LLM in American Law Program

BU Law’s LLM in American Law Program is for global practitioners seeking to learn how US lawyers think, approach legal problems, and handle client matters. Each year, distinguished lawyers from over 25 countries transform their careers through the program. Integrated into the school’s JD curriculum, they obtain a US legal education at its finest: BU Law is consistently ranked as one of America’s top law faculty, according to the Princeton Review. 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.

A Flexible Program: Prepare for the Future You Want

The LLM in American Law Program is BU Law’s most flexible graduate program. When you arrive, you’ll design a study plan with academic advisors built around the JD program’s 200+ courses, including fundamental and upper-level offerings and LLM-only, practice-focused courses. Pursue an optional concentration in International Business Practice, Intellectual Property, or Taxation. Or, cross-register for classes in BU Law’s Graduate Program in Banking & Financial Law and Graduate Tax Program, and at other BU graduate schools.

Personalized attention and one-on-one consultation prepare you for the future you want, and accessible law faculty impart key skills and knowledge you’ll need for your chosen specialty.

COURSES ARE OFFERED IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECT AREAS:

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

The American Law Program enables qualified students to take the bar exam in New York, Massachusetts, California, and Washington, D.C. The spring semester “Fundamentals Track” offers special bar-related courses to LLM students 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.

Personal Attention & Immersive Experiences

The Graduate & International Programs Office is your home away from home, with a staff devoted to supporting you from the moment you arrive. This personal attention makes a difference. Ask any graduate.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

BU Law is committed to your professional success and helping you secure postgraduation opportunities in the US or abroad. Professional development staff work exclusively with LLM students, delivering one-on-one advice to help them achieve their career goals. A fall semester Professional Skills Lab is one of dozens of programs that will prepare you for success in the workplace.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

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.

INTERNSHIPS

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 during your period of Optional Practical Training.

Admissions

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

All applicants to the American Law Program are automatically considered for merit-based scholarships through one of BU Law’s LLM Scholars programs. 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.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

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.

Transfer to JD

In the spring semester of your LLM year, you may apply to the JD program as a transfer student to complete the program with only two additional years of study.

Learn More

To learn more about the LLM in American Law Program, including the application process, tuition, and financial information, visit bu.edu/law.

You can also contact us directly at bullm@bu.edu.
Learn from the City, in the City.

Boston serves as a major hub for business, education, healthcare, government, technology, and, of course, law. The city is home to nearly 250,000 students who attend some of the country’s most prestigious colleges and universities. BU Law’s central location puts you in the middle of it all.

You will learn from currently practicing attorneys, visit major firms and courts through the Discovery Series, and access practical learning opportunities through the American Law Internship Program. Meanwhile, when it’s time to put down the books, you can enjoy the city’s outstanding restaurants and theaters, world-class museums, and numerous historical sites. If you’re a sports fan, take in a Red Sox game at famed Fenway Park or a Celtics or Bruins game at TD Garden. Boston has something for everyone. No wonder it’s been named America’s #1 Student City by QS World University Rankings.

Find your place in the city.