



MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) ACADEMIC REGULATIONS  
(As Approved by the Wayne Law Faculty on **May 2, 2017**)

I. APPLICATION AND INTERPRETATION OF THESE REGULATIONS.

Wayne State University (the University), through its Graduate School and Wayne State University Law School (Wayne Law), awards the Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree to admitted students who complete the requirements for the degree in one of the offered majors in accordance with these LL.M. Academic Regulations and, where applicable, the Wayne State University Law School Academic Regulations, the Wayne State University Graduate School Academic Regulations, and the Wayne State University Academic Regulations.

These regulations are applicable to all students in the LL.M. Program at the time they are adopted and to all students admitted after their adoption, unless otherwise stated herein for specific provisions. These regulations may be amended by the faculty from time to time, and such amendments will be binding on all students from the date of such amendment, unless otherwise provided in the amendment. Amendments may add or delete a course from the list of approved courses in Part VI. Notice of amendments to the regulations will be posted on the Wayne Law website and in the Dean's Office, and the fully updated amended version will be posted on the LL.M. website at all times. An archive of each version of the regulations shall also be maintained.

The Director of Graduate Studies (the Director) is responsible, as the delegate of the Dean, for the interpretation and enforcement of these academic regulations. If there is an ambiguity or indeterminacy in these academic regulations, the Director shall determine the proper interpretation to be applied, and so long as the Director's determination is not at variance with other applicable authorities, the Director's determination shall be final. Decisions made by the Director shall be confirmed by letter or email to the student, with a copy to the Records Office and to other offices as appropriate.

II. ADMISSION.

A. General Standard for Admission.

Applicants must demonstrate sufficient ability in law to succeed as a student in the LL.M. program. In general, this requires a distinguished academic record with a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) in academic coursework for the first law degree (a J.D. or LL.B. or equivalent). In rare cases, the

Director may make exceptions to admit students with lower cumulative grade point averages in their law degree programs where other indicators provide strong evidence of the applicants' ability to succeed in the LL.M. program.

B. Degree Requirements for Admission.

Applicants must demonstrate successful completion of foundational legal studies through one of the following means:

1. A J.D. or LL.B. degree at a U.S. law school that is approved by the American Bar Association;
2. The equivalent of a J.D. or LL.B. degree from a law school outside the United States, provided that the applicant has demonstrated sufficient English language proficiency to study law as required in Part I.C.1., below;
3. An LL.M. degree from a law school outside the United States, provided that (i) the applicant has demonstrated sufficient English language proficiency to study law as required in Part I.C.1., below, and (ii) the student's legal work experience and LL.M. transcript demonstrate sufficient credit hours and depth of subject-matter coverage and knowledge to qualify the student to undertake advanced law studies at Wayne Law; or
4. A J.D. or LL.B. degree from a U.S. law school that is not approved by the American Bar Association, provided that the applicant (i) has been admitted to practice in at least one of the States of the United States, (ii) evidences ability to succeed in the degree program through exemplary work experience, academic performance or otherwise; *and* (iii) is approved for acceptance by the Wayne Law Graduate Studies Committee upon the Director's recommendation for admission in accordance with the special provisions for extraordinary admittance in Part I.C.3., below.

C. Special Provisions.

1. **Applicants with degrees from non-U.S. law schools** (Cf. Part I.B.2-3).
  - a. Native speakers of English. Applicants who have studied at non-U.S. law schools and are native speakers of English shall provide a signed statement that they are native speakers to accompany their application.
  - b. Non-native speakers of English. Applicants who have studied at non-U.S. law schools and are not native speakers of English must demonstrate competency in the English language at a level sufficient to permit advanced legal studies. This level is higher than the minimum required for admission to the Graduate School and may be demonstrated by achieving the specified score on one of the following competency tests:
    - i) a score of 600 or more in the regular Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL);



- c. Submit the prior LL.M. program course titles, credit hours, instructor and course descriptions for courses for which transfer credit is sought, with information sufficient to determine equivalency with Wayne Law courses.

If the transfer applicant is admitted, the Director of Graduate Studies, coordinating as necessary with the College Recorder and the Graduate School Admissions Office, shall make the final decision regarding equivalency of courses and crediting of other LL.M. work towards the Wayne Law LL.M. degree.

### 3. **Extraordinary admittance provisions** (Cf. Part I.B.4).

An applicant under Part I.B.4 may, after completing the Graduate School application, request extraordinary admittance through a written and signed request to the Director explaining the reasons that the applicant believes extraordinary admittance is merited.

The Director shall consider the applicant's written request together with the admissions file and, if the Director determines that admission is merited, shall provide a written and signed recommendation for consideration to the Graduate Studies Committee specifying the considerations that support the admission recommendation. The Director's signed recommendation shall become a part of the applicant's file in the Records Office. The Graduate Studies Committee's determination shall be final.

### 4. **Qualified admission.**

In extraordinary circumstances, the Director may admit a student in any of the categories in Part I.B. on a qualified basis, with the consent, as necessary, of the Graduate School Admissions Office. The student will be required to achieve a minimum GPA during the first semester of enrollment in the LL.M. program or will not be permitted to continue in the program.

The Director may consider a qualified admission when a student's record shows some uncertainty regarding the applicant's ability to succeed in the LL.M. program, such as a lower GPA than ordinarily required for admission, but the applicant has also demonstrated some special abilities or achievements under extraordinary circumstances and appears to have made a necessary step forward that may enable the applicant to succeed in the program.

## D. Selection of a Major.

1. **Majors offered.** Each applicant must apply to complete an LL.M. degree in one of the majors offered in the program:
  - a. Corporate and Finance Law,
  - b. Labor and Employment Law,

- c. Taxation, or
- d. United States (U.S.) Law.

If a new major and or joint degree program is created, each appropriate section of these regulations shall be updated to reflect the new major or joint degree program.

2. **Changing majors after enrollment.** With the permission of the Director, students may change majors upon first registering for classes in the LL.M. program or upon completion of one or more semesters of study in the prior major. Students who switch majors after taking courses approved for the prior major may not be able to credit all of the courses taken towards the new LL.M. major. The Director will provide a written statement to the student and Records Office verifying which courses shall be credited towards the new major.

#### E. Application Process.

Prospective students must complete an online application for admission to Wayne State University graduate programs at Wayne Law either through the Graduate School application process or through ACES2/LSAC, indicating the major field in which the applicant wishes to attain the LL.M. degree and the term for which the student is applying.

1. **Start time:**
  - a. Applicants with law degrees from U.S. law schools. U.S. J.D. or LL.B. degree holders may be admitted for the Fall, Winter or Spring/Summer term.
  - b. Applicants with law degrees from non-U.S. law schools. Those applicants who do not have a U.S. J.D. or LL.B. degree generally will be admitted only in the Fall term to ensure that they are able to participate in the Summer Legal English Program for International LL.M. Students, but applicants who demonstrate a significant understanding of the U.S. legal system may be admitted, at the Director's discretion, in a different term.
2. **Items required for every applicant:**
  - a. Official transcripts. An official transcript for *each* college or university attended, whether or not a degree has been granted (applicants with records from foreign institutions must provide certified transcripts through World Education Services, available at [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org));
  - b. Personal statement. A statement of no more than 750 words indicating the basis for the applicant's interest in pursuing the LL.M. degree at Wayne Law;
  - c. Recommendations. At least one (but no more than two) personal or professional letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a

professor of law at the school at which the applicant received his or her law degree;

- d. Resume. A resume or curriculum vita providing the applicant's educational and work experience, current address and other contact information.

**3. Items required for some applicants:**

- a. International degree applicants. For applicants with law degrees from another country, statement of native English speaker status or English language proficiency test scores (see Part I.C.1) are required by Wayne Law. (Information necessary for visa applications, including financial support, or statement of permanent residency status, will be required for federal student or other visa and admission status to be finalized. The Office of International Students and Scholars handles these matters.);
- b. Scholarship applicants. For applicants interested in being considered for the Wayne Law LL.M. Merit Scholarships, a statement of scholarship interest of no more than 750 words;
- c. International applicants requesting a TOEFL waiver. For international applicants requesting a TOEFL waiver, a statement of native speaker status or use of English language in professional legal duties or in instructional courses for the legal degree;
- d. Conditional, extraordinary, or qualified admission applicants. For applicants requesting admission under Part I.C.1.d, I.C.3, or I.C.4, a statement supporting that request.
- e. Transfer applicants. For applicants requesting admission under Part I.C.2, a statement indicating a request for transfer of credits from certain courses taken in the prior LL.M. program, with course title, instructor, credit hours, and course description.

**III. REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LL.M. DEGREE**

**A. Completion within Six Years.**

Every LL.M. student must successfully complete the LL.M. requirements for the student's major within six (6) years of the date that the student first enters the program.

1. **Extensions**. In extraordinary cases, the Director, with the consent of the Dean, may exercise discretion to grant an extension to complete the degree. If the Director makes this determination, a written explanation of the extraordinary circumstances justifying the decision and the length of the extension shall be provided to the student, the Records Office for inclusion in the student's file, and, as necessary, to the University's Graduate School. The Director will report such extensions to the Graduate Committee and Dean in the annual report on the status of the LL.M. program.

B. Credit Hour Requirements.

1. **Credit hour determinations.** Credit hours are assigned to each course and announced in the course listings published on the Wayne Law website, in the registration materials, and in the Graduate Bulletin. In general, one semester credit hour is awarded for each hour of class per week for an academic term of approximately thirteen weeks, the preparation for the class, and the passing of an examination with a grade of “C” or above. A student may not earn credit for any course before the last day of classes for the academic semester. Some courses continue for the entire academic year, and for these courses no credit or grade is determined until both semesters are completed.
2. **Graduate plan of work.**
  - a. “Plan of Work” forms that cover the requirements for each LL.M. major set out in this Part III.B. shall be available on the LL.M. website and shall be updated to conform to any changes made in these regulations within 30 days of the approval of the changes.
  - b. Each LL.M. student shall consult with the Director about the student’s Plan of Work during orientation week (or the first week the student is in attendance, if not in the fall semester orientation week), outlining the tentative course sequencing (course and term) that the student intends to undertake and determining the courses for which the student shall register in the first semester of the student’s LL.M. coursework.
  - c. At the end of each semester thereafter, each student shall review the Plan of Work with the Director before registering for courses for the following semester.
3. **Minimum 24 credits of courses other than master’s thesis.** Every LL.M. student must complete a minimum of 24 credit hours of coursework in an appropriate combination of required, approved-elective and approval-required elective courses<sup>1</sup> as mandated for the student’s LL.M. major.
  - a. Required courses are:
    - i. The basic course in the major (see III.B.5); and
    - ii. Additional required courses in the major (see III.B.6):
      - 1) An additional specified course that must be taken for the major (e.g., Taxation of Partnerships for Taxation LL.M.s), and/or
      - 2) An additional course that must be selected from a small set of options within a specific category from

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<sup>1</sup> The term “courses” herein refers to courses, seminars, directed studies, clinics, and externships, unless otherwise noted. Specific restrictions or rules on seminars, directed studies, clinics or externships will be stated in direct reference to the type of course to which they apply.

which a course must be taken to complete the student's major (e.g., either Taxation of Corporations or Business Planning for Taxation LL.M.s).

- b. Approved-elective courses are any course, seminar, clinic or externship offered at Wayne Law or in other departments in the University that is listed as a course approved by the faculty for credit towards the student's major, as set out in Part VI of these regulations.
  - c. Approval-required elective courses are elective courses that require the Director's prior approval for credit towards the student's LL.M. degree, including
    - i. Directed studies (see III.B.9);
    - ii. Special topics (see III.D);
    - iii. Externships and live-client clinics (see III.B.10);
    - iv. Approved-elective courses set out in Part VI that are offered by other University departments;
    - v. Advanced courses offered at other law schools or universities that are taken on a transfer-credit basis after enrollment in Wayne Law's LL.M. program (see III.B.12); and
    - vi. Courses, not currently on the approved-elective list of courses for the student's major, that the student successfully petitions the Director to have credited towards the degree for that student, including upper-level J.D. courses offered at Wayne Law and law-related graduate-level courses offered by another department of the University if such other department course is (a) numbered 5000 or higher and (b) treated as permitted for graduate credit in that department; but not including first-year J.D. courses *unless* extraordinary circumstances apply (preparation to take a bar exam is not such a circumstance).
4. **2-Credit master's thesis requirement for non-U.S. Law majors.** LL.M. students with majors other than U.S. Law must complete a minimum 2-credit Master's Thesis requirement in addition to the 24 credits of required, approved-elective, and approval-required elective courses, in accordance with the master's thesis guidelines set out in Part III.E, below.
- a. Enrollment options. Students may complete the Master's Thesis requirement either through the stand-alone option or in conjunction with a seminar.
    - i. Stand-alone option. Students register for 2 credits of Masters Thesis (LEX 8999).
    - ii. Seminar option. Students register for 2 credits of Masters Thesis (LEX 8999) and 1 credit of directed study (LEX 7990) in

connection with attendance and full participation in a 3-credit seminar requiring a substantial paper taught by the professor who serves as adviser on the thesis and directed study. Students will pay for 3 credits total and will not register for the seminar, but must complete all of the work for the seminar. If the student adopts this seminar option, the 1-credit directed study is not counted against the directed study 4-credit maximum (see III.B.9).

- b. Continuing residency requirement. An LL.M. student who has enrolled under either the stand-alone or seminar option for the Master's Thesis and who has completed all the other requirements of the seminar or stand-alone option as set by the faculty adviser but has not yet finalized the Master's Thesis will be required to register for at least one credit of thesis direction until such time as the student:
  - i. completes the requirements for the degree;
  - ii. declares him/herself no longer a candidate for the degree; or
  - iii. exceeds the time limit, including any extensions approved by the Director, allotted for securing the degree.

For these credits, the student will be assessed customary tuition and fees and will register as an auditor. This requirement may be waived only in extraordinary circumstances by the Director with the consent of the Dean. No degree credit will be granted for these additional credits beyond the required credits for the Master's Thesis or seminar. A mark of "Z" (Auditor) will be recorded on the student's record for these additional semesters.

5. **Basic course(s) in the major.** All students must complete the basic course(s) in their respective majors, *unless* the requirement for one or more such courses is waived by the Director in a written statement to the Records Office outlining the basis for the waiver. Basis for waiver consideration includes completion with a grade of B or higher of an equivalent course at a U.S. law school within 5 years of enrollment in the Wayne Law LL.M. program, two or more years of professional work in the field requiring substantial knowledge of the material covered in the course, or exceptional circumstances demonstrating likely command of the material. A waiver does not diminish the credit hour requirements set forth in other sections of this Part III.B.

Students in non-U.S. Law majors for whom the basic course requirement is not waived will register for, pay tuition and fees for, and receive only 2 credits towards the LL.M. degree for the basic course in those majors.

The basis courses for the majors are as follows:

- a. Corporate and Finance Law Majors. Corporations (LEX 7156).
- b. Labor and Employment Law Majors. Labor Law (LEX 7501).

- c. Taxation Majors. Taxation (LEX 7816).
  - d. U.S. Law Majors.
    - i. Survey of United States Law (LEX 8875);
    - ii. Introduction to the Legal System of the United States (LEX 7424);
    - iii. U.S. Legal Practice Skills for Foreign Law Students (LEX 8890);  
and
    - iv. Fundamentals of U.S. Legal Research (LEX 8815).
6. **Additional required courses in the major.** All non-U.S. Law majors must take additional required courses (in some cases, by selecting an option among a small group of courses in a required category of courses), as follows:
- a. Corporate and Finance Law Majors.
    - i. Taxation (LEX 7816);
    - ii. At least one finance course from the following options:<sup>2</sup>
      - 1) Corporate Finance (LEX 7151); or
      - 2) International Finance: Transactions, Regulation and Policy (LEX 7406); and
    - iii. At least one corporate tax course from the following options (some may require prerequisites in addition to Taxation, or admission by the instructor):
      - 1) Taxation of Corporations (LEX 7821);
      - 2) Taxation of Corporations: Mergers and Restructurings (LEX 7014); or
      - 3) Business Planning (Lex 7060 or LEX 7061).
  - b. Labor and Employment Law Majors.
    - i. Employment Law (LEX 7221); and
    - ii. Employment Discrimination (LEX 7216).
  - c. Taxation Majors.
    - i. Taxation of Partnerships (LEX 7311);
    - ii. At least one corporate tax course from the following options:
      - 1) Taxation of Corporations (LEX 7821);
      - 2) Taxation of Corporations: Mergers and Restructurings (LEX 7014); or
      - 3) Business Planning (Lex 7060 or LEX 7061).
7. **Minimum required credit hours in LEX courses.** Students must complete a required number of hours towards their majors in courses offered at Wayne Law (LEX courses) and approved for that major, as follows:

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<sup>2</sup> If in any academic year neither of the corporate finance courses is offered in the Law School, a corporate and finance major may instead register to take FIN 7090 outside the Law School.

- a. Corporate/Finance majors. At least 16 credit hours of LEX courses for that major;
  - b. Labor/Employment Law majors. At least 16 credit hours of LEX courses for that major;
  - c. Taxation majors. At least 18 credit hours of LEX courses for that major; and
  - d. U.S. Law majors. At least 24 credit hours of LEX courses for that major.
8. **Maximum number of credit hours in approval-required elective courses.** Each major limits the number of credit hours that a student may take of approval-required elective courses *other than* directed study courses for which separate limitations apply. Registration for additional courses in other departments at the University beyond the maximum permitted will not be credited towards the LL.M. degree. Registration for courses in other universities or law schools without prior approval by the Director for credit towards the degree will not be credited towards the LL.M. degree. In extraordinary circumstances, the Director may provide prior written approval to the student and the Records Office for the student to enroll in, and receive full credit towards the degree for, a course that will cause the student to exceed the applicable cap.

The cap for each major is as follows:

- a. Corporate/Finance Law majors may apply no more than 8 credit hours of approval-required elective courses (other than directed studies) towards their LL.M. degree;
- b. Labor/Employment Law majors may apply no more than 8 credit hours of approval-required elective courses (other than directed studies) towards their LL.M. degree;
- c. Taxation majors may apply no more than 6 credit hours of approval-required elective courses (other than directed studies) towards their LL.M. degree; and
- d. U.S. Law majors generally may not apply approval-required elective courses (other than directed studies) towards their degree; however, in extraordinary cases, a student with a U.S. Law major may petition the Director for permission to take an elective course outside the approved list for the U.S. Law major to be credited towards the degree; if the Director approves, a written statement shall be filed with the Records Office stating the rationale for the course approval. A student with a U.S. Law major may also petition the Director for approval to take a course at the graduate level in other departments of the University that will be recorded on the student's transcript

but will not be counted towards the 24-credit requirement for the U.S. Law LL.M. degree.

9. **Maximum credit hours of directed study:** With the Director's prior approval for each directed study course, an LL.M. student may apply up to four (4) credit hours of directed study courses towards the degree in any major. A student may seek directed study direction from professors, visiting professors, and part-time faculty at Wayne Law as well as from professors in other University departments. Directed studies are treated as a LEX course that is not subject to the limitation on credit hours of approval-required elective courses under Part III.B.8.

The single credit-hour of directed study for the master's thesis when done in connection with a seminar shall not be counted towards the four-credit directed study maximum.

10. **Maximum credit hours of clinics and externships:** No more than 4 credit hours of externships or clinics shall apply towards satisfying the credit requirements of the LL.M. degree (even if the clinic or externship in which the student is enrolled is listed as 5 or more credits). A student may enroll in additional externships or clinics during the student's LL.M. studies with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the Director of Clinics, but no additional externship or clinic credit will count towards satisfying the credit requirements of the LL.M. degree. A student may not enroll in more than one externship or clinic per term.

The Directors shall consider the following criteria:

- a. whether there is sufficient space in the externship program or clinic;
- b. whether the student understands the fundamental aspects of the American legal system well enough to represent clients competently with supervision and is able to obtain significant educational benefit from the experience;
- c. whether the student's oral and written language skills are adequate to such representation; and
- d. whether the student's course selection and grade point average reflect appropriate progress toward completion of the LL.M. degree, with the understanding that an LL.M. student with a grade point average significantly below the 3.0 required for graduation generally shall not be eligible.

11. **Credit for courses duplicating courses taken in first law degree program:** No credit will be given for courses as part of the LL.M. program if the student took an equivalent course in a J.D. or equivalent program *unless* the course is
- a. approved for credit as part of a Wayne Law J.D./LL.M. joint degree program,
  - b. the basic course for the student's non-U.S. Law LL.M. major for which the Director has not waived the requirement, in which case only 2 credits will be applied towards the LL.M. degree.
  - c. approved by the Director for credit prior to registration for the course, with a written statement to the Records Office stating the basis for the approval.

**12. Credit and grades for transfer courses:** Upon petition to and prior approval by the Director, a student may in exceptional cases take as an elective for transfer credit an advanced course offered at another university. The course must be one that is not offered in that academic year at Wayne Law or other Schools and Colleges of Wayne State University but is highly relevant to the student's major and career aspirations and must be taken in the year to which the petition applies. If the student earns a grade of B or above, the transfer credit will appear on the student's Wayne Law transcript, but the grade will not appear on the transcript or be a part of the student's GPA determination. If the student earns a grade below B, however, no credit toward the degree will be recorded for that course.

Courses that a student has taken elsewhere after the completion of a J.D. or LL.B. degree and before enrollment in the LL.M. program at Wayne Law cannot be counted as transfer courses towards the student's Wayne Law LL.M. degree unless the student is admitted as a transfer student pursuant to the special provisions in Part II.C.2.

C. Grade and cumulative grade point average (GPA) requirements:

1. **Four-Point System.** Final grades and associated grade points for LL.M. students are recorded under the following four-point system:

A	=	4.00	B-	=	2.67
A-	=	3.67	C+	=	2.33
B+	=	3.33	C	=	2.00
B	=	3.00	C- or below	=	0.00

- a. The University does not recognize the grade of A+.
- b. The mark of "I" (Incomplete) is given to an LL.M. student who has not completed all of the course work as planned for the term when there is, in the judgment of the instructor, a reasonable probability that the student will complete the course successfully without again attending regular class sessions. The faculty member must determine whether the student is passing the course at the time the grade of "I" is given. A written contract specifying the work to be completed should be signed by the student and instructor. Responsibility for completing all course work rests with the student.

The mark of "I" will be changed to a letter grade when the student completes the course work as arranged with the instructor or, if the instructor has left the University, with the Director. Work must be completed within one calendar year. There are no extensions.

If regular attendance is necessary to complete coursework, the mark of "I" will not be awarded and the student must register for the class for the semester

in which attendance is planned. The student will be assessed tuition and applicable fees for the second registration.

If a student decides to re-register for a course subsequent to the assignment of an “I,” then the mark of “I” will be changed to a mark of Withdrawal/Passing (“WP”), and the student will be responsible for tuition and applicable fees for the second registration. Students must notify the Records Office and the Director (if the course is in the Law School) and the department office (if the course is in another University department) that they have re-registered for a course for which an “I” was marked, so that the “I” is not changed to an “F.”

Any unchanged mark of “I” will, within one calendar year from the time it was received, be changed to a grade of “F” (failing).

- c. The mark of “WF” (Official Withdrawal/Failing) is given when the student drops the course in accordance with University policy and the student had earned a failing grade as of the date the withdrawal is approved.
  - d. The mark of “WN” (Withdrawal/Non-Attendance) is given to students who did not attend any classes and/or did not complete any assignments and/or did not participate in credit-earning activities by the withdrawal date.
  - e. The mark of “WP” (Official Withdrawal/Passing) is given when the student drops the course in accordance with University policy and the student had earned a passing grade as of the date the withdrawal is approved.
  - f. The mark of “Y” (Deferred) is given when the student is up-to-date in the work of a course planned to continue beyond the semester (i.e., in the case of a Master’s Thesis and certain courses taken in sequence).
  - g. The mark of “Z” (Auditor) is given when the student has formally registered for the course for audit. The Director must provide written audit authorization to the student at the time of registration, *unless* the credit is for continuing work on the master’s thesis.
2. **First semester GPA requirement.** If an LL.M. student fails to attain at least a 1.67 GPA on the work taken during the first semester of enrollment in the Wayne Law LL.M. program, the student shall not be permitted to continue at Wayne Law. Students are also subject to the academic eligibility standards set forth in the Wayne State University Law School Academic Regulations.
  3. **Cumulative GPA requirement.** In order to graduate, an LL.M. student must have a cumulative GPA in courses counted towards the LL.M. degree of 3.00 or higher. No rounding is permitted in determining whether the student satisfies this GPA requirement—e.g., a cumulative GPA of 2.98 will not be sufficient for graduation.

4. **Probationary Status.** Students whose cumulative GPA as of the second semester of classes falls below 3.00 shall be treated as on probationary status. Further enrollment shall require a detailed Plan of Work review with the Director and approval of the Director. A student whose GPA remains in probationary status for another semester shall not be allowed to continue, unless an exception is granted by the Director based on significant though incomplete improvement and realistic expectations of ability to achieve a 3.00 GPA.
5. **Grades below “C” for Wayne Law and other University courses.** No credit towards the degree will be given for courses at Wayne Law or other departments in the University in which an LL.M. student earns a grade below “C” (i.e., grades of C- or below). Accordingly, a grade of F and zero credit hours will be entered on the transcript for grades of C- or below.
6. **Grade replacement by repetition of courses.** An LL.M. student may petition the Director to repeat up to three courses credited toward the LL.M. degree in which the student earned a grade of B- or below. If the student makes a C or higher in the retake of a course, the student will receive credit towards the degree for the course, both grades will appear on the transcript, and only the higher grade will be taken into account in the student’s cumulative GPA.

Students will be assessed tuition and fees for the repeated course and generally will not receive University financial aid for such course repetition.

7. **Pass/fail grade option not permitted.** Courses at Wayne Law and other departments in the University to be credited towards the LL.M. degree must be taken for a grade, and the grade and credit hours will be entered on the Wayne Law transcript. LL.M. students may not take any courses credited towards the LL.M. degree on a pass/fail basis.

#### D. Special Topics.

In exceptional circumstances when the Wayne Law Records Office and Director agree, a student may register for a “special topic” for credit towards the LL.M. degree. The student must complete a “Special Topics Form” (available in the Records Office) for a course of 2-4 credits. The supervising professor and Director must sign and date the form before the Records Office will register the student for the course.

The Special Topics category includes transfers of courses from outside the University for which Wayne State University does not offer an equivalent course, work similar to a Directed Study that does not involve a written paper, or other special circumstances requiring unique arrangements with the supervising professor (such as an unavoidable overlap of part of a session of a desired course with a session of another required course because of different schools scheduling

periods, which otherwise does not permit the student to register for both courses). Students who think their situation may require a Special Topics designation should discuss the matter with the Director and with the supervising professor.

E. Master's Thesis.

Every LL.M. student other than U.S. Law majors must complete a master's thesis within the time allotted for completion of the LL.M. degree. A student who is a U.S. Law major may opt to complete a master's thesis as an additional course credited towards the degree. The master's thesis must be an original work that demonstrates scholarly research and exploration of a noteworthy issue in the student's major field.

1. **Prerequisites for thesis registration.** Ordinarily, a student shall not be permitted to register for the master's thesis until (i) the student has participated in the Master's Thesis Workshop (held early in each fall term) and (ii) the student has successfully completed 12 credit hours of course work. The Director may waive the 12-credit-hour requirement in exceptional cases, with written approval filed with the Records Office.
2. **Registering for thesis.** A student may register for the thesis under the options as specified in Part III.B.4, above. The student must secure a faculty adviser prior to registration, and may seek the assistance of the Director if help is needed. The "Authorization for Master's Thesis Direction" form must be signed by the faculty adviser and Director and filed with the Records Office no later than the end of the second week of classes for the term of registration.
3. **Thesis work and schedule.** Students must devise a schedule with the faculty adviser that includes submission of a written outline, first and second drafts (and additional drafts as required by the faculty adviser), and final thesis. A copy of the schedule must be submitted to the Director no later than the third week of the term in which the student registers for the thesis. Any extension for submitting the thesis must be approved by the adviser and authorized by the Director.
4. **Expectations for thesis.** A thesis must be an original work not previously submitted for other credit representing the student's own analysis, organization and writing. The work must conform to legal scholarship expectations, as discussed with the faculty adviser. In addition, it must conform to generally accepted standards of academic integrity, including the following:
  - a. Another person's ideas or language cannot be used without acknowledgment, whether in the form of paraphrase, quotation, or use of footnote sources.
  - b. Use of language directly from another's text must be shown with quotation marks, but a thesis should not rely excessively on quotations. The primary text of the thesis should be original to the student.

- c. Close paraphrase (the appropriation of portions of the original author's text without quotation marks and with only minor word or syntactical changes) is not acceptable, even if the source is cited.
  - d. Ideas of others also require citation, including doctrinal analysis, criticisms, commentary or proposals appearing in any published form (e.g., cases, books, articles, student notes, unpublished papers).
  - e. Students must consult original sources rather than adopting a quotation of one author from another author's work. If a secondary source must be cited because the original is no longer available, the secondary source must be acknowledged, as well as the original author.
5. **Submission and approval of thesis.** Students must submit one hard copy and one digital copy of the completed master's thesis to the faculty adviser for review. The faculty adviser must sign, date and grade the hard copy and submit it and the digital copy to the Records Office on or before the due date for grades for the term in which the master's thesis is completed. Any extension for submitting the thesis must be approved by the adviser and authorized by the Director.

Final decision as to whether the paper satisfies this requirement rests with the faculty member supervising the work, except that in the case of a thesis supervised by part-time or non-tenure track faculty members, visiting faculty, or faculty in other University departments, the Director's approval is also required (not to be withheld lightly).

6. **Form and style requirements.** The thesis should be approximately 25,000 to 35,000 words (not counting footnotes or table of contents) and of law review quality. Legal citations must be in accordance with the latest edition of "A Uniform System of Citation" published by the Harvard Law Review Association et al. (the Bluebook). The thesis must include as an appendix a bibliography of all relevant sources consulted in the course of research, whether or not such sources are cited in the text or footnotes. Required contents are: title page (see format requirements on next page), table of contents, text with footnotes (not endnotes), and bibliography. Appropriate chapter or section and subsection headings should be used throughout the text of the thesis.

**Title Page Format**

(Thesis Title)

By  
(Name of LL.M. Student)

A Thesis  
Submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies,  
Wayne State University Law School,  
Detroit, Michigan

in partial fulfillment of the requirements for  
the degree of

MASTER OF LAWS  
IN (NAME OF MAJOR)  
(Year)

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Graduate Studies (if required)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

#### IV. BAR EXAMS

Completion of an LL.M. degree does not necessarily qualify a student to take a bar examination for admission to practice law in a state: each state applies its own criteria for determining who may take its bar examination and for admitting attorneys to practice law in the state. Lawyers from outside the United States who are interested in practicing law in the United States should obtain information regarding the requirements for admission to the bar in the state(s) in which they wish to practice. In particular, international LL.M. students should recognize that some states require minimum credit hours in particular types of LL.M. courses in considering eligibility.

#### V. LEGAL WRITING AND OTHER LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

##### A. Summer Legal English Program.

Applicants who are not native speakers of English must participate in the Summer Legal English Program offered online and announced directly to applicants by the Director. Other applicants may participate in this program if they choose. The program does not provide credits towards the LL.M. degree.

##### B. U.S. Legal Practice Skills for Foreign Law Students.

Applicants who are not native speakers of English and are not majoring in U.S. Law may, with the approval of the Director, enroll in (and pay tuition for) the fall semester course “U.S. Legal Practice Skills for Foreign Law Students” (LEX 8890, 2 credits).

##### C. Legal English Assistance.

1. **Prior to Enrollment in the LL.M. Program.** The University has an English Language Institute that may be available to a qualified applicant prior to enrolling in the LL.M. program.
2. **After Enrollment in the LL.M. Program.** The Wayne Law Legal English Instructor is available throughout the academic year to all LL.M. students to help with case analysis, note-taking, paper writing, exam preparation and exam taking, and thesis development.

#### VI. APPROVED-ELECTIVE COURSES (as of **May 2, 2017**)

This is a list of approved-elective courses (in addition to the basic and required courses addressed in Part III.B and any directed study courses, which are approved for each major subject to any limitations and additional approval requirements set forth elsewhere in these regulations). Some approved-elective courses require additional approval from the Director before a student may register in the course for

credit towards the LL.M. degree. See Part III.B.3.c. The approved-elective course list is updated on a regular basis by the Director with the approval of the Graduate Studies Committee. Course selections must be discussed in connection with the Plan of Work filed with the Director prior to registration for each semester.

A. Corporate and Finance Law.

Accounting for Lawyers (LEX 7001) 2 credits<sup>3</sup>  
Administrative Law (LEX 7006) 3-4 credits  
Advanced Bankruptcy Law (LEX 7009) 3 credits  
Advanced Issues in Bankruptcy (LEX 8005) 3 credits  
Advanced Managerial Finance (FIN 7220) 3 credits  
Agency & Partnership (LEX 7011) 2-3 credits  
Alternative Dispute Resolution (LEX 7016) 2 credits  
Antitrust (LEX 7026) 2-4 credits  
Antitrust and Trade Regulation: Current Issues (LEX 8001) 3 credits  
Arbitration of Labor Disputes (LEX 7031) 2 credits  
Banking Law (LEX 7045) 2 credits  
Bankruptcy and Creditors' Rights (LEX 7051) 3 credits  
Business and Community Law Clinic (LEX 8631) 4 credits  
Business Planning (LEX 7060) 4 credits  
Business Planning: A Transactional Approach (LEX 7061) 8 credits  
Commercial Systems (LEX 7661) 2 credits  
Commercial Law Seminar (LEX 8031) 3 credits  
Consumer Law  
Consumption-Based Taxation (LEX 7131) 2 credits  
Contract Drafting Seminar (LE 8039) 3 credits  
Copyright Law (LEX 7136) 3 credits  
Corporate Counsel Externship: Practicum (LEXC 8515) 2 credits  
Corporate Finance (LEX 7141) 3 credits  
Developing the Commercial Real Estate Project (LEX 7172) 3 credits  
Employee Benefits Law (LEX 7205) 3 credits  
Employment Discrimination (LEX 7216) 2-3 credits  
Employment Law (LEX 7221) 2-3 credits  
Federal Tax Practice (LEX 7316) 2 credits  
Foreign Direct Investment (LEX 7326) 3 credits  
Futures and Options (FIN 7340) 3 credits  
Health Care Organizations & Finance (LEX 7353) 3 credits  
Health Care Quality, Licensing, & Liability (LEX 7354) 3 credits  
Health Policy: The Firm, The Market and The Law (LEX 7360) 3 credits  
Immigration and Nationality Law (LEX 7371) 2-3 credits  
Insurance Law (LEX 7381) 2 credits  
International and Comparative Business Law: Doing Business in China

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<sup>3</sup> If Accounting for Lawyers is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Financial Reporting and Analysis (BA 6000) 2 credits, with the approval of the Director.

Seminar (LEX 8161) 3 credits  
International Aspects of U.S. Taxation (LEX 7401) 2-3 credits  
International Business Transactions (LEX 7404) 3 credits  
International Commercial Arbitration (LEX 7384) 3 credits  
International Finance: Transactions, Regulation & Policy (LEX 7406) 3  
credits<sup>4</sup>  
International Intellectual Property Law (LEX 7407) 3 credits  
International Trade (LEX 8185) 3 credits  
Investment Policies (FIN 7230) 3 credits  
Law of Electronic Commerce (LEX 7828) 3 credits  
Mergers and Acquisitions (LEX 7603) 2-3 credits  
Money and Capital Markets (FIN 7090) 3 credits  
Negotiation (LEX 7616) 2-3 credits  
Patent Enforcement (LEX 7651) 3 credits  
Patent Law (LEX 7656) 3 credits  
Public Finance Law (LEX 7676) 2 credits  
Real Estate Financing (LEX 7701) 2-3 credits  
Secured Transactions (LEX 7756) 3 credits  
Securities Litigation (LEX 7758) 2-3 credits  
Securities Regulation (LEX 7761) 2-3 credits  
State and Local Taxation (LEX 7771) 3 credits  
Statistics and the Law (ECO 6120) 3 credits  
Tax Policy: Current Issues Seminar (LEX 8361) 3 credits  
Taxation of Corporations (LEX 7821) 4 credits  
Taxation of Corporations: Mergers and Restructurings (LEX 7014) 4 credits  
Taxation of Partnerships (LEX 7311) 2-3 credits  
Trademarks and Unfair Competition (LEX 7831) 2-3 credits  
White Collar Crime (LEX 7941) 3 credits  
Workers Compensation Law I (LEX 7951) 2 credits

**B. Labor and Employment Law.**

Access to Justice Seminar (LEX 8002) 3 credits  
Administrative Law (LEX 7006) 3-4 credits  
Advanced Labor Economics (ECO 6400) 4 credits  
Agency & Partnership (LEX 7011) 2-3 credits  
Alternative Dispute Resolution (LEX 7016) 2 credits  
Civil Rights Clinic (LEX 8607) 4 credits  
Concepts and Processes of Dispute Resolution I: Negotiation Theory and Practice  
(DR 7210) 3 credits  
Concepts and Processes of Dispute Resolution II: Neutral Intervention Theory and  
Practice (DR 7220) 3 credits  
Current and Future Trends in Collective Bargaining (ELR 7700) 3 credits

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<sup>4</sup> If International Finance: Transactions, Regulation & Policy is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in International Finance (FIN 7870) 3 credits, with the approval of the Director.

Disability Law Clinic (LEX 8641) 4 credits  
Employee Benefits Law (LEX 7205) 3 credits  
Entertainment Law (LEX 7221) 2-3 credits  
Immigration and Nationality Law (LEX 7371) 2 credits  
Labor Arbitration (LEX 7495) 2 credits  
Labor Economics and Human Resources (ECO 7400) 4 credits  
Labor Relations and Collective Bargaining (MGT 7750) 3 credits  
Labor Relations and Public Policy (ECO 6420) 3 credits  
Labor Relations Law in North America (ELR 7400) 3 credits  
Labor Law in the Public Sector (LEX 7506) 2 credits<sup>5</sup>  
National Labor Relations Act: Current Problems (LEX 8271) 3 credits  
Negotiation (LEX 7616) 2-3 credits  
Practicum in Dispute Resolution (LEX 7660) 3 credits  
Privacy Law (LEX 7669) 2-3 credits  
Public Interest Externship: Practicum (LEX 8598) 2 credits<sup>6</sup>  
Race and the Law (LEX 7689) 3 credits  
Sports and the Law (LEX 7766) 2-3 credits  
Union Contract Administration (MGT 7770) 3 credits  
White Collar Crime (LEX 7941) 3 credits  
Workers Compensation Law I (LEX 7951) 2 credits  
Workers Rights in a Global Economy (LEX 7960) 3 credits

C. Taxation.

Accounting for Lawyers (LEX 7001) 2 credits<sup>7</sup>  
Administrative Law (LEX 7006) 3-4 credits  
Business and Community Law Clinic (LEX 8631) 4 credits  
Business Planning (LEX 7060) 4 credits  
Business Planning: A Transactional Approach (LEX 7061) 8 credits  
Consumption-Based Taxation (LEX 7131) 2 credits  
Corporate Finance (LEX 7141) 3 credits  
Employee Benefits Law (LEX 7205) 3 credits  
Estate, Gift and Inheritance Taxation (LEX 7241) 2 credits<sup>8</sup>  
Federal Tax Practice (LEX 7316) 2 credits  
Futures and Options (FIN 7340) 3 credits  
International and Comparative Business Law: Doing Business in China  
Seminar (LEX 8161) 3 credits  
International Aspects of U.S. Taxation (LEX 7401) 2-3 credits<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> If Labor Law in the Public Sector is not offered at the Law School during the academic year, the student may enroll that year in Public Sector Labor Relations (ELR 7430) 3 credits

<sup>6</sup> Registration requires Director approval for specific organization externship.

<sup>7</sup> If Accounting for Lawyers is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Financial Reporting and Analysis (BA 6000) 2 credits, with the approval of the Director.

<sup>8</sup> If Estate, Gift and Inheritance Taxation is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Financial and Estate Planning (ACC 7440) 3 credits, with the approval of the Director.

International Business Transactions (LEX 7404) 3 credits  
International Finance: Transactions, Regulation & Policy (LEX 7406) 3 credits<sup>10</sup>  
International Tax Treaties (LEX 7416) 2 credits  
Law of Electronic Commerce (LEX 7828) 3 credits  
Mergers and Acquisitions (LEX 7603) 2-3 credits  
Public Finance Law (LEX 7676) 2 credits<sup>11</sup>  
Public Interest Externship: Practicum (LEX 8598) 2 credits<sup>12</sup>  
Real Estate Financing (LEX 7701) 2-3 credits  
Securities Regulation (LEX 7761) 2-3 credits  
State and Local Taxation (LEX 7771) 3 credits<sup>13</sup>  
Tax Accounting Methods and Accounting for Income Taxes (ACC 7410) 3 credits  
Tax Exempt Organizations (LEX 7806) 2-3 credits<sup>14</sup>  
Tax Policy: Current Issues Seminar (LEX 8361) 3 credits  
Tax Policy Seminar: Role and Impact of Congressional Oversight on Abusive Tax Strategies (LEX 8363) 3 credits  
Taxation of Corporations (LEX 7821) 4 credits  
Taxation of Corporations: Mergers and Restructurings (LEX 7014) 4 credits  
Taxes and Business Strategy (ACC 7450) 3 credits  
Trusts and Decedents' Estates (LEX 7841) 4 credits  
White Collar Crime (LEX 7941) 3 credits

D. U.S. Law.

1. **Upper-level J.D. courses.** U.S. Law majors may select any upper-level J.D. course, so long as the prerequisite is satisfied and, if necessary, the instructor consents. Credits awarded will conform with other requirements in these regulations (e.g., limitations on clinics and externships and directed studies).

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<sup>9</sup> If International Aspects of U.S. Taxation is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Taxation of International Business and Multinational Transactions (ACC 7400) 3 credits, with the approval of the Director.

<sup>10</sup> If International Finance: Transactions, Regulation & Policy is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in International Finance (FIN 7870) 3 credits, with the approval of the Director.

<sup>11</sup> If Public Finance Law is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Advanced Public Finance (ECO 6510) 4 credits, with the approval of the Director.

<sup>12</sup> Registration requires Director approval for specific organization externship.

<sup>13</sup> If State and Local Taxation is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Taxation by State and Local Jurisdictions (ACC 7420) 3 credits, with the approval of the Director.

<sup>14</sup> If Tax Exempt Organizations is not offered at the Law School at any time during the academic year, a student may enroll that year in Taxation of Exempt Organizations (ACC 7430) 3 credits, with the approval of the Director.

2. **First-year J.D. courses.** U.S. Law majors are not permitted to enroll in first-year J.D. courses, *unless* the course instructor consents and the Director approves on petition from the student based on extraordinary circumstances. Preparation for a bar exam is not an extraordinary circumstance meriting such approval.