

LL.M. PROGRAM

The Power of Legal Education

A nighttime photograph of a city skyline with several illuminated skyscrapers. In the foreground, there is a green lawn with some trees and a paved path. The sky is a deep blue. A large red diagonal shape is overlaid on the right side of the image.

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON** | LAW CENTER



Earn Your Master of Laws Degree

Take your career to the next level with an LL.M. degree from the University of Houston Law Center. Our top ranked school has provided graduates with a passport to opportunities around the world. UH Law Center's LL.M. degree empowers its graduates by teaching them advanced skills and providing access to professional networks so they can succeed in the global, national, and local legal market. The city of Houston is a gateway to the world; it is an international city attracting transnational professionals while sending many of its best and brightest abroad. Since 1985, more than 1,500 lawyers with degrees from more than 80 countries have earned their LL.M. at the Law Center. UH Law Center's LL.M. will distinguish you from the competition in your field, whether you work in a law firm, government office, public service, or the corporate sector. Enroll in the LL.M. Program at the University of Houston Law Center and jumpstart your career.

Leonard M. Baynes
Dean and Professor of Law

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Applicants with U.S. Law School Degree

- April 15 for Fall (August) admission
- November 15 for Spring (January) admission

Applicants with Foreign Law Degree

- April 15 for Fall (August) Admission

Transfer and Visiting Students

- June 1 for Fall (August) admission
- November 15 for Spring (January) admission

CONTACT INFORMATION

Peggy Fortner

Program Director

pfortner@central.uh.edu

Suzanne Gordon

Assistant Director

sgmartin@central.uh.edu

Oscar Sevilla

J.D. and LL.M. Program Coordinator

osevilla@central.uh.edu

General Information

llm@uh.edu

713.743.2280

UHLC: A Great Place to Earn Your LL.M.

The LL.M. program at the University of Houston Law Center is as dynamic as the city of Houston itself, offering you the flexibility, professionalism, and opportunities to enhance your skills and advance your career.

Consider these facts:

The Law Center and the LL.M. Program

- Earn an LL.M. degree in the following specialties: Energy, Environment and Natural Resources; Health Law; Intellectual Property & Information Law; International Law; Tax Law; and LL.M. in U.S. Law.
- The dual degree option is an opportunity for a student to earn two LL.M. degrees upon the completion of 36 credits. Students can begin both degrees at the same time or at any time prior to graduation. and must apply to and be admitted to both programs. Contact llm@uh.edu for additional information.
- Select courses to meet professional goals or bar eligibility requirements
- Health Law and Intellectual Property ranked among the nation's "Top 10," cited by U.S. News & World Report.
- Complete in one year as a full-time student; part-time in three years
- Fall 2015 class included almost 60 lawyers with law degrees from more than 20 different countries .
- LL.M. program recognized as one of the most innovative in the world by The Financial Times of London.
- Law Center ranked 31st by the National Law Journal among "Go to" law schools based on the percent of graduates hired by the top 250 law firms in the U.S.



The City of Houston

- Nation's fourth largest city and most diverse.
- "Energy Capital of the World."
- Twenty-six Fortune 500 companies based in Houston.
- Home to Texas Medical Center, world's largest health care and medical research complex.
- "Space City," home to NASA's Mission Control .
- 3,500 Houston area firms, foreign government offices, and nonprofit organizations involved in international business in 2015.
- Third highest number of consular offices in the U.S.
- One of the largest theater and music districts in the country.

Admissions

Qualifications

U.S.-educated applicants must hold a law degree from an ABA-approved law school and may begin the program in August or January. Lawyers educated in other countries (August admission only) must hold a law degree from a university accredited by the country's ministry of education or be admitted to practice law before the highest court in their jurisdiction. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL®) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS®) exam is required of applicants who obtained their law degree in a country where English is not the official language. We typically require a score of 100 on the TOEFL or 7.0 on the IELTS.

Application Procedure

U.S.-Educated Attorneys

Applications and fees are submitted through the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) at lsac.org/lm. Request the Document Assembly Service and Law School Report. A complete application includes the following:

- \$70 University of Houston Law Center application fee. The fee is in addition to LSAC fees, is non-refundable, and is not credited toward tuition if an applicant receives an offer of admission.
- Official law school transcript. Transcripts of students applying during their last semester of law school should reflect courses currently in progress.
- Statement of Purpose (300 word minimum.) The Statement of Purpose serves as a writing sample and is a personal interview on paper.
- Résumé/Curriculum Vitae
- Two reference letters. The most useful letters of recommendation are from professors, professional colleagues, or employers with whom you have had a close working relationship.

Lawyers with Law Degree Earned Outside of the United States

Applications and fees are submitted through the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) at lsac.org/lm. Regardless of current citizenship, immigration, or visa status, lawyers who earned their law degree outside of the United States must request the Document Assembly Service, Law School Report, and International Authentication and Evaluation Service. A complete application includes the following:

- \$70 University of Houston Law Center application fee. The fee is in addition to LSAC fees, is non-refundable, and is not credited toward tuition if the applicant receives an offer of admission. The name on the application should be listed the same as the name on the passport.
- Official law school transcript and official certificate or diploma. The certificate or diploma should include the title of degree received and graduation date. Documents must be sent to LSAC directly from the applicant's university.
- TOEFL or IELTS report submitted to LSAC
- Statement of Purpose (300 word minimum). The Statement of Purpose serves as a writing sample and is a personal interview on paper.
- Résumé/Curriculum Vitae
- Two reference letters. The most useful letters of recommendation are from professors, professional colleagues, or employers with whom you have had a close working relationship.
- Letter of Financial Backing and supporting financial documents if requesting documentation for an F-1 student visa
- Copy of current visa, biographic page of passport, Permanent Resident Card, or Certificate of Naturalization



“The EENR program had a major impact on my career. I was able to learn a great deal about the energy sector, meet extremely talented people, and have the privilege of being taught by the best professors. I work directly with the oil and gas industry, and I cannot emphasize enough how attending this program has helped me build my career. I would recommend it to anyone interested in working in the energy sector.”

—Joao Marreiros Simoes Oliveria '12
BP Exploration, Angola

Energy, Environment, & Natural Resources

In a global market for energy and natural resources, understanding laws, policies, and regulations governing energy is extremely important. The market demands lawyers skilled in analyzing regulatory and legal issues involving fuels, energy production, pollution control, climate change, renewables, environment, and natural resources. The University of Houston Law Center's commitment to energy and environmental law is longstanding and recognized at home and around the world. That's only fitting given that we are located in the energy capital of the world and the two fields are inextricably intertwined. The Law Center is ranked as one of the top two law schools in the country in offering energy specific courses, especially those in oil and gas, and its faculty is internationally recognized for its expertise in energy law and related fields. Located in the heart of the energy industry with more than 3,700 energy related companies based in Houston, the Law Center trains lawyers to handle the complex legal and policy issues that surround three areas: energy production, transportation, and use; pollution prevention and biodiversity protection; and natural resources exploitation and conservation. Students must complete 24 credits, including a minimum of 15 credits in energy and environment. Students may complement their courses with those in other specialty areas such as health, intellectual property, international law, and tax. Students have the option of writing a thesis of publishable quality. Students who earned their law degree outside of the United States are also required to take Introduction to American Law and Lawyering Skills and Strategies as part of the 24-credit requirement.

law.uh.edu/eenrcenter/

COURSES INCLUDE:

Advanced Oil and Gas Contract Drafting • Clean Air Act • Climate Change Litigation • Coastal and Ocean Law • Corporate Compliance & Ethics • Diplomacy for Oil & Gas • Drafting & Negotiating International Oil and Gas Agreements • Endangered Species and Biodiversity Law • Energy Law and Policy • Environmental Enforcement • Environmental Law • Environmental Law and Emerging Technologies • Environmental Law Practicum • European Union (EU) Energy Law • Federal Natural Resources • International Commercial Arbitration • International Corporate Compliance • International Petroleum Transactions • International Risk Management • Land Use • Law of Biodiversity Conservation • Local Controls and Land Development • Natural Resources • Offshore Leasing • Oil & Gas Law • Oil & Gas Pipeline Regulation • Oil & Gas Tax • Practice of Environmental Law • Regulated Industries • Shale Gas & LNG • Texas Coastal & Ocean Law • Toxic Torts • Transnational Investment Law and Arbitration • Transnational Law for Petroleum Investments • Upstream Economics • Water Law

** Not all classes are offered every year, and offerings are subject to change.*

Go to law.uh.edu for current course offerings.



“The Health Law LL.M. program at the University of Houston Law Center is listed among the top 10 in the U.S. for a reason. It offers a wide curriculum of health law subjects ranging from genetics and biotechnology to psychiatry and medical malpractice. The academic staff are not just highly respected in their fields, but they are also great lecturers and mentors. Some of the professors had both M.D. and J.D. degrees, which enabled them to give invaluable insight. What I appreciate most was the willingness and enthusiasm with which the academic staff welcomed one on one consultation and mentoring - the connections made during the LL.M. program at UH will be a great asset for years to come.”

—Kärt Pormeister '15
Estonian State Agency of Medicines

Health Law

Medical breakthroughs and policy changes are coming at such a rapid pace it is difficult for the public, and the law, to keep up. Houston is the perfect setting for attorneys to increase their understanding of the dynamic nature of health law and policy with an LL.M. degree from the University of Houston Law Center. Since its founding in 1978, the school's Health Law & Policy Institute has been in the forefront of legal education, scholarship, and policy analysis related to legal aspects of healthcare and biotechnology. Its programs are consistently ranked in the Top 10 by U.S. News & World Report, and its faculty is nationally recognized for its work in the field. The University is also a member institution of the nearby Texas Medical Center, the world's largest medical complex, which affords students the opportunity to interact with frontline health care providers, researchers, and administrators on legal issues. Over the years, nearly 200 attorneys have taken advantage of this unique opportunity to return to the classroom to hone their skills and enhance their knowledge in this increasingly important field with an advanced degree from the University of Houston Law Center. Students must complete 24 credits, including a minimum of 18 credits in health law coursework. Students may complement their courses with those in other specialty areas such as energy, intellectual property, international law, and tax. Students have the option of writing a thesis of publishable quality. Students who earned their law degree outside of the United States are also required to take Introduction to American Law and Lawyering Skills and Strategies as part of the 24-credit requirement.

law.uh.edu/healthlaw/

COURSES INCLUDE:

Advanced Health Law • AIDS and the Law • Biotechnology and the Law • Comparative Health Law • Disabilities and the Law • E-Health Law • Elder Law • Employment Discrimination • ERISA • Food and Drug Law • Foundational Issues in Health Law: Patient, Provider, Society & Law • Fraud and Abuse • Genetics and the Law • Health Industry Basics: Providers-Innovators-Regulators • Health Care Transactions • Health Law Externship • Health Law Research • Health Legislation and Advocacy I & II • Health Regulatory Process • HIPAA • Insurance Law • Life and Health Insurance • Medical Malpractice Litigation • Mental Health Law • Obamacare • Public Health Law • Scientific Evidence • The U.S. Health System: An Introduction to Managed Care, Transactions and Policy • Toxic Torts

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“UHLC had both the national recognition from U.S. News & World Report and the word of mouth reputation in the local area, important because Houston is an IP intensive city. I was making the transition to IP in a city where I hadn’t previously worked, so the ability of my professors to offer introductions through the local IP organizations was extremely beneficial for me. UHLC and its IPIL Institute laid a really strong foundation and gave me the tools I needed to succeed.”

—Trent L. Menning '08
Associate, Mayer Brown

Intellectual Property & Information Law

Intellectual Property and Information Law have emerged as mainstays of the global economy. These disciplines are combined at the Law Center in the Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law, which holds an international reputation for excellence and is recognized as one of the Top 10 programs in the United States. LL.M. students benefit from the Institute’s active involvement in promoting research and scholarship in the field. Students have the opportunity to study both traditional and emerging areas of intellectual property law (patent, trademark, copyright, and trade secret) and information law (Internet, software, electronic commerce, and databases). Students typically have some intellectual property or information law experience obtained after earning their first degree in law. As a leading center for the exchange of ideas in these fields, the Law Center’s LL.M. program fosters international cooperation among scholars and practitioners. Students must complete 24 credit hours, including a minimum of 15 credit hours in intellectual property and information law courses approved by their faculty advisor. Students may complement their courses with those in other specialty areas such as energy, health, international law, and tax. Students have the option of writing a thesis of publishable quality. LL.M. students who earned their law degree outside of the United States are also required to take Introduction to American Law and Lawyering Skills and Strategies as part of the 24-credit requirement.

law.uh.edu/ipil/homepage.asp

COURSES INCLUDE:

Communications Law • Copyright Law • Copyright Seminar • Digital Transactions • Entertainment Law • Entrepreneurship • Intellectual Property Seminar • Intellectual Property Strategy & Management • Intellectual Property Survey • International Intellectual Property • Internet Law • Licensing & Technology Transfer • Patent Law • Patent Prosecution • Patent Remedies & Defenses • Privacy & Data Protection • Procedure of Patent Litigation • Property Crime in the Information Age • Special Research in IP or IL • Trade Secrets • Trademark Prosecution • Trademarks & Unfair Competition

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“Too often when studying law, a student is only introduced to the law of the jurisdiction in which he or she is studying. In today’s global economy, understanding and appreciating other legal systems is a necessity. An International Law LL.M. opens the door to a ‘world of law,’ introducing students to the intricacies of public and private international law and differing legal traditions. With my LL.M. in International Law, I am able to meet with confidence the challenges of practicing in a global market.”

—Ann Ryan Robertson '05
International Partner, Locke Lord LLP

International Law

The growth of the global marketplace and its interdependence among nations places a premium on lawyers who understand the international implications of various public, private, and commercial activities. Houston holds a commanding international presence – and the Law Center’s LL.M. program in International Law capitalizes on the city’s substantial global connections. The program allows concentration in public or private aspects of international law, and it provides an opportunity for lawyers to structure their LL.M. curriculum to meet individual interests and needs. LL.M. candidates may choose to focus their studies in a particular area of international law, or they can select from a wide variety of courses to achieve a broad understanding of public and private aspects of international law. The Law Center established the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law, which is the first independent research center in the United States dedicated to the study of Mexican law and U.S.–Mexico relations. The Law Center also is noted for its Immigration Clinic which offers students hands-on, real life experience helping clients with issues ranging from maneuvering through the bureaucracy of obtaining a green card to imminent deportation and asylum. Student lawyers and their supervising attorneys represent clients in immigration courts, before federal agencies, and even assisted in a precedent-setting case that was decided with a unanimous vote by the U.S. Supreme Court. Initiatives such as these allow our LL.M. students to gain an in-depth understanding of international and comparative law and their roles in our domestic legal process. Students must complete 24 credits, including a minimum of 15 credits in international law coursework. Students may complement their courses with those in other specialty areas such as energy, health, intellectual property, and tax. Students have the option of writing a thesis of publishable quality. Students who earned their law degree outside of the United States are also required to take Introduction to American Law and Lawyering Skills and Strategies as part of the 24-credit requirement.

COURSES INCLUDE:

Asylum Law • Family Immigration Law • Foreign Affairs • Human Rights Seminar • Immigration Law • Immigration Law & Business • Import & Export Regulation • International Business Transactions • International Commercial Arbitration • International Criminal Law • International Law • International Law & the Use of Force Seminar • International Litigation • International Litigation and Arbitration • International Petroleum Transactions • International Risk Management • International Tax • Introduction to Islamic Law • Introduction to Mexican Law • Law of Biodiversity Conservation • Space Law • U.S. Export Regulation

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“My tax LL.M. from the University of Houston Law Center was vital to my recent promotion as an IRS associate area counsel. I give credit to the quality of the tax law courses offered within the program for greatly contributing to my success and advancement as a tax attorney. In addition, the faculty’s attentiveness and guidance added extraordinary value to my overall experience as an LL.M. student at the University of Houston Law Center.”

—Brock E. Whalen '09
Associate Area Counsel
IRS, Office of Chief Counsel, Austin, TX

Tax Law

Proficient tax lawyers are in demand, and the University of Houston Law Center, based in one of the most vibrant economies and legal practice areas in the U.S., is poised to fill that need with our Tax Law LL.M. program. Our focus is on helping students identify issues and plan solutions to tax problems and hone the skills needed to assimilate new tax rules into their practices. The program emphasizes both professional responsibility and a thorough understanding of the tax system and how it affects individual, nonprofit, commercial, and financial affairs. Federal Income Tax is a prerequisite for enrollment in advanced tax courses. Tax Research and Tax Ethics are required of all students, and both courses may be credited toward LL.M. tax degree requirements. Students must complete 24 credits, including a minimum of 18 credits in tax coursework. Students may complement their tax courses with those in other specialty areas such as energy, health, international law, and intellectual property. Students have the option of writing a thesis of publishable quality. Students who earned their law degree outside of the United States are also required to take Introduction to American Law and Lawyering Skills and Strategies as part of the 24-credits requirement.

law.uh.edu/tax

COURSES INCLUDE:

Bankruptcy Taxation • Business Planning • Corporate Taxation • Estate Planning • Federal Income Tax • Federal Income Taxation of Trusts & Estates • Oil & Gas Tax • Partnership Tax • Post Mortem Estate Planning • Real Estate Tax • State & Local Taxation • Tax Accounting • Tax Controversy and Litigation • Tax Ethics • Tax Fraud & Money Laundering • Tax Policy Seminar • Tax Procedure • Tax Research • Taxation of Compensation • Taxation of Exempt Organizations • Taxation of Intellectual Property • U.S. International Tax

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“My time at the Houston Law Center was amazing. I had an opportunity like no other to learn and interact with top energy law experts and most of all formed lasting friendships. Studying here has been my best decision yet.”

—Eire. Ifueko Alufohai '14
Executive Director, Nigerian Bar Association

LL.M. in U.S. Law

This program for non-U.S. educated lawyers (formerly known as the Foreign Scholars LL.M.) has attracted students from more than 83 countries. Students work closely with their faculty advisor to design a general course of study that touches on multiple subject areas or a customized curriculum that meets professional goals or bar examination requirements. Students have the option of writing a thesis of publishable quality. As part of the 24-credit program requirement, students are required to enroll in Introduction to American Law, which provides an introduction to the law and the legal system in the United States and is an important foundation for other courses. Students are also required to complete Lawyering Skills and Strategies, which provides an overview of vital skills to be used as a student and practitioner. Both courses meet for an entire semester. All of the students in the two required courses earned their law degree outside of the United States. For the remainder of their coursework, students attend classes and collaborate with U.S. J.D. and LL.M. students with a diverse range of backgrounds and interests. Extensive programming and activities throughout the year provide an opportunity for students to experience and participate in many aspects of American culture.

For information on our current foreign LL.M. class, see law.uh.edu/llm/student-profiles.asp.



Visit us at facebook.com/UniversityofHoustonLLMProgram.

The Law Center offers one of the largest course selections in the United States. Foreign students can pursue specific interests by selecting courses in a variety of practice areas, including:

Business and Commercial Law • Constitutional and Criminal Law • Employment and Labor Law • Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Law • Family Law • Government Regulation • Health Law • Intellectual Property & Information Law • International and Comparative Law • International Law and Admiralty • Law and Society • Procedure and Practice • Real Property, Trusts, and Estates • Taxation

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Centers of Excellence

Nine institutes and centers, two of which are perennially ranked among the “Top 10” in the nation, distinguish the University of Houston Law Center. Each of these special programs adds depth to our curriculum and creates educational opportunities that other law schools simply cannot match.

law.uh.edu/cantfindit

Faculty

Law Center faculty members are renowned nationally and around the world for their expertise in energy, intellectual property, health, international law, and other specialties. In addition to their legal scholarship, UHLC professors excel as classroom communicators. The school also draws upon some of the best practicing attorneys in the country to share their knowledge and skills as adjunct faculty.

law.uh.edu/faculty



Practical Matters

- **Finding Housing:**
housing.uh.edu or apartmentlocators.com
- **Texas Residency Requirements:**
uh.edu/admissions/admitted/residency-requirements/index.php
- **Financial Assistance:**
lawfinaid@uh.edu
law.uh.edu/llm/faq.asp
- **Qualifying for a Bar Exam:**
ncbex.org/assets/media_files/Comp-Guide/CompGuide.pdf
Texas: ble.state.tx.us
New York: nybarexam.org
- **Office of International Student and Scholar Services:**
uh.edu/oiss

For more information, to schedule a visit, or register for an information session, email llm@uh.edu or call 713.743.2890.

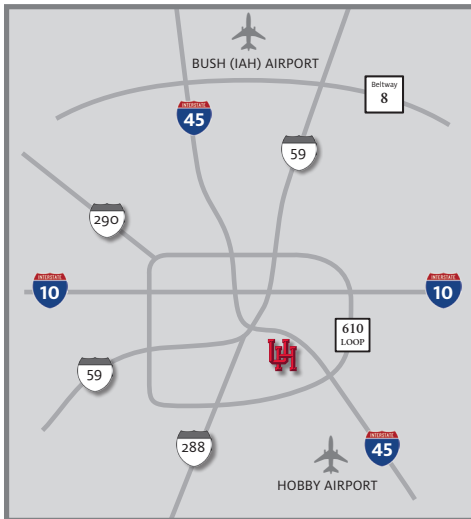


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Office of Graduate Legal Studies
4604 Calhoun Road
Houston, Texas 77204-6060

For more information, visit:
law.uh.edu/llm or email: llm@uh.edu.

The University of Houston is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university and an EEO/AA institution.



UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON | LAW CENTER

Directions from North

To reach the Law Center from Bush Intercontinental Airport, take I-45 South through downtown. Take the Spur 5 exit and follow it to the first stop light (University Drive). Turn right, and proceed past the Campus Wellness Center to the stop light (Calhoun). Turn right, and proceed past Calhoun Lofts to the last entrance on your left. Turn into Parking Lot 19B.

Directions from South

To reach the Law Center from Hobby Airport, take I-45 North to the Elgin-Cullen/Lockwood exit. Turn left at the light, and proceed under the freeway to the traffic light at Entrance 18. Turn left, then turn left again at the first inner-campus road, and follow it as it curves right. Turn left into the first driveway, and the Law Center buildings will be on your left. Use Parking Lot 19B.

Parking

Metered parking is available in Lot 19B at the Law Center. A parking garage is adjacent to the Welcome Center on Calhoun.