



Boston University School of Law  
Graduate Program in Banking & Financial Law

# Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law

The Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law is the oldest of its kind in the United States. Since its inception in 1984, the program has trained more than 2,000 lawyers for leadership positions in both the domestic and foreign banking and financial services industries. Our graduates span the globe and hold influential positions in government, law firms, corporations, financial institutions of all types, and multilateral and non-governmental organizations.

The program has its roots in Boston University's Morin Center for Banking and Financial Law, which was founded in 1978 as the first institution in an American university devoted to the study of banking law. With the recent upheavals in financial markets, the legal and regulatory structure of the financial system has been redesigned and rebuilt. The future will offer opportunities in abundance for financial services lawyers who are familiar with the fundamentals of the industry and the regulatory and supervisory environment in which it operates.

## Program Overview

The Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law is challenging and is designed specifically for students who wish to obtain a graduate-level legal education in the field of financial services law. Ideal candidates are lawyers who bring their expertise to the classroom and who want to improve their skills in today's rapidly changing world of financial services law. The program, which may be completed on a full- or part-time basis, is also appropriate for U.S.-based and foreign attorneys seeking to begin a new career after spending the first part of their professional lives in another legal field. Students receive a practical education in financial services law, enabling them to contribute effectively in a professional setting.

The Graduate Program is the only financial services LL.M. program in the U.S. with its own faculty and a curriculum of courses designed exclusively for graduate study (most competing programs consist of a selection of regular law school courses). The program of study, focusing on subjects such as banking law, securities law, insurance law, and business courses in accounting and economics, leads to the award of the Master of Laws in Banking and Financial Law degree.

## Optional Concentrations

The program offers six optional concentrations:

- **American Banking and Financial Law** offers a full range of financial law courses designed for students who intend to practice law or work in the United States financial services industry.
- **Compliance Management** focuses on designing a compliance system for financial and commercial institutions in a heavily regulated environment in order to avoid mismanagement and fraud.
- **Financial Services Transactions** is ideal for lawyers seeking to gain experience in conducting complex financial services transactions (internship required).
- **International Banking and Financial Law** is intended to meet the needs of lawyers who must work in a financial services market that is increasingly global in scope.
- **Lending and Credit Transactions** is geared for lawyers who wish to specialize in debt financing, including issues involving the constitution of security over property, foreclosure and bankruptcy.
- **Securities Transactions** is designed for those interested in matters involving equity and debt securities and the management of funds.

## Faculty Spotlight

**"It is rewarding and even inspirational to teach the Securitization and Structured Finance course at the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law. The students are highly motivated and work exceptionally hard to understand the legal and structural underpinnings of structured finance and the policy considerations in regulating the use of securitization technology."**



Ronald S. Borod, Esq.

Partner, DLA Piper  
LL.M., New York University, 1967  
J.D., Harvard Law School, 1966  
B.A., magna cum laude, Phi Beta  
Kappa, Princeton University, 1963

Mr. Borod has worked extensively in securitization and structured finance for almost two decades and has established a reputation as a thought leader in the creation of innovative structures and financial products. He has spoken frequently at securitization conferences, including Information Management Network's ABS East conferences, conferences of the American Securitization Forum, and Standard & Poor's Securitization Roundtables. He began teaching courses in BU Law's J.D. program in 1996 and has taught a course on securitization in the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law since 2005.

“The Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law gave me an in-depth understanding of the dynamic legal and financial world. The program has provided me with the tools needed to succeed in an extremely competitive field.”



**Eshai Gorshein, Esq.**

Manager, Legal and Compliance, Morgan Stanley, New York, NY  
LL.M. in Banking and Financial Law, 2011  
J.D.-M.B.A., Pace University  
B.S., Boston University, 2003

## Faculty

Courses in the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law are taught by nationally and internationally recognized experts from law firms, financial institutions, government agencies, accounting firms, banking agencies and academia. The combination of academicians, legal practitioners and financial services professionals gives students a broad and deep perspective on the practice of contemporary banking and financial law.

## Student Activities

The Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law is administered by a team of professionals dedicated to the academic and personal growth of each student. At the beginning of the academic year, students attend an orientation program and Financial Services Basics, a two-day primer on the business of the financial services industry. Each student meets with an academic advisor to develop an individualized study plan. The program regularly collaborates with the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and the Boston Bar Association to organize lectures, symposia and round-table discussions on issues affecting the financial services industry. Students are encouraged to deliver lectures to their colleagues as part of the Student Lecture Series. Membership in the *Review of Banking & Financial Law*, a scholarly publication of the School, is open to students in the program through competitive examination.

## Professional Development

The program has a resolute commitment to the professional development of its students. A professional development staff works exclusively with LL.M. students to offer feedback on job-search strategies, resumes, cover letters and writing samples. Students enjoy access to Symplicity, BU Law's internal job posting site, and foreign-trained lawyers are encouraged to participate in the annual International Student Interview Program, held in New York City, which draws more than 200 global employers each year. In addition, the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law regularly hosts career panels that feature alumni who return to the School to share their expertise and experiences in the legal field with current students.

## Internships

The Financial Services Law Internship course was launched to provide students with real-world experience in the practice of financial services law. During their second semester, foreign and domestic students

completing the concentration in Financial Services Transactions may work at a law firm, financial services organization or regulatory agency under the supervision of a lawyer and a faculty advisor. Students have completed internships at ACCION International, Bank of America, Craig and Macauley PC, the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston, and Neighborhood of Affordable Housing, among others.

## Degree Requirements and Curriculum

The 2012-13 program requires successful completion of 12 courses which are chosen from over 25 offerings in the banking and financial law curriculum. Courses are designed to give students a thorough understanding of financial services law through a combination of regulatory, transactional and business-oriented courses. Electives at other Boston University graduate or professional schools, such as the Graduate School of Management, are available as well. Foreign-trained attorneys seeking to meet the requirements of a state's bar exam may qualify through the Graduate Program.

## Additional Information and Applications

You can learn more about the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law, including the application process and tuition and financial information, at [www.bu.edu/law/banking](http://www.bu.edu/law/banking).

- Candidates must hold a J.D. degree from an accredited law school in the United States. For applicants educated abroad, we require a first degree in law, such as a Bachelor of Laws or its equivalent, from a comparably recognized law school or law faculty outside the United States.
- LL.M. Scholar Program: All applicants to the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law are eligible to receive merit-based scholarship awards in the form of generous partial tuition waivers. All applicants are automatically considered, with no additional forms required.

Boston University School of Law  
Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law  
765 Commonwealth Avenue, Suite 1524  
Boston, MA 02215  
**Telephone:** 617.353.3023  
**Fax:** 617.353.2444  
**E-mail:** [banklaw@bu.edu](mailto:banklaw@bu.edu)

*Students of the Graduate Program in Banking and Financial Law.*

