

A reference to the US News ranking on the law school and law subjects

The purpose of college and university ranking mainly resides to assist with the students in choosing their schools and programs at the level they wish to study. Most ranking sources nationally and globally hold a focus largely on the colleges and universities in general. As I addressed in chapters of my book “Piece to text on the monument and one,” the ranking source actually became rampant over the continents and countries from the commercial newspapers, tutoring websites, public organizations through individual scholars. One often subsists reciprocally and is accustomed to manage on the contractual basis. We are on *do ut des* and lively. However, with respect to the grace of such many educational services, student minds of man are apprehended regularly in time, browse and chuck the material presented to his desk produced to inform about the schools and programs. Without the sources, the interested persons in the schools and academics should have tried his needs whatsoever, on the zeroth whitehead. So the ranking source is thought to be generally useful for its informative and advisory role. On the other hand, men may criticize or even decry the methodology that they avow for more appropriate and fair assessment of schools and programs. The US News and World Report (USNWR) graduate programs ranking is notable that evaluates the graduate level programs uniquely and in contrast with other general subject rankings. Along with the reputation of source, this specificity enables to enjoy a number of subscribers in making an application decision about which school or program is competitive and personally fits. Given the study of national research council is most comprehensive and authoritative ranking source on research doctorates, called Ph.Ds, the ranking of professional schools, for instance, law schools, medical schools, nursing schools and on, as presented to the students in USNWR is very determinative in deciding which school I choose.

What I like to emphasize here is concerned with the user minds of given ranking information. I worked on the published book to expand the time elements and developed the insights as a wise and personified context to talk with the insipid ranked tables. More humanly and biological approach can improve our experience of lives exposed passively and unilaterally to the rankers on steering stand. This way of approach can be connected to subject rankings enriched through most of ABA approved 212 law schools in number. USNWR publishes ten subject rankings, for instance, constitutional law, international law, the kind of slate of subjects expected to study in the first year of law schools, legal writing basically and broadly to impact his or her professional lives. For the users of this information, I would give some tips for leniency and in order to digress or broaden the message of information for each fit of persons.

First, as the epistemology of subject implies, the ranking is oriented to the teaching and studying of students that is more flexible to refer rather than the general law school rankings. As the diploma of law school with JD degree can capitalize on his or professional lives, it does not go wrong to say that a weight may be given to the law school rankings, as clicked on the slot “all specialties.”

Second, the subjects can be more preciously considered when the school endorses as

marking the specialty for his concentration in the form of certificate or corner of JD diploma.

Third, the context may come as similar to graduate law applicants, such as LL.M. or research doctorates in law. Most major law schools offer the general LL.M. programs and especially in case of research doctorate programs, such as SJD or Ph.D in law. The academic finality resides in his achievement as a legal scholar at the level, not his or her thesis topic. Therefore, it is academically more than convinced to refer to the guides or sources on LL.M or graduate law study including the doctorate level. As read previously, I am also one of participants to look into the statistics and quality of law schools on the data and analysis. The article, titled “The graduate law degree holders in the legal education market,” can be one of source if the students or applicants prefer to capitalize on this general nature of diploma. Of course, the LL.M. program can be administered in the academic title of specific program, for instance, environmental or public health, which is considerable in number. Notably, Stanford Law School has the kinds of program as focused and in official nomenclature to specify its concentration, which is unlike the general LL.Ms from Wisconsin, Harvard, Berkeley and so. In case of Berkeley, however, four certificate programs are available to the students eager to highlight his focus of study on the respective fields.

Forth, the subjects are mainly concerned with the JD students as most data suggests and as accustomed to the law school system of United States. The Juris Doctorate is taught-based, and the information of subject rankings for each law school can tell in the job market, for instance, recruitment process of big law firms, or career path for each JD graduate. The survey formula to ask for top institutions on respective subjects also is prepared and dominates the kind of compassion for JD education. Therefore, the applicants for the LL.M or research doctorate firstly diversify his source of consultation with other specific ranking source, and secondarily complement with the information on their study subject.

Fifth, the study subjects are not easy to clearly identify since the legal problems or research topics require the knowledge and information from adjacent subjects. For example, my research is devoted to investigate the new system of constitutional adjudication requiring an exposure to many scholarly fields that covered critical legal theory, criminal procedure, administrative law, social insurance law, and even civil law. In this context, it is not improper to remark that one would read the information more than fittingly to address the status of each user. So the respective users can combine the rank subjects, from two through four or five, in order to suit with his study plan in selecting his LL.M or graduate law study, for example.

In this light, the following table I shows a ranking that has been yielded by combining the ranking of environmental law with that of legal writing. Same formula was applied to rank other subjects including the business/corporate law, constitutional law, and criminal law, which measure the strength of law schools in teaching to prepare all types of legal documents from court briefs, memorandum, court opinion through law review articles or texts and treatises. Therefore, the tables can be referred to not only by JD students, but also by researchers in the graduate law programs. Since some small or exclusively JD-oriented law schools are not available

of LLM or graduate study, the users of table are expected to read consciously. The ranking table has a threshold to qualify so as to be enlisted that the top 44 law schools in all specialties exclusively had been selected and ranked according to the average of two subjects. As said, it could be used secondarily to refer in deciding the schools on the application of general LL.M program. Given the junior scholarly nature of LL.M. or graduate law programs, it is considered that the legal writing program is half factored to select the schools. The column 1 and 2 transcribes the US ranking, which are added for a sum in column 3. Least number is placed at top and less number attains a high ranking correspondingly thorough the end of institution.

I. Environmental Law & Legal Writing

#	Law School	Legal Writ.	Env. Law	Rank added	averaged
1.	Georgetown University	12	10	22	11
2.	Arizona State University (O'Connor)	7	20	27	13.5
3(tied).	University of California—Irvine	11	33	44	22
3(tied).	University of North Carolina--Chapel Hill	7	37	44	22
5.	Wake Forest University	6	41	47	23.5
6.	University of Michigan--Ann Arbor	12	37	49	24.5
7.	George Washington University	44	15	59	29.5
8.	Duke University	44	19	63	31.5
9.	University of Texas—Austin	44	26	70	35
10.	Boston College	38	33	71	35.5
11.	Northwestern University (Pritzker)	24	49	73	36.5
12(tied).	Indiana University--Bloomington (Maurer)	51	31	82	41
12(tied).	New York University	76	6	82	41
12(tied).	University of Washington	51	31	82	41
15.	University of Wisconsin—Madison	51	41	92	46
16(tied).	Emory University	44	49	93	46.5
16(tied).	Ohio State University (Moritz)	38	55	93	46.5
18(tied).	University of Florida (Levin)	76	20	96	48
18(tied).	University of Minnesota	76	20	96	48
20(tied).	Stanford University	92	10	102	51
20(tied).	University of Virginia	76	26	102	51
22.	University of California--Los	101	4	105	52.5
23	Boston University	51	55	106	53
24.	Cornell University	70	41	111	55.5
25	Washington University	51	73	124	62

	in St. Louis				
26	University of California—Berkeley	127	1	128	64
27(tied).	Brigham Young University (Clark)	76	55	131	65.5
27(tied).	University of Notre Dame	76	55	131	65.5
29	University of Pennsylvania (Carey)	101	41	142	71
30	William & Mary Law School	101	41	142	71
31	Vanderbilt University	136	17	153	76.5
32	University of California—Davis	136	20	156	78
33	University of Iowa	106	51	157	78.5
34	Columbia University	154	6	160	80
35	Fordham University	101	63	164	82
36	Harvard University	167	10	177	88.5
37	University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign	101	79	180	90
38	Washington and Lee University	101	79	180	90
39	University of Georgia	101	85	186	93
40	Yale University	167	20	187	93.5
41	University of Alabama	127	63	190	95
42	University of Southern California (Gould)	114	96	210	105
43	University of Chicago	154	63	217	108.5
44	George Mason University	148	136	284	142

II. Business/Corporate Law & Legal Writing

1.	Georgetown University	12	8	20	10
2.	University of Michigan-Ann Arbor	12	12	24	12
3.	University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill	7	26	33	16.5
4.	Northwestern University	24	12	36	18
5.	Wake Forest University	6	37	43	21.5
6.	University of California-Irvine	11	37	48	24
7.	Duke University	44	12	56	28
8.	Arizona State University (O'Connor)	7	52	59	29.5
9.	University of Texas-Austin	44	17	61	30.5

10.	Boston College	38	26	64	32
11 (tied)	Boston University	51	19	70	35
11 (tied)	Emory University	44	26	70	35
13 (tied)	Indiana University— Bloomington (Maurer)	51	23	74	37
13 (tied)	George Washington University	44	30	74	37
15.	Ohio State University (Moritz)	38	37	75	37.5
16.	Washington University in St. Louis	51	26	77	38.5
17.	University of Iowa	51	30	81	40.5
18.	New York University	79	3	82	41
19.	University of Virginia	76	8	84	42
20.	Brigham Young University (Clark)	76	19	85	42.5
21.	Cornell University	70	16	86	43
22.	University of Minnesota	76	19	95	47.5
23.	Stanford University	92	5	97	48.5
24.	University of Wisconsin-Madison	51	48	99	49.5
25.	University of Pennsylvania (Carey)	101	6	107	53.5
26.	University of Chicago	101	7	108	54
27.	University of California-Los Angeles	101	8	109	54.5
28.	University of Washington	51	61	112	56
29 (tied)	University of Florida (Levin)	76	37	113	56.5
29 (tied)	University of Notre Dame	76	37	113	56.5
31.	Fordham University	101	17	118	59
32.	University of Georgia	101	23	124	62
33.	University of California-Berkeley	127	4	131	65.5

34.	University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign	101	30	131	65.5
35.	University of Southern California (Gould)	114	22	136	68
36.	William & Mary Law School	101	37	138	69
37.	Vanderbilt University	136	12	148	74
38.	Washington & Lee University	101	52	153	76.5
39.	Columbia University	154	1	155	77.5
40.	University of California-Davis	136	23	159	79.5
41.	Harvard University	167	1	168	84
42.	Yale University	167	8	175	87.5
43.	University of Alabama	127	61	188	42
44.	George Mason University	148	48	196	98

III. Constitutional Law & Legal Writing

1.	Georgetown University	12	9	21	10.5
2.	University of Michigan—Ann Arbor	12	13	25	12.5
3.	University of California—Irvine	11	19	30	15
4.	University of North Carolina — Chapel Hill	7	25	32	16
5.	Northwestern University (Pritzker)	24	13	37	18.5
6.	Arizona State University (O'Connor)	7	38	45	22.5
7.	Duke University	44	9	53	26.5
8.	University of Texas--Austin	44	11	55	7
9.	Wake Forest University	6	54	60	30
10.	Ohio State University (Moritz)	38	28	66	33
11 (tied)	Boston College	38	31	69	34.5
11 (tied)	George	44	25	69	34.5

	Washington University				
13 (tied)	Boston University	51	19	70	35
13 (tied)	Washington University in St. Louis	51	19	70	35
15.	Emory University	44	28	72	36
16.	New York University	76	5	81	40.5
17 (tied)	Cornell University	70	13	83	41.5
17 (tied)	University of Virginia	76	7	83	41.5
19 (tied)	University of Iowa	51	38	89	44.5
19 (tied)	University of Wisconsin – Madison	51	38	89	44.5
21	University of Notre Dame	76	18	94	47
22 (tied)	Indiana University – Bloomington (Maurer)	51	44	95	47.5
22 (tied)	University of Minnesota	76	19	95	47.5
22 (tied)	Stanford University	92	3	95	47.5
25.	University of Washington	51	59	110	55
26.	University of Pennsylvania (Carey)	101	11	112	56
27.	University of California-Los Angeles	101	13	114	57
28.	William & Mary Law School	101	19	120	60
29.	Fordham University	101	25	126	63
30.	Brigham Young University (Clark)	76	54	130	65
31.	University of Georgia	101	31	132	66
32.	University of California-Berkeley	127	7	134	67
33.	University of Illinois—Urbana-Champaign	101	35	136	68
34.	University of Florida (Levin)	76	67	143	71.5
35.	University of Southern California	114	31	145	72.5

	(Gould)				
36.	Washington and Lee University	101	44	145	72.5
37.	Vanderbilt University	136	17	153	76.5
38.	University of California --Davis	136	19	155	77.5
39 (tied)	University of Alabama	127	31	158	79
39 (tied)	University of Chicago	154	4	158	79
41.	Columbia University	154	5	159	79.5
42.	Yale University	167	1	168	89
43.	Harvard University	167	2	169	89.5
44.	George Mason University	148	38	186	93

IV. Criminal Law & Legal Writing

1.	Georgetown University	12	5	17	8.5
2.	University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	12	10	22	11
3.	University of California – Irvine	11	17	28	14
4.	University of North Carolina	7	22	29	14.5
5.	Wake Forest University	6	29	35	17.5
6 (tied)	Arizona State University (O'Connor)	7	33	40	20
6 (tied)	Northwestern University (Pritzker)	24	16	40	20
8.	Ohio State University	38	15	53	26.5
9.	Duke University	44	10	54	27
10.	University of Texas -- Austin	44	17	61	30.5
11.	George Washington University	44	22	66	33
12 (tied)	Emory University	44	33	77	36.5
12 (tied)	New York University	76	1	77	36.5
12 (tied)	Washington University in St. Louis	51	26	77	36.5
15 (tied)	Boston College	38	43	81	40.5

15 (tied)	Boston University	51	30	81	40.5
17.	University of Virginia	76	6	82	41
18.	University of Wisconsin – Madison	51	33	84	42
19.	Cornell University	70	17	87	43.5
20.	Stanford University	92	1	93	46.5
21 (tied)	Indiana University – Bloomington (Maurer)	51	43	94	47
21 (tied)	University of Iowa	51	43	94	47
21 (tied)	University of Washington	51	43	94	47
24.	University of Minnesota	76	22	98	49
25.	University of Pennsylvania (Carey)	101	6	107	53.5
26.	University of Florida (Levin)	76	33	109	54.5
27.	University of California-Los Angeles	101	10	111	55.5
28 (tied)	Fordham University	101	17	118	59
28 (tied)	William & Mary Law School	101	17	118	59
30.	University of Notre Dame	76	43	119	59.5
31.	University of California-Berkeley	127	3	130	65
32 (tied)	University of Georgia	101	33	134	67
32 (tied)	University of Illinois—Urbana Champaign	101	33	134	67
34 (tied)	Brigham Young University	76	68	144	72
34 (tied)	Washington and Lee University	101	43	144	72
36.	Vanderbilt University	136	10	146	73
37.	University of Southern California (Gould)	114	33	147	73.5
38.	University of California – Davis	136	22	158	79
39.	Columbia	154	6	160	80

	University				
40.	University of Chicago	154	10	164	82
41 (tied)	Harvard University	167	3	170	85
41 (tied)	University of Alabama	127	43	170	85
43.	Yale University	167	6	173	86.5
44.	George Mason University	148	74	222	111

- This reference could be revised with the suggestions and criticism. Your support with advice and suggestions will also improve my initial publication within the social media of global researchers, i.e., SSRN, Academia.edu, Researchgate.net and Philpapers.org. It will be part of my consulting reference and school guide. At any time, the comment and suggestion are welcome for the data errors or any constructive goodness. Any questions or inquiries will be directed to the author of this data sheet: Kiyoung Kim, Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, Chosun University. E-mail) kiyoungkim@chosun.ac.kr

2010 National Research Council Study

Universities of Top Ranked Programs

* The table shows the top universities according to the number of programs, whose possible highest rating is placed within the range 1st -17th in either R or S rank of most recent 2010 NRC assessment. It was prepared from the revised NRC report published in 2011.

Rank	Institution	Number of Top Programs	Rated Programs
1	Wisconsin(Madison)	59	78
2	Michigan(Ann Arbor)	57	65
3	UCLA	53	59
4	Harvard	51	52
5	UC-Berkeley	50	52
6	Cornell	48	61
6	Texas (Austin)	48	63
8	Penn State	47	65
9	Stanford	46	47
10	Yale	43	48
11	Illinois (Urbana)	42	58
12	Columbia	40	47
13	Washington(Seattle)	39	59
14	UNC (Chapel Hill)	37	51
15	Johns Hopkins	36	51
15	U. Penn	36	41
17	Duke	34	39
17	Princeton	34	35
19	Minnesota	33	69
19	Maryland	33	56
21	Chicago	31	37
22	NYU	30	37
23	UC (Davis)	30	50
24	MIT	27	27
24	Purdue	27	46
24	U. Arizona	27	55
27	UC (San Diego)	25	33
28	Pittsburg	24	38
28	Indiana(Bloomington)	24	44
30	Cal Tech	23	24
30	Michigan State	23	54
30	Northwestern	23	31
33	Brown	22	33
33	Washington(St. Louis)	22	35
35	U. Georgia	21	48
36	Texas A&M	20	46
36	Colorado	20	47

38	Florida	19	60
38	SUNY(Stony Brook)	19	32
38	USC	19	46
38	UC (Irvine)	19	36
42	Rutgers (New Bruin.)	18	46
42	UC (Santa Barbara)	18	32
44	Carnegie Mellon	17	22
45	Iowa	16	49
45	Rochester	16	31
45	Emory	16	27
48	Georgia Tech	15	22
48	Vanderbilt	15	31
48	Virginia	15	38
51	Virginia Polytech	15	34
52	Boston Univ.	14	39
53	Connecticut	13	57
53	LSU and Agri.	13	36
53	North Carolina State	13	42
53	Oregon State	13	40
53	Washington St.	13	37
58	Arizona State	12	26
58	Massachusetts	12	39
58	Baylor College Med.	12	12
61	Case Western Res.	11	30
61	UC (San Francisco)	11	12
63	Illinois (Chicago)	10	34
63	Kentucky	10	43
63	Missouri (Columbia)	10	42
63	Nebraska (Lincoln)	10	29
63	Rice Univ.	10	27
63	UC (Riverside)	10	28
69	Rensselaer Polytech	9	17
69	SUNY (Buffalo)	9	33
69	Texas (Houston)	9	12
72	Miami	8	26
72	Oregon Health & Sci.	8	13
72	Utah	8	35
75	Brandeis	7	18
75	Delaware	7	27
75	Hawaii (Manoa)	7	31
75	Kansas State	7	27
75	Notre Dame	7	16
80	CUNY	6	36
80	Dartmouth	6	11
80	Florida State	6	25
80	Texas (Dallas)	6	20
84	Alabama (Birming.)	5	34

84	Arkansas	5	24
84	Bowling GSU	5	10
84	Cincinnati	5	28
84	Kansas	5	41
84	New Mexico	5	26
84	Oregon	5	21
84	Syracuse	5	24
84	Tufts	5	23
93	Boston College	4	15
93	Central Florida	4	15
93	Georgetown	4	16
93	George Washington	4	20
93	Louisiana-La Fayette	4	4
93	SUNY (Binghamton)	4	23
93	Tennessee	4	37
93	Thomas Jefferson	4	6
93	Wake Forest	4	11
102	College Wil & Mary	3	6
102	Colorado State	3	22
102	Idaho	3	13
102	Loyola U. Chicago	3	19
102	Memphis	3	14
102	Mississippi State	3	21
102	S. Carolina (Colum.)	3	25
102	SUNY (Albany)	3	25
102	Tulane	3	15
102	South Florida	3	20
112	Catholic Univ.	2	18
112	Clemson Univ.	2	24
112	Drexel Univ.	2	20
112	Georgia State	2	17
112	Leigh Univ.	2	16
112	Miami Univ.	2	8
112	Michigan Tech	2	12
112	New Jersey Tech	2	14
112	New Mexico State	2	15
112	North Dakota State	2	15
112	Ohio Univ.	2	11
112	Rutgers (Piscataway)	2	7
112	Temple Univ.	2	26
112	Alaska (Fairbank)	2	8
112	Houston	2	26
112	Rhode Island	2	8
112	San Diego State	2	8
112	Med. & Den (New J.)	2	7
130	Adelphi Univ.	1	1
130	American Univ.	1	6

130	Auburn Univ.	1	30
130	Baylor Univ.	1	9
130	Claremont	1	9
130	Clark Univ.	1	7
130	Cold Spring Harbor	1	1
130	Drew Univ.	1	1
130	Graduate The. Union	1	1
130	Indiana/Purdue	1	14
130	Kent State	1	17
130	Maryland (Baltimore)	1	1
130	Maryland (Bal. Coun.)	1	14
130	Maryland (East Sho.)	1	1
130	Mt. Sinai Sch. Med.	1	1
130	Rockefeller Univ.	1	1
130	Texas Tech	1	15
130	Univ. Dayton	1	5
130	New Hampshire	1	17
130	N. Carolina (Char.)	1	5
130	North Texas	1	22
130	Oklahoma	1	25
130	Univ. Vermont	1	11
130	Wisconsin (Mil.)	1	11
130	Wyoming	1	4
130	Wayne State	1	33
130	Wright state	1	4
157	Clarkson Univ.	0	4
157	Cleveland State	0	6
157	Duquesne Univ.	0	2
157	Florida Atlantic	0	9
157	Florida Tech	0	4
157	Florida International	0	18
157	Fordham Univ.	0	10
157	Hebrew Union (Jew.)	0	1
157	Howard Univ.	0	14
157	Illinois Tech	0	11
157	Loma Linda Univ.	0	6
157	Marquette Univ.	0	11
157	Montana State	0	10
157	NY Medical College	0	1
157	Northeastern Univ.	0	16
157	Northern Illinois	0	10
157	Old Dominion Univ.	0	15
157	Rutgers (Newark)	0	2
157	Seton Hall Univ.	0	1
157	Southern Illinois	0	21
157	Southern Methodist	0	10
157	SUNY Heal. Sci. Cntr.	0	7

157	Stevens Ins. Tech.	0	1
157	Tennessee Theo.	0	1
157	Texas Christian Univ.	0	5
157	Uninformed Service	0	4
157	Univ. Akron	0	12
157	Univ. Alabama	0	18
157	Alabama (Huntsville)	0	11
157	Univ. Dallas	0	3
157	Uni. Louisville	0	16
157	Massachusetts (Wor.)	0	6
157	Univ. Mississippi	0	15
157	Missouri (Kan. City)	0	12
157	Missouri (Rolla)	0	13
157	Montana (Missoula)	0	12
157	Nevada (Reno)	0	22
157	UNC (Greensboro)	0	2
157	North Dakota	0	7
157	Southern Mississippi	0	12
157	Univ. Toledo	0	17
157	Utah State	0	14
157	Virginia Common.	0	20
157	Western Michigan	0	17

- The above table will be discussed and incorporated into the research work on the understanding and improvement of higher education. At any time, the comment and suggestion are welcome for the data errors or any constructive goodness. Any questions or inquiries will be directed to the author of this data sheet: Kiyoung Kim, Professor of Law, Faculty of Law, Chosun University. E-mail) kiyoungkim@chosun.ac.kr