

00:00 Okay.
00:01 All right. So I, I wanna be mindful
00:02 of everybody's time this evening.
00:04 So, um, we'll go ahead and get started.
00:07 Um, we are gonna quickly start with introductions
00:10 so you know, who's on the screen this evening,
00:12 so you get a sense of of, of the folks in the room.
00:14 And then I'm gonna go over a couple of logistical pieces
00:17 with regards to the webinar this evening,
00:19 and then I'm gonna pass it along to our special panelists.
00:22 So I'll start with myself. My name is Eric Gollard.
00:26 I use he, him pronouns.
00:27 I'm the Associate Director
00:28 of undergraduate admissions here in Suffolk University's
00:31 Office of Undergraduate Admissions.
00:33 I am here as your mc this evening,
00:35 so I am not the star of the show.
00:37 Um, but I will be monitoring the chat this evening
00:39 and helping with questions.
00:41 So with that, I'm gonna go ahead and pass it over to Sharon.
00:45 Hello everyone. And welcome. I'm Sharon Lindsay.
00:48 I'm the Assistant Dean
00:50 of Student Academic Affairs in the College of Arts
00:52 and Sciences, as well as the Director
00:55 of Honors in the College of Arts and Sciences.
00:58 Welcome. Oh,
01:01 and I'll pass it on to Dean Perlman.
01:04 Thank you, Sharon. I'm Andy Perlman.
01:06 I'm the Dean at Suffolk University Law School.
01:08 Welcome to you all off to Anthony.
01:12 Good evening. My name's Anthony Orlando.
01:14 I'm the Dean of Admissions at Suffolk University Law School.
01:20 Great. Thank you so much for introducing yourselves.
01:23 I'm so excited to have some real powerhouses from Suffolk
01:26 Law in the room this evening.
01:27 Um, so just one quick thing about this.
01:30 Well, a couple quick things.
01:31 First of all, as you probably noticed when you join,
01:33 we are recording this session this evening.
01:35 So, uh, we will be sending this recording out to you all.
01:38 So if you like taking notes like me, feel free
01:40 to take notes throughout the session,
01:42 but also know that there is no test at the end.
01:44 Um, so we'll send this to you so you don't have
01:46 to remember everything.
01:48 Um, the other thing is that we will be using the q
01:50 and a function this evening,
01:52 and that's how we're gonna go ahead
01:53 and feel all of your questions.
01:54 Please, as questions pop into your head
01:57 as folks are talking, please go ahead and, and,
02:00 and, uh, jump those into the chat.
02:02 We'll go ahead and have a q

02:04 and a session at the end of the presentation,
02:06 at which time we'll kind of go
02:08 through all of those questions.
02:09 Um, so those are my little kind
02:11 of housekeeping pieces this evening.
02:13 So I'm gonna go ahead
02:14 and turn it over to Dean Perlman to start us off.
02:18 Thank you so much, Eric.
02:20 And so I'm gonna talk for maybe about 10 minutes
02:21 or so to give you a little bit of, uh, history
02:24 of Suffolk University, which in a lot of respects
02:27 is the history of Suffolk Law.
02:28 They are one and the same for a reason that I'll mention.
02:31 But before I jump into that,
02:32 I just wanna say congratulations.
02:34 Congratulations on your admission to Suffolk University.
02:38 Uh, it is such a terrific opportunity, uh, for you
02:42 to be a part of this community, uh, community
02:44 and for us, uh, to welcome you.
02:46 I have been a part of the Suffolk University community
02:49 for 23 years, 14 years as, uh, as a professor,
02:53 and now nine years as Dean.
02:54 And it is a very special institution.
02:57 So I congratulate you on your admission.
03:00 Um, and, and this is a really exciting time for us
03:02 because we have commencement this weekend.
03:04 So the opportunity to welcome people who will be joining us,
03:07 or we hope will be joining us this fall, um,
03:10 as we are saying farewell
03:11 to our graduating students this weekend.
03:13 Just kind of a wonderful, uh, bookend, uh, to the,
03:17 the Suffolk University experience.
03:18 So let me jump in
03:20 and tell you that as the dean of the law school,
03:23 I am especially delighted to welcome undergraduates
03:27 and their families and loved ones, whoever is listening in
03:30 with you, um, to Suffolk University.
03:31 'cause as I said before, the university
03:34 actually started off with Suffolk Law.
03:37 We're one of the few universities in the country
03:40 that started as a law school.
03:42 And so much of who we are today is basically a product
03:45 of the seeds that were planted back then.
03:48 And it was 118 years ago, uh, in 1906
03:51 that someone named Gleason Archer founded Suffolk Law and,
03:56 and Suffolk University with an in a, a vision
04:00 that was both innovative and practical.
04:02 It was innovative
04:03 because at that time we started off as an evening school.
04:07 It gave people an opportunity to go
04:08 to school at night while they worked during the day.
04:11 Um, and it was also innovative
04:13 because of the students we serve.
04:16 We were largely focused on, at that time, immigrants

04:19 and the children of immigrants people were the first
04:21 generation in their families to go to college.
04:24 And in terms of immigrants
04:25 and children of immigrants, they were largely prevented from
04:28 attending other law schools in the area
04:30 because of who they were or where they were from.
04:33 The other, uh, facet
04:34 of Suffolk founding was our focus on a practical orientation,
04:39 ensuring that our graduates could hit the ground running
04:41 and, and be ready
04:43 to work from day one and, and make an impact.
04:46 Now, a lot has changed, obviously in the last 118 years.
04:50 We started off a law school
04:52 and now we are part of a vibrant university with, uh,
04:56 students from all around the world.
04:57 But the founding mission that I described, it's really true,
05:01 uh, today, both in terms
05:02 of the students we attract from every possible background
05:05 and circumstance, but also on the practical orientation
05:10 of our education, which is really
05:12 what you'll find throughout the experience at Suffolk.
05:15 I'm, I'm gonna talk a little bit about the law school,
05:18 but there are some opportunities here for undergraduates
05:22 to participate in the work of the law school.
05:25 So, uh, just by way of background, in terms
05:28 of practical focus, uh, I, I know there's a, a, a lot
05:32 of very understandable, um, misgivings about US news
05:37 and World Report rankings
05:38 and the methodological problems that it has.
05:40 But, um, it is worth noting
05:42 that they do get one thing right,
05:43 at least from my perspective, which is
05:45 that they rank law schools in four different
05:48 practical skills areas.
05:50 The kind of stuff I was talking about at the beginning, the
05:53 practice orientation and those areas are clinical training
05:56 where students have an opportunity
05:58 to represent real clients while they're in law school,
06:01 under the supervision of our faculty, legal writing,
06:04 dispute resolution and trial adv advocacy.
06:07 And there's only one law school in the country that
06:11 for nine years in a row, has been ranked in the top 20%
06:15 of all four of those skills categories.
06:19 And of course, I wouldn't mention that there was only one
06:21 unless that one was Suffolk, which it is.
06:24 Um, so, uh, the other aspect of it
06:26 that we're very excited about is,
06:28 as I'm sure you are all thinking about,
06:30 you want an education that prepares you not just
06:33 for the jobs of the past, but the jobs of the future.
06:36 Uh, and we have been focused on not just traditional skills,
06:39 but future oriented skills.
06:40 And that's true not only in law school,
06:42 but the rest of the university.

06:44 And so we're proud that, for example, at the law school,
06:47 we have been ranked on two consecutive occasions
06:49 as having the number one legal tech program in the country.
06:54 So for those of you who might like hockey, uh,
06:57 you may know this quote from hockey Great Wayne Gretzky,
07:00 who once said, it's important to skate to
07:02 where the puck is going and not where it is right now.
07:05 And I can tell you that that's true of higher education too,
07:08 um, where skating to where the puck is going
07:10 and not where it is.
07:12 And we wanna make sure that you're prepared for that.
07:14 And we've been thinking along those lines long
07:16 before anything called chat, GBT.
07:19 We wanna make sure that our graduates are practice
07:21 ready across the board.
07:23 And just to be clear, the programs
07:25 that I described are not just for law students.
07:28 Um, in the past, undergraduates have participated in our
07:31 Family advocacy clinic, our Human rights
07:34 and Indigenous Peoples Clinic, our legal innovation
07:37 and tech law program,
07:39 and serving as investigators, researchers,
07:42 and even coders and designers.
07:43 So just a few examples of
07:45 how undergraduate students have been involved in those ways.
07:49 Um, and others, uh, in the College of Arts
07:51 and Sciences, students have assisted immigrants
07:54 with citizenship applications alongside our law students
07:58 who are in the Immigrant Justice Clinic
08:00 and our housing discrimination testing program, college
08:03 of Arts and Sciences students have been trained
08:06 and hired as Undercover Housing Discrimination testers.
08:10 They go in and they, um, they try to rent an apartment
08:14 and we see if there's any basis for, uh, an allegation
08:18 of discrimination, uh, against a landlord or a broker.
08:20 And our undergraduates are gaining skills
08:22 and fact investigation and documentation
08:25 and learning even about fair housing.
08:28 Uh, we also have communications
08:29 and journalism students who have had a chance
08:32 to work on a documentary called Roxbury about housing
08:35 discrimination in collaboration
08:37 with the Law School's Housing
08:38 Discrimination Testing Program.
08:40 And then finally, student members of Suffolk in the hub work
08:44 with the Accelerator to Practice program,
08:46 which is at the law school
08:47 and our Housing Discrimination testing program to design
08:51 a fair housing marketing campaign.
08:53 So there are lots of ways for undergraduates
08:56 to get involved, even if you're never gonna go
08:58 to law school, but certainly if you do,
09:00 it's an even better opportunity.
09:02 And, um, it's no surprise that

09:03 with this focus on a practical experience
09:06 that our graduates, Suffolk law graduates have gone on
09:09 to some really remarkable positions, uh,
09:12 throughout not only the legal profession, but beyond,
09:15 but in the judiciary.
09:16 Just as an example, when you walk into a courtroom in
09:19 Massachusetts, there is a more than 25% chance
09:23 that the judge sitting on the bench graduated, uh,
09:26 from Suffolk, several members of the federal judiciary,
09:29 including a recent appointee to the US Court of Appeals
09:32 for the First Circuit, which is the court right
09:34 below the United States Supreme Court down in Rhode Island.
09:37 'cause it's not just Massachusetts.
09:39 Uh, it's actually 45% of the judges
09:42 in Rhode Island graduated from Suffolk, um,
09:45 with multiple members of their, uh, Supreme Court
09:48 and legislators.
09:50 Dozens of legislators both have graduated from Suffolk
09:53 undergrad, uh, in law school,
09:55 including a recent house Majority Leader,
09:57 who is now the ambassador to Ireland
10:00 for the United States is a, is a Suffolk grad.
10:03 Um, and in Rhode Island in one recent year, remarkably,
10:07 we had Suffolk Law alumni who were the Speaker of the House,
10:10 the House Majority Leader and the Senate Majority Leader.
10:13 And in that year was also the chief justice
10:15 of the Rhode Island Supreme Court.
10:16 And there was a Suffolk Law alum running for governor.
10:18 So we almost, he didn't win,
10:20 but if he had, we would've had all three branches
10:22 of government being led by Suffolk Law Alumni,
10:24 which is pretty amazing.
10:26 And, and so many other areas too, private practice,
10:29 you could look at, uh, lawyers at the, kind
10:32 of the leading national law firms.
10:33 And if you look at their partnership,
10:35 you will find Suffolk Law alums.
10:37 If you look in business
10:38 and in-house, which are lawyers working inside
10:41 of companies from Google to the Red Sox,
10:43 you're gonna find Suffolk Law alum.
10:45 We had a visit about a year
10:47 and a half ago from the global head of legal for TikTok.
10:51 Uh, and he's a Suffolk Law alum.
10:53 In fact, he's winning our law school alumni, uh,
10:56 achievement award at our reunion next month.
10:59 We had a sports law program from, uh,
11:01 that included the General Council of Draftings,
11:03 uh, Suffolk Law alum.
11:04 That program was open to the whole community,
11:06 including undergraduates, uh, the General Council of Zoom,
11:10 newly appointed about a month ago graduate of Suffolk.
11:13 Um, so lots of fabulous alumni for everyone
11:18 to tap into, including undergrads.

11:20 And the programming is just top notch.
11:23 So I'm gonna, uh, close here with just something I,
11:26 I hear a lot from alumni.
11:29 'cause as part of my job as Dean, I go out
11:32 and I meet with alumni, uh, and raise money,
11:36 and I sit down with them and they tell me, almost
11:39 invariably, at some point during the conversation,
11:42 they will some say something along the lines of, uh,
11:45 if it weren't for Suffolk, I never would have been able to.
11:48 And then they go on and tell me a story
11:50 of remarkable success, whether they were an undergrad
11:53 or from the law school.
11:54 They went on to achieve success in business, in law,
11:59 in nonprofit work, in government, uh,
12:02 in civil rights, you name it.
12:04 And they attribute their success to getting
12:06 that foundational start at Suffolk with
12:09 that practical orientation
12:12 that we've had from the beginning.
12:14 So that's one of the reasons I am so excited about Suffolk,
12:17 why I'm so excited that you've been admitted
12:19 and hopefully will be coming.
12:21 Um, I'm gonna hang on.
12:22 Well, Dean Orlando talks about the admissions process at the
12:25 law school, but you really are welcome
12:27 to email me at any time.
12:30 If you have questions about the law school,
12:32 I'd be happy to answer them.
12:33 This is a community that really is responsive
12:36 to our students' needs, and I wanna be responsive to yours.
12:40 So thanks again for having me.
12:42 I'm gonna turn it over now to Dean Orlando.
12:45 All right, thank you very much, Dean Perman.
12:48 I just wanted to echo, um, Dean Perlman's, congratulations
12:51 to all of the admitted students,
12:54 and thank you for being here
12:55 to learn a little bit more about, uh, the, the law school.
12:59 And I hope that you do consider joining us, um, in,
13:02 in four years, or perhaps even in three years.
13:06 And I'll get into that, um,
13:07 three plus three option in just a little bit.
13:10 But I wanted to continue, uh,
13:12 Dean Proman Pearlman's overview, uh,
13:15 kinda a big picture overview of the law school,
13:18 following up on his remarks
13:20 before about how we are the only law school in the country
13:25 that has ranked in the top 20%
13:28 in these four skills areas, um, for nine years in a row now,
13:32 legal writing clinics, dispute resolution
13:35 and trial advocacy.
13:37 So we are top ranked in those areas, a very specific stat,
13:41 but one that we like to, to share with our,
13:43 our students as well.
13:44 And as Dean Perlman mentioned, uh, ranked number one

13:47 for legal technology, uh, for two years in a row actually
13:52 by, uh, pre-Law Magazine.
13:55 Um, I do want to share a little bit about our concentrations
13:59 and areas of focus as well.
14:01 Suffolk Law is a large law school.
14:04 We actually have about 400 students in the incoming class
14:08 each year, and that means we do offer a lot in terms
14:12 of our concentrations and areas of focus.
14:15 So you can see these six concentrations here
14:18 and even longer list for the areas of focus.
14:21 So I'll let you kind of digest these areas as well.
14:25 I think one thing to keep in mind too is
14:27 that you do not need to pursue a concentration
14:32 or area focus per se in law school.
14:35 Everybody earns the same degree, the Juris doctor or a jd.
14:41 If you do decide to pursue a concentration, it's
14:44 because you already are kind of focused on
14:45 that practice area
14:47 and you're pretty sure you want to go into that area.
14:50 And perhaps it shows a prospective future employer
14:52 that you have taken all those courses
14:55 and clinical offerings in a certain area
14:57 and have that expertise.
14:59 Still, other students might dabble from different areas
15:02 of the curriculum to try things on for size
15:05 and see what's the best, the best fit for them
15:07 down the road in terms of practice areas,
15:10 work-life balance, et cetera.
15:12 But I just want to emphasize the, the number of offerings
15:15 that we have here at Suffolk Law.
15:17 We also have a number of flexible degree programs.
15:20 So the traditional Juris doctor
15:22 or JD that is, uh, a three year full-time program,
15:27 or four year part-time offering.
15:30 Um, and we also have these kind of flexible options
15:33 for an accelerated JD or a hybrid jd.
15:36 So in the accelerated JD students actually begin in a
15:40 smaller cohort In the summer term in May,
15:43 it's usually a group of 20 or 25 students.
15:46 And in this accelerated pathway,
15:48 you can actually knock one year off a typical timeframe.
15:53 Again, it's usually three years full-time,
15:55 or four years part-time.
15:57 But because you're in school year round,
15:59 it does take one year off that typical timeframe.
16:03 So you get there a little bit faster, which is nice.
16:06 The hybrid option, um,
16:08 after you finish your first 30 credits in person
16:12 and you earn a GPA of 3.0
16:14 or better in those what we call one L classes,
16:17 your first year law classes, you can complete the remainder
16:21 of your classes, uh,
16:23 or your credits, 54 credits totally online
16:26 or a mix of in-person and online classes if you prefer.

16:32 So again, some, some flexible options for you to consider.
16:36 And we also offer a number of dual degree programs.
16:40 I know there's a lot of information here on this slide.
16:43 Uh, I don't focus too, too much right now on the timeframe.
16:46 I just wanna mention the dual degrees, of course.
16:48 The MBA is the Master of Business Administration.
16:51 We do have an LLM an Advanced Master's in Taxation.
16:55 Uh, we have a Master's in public administration,
16:58 an MS in finance.
17:00 The MS C-G-C-J-S is a master's in
17:04 Crime and Justice studies.
17:06 And lastly, a master's
17:07 of science in law life sciences as well.
17:11 So some opportunities to combine the Juris doctor
17:13 with a master's as well to help
17:15 to help you focus in a certain area.
17:19 Um, as Dean Perlman mentioned as well,
17:21 law school is all about experiential learning.
17:23 So here is a list of 13 in-house clinics
17:28 that we offer right here at the law school.
17:31 Also, keep in mind we have a, a number of opportunities
17:35 right in the, in our area.
17:37 Uh, we have the great privilege of being located.
17:40 As you know, in the heart of Boston, uh,
17:43 we're a block away from the Massachusetts State House.
17:46 We're super close to the federal
17:48 and state courthouses, the major law firms, NGOs.
17:52 Uh, there are over a hundred different
17:54 externship placement sites.
17:56 So you will get your feet wet in law school
17:58 and start to practice
18:00 as a student attorney, which is very exciting.
18:04 Um, and also as Dean Pearlman mentioned,
18:07 we have one in four, uh,
18:09 judges right here in mass are Suffolk Law alums,
18:12 our 24,000 plus grads form a,
18:16 an amazing alumni network.
18:18 And as you can see from the list here, they're in a number
18:20 of different practice areas, which is very exciting.
18:24 I do want to segue
18:26 and get into, I think perhaps what might be interesting
18:29 to all of you at this stage in your process is
18:32 to hear more about our three plus three
18:34 program that we offer.
18:36 So as the slide says, it says A faster pathway
18:40 to earn the Juris doctor in six years instead
18:43 of the typical pathway of doing four years
18:46 of undergraduate study, plus three additional years
18:50 of law school if you were in the full-time program.
18:54 So how this actually works is typically if you were doing
18:57 that usual four plus three pathway
19:00 and you wanted to go straight onto law school afterwards,
19:03 you would apply to law school
19:05 during your senior year of undergrad.

19:08 But in three plus three you apply to law school
19:10 during your junior year.
19:12 Uh, the application goes live on September 1st every year
19:17 for the following fall start date.
19:19 So you would start your application process
19:21 during your junior year.
19:23 And if you're admitted, as the slide says, we'd skip over
19:26 that senior year
19:28 and begin those one l again,
19:30 the first year law classes here at the law school,
19:33 then once you successfully complete all those courses,
19:36 those classes, the credits transfer back as undergraduate
19:41 electives and then you earn your bachelor's degree
19:44 after your first year of law school.
19:46 So the cool thing about that is you actually do walk at
19:49 commencement with all of your peers,
19:51 your undergraduate peers
19:53 who are doing more typical four year programs here
19:56 at the university.
19:58 Um, also one eligibility note for transfer students.
20:01 Um, there's a credit hour residency requirement.
20:05 So if you transfer into Suffolk Law, you do have
20:08 to complete 45 credits at the undergraduate level
20:11 before going on to three plus three at the law school.
20:15 So I, I do wanna make clear also
20:18 what the three plus three program is not,
20:21 it's not a guaranteed admission program.
20:24 Um, it doesn't set aside a spot in the entering class.
20:27 You still have to meet certain requirements
20:29 and go through the entire application process.
20:33 I won't spend, uh,
20:34 time this evening talking about too much in terms
20:37 of the law school application process
20:40 because that's three years down the road for you if you opt
20:43 to pursue the three plus three program, um,
20:46 or four years if you do a more typical
20:48 four plus three pathway.
20:50 But if you do have any questions, I'd be happy to talk about
20:52 that anyway during the q and a at the end.
20:56 So there are elevated entrance requirements for this
21:00 and uh, of course there, there should be.
21:02 It's a very competitive program.
21:04 You get to save a year of time
21:06 and a year of tuition if you do three plus three
21:10 because you skip over again your senior year of undergrad.
21:14 So you're not paying that year of undergraduate tuition.
21:17 You're only paying three years undergrad tuition
21:20 and three years of law school tuition.
21:22 So there all these heightened criteria, 3.5 QM GPA,
21:27 um, as well as a 3.5 GPA in your major
21:31 is what's required at the undergraduate level to apply.
21:35 And you do have to earn a score on the LSAT or other test.
21:40 We also accept the GRE
21:42 and a newer assessment, uh, called the JD next,

21:46 but you do have to be at the median score
21:49 or above for the previous years entering class.
21:54 Uh, and I'm also going to ask, um, Eric, if he could
21:57 to drop in the chat a link to the website
22:01 because there are some additional criteria on the website,
22:05 but I want to highlight kind
22:06 of those main ones here on this slide.
22:11 So that is kind of a quick overview of three plus three.
22:14 Before we get into the questions, I do want to emphasize
22:16 that one of the most important parts of three plus three is
22:21 to plan ahead and to plan carefully.
22:24 If you wanna do three plus three, it does take a lot of, of
22:29 that planning to sit down with your advisor here at Suffolk,
22:32 your undergraduate advisor
22:34 and say, Hey, I'm interested in this
22:36 three plus three program.
22:38 I'm, I wanna go to law school
22:40 and this would be a great program for me.
22:43 Can we go through the three years
22:45 that I have at the undergraduate level
22:48 and the major that I'm pursuing,
22:49 and kind of map out what those three years look like
22:53 and confirm that you are able to fit in all of your courses
22:57 for your major, all of the general education requirements
23:02 as well, and do that neatly into three years of study.
23:05 And if you're able to do that, then you're able
23:08 to do three plus three.
23:09 Basically you're staying away from taking any electives, um,
23:14 because it's your one L classes
23:17 that you take in your first year of law school, again,
23:20 that transfer back as those electives
23:22 to the undergraduate side.
23:24 So you're really kind of filling up your schedule
23:26 for three years with only courses
23:27 or mostly courses working toward your major
23:31 and your gen eds.
23:32 Now that might not fit neatly with every major at Suffolk,
23:37 um, unless you perhaps have some
23:41 advanced standing coming in.
23:42 You might have some advanced placement ap, um,
23:46 international Baccalaureate IB
23:49 or some dual enrollment credits coming in
23:52 that give you a little bit
23:54 of a headstart working toward your major.
23:56 So perhaps a, a major that wouldn't
23:58 otherwise fit for three plus three all of a sudden does
24:01 because of that advanced standing.
24:03 But this is why it's so important to meet with your advisor.
24:07 Uh, I say early and often
24:09 and kinda remind them you're looking ahead
24:10 to three plus three and just confirm that you're in line
24:14 to take advantage of this opportunity.
24:16 And of course, we're always happy here at the law school
24:19 to meet with you during your time as an undergraduate

24:23 and talk to you more about the three plus three
24:25 and answer any questions that you might have.
24:28 In fact, we have informational sessions every year, um,
24:32 about the three plus three program
24:34 for interested undergraduate students.
24:36 So I look forward to seeing you here, uh,
24:39 once you're on campus as an undergrad as well.
24:42 Uh, but that's the end of my presentation
24:45 and to moderate, I guess the q
24:47 and a, I'll turn things back over to Eric.
24:51 Amazing. Thank you.
24:52 And before you, the ghost head talking.
24:55 But Anthony, if you wouldn't mind, stop sharing
24:56 and we'll, we'll come all back together.
24:58 Sure. Uh, amazing.
25:01 Alright, welcome everyone to the q and a session.
25:04 I'm so excited that we actually already have, um, some,
25:08 some questions to kind of throw out into,
25:11 um, the folks that are joining us.
25:12 So the first question that I have is kind
25:15 of a little bit about the demographics
25:17 of Suffolk law students.
25:18 Um, there is a specific question in terms of percentage
25:21 of women and what does their success look like
25:23 post-graduation, but I'd love to open this up
25:26 to talk maybe more broadly as well about how, um, the makeup
25:30 of Suffolk law, uh, looks like.
25:35 Well, I, I can tell you the percentage
25:37 of women at the law school is at an all time high.
25:41 Uh, it's over 60% of the law students at Suffolk are women.
25:45 Um, and their success very much reflects the success
25:49 of our students more generally in terms
25:51 of the kinds of jobs they're getting.
25:53 If you look on any law school's website, we post
25:56 our employment outcomes and you can see where graduates go.
26:00 And I, there is no difference that I know of, uh,
26:04 between the employment outcomes of women
26:07 who graduate from Suffolk, uh, and men.
26:10 So there, uh, there's that, um, other demographics, um,
26:15 in terms of racial and ethnic diversity.
26:17 Uh, Dean Orlando can share some more information about that.
26:20 But we are actually on pace at the moment.
26:23 Our class is not yet complete,
26:25 but at the moment would be our most racially
26:28 and ethnically diverse class we have ever enrolled.
26:30 About 30% of our, uh,
26:33 class would come from underrepresented racial
26:36 and ethnic minorities.
26:37 Um, so that hopefully gives you a little bit of a, a taste.
26:41 Anything you wanna add on that front? Dean Orlando?
26:44 I, I think that was, that was terrific.
26:46 I would also just mention too, a great resource
26:49 to consider when you're looking at not just demographics
26:52 for the entering class or the job placements, uh, stats

26:55 as Dean Perlman mentioned.
26:57 But, um, I,
26:59 I recommend looking at what's called the A BA
27:03 5 0 9 reports.
27:04 So the A BA is the American Bar Association
27:08 and they have a number of required disclosures
27:11 that all law schools provide to you.
27:13 So you, when you're looking at law schools down the road,
27:15 you can compare apples to apples.
27:18 'cause these are standard PDF reports.
27:21 So you can see all the stats for Suffolk Law
27:23 and compare them to other law schools as well.
27:25 There are actually three separate reports.
27:27 If you Google a VA 5 0 9, that top hit will take you
27:31 to a page where you can see, um, job outcomes, bar passage,
27:36 and also the 5 0 9 report itself,
27:39 which has those demographics.
27:41 It has information about scholarships,
27:44 attrition rate, so on and so forth.
27:46 And is a fantastic resource as you look into law schools.
27:52 Awesome. Thanks so much for that.
27:54 Um, another question that came up is, um,
27:57 and I know we talked a little bit about concentrations
27:59 and possibilities, but what year of law school do you get
28:03 to maybe pick that focus of study? Should you like to
28:06 Yeah, I can, I can tackle that one.
28:08 So the first year of law school is pretty much set
28:11 for the vast majority
28:12 of law students at almost every law school in the country.
28:15 Everybody takes pretty much the same thing
28:17 after that you have a lot more flexibility, um,
28:20 with some kind of overarching requirements of certain types
28:24 of either skills or knowledge that we expect you to acquire.
28:28 But you could actually go through your entire JD experience
28:31 and get your law degree without ever choosing an area
28:33 of focus or a concentration.
28:36 We don't require it. It's unlike undergraduate
28:38 where you choose a major and you graduate with a major,
28:41 law school tends not to be like that.
28:43 So you can choose a concentration, which people tend
28:46 to do in their second year if they want to,
28:49 if they really wanna go deep into a particular field in one
28:52 of the areas where we have a concentration
28:54 or they may explore an area of focus,
28:56 which is a little bit less intense,
28:58 but a collection of courses.
29:00 Um, so it's really a lot more
29:02 flexible than undergraduate education in
29:05 that particular regard.
29:06 Uh, so, uh, Anthony,
29:08 do you wanna chime in on anything along those lines?
29:11 Yeah, I think that was terrific.
29:13 I, I talked to a lot of prospective applicants who are
29:16 a bit nervous because they're thinking about applying

29:19 to law school, but don't yet have a specific area
29:23 in mind picked out.
29:24 And that's okay. As, as Dean Perman mentioned,
29:27 you don't have to have it all figured out right now.
29:30 Um, and one l foundational courses do expose you
29:35 to a little bit of everything.
29:36 So you can make, at the end of that first year
29:40 a more informed decision about whether you want
29:43 to pur pursue a concentration
29:45 and if you do, which one to pursue.
29:48 So there is plenty of time to figure that out down the road.
29:51 I read lots of law school application essays
29:54 where somebody might say, I had the great opportunity
29:58 as an undergraduate to work in a law firm
30:01 and they did family law and I hate family law.
30:06 And sometimes just having that experience is as useful
30:09 as finding your passion.
30:11 You've kind of ruled out, okay, I've seen this firsthand.
30:14 I know this area of law isn't for me,
30:17 but you're kind of having that experience
30:19 of trying things on for size and seeing if it's a good fit.
30:22 And of course, as I mentioned
30:23 before, you'll have that opportunity in law school
30:27 with our clinical programs,
30:28 with our externship opportunities.
30:31 Trying it on for size is so important to make sure it's,
30:34 it's an area of interest for you,
30:36 but also it's a good work life balance down the road.
30:41 I love that story. We hear
30:43 that story a lot in undergraduate
30:45 internships as well, right?
30:47 I did in insert internship
30:48 and I realized that's actually not for me,
30:51 but it did open the door
30:52 and I'm now interested in this potential pathway.
30:56 Um, so I, the experiential component is just
30:58 so powerful when it comes to really any degree,
31:02 but I think especially in the law programs, um,
31:05 as folks continue to generate
31:06 and think about questions, I, that also jogged my memory
31:10 and, and thinking Anthony, uh, for a lot
31:12 of our undergraduates, they might not know
31:14 and they might be joining today
31:15 because law, they've never thought about it before.
31:18 Um, but maybe they're just now thinking about that.
31:21 And so this might be a question a little bit more for,
31:23 for, um, Sharon.
31:25 Um, but you know, if a student comes to you Sharon,
31:29 and goes, you know, law,
31:31 but I'm not sure, how do we kind of help them
31:35 unpack that with themselves
31:37 and feel like they can find the resources that they need
31:39 to figure that out for themselves?
31:42 Well, I will say thank you, Eric.

31:44 I will say that the undergrad curriculum in the college is
31:47 designed to give you choice so
31:49 that you can sort of experiment.
31:52 So, uh, the degree is 126 credits,
31:56 it's divided in thirds.
31:57 A third is your major, a third is your general ed,
32:00 and a third are electives,
32:02 which makes the three plus three possible.
32:05 But what it also makes possible is the ability to
32:08 take a general ed in a discipline
32:12 that you might be thinking of, of majoring in
32:16 or minoring in.
32:17 And so to get your feet wet and see what you think about it.
32:21 And just as, um, Dean Lindo said,
32:24 and uh, Eric, what you said, people experiment
32:27 and then decide, oh no, that's not what I thought it was.
32:31 Uh, let me try this. Uh, I hope I answered your question.
32:37 Yeah, absolutely. I don't know if, if either fo uh,
32:40 you know, Dean Perlman or Orlando wanna add on to
32:42 that at all, thinking about seeing
32:44 where the undergraduates come in and, and make some choices.
32:48 I, you know, I think one of the beautiful parts
32:50 of a law degree is the flexibility that it offers you.
32:54 And that kind of a one time decision does not set you on a
32:58 permanent path for the rest of your life and career.
33:00 It doesn't work like that. Those,
33:01 the skills you learn in law school are much more flexible.
33:04 So, and that's why so many law students
33:07 graduate without a concentration.
33:08 It's, it's not necessary.
33:10 It's nice if you want it, if you wanna pursue it,
33:12 but it's that not at all necessary
33:14 because there's a lot of flexibility involved.
33:16 And I, I couldn't agree more with the point that one of the,
33:20 uh, what you all should do while you're in college,
33:22 let alone law school, is get
33:24 as many opportunities as you can.
33:26 Not so much to figure out what your life's passion is,
33:28 but maybe even more importantly, what it is not, uh, to know
33:31 what you don't like,
33:33 because that will set you up in different directions.
33:35 So the, the opportunities I was describing
33:38 before in terms of working at, in the law schools, clinics,
33:41 or working, get, getting a sense of what law is about.
33:45 Come over, check it out, come to a program
33:48 and you may think that's terrible,
33:51 that doesn't sound interesting at all.
33:52 Or it might open your eyes like, wow,
33:54 I'd never really thought that law school
33:56 or law would be about that.
33:58 And maybe it becomes more interesting.
34:00 But I, you know, I think that can be really valuable is just
34:02 to get as many opportunities and experiences as you can get
34:06 because I think that will help you refine the

34:09 direction you want to go in.
34:12 All right, well,
34:14 it looks like we are gonna wrap up with questions.
34:17 Um, I did post some contact information in the chat,
34:20 but I did realize I need
34:22 to add in Sharon Lindsay's contact information, um,
34:33 Trying to type into a webinar at the same time.
34:36 Um, all amazing. So that's all there.
34:39 And please know that if, if
34:41 after today you wanna reach out to these folks
34:43 and realize you didn't write it down on a paper napkin
34:45 or you didn't put it on your clipboard on your computer, um,
34:49 please know that you can reach out to the Office
34:51 of Undergraduate admissions.
34:52 We'd be more than happy to connect you
34:53 with the folks on the screen.
34:55 Just to reiterate what I said at the beginning
34:57 of the session, uh, we will be sending this recording
34:59 around, right, so no, no quiz.
35:02 Um, so, uh, I wanna quickly take a moment to thank, um,
35:06 Dean Orlando, Dean Perlman,
35:08 and Assistant Dean Lindsay, uh, for joining us this evening.
35:11 So thank you three so much for being here.
35:14 And with that, I'm gonna go ahead and close out this webinar
35:18 and have a fantastic evening.