LL.M. Program for Foreign-Trained Lawyers
POINTS OF DISTINCTION

1. Georgia State Law’s two-semester bar track program allows foreign-trained lawyers to sit for the Georgia bar exam upon graduation.

2. Georgia State Law is consistently a leader in state bar passage rates.

3. Georgia State Law is home to the Atlanta Center for International Arbitration and Mediation, the only one of its kind in a law school.

4. Georgia State Law is among the nation’s most diverse law schools, according to U.S. News & World Report.

5. Georgia State Law is among the top 10 Best Value Law Schools, according to National Jurist.
Welcome to Atlanta, one of the United States’ fastest growing cities and home to one of the world’s busiest airports. Surrounded by business, government, entertainment, nonprofit and cultural organizations, Georgia State Law provides an ideal environment for gaining practical experience and engaging in interdisciplinary research and collaboration.

Whether you seek to fine tune your expertise in Health Law, Intellectual Property Law, or Environmental and Land Use Law; gain a better understanding of American law or general studies; or qualify to sit for the Georgia Bar exam, Georgia State Law offers an excellent foundation.

Visit us and see what Georgia State Law has to offer, including an amazing facility, a top-notch teaching and research faculty, and a practice-based program.

Wendy F. Hensel
Dean and Professor of Law

85 Park Place

Situated in the heart of one of the nation’s premier international cities, we offer a unique combination of traditional and cutting-edge legal education. Our students and graduates are passionate and contribute to the law school’s global mission to enhance the legal environment. Georgia State Law’s location, programs and value are unrivaled.
LL.M. students at Georgia State Law are well equipped to assume leadership positions in law firms, government agencies and judiciary sectors. Our program will help you achieve this through:

- Teaching the skills essential to understanding U.S. law
- Enhancing familiarity with U.S. legal language and concepts
- Facilitating a means to create a global network of contacts
- Providing opportunities to enhance your English language skills, both oral and written
Why Georgia State Law?

Today’s interconnected world of business and law requires attorneys to be able to write, analyze, evaluate and interpret legal issues in a universal context. With connections locally, nationally and abroad, the LL.M. Program for Foreign Trained Lawyers at Georgia State Law provides you with the access needed to excel in a global society.

Amidst the vibrant city of Atlanta, you will find a law school filled with intellectual rigor and a building that exemplifies the program within it. At 85 Park Place, we blend cutting-edge design and technology with our innovative and practice-based curriculum.
Master of Laws Advantage:
WHAT AN LL.M. CAN DO FOR YOU

Today’s academic and professional worlds demand intellect, expertise and the ability to practice with both competence and confidence. A master of laws from Georgia State Law affords foreign-trained lawyers engaging and intellectually stimulating studies that reflect our dedication to educating lawyers of the highest caliber and competence. Practicing law on a global scale requires knowledge and education that transcends market needs.

The LL.M. program at Georgia State Law is open to graduates with a foreign law degree (e.g. J.D., LL.B., BL, BA in Law and Society), and may be taken on a full-time or part-time basis. For information about our program for U.S.-trained lawyers, visit law.gsu.edu/US-LLM.

Foreign-trained lawyers may pursue any of the following tracks, or concentrations, in our LL.M. program. Students may earn more than one concentration, but they may only earn one LL.M. degree from Georgia State Law.

Bar Preparation Track: This prescribed 26-credit hour curriculum allows foreign-trained lawyers who are authorized to practice law in their home countries to sit for the Georgia Bar exam*, and possibly become eligible to take the bar exam in other jurisdictions.

General Studies Track: This 26-credit hour track, divided roughly evenly between required and elective courses, is a flexible program that allows foreign-trained lawyers to pursue their areas of interest. Students are encouraged to write a thesis major paper. This track is not intended to qualify graduates to take any U.S. bar examination.

Specialized Tracks: Students may specialize in Health Law, Environmental and Land Use Law or Intellectual Property. All require 26 credit hours, with 17-20 credit hours of required or recommended courses, depending upon the track. Students must also participate in an Independent research project with a professor in the field of their concentration.

* Graduates must also meet fitness standards established by the Georgia Office of Bar Admissions.
The Bar Preparation Track focuses on helping students meet the requirements necessary to sit for the Georgia Bar exam. Students following this track may also be eligible to sit for the bar exam in other jurisdictions. Students should consult the requirements of the state in which they wish to practice to ensure that their course of study will meet that state's requirements.

BAR PREPARATION CURRICULUM

Fall Semester
Lawyering Skills for LL.M. Students .......................3 credit hours
Introduction to U.S. Law ........................................3 credit hours
Civil Procedure I ..................................................3 credit hours
Professional Responsibility ...................................3 credit hours
Total Full-Time = 12 hours

Spring Semester
Constitutional Law II .............................................3 credit hours
Civil Procedure II ................................................3 credit hours
Evidence .............................................................3 credit hours
Legal Writing & Analysis for LL.M. Students ........3 credit hours
Research Methods in Law .....................................2 credit hours
Total Full-Time = 14 hours
General Studies or specialized track LL.M. students can add to their practice portfolio or prepare for careers in teaching, government or other areas by studying in specialty areas, such as:

- Health Law
- Intellectual Property
- Environmental and Land Use Law

Our rich curriculum allows you to design an individual course of study tailored to your academic and professional needs and interests. At the same time, foreign-trained students gain a solid foundation in U.S. law and the skills essential for understanding the workings of the U.S. legal system.

General Studies or specialized track applicants must have completed the coursework for the equivalent of a professional law degree or similar credential, but need not be practicing lawyers.

GENERAL STUDIES AND SPECIALIZED TRACK CURRICULUM*

**Fall Semester/full-time**

- Introduction to U.S. Law ........................................ 3 credit hours
- Lawyering Skills for LL.M. Students ......................... 3 credit hours
- Elective or course(s) required by specialty .............. 3 credit hours
- Elective or course(s) required by specialty .............. 3 credit hours

**Total full-time = 12 hours**

**Spring Semester/full-time**

- Legal Writing & Analysis for LL.M. Students ........... 3 credit hours
- Research Methods in Law ...................................... 2 credit hours
- Elective or course(s) required by specialty .............. 3 credit hours
- Elective or course(s) required by specialty .............. 3 credit hours
- Elective or course(s) required by specialty .............. 3 credit hours

**Total full-time = 14 hours**

The curriculum may be adjusted to permit students to attend part-time (9 credit hours).

* Students on specialized tracks (Health Law, Environmental and Land Use Law, and Intellectual Property Law) must meet requirements specific to their specialization. For more information, see Georgia State Law Bulletin.
Tuition and Fees

Consistently ranked a best value, Georgia State Law offers a competitively priced LL.M. Program. Our 2017-18 tuition, fees and estimated costs are:

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* Costs may vary based on personal choices.
** Bar Review courses are not offered by Georgia State Law.
*** Loan fees are not included in total cost and will vary based upon the amount of loan accepted.
Applicants apply online and submit all supporting documents through the Law School Admission Council at LSAC.org. A complete application to the LL.M. Program must include the following:

• Completed online LL.M. application form at lsac.org
• $50 Application fee
• Personal statement
  Two double-spaced pages, describing why you wish to pursue graduate legal study at Georgia State Law and highlighting any experiences, qualifications or other information you believe to be relevant.
• Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)
• Transcripts
  Georgia State Law requires applicants educated outside of the United States to use the LSAC Credential Assembly Services for transcript and credential evaluation. Learn more at lsac.org.
• Two letters of recommendation
  These should come from individuals who can speak to your ability to succeed in a rigorous academic setting.
• TOEFL or IELTS score (Non-native English speakers only)
  Georgia State Law classes are taught in English, so proficiency in reading, writing, speaking and listening in English are essential. LL.M. students take many classes with J.D. students and are expected to participate in class discussions, ask questions and participate in individual or group projects. Students also must be able to answer written examination questions in English.
  Foreign graduates (other than those from Australia, English-speaking Canada, Ireland, New Zealand and the United Kingdom) are presumed to be proficient in English. Graduates from schools in which all instruction is in English may also be considered proficient, but must separately inquire. All other applicants must demonstrate their English proficiency by achieving:
  – A minimum TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 100 on the Internet-based test
  – A minimum of 7.5 on the academic version of the IELTS (International English Language Testing System)

No other test or certificate based methods of demonstrating English proficiency will be considered for the LSAC application. Additionally, in some cases, a video teleconference, telephone or in-person interview may be required to confirm English proficiency.

As part of their orientation, all foreign graduates (other than those from Australia, English-speaking Canada, Ireland, New Zealand and the United Kingdom) may be required to take the Orientation GSTEP (Georgia State Test of English Proficiency). Depending on a student’s score on the GSTEP, additional instruction in English may be required.
THE FINE PRINT

ADMISSIONS DISCLOSURE
Georgia State Law admits students based upon certification that the application materials are complete and accurate. If you have omitted anything or any information changes, you must amend your application immediately. This obligation shall continue until you graduate. Misrepresentations may result in the invalidation of your application, revocation of admission, discipline under the College of Law Honor Code, report to the LSAC or bar authorities and/or other actions.

Pay close attention to Questions 3 and 4 on the Character and Fitness section of your application and the Criminal Certification following Question 4. Note: All moving violations must be disclosed; only parking tickets are exempt.

ABA CHARACTER AND FITNESS STATEMENT
Applicants are required to provide the ABA-accredited College of Law with information about their academic and personal background, including criminal history. This includes all juvenile offenses. The failure to answer any such questions fully and honestly may adversely affect one’s application or result in actions, up to and including revocation of admission.

Every American jurisdiction in which you may practice law after graduation from law school requires each applicant for admission to the bar to meet character and fitness requirements as a condition of eligibility for admission. You are encouraged, as you go through the law school application process and before you enter law school, to determine the requirements of the jurisdiction(s) where you intend to practice law. If you are uncertain where you will practice law, you may wish to review the Standard NCBE Character and Fitness Application, titled Request for Preparation of a Character Report, of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, which is used by a number of jurisdictions’ bar admission authorities. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available at ncbex.org.

Complete information about Georgia’s character and fitness rules, as well as bar exam and admission procedures, may be found at gabaradmissions.org. Students applying for admission in states other than Georgia are encouraged to review the specific admissions requirements of those states.

OTHER STATE BAR EXAMINATIONS
Bar Preparation Track students taking the examination in a state other than Georgia must consult that state’s requirements to assure their course of study will comply. The Bar Preparation curriculum is designed to specifically meet the requirements of the Georgia Board of Bar Examiners. Earning an LLM does not, in and of itself, qualify foreign lawyers to practice law in the United States. Each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and U.S. territories regulates the admission of attorneys to the practice of law within its jurisdiction. The requirements for bar admission vary from state to state, and can be quite complex. A foreign-trained lawyer who plans to sit for a bar examination in the United States should carefully investigate the relevant requirements prior to beginning his or her studies. Learn more at law.gsu.edu/llm/bar-preparation-track/.

SACS ACCREDITATION
Georgia State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award baccalaureate, masters, specialist and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 or visit the web at saccoc.org for questions about the accreditation of Georgia State University.