



JEFF WARD J.D.'09

Associate Clinical Professor of Law

Director of the Duke Center on Law & Tech

[Faculty Fellow through June 2020]

EDUCATION



J.D./LLM, Duke Law School, 2009

M.A., Northern Illinois University

B.A., University of Notre Dame

TOPICS



Law in the Age of Artificial Intelligence

Robots, the Law, and You

Technology, Law, and Liberal Arts: the New "Humanities"

LINKS



[Innovation incubator: Duke Law stakes out a leadership role in law and technology.](#)

[Can Duke Law's Tech Lab Make Durham a Hub of Legal Tech?](#)

[A Seat at the Table: Blockchain Alliance Adds Legal Working Group](#)

BIOGRAPHY



Close your eyes and imagine a world in the future where robots stand side-by-side in harmony with humans. What does this world look like? What laws do we abide by when creating artificial intelligence? How do humans and robots remain harmonious in this future world? Jeff Ward's work focuses on the intersection of law and emerging technologies such as blockchain, artificial intelligence, robotics, and IoT. Robots and humans existing unitedly may sound like the storyline of a summer blockbuster movie, but it is the crux of Jeff Ward's work: looking beyond today into the laws of generations to come.

Through his work, Ward examines the socio-economic effects of rapid technological change, how to ensure equitable access to tech-savvy legal resources and tools of economic growth, and the future of lawyering in a tech-driven legal practice. He currently teaches Law & Policy Lab: Blockchain and Frontier Robotics & AI, as well as classes on business law, entrepreneurship, and intellectual property with the Master's of Engineering Management Program in Pratt School of Engineering. Ward directs the Duke Center on Law and Technology (CoLT) which works with programs such as the [Duke Law Tech Lab](#) and the Access Tech Tools initiative.

Prior to serving as Director of CoLT, Ward directed the Start-Up Ventures Clinic and served as supervising attorney in Duke Law School's Community Enterprise Clinic. He worked as an associate with the Chicago office of Latham & Watkins, where he focused on mergers and acquisitions, and capital markets transactions. Ward also served as Public Interest Law Initiative Fellow with the Community Economic Development Law Project of the Chicago Lawyer's Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, Inc.

Ward earned his JD and LLM in International & Comparative Law from Duke Law School. Before training as a lawyer, he worked as a business consultant with a global management-consulting firm in Chicago and as an English teacher. Ward is licensed to practice in North Carolina and maintains his own law practice, counseling start-ups and offering corporate and transactional legal services to for-profit and non-profit businesses.

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To request a Faculty Fellow speaker for your region, please contact Jennifer Chambers, Director of Alumni Education, at jennifer.chambers@daa.duke.edu or (919) 681-6216.