

Lynn D. Lu
CUNY School of Law
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Academic Appointments:

2026–Present

Professor of Law, CUNY School of Law
Director, Economic Justice Project

- Promoted to Professor of Law effective August 2026
- Reappointed with Tenure effective September 2026
- Awarded Fellowship Leave for Academic Year 2026–2027

2019–2026

Associate Professor of Law, CUNY School of Law
Director, Economic Justice Project

- Develop and teach doctrinal and experiential courses for full-time and part-time (evening) students in furtherance of public law school’s mission to train outstanding public interest lawyers and expand access to the legal profession. Selected courses: Public Institutions (Administrative Law), Lawyering Skills, Professional Responsibility, Federal Income Taxation, Tax Justice: Critical Perspectives on Tax Law and Policy
- Manage and supervise Economic Justice Project, a live-client, in-house clinic representing low-income individual and organizational clients in economic justice, workforce development, and public benefits advocacy. Work closely with students to promote critical thinking and effective, professionally responsible oral and written advocacy to practice “Law in the Service of Human Needs” in accordance with law school motto. Collaborate with community partners to plan strategically to achieve client empowerment and systemic law reform
- Selected honors: Grantee, CUNY Artificial Intelligence Academic Innovation Fund (Spring 2026); CUNY Innovative Teaching Academy Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Fellow (Summer 2022); CUNY Innovative Teaching Academy Andrew W. Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities Faculty Fellow (Fall 2022)
- Selected committee service: Committee on Committees (elected by faculty colleagues), Outcomes and Assessment Committee (Chair 2023-24), Accreditation Committee, Curriculum Committee (co-convenor, Electives Subcommittee, 2022-23), Administrative Screening and Review Committee, Moot Court Advisory Committee

2012–15, 2017–2019

Instructor, CUNY School of Law

Supervising Attorney, Economic Justice Project

- Selected committee service: Anti-Racist Taskforce, Curriculum Committee, Admissions Committee, Budget Workgroup, Clinic Workgroup, Moot Court Advisory Committee

2015–2017

Managing Attorney (Dean's Appointee), Court Square Law Project at CUNY School of Law

- Design and launch pilot project to train newly admitted attorneys in provision of high-quality, low-cost civil legal services to moderate-income clients in order to expand access to justice to those who do not qualify for free legal services; train and supervise 10 attorney-fellows; manage docket including family law, housing, and civil litigation

2011–12

Associate Director and Acting Assistant Professor, NYU School of Law, Lawyering Program

- Co-design and implement curriculum exploring dispute resolution alternatives through fact development, issue identification, legal research, and writing for first-year Lawyering course; emphasize critical thinking and legal analysis, strategic advocacy, and interactive learning

2009–12

Acting Assistant Professor, NYU School of Law, Lawyering Program

Other Professional Experience:

2007–09

Staff Attorney, National Center for Law and Economic Justice, New York, NY

- Develop and manage impact litigation and policy advocacy to advance economic security for needy families and individuals by preserving and improving access to crucial public benefits (including cash assistance, food stamps/SNAP benefits, medical assistance, and subsidized childcare)

2005–07

Counsel and Katz Fellow, Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, New York, NY

- Research, plan, and execute advocacy campaigns for criminal justice and child welfare reform, including: guided use of prosecutorial discretion to reduce racial disparities in federal sentencing, family reunification efforts for incarcerated parents with children in

foster care, unjust fees and fines imposed on individuals involved in or reentering society from the criminal legal system

2004–05

Managing Law Clerk, Chambers of the Hon. Kermit V. Lipez
U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, Portland, Maine

1993–94, 1995–2000

Editor/Publisher, South End Press, Cambridge, MA

- Acquire and edit 20 nonfiction books on social and economic justice issues (including welfare reform, immigrant and workers’ rights, feminism, sexuality, and race politics) while co-managing nonprofit book publishing collective

Education:

NYU School of Law, J.D. 2004

magna cum laude, Order of the Coif

Sussex University (England), M.A. 1995

English Literature/Critical Theory

Harvard College, A.B. 1993

summa cum laude, Women’s Studies, Phi Beta Kappa

Publications:

- *Fighting Poverty Everywhere All at Once*, 22 PITTSBURGH TAX REV. 23 (peer-edited) (2025), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5128912
- “Fixing Cash Aid is More Than Child’s Play,” invited post, *The Regulatory Review: A Publication of the Penn Program on Regulation* [online], <https://www.theregreview.org/2022/03/28/promoting-economic-justice/> (April 6, 2022)
- *Who’s Afraid of Bob Jones? “Fundamental National Public Policy” and Critical Race Theory in a Delicate Democracy*, 25 CUNY L. REV. 93 (2022), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3960395
- *From Stigma to Dignity? Transforming Workfare with Universal Basic Income and a Federal Job Guarantee*, 72 S. CAROLINA L. REV. 703 (2021), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3764224

- *Restorative Relationships and “Radical Help”: Reimagining Welfare-to-Work Beyond the Market-Family Divide*, 50 U. BAL. L. REV. 287 (2021), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3670427
- “Empathy in an Election Year: Who Truly Cares?,” https://www.law.cuny.edu/newsroom_post/empathy-in-an-election-year-who-truly-cares/ (Dec. 14, 2020)
- “A Nightmare of Work and Care,” invited post, Law and Political Economy Project Blog, <https://lpeproject.org/blog/a-nightmare-of-work-and-care/> (Sept. 2, 2020)
- *Standing in the Shadow of Tax Exceptionalism: Expanding Access to Judicial Review of Agency Rules*, 66 ADMIN. LAW REV. 73 (2014), https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2343793
- *Prosecutorial Discretion and Racial Disparities in Federal Sentencing: Some Views of Former U.S. Attorneys*, 19 FED. SENT. REP. 192 (2007)
- *Rebuilding Families, Reclaiming Lives: State Obligations to Children in Foster Care and Their Incarcerated Parents* (with Patricia E. Allard), Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law (September 2006)
- Student Note, *Flunking the Methodology Test: A Flawed Tax-Exemption Standard for Educational Organizations That “Advocate[] a Particular Position or Viewpoint,”* 29 N.Y.U. REV. L. & SOC. CHANGE 377 (2004)
- Published author of essays on feminism and Asian American culture, including *Critical Visions: The Representation and Resistance of Asian Women*, in Sonia Shah, ed., DRAGON LADIES: ASIAN AMERICAN FEMINISTS BREATHE FIRE 17 (1997)

Presentations & Panels:

- Invited panelist, “New York Public Assistance and Food Stamp Eligibility,” Practising Law Institute, March 2026 and April 2025
- Moderator, Online Event, “Book Bans Are Just the Beginning: The Fight for Education and Democracy,” featuring Randi Weingarten, author of *Why Fascists Fear Teachers: Public Education and the Future of Democracy*, Seattle University School of Law Critical Justice Initiative, February 2026
- Presenter and Moderator, “Digital Divide or Cliff Effect? Technology Delay as Justice Denied,” Fall 2025 International Access to Justice Forum

- Invited Presenter, “Hiding Empathy in Mouseholes: Radical Shifts for Rational Actors in SCOTUS Jurisprudence,” Summer 2025 Feminist Legal Studies Roundtable; Presenter, Critical Justice Initiative Summer 2025 Workshop
- Presenter, “Holding to Account: Resisting the Nickling and Diming of Welfare Recipients,” Poverty Law Section Pedagogy Program, Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Conference (2025)
- Presenter, “Major Questions about Taxing and Spending,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (2024)
- Presenter, “Rational Basis Reality Check,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (2023)
- Presenter, “Who’s Afraid of *Bob Jones*? ‘Fundamental National Public Policy’ and Critical Race Theory in a Delicate Democracy,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (2021)
- Presenter, “From Stigma to Dignity? Transforming Workfare with Universal Basic Income and a Federal Job Guarantee,” South Carolina Law Review Symposium: Taxation, Finance, and Racial (in)Justice (2021); ClassCrits XII (2019), NYU Clinical Law Review Workshop (2019), Law and Society Association Annual Meeting (2019), Fourth National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference (2019)
- Presenter, “Restorative Relationships and ‘Radical Help’ Reimagining Welfare-to-Work Beyond the Market-Family Divide,” 12th Feminist Legal Theory Conference: Applied Feminism and Privacy (2021); Feminist Legal Scholarship summer workshop (2020)
- Invited Panelist, ClassCrits Workshop: Democracy, Social Justice, and the 2020 Election (Nov. 14, 2020).
- Facilitator, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education Poverty Law Working Group (2019)
- Panelist, “What We Talk About When We Talk About Empathy: The Power and Limitations of Empathy in the Battle for Justice, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education (2019)
- Panelist, “The State of Social Welfare Policy Under the Trump Administration,” New York City Bar Association (2018)
- Panelist, “Using Legal Education to Ignite Interpersonal Respect, Cross-Cultural Empathy, and Global Inclusion,” Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Annual Conference (2017); SALT Teaching Conference (2016)

- Panelist, “Empathic Intelligence: Fostering Interpersonal Respect and Inclusion Through Lawyering,” Legal Writing Institute One-Day Conference (2016)
- Participant, ALWD (Association of Legal Writing Directors) Scholars Workshop (2016)
- Panelist, “New Models for Cost Effective Legal Service Delivery to Enhance Access to Justice,” Fifth Annual Law School Access to Justice Conference (2016)
- Presenter, “Standing in the Shadow of Tax Exceptionalism: Expanding Access to Judicial Review of Agency Rules,” Association of American Law Schools (AALS) New Voices in Administrative Law Workshop (2013); Sharing Scholarship, Building Teachers: Scholarship and Teaching Development Workshop (2013); Drexel University and University of Maine Law School scholar exchanges (2012); Critical Tax Conference (2012); Critical Perspectives on Tax Policy Workshop (2011)

Professional:

- Admitted to practice in New York and Massachusetts
- Member, ClassCrits: A Network for Critical Analysis of Law and Economic Inequality
- Member, Clinical Legal Education Association
- Member, Law and Society Association
- Member, Society of American Law Teachers (SALT)
- Member, Critical Legal Collective
- Member, Welfare Rights Initiative Policy Workgroup
- Member, (New York City) Fair Hearing Advocates Policy Workgroup