

# LLM IN AMERICAN LAW PROGRAM

## First-class training. A world-class credential.

Each year, distinguished lawyers from over 30 countries transform their careers through BU Law's LLM in American Law Program. Integrated into the school's JD curriculum, they obtain a US legal education at its finest: BU Law is home to America's #1 teaching faculty, according to the Princeton Review. The American Law Program is for global practitioners seeking to learn how US lawyers think, approach legal problems, and handle client matters. You'll complete a year of rigorous academic training to obtain one of the most coveted degrees in the profession, valued by legal employers throughout the world.

### IS IT FOR YOU?

The LLM in American Law Program is specifically designed for lawyers trained outside the United States. Most students are professionals whose work transcends borders. Their clients or employers often have interests that implicate US law, so they seek greater knowledge about a specific field as taught from the US perspective. Many want to work more effectively in English with lawyers trained in the US or elsewhere. Others want to discover a new practice area or pursue an academic passion. **Many are interested in qualifying to take a US bar exam, which is possible through the program's courses.**

### A FLEXIBLE PROGRAM: PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE YOU WANT

The LLM in American Law Program is BU Law's most flexible graduate program. Working with the program director and assistant director, you'll design a study plan built around the JD program's 200+ courses, including fundamental first-year JD classes (contracts, property, torts, civil procedure, constitutional law, criminal law, and administrative law) and upper-class offerings, covering such fields as:

- Antitrust
- Banking & Financial Law
- Business & Trade Regulation
- Civil & Human Rights
- Commercial Law & Consumer Transactions
- Constitutional Law
- Corporate & Transactional Law

- Criminal Law & Procedure
- Environmental Law
- Family Law & Gender Law
- Health Law & Human Services
- Intellectual Property Law & Technology
- International, Foreign & Comparative Law
- Labor Law & Employment Relations
- Legal Theory & Legal History
- Litigation & Dispute Resolution
- Public Law: Administrative Law & Legislation
- Real Estate, Land Use & Development
- Taxation

You may enroll in any of several LLM-only courses that are specifically designed to be more practice-focused (and less theoretical) than their JD counterparts, such as International Business Deals: Best Practice Strategies for Transactional Lawyers, Crossborder Litigation in Practice, and Intellectual Property Rights & Commerce in the Global Cloud.

### BAR EXAM PREPARATION

If you're interested in taking a US bar exam, you can enroll in special bar-related courses through the program's Spring Semester "Fundamentals Track," which offers LLM-only classes designed for bar preparation.

You'll also receive comprehensive counseling on all aspects of taking the bar—from course selection and preparation strategies to the mechanics of qualifying, applying, and interacting with state bar authorities.



In addition, you can cross-register for classes in BU Law's other graduate programs and at other BU graduate schools.

### CONCENTRATED STUDIES

To specialize your studies, you may pursue an optional concentration in intellectual property law, international business practice, or taxation—important fields where BU Law's reputation is renowned. We are #10 in the nation in intellectual property law and #8 in tax law, according to *U.S. News & World Report*. Our in-depth offerings in corporate,

business, commercial, banking, and financial law are second to none.

### ESTEEMED FACULTY

You'll learn from America's best teachers. They're knowledgeable, accessible, and committed to supporting the unique needs of foreign-trained LLM students. Many classes have teaching assistants to work exclusively with the LLM students through weekly discussion and review sessions.

### PERSONAL ATTENTION AND SUPPORT

The Graduate & International Programs Office is your home away from home, with a staff devoted to supporting you from the moment you arrive. The director and assistant director meet with you individually to select classes, answer questions, and address concerns. This personal attention makes a difference. Ask any graduate. Over the past five academic years, 95% of American Law students have said the program met or surpassed their expectations. Graduates regularly describe the year as "the best year of my life."

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNSHIPS

BU Law is steadfastly committed to your professional success. This includes helping you secure post-graduation opportunities in the US or abroad. A full-time associate director for professional development and staff work exclusively with LLM students, delivering one-on-one advice to help each student achieve his or her goals.

During the spring, our Discovery Series will introduce you to a range of legal practice settings—private firms, corporate law departments, and the judiciary—through field trips and presentations by local alumni, expanding your network of connections.

To gain practical training after you graduate—an important goal for many students—you can pursue the American Law Internship Program. You'll work with the Academic Internship Council to secure a short-term, law-related internship after your studies.

### STUDENT LIFE

The LLM in American Law students form a tight-knit, high-energy, diverse community. To nurture connections, the Graduate & International Programs Office regularly organizes activities—a traditional New England lobster feast, an international potluck dinner, networking events, colloquia, and informal discussions on timely topics, to name a few. You'll also be able to join any of the school's 30+ student organizations and take part in a full range of JD events and activities.

### DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The LLM in American Law Program is a full-time program, running from late August to late May. Students complete a minimum of 24 credits, which includes two required Fall Semester courses—Introduction to American Law and a Legal Research & Writing seminar—and a spring graduate colloquium, Topics in American Law.

### SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All applicants to the American Law Program are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships through BU Law's LLM Scholars Program. No additional forms or documents are required. Scholarships come in the form of partial tuition waivers. Recipients are notified of their awards at the time of admission.

### JD PROGRAM TRANSFER

LLM in American Law students may apply to the JD program as transfer students during the spring semester of their LLM year. If admitted, they may satisfy up to one-third of their JD credits through their LLM coursework and therefore complete the JD program with only two additional years of study. Transfer applicants are required to submit LSAT scores.

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The American Law Program is open to candidates who hold a first degree in law or its equivalent from a law school or law faculty outside the US. Candidates who lack a law degree but are licensed lawyers in their home country are also eligible to apply. Work experience is highly valued but not required.

To learn more about the LLM in American Law Program, including the application process, tuition, and financial information, visit [www.bu.edu/law](http://www.bu.edu/law).

You can also contact us directly at [bullm@bu.edu](mailto:bullm@bu.edu).



“My year at BU Law was not only about gaining legal knowledge; it was about gaining leadership skills and thinking broadly.”

—Laura Ratautaite, Vilnius, Lithuania

LLM in American Law, 2011

LLM, Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, Germany, 2009

LLM, Vilnius University, Lithuania, 2006