

WHITNEY HOLMES
Associate Professor of Law, Baylor Law School

TEACHING

BAYLOR LAW SCHOOL

Associate Professor of Law
Assistant Professor of Law

Waco, Texas
August 2025 – Present
August 2022 – July 2025

Active Courses: Commercial Real Estate Transactions; Commercial Real Estate: Leasing; Poverty Law & Policy; and Consumer Protection

Other Courses: Nonprofit Organizations and LARC 4

SERVICE

Current Committees:

Law School: Academic Standards & Assistance Committee (2023-Present); Awards Committee (2023-Present); Curriculum Committee (2022-Present); PDP Committee (2025-Present); Scholarship Committee (2022-Present); Technology Committee (2025-Present)

University: Athletics Council (2025- Present)

Prior Committees: Search committee for the dean of the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University (2025); Law School Faculty Appointments Committee (2023-24); Academic Success Committee (2022-24)

SCHOLARSHIP

REVITALIZING WITHOUT RUIN: HOW LOCAL GOVERNMENTS CAN PRIORITIZE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

UC Irvine Law Review (forthcoming 2026)

- Proposes a more equitable path to renewal-focused development in low-income communities via a public-community land trust partnership model whereby local governments with residential real property holdings would grant a preferential purchase option to community land trusts to develop affordable housing for long-term community residents
- Presented at the New Voices in Poverty Law session at the American Association of Law Schools 2024 Annual Meeting as well as the Law & Society 2024 Annual Conference

PLYLER’S PRAXIS & PROMISE

Duquesne Law Review (forthcoming 2026)

- Drawing on the capabilities framework advanced by philosopher and legal scholar, Martha Nussbaum, this Article argues that the applying a nondomination framework to the equal protection issue in *Plyler v. Doe* can harmonize that case’s morally satisfying result with its doctrinally dissatisfying analysis and, potentially, open the door to broader constitutional recourse for marginalized groups.
- Presented at the 2025 Junior Scholars Conference at Northeastern University School of Law

THE VIOLENCE OF THE BANKS

Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review (forthcoming 2027)

- Explores the ways in which credit is wielded as an instrument of social control to herd society’s undesirables into its lowest stratum and argues that, rather than being the result of *free* market operations, these distributions result from *fixed* market operations that have been structured to enrich the rich, extract from the poor and discipline the rest of us into remaining too politically inert to challenge the status quo.
- Presented at the 2025 Texas Junior Scholars Conference at Baylor University Law School

POSITIONAL CONFLICT AND THE PRODUCTION OF POVERTY

In Progress

- Argues that an “intergenerational hierarchies” framework is a better lens for analyzing the challenges that create the phenomenon commonly referred to as “intergenerational poverty” (and similar, one-sided terms) because an intergenerational hierarchies framework (1) brings into focus certain relational, positional and distributional dynamics that funnel help to higher ends of the hierarchy and hazards to lower ends of the hierarchy and (2) exposes certain planes of socio-economic conflict that are difficult to otherwise discern.
- Presented at the 2026 Poverty Law Scholars Conference at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

THE VIOLENCE OF THE BANKS: ON DEBT AND DETERMINISM

The Micah Lecture Series

Waco, Texas

Spring 2026

- Invited to give the inaugural lecture for the Micah Lecture Series hosted by the Vice Provost of the Office of Community Engagement and Belonging.
- The Micah Lecture Series is an initiative aimed at creating connections between Baylor University and the Greater Waco community by offering academic lectures on topics of interest to both the Baylor and broader Waco communities.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

Counsel, Real Estate

Associate, Real Estate

Houston, Texas

January 2022 – December 2023

September 2014 – July 2018

KING & SPALDING LLP

Senior Associate, Corporate

Houston, Texas

August 2018 – November 2021

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

Law Clerk to the Honorable Nelva Gonzales Ramos, District Judge

Corpus Christi, Texas

August 2013 – August 2014

YES PREP PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sixth Grade English and History Instructor

Houston, Texas

July 2008 – August 2010

EDUCATION

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW

Research Assistant to Professor Julius G. Getman, Earl E. Sheffield Regents Chair
Research Assistant to Professor Loftus C. Carson II, Ronald D. Krist Professor in Law

Juris Doctor, 2013

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts, 2008
Major: History | Minor: Human Rights

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

HUMANE SOCIETY OF CENTRAL TEXAS

Board Member

MCLENNAN COUNTY DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER

Board Member