



Welcome to the LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Law – Class of 2027 Students!

It gives us great pleasure to welcome you to Boston University School of Law. We hope you are as excited as we are about the amazing journey that awaits you as a member of the LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Law program (IP) and overall BU Law community.

In anticipation of your fall studies, you can expect a series of important memos and videos from us over the next few weeks. In addition to this Academic Advising/Course Proposal memo, you will receive separate memos about the critical administrative matters, orientation plans and the health and safety measures related to your arrival in the United States.

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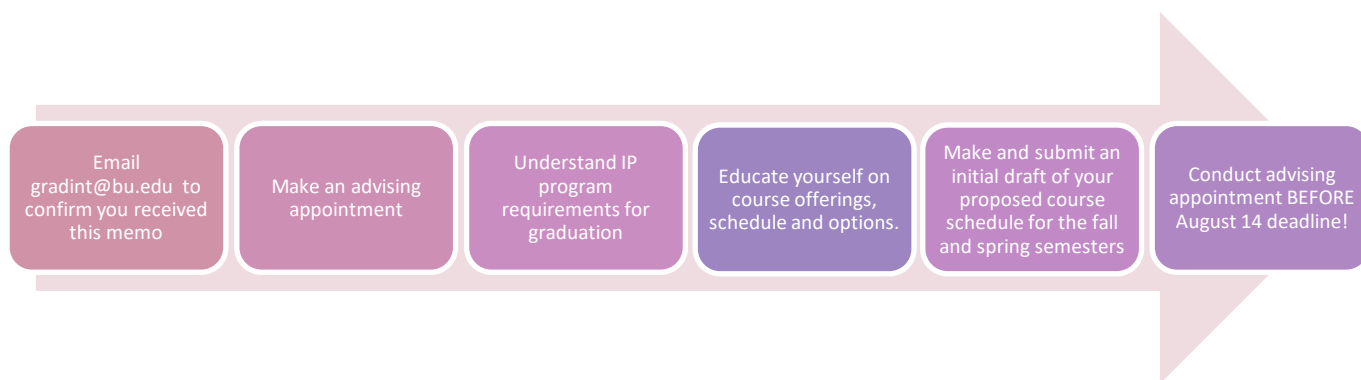
PLANNING YOUR STUDIES

OK, let's get to it!

How do you develop a study plan that helps you achieve your academic and professional goals? You are not supposed to know the answer. That's why we are here – to support you in making the best decisions for yourself, to make sure you understand your options, to help you evaluate different scenarios, to explain class content and describe professors' teaching styles—and to answer all your questions as best we can.

You will meet with Maureen Tracy Leo, Director of International Graduate Programs or John LaPlante, Associate Director of International Graduate Programs for individual academic advising this summer. Both Maureen and John serve as trusted academic advisors who are intimately familiar with both course curricula and faculty teaching styles. In addition to their administrative roles, they both serve as part of the part-time faculty and have decades of teaching experience. They are eager to help you identify courses that will best enable you to meet your academic and professional goals while here!

THE STEPS OF ACADEMIC PLANNING



WHAT SHOULD I DO FIRST?

- 1) Submit a headshot and your anticipated arrival date in the U.S. for the Student Directory by filling out a [Profile Book Submission](#) Form (or email to gradint@bu.edu) by August 1.
- 2) Review this memo to determine what classes you wish to take.
- 3) Fill out [Course Proposal Form](#) online.
- 4) Make an advising appointment for individual academic advising by clicking [here](#). Please note that you must complete your academic advising by the August 14 registration deadline to preserve your chances of enrolling in your top priority classes.

LEARN THE LANGUAGE: You will confront many new terms and phrases as you learn about your academic options. Here are a few:

CREDIT	SEMINAR	AUDITING	ADD/DROP PERIOD
• A "credit" is a measure of time spent inside and outside of the classroom preparing for the class under a formula developed by the American Bar Association. • In the US, the number of credits for a class has no relation to the difficulty of the class.	• Seminars are smaller classes with enrollments generally limited to less than 25 students. • Seminars generally meet once a week for two hours. • Class time is often spent discussing the assigned readings. • There is no traditional exam. Rather, seminars require students to write long research papers, multiple short papers, give presentations, or complete other forms of assessment. • All students must attend the first meeting of any seminar they wish to take, even if they have not officially enrolled in the seminar.	• Auditing a class means enrolling without having to take the final exam or other form(s) of assessment. • To audit the course, you must obtain the instructor's permission and confirm that permission by email, with gradint@bu.edu copied on the correspondence. • Audited courses don't count toward your degree requirements or bar qualification. • Audited courses do count towards the 18 credit per semester limit covered by your tuition.	• The Add/Drop Period generally runs for the first two weeks of each semester. During this period, students can request changes to their study plans by adding and/or dropping classes. • Requests to change classes are made by completing an Add/Drop Form. • All requested changes to your class schedules must be made during the add/drop period. The Director of ALP/IP must authorize all requested changes. • No class changes will be allowed after the end of the add/drop period.



IP AND INFORMATION LAW PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Complete at least 24 credits

- At least 12 (and no more than 18) credits each term
- Obtain a final cumulative GPA of 2.3 for all courses taken
- Receive not more than one failing grade (defined as a C-, D or F)

Presented here are only some highlights of the program's academic rules. You are responsible for reading and understanding ALL the IP Program's academic regulations, available online [here](#).

Required Courses

- Take 3 of 13 Core Courses
 - Copyright
 - US Practice of Copyright and Trademark for LLMs
 - Cybersecurity and Privacy Law (JD or LLM version)
 - Information Privacy Law (JD or LLM version)
 - Intellectual Property (JD or LLM version)
 - Patent Law
 - Trademark and Unfair Competition
 - Law and Technology
 - Law & Regulation of Online Platforms (S)
 - AI & IP Simulation: Where Law Meets Technology (S)
 - IP Workshop
 - IP Licensing
 - AI for LLMs
- Complete at least five credits from additional core courses
- Complete remaining credits in approved elective courses. [See here for details.](#)
- If foreign-trained:
 - Introduction to American Law, Fall, 2 credits, Pass/Fail
 - Legal Research and Writing, Fall, 2 credits, Graded, Small Sections (<15 students)

IP Faculty Spotlight: **Patti Jones**



Professor Jones is an accomplished and popular member of BU Law's LLM faculty. With a background in the performing arts, Professor Jones made a career out of representing artists and entertainers, helping them protect and monetize their intellectual property. In the classroom, Professor Jones is known for her dynamic personality, as well as the attention and care she shows to her students. Professor Jones teaches *Practice of U.S. Copyright & Trademark Law* and *Entertainment Law for LLMs*.

Fall Professional Skills Lab

- All students must participate in the Fall Professional Skills Lab or make alternative arrangements approved by the Program Director. The Professional Skills Lab is an interactive program designed to help students develop essential professional competencies, practical legal skills, and long-term career management strategies.

Attendance is mandatory unless you receive advance permission from the Program Director to be excused. The program will take place in late September or early October, and additional information will be provided after you arrive on campus. You do not need to register for the Professional Skills Lab at this time.

Exam Considerations

- In general, LLM in Intellectual Property and Information Law students receive an additional hour to complete in-class examinations for JD courses with exam periods of less than five hours. However, students whose native language is English or who previously earned a degree taught in English are not eligible for this accommodation. Our office will contact you directly if you do not qualify for additional exam time.

No additional time is provided for LLM-only examinations, as extended time has already been incorporated into the structure of those exams.

Grading Considerations

- BU Law follows a letter grading system and the minimum passing grade in a class is a C.
- LLM students are graded separately from JD students.
- In classes with 25 or fewer LLM students, the recommended median grade is B+. In classes with 25+ LLM students, the upper-class JD curve applies.

Consequences of Failing a Course

- A grade below C will count toward your GPA, but you will still earn course credit unless you receive an F. You may graduate with one grade below C if your cumulative GPA is at least 2.3, but you may not fail more than one course.

IP Faculty Spotlight: **Woodrow Hartzog**



Professor Hartzog is internationally recognized for his work in privacy and technology law. His research focuses on personal data and the design of technologies and had been published in numerous scholarly journals and popular publications. In the classroom, Professor Hartzog is known for his clarity of presentation and his desire to engage with students of all backgrounds. Professor Hartzog teaches *Digital Civil Liberties* (JD) and *Information Privacy Law* (JD and LLM).

During your studies, you will also access important information from a range of web pages. These include the following, many of which are referenced in this memo:

- [Admitted Students](#) (password: bulaw)
 - [BU Student Portal](#)
 - [Academic Regulations](#)
 - [Disciplinary Regulations](#)
 - [IP Degree Requirements](#)
 - [Integrated Course Schedules](#)
 - [LLM Course Offerings](#)
 - [JD Curriculum](#)
 - [Exam Information](#)
 - [Academic Calendar](#)
 - [Bar Admission Information](#)
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REGISTRATION AND ACADEMIC ADVISING

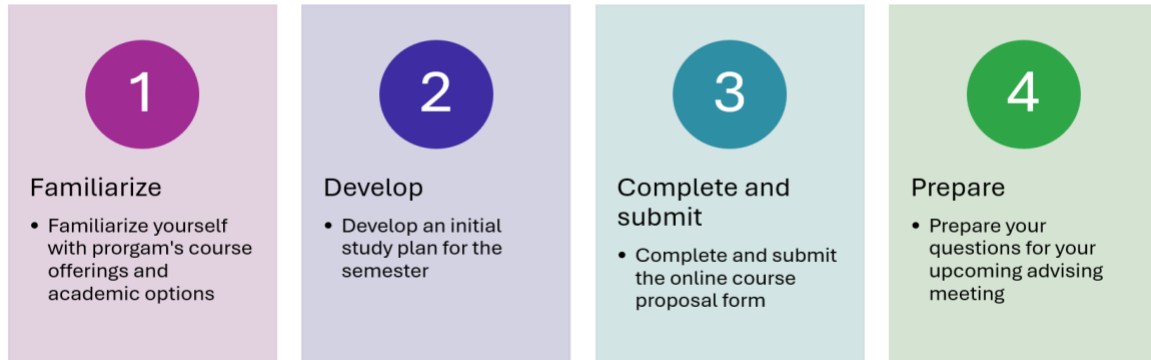
Unlike most BU students, LLM students do not register for courses independently through the BU student portal. Instead, registration is handled by our office after each student meets with an academic advisor.

Your academic success is our top priority. We take a highly individualized approach to advising, recognizing that each student brings unique goals, experiences, and concerns.

During your [advising appointment](#), you will meet with either [Maureen Leo](#) or [John LaPlante](#) to discuss your academic interests and develop a study plan tailored to your goals. **Before your appointment, you must submit a [Course Proposal Form](#) identifying the courses that interest you most.** This is NOT registration; it serves as the starting point for your advising discussion.

Following your advising session, your advisor will submit a registration form on your behalf. Course registration is finalized after the registration deadline in late August, when we assess course demand and any necessary waitlists. We will work closely with you to ensure you have a schedule that supports your academic and professional objectives.

Before your academic advising meeting, you must do four things:



Before choosing your courses, consider your goals and priorities. Identifying what you hope to achieve during your LLM year will help you and your advisor create a study plan tailored to your interests and objectives.

Identify Your Goals and Priorities

Take time to reflect on what matters most to you during your studies and beyond.



Your goals will help you make the most of your LL.M. experience.



Advanced specialized knowledge?



Exposure to a new area?



Transfer to JD?



Bar qualification?



Improve writing skills?



Develop practical skills?



What are your professional development goals after the program?

How confident are you in Legal English and your preparedness for US law study?

Your course selection can also help lay the foundation for your future career. Consider how your academic choices connect with your professional goals and the skills you hope to develop.

Your Professional Development

Your academic choices can have bearing on your long-term professional goals.

- What do you want to learn?
- What do you want to be able to discuss in an interview?
- Do you want to focus on a specific area of Intellectual Property Law, such as copyright or AI?
- How important is success on the bar exam for you?



English, English and More English!

- You will be surprised at how much reading will be required this year.
- How comfortable are you with Legal English?
- Professors have different styles and approaches.
- JD classes are substantially more challenging to follow because the pace of English is faster and the classes aren't directed to an international cohort.
- We will discuss in course advising what classes best align with your confidence in the language.

LEARN ABOUT YOUR ACADEMIC OPTIONS

As an LLM student at BU Law, you have the flexibility to create a study plan tailored to your interests and goals from a wide range of courses. With so many options available, thoughtful planning is essential.

Resources for Exploring Course Options

- [Integrated Course Schedules](https://www.bu.edu/law/current-students/llm-student-resources/american-law-program/course-schedules/): These are also on the web site at <https://www.bu.edu/law/current-students/llm-student-resources/american-law-program/course-schedules/>
- [Upper Class Course Descriptions](https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/jd-degree/upper-class-curriculum/): <https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/jd-degree/upper-class-curriculum/>
- [Special LLM-Only Classes](https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/llm-masters-degrees/american-law/llm-only-courses/): <https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/llm-masters-degrees/american-law/llm-only-courses/>
- [Fall Semester Banking and Financial Law Program Classes](https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/llm-masters-degrees/banking-financial-law/courses-of-study/): <https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/llm-masters-degrees/banking-financial-law/courses-of-study/>
- [Fall Semester Graduate Tax Program Classes](https://www.bu.edu/law/current-students/llm-student-resources/graduate-tax-program/courses/): <https://www.bu.edu/law/current-students/llm-student-resources/graduate-tax-program/courses/>
- [Blackboard](#): Syllabi will be posted on each course's Blackboard site. Once your registration for a course is confirmed, you will have access to the site using your BU login name and Kerberos password.

After reviewing your course options and creating a proposed study plan, complete [the course proposal form](#) for your academic advisor's review prior to your advising appointment.

Reviewing Course Schedules

The [Integrated Schedule](#) shows when the JD first-year, upper-level, and LLM-only classes meet during the week. **The meeting time for your Legal Research and Writing class does not appear on these schedules.** You will be placed in a section that doesn't conflict with your other courses before orientation. Classes generally meet two or three times a week. Seminars generally meet once a week for two hours. You CANNOT enroll in classes with meeting times that overlap, even by five or ten minutes. All classes meet at the law school unless noted otherwise.

Factors to Keep in Mind When Choosing Courses

Important Considerations

- Workload
- Teaching Styles
- Class Type and Forms of Assessments
- JD v. LLM
- Practical Skills Classes
- Bar Preparation Classes
- Clinics



Your advisor will help you identify courses that best align with your academic interests, professional goals, and individual priorities. As you develop your course proposal, keep the following considerations in mind.

A Note on Workload



How Many Classes Should I Take?

- Your workload depends on courses + reading + exams + writing assignments, not just credits.
- While six or seven courses may be common in other systems, four or five courses at BU Law is a full schedule.
- Resist the temptation to take everything—focus on creating a balanced plan.
- The #1 thing graduates say they wish they knew before starting: the amount of reading!

Our Advice:

- **Start with a manageable first semester. Adjusting to U.S. legal education takes time, and many students find they are better positioned to take additional credits in their second semester.**

Teaching Styles



Understanding Class Participation

- Professors have different teaching styles and participation policies.
- Participation may include:
 - Random questioning (“cold calling”)
 - Voluntary participation
 - Required participation sign-ups
 - Panel systems
- Review course syllabi for specific participation expectations.

Your advisor can help you understand different approaches during advising meetings.

Assessments and Seminars

Understanding Course Assessments and Workload

The amount of work required in a course depends largely on the type of assessment involved—such as exams, papers, quizzes, or other assignments.

- Most courses have a final exam at the end of the semester; some may also include a midterm exam.
- Seminars typically require a research paper rather than a final exam.
- Seminars have fewer than 25 students and are identified with an “(S)” after the course title in the upper-level course descriptions on our website.

Choosing Seminars Carefully

- LLM seminars are often practice- or bar-focused and well suited for LLM students.
- JD seminars may require more advanced subject knowledge, prior coursework, and significant class participation. Do not enroll in a JD seminar unless you are comfortable actively participating in discussion.
- Avoid taking too many paper-based courses at the same time. Try to balance research papers with courses that have in-class exams.

Important Rule: Seminar Enrollment

- **You must attend the first class session of any seminar you wish to take**—even if you are not yet enrolled in the course. Students who do not attend the first session cannot enroll in the seminar.

Why Take an LLM-Only Class?

LLM-only courses are specifically designed with foreign-trained attorneys in mind. These courses are taught by outstanding faculty who are committed to teaching excellence and often emphasize practical skills and real-world application. Compared to JD courses, LLM-only classes typically provide a more internationally focused learning environment, with a pace and classroom experience that may be more accessible for students adjusting to U.S. legal education. The smaller, LLM-focused setting also creates more opportunities for active participation and engagement. Descriptions for LLM-only classes can be found at <https://www.bu.edu/law/academics/find-degrees-and-programs/masters-llm-programs/llm-in-american-law/llm-only-courses/>.

Fall Semester LLM Only Doctrinal Classes

This fall, you have the opportunity to take three important doctrinal courses—**Contracts, Corporations, and Intellectual Property**—in LLM-only sections taught by Stephen Donweber, Pierluigi Matera, and Nick Psychogeos. These highly regarded, award-winning professors bring extensive experience teaching international graduate students and creating engaging learning environments. The LLM-only sections use the same materials, syllabus, and class participation expectations as the JD sections while providing a learning environment tailored to the needs of internationally trained lawyers. These courses provide a strong foundation in key areas of U.S. law and prepare students for advanced study and practice-focused coursework.

Practical Skills Classes

These classes give students hands-on practical skills training and are designed to help students develop key competencies that employers and clients value.

Intellectual Property	Contract and Transactional Law	Lawyering Skills
• Copyright and Trademark in the Media and Entertainment Industries, 3 credits, fall • Entertainment Law for LLMs, 3 credits, fall • AI for LLMs, 3 credits, fall • IP Licensing in the Global Marketplace, 3 credits, spring	• International Due Diligence, 3 credits, spring • Transaction Simulation: Start-Up Business, 3 credits, spring • Transactional Contracts, 3 credits, spring • International Business Transactions, 3 credits, fall	• Effective In-House Counsel, 3 credits, spring • AI & IP Simulation Where Law Meets Technology, 3 credits, spring • Advanced Legal Writing for LLMs, 3 credits, spring

Bar Fundamentals Classes

These two-credit courses provide an introduction to challenging bar-tested subjects and expose students to the fundamental doctrines covered on the bar exam. While these courses are not required for bar eligibility, they may, along with other qualifying electives, help satisfy eligibility requirements for the New York and Massachusetts bars. Students who want a deeper exploration of these subjects may also choose the full-semester, four-credit JD versions of these courses. Note that not all Bar Fundamental Classes count toward the IP LLM degree (Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Civil Procedure, Evidence, and Torts do not count toward the degree).



This Year's Bar Fundamental Courses Include:

- Criminal Law (fall)
- Evidence (fall and spring)
- Civil Procedure (spring)
- Constitutional Law (fall and spring)
- Property (spring)
- Torts (spring)
- Criminal Procedure (spring)

Practice-Focused Learning for a Changing Legal Landscape

BU has many courses designed for internationally trained lawyers seeking to build practical skills in emerging and high-demand areas of legal practice. Taught by accomplished practitioners and industry leaders, these classes go beyond traditional doctrine to focus on real-world problem solving, innovative legal practice, and the evolving role of technology in the profession.

Courses such as **AI & IP LLM Simulation** prepare students to navigate the rapidly changing intersection of law and technology. AI & IP LLM Simulation is taught by Nick Psychogeos, an experienced IP practitioner who led a division of Microsoft's in-house legal team for nearly two decades. **Practice of U.S. Copyright** and **Entertainment Law for LLMs** are taught by Patti Jones, a practicing attorney who specializes in representing artists and entertainers. **Artificial Intelligence: Ethical, Legal and Regulatory Challenges (S)** is developed and taught by Justin Rosen, Global Chief Compliance Officer of Natixis Investment Managers, bringing firsthand insight into global compliance, regulation, and emerging technologies.

Spring, 3 credits

AI & IP LLM Simulation

Spring, 3 credits

International Mergers and Acquisitions

Spring, 2 credits

Artificial Intelligence: Ethical, Legal and Regulatory Challenges (S)

Experiential Learning Through Clinics

BU Law's clinics provide students with the opportunity to gain hands-on legal experience by working on real cases and matters under the supervision of expert clinical faculty. Students represent clients, develop practical legal skills, and apply classroom learning to real-world problems.

Clinics are highly competitive, and JD students typically receive priority because they have already completed at least one year of U.S. legal education and foundational coursework before beginning clinical work. Opportunities for LLM students are limited but may be available, including potential placements with the [BU/MIT Student Innovations Clinic](#) (Intellectual Property Group) and doing limited volunteering with the International Human Rights Clinic. Because clinics require a year-long commitment and involve a significant time and credit investment, students interested in applying should discuss whether a clinic aligns with their academic plan and professional goals with their academic advisor. Once you have met with an advisor to discuss your interest in a clinic, you can apply using this form: [2026-2027 LLM Clinic Application Form](#).

Because clinical education requires a significant time commitment, and the LLM program is limited to two semesters with many students prioritizing bar preparation, most LLM students gain practical experience through simulation-based courses, pro bono opportunities, externships, and post-graduate internships.

Given the limited two-semester LLM timeline and the importance of bar preparation for many students, most LLM students gain practical experience through simulation-based courses, pro bono opportunities, and post-graduate internships. The Professional Development Office has dedicated career advisors who work with LLM students to identify experiential opportunities and develop the practical skills, professional connections, and experiences needed to advance their career goals.

Introduction to Business Fundamentals

Introduction to Business Fundamentals is a non-graded online course designed to build students' understanding of basic financial and management principles. While not a requirement, the course is strongly recommended for all students who take Corporations.

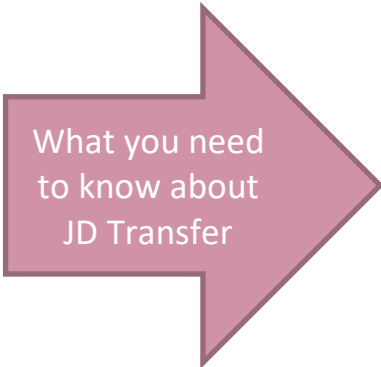
The self-paced course takes approximately 10-15 hours to complete and focuses on how businesses operate. ***Please note: if you fail to complete the class it will appear on your transcript as an "F" (failure) or a "W" (withdrawal) so it is imperative that you complete the course if you elect to take it.*** Partial completion of the course doesn't carry over to the second semester so you must complete the course in the same semester you registered for it.

ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

As mentioned above, your course selections should directly relate to your goals. If you want to leave open the possibility of transferring to the JD program or qualify for a bar exam you need to pay attention to certain course requirements.

TRANSFER TO JD CONSIDERATIONS

If you are contemplating transferring to the JD program after you complete the LLM program, you should discuss this during your advising session. There are MANY implications to this, including several relating to your choice of classes. All students should also meet with an academic advisor to discuss the costs and benefits of transferring.



What you need
to know about
JD Transfer

MINIMUM OF 19 TRANSFERABLE CREDITS

Transfer students may receive up to 1/3 of their JD credits from the LLM program. In order to complete the JD program's credit requirements in two years (four semesters), you need to transfer at least 19 credits from your LLM studies and you must take at least one 1L course and one upper-level course.

NOT ALL CLASSES AWARD TRANSFERRABLE CREDIT

Some classes do not award transfer credits, such as Introduction to American Law, Fundamental Track classes, and LLM-only classes for which there is not an analogous JD offering. (Four-credit LLM sections of contracts and corporations award full JD credit.) Some LLM classes award fewer transfer credits than LLM credits. We will discuss this with you.

JD vs LLM-ONLY CLASS SECTIONS

The primary consideration in a successful transfer application is obtaining strong letters of support from your professors.

These should be from full-time faculty members who have taught you in JD classes. They would be best positioned to promote your potential success as a JD student. You should therefore take as many regular JD classes as possible.

COURSE SELECTIONS FOR A BAR EXAM

If you are considering taking the NY or MA bar exam, you need to select classes that meet the state's foreign lawyer eligibility requirements. **It is your responsibility to read and understand these rules.** The essential considerations are the following for civil-law-trained lawyers.

NEW YORK'S BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Introduction to the American Legal System (2 credits);
- Legal Research and Writing
- Professional Responsibility
- At least six credits in subjects tested on the New York exam. The LLM New York Bar Handbook lists BU Law courses which meet this standard.

MASSACHUSETTS'S BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Professional Responsibility
- Constitutional Law
- At least three additional courses on bar-tested topics, selected from designated categories as determined by the Board of Bar Examiners (BBE). These classes are specified in the LLM MA Bar Handbook.

IMPORTANT TO NOTE:

- Audited classes **DO NOT** count for NY Bar qualification purposes.
- Courses taken on a Credit/No Credit/Honors basis **DO** count for bar qualification purposes.
- Classes taken outside the law school's offerings or independent papers do not count as qualifying classes for purposes of the states' minimum of 24 LLM credit rule.

BAR ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The Office of Professional Development has prepared comprehensive handbooks regarding the New York and Massachusetts foreign lawyer eligibility requirements, including the list of classes that meet the states' rules. You must read them. Go to: <https://www.bu.edu/law/careers/llm-professional-development/services-and-resources/>

You can also review resources for other jurisdictions. See the website for further details.

PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

Both the MA and NY bars require students to take Professional Responsibility. While students may be able to take a JD professional responsibility class for three credits if there is space in the course, they are strongly advised to take the LLM-only class for 2 credits because it offers a better use of credits and is sufficient for bar eligibility.

Note on Washington State

The Washington state bar exam requires additional instruction in legal research and writing, so students seeking to qualify for this exam must also take Advanced Legal Writing (spring).

Students are solely responsible for ensuring that their course selections satisfy the bar admission requirements of their intended jurisdiction and are encouraged to consult the relevant bar authorities and the Professional Development Office for guidance.

Some Important Limitations and Restrictions

As you develop your proposed study plans, you need to be aware of certain factors that can impact your choices and the options available to you.

Class Restrictions

Most JD clinics, clinical courses/seminars, externships and practicums are generally not open to LLM students. **If any opportunities become available, we will inform you.**

Course Registration and Waitlists

We make every effort to ensure that students can enroll in their preferred courses. Occasionally, demand exceeds the number of available seats. In those cases, students will be placed on a waitlist after registration concludes.

Important Things to Know

- Spring enrollment priority is given to students who expressed interest in a course during their initial advising appointment.
- Remaining seats are typically allocated through a lottery process.
- You **must attend the first session of any seminar** you hope to enroll in, even if you are not officially registered.
- Attendance at the first session of a non-seminar course may also improve your chances of obtaining a seat.

Our Advice

Stay in touch with our office regarding course availability and waitlist status. We can provide the most current enrollment information and help you identify alternatives if needed.

Our Priority

Our goal is to help you build a course plan that supports your academic interests, professional goals, and graduation requirements. We are always happy to help.

TAKE NOTE OF PRE- and CO-REQUISITES!

Pre and co-requisites are indicated in the course descriptions. Some important examples: if you want to take Transactional Contracts in the spring, you need to take Contracts in the fall. You need to take Contracts and Corporations in the fall if you want to take the Start-Up Transaction Simulation class in the spring. You must take IP and Contracts in the fall if you want to take IP Licensing in the spring. Sometimes a professor will waive a pre- or co-requisite for an LLM student who has had background exposure to the topic. You should consult your academic advisor or your individual professors if you have questions about your preparedness for any specific class.

Courses with Specific Registration Issues

- Dispute Settlement and ADR Classes: LLM students interested in developing their dispute settlement skills should consider taking the LLM-only seminar in Alternative Dispute Resolution (fall). The JD offerings in ADR, Negotiation and Mediation have tight enrollment limitations. Because of the highly interactive nature of these classes, any LLM enrollments will be limited to students with superior English skills at the discretion of the instructor. Note also that these classes do not count toward the IP LLM degree.
- Transaction Simulations: Students interested in taking a “Transaction Simulation” class should consider the LLM-only seminar, Transaction Simulation, Forming a Start-Up. No work experience is required to enroll. The JD classes JD789 (Transaction Simulation: Forming & Financing a Start-Up Business) and JD773 (Transaction Simulation: Auction and Sale of a Private Company) are not open to LLM students.
- Contract Drafting: Students who want to take a contract drafting class may take the three-credit seminar “Transactional Contract Drafting for LLM Students” in either the fall or spring semesters, referenced above. **The JD class called “Contract Drafting” is not open to LLM students.** The syllabus and teaching materials for the LLM class are the same as the JD class.

JD Classes with Extremely Limited Enrollments (and long JD waitlists)

A limited number of JD seminars are significantly oversubscribed, with lengthy waiting lists comprised of third-year JD students. LLM students should not expect to be able to take these. Your academic advisor is happy to discuss individual courses and the likelihood of being able to register for them.

What Are Closed Classes?

“Closed classes” are classes that are closed to JD students, not LLM students. The International Graduate Programs Office handles registration for LLM in American Law students. **Therefore, do not pay attention to any published lists of “closed classes” issued by the Registrar’s Office or on the school’s web site, as these are directed at JD students.** OGIP will inform you of courses that are over-subscribed and therefore closed to LLM students, as we receive any such information from the Registrar’s Office.

We will do EVERYTHING that we can to ensure that you can take all of the courses you wish to take during your time here.

Striking the Balance: Satisfying Your Passion to Learn Without Feeling Overwhelmed

If you are passionate about taking an additional class that would unduly increase your workload and/or stress level, we may suggest that you take the class on an “Audit” or on a “Credit, No Credit, Honors” basis (essentially, pass/fail). There are different forms, procedures, and approvals for each of these options, summarized in the chart below.

Auditing Classes

You can arrange to attend a class without being examined in it (called “auditing” a class). This is ideal if you want to learn a topic, but prefer not to have the additional burden of preparing for the examination, given the demands of your other classes.



Steps to Audit a Class

- Attend the first-class session and ask the professor for permission to audit.
- Confirm the professor's approval via email and copy our office so we have written confirmation.
- Permission must be received by the end of the Add/Drop period.

Important Notes

- Not all professors permit auditors.
- Audited courses do **not** count toward degree requirements.
- You can't change status to an audit after the add/drop period.

OUR ADVICE: What you gain from auditing a class depends on how much you put into it. It will be a complete waste of your time to sign up for classes on an audit basis and not take the time to prepare for each class meeting. In fact, this could jeopardize your performance in all your other classes. Also, if you really want to learn a topic, don't audit it. Take it for real.

Credit/No Credit/Honors (CR/NC/H) Option

BU Law allows students to take up to six credits of elective coursework on a Credit/No Credit/Honors (CR/NC/H) basis to encourage exploration of challenging subjects without the pressure of a letter grade. Under this option, students receive a designation of Honors (H), Credit (CR), or No Credit (NC) instead of a traditional grade. Students may take no more than four credits on a CR/NC/H basis in any one semester. Unless a course description specifically states otherwise, courses are presumed to be eligible for CR/NC/H grading. Students must elect this option during the Add/Drop period, although exceptions for good cause may be granted through the third week of the semester. Requests submitted after the third week will not be approved.

CLASSES TAKEN ON AN AUDITED and CR/NC/H BASIS

	Audited Classes	Credit/No Credit/Honors (CR/NC/H)
Do the Credits Count Towards?		
• 24 credit LLM minimum	No	Yes
• Bar qualification	No	Yes
• 17 credit per semester tuition limit	Yes	Yes
• 6 credit limit on non-GPA credits	No	Yes
Approval Needed	Instructor provides email confirmation	Director approves as part of Study Plan
When not allowed, other restrictions	• Required Courses • Seminars • Any class at professor's discretion	• First Year Classes • Required Courses • Allowed unless course description on web says otherwise
Designation on Transcript	AUD (for Audit)	CR, NC or H, as appropriate
Form of Assessment or Other Requirement	No exam or paper but participation and attendance as professor indicates on approved Audit Form	Regular exam or other assessment
Decision Deadline	End of Add/Drop Period	Add/Drop period, unless otherwise approved by the Director

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION DETAILS

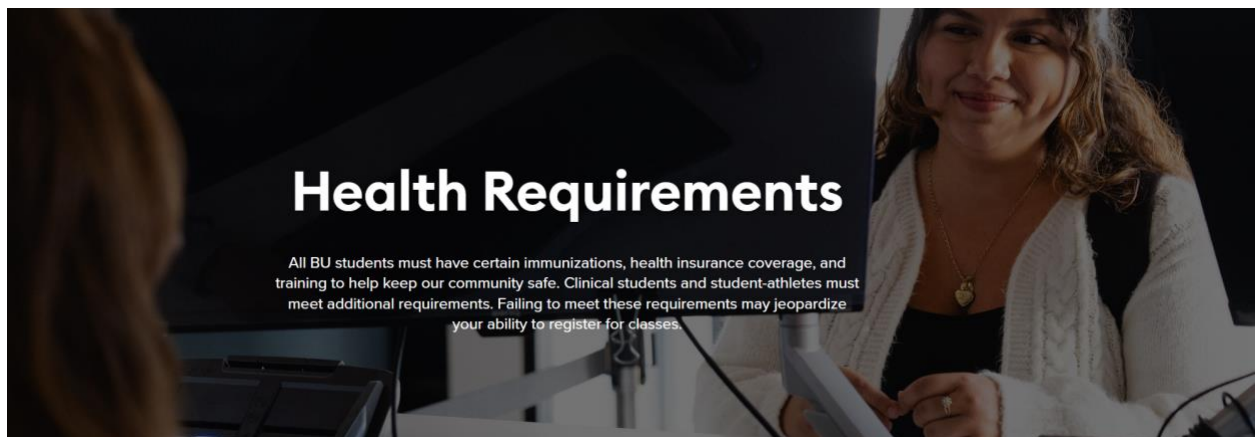
The deadline to submit your proposed course selections is Friday, August 14 at 5:00 p.m. (Boston time). You must complete your academic advising appointment before that date. During advising, you will discuss both your preferred courses and alternative options.

Course registration is completed by our office. You will not be officially registered for classes until on or before August 28. While there is no advantage to meeting with an advisor earlier in the summer, students who complete advising and submit their course preferences by the August 14 deadline will receive priority consideration for oversubscribed courses.

Although we make every effort to place students in their preferred classes, enrollment cannot be guaranteed due to space limitations. In some cases, a lottery may be used to allocate seats in particularly popular courses.

Finally, if you are interested in a course and are eligible to take it, you should attend the first class session even if you are not enrolled. Course availability often changes during the Add/Drop period, and students will have an opportunity to adjust their schedules during the first two weeks of the semester.

Health, Immunization, and Insurance Requirements



Please note that your ability to register for classes relies on you being in compliance with the university's health requirements. Detailed information about vaccine and health insurance information is found at the [Student Health Services website](#). Please be advised, however, that BU requires that you provide documentation of your immunization records at least two weeks prior to the start of your classes.

Begin by visiting the [SHS Health Requirements Guide](#). You will be asked a few questions to help guide you to the correct forms and provide directions on how to submit them on the patient portal [Patient Connect](#).

You will be unable to register for classes if you do not submit the required Health and Immunization forms.

To learn more about the required immunizations and how to check your status please go to our [Immunization Compliance](#) page.

All students are required to have insurance coverage that meets Affordable Care Act mandates and is considered comparable coverage. Boston University has partnered with Aetna Student Health Insurance to offer a robust insurance plan specific to the unique needs of our students. As required by law, Boston University automatically enrolls all full-time, three-quarter-time, and all international students into this plan. Premiums are billed to your student account and included in the total cost of tuition. Please visit the [SHS page](#) dedicated to the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) for more information.



Next Steps

Now that you have explored your course options, it is time to submit your [proposed course selection form](#). We will discuss your proposed schedule and goals during your academic advising appointment.

Before your appointment, please:

- Submit your headshot through the Profile Book Submission Form (or email it to gradint@bu.edu) by August 1.
- [Make an advising appointment](#) on Calendly before the registration deadline on August 14.

We look forward to connecting with you and helping you plan your LLM experience!

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions.

We hope you enjoy the rest of your summer and look forward to welcoming you soon!