

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES (ONLINE)

Overview

The Master of Legal Studies (MLS) program is a new 30-credit, asynchronous online degree program that provides students, most of whom are adult professionals working in a variety of heavy regulated industries, with the legal and regulatory acumen to perform their essential job functions at the highest level and to improve career outcomes. More than 70 ABA-accredited law schools offer this degree and it has established value in the marketplace. The program's curriculum will be driven by and tailored to projected job growth in South Florida.

Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit their completed MLS application, Bachelor's degree transcript from a regionally accredited institution, resume, personal statement, and at least one letter of recommendation to be considered for admission. The program targets applicants with a 3.0 minimum undergraduate GPA and professional work experience.

All students will take four required courses ("Core") including the Master's Capstone course, during which the student will write a research paper or complete a project of equal importance. The academic Core is twelve (12) semester credits.

- Foundations of U.S. Law and Regulation, 3 credits
- Legal Research, Writing and Analysis Skills, 3 credits
- Corporate Compliance & Enterprise Risk Management, 3 credits
- Master's Capstone, 3 credits

Students selecting an optional track will select at least three (3) elective courses in that track and additional credits can be selected from the entire menu of electives to reach thirty (30) total credits for the degree.

Curriculum Requirements

Code	Title	Credit Hours
CORE COURSES		
LGL 600	Foundations in U.S. Law and Regulation	3
LGL 601	Legal Research, Writing and Analysis Skills	3
LGL 602	Corporate Compliance and Enterprise Risk Management	3
LGL 799	Master's Capstone	3
Students may select a Writing Capstone or a Project Capstone.		
ELECTIVES		18
Students may select electives from any of the courses below. Students may also complete an optional track by taking at least three electives in that track.		
LGL 603	Advanced Compliance Skills	
LGL 604	Ethical Foundations of Risk and Compliance	
Healthcare Law and Regulation Track Electives:		
LGL 610	Introduction to U.S. Healthcare Law and Policy	
LGL 710	Healthcare Information Privacy: HIPAA and Beyond	
LGL 711	Healthcare Compliance Risk Management: Audits Investigations	
LGL 712	Healthcare Fraud and Abuse	
LGL 713	Legal Regulation of Medical Billing and Coding	
LGL 714	AI in Healthcare and Medical Technology	
LGL 715	Introduction to Food and Drug Law	
LGL 716	Regulation of Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Research and Development	
LGL 717	Regulation of Pharmaceutical and Medical Device Sales and Marketing	
LGL 719	Hot Topics in Healthcare Regulation	
Law and Technology: Cybersecurity, Information Privacy, and AI Track Electives:		
LGL 620	Introduction to Law and Technology	
LGL 720	Information Privacy Law	
LGL 721	Global Data Privacy and Protection	

LGL 722	Cybersecurity Law and Managing Cyber Breaches
LGL 723	AI, Machine Learning and the Law
LGL 724	Global Corruption: AML and Beyond
LGL 729	Hot Topics in Privacy/Cyber/AI
Employment Law and Human Resources Risk Management Track Electives:	
LGL 630	Introduction to Employment Law
LGL 730	HR Issues in the Employer-Employee Life-Cycle
LGL 731	Negotiation, Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution in Employment
LGL 732	Employee Benefits and Compensation Compliance
LGL 733	Privacy in the Workplace
LGL 739	Hot Topics in Talent Acquisition Regulation
Real Estate and Construction Law and Regulation Track Electives:	
LGL 640	Real Estate Law and Regulation
LGL 740	Developing Planning and Zoning Regulation
LGL 741	Real Estate and Construction Contract Administration
LGL 742	Real Estate Investment and Finance Law
LGL 743	Green/Sustainable Development Compliance
LGL 744	Housing Law and Regulation
LGL 749	Hot Topics in Real Estate
Wealth Management and Financial Services Law Track Electives:	
LGL 650	Regulating Financial Services Institutions
LGL 750	Investment Company Regulation and Compliance
LGL 751	Investment Advisor Regulation
LGL 752	Broker/Dealer Regulation and Compliance
LGL 753	Cryptocurrency and Digital Commerce Regulation
LGL 754	Consumer Financial Protection Law
LGL 755	Navigating the Invest Local Act and Raising Capital in Florida
LGL 759	Hot Topics in Financial Regulatory Compliance
Total Credit Hours	30

Sample Plan of Study

Year One	
Fall	Credit Hours
Core Course	3
Elective	3
Credit Hours	
6	
Spring	
Core Course	3
Elective	3
Credit Hours	
6	
Summer	
Core Course	3
Credit Hours	
3	
Year Two	
Fall	
Elective	3
Elective	3
Credit Hours	
6	
Spring	
Elective	3

Elective		3
	Credit Hours	6
Summer		
LGL 799	Master's Capstone	3
	Credit Hours	3
	Total Credit Hours	30

Mission

In the administrative world we inhabit, the MLS program aims to fill an educational gap for a growing body of professionals who work in “law adjacent” jobs, meaning they work in and around the law (or lawyers), regulation, corporate compliance, and enterprise risk management every day but do not engage in the practice of law. Think of a senior human resources director for a large company, for example, grappling with the risks of terminating a pregnant employee during a period of broad layoffs. Or a mid-level compliance officer at a large university tasked by General Counsel’s office with updating Title IX training for employees to ensure that it aligns with expected rule changes relating to sex discrimination and assault. Or an employee at a small start-up company who has been asked to develop the company’s first cyber risk compliance program. Each employee would benefit from a working knowledge of law and regulation, and the degree provides a competitive advantage for employees seeking promotions within their organizations or new job opportunities. Indeed, these are profiles of actual students who have earned the MLS degree at other law schools and credit it with helping them improve job performance and advance their careers.

Student Learning Outcomes

The Learning Outcomes target acquisition of knowledge, critical thinking skills, legal research and analysis skills, and include an ethical component. By the end of the program:

- Students will be able to describe the structure and function of U.S. legal systems and, where appropriate, compare and contrast the U.S. approach with others (e.g., domestic information privacy regulation with GDPR);
- Students will be able to identify and navigate relevant sources of law, including statutes, regulations, and cases;
- Students will be able to conduct basic legal analysis appropriate to non-lawyers and communicate it effectively to a variety of constituents, including lawyers;
- Students will be able to assess risks to an organization’s business goals and objectives, and develop and draft measures or strategies to mitigate the risks;
- Students will be able to consider and evaluate the tangible benefits of using an ethical lens to drive corporate behavior.