Big Law associates got bigger paychecks last year, but other salaries remained flat.

What can new lawyers expect to make in their first year?
St. Thomas University School of Law
LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights

**FACULTY OF GLOBAL DISTINCTION**
Includes top-level United Nations experts, outstanding scholars, judges and practitioners in the field – leaders from places such as Oxford University, Georgetown, the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Human Rights Watch.

**IN-DEPTH DOCTRINAL & SKILLS COURSES**
The 24-credit program consists of 17 most one-week, intensive courses designed to offer the highest quality of education in international law, human rights law, humanitarian law, universal and regional systems of human rights protection, and human rights lawyering.

**DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI**
We are proud of our alumni who are contributing to an order of human dignity in human rights institutions, in NGOs, courts of law, law schools and colleges around the world.

**IDEAL LOCATION**
The program’s setting in Miami, Florida - the Sunshine State, also offers breathtaking natural beauty and a diverse intercultural environment.

*The Honorable Fausto Pocar*
Appellate Judge & former President International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY)

*Professor Viviana Krsticevic*
Executive Director Center for Justice & International Law Washington, D.C.

*Professor Tiyanjana Maluwa*
H. Laddie Montague Chair in Law Professor of Law & International Affairs Penn State Law

**Contact:** Professor Roza Pati, Executive Director
**Telephone:** (1) 305-474-2403
**Email:** humanrights@stu.edu
**Website:** www.stu.edu/humanrights
Fall 2017 | Vol. 27, No. 2

contents

ON THE COVER

How much will you earn? 14
Exam tips for Tiffany 19
Best value law schools 22
The most interesting LL.M. students in the U.S. 26
Guide to LL.M. programs for foreign attorneys 27

www.NationalJurist.com

NEWS

Gre gets a boost 4
Why more people are taking the LSAT 4
Charlotte Law forced to close 5
Students making news 6

TRENDS

How should students react to offensive speech? 7
Most innovative law schools 9
Bar admission for Dreamers 12

EMPLOYMENT

38 Job Search Hotline: Networking meetings made easy

BEST VALUE LAW SCHOOLS

22

EDITORIAL TEAM

Jack Crittenden
Editor-in-Chief
Tyler Roberts
Associate Editor
Michael Stetz
Senior Editor
Katie Thidell
Contributing Editor
Tiffany Porter
Proofreader
Shannon Harrington
Art Director
Richard Steadham
Senior Designer

PUBLISHING TEAM

Elizabeth Callahan
Director, Audience Development
Amelia Holbrook
Audience Development Assistant

Trish Newberry
Office Manager

Katina Cavagnaro
Publisher
Mike Wright
National Accounts Manager
Mindy Palmer
Account Representative

REPRINTS

7670 Opportunity Rd.
Suite 105
San Diego, CA 92111
Tel: 858-300-3200
Fax: 877-300-2232

Please email story ideas or requests for publication to Jack@cypressmagazines.com

Entire contents copyright © 2017 Cypress Magazines. All rights reserved. Material in this publication may not be reproduced in any form without written permission from the publisher.
GRE gets a boost

Law students with quantitative skills are sought to pioneer changes in the legal profession.

BY TYLER ROBERTS

The LSAT had been the only standardized test used to measure aptitude for law students since it was introduced in 1948. But The University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law started accepting the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) last year, and this year it was joined by Harvard Law School.

Two other schools recently announced they will accept the GRE: Georgetown University Law Center and Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. And a survey by Kaplan Test Prep shows that 25 percent of law schools are planning to start accepting the GRE.

Why the sudden change?

Harvard Law School said it hopes to discover a larger, more diverse applicant pool with the technical skills to meet the modern demands of the legal profession.

“We believe the admissions process should (reflect) the values of the law school more broadly, and that means experimentation and innovation,” said Jessica Soban, associate dean for strategic initiatives and admissions.

William Henderson, a professor at Indiana University Maurer School of Law - Bloomington, said the move to the GRE comes at a time when employers are looking for law graduates who can analyze data, improve internal legal processes and make legal services more efficient and cost-effective.

“If we dig deep into what is going on in the legal services market, there is so much of the market being underserved,” Henderson said. “The solution to that problem is some sort of institutional redesign that is going to leverage data and technology and process. It will be a much more interdisciplinary undertaking.”

Why more people are taking the LSAT

The number of people who took the LSAT in June increased by 20 percent from the prior year. It was the largest increase since September 2009.

While logistical changes are part of the reason for the increase, many people point to increased interest in the law following the 2016 presidential election, otherwise known as the Trump Bump.

“I think people are starting to understand again the necessity for the rule of law,” Kellye Testy, president of the Law School Admission Council (LSAC), told Law.com. “Our current political climate has demonstrated that.”

At first, the Trump Bump was speculation, but a recent survey by Blueprint LSAT Prep shows the presidency to be a high-ranking factor in respondents’ decisions to apply to law school.

When surveyed about what influenced their decisions to apply to law school, respondents ranked “As a response to the current political climate/Trump administration” third out of all possible responses. Moreover, 24 percent ranked this response first out of six possible answers. Only “Prestigious career” was ranked higher.

More than 52 percent of those surveyed rated recent political events as “moderately influential” to “very influential” in their decisions concerning what type of law they’d like to pursue.

“Many look to the legal sphere as a force to help impose order on the chaos,” wrote Jodi Terti, co-founder of Blueprint. “Whether or not the Trump Bump is sustained, it’s nice to see the profession being viewed through its most positive light: as a force to uphold rights and as a balance in our tripartite system of government.”

Jeff Thomas, director of pre-law programs for Kaplan Test Prep, noted other possible reasons for the increase.

First, LSAC recently lifted the three-test limit on the number of times a person can take the LSAT in a two-year period. Also, this year’s June exam was scheduled one week later in the month than last year’s exam, providing college students with additional time to prepare for the LSAT following final exams. Lastly, people may be more attracted to law school as the employment landscape improves.

“Gaining access to GRE test-takers, many of whom are engineers, scientists and mathematicians, could benefit Northwestern Law and the legal profession at large by diversifying the applicant pool.”

— Daniel Rodriguez, dean, Northwestern Law

Trump Bump is gonna be Yuuuuuuge!
The problem with the LSAT, Henderson said, is that it measures only verbal reasoning, whereas the GRE measures both verbal and quantitative reasoning. Prospective law students who score high on both portions of the GRE display potential not only to succeed in law school but also to join the growing ranks of legal professionals who engineer technology to deliver better legal services.

Law school administrators also are hoping to expand their applicant pools.

“Gaining access to GRE test-takers, many of whom are engineers, scientists and mathematicians, could benefit Northwestern Law and the legal profession at large by diversifying the applicant pool,” said Daniel Rodriguez, dean at Northwestern Law. “Additionally, the GRE is offered a number of times throughout the year and in locations worldwide, making it easily accessible for prospective students.”

Many would-be law students also may be considering graduate school in other fields. Faced with making a choice between the LSAT and the GRE, these students often choose the GRE. Allowing students to submit their GRE scores in place of the LSAT would expand their education options.

For now, the LSAT still reigns supreme, and it will likely continue to dominate the law school admissions process. All national rankings use law schools’ median LSAT scores to assess the caliber of their student bodies. Moreover, a student’s LSAT score is still considered to be an indicator of how well he or she will perform on the bar exam.

Charlotte Law forced to close

With no access to federal student loans, no teach-out plan and no license, Charlotte School of Law in North Carolina was forced to close its doors before the fall semester began.

Students and alumni received notice of the closure on Aug. 15 from Lee Robertson, president of the law school’s alumni association. In a conversation with Interim Dean Paul Meggett, Robertson learned that the American Bar Association had denied Charlotte Law’s teach-out plan and the North Carolina Board of Governors had denied an extension of the law school’s license to operate, which expired Aug. 11.

The law school took down its website the night before to avoid any perception that it may be engaging in unauthorized conduct.

“This is distressing news, especially for the students who were preparing to return to campus in two weeks,” Robertson told The Charlotte Observer. “It’s very scary news for our faculty, who were relying on their jobs to support their families.

Charlotte Law can no longer perform post-secondary degree activity, such as awarding degrees and conducting classes. However, Charlotte Law may continue with non-degree-related activities, such as processing transcripts and providing career-counseling services.

— Tyler Roberts

Georgetown University Law Center announced that it will begin accepting GRE scores in addition to LSAT scores for applicants to its 2018 entering class.

The problem with the LSAT, Henderson said, is that it measures only verbal reasoning, whereas the GRE measures both verbal and quantitative reasoning. Prospective law students who score high on both portions of the GRE display potential not only to succeed in law school but also to join the growing ranks of legal professionals who engineer technology to deliver better legal services.

Law school administrators also are hoping to expand their applicant pools.

“Gaining access to GRE test-takers, many of whom are engineers, scientists and mathematicians, could benefit Northwestern Law and the legal profession at large by diversifying the applicant pool,” said Daniel Rodriguez, dean at Northwestern Law. “Additionally, the GRE is offered a number of times throughout the year and in locations worldwide, making it easily accessible for prospective students.”

Many would-be law students also may be considering graduate school in other fields. Faced with making a choice between the LSAT and the GRE, these students often choose the GRE. Allowing students to submit their GRE scores in place of the LSAT would expand their education options.

For now, the LSAT still reigns supreme, and it will likely continue to dominate the law school admissions process. All national rankings use law schools’ median LSAT scores to assess the caliber of their student bodies. Moreover, a student’s LSAT score is still considered to be an indicator of how well he or she will perform on the bar exam.
Florida student wins $65k oral argument

With a six-figure payout, a performance by Snoop Dogg and a rooftop party in Brooklyn, N.Y., the Philip R. Shawe Scholarship Competition is not your typical moot court competition.

It awarded $115,000 in scholarships to those who prepared the best oral arguments for reversing the U.S. Supreme Court-forced sale of Transperfect, a $500 million company co-founded by Philip Shawe.

Steven Hermosa, a 2017 graduate of University of Florida Levin College of Law, took first place and received $65,000.

The two-person team of Allison Tilden and McKay Neumeister from Yale Law School and Catherine Dowie of Suffolk University Law School tied for second place, receiving awards of $25,000.

After the banquet, the contestants and about 300 attendees retired to the rooftop of the hotel to celebrate. The rapper Snoop Dogg made a surprise appearance.

Students threaten to sue university over Confederate statue

A student group at University of North Carolina School of Law is threatening to sue school officials unless they remove “Silent Sam,” a Confederate statue erected on the campus in 1913 as a monument to UNC students who joined the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

In a letter on behalf of the Black Law Students Association and other students, attorney Hampton Dellinger wrote that allowing the statue to remain on UNC’s campus violates the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

UNC received written permission from North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper to take down the statue if there was a risk to public safety, but the university has yet to do so.

Teenager goes to law school

Aaron Parnas may be the youngest law student this year. The 18-year-old joined the student body of The George Washington University Law School.

Parnas told Law.com that he has wanted to go to law school since he was 10 years old. Parnas enrolled in college classes at the age of 14, taking high school and college courses at the same time. At 16, he took the LSAT. By the time high school graduation rolled around, Parnas already had a college degree.

Parnas is on track to graduate from law school at the age of 21, which is also the minimum age for bar admission.

Miss America goes to law school

Miss America is on her way to law school. Cara Mund who won the Miss America competition in September, hopes to become governor of her home state of North Dakota someday. But before then, the Brown University graduate will attend Notre Dame Law School. She plans to use her $50,000 in scholarship winnings from the competition to pay for law school, which she plans to start after her Miss America duties are completed.
How should students react to offensive speech?

Law professors say the proper response to hate speech is more speech, not violence.  

By Tyler Roberts

On Aug. 11, a mass of people stretched across a grass field at University of Virginia holding unlit tiki torches. Many were young, most were male, and all were white. On command, they raised their torches and set the wicks aflame. They marched through the university campus chanting, “You will not replace us.” and “Blood and soil.”

The torchlight procession, held the night before the Unite the Right rally, was a surprise organized by alt-right leader Richard Spencer, a University of Virginia graduate.

Elizabeth Sines and Leanne Chia, two second-year law students at University of Virginia, were there when the chanting began. Sines turned on her camera, and both followed the procession through the university’s quad to a statute of Thomas Jefferson, where a small group of students stood arm in arm with a sign that read, “UVA Students Against White Supremacy.” The marchers encircled the students, chanting “White lives matter.” And within minutes the confrontation turned violent.

“I have never been more terrified in my life than when I saw those hundreds of torches marching through campus,” Sines wrote on Facebook.

The torchlight procession was the first time Sines and Chia had encountered what they felt was intense bigotry and hate speech. In the moment, they grappled with what they should do.

It’s a question that is becoming more common for law students: How are lawyers and law students supposed to react when confronted with offensive speech?

Sines and Chia chose to speak out. That night they posted a call to action on Facebook.

“These Nazi groups are emboldened when met with little opposition,” Sines wrote. “We need as many protestors here tomorrow as possible; there is strength in numbers, as well as safety.”

The next day, of course, was violent and deadly, with Sines and Chia caught in the middle. (See page 8).

Six months earlier, Milo Yiannopoulos, a conservative provocateur, had been scheduled to speak at University of California, Berkeley. On the night of the event, more than 1,500 people gathered at the university’s administration building in protest. Left-wing activist groups Antifa and By Any Means Necessary (BAMN) joined the protestors and began setting fires, breaking windows and throwing fireworks. Within minutes, campus officials shut down the Yiannopoulos event, citing safety concerns.

That brought a round of criticism toward the left-wing groups, saying they had taken steps to suppress free speech.

Erwin Chemerinsky, now dean of UC Berkeley School of Law, recently commented on First Amendment issues and the resurgence of offensive hate speech.

“Violent confrontation meets no one’s goal, and to me it is the antithesis of what freedom of speech is all about,” Chemerinsky told an interviewer on KQED Radio. “The best response to speech we don’t like is more speech.”

Chemerinsky said he has seen a growing trend on college campuses toward quelling opposing viewpoints. The most recent generation to attend college has been taught that bullying is wrong, he said. They have internalized that lesson and have a strong desire to protect minority groups that are often the subject of hateful speech. But shutting down offensive speech, especially on campus, is not the solution, Chemerinsky said.

“One of the benefits of hate speech is that we get to respond against hate speech and explain why it is against the values we stand for and the kind of community we want to be a part of,” Chemerinsky said.
Witnesses to violence

At about 11:30 a.m. on Aug. 12, half an hour before the Unite the Right rally was scheduled to begin, Charlottesville officials canceled the event. Elizabeth Sines and Leanne Chia, two second-year law students at University of Virginia, had arrived at the scene minutes before. They watched as the white supremacists and other groups left the park.

They followed a group of counter-protestors to another park, where activists, clergy and volunteers had gathered. With the rally canceled, people began to celebrate, chanting, “No racists, no KKK, no fascist USA!”

“It felt like we had won; we had taken back our little town,” Sines wrote. “No Nazis were around; everyone felt safe. Both [Chia] and I had tears welled up in our eyes.”

Sines and Chia then joined a group of counter-protestors marching through the streets and worked their way to the front of the crowd. As they waved through the counter-protestors, the crowd in front of them suddenly parted. People jumped out of the street and onto the sidewalks. Sines wrote that the next few minutes were a blur. She remembered leaping to the side of the street and hiding in a doorway.

Sines and Chia grabbed onto each other and tried to run into the business. They watched in horror as a car plowed into people they had been marching next to.

“I remember thinking that it had been an accident. The driver had not meant to do it was my initial thought,” Sines said. “But he put his car in reverse, running over the people he had left lying in the road. It was obvious he was trying to kill as many people as he could.”

As Sines and Chia fled from the attack, people were lying in the street. Others were crying. Some activists held up large banners to shield the injured as they received medical treatment.

A week later, both students said they were still in shock. Not scared, but outraged.

“People feel so empowered they don’t have to wear hoods anymore,” Chia said. “We need to work harder and better in order to change the culture, to educate more people, because people are feeling empowered by their communities enough to attack people in broad daylight without hiding their faces and to support these things that are so disgusting, I can’t believe it.”

Said Sines: “I have seen a lot of scary things, but I am not afraid anymore. I have seen what a beautiful, diverse group of people (came) together to protect their fellow human beings, and I felt the power coming from that. If anything, I feel hopeful.”

“University of Virginia law professor Barbara Armacost, who teaches First Amendment and civil rights litigation, said, “When there is a clear right or wrong, I think lawyers, as a prophetic institution, need to stand up and say so.”

Armacost served as a legal observer alongside two of her students at the Charlottesville rally and protests. Their role was to observe and write down events as they unfolded, paying special attention to police interactions.

“There are certain values that as a culture we embrace,” Armacost said. “Some of those values are enshrined in laws and policies, and sometimes lawyers need to be out front, reminding people of those commitments.”

Another University of Virginia law professor, Anne Coughlin, was also at the Charlottesville protests.

As early as 8 a.m., marchers were shouting at counter-protesters, waving flags and flashing weapons, she said. Counter-protesters were shouting threats back, and fights broke out in the streets. Coughlin, who was driving a van for street medics, took people to the emergency room and pulled people who were pepper-sprayed from the crowd so they could be hosed down. At one point, she said, a man pulled out a handgun right in front of her.

Still, she said free speech is an important principle.

“The risk and danger of censoring is what we should fear the most, not the risk of harm,” Coughlin said. “And that is a significant trade-off.”

First-year orientation at University of Virginia was held the week after the protests. The law school administration wasted no time in reaffirming the school’s values to incoming students. A community dinner was organized for the students, and the school presented a faculty panel to discuss issues raised by the rally.

“Our law school plays a crucial role in ensuring a better future,” Dean Goluboff said. “We do that, in part, through the values we live every day, values that are fundamentally opposed to hate, violence and exclusion. At our core, we are committed to diversity, humanity, equality and mutual respect. We invest in the belonging of every member of our community and support honest and empathetic exchange across our many differences.”
Artificial intelligence. Big data. Design thinking. Legal technology. These can be scary concepts for aspiring lawyers. After all, these advances are challenging the status quo of the legal profession and threatening to take away work traditionally performed by first-year associates.

And it's not just new lawyers who are affected. The legal marketplace is changing for all. Clients are demanding more for less — more efficiency, more attention to their needs and greater transparency. In addition, there is a widening gap between legal services and those who can't afford them.

The good news is that cutting-edge technology and new approaches can help these situations.

"Lawyers are interacting with technologists, using predictive analytics and natural language processing," said J.B. Ruhl, a professor at Vanderbilt University Law School. "The first time you hear about that should not be after you leave law school."

Ruhl and others believe law schools need to train lawyers to be innovators in order to prepare them for practicing law in the 21st century.

"It's magical thinking to believe that you are going to solve all of these problems when you know nothing about the tools typically deployed to solve problems in the universe," said Dan Katz, a professor at Chicago-Kent College of Law at Illinois Institute of Technology.

Lawyers should understand business, technology, process improvement and workflow optimization to increase the value of their services, Katz said.

Fortunately, many law schools are responding by introducing innovative courses, clinics and programming to prepare students for the changing legal marketplace.

The National Jurist took a look at programs across the country and identified 20 law schools with innovative curricula, programs and approaches to preparing students for the future. We start in Silicon Valley, where Stanford University Law School is breaking new ground.

### Design thinking

**Stanford University Law School**

Design thinking has become a buzzword in academia, and Stanford Law School is leading the way in legal education. The concept is that you use logic, imagination and systemic reasoning to solve complex problems. The law school combined forces with Stanford's d.school, which focuses on design and creative thinking, to create the Legal Design Lab.

The program combines the efforts of lawyers, technologists and designers to create a new generation of legal products and services. It hosts workshops and teaches classes on how design and technology can be used to solve problems in the legal world.

Some of the lab's previous projects have included Navocado, a platform of interactive guides to court processes, and the Court Messaging Project, which offers open-source messaging software that courts can use to send automated messages to clients, reminding them to attend court appearances.

**Brigham Young University - J. Reuben Clark Law School**

Brigham Young University recently launched LawX, a legal design lab that will use design thinking to address issues surrounding access to justice. The course is structured like an idea incubator and will be run like a startup.

Design thinking does not necessarily entail a technological solution. Rather, it is an approach that can be used in all areas of legal practice, explained Kimball Parker, a Utah lawyer who will lead LawX. Design thinking involves rapid prototyping and testing, allowing the designer to find elegant solutions to complex problems.

"We want our law students not just to be experts in the legal system as it is but to aggressively think about how to make the system better," said Gordon Smith,
students bring their deals into the classroom, which allows faculty to harvest hypoteticals in real-time and bring the teaching of legal doctrine to life.

Albany Law School

Want to work with real-life technology entrepreneurs with marketable ideas? Students participating in Albany Law School’s Entrepreneurship Law in Emerging Technologies program have an opportunity to do just that.

Students are tasked with identifying the legal challenges that entrepreneur clients encounter and finding solutions. Students not only receive instruction on business development and intellectual property but also learn the science behind new technologies so they can practice in a rapidly emerging field.

Vanderbilt University Law School

Vanderbilt Law School launched its Program on Law and Innovation, or PoLI, in 2015 to train its students to be innovators in the legal profession. Students participating in the program learn about new legal business models, technologies such as artificial intelligence, entrepreneurial skills and how increased efficiency can widen the availability of affordable legal services.

Professor J.B. Ruhl, who directs the program, said programs of this type are the future of legal education.

“I don’t see how you could envision a law school not having something going on inside that has a lab-like atmosphere exposing lawyers to modern-day practice,” he said.

Technology and business

Chicago-Kent College of Law

The global business concentration offered through the law school’s Global Business Law Institute gives students a chance to learn about the challenges of the global legal marketplace and what can be done to meet those challenges. The curriculum and training is developed in collaboration with the institute’s advisory board, which includes executives from Amazon, Microsoft, Boeing and Starbucks.

“It’s the support from these leading global companies and firms that makes the institute so remarkable,” said co-director Scott Schumacher, associate dean for academic administration. “We are collaborating with those on the cutting edge, learning what
training and skills are necessary for global business lawyers to succeed.”

Northern Kentucky University – Salmon P. Chase College of Law

The W. Bruce Lunsford Academy for Law, Business + Technology at Northern Kentucky University equips students to deliver legal services that incorporate traditional legal knowledge, business analytics and efficient use of technology.

The academy also emphasizes growth areas such as intellectual property and privacy, provides instruction in business analytics and informatics, and introduces students to legal and consumer technology.

Classroom instruction extends beyond traditional law school methods, giving students hands-on experiences in drafting and editing intellectual property documents and creating apps that can be used to expedite legal proceedings.

University of Miami School of Law

Imagine the possibilities if you were able to bring the global marketplace into a law school setting. University of Miami’s LawWithoutWalls (LWOW) does just that.

“We are changing the way we train future lawyers and also the way lawyers practice,” said Michele DeStefano, founder and director of LWOW.

LWOW students and supervising attorneys communicate with one another from around the world, identifying issues and finding solutions to corporate, legal and justice issues. The program lasts four months, culminating in real solutions at the intersection of law, business and technology, DeStefano said.

“We are creating new products, new services and new ways to do business, as well as increase efficiencies in legal departments or law firms,” she said.

Technology and digital tools

University of Oklahoma College of Law

From day one, students at University of Oklahoma are immersed in tech. As part of the law school’s Digital Initiative, all students work from iPads and use digital tools to research, annotate, organize and present information on a digital platform.

Sure, most law students in 2017 are savvy enough to find their way around an iPad. But the University of Oklahoma teaches its students to us digital tools such as cloud computing, Dropbox and e-book publishing to increase efficiency and efficacy. In other words, the school creates lawyers who can increase the value of their time and services — a skill desired by law firms and legal departments.

Cornell Law School

Want to spend an entire semester in New York City exploring legal issues related to information technology, such as privacy, cybersecurity, regulation and constitutional law?

Students who participate in Cornell’s Program in Information and Technology Law do just that. Spending a semester taking courses at Cornell Tech on Roosevelt Island in New York City, students learn about the substantive legal issues arising from new technology.

“The program provides an exciting new way for our students to study this important area of the law in the heart of the fastest growing tech market in the country,” said Eduardo Peñalver, the school’s dean.

At American University Washington College of Law, our LL.M. students study cutting-edge topics and gain real world legal experience that prepares them for a wealth of opportunities in Washington, D.C., throughout the country, and around the world. Join a global community of more than 4,000 LL.M. alumni and discover what a degree from AUWCL can do for you.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW
wcl.american.edu/llm

International Legal Studies
Law and Government
Trial Advocacy
Human Rights
Intellectual Property
Have you ever been suspended, expelled or disciplined?
No.

Criminal history?
None.

Fired from a job for dishonesty?
No.

And your U.S. citizenship . . .

These are questions bar candidates are likely to encounter on their character and fitness applications. How candidates answer that last one could prevent them from being admitted to practice law, depending on which state bar they apply to.

Law student Thomas Kim wants to practice law in Oregon, but his status as an undocumented immigrant bars him from admission to the state bar. A recent resolution, championed by Kim and passed by the American Bar Association (ABA), may soon change that. At the ABA’s annual meeting in New York, the group’s House of Delegates approved a resolution recommending that state courts with authority to regulate bar admissions admit undocumented law school graduates seeking legal status.

“This resolution on which my team and I worked diligently lets undocumented students, as well as documented students, know that America is still a land of opportunity,” Kim said. “Passing of this resolution reminds me that I can continue to make substantive, positive impact in my community and in this country.”

Kim was 12 when his family immigrated from South Korea. They settled in Portland, Ore. and quickly applied for green cards. After graduating high school in 2011, he enrolled at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Wash.

When Kim came home for Thanksgiving that fall, he got news that he was anything but thankful for. His family’s application for permanent residency had been denied. Their immigration attorney had not followed through with the application process. After a six-year wait, the family was in a lurch. The attorney, who was later disbarred, had fled with the filing fees.

“At first, I was bitter and angry,” said Kim, who had a full-tuition merit scholarship at Pacific Lutheran and was the first in his family to go to college. “But I realized there needs to be someone who can help families in situations like mine, who can help and are effective at what they do, and who can sympathize with the situation we are in.”

That’s when Kim set his sights on being a lawyer to help other immigrant families. No longer eligible for student loans, Kim worked his way through undergrad and received a full-tuition scholarship to The Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona State University, where he is a third-year student.

“I didn’t know how I could become an attorney, but I had no other option. It is what I was made to do,” Kim said. “If there were going to be roadblocks, I wanted to make the changes as I go. I knew it was going to be difficult because there are no guidelines.”

Not all ABA delegates supported Kim’s resolution. Jack Long of the State Bar of Georgia argued that undocumented immigrants are in violation of the law. Long also expressed concern that law graduates with undocumented status are barred from certain employment opportunities.

“How can we, as lawyers tasked with upholding the law, advocate for admission to our state bars those who are in open and notorious violation of it,” Long said.

Long is not alone in his criticism. “You’re taking the oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States, while you are simultaneously breaking those
laws,” John C. Eastman, a constitutional law expert and former dean of Chapman University Fowler School of Law, told The New York Times. “You’re violating the oath of office from the moment you take it. That’s a real problem.”

The issue of whether undocumented lawyers can vow to uphold the law while in violation of it is not lost on University of Houston Law Center student Karla Perez Ramirez. But she believes many of the arguments are missing the point.

“Think of what people like me can bring to the legal community,” she said. “We have a particular experience that can be used to serve underrepresented communities.”

Perez was born in Mexico City and came to the U.S. in 1995 when she was 3 years old. Since she was a child, she has dreamed of becoming a civil rights attorney. When Perez learned she was undocumented, she knew that her path to the practice of law would be filled with stumbling blocks.

Then in 2012, after her first year of college, Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, was approved by executive action. It allowed her to remain in the U.S. legally and apply for a work permit. The Trump administration recently announced it would end DACA as an executive action but give Congress the opportunity to pass legislation to extend it.

Like Kim, Perez is ineligible for student loans, but she said DACA status gave her the confidence to pursue her career aspirations. Though she is cautious about speculating whether Texas will admit her to the bar after graduation, Perez is grateful that the ABA passed a resolution aiming at helping law graduates nationwide.

“I was very happy. This is a step in the right direction,” Perez said. “It is also very encouraging to me and other DACA students to feel supported by the largest legal organization in the country.”

The issue of Dreamers (undocumented immigrants who have lived in the U.S. since childhood) entering the legal profession directly affects many people’s lives, said John Weber, an ABA Law Student Division delegate from Kentucky. He said the resolution sends a strong message that the ABA supports immigrants who have significant potential as lawyers.

“All that we ask is that this will allow students, who are otherwise qualified, to be admitted to the bar in the state and the country that is their home,” Weber said.

California was the first to admit undocumented immigrants to its state bar. Following a decision from the Supreme Court of California in 2013, the California State Legislature modified its laws to allow undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as minors to obtain law licenses. Sergio Garcia was the subject of that case, and he was pleased to learn that the ABA has adopted a similar resolution.

“Immigration status does not make someone less qualified to be a lawyer,” Garcia said.

When Garcia applied to Cal Northern School of Law, he did not think his immigration status would be a barrier to his legal career. He was told that the state bar did not request information about an applicant’s immigration status, which was true. Up until 2008, the State Bar of California did not require applicants to include their citizenship status on their bar applications.

However, the state bar altered the application requirements, and when Garcia was completing his bar application after graduation in 2009, he was one of the first undocumented immigrants to list his citizenship status.

“That was a shocker when I saw that on the application,” he said.

Garcia was not sure what to do. He was brought to the U.S. illegally by his parents twice: once when he was 17 months old and again as a teenager. His green card application had been pending since 1994. Staring at the blank space on his bar application, he grappled to find a simple answer that would explain his status. Ultimately, he decided on one word: pending.

After being admitted to the bar, Garcia opened a solo practice in his hometown of Chico, Calif. He keeps his staff small and his overhead low, ensuring that he can remain committed to serving his community. He received his green card one year after he was admitted to the bar.

“I want to believe that my case and that of other undocumented attorneys doing good work proves that we are just like anyone else who wants to improve the lives of their families and their communities,” he said.

Currently, seven states in addition to California admit undocumented immigrants to their state bars. The ABA resolution will serve as an official guideline for other states to follow.

“I want people like Mr. Kim practicing and working from the inside to make a difference and have us carefully consider these important questions about immigration and about the right to practice in our profession,” said Andrew Schpak, president of the Multnomah Bar Association in Oregon, where Kim hopes to practice.

In August, Kim flew to New York to accept his elected position as chairman of the ABA Law Student Division. In the coming year, he plans to lobby for bar admission of Dreamers like himself in all 50 states.

“This is not about me,” he said. “This is not about one particular law student who wants to practice in Oregon. This is about all undocumented law students and graduates who want to better their communities, and their country, which has given them so much.”

**EXPLORE ALL THAT RICHMOND HAS TO OFFER:**

LLM

LLM/MBA

TWO-YEAR JD

Vibrant capital city

Sophisticated education & global faculty

Individualized attention
How much will you earn?

Big Law associates got bigger paychecks last year, but other salaries remained flat. What can new lawyers expect to make in their first year?

BY TYLER ROBERTS

It’s not every day somebody gets a $20,000-a-year raise, no matter how gifted they are at their job or how well they play office politics. However, many first-year Big Law associates got that sweet boost last year.

The powerhouse New York law firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore was first to make the leap. Its associates had been grumbling about stagnant compensation in the face of rising living costs and the deep debt many had incurred from attending the nation’s top law schools.

So first-year associate pay went up from $160,000 to $180,000. Senior associates also saw raises, based on their years of experience.

The salary increase was a long time coming. It was the first in the nation by Big Law since 2007, and it led to an onslaught of similar announcements by the largest law firms in New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles.

That made big news, partly because the figure was so high and partly because it had been so long. But while law students cheered, few will earn $180,000 upon graduation.

The big pay hike hasn’t exactly trickled down.

Salary levels for recent graduates

While the biggest and most prestigious law firms set the pace for salaries, other law firms are not always quick to follow. At law firms with fewer than 50 lawyers, the median salary for first-year associates was $90,000, half of what their Big Law counterparts in major markets are making. Even at firms with more than 700 lawyers, the median starting salary fell short of Cravath’s figure, coming in at $155,000.

“It’s not what I expected to see,” said James Leipold, executive director of the National Association for Law Placement (NALP). “After all the publicity surrounding the move to $180,000, I fully expected to see the national median starting salary for law firms move upward, but what the data reveal is that for the most part, only the largest firms in the largest legal markets made the move, and while many offices are paying $180,000 to start, many are not. The result is upward movement in some law-firm size bands while the national median has remained unchanged.”

It took several years for the previous pay hike in 2007 to become the industry standard, and some believe it could be a few years for the influence of Cravath’s new salary to take hold. Still, the legal market has changed significantly in the past decade.

As more law firms grow through mergers and acquisitions, the largest firms are not as similar to one another as they used to be. There are firms with more than 700 lawyers that are made up of small regional offices, many of which do not pay starting salaries of $180,000.
Data from a 2017 salary report by Robert Half Legal, which surveys law firms and corporate counsel offices, revealed slight increases for first-year associate salaries in both small to large law firms. In small firms, those with one to 10 lawyers, first-year salaries ranged from $56,500 to $82,000, an increase of 2.8 percent from 2016. Midsize law firms with 35 to 75 lawyers saw a 3.5 percent increase, with salaries reaching up to $134,250.

First-year associates at large firms with more than 75 lawyers saw the biggest jump in salaries. In 2017, associates at large firms were paid between $126,500 and $168,250, a 6.2 percent increase from the previous year.

First-year associates in 2017 benefited from less competition in the legal job market, said Jamy Sullivan, executive director of Robert Half Legal. First-year associates are in high demand, and the majority of law firms surveyed by Robert Half reported that they were having a tough time finding new legal talent. The biggest jumps in salary were in practice areas that demand a higher salary, such as commercial law, compliance, health care and litigation, Sullivan said.

“While some large law firms raised first-year associate salaries to $180,000 in June 2016, generating a buzz throughout the industry, newly minted attorneys who are actually earning these salaries tend to be the exception,” Sullivan said. “These mega firms are extending generous starting salaries to top candidates who graduated from a leading law school in the top percent of their class and possess in-demand skills — technological proficiency, business acumen and strong interpersonal abilities — among other sought-after attributes.”

Most associate salaries are proportional to the level of responsibility the associate is given, Sullivan said. Law grads who enter the legal workforce with several years of work experience, excellent academic credentials and practical experience attract higher salaries. This is especially true in law firms that break away from the traditional associate track. In the past, all associates at a firm made the same salary based on years of service, but more law firms are moving away from that and toward differentiated roles.

“It doesn’t really make sense that everyone makes the same money anymore,” Leipold told the law firm review website Chambers Associate. “There needs to be some diversification. Law firms are becoming more like corporations, with more career paths and more differentiated roles, and I think that will continue.”

Salaries for graduates entering business, public interest, judicial and government employment are distinct from those working in law firms, and thus less likely to be affected by the Cravath pay scale. This is especially true for
graduates entering the public sector and judicial clerkships, where starting salaries rarely, if ever, exceed six figures.

“Jobs in government and jobs as judicial clerks are likely to be steady, as they have been for many years, despite economic booms and busts,” Leipold said.

According to 2015 NALP data, public interest employers, such as public defenders and nonprofits, paid a median salary of $47,000, with salaries ranging from $31,000 to $70,000.

Judicial clerk salaries were low and tight in range. More than 40 percent of reported salaries fell between $45,000 and $55,000. Salaries varied, however, depending on the type of court. Clerks in federal courts, for instance, reported the highest salaries, with 60 percent earning $60,000 or more. At the state level, clerks reported salaries between $45,000 and $55,000. On the local level, 50 percent of clerks reported salaries of less than $45,000.

In 2015, government salaries in the 25th and 75th percentiles were $45,000 and $63,538, respectively. Salaries tend to be the highest for graduates working for the federal government. Surprisingly, local government employees reported higher salaries than those working for state governments.

Jobs in the business sector, both J.D.-advantage and bar-passage-required, provide slightly higher starting salaries. The most common reported salaries for law graduates employed in business were between $60,000 to $70,000, according to NALP data.

J.D.-advantage jobs, or those not requiring a law license, reported salaries of $55,000 and $85,000 for the 25th and 75th percentiles. For jobs requiring bar passage, salaries were slightly higher, at $58,240 and $90,000 for the 25th and 75th percentiles.

However, identifying a salary trend in business is difficult, since 90 percent of business salaries are between $36,000 and $140,000. The wide variety of legal jobs in the business sector accounts for the broad diversity in reported salaries. The highest earners were in fields such as consulting, compliance, management, tax and in-house counsel.

Surprisingly, only 26 percent of business jobs surveyed required a law license, but those that did tended to pay more. For example, corporate counsel positions for lawyers with zero to three years of experience paid between $87,000 and $166,750 in 2017, according to Robert Half.

“Jobs in business are likely to continue to be important sources of jobs for new graduates, and we would expect to see continued growth in the J.D.-advantage job sector as private-practice opportunities continue to diminish and the businesses that compete with law firms continue to grow in size and importance,” Leipold said.

The bimodal salary distribution

In the early 1990s, lawyer salaries fell on a standard bell curve between $10,000 and $200,000, with large law firms in major legal markets paying salaries between $75,000 and $85,000. But salary increases at large law firms began to outpace the rest of the legal market. By 2001, large law firms were paying first-year associates $125,000 on average.
The growth at the top end of the legal market created a bimodal salary distribution with two peaks. One cluster of law graduates made between $45,000 and $60,000, while another cluster of Big Law associates made about $125,000. When the 2007 compensation hike hit, the salary gap only widened. In essence, a two-tiered profession emerged.

There were Big Law associates making well over six figures, and then there was everyone else. Prosecutors, public defenders, small town lawyers, nonprofit workers and corporate employees brought home significantly smaller paychecks.

The most recent salary distribution curve, released by NALP in 2015, revealed that salaries between $40,000 and $65,000 accounted for about half of all reported first-year salaries. Yet, the mean salary for all graduates was $83,797, and the mean salary for all full-time law firm jobs was $94,591. The mean salaries were heavily influenced by salaries of $160,000, which accounted for about 17 percent of reported salaries. Relatively few of the reported salaries for the Class of 2015 were close to either mean salary.

The bimodal salary distribution is not unique to recent graduates. The salary gap is widening throughout the profession, as 2016 U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show.

Writing for the blog Law School Cafe, Deborah Merritt, a professor at The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law, explained that recent increases in lawyer salaries at the 25th, 50th and 75th percentiles were not keeping up with the rate of inflation.

“The uneven salary distribution for lawyers, in other words, continues to widen, Merritt wrote. “At the high end, salaries are still increasing faster than inflation. But for the majority of salaried lawyers (at least 75 percent), salaries are falling in constant dollars, and earnings in other occupations are outpacing them.”

After adjusting for inflation, Merritt found that the median salaried lawyer earned 2.9 percent less in 2016 than in 2006. For example, lawyers who earned $77,580 in 2016, which was the 25th percentile, earned 6.5 percent less in constant dollars than lawyers in the 25th percentile in 2006. Despite these declines, the national mean salary has increased from $134,837 (adjusted for inflation) to $139,880.
“The BLS figures also underscore the growing income divide in our profession. Law has always been a profession with two hemispheres, but the data reviewed above suggest that the income golf is widening” Merritt wrote. “The gulf itself is a negative feature for some current and prospective lawyers; they feel that the profession is financially risky, with outcomes determined by factors beyond their control.”

Look at the data
In spring 2008, Vanderbilt University Law School held its Admitted Students Day. It seemed like a great time to be entering law school. After all, Big Law salaries had been significantly increased the year before, and the law graduate employment rate was at its highest in 20 years. However, the economy had just entered a recession.

It was the beginning of a downturn that would soon be called the Great Recession.

“When this class took their LSATs and applied for law school, there were no signs that the legal economic boom was . . . slowing, and yet by the time they graduated, they faced what was arguably the worst entry-level legal employment market in more than 30 years,” NALP’s Leipold said in a 2012 press release.

Kyle McEntee was one of the admitted students touring Vanderbilt Law School that day. The school’s staff did their best to alleviate concerns over the uncertain future, releasing a list of where 196 of the 223 Class of 2007 graduates were employed. The information solidified McEntee’s decision to attend Vanderbilt, but it also inspired him to share the information online.

If other prospective students had more transparent employment and salary data, he reasoned, they could make better decisions about where to attend law school. The following summer, McEntee and fellow Vanderbilt Law student Patrick Lynch founded Law School Transparency, an organization dedicated to providing school-specific employment data.

“I would never rely on a single number,” McEntee said of national statistics. “What a student should do is look at a school and see what percentage of graduates are actually getting those types of jobs you want right out of law school.”

Unfortunately, school-specific employment data, such as the figures Vanderbilt Law School released to its admitted students in 2008, are hard to come by.

NALP collects the data but only law schools can release their own data. Only two in three law schools provide it to Law School Transparency, which then publishes it online.

A lack of employment data about the other 60 to 80 law schools can be frustrating to prospective law students weighing the risks and rewards of attending a particular school.

McEntee and the Law School Transparency team want to help students avoid the traps of nationwide figures.

It is rare for graduates to earn salaries close to the national median, McEntee said. For most students, regional and state employment statistics are better indicators of the salaries they can expect after graduation. Individual law school employment data is the most reliable.

“If you go to [New York University School of Law] and want to practice in a Big Law firm, then you want to pay attention to those Big Law salary increases,” McEntee said. “But if you are looking at smaller schools in the Midwest, that number is going to be irrelevant to you, because that is not a job you are likely to get. Even if you get a similar job where you live, it is not going to pay as much.”

McEntee mentioned New York University as an example of reliable employment data, and for good reason. Nearly all of its 2015 law graduates who were employed reported salary information. About half of them went to work for law firms of 500 or more lawyers and reported salaries of about $160,000. Other graduates held judicial clerkships with a median salary of $63,000, public interest jobs with a median salary of $50,000 and government jobs with a median salary of $63,000.

Interestingly, these salary distributions follow the national bimodal distribution between Big Law jobs and other types of legal employment. Though these median salaries fall slightly above the national median for each job category, 70 percent of New York University law grads stayed in the New York metropolitan area, which has a high cost of living.

Employment numbers from University of Tennessee College of Law tell a different story. Though not as reliable, since only 70 percent of employed graduates reported their salaries, the numbers indicate that many University of Tennessee grads went on to work at smaller regional firms. The average salary was $60,000, with law firm salaries falling between $50,000 and $110,000 and public interest salaries falling between $46,000 and $59,000. While only a few graduates went to law firms with 500 or more lawyers, a good proportion of graduates accepted jobs at small firms with 10 or fewer attorneys.

“The ideal is to look at the school-level statistics when the school provides them,” McEntee said.

Not all law schools release complete employment data, even though it would help current and prospective students make better decisions about their careers, McEntee said. As more Big Law firms implement the Cravath pay scale, the national mean and median salaries will likely rise, but this is not necessarily the most reliable data for most prospective law students. McEntee suggests they look at comparable law schools in the same region to see where graduates are employed and how much they make.
Hey, Tiffany,

We wanted to check in and see how your first semester of law school is going.

Do you know your jurisprudence from your jury duty? Your habeas corpus from your amicus curiae? Do you have a firm understanding of civil procedure? Are you comfortable being called on by professors? Are they comfortable calling on you, the First Daughter?

It sounds like you might be ready for a break, but beware. It’s only going to get more challenging. “Why?” you ask. “Can that even be possible?”

Well, let’s look at your calendar. Exams are looming.

Ah! Your first law school exams. At many schools, the end-of-semester exam is the one-and-only grade that counts for each course. Sure, you’ve done your reading and made your outlines (You have, haven’t you?), and you’ve met often with your study group to actually study, not just get mani-pedis. You’ve mastered the Socratic method, and you’re dreaming of torts and contracts and the federal system, but nothing matters except what you do on exam day.

“When I was in college, we had pre-lims and midterms and problem sets, so once you got to your final exam, it was 40 or 50 percent of the final grade,” said Lauren Ritter, who received her J.D. from University of Richmond School of Law this year. Soon after starting law school, she discovered she had to be more proactive when studying. More preparation is needed in law school, “where suddenly you have an exam that tests the whole semester and counts 100 percent,” she said. “It felt more stressful because there was more pressure to do well.”

So, unlike when you were in undergrad, you can’t wait until the week of your exam to start studying.

“If you approach law exams as you have approached all prior college exams, you will fail,” Thane Messinger writes in his book, “Law School: Getting In, Getting Good, Getting the Gold.”

So, what to do?

Start with a schedule

You have to start from your first day of law school.

You’re about halfway through the first semester now, so if you haven’t been thinking about exams, it’s time to catch up.

Most professors will announce exam dates at the start of the semester, so make sure they’re on your calendar.

Then, work backward from there to make a study schedule, recommends Lee Burgess, co-founder of the Law School Toolbox.

“Yes, you still need to be preparing for class, but what you also need to do is be preparing for exams is increase the amount of deep work,” Burgess said.

That includes making outlines (they don’t have to be beautiful), doing practice exams (so you know how to apply the law, not just regurgitate it), and meet-
ing with your study group, if you think it helps you be where you need to be. (If not, skip the study group. That’s a personal decision.)

“...it has to add in more time for deep work, which can be daunting because many students already don’t feel like they have enough time,” said Burgess, who graduated from University of San Francisco School of Law in 2008.

How many hours should you work?

A solid 50 to 55 hours a week leaves plenty of time for eating, sleeping and exercise ... but maybe consider cutting back on the Instagramming. Ideally, you should block out chunks of time on your calendar for this deep work. Schedule at least two hours at a time so you can dig into the material and absorb it.

The earlier you start, the better.

Ritter, who spent her first year at Widener University School of Law before transferring, said she started planning her end-of-semester studying in early November, about two weeks before Thanksgiving break.

“Everyone wants to go home and have turkey with their mom and have five days off class,” said Ritter, who is now clerking for Arlington County Circuit Court in Virginia. “But you have to start getting all your stuff in order.”

Recognition vs. recall

For many students, there’s a disconnect between the reading and outlining and actually applying law to cases.

“I think they’re surprised by the class prep that they’ve spent so much time doing and it doesn’t mean they’re ready,” Burgess said.

That means there’s preparation that needs to be done outside of class.

First of all, if you aren’t making your own outlines, you need to do that, immediately.

Dividing outlining duties among members of your study group “is not smart,” Messinger writes. “It is merely lazy. Even if it does save time, the cost to you is far higher. It is almost impossible to do well on a first-year law exam without having done your own outline. You must do your own outline for each course.”

The process of outlining is your own synthesis of what you’re learning. The act of writing it out is how you learn.

“You will be tested on material that’s three and a half months old,” said Andrew McClurg, professor at The University of Memphis – Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law and author of “1L of a Ride: A Well-traveled Professor’s Roadmap to Success in the First Year of Law School.” “Without outlining, there’s no way anybody can remember it by the time the exam rolls around.”

Commercial outlines might be helpful as study aids, but they should never replace your own outlining. Commercial outlines or flow charts or narratives (whatever format works for you) can offer either a more rounded overview of different aspects of the law or a condensed version that helps you get to the heart of the law.

For Ritter, learning how to recall, rather than simply recognize, was a major aspect of her exam preparation.

“It’s a lot easier to study when all you have to do is recognition,” she said, reminiscing about the days of multiple-choice, fill-in-the-blank and matching questions.

“Law school is taking that recognition of a topic and taking it to the next level, which is recall. Can you pick it out of your brain when you don’t even have a clue on the page, you just have a fact pattern that looks similar to something you learned before?”

Sorry to tell you, but that’s the entire point of law school exams.

“To do well in a law exam, you must

AN LL.M WITH GLOBAL IMPACT

A Master of Laws with Full-Time Practice Experience

Northeastern University School of Law

BOSTON northeastern.edu/law/llm

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE WITH AN LL.M. FROM UCLA

Our dynamic, flexible curriculum offers specializations in:

- Business Law:
  - Business
  - Securities Regulation
  - Tax
  - Bankruptcy
- Media, Entertainment, & Technology Law & Policy
- International & Comparative Law
- Public Interest Law
- Law & Sexuality
- Critical Race Studies
- Self-designed fields of study

The full-time UCLA Law LL.M. Program is open to graduates of U.S. and foreign law schools. Spend a year learning from world-class faculty with a diverse, close-knit community in beautiful southern California.

Why wouldn't you choose Los Angeles?

THE NATIONAL JURIST | Fall 2017

BOSTON northeastern.edu/law/llm

INVEST IN YOUR FUTURE WITH AN LL.M. FROM UCLA

Our dynamic, flexible curriculum offers specializations in:

- Business Law:
  - Business
  - Securities Regulation
  - Tax
  - Bankruptcy
- Media, Entertainment, & Technology Law & Policy
- International & Comparative Law
- Public Interest Law
- Law & Sexuality
- Critical Race Studies
- Self-designed fields of study

The full-time UCLA Law LL.M. Program is open to graduates of U.S. and foreign law schools. Spend a year learning from world-class faculty with a diverse, close-knit community in beautiful southern California.

Why wouldn't you choose Los Angeles?

THE NATIONAL JURIST | Fall 2017

BOSTON northeastern.edu/law/llm
know black letter law, cold, and you must know how to apply it to a fresh set of often-bizarre facts," Messinger said in his book. “From your first day, you should focus solely on understanding black letter law and preparing to play with hypotheticals.”

**Ask for help, and use study aids**

Luckily though, there are lots of places to turn for help.

First of all, there are your professors, who hold office hours to help students and answer questions. But don’t just go and tell your professor you don’t understand. You need to bring specific questions that you’ve prepared in advance.

“If you’re doing the heavy lifting and you take those questions to the professors, they are going to help you, and they’re going to share insights that will help you, but you have to be engaged,” Burgess said.

Study groups, as mentioned, help some people, but not everyone.

If you do join a group, make sure it includes members who have a better understanding of the material than you do, as well as some who are struggling. The middle of the pack is where Ritter liked to be, because she could learn from others and she had the opportunity to explain topics to others, with assistance from the group if she hit a rough spot.

“If you can teach it to someone else, you’re golden,” Ritter said.

Incorporate practice exams into your studying schedule, and do as many as you can get your hands on. If your professor releases one, take it. It’s the best indicator there is to what your professor is going to be looking for.

The major bar companies offer resources relevant to first-year classes, and there are supplements you can purchase too.

First though, go to your academic support office and law library to see what they have available. They may have more than you expect, Burgess said, and they may also offer practice exams to help get you ready.

Finally, it’s exam day. You’ll want to get it over with, but you’ll also feel as if you didn’t have enough time to prepare.

You know how experts always say to get enough sleep the night before (aka don’t cram the night before)? Well, do it.

Go to bed at a decent hour and have a great breakfast to start your day. Consider listening to music on your headphones while setting up in the exam room so you can avoid the energy of those around you. There’s going to be a lot of anxiety and tension in the air.

Practice various ways to reduce anxiety. Breathing exercises, for example take just 30 seconds and can help reset your focus.

When you sit down to take the exam, trust your instincts, Ritter said. “It’s so easy to overthink an answer or whatever you’re doing,” she said, “so trust your instincts and be prepared.”

And Tiffany, don’t forget that professors grade the exams blindly, and also on a curve. Your grade is all about your own blood, sweat and tears (and preparation).

As Messinger said, “Law school should be a competition of one: You. What if you’re special (in either or any direction)? Special good, special bad, special weird. … What if you get easily distracted? What if, what if, what if … ?”

What if you outline well, study hard, get a good night’s sleep and rock these exams?
With legal education seeing dramatic turmoil, we celebrate those schools that have risen to the challenge and continue to offer affordable, quality education.

BY MIKE STETZ

This year, when it came to value, Whittier Law School ranked 197th out of 200 law schools, and Charlotte ranked 199th. Only one law school – Thomas Jefferson School of Law – was ranked lower.

This year’s top school for value is Atlanta-based Georgia State University College of Law, which rocked the house across the board. Its average student debt is below $65,000. The school’s 2015 bar passage rate was 88 percent, which was well above the state average of 73 percent.

It’s employment performance? More than 82 percent of its grads got jobs. (See page 25 for Best Value methodology.)

Now let’s compare those results with the two failed law schools.

Average debt at Charlotte Law School was $140,000. At Whittier Law School, based in Costa Mesa, Calif., the average grad walked out $180,000 in hock. Both had abysmal bar-passage rates. Although Whittier recently claimed a 38 percent success rate, it made national news when only 22 percent of its grads passed the July 2016 California bar.

Charlotte School of Law didn’t fare much better. In the February 2017 test, only 25 percent of its students passed. Charlotte School of Law’s overall performance was so dismal that the America Bar Association put it on probation, and federal loans to students were discontinued for a time.

Such results are why critics have been hounding legal education in recent years, saying too many schools were taking too many marginal students and failing to give them the academic support necessary to pass the bar, much less be successful attorneys.

Whether this is true or not, there are still many law schools where value is a benchmark. This year, 62 schools make our list.

Granted, they aren’t necessarily the Yales and Harvards of the legal education world, but they don’t pretend to be. They are bent
on educating the next generation of lawyers, many of whom will be able to pursue any law avenue they wish because they won’t be saddled with enormous debt.

“It is part of our mission. It drives our thinking,” Wendy Hensel, interim dean of Georgia State University College of Law, said of value. “It is a priority for us.”

Her school is not alone. Look at University of Nebraska College of Law, for instance. It’s held a steady presence on our Best Value list for years, finishing first twice. This year, it’s fifth. The average student debt is $62,888, the second lowest in our top 10. It trails only The University of South Dakota School of Law, which had an average student debt of $55,609, the lowest of all law schools.

Average student debt doesn’t pass the $100,000 mark until the 39th school on our Best Value list, University of Texas School of Law.

Check out The University of Alabama School of Law, another school that routinely makes our top 10. It finished eighth this year. It’s bar-passage rate is among the highest in the nation, even rivaling Ivy League schools. Its 2014-15 test-takers eclipsed the 93 percent mark – the highest of all schools in the Best Value top 20.

Keeping debt low

Maintaining value is challenging, given the pressures facing law schools, Georgia State’s Hensel said. Resources are thinning. The competition for quality students has heated up. Applications to law schools have dropped 35 percent in recent years, she said.

But she calls her law school “scrappy” and “innovative,” traits that have helped it continue its mission of offering quality education at an affordable price.

Look at student debt. As mentioned, it was below $65,000. The surprising thing is that the school actually managed to lower it from the year before, when it was more than $66,000. (Georgia State University finished fourth last year in our analysis.)

Georgia State University seeks to attract diverse, underserved students, Hensel said. Bringing such people into law is more important than ever, given the challenges our society is facing, she said. It’s growing more fragmented and polarized and undergoing widespread change. Just check out cable news.

Last year, the school started a new center, the Center for Access to Justice. There’s a growing need among the poor for quality legal assistance. For many, it’s either unaffordable or unavailable, and they face a host of serious problems, from housing needs to domestic violence protection.

If they wish, Georgia State law grads are able to go to more expensive schools often accumulate, Hensel said.

“That’s part of our DNA,” she said.

And, yes, many students are attracted to the school for that reason, she said. Still, she’s surprised that more millennials are not considering legal careers. The application drop-off has her puzzled because of the power that attorneys can have in the area of social justice.

“Lawyers are on the front page of the
Legal education has been hit hard with criticisms the past few years, Hensel said. However, she believes the attacks were not targeted accurately. She said law schools that charge high tuitions but don’t deliver quality education should have been singled out, because those schools are failing students.

“That’s not Georgia State,” Hensel said. She was not surprised by the recent law school closings.

“The writing has been on the wall for some time,” she said.

And she doubts they will be the last to close.

“Schools that aren’t nimble, that aren’t entrepreneurial, schools that don’t offer good value won’t last,” she said.

## Bar passage blues

We did discover one pattern in our Best Value analysis. Many law schools have seen their bar-passage rates drop. While many remain above their states’ averages, they have dipped from historical highs.

Take Georgia State University. In July 2016, its bar-passage rate was 82.6 percent, down from the 94.5 percent in 2008. Many of the nation’s law schools are experiencing the same worrisome trend.

One theory is that schools have been forced to lower admission standards to fill classes. Some are taking students with increasingly low LSAT scores. The two failing law schools had lowered standards so much that a number of legal education experts predicted their students would ultimately do poorly on the bar exam.

Georgia State University is well aware of the problem and addressing it, Hensel said. The school uses data analytics to scrutinize student performance and see if any “warning points,” exist, she said. Then, the school can intervene and help the student when and where he or she needs it.

“We put science into this,” Hensel said.

Her school is hardly alone in using progressive measures to address bar-passage rates. Florida International University College of Law in Miami has been one of the best performing Florida law schools when it comes to bar passage.

In July 2017, an impressive 87.8 percent of all Florida International University graduates who took the bar passed. They led all Florida schools and beat the state average by 16 percentage points. It was the third straight time the school had led all Florida schools in the July Exam, including the best performing Florida law schools when it comes to bar passage.

## Michigan Law School Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>Tuition</th>
<th>Cost of living</th>
<th>Debt</th>
<th>Modified Employment rate</th>
<th>2-year Bar Pass School</th>
<th>2-year Bar Pass State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln Memorial University</td>
<td>$34,490</td>
<td>$19,860</td>
<td>$89,779</td>
<td>91.2%</td>
<td>69.7%</td>
<td>76.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple University</td>
<td>24,786</td>
<td>22,488</td>
<td>86,937</td>
<td>83.8</td>
<td>82.7</td>
<td>78.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNC School of Law</td>
<td>23,551</td>
<td>24,424</td>
<td>95,365</td>
<td>77.2</td>
<td>85.9</td>
<td>67.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ. of Arkansas at Little Rock</td>
<td>15,161</td>
<td>15,292</td>
<td>65,931</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>75.5</td>
<td>76.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Connecticut</td>
<td>28,634</td>
<td>17,492</td>
<td>72,942</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>86.4</td>
<td>85.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston</td>
<td>30,401</td>
<td>17,088</td>
<td>97,246</td>
<td>82.9</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>75.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Idaho</td>
<td>18,664</td>
<td>10,018</td>
<td>86,022</td>
<td>74.4</td>
<td>69.5</td>
<td>74.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Kansas</td>
<td>21,617</td>
<td>15,492</td>
<td>88,809</td>
<td>77.8</td>
<td>90.2</td>
<td>86.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Memphis</td>
<td>18,763</td>
<td>17,576</td>
<td>76,997</td>
<td>78.7</td>
<td>73.3</td>
<td>76.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Missouri - KC</td>
<td>18,647</td>
<td>16,268</td>
<td>93,678</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>87.1</td>
<td>87.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Univ. of Nevada, Las Vegas</td>
<td>26,749</td>
<td>15,470</td>
<td>97,361</td>
<td>82.3</td>
<td>72.8</td>
<td>69.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of South Carolina</td>
<td>25,994</td>
<td>18,229</td>
<td>89,388</td>
<td>81.9</td>
<td>79.9</td>
<td>73.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td>19,308</td>
<td>20,998</td>
<td>80,445</td>
<td>78.1</td>
<td>84.5</td>
<td>76.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas</td>
<td>33,995</td>
<td>20,579</td>
<td>103,417</td>
<td>86.1</td>
<td>88.1</td>
<td>74.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Wyoming</td>
<td>15,758</td>
<td>15,883</td>
<td>90,231</td>
<td>80.8</td>
<td>73.3</td>
<td>76.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washburn University</td>
<td>20,950</td>
<td>16,171</td>
<td>81,528</td>
<td>78.4</td>
<td>81.5</td>
<td>84.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington and Lee University</td>
<td>47,437</td>
<td>18,123</td>
<td>105,426</td>
<td>87.7</td>
<td>91.0</td>
<td>74.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
<td>30,727</td>
<td>21,963</td>
<td>81,738</td>
<td>78.7</td>
<td>81.8</td>
<td>70.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Virginia University</td>
<td>20,916</td>
<td>15,290</td>
<td>82,683</td>
<td>75.8</td>
<td>75.7</td>
<td>80.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While passing the bar is critical to success, law school is about more than preparing students for the exam, he said. Creating
a challenging and rewarding law school experience is key, he said. Teaching students how to be critical thinkers is the job of law schools. And some are indeed failing to do so, Ruiz said.

Legal education has responsibilities that go beyond producing lawyers, he said. It also must protect the public by making certain the students do indeed have the chops to be quality lawyers.

“If not,” he said, “what value are you bringing here?”

Lincoln Memorial’s ascent

Lincoln Memorial University John J. Duncan Jr. School of Law once grappled with its ability to offer value. The school, which was started in 2009, was floundering, unable to win accreditation from the American Bar Association (ABA).

It went so far as to sue the ABA, but later reversed course, changed leadership and instituted reforms.

It paid off. Three years ago, the ABA granted the Knoxville, Tenn., school provisional accreditation. And this year, Lincoln Memorial University makes The National Jurist’s Best Value list, earning an A-. (Last year, it finished 13th among Best Value Private Law Schools.)

How?

For one, student debt is below $90,000. Secondly, it’s upped it bar-passage performance. Indeed, the school came in first in last year’s analysis by The National Jurist of law schools that outperformed their expected bar-passage rate. The magazine looked at student LSAT scores to determine how schools might be expected to perform. Lincoln Memorial’s predicted pass rate for the 2014 exam was 62.85 percent, but 78.57 percent of its students passed.

“In reality, we had no way to go but up,” said Gary Wade, vice president and dean of the law school.

After the ABA declined accreditation, enrollment dropped steeply, Wade noted. “It was devastating,” he said.

Wade offered the school a unique perspective. He had no experience in legal education. Before taking the helm, he had served on the Tennessee Supreme Court and was chief justice for two years. Before that, he served on the Court of Criminal Appeals for nearly two decades.

He said he “didn’t have much context” when it came to the woes of legal education, and he feels that turned out to be an advantage.

But Wade doesn’t take credit for the turnaround. He credits Lincoln Memorial University for support, saying it could have closed the law school after it failed to get ABA accreditation. Also, the school’s inaugural Class of 2013 had an 81 percent bar-passage rate – higher than the state average. That helped remove doubt that the school could provide a quality, affordable education, he said.

Making law school accessible to students from all economic backgrounds is key, he said. The school’s mission is to train students from southern Appalachia, one of the nation’s poorest regions.

“It’s our essence to be affordable,” Wade said.

The closing schools are having an unfortunate effect not only on their students but on the reputation of the legal profession as well, Wade said.

He said his school has taken in nearly 40 former Charlotte School of Law students and has worked hard to welcome them and offer them a fresh start.

“They feel valued as students,” Wade said.

Best Value Methodology

The Best Value Law Schools ranking is designed to recognize the law schools where graduates have excellent chances of passing the bar and getting a legal job without taking on a ton of debt.

The National Jurist ranks schools using this formula: percentage of graduates who pass the bar exam (15 percent); employment rate (35 percent); tuition (25 percent); cost of living (10 percent); and average indebtedness upon graduation (15 percent).

All data comes from the ABA with the exception of average indebtedness, which comes from U.S. News & World Report. For employment, we used weighted employment number, which gives more weight to full-time, bar passage required jobs. The formula is available at iiaals.du.edu/educating-tomorrows-lawyers/projects/numbers/calculator-tool-researchers-and-media

Is Thomas Jefferson next to go?

One school had to come in last on our Best Value list, and Thomas Jefferson School of Law did just that. The numbers pretty much tell the story, and it’s not a pretty one.

The average student debt at the school is more than $180,000. Its 2015 bar-passage rate was less than 50 percent. Fewer than 38 percent of its grads got jobs.

All of which begs the question: Why in the world is this San Diego-based law school still in business?

It also begs another question: If Charlotte School of Law students were cut off from federal loans, why aren’t Thomas Jefferson’s students as well?

Like many law schools, Thomas Jefferson has lowered its admission standards during the past five years as application numbers dropped. In 2010, some 87,900 students in the U.S. applied to law schools, and Thomas Jefferson, a private, stand-alone law school, reported a median LSAT of 151. By 2015, the number of applicants had dropped to 54,500, and Thomas Jefferson’s median LSAT had dropped to 143.

The LSAT, thought to be an indicator of how well a student will do in law school, is often a key factor in judging an applicant’s worthiness.

When legal education experts are asked which law schools they think will close, Thomas Jefferson is usually on the short, short, short list.

And Thomas Jefferson will soon be facing scrutiny. The ABA is scheduled to do a review of the law school during the 2017-18 school year, something that’s done every seven years.

Will its poor bar-pass rate lead to penalties? We don’t know.

One thing we do know: It’s no longer unthinkable for a law school to close.
Fatimata Belem hopes one day to represent in court individuals whose human rights have been violated.

“I come from a place where people are barely aware of their fundamental rights and rarely enjoy it to the fullest,” said Belem, a native of Burkina Faso who holds a bachelor of laws degree and a master of arts in European studies. “And, I feel that it is a duty for me to contribute in raising awareness about the rights that every human being is entitled to, and to work on promoting and protecting them.”

An LL.M. in human rights and social justice from University of Connecticut School of Law should help her achieve that goal. She said the program is the perfect opportunity to approach human rights from both a domestic and an international perspective. It also offers practical experience through a clinic.

Belem is one of thousands of foreign attorneys who are furthering their education in America through a master of laws (LL.M.) degree. While some hope to take the bar exam and practice in the U.S., most plan to return to their home countries with an in-depth knowledge that will set them apart and help them improve legal systems around the globe.
LL.M. degrees designed for foreign attorneys

Below are LL.M. degrees designed for foreign attorneys. There are 490 additional programs open to foreign attorneys, including LL.M.s, MSL degrees and other offerings. For a complete list, visit www.NationalJurist.com/international-jurist

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>DL</th>
<th>PT</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
<th>Tuition per credit</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany Law School</td>
<td>LLM for Foreign Law Graduates</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$45,882/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atlanta's John Marshall</td>
<td>Practice of Law in the U.S.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,407</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$52,000/yr</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brigham Young University</td>
<td>Comparative American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$12,680/yr</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brooklyn Law School</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,677</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic University</td>
<td>LLM. in American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,700/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago-Kent College of Law</td>
<td>U.S., International &amp; Transnational Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$41,500/yr</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DePaul University</td>
<td>US Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,530</td>
<td>Fall: July 1; Sp: Nov. 1; Sum: April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drexel University Kline School of Law</td>
<td>American Legal Practice</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,450</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duke University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$61,000/yr</td>
<td>Jan. 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Coastal School of Law</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$765</td>
<td>Fall: Aug. 15; Sp: Jan 4; Sum: April 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida State University</td>
<td>American Law for Foreign Lawyers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,355.18</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fordham University</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,391</td>
<td>Fall: March 1; Sp: Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason University</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,391</td>
<td>Fall: May 1; Sp: Nov 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
<td>Bar Preparation</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,448</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
<td>Environmental/Land Use</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,434</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Golden Gate University</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,434</td>
<td>Fall: April 1; Sp: Oct. 1; Sum: April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hofstra University (Deane)</td>
<td>American Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,600</td>
<td>Fall: June 1; Sp: Nov. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana University Maurer</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,775</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indiana U. McKinney School of Law</td>
<td>American Law for Foreign Lawyers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,835</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyola Law School, Los Angeles</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,431.50</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyola University Chicago</td>
<td>U.S. Law for Foreign Lawyers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$54,240/yr</td>
<td>Fall: July 1; Sp: Dec. 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loyola University New Orleans</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,511</td>
<td>Fall: May 1; Sp: Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>McGeorge School of Law</td>
<td>U.S. Law &amp; Policy</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,393</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td>American Legal System</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,260</td>
<td>Fall: April 1; Sp: Nov. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi College</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,250</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England Law I Boston</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,129</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NKU Chase College of Law</td>
<td>United States Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$47,912/yr</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northeastern University</td>
<td>Executive LLM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>H</td>
<td>$28,950/yr</td>
<td>Fall: May 1; Sum: Feb. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperdine University</td>
<td>United States Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$992</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pepperdine University</td>
<td>U.S. Law and Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,995</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regent University</td>
<td>American Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,995</td>
<td>Fall: Feb. 15; Sp: June 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saint Louis University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$650</td>
<td>March 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Clara University</td>
<td>United States Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$40,480/yr</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seattle University</td>
<td>American Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,499</td>
<td>Fall: June 15; Sp: Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMU Dedman School of Law</td>
<td>Master of Laws</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,960</td>
<td>Fall: April 1; Sp: Oct. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John's University</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$52,586/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Mary’s University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,378</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syracuse University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,250</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taft Law School</td>
<td>American Jurisprudence (online)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$330</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple University</td>
<td>Masters for Foreign-trained Lawyers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$27,374/yr</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Texas Tech University</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$45,230/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Jefferson School of Law</td>
<td>American Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,300</td>
<td>Fall: June 1; Sp: Nov. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Touro Law Center</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,645</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$54,000/yr</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC - Irvine</td>
<td>American Law; International Tax</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$58,370/yr</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UC Hastings</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$47,500/yr</td>
<td>March 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Baltimore</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$22,000/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Cincinnati</td>
<td>Program for foreign attorneys</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,209</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We queried law schools across the United States to identify the most interesting LL.M. students, and we were flooded with fascinating stories. Here are 10 who stood out.

Priyanka Sharma’s reason for coming to the U.S. for an LL.M. is similar to Belem’s in that she sees a need in the world. Sharma says her home country of India has a dire need for lawyers who can use alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques. She hopes to make the ADR process work more effectively and also build a name for herself.

Her path to Pepperdine University School of Law hasn’t been easy. Sharma said her family thought an LL.M. for a woman was a waste of money.

But she’s always been rebellious and wanted the freedom to do more than get married and raise a family.

Sharma compares her journey to the freedom that dispute resolution provides: “Freedom from long court procedures, freedom from biasness, freedom from costs and freedom from traditional litigation. I have new life, new opportunities with more confidence. This new journey will hopefully bring more confidence in me and help me to build an individual identity so that I can set an example for other girls in my family who, like me, want to achieve their dreams.”

She was drawn to Pepperdine University in part because of its approach to practical training, and she looks forward to being able to mediate cases and take an externship.

Oleaq Richards is from Jamaica, and he wants to play a critical role in seeing the island become a developed country by 2030. He hopes to bring skills and knowledge back home after completing his LL.M. in business law at Florida State University College of Law.

After an accident ended his childhood dream of becoming a pilot, Richards discovered a new passion in law. He is particularly interested in corporate, international, and sports and entertainment law.

Ayene M. Sisay also hopes his law studies – and future degrees – will benefit his home country. The son and grandson of subsistence farmers in Ethiopia, Sisay holds an LL.M. from Bahir Dar University in Ethiopia and is working on a second LL.M. at Penn State Law.

He worked as an assistant lecturer in Ethiopia and taught undergraduate law students. He also worked in the university’s legal aid center, providing legal services to vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, individuals with HIV/AIDS and
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>DL</th>
<th>PT</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
<th>Tuition per credit</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Connecticut</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$28,560/yr</td>
<td>Fall: June 15; Sp.: Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Dayton</td>
<td>American &amp; Transnational Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,149</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Denver</td>
<td>American Law Practice</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,623</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Florida</td>
<td>Comparative Law (U.S. Law)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,296.80</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Georgia</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,568/est.</td>
<td>May 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Houston</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,655</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Idaho</td>
<td>Democracy, Justice &amp; the American Legal System</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$31,234/yr</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Kansas</td>
<td>American Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,269</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
<td>American Legal System</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$30,045/sem</td>
<td>Jan. 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$53,600/yr</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Missouri</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,394.70</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of North Carolina</td>
<td>U.S. Legal System</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$883.50</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oklahoma</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$39,564/yr</td>
<td>Fall: March 15; Sp: Oct. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$38,500/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$19,935/term</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of St. Thomas</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$37,930/yr</td>
<td>April 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td>U.S. Business Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$45,284/yr</td>
<td>March 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Texas</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$31,796/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Tulsa</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$33,500/yr</td>
<td>Fall: Oct. 15; Sp: March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Wisconsin</td>
<td>Legal Institutions</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$61,898/yr</td>
<td>March 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC Gould School of Law</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$2,393</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USC Gould School of Law</td>
<td>American Law (Online)</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valparaiso University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vanderbilt University</td>
<td>American Law, Corporate Law, International Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,391</td>
<td>April 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The National Jurist  Fall 2017

academic expertise,” said Bloch, a German-Colombian who is now a French lawyer. “The International Business Transactions LL.M. program offers key practical drafting and negotiation courses that are fundamental to develop the skills required of a lawyer and negotiator in international public and private law. These experiential-learning-focused courses, combined with the legal externship program, will provide me with a necessary solid base in practical experience.”

She is also a Ph.D. candidate in international economic law at Paris-Sorbonne University, where her dissertation is about the normative power of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The opportunity to learn common law is another reason that many attorneys enroll in LL.M. programs in the U.S. Since 1999, Flavia Fragale Martins Pepino has been a labor and employment judge in Brazil, a civil law country that has recently adopted some U.S. law concepts. She wanted to better understand common law systems, especially as they relate to employment cases.

Choosing where to earn an LL.M. in American law was easy. She returned to University of Missouri School of Law, where she earned an LL.M. in dispute resolution in 2005.

“I found the professors and staff very helpful and competent,” she said. “Besides, Columbia is a wonderful city with people of different backgrounds, which enriches even more the experience of living and studying abroad. So far, I am enjoying a lot being here again.”

enerjeta Bashaj is an attorney from Albania currently enrolled in the LL.M. program at New England Law | Boston. She wants to gain a better knowledge of the American law system.

She would love to bring her knowledge back to her home country, but after completing the program, she plans to stay in Massachusetts to take the bar exam.

“If I should happen to start a career as a lawyer here, I can’t say that it wouldn’t be a dream come true, especially with the profound love that I have for the great city of

The University of Houston is a Carnegie-designated Tier One research institution and an EEO/AA Institution.

THE POWER OF THE LL.M. DEGREE

Advance your career in one of the 5 specialty programs

ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & INFORMATION LAW

HEALTH LAW

INTERNATIONAL LAW

TAX LAW

For more information, contact llm@uh.edu or visit law.uh.edu/llm

The University of Houston Law Center is home to renowned specialty programs with two (Health Law and Intellectual Property) ranked in the Top Ten according to U.S. News & World Report and two programs (Energy Law and Health Law) ranked in the Top Ten in the LLM GUIDE.

APPLY NOW

Spring 2018 Admission

The University of Houston is a Carnegie-designated Tier One research institution and an EEO/AA Institution.

Sisay served as an adviser to the university’s president on legal issues related to procurement, human resources,
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>DL</th>
<th>PT</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
<th>Tuition per credit</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wake Forest University</td>
<td>American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$44,470/yr</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washburn University</td>
<td>Global Legal Studies, American Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$27,000/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington University</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,287</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
<td>U.S. Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,048.52</td>
<td>Fall; July 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Widener Delaware Law School</td>
<td>American Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,525</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William &amp; Mary Law School</td>
<td>The American Legal System</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$41,964/yr</td>
<td>Fall; Mar. 1; Sp. Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WMU - Cooley</td>
<td>U.S. Legal Studies</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$925</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Business</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University</td>
<td>International Business Law</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$50,500/yr</td>
<td>Fall; April 1; Sp. Nov. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
<td>Corporate Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,855.30</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford Law School</td>
<td>Corporate Governance &amp; Practice</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$58,041/yr</td>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Idaho</td>
<td>Business Law &amp; Entrepreneurship</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$31,234</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Minnesota</td>
<td>Business Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$53,600/yr</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Criminal</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
<td>Criminal Law and Procedure</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,855.30</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dispute Resolution</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
<td>Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,855.30</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Idaho</td>
<td>Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$31,234</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environmental</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
<td>Environmental/Land Use</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,434</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford Law School</td>
<td>Environmental Law &amp; Policy</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$58,041/yr</td>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Idaho</td>
<td>Natural Resources &amp; Environmental Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$31,234</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cornell Law School</td>
<td>General</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$65,456/yr</td>
<td>Dec. 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Take your career to the next level.**

Whether you're a practicing attorney or a recent law school graduate from the U.S. or abroad, an LL.M. in International Law from Stetson will prepare you for your next milestone in business, government, teaching or international law.

“The knowledge I gained from attending the International LL.M. program at Stetson Law enabled me to successfully pursue a career in international banking and finance.”

Herbert Euler LL.M. '00
Senior Legal Counsel
AKA Ausfuhrkredit-Gesellschaft m.b.H, Frankfurt, Germany

**Let Stetson help you advance your career.**
Visit stetson.edu/law/international/llm

©2017
For some students, an LL.M. is a natural career progression.

That is the case for Jesús González. Originally from Mexico, he decided at a young age that he wanted to be a lawyer. In the 1990s, the country’s economy opened, and he decided to focus his career on international and transactions law.

“That was also very appealing to me,” said González, who lived in the U.S. during high school and during a college internship.

Since 2008, he has worked at Rockwell Automation, and three years ago he moved to the U.S. It’s common for people who work at international firms to earn an LL.M. in order to practice law in America and have a better understanding of the legal system, he said.

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law was the best fit for González because of its proximity to his workplace, its price and its part-time evening program.

He recalled a friend who had described his LL.M. program elsewhere as very cut-throat.

“That’s completely different from what I’ve observed here,” González said.

He said his classmates were excited when he suggested studying together, and professors have empathy for their students. For instance, one professor moved a midterm exam after González said he needed to attend a business meeting at his company’s headquarters.

Li Zhu hopes the LL.M. program in law and economics at Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University will be helpful to his career. He is a judge at the Intellectual Property Tribunal, Supreme People’s Court, in the People’s Republic of China. He is also an expert at China’s State Intellectual Property Office and an adjunct professor at Beijing University of Science and Engineering.

“I think this is the best place you can study law and economics,” he said, adding that his professors treat students like family.

Adriano de Seta intends to remain in the U.S. to practice law and become a permanent resident.

He is attending Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary.

He was attracted to the school because it is one of the oldest and most renowned colleges in the United States, he said, and because it has a prestigious international academic reputation as home to the Reves Center for International Studies.

The school was also recommended to him by a mentor he worked with on complex international legal cases involving estates with property in both the U.S. and Italy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Law school</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>DL</th>
<th>PT</th>
<th>Ext.</th>
<th>Tuition per credit</th>
<th>Application deadline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Duquesne University</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$24,238/yr</td>
<td>May 31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida International University</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$824.21</td>
<td>May 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown University</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$2,512</td>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,434</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern Law</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$62,306/yr</td>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State Law</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$49,000/yr</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penn State U. - Dickinson Law</td>
<td>General</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,924</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Missouri - KC</td>
<td>Lawyering</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,511.03</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington University</td>
<td>Program for Foreign-trained Lawyers</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,287</td>
<td>Rolling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland-Marshall College of Law</td>
<td>Varied</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$947.50</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,434</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University</td>
<td>Intellectual Property</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$50,500/yr</td>
<td>Fall: April 1; Sp: Nov. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia State University</td>
<td>Intellectual Property</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$1,434</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
<td>Intellectual Property and Information Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>$2,855.30</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford Law School</td>
<td>Law, Science and Technology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$58,041/yr</td>
<td>Dec. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Western School of Law</td>
<td>U.S. Law and Comparative Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$30,000/yr</td>
<td>Fall: June 15; Sp: Nov. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Western Reserve University</td>
<td>U.S. &amp; Global Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$50,500/yr</td>
<td>Fall: April 1; Sp: Nov. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgetown University</td>
<td>International Legal Studies</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,512</td>
<td>Feb. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard University</td>
<td>Comparative International Law or Social Justice</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$32,000/yr</td>
<td>March 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwestern Law</td>
<td>Executive L.L.M.</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$62,306/yr</td>
<td>Feb. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio State University</td>
<td>International and Comparative Law</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,855.30</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY MORITZ COLLEGE OF LAW** empowers students to do more than learn the basics of legal practice in the U.S. We provide ample opportunities to gain substantive experience within a well-rounded program that prepares students to be industry leaders.

- 2017 LLM Guide Top 10 LLM. Programs for Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Small class sizes and one-on-one attention
- LL.M.—J.D. transfer option
- Six academic concentrations
- Career services and professional development specifically for LL.M. students
- American Law and Language Summer Program
- Public Service Externship, D.C. Externship, moot court, and clinical opportunities

**LEARN MORE:**
http://moritzlaw.osu.edu/llm/
The Master of Laws (LL.M.) degrees are a one-year, full-time program, designed to give graduates of foreign law schools an opportunity to study the United States legal system and international law and trade, and to become truly capable lawyers in the 21st century’s global economy. Our LL.M. students have access to 170 Juris Doctor (J.D.) courses, as well as courses specifically designed for the needs of LL.M. students. Our students, who have come from 60 countries, form a close-knit community and become involved in law school activities with J.D. classmates. LL.M. students benefit from individual attention and guidance in a family atmosphere. We offer four LL.M. degrees and a summer law institute.

**LL.M. in United States and Global Legal Studies** — Focus on United States legal research, writing, and analytical methods with a flexible curriculum to meet each individual student’s career goals. Students may earn certificates in several areas of law.

**LL.M. in Intellectual Property Law** — Focus on the doctrine and policy of United States intellectual property law, including patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets.

**LL.M. in International Business Law** — Focus on academic analysis and practical applications of United States business law as applied to international transactions.

**LL.M. in International Criminal Law** — Focus on national security law, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law as applied to international tribunals or national courts.

**Summer Language and Law Institute** — Open to any foreign legal professional or international student, this intensive four-week training experience in Legal English aims to introduce students to the U.S. legal system.
Other LL.M. programs

The following programs are not specifically designed for foreign attorneys but are open to them. * represents schools that offer online programs. For details on these programs, visit www.NationalJurist.com

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Admiralty</th>
<th>Biotechnology</th>
<th>Constitutional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charleston School of Law</td>
<td>Arizona State University</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulane University</td>
<td>Business &amp; Corporate</td>
<td>University of Missouri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Miami</td>
<td>Boston University*</td>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural, Food</td>
<td>Capital University</td>
<td>University of San Diego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University*</td>
<td>Chapman Fowler School of Law</td>
<td>University of Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Arkansas*</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
<td>University of Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vermont Law School*</td>
<td>Florida State University</td>
<td>Wayne State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal</td>
<td>Fordham University</td>
<td>Widener Delaware Law School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark Law School</td>
<td>George Washington University</td>
<td>WMU-Cooley*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antitrust Law</td>
<td>Georgetown University</td>
<td>Child, Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Mason University</td>
<td>Indiana U. Bloomington (Maurer)</td>
<td>Emory University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>Indiana U. McKinney</td>
<td>Hofstra University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temple University</td>
<td>Loyola Law School, Los Angeles</td>
<td>Loyola University Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banking &amp; Bankruptcy</td>
<td>Loyola University Chicago*</td>
<td>Clinical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston University</td>
<td>McGeorge School of Law</td>
<td>University of Maryland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago-Kent College of Law</td>
<td>New York University</td>
<td>Compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fordham University</td>
<td>Northeastern University</td>
<td>Drake University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. John’s University</td>
<td>The John Marshall Law School</td>
<td>Fordham University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCLA Law</td>
<td>UCLA Law</td>
<td>Seton Hall University*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Denver</td>
<td>University of St. Thomas — Mn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Widener Delaware Law School*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Go global in Chicago

LLM IN US LAW FOR FOREIGN LAWYERS
LLM IN INTERNATIONAL LAW/FOCUS OPTION

Enjoy academic rigor in a vibrant law school community. Round off your education with skills classes and extracurricular activities. Find networking and job opportunities in a world-class metropolis. Enroll in August or January, and apply for a tuition-reduction scholarship.

LEARN MORE  iblanke1@LUC.edu  •  312.915.7091  •  LUC.edu/law/internationalLLM

TRACK I • US LAW
Designed for foreign lawyers who seek to develop an expertise in specific aspects of American law. Immerses students in the foundations of law and legal thought, and provides skills critical to advising clients in the US or globally.

TRACK II • INTERNATIONAL LAW WITH FOCUS OPTION
Study private or public international law. Choose a focus in arbitration, mediation, and negotiation; business and corporate; child and family; competition; health; human rights; intellectual property; trade; or tax law.

University of Maryland
University of Missouri
University of Oregon
USC Gould School of Law
Washington University
Williamette University
Economics and Econ. Dev.
George Mason University
Northeastern University
University of Arizona*

Entertainment
Chapman Fowler School of Law
Fordham University
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Pepperdine University
Southwestern Law School
UCLA Law
University of Miami
Entrepreneurship
Arizona State University
Cornell Law School
Provides an in-depth study of global antitrust issues, both established and developing.
Explores the use of non-competitive factors in competition analysis, extraterritorial application of antitrust law, and the intersection of antitrust and trade policy.

For attorneys who intend to practice in the field of patent, copyright, trademark, or technology.
Engage with the Center for the Protection of Intellectual Property through conference and research opportunities.

• Provides an in-depth study of global antitrust issues, both established and developing.
• Explores the use of non-competitive factors in competition analysis, extraterritorial application of antitrust law, and the intersection of antitrust and trade policy.

• Develop an expertise in the skills of economic analyses as they are applied to legal issues.
• Explores economic analysis toward private law, intellectual property, international business law, regulatory law, and other areas.

• Covers the structure of the U.S. government and legal system, sources of law, and overviews of substantive areas of law.
• Graduates have the opportunity to sit for a bar examination in the United States.
International
American University
Arizona State University
Cardozo School of Law
Chapman Fowler School of Law
DePaul University
Fordham University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Golden Gate University
Indiana U. Bloomington (Maurer)
Indiana U. McKinney
Louisiana State University
Loyola University Chicago*
Mississippi College
New York University
Pepperdine University
St. Mary's University
Stetson University
Temple University
Tulane University
UCLA Law
University of Houston
University of Maryland
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of New Hampshire*
University of Notre Dame
University of Pennsylvania
University of San Diego
University of Texas
University of Washington
Georgetown University
Judicial studies
Duke University
Labor, Employment
Atlanta's John Marshall*
The John Marshall Law School*
University of San Diego
Wayne State University
Legal Theory
New York University
National Security
George Washington University
Georgetown University
WMU-Cooley*
Practice Skills
Thomas Jefferson SOL
Public Interest
UCLA Law
Real Estate
John Marshall Law School
University of Miami
Religion
Emory University
Rule of Law
Arizona State University
Loyola University Chicago
Ohio Northern University
Science & Technology
Arizona State University
Sexuality
UCLA Law
Space
University of Mississippi*
University of Nebraska*
Sports
Arizona State University
Pepperdine University
St. John's University
University of Miami
Sustainability
Arizona State University
University of Washington
Sustainable Human Dev.
Emory University
Taxation
Boston University*
Capital University
Chapman Fowler School of Law
DePaul University
Georgetown University*
Golden Gate University
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Loyola University Chicago
New York Law School
New York University*
Northwestern Law
SMU Dedman School of Law
Taft Law School*
John Marshall Law School
Thomas Jefferson SOL
UCLA Law
University of Baltimore*
University of Denver*
University of Florida
University of Houston
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Missouri - KC
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco*
University of Washington
Villanova University*
Wayne State University
WMU-Cooley*
Temple University
Transnational
St. John's University
Transportation
Florida Coastal School of Law*
Trial Advocacy
American University
California Western SOL
Chapman Fowler School of Law
Loyola Law School, Los Angeles
Loyola University Chicago
Mississippi College
Stetson University*
Temple University
Urban Affairs
University of Missouri - KC

When you study at Emory Law, you’ll quickly realize that it is like no other top-tier law school. Our dynamic faculty provides an outstanding academic environment, while our welcoming community makes it a warm, supportive experience. Atlanta is a city that is buzzing with global business, and an easy place to feel at home.

At Emory, you won’t just earn a degree—you’ll enter a world of opportunity.
• Master of Laws (LLM)
• Accelerated Juris Doctor (AJD)
• Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD)

Learn more at law.emory.edu. Complete your application through the Law School Admission Council at law.emory.edu/admission.
studies show that networking is the best way to find a job, but many find networking to be intimidating. That need not be the case, especially if you think of networking as a conversation with a friend, not as a high-pressure job interview.

I’m amazed how many students land jobs through networking meetings. And the best part is that there’s nothing complicated or scary about it. Just follow these five steps:

1. **Identify people to contact**
   Start at your career services office. It can provide good tips and might have a mentor program in place. Mentors are alums who have agreed that students can contact them, so you won’t feel awkward about reaching out.

   Your school alumni directory is another place to start. With alumni, you have something in common: a connection to the same school, which is a good ice-breaker. Professors can also be good sources of information.

   Student memberships in professional associations are another way to find people to network with. Since you are a member of the same organization, there’s a built-in connection.

   LinkedIn groups are also helpful. And, of course, friends, family and people you know through sports, campus activities and other schools you have attended are always good resources.

2. **Set up the meeting**
   You can send a brief, friendly email asking to chat with them about their career and mention your connection. If you want, attach your resume. The email should be more conversational than job-search directed at this point.

3. **Create a list of questions**
   Next, put together a list of questions to ask networking contacts. Questions about their own career paths are a good place to start. Questions about areas in demand, job websites, professional organizations and expected growth areas are also good. In addition, you can show them your resume and ask for suggestions on improving it.

   Questions about referrals to others they know in the industry are fine, but I would wait until the end of the networking meeting to ask for other names.

4. **Meet**
   Hold your first networking meeting with someone you know rather than with your dream employer so you can practice and work out the kinks.

   Plan to conclude networking meetings by asking your contacts if it’s OK for you to follow up with them. Follow-up is the key. It keeps them from feeling they have to come up with an available job for you, but it puts them in a position to remember you if they do hear of an opening.

5. **Follow Up**
   Since you never know when someone you’ve met with might hear of a great job for you, it’s crucial to stay in touch.

   Start by sending a thank you note. Send it quickly, within 24 hours of the meeting. Email is fine. It should be short, sweet and free of typos.

   Then, send a follow-up email about once a month. If you read an article you think would be of interest to them, send them the link. If you find out you are getting an award at graduation or you graduate or pass the bar exam, that would be a great reason to be in touch. People genuinely want to help but often need little reminders that you are still looking for a job.

**Turn your new connection into a mentorship**

Did your network meeting go better than expected? If so, consider asking your new professional connection to be your mentor. Mentors volunteer their time to help students navigate the law school experience and provide invaluable insight about the legal profession. Schedule a recurring meeting at a convenient time for your new connection and soak in as much of his or her experience as you can.

**Hillary Mantis** consults with law students, pre-law students and lawyers. She is director of the pre-law program at Fordham University and author of “Alternative Careers for Lawyers.” You can reach her at altcareer@aol.com.
Certificate in Conflict Resolution

Proactive conflict management, creative problem-solving, and state-of-the-art dispute resolution are critical for all organizations. Thankfully, the effective management of conflict is a science that can be learned.

2018 Online Course Offerings

| 14 CREDITS |

**FALL**
- Negotiation 8 weeks | 3 credits
- Theories of Conflict 6 weeks | 2 credits

**SPRING**
- Mediation 8 weeks | 3 credits
- Arbitration 6 weeks | 2 credits

**SUMMER**
- Cross-Cultural Dispute Resolution 6 weeks | 2 credits
- Organizational Conflict 6 weeks | 2 credits

Earn your certificate in dispute resolution while earning credits toward your law degree

**Program Features**
- 14-credit program
- Complete in as little as 12 months
- Multiple formats to fit your schedule
- Flexibility between formats (online or in-person options)

Students may complete the entire Certificate in Conflict Resolution program or choose to complete any of the online J.D. courses. The program is open to all law students currently in good standing at their home institution. Students are allowed to transfer up to 6 qualifying credits from their home institution to satisfy the certificate program requirements.

**Ranked Top 5 in the Nation**

For the 17th consecutive year, Mitchell Hamline’s Dispute Resolution Institute is ranked in the top 5 dispute resolution programs in the nation by U.S. News & World Report.

Visit our website for more information:
MITCHELHAMLINE.EDU/DRI/CCR

or contact Kitty at kitty.atkins@mitchellhamline.edu
Academic Excellence. Proven Results.

Regent Law delivers extraordinary results at a global level. Our advocacy training provides superb preparation in negotiation, mediation, trial advocacy, and appellate advocacy, making our competition teams among the best in the nation. Become a top-performing lawyer with a competitive edge and a principled foundation.

LEARN MORE.
learn.regent.edu  877.267.5072

The American Bar Association (ABA) fully approves the School of Law. LAW170942

BAR PASSAGE RATE
IN 12 STATES & D.C.
July 2016 Exam

100%

JUDICIAL FEDERAL CLERKSHIP PLACEMENT NATIONALLY
2014-2016

TOP 25%

EMPLOYED WITHIN 10 MONTHS OF GRADUATION
Class of 2016

86%

JD: 3-Yr., Part-Time, Accelerated | LL.M. | M.A. in Law
FOREIGN LL.M.

Advertiser Showcase

The LLM Programs at American University Washington College of Law

Prepare for the future by embarking on an exciting new journey today! The LL.M. programs at American University Washington College of Law are at the Center of policy, business, and all things international. Students, faculty, and alumni tackle pertinent legal issues in D.C. and around the world. Our collaborative community offers a plethora of opportunities to Champion What Matters.

Applicants can earn conditional admission until they earn the requisite TOEFL/IELTS score, or graduate from ELS Cleveland, an English language school located on the university campus. Students start their LLM degrees in January (spring semester) or August (fall semester).

CWRU also offers a 4-week summer class, called Summer Language and Law Institute, which offers an introduction to common law and US legal analysis and writing. Some international students attend just the summer class; others attend the summer class before starting the LLM in fall semester. Summer students can live in the on-campus residence halls.

Emory Law is a top-tier US law school, offering a world-class faculty, a diverse student body, a sophisticated and dynamic urban setting, practical opportunities to apply legal theory and skills, and a global alumni network. With abundant academic and community resources, Emory Law offers an ideal environment for personal and professional growth. Emory Law’s academic rigor, combined with practical learning opportunities, affords both foreign- and US-trained lawyers an unparalleled LLM experience. Program details: * Full-time, two semesters, with August and January enrollment * Open to individuals with a foreign law degree or those who have earned a juris doctor (JD) in the US. * A diverse and collegial class experience, where LLM students enroll in courses with JD and other graduate students. * After successful completion of the LLM, foreign-trained lawyers may be eligible to sit for any US state bar open to foreign-trained lawyers with an LLM.
Our goal here at Scalia Law is to have students who will receive an outstanding legal education (Learn), be taught to critically evaluate prevailing orthodoxy and pursue new ideas (Challenge), and, ultimately, be well prepared to distinguish themselves in their chosen fields (Lead).

- Scalia Law is in an exceptional location for student opportunities;
- Scalia Law is an exceptional community for students, alumni, faculty, and staff;
- Scalia Law provides exceptional career support services; and
- Scalia Law is home to an exceptional market-oriented faculty, placing us at the center of foundational debates on liberty, private property rights, constitutionally limited government, and the economic analysis of law.

As you see, we use the word “exceptional.” This is intentional. Our goal is to deliver superior customer service and results to you.
IUPUI
INDIANA UNIVERSITY
Robert H. McKinney School of Law

The six LL.M. tracks at IU McKinney deliver a rigorous legal education taught by world-class faculty, including full-time academics, judges and other leaders in the legal community. Real-world experience in the heart of the state capital offers many unique opportunities to network while acquiring knowledge through externships, pro bono work, and more. Recognized for outstanding academics, career opportunities, and affordable tuition and cost-of-living, McKinney represents the best of what an American LL.M. can offer.

LOYOLA
Loyola University Chicago School of Law
LLM for International Lawyers

For more than 100 years, Loyola University Chicago School of Law has offered excellence in legal education. Launched in 2012, Loyola’s LLM for International Lawyers Program has provided specialized training to lawyers from more than 40 countries. Select from two program options: U.S. Law—or International Law with a certificate focus in arbitration, negotiation, and mediation; business and corporate; child and family; competition; health; human rights; intellectual property; or tax law. Students may also design their own focus.

Loyola offers a generous scholarship program, outstanding professors, flexible curriculum, and a welcoming and supportive law school community in a world-class city. Round off your education with skills classes and extracurricular activities.
Established in 1870 and situated on one of the most beautiful college campuses in the United States, the University of Richmond School of Law offers an exceptional legal education. The world-class faculty, combined with small classes and a uniquely collegial environment, assures that each student receives the individual attention that they need to thrive. The city of Richmond is a thriving business and legal practice hub and is home to multinational corporations, leading law firms and major government agencies. It is also a lively, livable city, full of first-rate arts, entertainment options, and cultural activities.

Come to Mitchell Hamline School of Law and design your own LL.M. degree, drawing from nationally ranked programs and a range of specialties including intellectual property, business law, dispute resolution, and international and comparative law. You’ll be in a city consistently ranked one of the best places to live in the U.S. and a magnet for people from other countries, where students in the local school system speak more than 100 languages and dialects. The Twin Cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis are home to 17 Fortune 500 companies, including some of the world’s most recognizable corporations: 3M, Target, Cargill, Best Buy, Ecolab, and General Mills. You’ll be connected to our network of more than 19,000 alumni, many of whom are leaders in the global companies headquartered here and around the world.

Contact: 651-290-6476
admissions@mitchellhamline.edu

The LLM program at Northeastern University School of Law, ranked #1 in practical training by The National Jurist, provides an unparalleled opportunity to practice law full time for eleven weeks in your choice of hundreds of exciting professional settings through the school’s signature Cooperative Legal Education Program (co-op). This hands-on experience is the perfect complement to the school’s flexible general program, which makes designing your own academic curriculum easy. The school also offers concentrations in International Business, Health Policy and Law, Human Rights, Intellectual Property and Innovation, and Law and Economic Development. The LLM program welcomes those who are looking to qualify for a US bar examination as well as those wishing to explore individual research interests.

At Northeastern, both students and faculty are deeply committed to social change and actively engaged with the global community, focusing on issues related to human rights, sustainability, public health, corporate accountability, domestic violence and criminal justice reform.
At The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law we offer students an International Jurist top ranked LL.M. program in academics, experience, and career opportunities. Students are able to go beyond the study of U.S. legal theory to put it into practice through a number of externship, moot court, and clinical opportunities. Our LL.M. class is kept intentionally small, allowing students to receive the one-on-one attention they deserve as they look to take their careers to the next level. Classes are taught by top practitioners and theorists in their fields and LL.M. students study right alongside the J.D. class. With six areas of study available to specialize in, students can customize their legal education to best suit their individual goals. Housed within one of the most comprehensive research universities in the country, the Moritz College of Law offers a small, intimate educational experience with access to all of the resources and opportunities afforded by a large university.

Regent Law’s 30-credit-hour LL.M. in American Legal Studies is ideal for graduates with a JD-equivalent, LL.B., or other first degree in law from an accredited institution outside the U.S. who wish to be trained in American law. The LL.M. blends academic rigor with a Christian perspective and examines the legal institutions of the U.S. by exploring a breadth of classic texts in history, philosophy, and theology. Our faculty, comprised of professors, practitioners, and legal scholars from some of the nation’s finest law schools, is deeply committed to students’ success. Furthermore, Regent Law’s tuition rate is highly competitive among LL.M. programs nationwide, earning an A+ for Best Value rating from The International Jurist, 2017.
Stetson University College of Law

Stetson University College of Law is ranked #1 in trial advocacy and #4 in legal writing by U.S. News. Stetson Law’s LL.M. in International Law was also recently recognized by International Jurist Magazine as being one of the best LLM Programs for Career Opportunities due to our career workshop series and externship program.

Located in beautiful Gulfport, Florida, Stetson’s LL.M. in International Law is a one-year course that accommodates for both experienced practicing attorneys and recent law school graduates from the U.S. and abroad. The curriculum prepares graduates to enter the global marketplace for positions in business, government, teaching and international law.

Courses emphasize professionalism, leadership and business skills in addition to training in the law. Applicants may opt for a general LL.M. in International Law, an LL.M. with an emphasis in International Business Law, or International Environmental Law, which pairs a few selected students with a mentor.

LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights

The LL.M. program at St. Thomas University School of Law is designed to offer in-depth instruction on the critical issue of our time: the protection of human dignity across political, social, economic and cultural lines.

It provides the most up-to-date insights on theory, policy, and practical developments in the arena of human rights. Through courses and supplementary offerings, students will be prepared for effective research and advocacy in the field, in an interactive dialogue and networking with faculty of global distinction.

• Full-time—graduate in 9 months
• Part-time—plan your own schedule and graduation season
• One week intensive courses—evening classes
• World class faculty
• Lawyers and non-lawyers are eligible to apply to our program

Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights
16401 NW 37th Avenue | Miami, FL 33054
(1) 305-474-2403 | humanrights@stu.edu | www.stu.edu/humanrights
The School of Law at UC Davis is one of the world’s leading law schools. We are proud of our history of outstanding scholarship, teaching and real-world impact. Faculty, fellow students and staff are accessible, engaged and committed to your education, and our alumni form a strong, lifelong global network. The UC Davis LL.M. program integrates American and international law students at all levels of study and provides LL.M. candidates with a broad curriculum of many different courses over ten months of study. Come to King Hall for our general (customizable) LL.M., an LL.M. focused on a specialized area of study, our two-year LL.M. option as well as the excellent preparation UC Davis School of Law provides to students who choose to take a Bar examination. All LL.M. students are invited to take advantage of our summer pre-LL.M. programs. Improve your English as you learn fundamentals of the US legal system. We also now offer a Spring Semester Start Option.

Consistently ranked in the top tier of law schools in the nation, UCLA School of Law has a reputation for excellence throughout the world. The law school takes an interdisciplinary approach to legal studies and boasts a dynamic, flexible curriculum that appeals to a broad range of interests. The LL.M. curriculum entails attendance in advanced law school courses, and LL.M. students may opt to specialize their studies in a wide variety of fields. These optional specializations permit LL.M. students to intensively study specific topics while at UCLA, including: four Business-related tracks (Business Law, Bankruptcy, Securities Regulation, and Tax); Media, Entertainment, and Technology Law and Policy; International and Comparative Law; Public Interest Law; Law and Sexuality; and Critical Race Studies. With Graduate Studies Committee approval, students may even develop their own specializations in a field of their choosing. Previous students have done so in areas ranging from Environmental Law to Litigation.
Celebrating 125 Years of Legal Innovation

Founded in 1892, the University of Denver Sturm College of Law is proud to be Denver's only law school. This year we pay tribute to numerous outstanding and distinctive aspects of our institutional past, present and future, including our well-earned reputation for innovation in experiential learning, our proud tradition of educational access, our impact in the international arena, and our special relationship with the city of Denver and the beautiful state of Colorado. Visit our website to learn more about what sets us apart from the rest. www.law.du.edu

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON LAW CENTER

Advance your career with an LL.M. degree from the University of Houston Law Center where you can choose from five specialty programs: Energy, Environment & Natural Resources, Health Law, Intellectual Property & Information Law, International Law, Tax Law, and a more general course, the LL.M in U.S. Law. Attorneys from more than 80 countries have earned their graduate degree at the UH Law Center, located in the 4th largest city in the United States.
ILLINOIS

“Illinois Law is one of the oldest and best-regarded law schools in America. We are educating and preparing our students for the practice of law in an ever-changing legal profession through rigorous classroom instruction and in-depth practical experiences.” — Dean Vikram Amar

- Generous scholarships
- Degree concentrations available
- 3rd semester LLM extension or 2-year JD
- Summer Law Program: law.illinois.edu/best-case
- LL.M. Admissions: law.illinois.edu/admissions/graduate-admissions
- Contact: law-gradprograms@illinois.edu

RICHMOND School of Law™

Richmond Law offers a unique opportunity for lawyers from outside the United States to acquire the tools for success by learning U.S. law and the common law system, refining their legal English skills, and engaging with leading scholars and talented fellow students through our LLM program. Meanwhile, our two-year LLM/MBA program – one of only a few of its kind in the world – prepares students to deal effectively with global business and legal transactions, giving our students a distinct advantage in a world where law and business are increasingly interdependent and globally focused.
USF School of Law offers three LLM programs to help attorneys advance their careers. The Intellectual Property and Technology Law program provides a thorough exposure to American, international, and comparative IP law. In the LLM in International Transactions and Comparative Law program, offered exclusively to foreign lawyers, students may choose to focus on international commercial and business transactions law or on an in-depth study of a particular area of U.S. law. Students in the LLM in Taxation program gain a firm grounding in all major areas of taxation and preparation for advancing or launching successful careers in tax law.

The LL.M. in Global Legal Studies is for prospective students with a foreign law degree. This program, in addition to offering the usual career paths, also will prepare you to work with or across from U.S. counsel in a variety of transactions or disputes.

washburnlaw.edu/academics/llm
Delaware Law School offers both seated and online master of law (LLM) programs. Professionals holding a U.S. juris doctor degree or who have completed a degree in law from a qualifying non-U.S. law school may join us on our campus located in Wilmington, DE, in the heart of the “corporate capital”, for specialized studies in Corporate Law & Finance. Foreign-trained law graduates who wish to take a U.S. bar exam may join us on campus in our American Legal Studies LLM program. Additionally, our convenient, online specialized LLM degrees may be just right for your career, and your schedule. Choose from an LLM in Corporate Compliance or Healthcare Compliance – offered entirely online – no travel to campus required. Dual degrees are also available, which enable students can earn a US LLM at the same time as earning an LLM from their home institution.