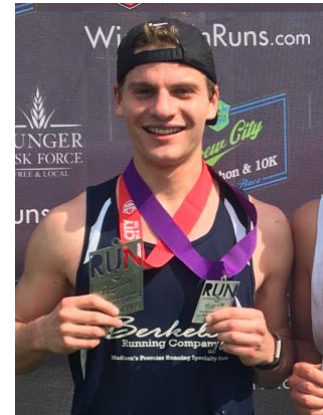


Hey everyone! My name is Cole Altman and I am a third-year student (3L) and also have the great privilege of serving as the President of the Student Bar Association (SBA) for the 2018-2019 school year.

SBA facilitates activities, communications, and relationships between students, faculty and staff within the law school. Additionally, it supports the 40+ student-run organizations at the law school, all of which you'll have the opportunity to get involved with!

Below are just a few things I wish I would have known when I first entered law school:



- 1. Did somebody say free lunch?** Whether it is through pro bono, student organizations or the On the Issues speaker series, there are a ton of ways to get involved at Marquette Law! Not only do these meetings/activities provide food but they also serve as a great way to meet fellow students, faculty and prominent members of the Milwaukee legal community. Law News (our bi-weekly email from the law school) will keep you informed on the times and places of these events so be sure to continuously check your email and attend!
- 2. Your reputation as a lawyer starts today.** The law school community and legal world become very small very quickly! The way you carry yourself now will stick with you for years to come. Your classmates will soon become your coworkers, so it is important to start building relationships as early as possible and throughout your time here at Marquette Law!
- 3. Find time away from law school.** That is definitely easier said than done, especially as a 1L. It's important to have some time away from the law school and homework in order to stay sane. I would highly recommend to explore Marquette's campus, workout in the law school gym, or attend one of the SBA sponsored bar reviews, hosted every Thursday night to socialize with classmates and enjoy the local Milwaukee atmosphere.
- 4. Grades aren't everything.** While it may seem obvious, only 10% of you can be in the top 10%! While grades are important, there are also other ways to get involved, get experience and find your passion. Your 1L classes are graded on a curve with the average grade in each class being a B. You have all been accepted to Marquette Law, so there is no doubt in my mind that every single one of you is extremely bright and motivated. Don't get too discouraged if your law school GPA doesn't mirror your undergrad one! Success in law school and in the legal world is not based solely on grades.
- 5. You're not alone.** Law school can be extremely intimidating and overwhelming but just remember that each of the 2L and 3L students were once exactly where you are now. Marquette Law's mentorship program is the perfect way to get advice and support from an upperclassman.

You have made a great choice joining the Marquette community! The Marquette community is built on an amazing group of students, faculty and staff committed to serving those around them in the true spirit of "*Cura Personalis*." If there is anything you ever need, please do not hesitate to reach out to me!

Welcome!

Cole Altman (cole.altman@marquette.edu)
SBA President 2018-19