BU Law Graduate Programs

TOP PROGRAMS. COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES.
BU Law’s graduate programs have a long and distinguished history of enhancing legal careers. Employers throughout the world recognize that a BU Law degree stands for intellectual rigor, superior instruction, real-world preparation, and professional achievement.

Behind our success is an unwavering commitment to your success. Our goal is clear: to provide a superior educational experience that transforms your standing in the legal profession, whether in the United States or abroad.

The BU Law difference begins in the classroom. Your professors—both full-time scholars and accomplished, experienced practitioners—will inspire you like no others. You’ll also find that the academic and professional development support we deliver through one-on-one counseling is custom-designed for you, as an individual. And you will fall in love with Boston, no doubt one of the world’s greatest cities. Just ask anyone who’s been here.

All this helps explain why our LLM graduates constantly tell us that their BU Law experience was one of the best—if not the best—of their lives; why 95% of last year’s students reported their experience met or surpassed expectations; and why 96% would recommend BU Law to a colleague.

But no statistic speaks as powerfully about the BU Law difference as our LLM alumni—a global network of highly accomplished attorneys. We’re happy to put you in touch with them. Just let us know.

I’m proud of our school’s long legacy of excellence in LLM studies. And I am proud that we have built this legacy—and earned our reputation—the hard way: by focusing on one student at a time.

To learn more about the BU Law experience, visit our website. View a virtual tour and find out more about life at BU Law. Maybe one of those students will be you.

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**From the assistant dean:**

**John N. Riccardi**  
Assistant Dean, Graduate & International Programs
BU Law teaching: America’s finest.

BU Law’s faculty is superior. We have some of the best professors in the nation, according to the Princeton Review. Under the guidance of these preeminent scholars and accomplished practitioners—law firm partners, in-house counsels, judges, advisors, consultants, and government officials at state and federal levels—you’ll develop substantive expertise and practical skills. You’ll find them accessible, approachable, expert at blending theory with practice, and committed to helping you become your best professional self. You’ll stay in touch with them, too. They’ll be a valuable source of counsel for you long after you graduate.

For LLM admissions questions, email bullm@bu.edu.
BU Law’s graduate portfolio: five programs, five transformative experiences.

Our programs transform the careers of lawyers and professionals throughout the world. They appeal to those trained in the United States and internationally who share a singular ambition: preparation for leadership in the law.

**LLM IN AMERICAN LAW**
Trains internationally educated lawyers for global practice and cross-border work by immersing them in BU Law’s JD curriculum, where they experience US legal education firsthand, at its finest.

**LLM IN BANKING & FINANCIAL LAW**
Prepares lawyers for leading positions in the dynamic, rapidly changing global banking and financial services industry. It’s the nation’s oldest financial services LLM program and the only one of its kind designed exclusively for graduate study.

**LLM IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW**
Provides fundamental and advanced training in this all-important field of practice, including exposure to core doctrines and their application in the cutting-edge, evolving areas of digital networks and biotechnology.

**LLM IN TAXATION**
One of the nation’s premier programs for advanced studies in tax law, leading to the highly regarded LLM in Taxation. Equips lawyers with specialized training in the theory and practice of tax law, with courses available through residential, online, and hybrid formats.

**MASTER IN THE STUDY OF TAX LAW**
Opens up the Graduate Tax Program to aspiring and current accountants, auditors, and other business professionals.

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**Recognized far and wide.**

BU Law’s excellence is hardly a secret. Outside sources consistently rank us among the nation’s very best.
Our students: the company you’ll keep.

We tell our students that they might not remember every single law they study, but they will remember each other. And it’s true. The diverse talents and backgrounds of your classmates form a rich tapestry: you will establish a professional network of astounding breadth and depth and develop friendships that last a lifetime.

average age of graduate law student

students in graduate law programs

More than 160 law schools represented.

# of countries represented by graduate law students

GRADUATE STUDENT BREAKDOWN*

2% from Africa
50% from Asia
11% from Europe
5% from Latin America
3% from the Middle East
29% from North America

*These numbers reflect BU Law's graduate program enrollment during the Spring 2020 semester.
We gauge our success by your professional success.

At BU Law, you’ll have access to our exclusive and dedicated professional development advising staff, meeting individually to devise a self-marketing campaign aimed at securing permanent jobs or short-term, postgraduation, practical training opportunities. We’ll help target your best opportunities and prepare you through career panels and workshops on r é sum é drafting, networking, and interviewing skills. You’ll access our internal job-posting site and receive biweekly professional development emails with job listings. Our team also enables you to participate in specialty job fairs and in postgraduation internship programs, and internationally trained lawyers may take part in the International Student Interview Program in New York, which draws over 200 global employers each year.

The student experience: engaged, connected, energized.

The first thing you’ll likely notice is that there’s never a dull moment at BU. As a full member of BU Law’s community, you’ll actively participate in the events and activities that define BU Law’s high-energy, positive, dynamic learning environment, whether at the law school itself or elsewhere on BU’s bustling, urban Charles River Campus.

While each graduate program fosters its own tightly knit community, you’ll find it easy to broaden your engagement by joining any of our 35+ student organizations and taking part in social events, from Red Sox and Bruins games to international potluck dinners and networking activities.

BU’s commitment to creating connections extends to all of its students, not just those in residence. Students in our online Graduate Tax Program, Master in the Study of Tax Law Program, and Certificate in Financial Services Compliance connect through our award-winning distance learning technology.

Advice and support: it’s all about you.

At BU Law, graduate students are people, not numbers. Our top reputation is closely linked to the highly personalized treatment you’ll receive. Our priority is ensuring that your study plan supports your professional path.

Each program has its own dedicated staff, enabling you to receive support that suits your individual needs. Academic advising takes place in one-on-one sessions with the program directors or assistant directors, either in person or by phone, depending on your preference.

If you’re an international student interested in taking a state bar exam, you’ll receive extensive counseling on eligibility requirements and bar preparation strategies. You also receive guidance on how to prepare applications to transfer to the JD program, if this is a goal.

BU Law’s distinguished alumni network: 24,000 strong.

Since BU Law’s founding in 1872, our graduates have established careers of consequence. You’ll find them in nearly every practice setting throughout the nation and the world—in law firms of all sizes; federal, state, and local government agencies; the business world; nonprofit organizations; the judiciary; and the academy. As soon as you matriculate, you’ll receive access to the BU Law LinkedIn group, which facilitates connections among current students and alumni. Right off, you’ll be on your way to achieving your place in the ranks of this stellar network of outstanding professionals.
Access the city of Boston with ease.

Centrally located on Boston University’s campus, the BU Law complex is situated on Commonwealth Avenue with easy access to the Green Line train that runs directly into the heart of the city. The school is located only a few miles from Logan Airport, Amtrak’s two train stations in Boston, and the South Station bus terminal.
A modern facility for law students.

Visitors to Boston University School of Law enter the law complex by way of the glass-enclosed Robert T. Butler Atrium, the heart and social hub of the building, designed to inspire a sense of pride in our students.
The law tower, a leading example of Brutalist architecture, was built in 1964 and completely renovated in 2015, adding almost 100,000 square feet of student-centric space. The Redstone building offers two libraries, moot court rooms, and bright and sun-filled class-rooms featuring state-of-the-art technology. Spaces specifically designed to build community can be found throughout the building, as well as areas dedicated to peaceful study. The second-floor dining and seating facility in McCausland Commons features floor-to-ceiling views of the Charles River.
Boston, Mass.: 
*East Coast America at its best.*

Boston exhilarates. Ask anyone who has visited. Often called a European city on American shores, it offers something for everyone. A world-renowned music and cultural scene. Dozens of international enclaves. Restaurants galore. A historic past blended with cutting-edge discovery and innovation. A legendary enthusiasm for sports. Picturesque beauty. One of the most diverse and educated populations on earth. And a rich quality of life. No matter your taste, you’ll find it here.

With nearly 100 colleges and over 250,000 students in the Boston area, the city has earned the moniker the “Athens of America.” The intellectual vibe is palpable—and fun.

At BU Law, you’re right in the middle of it all. Just steps from campus, you can stroll or run along the splendid Charles River Esplanade. Fenway Park, home to the Boston Red Sox, is a 10-minute walk; downtown’s charming Back Bay area is another 10 beyond that. Keep walking or hop on the “T” and you are at Boston’s glorious Public Garden, and soon at the shoreline of the Atlantic Ocean. All along the way, you’ll find points of historical interest and urban flair virtually unmatched by any other city.

**Boston: a legal laboratory.**

The perfect place to study law and launch a career, Boston is a ready-made laboratory for legal training in a number of fields.

A hotbed for science and technology, it’s known as the “Hub of the Biotech Universe” and the Silicon Valley of the East Coast. It’s also a major financial center, home to America’s mutual fund industry and scores of global firms, consultancies, and businesses. For you, this means a remarkable pipeline of experienced practitioners to learn from—lawyers at the forefront of the law in myriad fields (intellectual property, banking and finance, health law, to name a few), hailing from the uppermost echelons of the practice. Few cities can match the depth of this resource.

To learn more about Boston, visit [bostonusa.com/visit](http://bostonusa.com/visit). Or give us a call. We love nothing more than talking about our city.

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*Email us your Boston queries at bullm@bu.edu.*
Financing your studies: graduate scholarship programs.

BU Law seeks to attract the most highly qualified graduate students. All candidates for our residential programs in Boston are eligible to receive merit-based scholarship awards in the form of partial tuition waivers through BU Law’s graduate scholarship programs. All applicants are automatically considered, with no additional forms required. More information on financing your studies is available at bu.edu/law/admissions/financial-aid.

ACADEMIC POWERHOUSE

Boston University is a major urban global academic institution. Here are a few numbers to give you a sense of who we are:

- 300+ programs of study
- 34,000+ students enrolled
- 17 number of schools and colleges
Nondegree Programs.

BU Law is a leader in programming designed to prepare internationally trained lawyers for global practice.

LEGAL ENGLISH PROGRAMS

BU Law and BU’s Center for English Language & Orientation Programs (CELOP) offer a range of programs to build communication skills for attorneys who speak English as a second language. The Legal English Certificate Program is offered to students who can commit to a full year of intensive legal English studies and foundational instruction in US law and legal culture. The program is aimed at international professionals (including non-lawyers) who seek a legal English training credential.

ESTATE PLANNING CERTIFICATE

A specialized, 12-credit certificate program built upon the Graduate Tax Program’s strength in estate planning instruction, this certificate enables estate planners and wealth management professionals to learn from industry experts. The program is offered part-time and available both residentially and online.

CERTIFICATE IN FINANCIAL SERVICES COMPLIANCE

A 12-credit online certificate taught by the industry-leading faculty of the Graduate Program in Banking & Financial Law, this program is ideal for compliance professionals or those seeking a career in compliance.

Enrollment Options.

Two-Year LLM: Legal English Program Option.

The Two-Year LLM allows students to enroll in the Legal English Certificate Program in their first year, and one of BU Law’s LLM programs in their second year. The goal of the Two-Year LLM is to provide students with the legal English skills necessary to succeed in an LLM program. Additionally, students will receive a foundation in US legal culture and history, as well as a strong set of legal studies skills.

Extended LLM: Three-Semester Option.*

For prospective students with impressive qualifications who need intensive English language training before commencing full-time law studies, we offer a three-semester “Extended LLM” option. Under this arrangement, you spend your first semester taking intensive English language courses, as well as introductory courses at BU Law. You then complete the LLM degree requirements over the next two semesters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Enrollment Option</th>
<th>LLM Programs This Can Apply To</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>Best For</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two-Year LLM</td>
<td>American Law, Banking, Taxation, Intellectual Property</td>
<td>2 years (including summer English between years 1 and 2)</td>
<td>Students seeking to vastly improve their English before their LLM program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extended LLM*</td>
<td>American Law, Banking, Taxation, Intellectual Property</td>
<td>One summer session, followed by 3 semesters</td>
<td>Students seeking to improve their English before their LLM program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-semester bar exam qualification</td>
<td>Taxation</td>
<td>3 semesters</td>
<td>Students seeking a specialized degree, who also want to qualify to sit for a state bar exam</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*This program is scheduled to be available in the 2022–2023 academic year.

Application and Contact Information.

LLM candidates must apply using the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) application form. Visit lsac.org/llm for comprehensive information on our programs and detailed application instructions. For LLM admissions questions, email bullm@bu.edu.

Graduate & International Programs Office Phone: 1-617-353-5323
Boston University School of Law Email: bullm@bu.edu
765 Commonwealth Avenue, 10th Floor + bu.edu/law
Boston, MA 02215

For more information, please visit bu.edu/law/cert.
TOP PROGRAMS.
COUNTLESS OPPORTUNITIES.