LEGAL OPERATIONS, ELECTRONIC DISCOVERY, LEGAL INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY:

"Legal Operations" describes a set of business processes, activities, and the professionals that enable legal departments to serve their clients more effectively by applying business and technical practices to the delivery of legal services. Legal Operations provides strategic planning, financial management, project management, and technology portfolio investment expertise that allows legal professionals to focus on providing legal advice. These professionals work with leadership to identify strategic investments that build capacity for the organization. Their capabilities allow the legal organization to more effectively manage risks, monitor compliance, incorporate the right technological tools, and deliver more value to the enterprise by accelerating the business. (*What is Legal Operations?*, CLOC Publication, October 2019.)

Electronic discovery – commonly known as e-discovery – is the process of identifying, preserving, collecting, producing, and reviewing electronically stored information in the course of a lawsuit or investigation. E-discovery attorneys often work in law firms or with e-discovery vendors, and increasingly, government agencies and corporate legal departments are bringing e-discovery specialists in-house. (*Emerging Careers for Law Graduates: The Intersection of Law and Technology*, Law School Toolbox, July 2018.)

Resources
- The Chambers Associate Career Guide on *Technology, Becoming a Technology Lawyer,* and *Becoming a Tech Transactions Lawyer*
- Corporate Legal Operations Consortium, *What is Legal Operations* (September 2020), Podcasts and Webinars, and *State of the Industry Report* (May 2021)
- Association for Corporate Counsel, Legal Operations Resource Library and *2020 Legal Operations Maturity Benchmarking Report*
- The Institute for the Future of Law Practice creates and delivers curriculum that complements traditional law school offerings
- A curated list of legal technology companies, hosted by CodeX, the Stanford Center for Legal Informatics
- Law.com, *Breaking Tradition: How New Law is Challenging Big Law*
- Law School Toolbox, *Emerging Careers for Law Graduates: The Intersection of Law and Technology* (July 2018)
- American Bar Association, *Career Steps: Transitioning to a Legal Technology Career* (December 2020)
- Legal Geek, organizer of the world's first LawTech startup conference
- The Balance Careers, *What is an E-Discovery Professional?* (July 2020)
- Upsolve, *How to Break into Legal Tech as a Law Student* (September 2020)

Recommended Richmond Law Elective Courses:
- Advising the Entrepreneur
- Commercial Transactions and Emerging Technology
- In-House Externship Programs
- Leading and Managing the Business of Law
- Legal Process and Project Management
- Legal Project Management
- Practice Design and Innovation
- Start-up Accelerator Practicum
- Technology Law

See Kathy Greenier in the Career Development Office for more information, including lists of job boards, professional associations, and opportunities for certifications and credentialing related to these career areas.