

ABOUT US

Launched in 2017, the Grunin Center for Law and Social Entrepreneurship is a global leader in the fields of law and social entrepreneurship. The Grunin Center is advancing a global movement that creates new ways for law and lawyers to drive positive change in the world.

The mission of the Grunin Center is to enhance the community of lawyers and legal institutions purposefully engaged in social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and sustainable development, and to accelerate their effective participation in these fields.

To fulfill this mission, the Grunin Center is uniquely positioned to bridge the gaps between legal practitioners, scholars, educators, and law students, as the Center:

EDUCATES students and lawyers about legal issues;

LEADS path-breaking conversations and provides thought leadership about how legal innovations and new approaches to law, policy, and legal education can advance the fields;

INVESTS in the success of students who are interested in applying their legal skills to the fields of social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and sustainable development; and

CELEBRATES the contributions of legal practitioners, scholars, and students to the fields.



Grunin Center
for Law and Social
Entrepreneurship
NYU School of Law

Advancing a global movement that creates new ways for law and lawyers to drive positive change in the world

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Course and Clinic

The Grunin Center is expanding NYU Law's curricular offerings to incorporate more themes of social entrepreneurship, impact investing, and sustainable development.

NEW COURSE: Launching and Managing Impact Investment

Funds: Co-taught by Professor Deborah Burand and Adjunct Professor Ana Demel starting in fall 2024, this course focuses on the business terms, structures, documentation, and legal issues of impact investment funds. This experiential course uses a series of five case studies that have been created to explore the life of an impact investment fund sponsored by Habitat for Humanity International. Students will engage in simulated negotiations and contract drafting exercises to learn how to analyze and effectively deal with the legal issues that arise in the launch and management of an impact investment fund. This course requires Corporations as a prerequisite. For further information, visit the course website.

International Transactions Clinic (ITC): Launched by Professor Deborah Burand in the fall of 2015, the International Law Transactions Clinic offers students the opportunity to provide legal services to clients that are conducting cross-border transactions in emerging markets. The bulk of the ITC's clients include social enterprises and impact investors. The clinic includes a fieldwork component that allows students to receive hands-on training from practicing attorneys as they represent clients of the ITC. Another component of the ITC involves students meeting in a seminar twice a week. In these seminar meetings, the ITC concentrates on teaching students skills that are both critically important to their professional development as they enter into practice areas that involve international transactions, and to support their client fieldwork.



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Other Student Opportunities

In addition to clinic and course offerings, NYU Law students have opportunities to engage in a range of social entrepreneurship activities supported by the Grunin Center:

White & Case Social Entrepreneurship Summer Internship (1L): The Grunin Center supports up to two summer internships for students who have completed their 1L year. Interns are placed with either a social enterprise or impact investing organization, and work under the supervision of the organization's in-house counsel.

Tepper Fellows: Social Enterprise Law Research Assistants: The Grunin Center selects up to five paid student Research Assistants (Tepper Fellows) to maintain and expand the Social Enterprise Law Tracker, a visualization of US laws and regulations that impact social entrepreneurship. Tepper Fellows also publish an annual report, Mapping the State of Social Enterprise and the Law, that evaluates the state of social enterprise and the law in the US.

Social Enterprise and Startup Law Group (SE-SL): A student-run organization focused on social innovation, entrepreneurship and venture capital, and the lawyer's role in these spaces, SE-SL organizes educational events and workshops, career panels, and networking opportunities for NYU Law students, past and present. The Grunin Center provides financial support to help SE-SL students participate in the annual alternative break trip, enabling students to connect with social entrepreneurs around the globe.

The Grunin Center also provides NYU Law students with an interest in social entrepreneurship with scholarship opportunities.

All NYU Law students are invited to participate in our two day annual conference in June convening over 300 leaders in the fields of social entrepreneurship and impact investing. Additionally, students are invited to join webinars and other events hosted throughout the year by the Grunin Center.

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