FSU COLLEGE OF LAW

LL.M. PROGRAMS

AMERICAN LAW FOR FOREIGN LAWYERS
BUSINESS LAW
BUSINESS LAW ONLINE
ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY
**SUPPORT**

LL.M. students receive personal attention and counseling from faculty advisors who help them design a curriculum that best meets their goals. LL.M. students take law classes with J.D. students and are fully integrated into the FSU Law community. Students interested in improving their writing skills can also receive one-on-one training with our in-house writing specialist.

LL.M. students also receive career and bar advising based on their specific professional aspirations. They have access to a wide variety of networking opportunities to connect with FSU Law alumni who are eager to mentor and help current students.

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**THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW** offers four LL.M. programs: American Law for Foreign Lawyers, Business Law, Business Law Online, and Environmental Law and Policy. The programs are intellectually engaging and provide students with sophisticated, advanced legal training.

**GLOBAL COMMUNITY**

FSU Law’s student community is diverse and vibrant. Since the inception of our LL.M. programs, we have welcomed legal professionals from more than 40 countries on five continents.

FSU Law’s faculty is comprised of nationally and internationally recognized scholars with expertise in commercial law, corporate law, criminal law, environmental law, international human rights law, international law, and tax law.

The law school promotes close working relationships among students and faculty to inspire students to discover a path of their own.

**BEST VALUE**

*preLaw* magazine (2021) ranks Florida State the nation’s #10 “Best Value” law school.

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**THE FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE OF LAW LL.M. PROGRAMS HAVE WELCOMED LEGAL PROFESSIONALS FROM MORE THAN 40 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.**

*The International Jurist* magazine (2021) ranks Florida State among the nation's best LL.M. programs in the areas of Career Advancement and Law School Experience.
STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITIES

Florida State has a comfortable, collaborative, and open environment with state-of-the-art technology. All of the law school’s classrooms are either new or recently remodeled and the university has a strong wireless infrastructure that allows students to utilize the internet throughout campus. Our 50,000-square-foot Advocacy Center houses five courtrooms for advocacy training.

FSU Law students have 24/7 access to the Research Center, which houses one of the most comprehensive collections of legal materials. The distinctive feature of the Research Center is that its award-winning faculty proactively trains students and other faculty members to produce highly sophisticated, cost-effective legal research.

CAPITAL LOCATION. WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES.

Tallahassee is an ideal place to study law. It is the capital of Florida — the nation’s third largest state — and home to 500-plus law firms, state and federal courts, numerous state agencies, the Governor’s Office and the Florida Legislature, and many are within walking distance of the law school. During legislative session, students have the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the legislative process with Florida’s successful policy makers and lawyers.

Tallahassee also offers affordable living and a diverse range of activities from natural adventures to art exhibits to music festivals.

According to the World University Rankings (2022), Florida State is the world’s 86th best university for law and the 23rd best U.S. school for law on the list.

500+ LAW FIRMS, STATE AND FEDERAL COURTS, THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE, THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE AND NUMEROUS STATE AGENCIES ARE IN TALLAHASSEE.

47th BEST

U.S. News & World Report (2022) rates Florida State as the 47th best law school in the nation. Florida State’s environmental law program is ranked 21st best nationally.

“THE LL.M. PROGRAM AT FSU is an excellent choice for those seeking knowledge regarding American law, but also to expose themselves to different cultural standards and opinions. I had the incredible opportunity to participate in this program at FSU, a program with outstanding faculty and a very pleasant environment. This experience increased my knowledge and also key soft skills required in both the corporate and academic worlds. Currently, I am the Head of Tax at Atacadão (Carrefour), the largest wholesaler in Brazil, and also a professor at FGV Management (teaching Tax Management), one of the most prestigious academic institutions in Brazil.”

Renan Sampaio Nunes dos Santos (LL.M. in American Law, 2016, Brazil) Professor, FGV Management & Head of Tax, Atacadão (Carrefour)
The LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers allows foreign-trained law professionals to gain profound understanding of the American legal system and the role of law in the United States. The LL.M. in American Law is FSU Law’s most flexible program, allowing students to design their curriculum according to their interests and career aspirations. Students can choose from a wide variety of courses in a range of fields such as commercial law, criminal law, environmental law, intellectual property law, international law, and other areas.

Students receive one-on-one attention and assistance with curriculum design and career planning. Students benefit not only from working with world-class faculty members and experienced administrators, but also by establishing professional relationships with other LL.M. students from around the world.

The 24-credit program can be completed in as few as nine months. All students are required to take two mandatory classes in the fall semester and can complete remaining credits by choosing specialized areas of law or selecting classes based on their interests.

HIGHLIGHTS
» Merit-based scholarships and partial-tuition waivers are offered to international students.
» Graduates are eligible to take the bar examination in some jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia, New York, and Texas.
» Graduates interested in pursuing a J.D. degree can apply to transfer to FSU’s J.D. program without an LSAT score.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR
David E. Landau
Mason Ladd Professor and Associate Dean for International Programs
Ph.D., Political Science, Harvard University, 2015
J.D., Harvard University, 2004

“My legal background is a little different from other LL.M. students. My first degree is in electronic engineering. While I worked as a patent engineer, I developed an interest in intellectual property, so I completed a law degree while working full time. Little did I know that this new knowledge would inspire me to pursue an LL.M. and ultimately take a bar exam in the US. COVID made law school quite challenging, but I graduated with honors and passed the D.C. bar in 2022. This would not have been possible without the faculty and my classmates at FSU. I want to thank Dean Landau and Director Shum for their advice and my classmates for their support in our endless Zoom meetings. Every single second at FSU was unforgettable.”

Suyoung Park (LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers, 2021, South Korea), Staff Engineer, Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. (Mobile Experience Division)
“EARNING MY LL.M. WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT U.S. LAWS and get international exposure. It was one of the best decisions in my life. Moving out from my comfort zone and living in another country was frightening for me, but it turned out to be an experience of a lifetime and boosted my career. I graduated in May 2018 and got a job within weeks.”

Deepali Sain (LL.M. in Business Law, 2018, India), Tax Senior (Legal), Deloitte USI

“BEING IN THE BUSINESS LAW LL.M. PROGRAM was one of the best experiences of my life. I was able to work with the best professors and learned a lot about American Law. The J.D. students I interacted with were helpful and approachable. Even though English is not my native language, I became friends with many of my classmates, who made my studies and experience greater and easier. Thanks to the resources offered by the FSU College of Law I had the opportunity to find my current job. I work for a multinational company based in the United States with operations in Latin America, where I can use both my Colombian and U.S. law degrees. All of this was possible because of my LL.M. degree and the support I received at the FSU College of Law.”

Cristina Andrea Galeano Bejarano (LL.M. in Business Law, 2018, Colombia) Contract Manager for Latin America and US, Siemens Gamesa

The LL.M. in Business Law

The LL.M. in Business Law is designed for both domestic and foreign lawyers who seek advanced training to better navigate today’s evolving business and legal landscape. The LL.M. in Business Law emphasizes areas of growing demand, such as regulatory compliance, in-house counsel, transactional law, complex business litigation, international law, and financial regulation. Classes are taught by our world-class faculty, comprised of experienced practitioners, entrepreneurs, and industry leaders.

LL.M. students may participate in the College of Law’s Business Law Clinic, in which students learn transactional skills and earn academic credit by helping advise business and social entrepreneurs within the Florida State University community.

The 24-credit program can be completed in one year on a full-time basis or up to three years on a part-time basis. All students complete at least 16 credits from the business law curriculum and foreign-trained students all take two required courses to establish a solid foundation in the American legal system.

HIGHLIGHTS

» Hands-on training opportunities to apply theory and skills.

» Merit-based scholarships and partial-tuition waivers are offered to international students.

» Graduates will be eligible to take the bar exam in New York and several other states in the U.S.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Jeffrey H. Kahn
Harry M. Walborsky Professor and Associate Dean for Business Law Programs

J.D., University of Michigan, 1997
The online LL.M. in Business Law provides advanced business law training to lawyers in areas of growing demand, such as regulatory compliance, securities regulation, healthcare fraud and abuse, and privacy. These areas are ripe with opportunity due to changes in the legal and business landscape.

Students may choose one of four program concentrations:
- financial regulation and compliance
- employment law and HR risk management
- health care regulation management
- cybersecurity, privacy risk management, and technology

Students also may complete the LL.M. program without a major, allowing them to take a more general approach to their business law studies.

Courses are taught by world-class professors who teach on campus, coupled with prominent industry experts. The online LL.M. courses incorporate high levels of student-faculty interaction through the use of interactive technology. For example, course discussion boards allow students to engage with each other and with professors. Specialized online research classes are offered to LL.M. students and online business courses are tailored to provide training in specific, professionally relevant activities.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

» Can be completed fully online and on a part-time basis.

» Program is flexible and affordable.

» Students work one-on-one with an advisor to tailor their course of study, taking into account their interests, educational backgrounds, and professional needs.

**ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

Jeffrey H. Kahn
Harry M. Walborsky Professor and Associate Dean for Business Law Programs
J.D., University of Michigan, 1997

“MY EXPERIENCE AT FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW FOR THE LL.M. PROGRAM WAS EXCEPTIONAL. The support I received from the faculty and staff cannot be matched. While the program was entirely online, the professors and students were engaged in every class and there was ample access to the professors and teachers’ assistants to answer questions about the courses. Going back to school after practicing law for several years seemed daunting but I am so happy I did it. Everyone I met was beyond amazing. My last-minute decision to attend graduation was met with excitement, and everyone went above and beyond to ensure I could walk at graduation, which sums up my overall experience throughout the two years it took for me to finish the program.”

Angela M. Scott (online LL.M. in Business Law, 2022, Jacksonville, Florida)
Staff Attorney, Douglas W. Neway, Chapter 13 Trustee
Building on its highly ranked environmental law program, FSU Law offers an LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy. The degree gives both domestically and internationally educated lawyers the opportunity to concentrate in or enhance their knowledge of environmental law, land use law, natural resources law and energy law. Working professionals can complete the program on a part-time basis and may take some online courses.

In addition to a rich curriculum taught by legal experts, students can take advantage of related courses offered by other departments at Florida State and benefit from our location in the capital of the nation’s third largest state. LL.M. students have opportunities to seek employment with government agencies, administrative tribunals, public interest organizations, the state legislature and leading private law firms over the course of the LL.M. program.

The 24-credit program can be completed in one year on a full-time basis or up to three years on a part-time basis. Foreign students interested in taking the bar exam can request to take courses outside of the environmental law curriculum.

HIGHLIGHTS

» U.S. News & World Report (2022) ranks FSU’s environmental law program the nation’s 21st best and 9th best among public universities. FSU Law has been ranked in the top 25 programs for 16 consecutive years.

» Rich externship program offered.

» Year-round lectures, conferences, and special events with renowned national and international environmental law scholars.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Erin Ryan
Elizabeth C. & Clyde W. Atkinson Professor and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs
J.D., Harvard University, 2001
M.A. Ethnomusicology, Wesleyan University, 1994

“THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING MY LL.M. IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY, the amount of detailed personal attention I have received from the faculty and administration has surpassed any other experience I have had at previous universities. Attending FSU has opened many doors for the next steps in my career and expanded my interest in the environmental field due to the many networking opportunities that have been provided, including participating in conferences with the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation in Denver, Colorado, and Victoria, British Columbia.”

Barbara Harris (LL.M. in Environmental Law & Policy, 2020)
Assistant State Attorney, Fifth Judicial Circuit of Florida
ADMISSIONS

To apply, you must have a first degree in law: either a J.D. from a U.S. law school or an LL.B. or an equivalent law degree from a non-U.S. college, university, or law school, and provide the following:

» Official transcripts
» Updated CV
» Personal statement
» One letter of recommendation required, no more than two accepted (up to three for environmental program)
» Legal writing sample (required for environmental program ONLY)

We offer merit-based scholarships and the Latin America-Caribbean Scholarship. Students do not need to apply separately. The application will serve as the scholarship application as well.

Applications open: **September 1**
Deadline: **July 15** *

*Because the processing of student visas is often a time-consuming process, international students are strongly encouraged to submit their application for the fall semester by June 1 and the spring semester by November 1. The Online Business Law LL.M. program also accepts applications for the summer semester. The deadline for summer is April 1.

Apply online at: law.fsu.edu/LLMprograms

Contact:
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