates both in and out of class  
Dig deeply into a subject matter in collaboration with a professor or other students, through advanced seminars and clinics, independent studies, or a capstone project  
Extend yourself through intellectual activities such as moot court, journals, symposia, and other outside speaker presentations

## EMBODY *integrity*

Be truthful, candid, and fair, even if your actions go unnoticed  
Use ambiguous situations as occasions to cultivate sound judgment and exhibit ethical responsibility  
Avoid even the appearance of impropriety

## LEAD *effectively*

Assess your own leadership style, building on its strengths and addressing its limitations  
Learn from your disappointments, and share credit for your successes  
Transform controversies at the Law School into opportunities to work constructively with others for the benefit of the community  
Train others as leaders; plan for your successors

## BUILD *relationships*

Find a mentor; be a mentor  
Seek out and get to know students, faculty, and staff with different backgrounds, nationalities, and points of view  
Involve yourself in the alumni network, both during school and after graduation  
Invest in personal relationships, knowing that they might last a lifetime

## SERVE *the community*

Volunteer each semester for at least one service activity that benefits Durham citizens and the surrounding community  
Provide at least 50 hours of pro bono legal work before you graduate  
Identify public issues that are important to you, form connections with others involved with these issues, and work to make a difference

## PRACTICE *professionalism*

Treat everyone with respect, even in the midst of disagreement  
Collaborate with others to achieve common goals; be mindful of the appropriate time and place for competition  
Take pride in your work and responsibility for your actions

## LIVE *with purpose*

Measure your success by more than your grades  
Take steps regularly to strengthen your physical and emotional well-being; strive for balance in your personal and professional lives  
Build activities into your schedule that require you to try new things  
Make deliberate personal and career choices based on your own values, needs, and goals  
Serve as a positive ambassador for the Law School and the legal profession