



MASTER OF LAWS (LL.M.) PROGRAM
Wayne State University Law School

MASTER OF LAWS ACADEMIC REGULATIONS

(As Approved by the Law Faculty on May 1, 2014)

Section A: Application

These regulations are applicable to all students now in the Master of Laws Program and to those who will be admitted in the future. These regulations may be amended by the faculty from time to time and may be binding, at the discretion of the faculty, on all students from the date of such amendment. Notice of amendments to the regulations will be posted on the Law School website and in the Dean's Office.

Section B: Other Applicable Regulations

In addition to these Master of Laws Academic Regulations, students in a Master of Laws Program must comply with the Wayne State University Law School Academic Regulations and Wayne State University Academic Regulations where applicable, which are available from the Dean's Office.

Section C: Admission

The basic requirement for admission to the LL.M. program is a demonstration of sufficient ability to be a successful student.¹ This ability may be demonstrated by a record that includes the following:

1. A J.D. (or LL.B.) degree from a law school that is approved by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

¹ Each state applies its own criteria for allowing applicants to take the bar examination and for admitting attorneys to practice law. Completion of the LL.M. degree does not qualify a student to apply for permission to take the bar exam in every state. Lawyers from other countries seeking to practice 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.

2. A J.D. (or LL.B.) degree from a law school that is approved by the American Bar Association but is not a member of the Association of American Law Schools, but only if the applicant has compiled a distinguished academic record at that law school.

3. The equivalent of a J.D. or LL.B. degree from a law school outside the United States at which the applicant compiled a distinguished academic record. Applicants must receive a score of 600 or above on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or 250 or above on the computer-based TOEFL, or 100 or above on the internet-based TOEFL, or 6.5 or above on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam, although a waiver of this requirement may be granted based on other evidence of English language competency. Individuals are ineligible for admission to the United States Law LL.M. Program if they have received a J.D. degree from a U.S. law school.

4. In extraordinary cases, the Graduate Committee, on the recommendation of the Director of Graduate Studies, may admit to the LL.M. degree program an applicant who has graduated from a United States law school that is not approved by the American Bar Association if the applicant has been admitted to practice without limitation in one of the States of the United States and has clearly demonstrated by experience, academic performance, and other qualifications the ability to perform well in the LL.M. program. The Director of Graduate Studies shall sign and place in the student's file a statement of the considerations that led to the decision to admit the applicant.

Section D: Requirements for Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance Majors

1. Students enrolled in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs must complete 24 semester credit hours of course work (no credit is given for a grade below "C"), plus two additional credit hours for the Master's Essay. An LL.M. student may not take a course as part of the Master of Laws program if the student took the same course in a J.D. or equivalent program, except (a) a required class for the student's major that was not completed within five years of enrollment in the LL.M. program, or (b) with the Director's approval.

2. Occasionally, advanced courses are offered at other universities that are not offered at the Law School, and such courses may be taken on a transfer credit basis with the advance permission of the Director of Graduate Studies. Courses at other universities must be taken for a grade (i.e., a pass/fail option may not be elected) and no credit will be given for a grade below "B." Only the credit hours transfer to the student's Wayne State University transcript and the grade will not appear on the

student's Law School transcript.

3. Upon approval of the Director of Graduate Studies, a maximum of four credit hours of directed study may be substituted for an equivalent number of credit hours of classroom instruction for purposes of the 24-credit-hour requirement.²

4. All students in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs must successfully complete 16-18 credit hours of law school (LEX) course work (see specific requirements in section D.9. below).

5. All students in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs must complete the basic course in their respective major field of study: federal income taxation for Taxation majors; corporations for Corporate and Finance Law majors; and labor law for Labor and Employment Law majors. If a student completed an equivalent basic course within five years of enrollment in the LL.M. program, then the requirement may be waived provided the student received a grade of B or higher. Waiver of the requirement to take a required course does not affect the overall credit hour requirement for the program. Students who have not completed an equivalent basic course within five years of enrollment must complete the course, unless the requirement is waived by the Director of Graduate Studies. Students registering for the basic course in their major will receive only two semester credit hours toward completion of the 24 semester credit hours of course work required for the LL.M. degree regardless of the number of credit hours listed in the course catalogue.

6. All students in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.33 (C+) on all hours taken.

7. Each student must complete the requirements for the Master of Laws degree in Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance within six years of the date he/she first entered the program. Exceptions to this requirement will be made only in extraordinary circumstances with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the Dean.

8. University Graduate Level Courses: A student in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs may elect no more

² A directed study credit earned as the third credit in connection with registration for a seminar does not count against the two-credit maximum set out in Section D.3 above.

than eight credit hours of law-related courses on the graduate level in other departments of the University with prior approval from the Director of Graduate Studies. Under no circumstances can such courses satisfy the requirements of the student's major. Registration for additional courses in other departments beyond the maximum permitted will not be credited towards the LL.M. degree. Generally, courses numbered 5000 and above are considered graduate level; in some departments, certain 5000- and 6000-level courses are not permitted for graduate credit and are so designated. Courses numbered 7000 and above are open only to graduate students. Courses in other graduate departments of the University must be taken for a grade (i.e., a pass/fail option may not be elected) and no credit will be given for a grade below "C". Both the letter grade and the credit hours from other graduate programs of the University transfer fully to the student's Law School transcript.

9. Pass/No-Credit Option. LL.M. students may enroll in courses on a pass/no credit basis or on a honors/pass/no credit basis whether those courses are taught at the law school or at other departments of the university provided that, in the latter case, the other department permits the course to be taken on a pass/no credit or on a honors/pass/no credit basis. Regardless of the number of courses taken by the student in this way, no more than 6 credits for which the final grade recorded by the Records Office is not graded may be applied to satisfy the requirements of the student's LL.M. major.

10. Each major has specific additional requirements, as follows:

(a) *Corporate and finance majors:*

(i) Required courses: Corporations (LEX 7156); *and* Taxation (LEX 7816)

(ii) Required elective courses:

One finance course from the following course options:

- Corporate Finance (LEX 7141),
- International Finance: Transactions, Regulation and Policy (LEX 7406), or
- Corporate Financial Management (BA 7020), or
- Money and Capital Markets (FIN 7090) (with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies)

One corporate tax course from the following course options:

- Taxation of Corporations (LEX 7821),
- Advanced Corporate Tax Problems (LEX 7014),
- Business Planning (LEX 7060), or
- Business Planning: A Transactional Approach (LEX 7061)

(iii) A total of 16 hours of approved courses, seminars, and externships

(including required courses).

(b) *Labor and employment majors:*

(i) Required course: Labor Law (LEX 7501)

(ii) Required elective course:

One employment law course from the following course options:

- Employment Law (LEX 7221), or
- Employment Discrimination (LEX 7216)

(iii) A total of 16 hours of approved courses, seminars, and externships (including required courses).

(c) *Taxation majors:*

(i) Required course: Taxation (LEX 7816)

(ii) Required elective course:

One corporate tax course from the following course options:

- Taxation of Corporations (LEX 7821),
- Advanced Corporate Tax Problems (LEX 7014), or
- Business Planning: A Transactional Approach (LEX 7061); *and*

(iii) Federal Income Taxation of Partnerships (LEX 7311)

(iv) A total of 18 hours of approved courses, seminars, and externships (including required courses).

The required courses and required elective courses listed above cannot be taken pass/fail.

11. Students may choose electives that further their educational objectives — up to six credit hours for Taxation majors, and eight credit hours for other majors — from among the other approved course offerings. Prior approval of the Director of Graduate Studies is required before registering for a course that is not offered by the law school for credit to be granted toward the LL.M. degree.

12. The Master's Thesis Requirement: Students enrolled in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs must complete a 2-credit Master's Thesis. The Master's Thesis may be written (1) under a full-time or part-time faculty member's independent supervision (with the student receiving two semester credit hours) or (2) as a paper in fulfillment of a seminar (in which case the student will receive three semester credit hours and must satisfy all of the course requirements of the seminar). In either case, the student should produce an original work related to his/her field of specialization. The Master's Thesis must receive a grade of "B" or above in order for this graduation requirement to be met. Final

decision as to whether the Master's Thesis satisfies this requirement rests with the faculty member supervising the work. The Director of Graduate Studies shall be required to approve the completion of a Master's Thesis that has been supervised by a part-time faculty member.

Ordinarily, the Master's Thesis may be written only after (1) the student has completed 16 credit hours of course work, unless an earlier starting date is approved by the Director of Graduate Studies, and (2) the student has participated in the Master's Thesis Workshop which is held during the Fall term of each academic year. Detailed Master's Thesis and Directed Study Guidelines and Requirements are attached as Appendix A to this document.

If the Thesis is to be written under a faculty member's independent supervision, the student should register for a two-credit Master's Thesis (LEX 8999) with the instructor's written approval.

If the Thesis is to be written as a seminar paper, the student should attend the three-hour seminar but formally register for a two-hour Master's Thesis (LEX 8999) and a one-hour directed study (LEX 7990) with the seminar professor. Prior to registering for a seminar that will meet the Master's Thesis requirement, the student must have the permission of both the instructor and the Director of Graduate Studies.

Section E: Requirements for United States Law Majors

1. Students enrolled in the United States Law LL.M. degree program must complete 24 semester credit hours of course work (no credit is given for a grade below "C") in approved courses and seminars, including the required courses listed in E.5. below. Students who wish to enroll for more than 12 credits in a semester must get the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies.

2. Students in the United States Law LL.M. degree program may not transfer credits from other universities to meet degree requirements.

3. Upon approval of the Director of Graduate Studies, a maximum of two credit hours of directed study may be substituted for an equivalent number of credit hours of classroom instruction for purposes of the 24-credit-hour requirement.

4. All students in the United States Law LL.M. degree program must successfully complete 24 credit hours of law school (LEX) course work. Students in the United States Law LL.M. degree program may enroll in any upper-level courses and seminars

offered at the law school, provided that they meet the prerequisites for the course or receive permission from the course instructor to waive course prerequisites. Students are not permitted to enroll in courses required for first-year J.D. students, except in unusual circumstances and with the permission of the Director of Graduate Studies and the professor teaching the course. Such permission typically will not be given unless the student has a particular intellectual or career interest in a first-year subject rather than a generalized interest. Preparation for a bar exam is not an unusual circumstance meriting permission for a student to enroll in a first-year course.

5. All students in the United States Law LL.M. degree programs must complete four required courses: Introduction to the Legal System of the United States; U.S. Legal Practice Skills for Foreign Law Students; Survey of United States Law; and Fundamentals of U.S. Legal Research. In exceptional circumstances, the requirement to complete one or more of these courses may be waived by the Director of Graduate Studies if a student can demonstrate that he or she has satisfactorily completed a substantially similar course within five years of enrollment. Waiver of the requirement to take a required course does not affect the overall credit hour requirement for the program.

6. All students in the United States Law LL.M. degree program must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 (B) on all hours taken. If a student in the United States Law LL.M. degree program fails to attain at least a 1.67 average on all work taken during the first semester the student enters the program, the student shall not be permitted to continue in the Law School.⁵

7. Each student must complete the requirements for the Master of Laws degree within six years of the date he/she first entered the program.

8. University Graduate Level Courses: A student in the United States Law LL.M. degree program may only take courses at the graduate level in other departments of the University in exceptional circumstances with prior approval from the Director of Graduate Studies. Courses taken in other departments of the University will not be counted toward the 24-credit requirement for completion of the degree.

9. A Master's Thesis is not required for students in the United States Law LL.M. degree program. Students enrolled in the United States Law LL.M degree program will not be permitted to enroll in the Master's Essay Workshop or to write a Master's

⁵ Student academic eligibility is further addressed in Section II of the Wayne State University Law School Academic Regulations.

Essay as a part of their coursework.

Section F: Enrollment in Externships and Live-client Clinics

1. LL.M. students may enroll in externships and live-client clinics after obtaining the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the Director of Clinical Education.

2. In deciding whether to place an LL.M. student in an externship or live-client clinic, the Director of Graduate Studies and the Director of Clinical Education shall consider whether there is sufficient space in the externship program or clinic, along with the following criteria:

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

3. LL.M. students may enroll in no more than one externship or clinical course per term.

4. For purposes of fulfilling the credits required for the LL.M. degree, students may receive from externships and clinical experiences no more than four hours of credit toward the number of credits required for graduation in that student's specific major, though additional externship or clinical placements may be pursued without credit with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the Director of Clinical Education.

Section G: Credit Hours

Semester credit hours are assigned to each course and announced in the Law

School catalog and at the time of registration. 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 the grade of "C" or above. A student may not earn credit for any course before the last day of classes for the academic semester.

Section H: Repetition of Courses

An LL.M. student may petition to repeat no more than two graduate courses credited toward an LL.M. degree in which a grade of "B-minus" or lower is received. Permission to repeat a course must be obtained from the Director of Graduate Studies before the second registration for the course takes place. The original grade for the course will remain on the student's transcript, but only the grade received in repetition of the course will be used in determining the student's grade point average for the LL.M. degree program. Students will not receive University financial aid for repetition of courses. Students electing to exercise this option will be required to pay tuition for the course credits again.

Section I: Due Dates for Master's Theses

1. In the case of courses, seminars, directed studies, or Master's Theses, credits in which the grade depends in whole or in part upon a written paper or papers, the paper(s) must be presented to the instructor on or before the final day of the examination period for the term in which the course, seminar, directed study, or Master's Thesis is undertaken, or at such earlier time as required by the instructor, or the instructor will not be required to accept the paper(s) for credit.
2. A student may be granted an extension of time only upon the establishment of adequate cause to the satisfaction of the instructor and the Director of Graduate Studies. However, the instructor must be able to submit a final grade for the course, seminar, directed study, or Master's Thesis at the end of the regular examination grading period for that term, and no extension of time will be permitted which precludes an instructor from complying with this requirement.

Section J: Graduate Grades

1. In the Law School Graduate Division, a grade point average of 2.33 is required for graduation for students in the Taxation, Labor and Employment, or Corporate and Finance LL.M. degree programs. An honor point average of 3.0 is required for graduation for students in the United States Law LL.M. degree program.
2. Final grades and associated grade points are generally recorded under the following 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

3. The University does not recognize the grade of A+, and no grade below C is awarded credit for graduate courses in the LL.M. program. An LL.M. student who does not achieve a grade of at least C will have the mark of "F" entered on his/her record.
4. The mark of "I" (Incomplete) is given to an LL.M. student when he/she has not completed all of the course work as planned for the term and 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 make a judgment, based on examinations, papers, in-class presentations, or other measures of performance 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 of Graduate Studies. Work must be completed within one calendar year. There are no extensions (other than in the case of the Master's Thesis).

The mark of "I" will not be awarded if, in the instructor's judgment, it is necessary for the student to attend subsequent sessions of the class. If regular attendance is necessary to complete coursework, 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 the student decides to register for the course, subsequent to the assignment of an "I," then the mark of "I" for the original election will be changed to a Withdrawal/Passing ("WP"), and the student will be responsible for tuition and applicable fees for the second registration. Students are responsible for notifying the Law School Records Office and the Director of Graduate Studies (if the course is in the Law School) and the department office (if the course is in another University School or College) that they have reregistered for the course 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" or failure.

5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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 the Master's Thesis and certain courses taken in sequence).
9. The mark of "Z" (Auditor) is given when the student has formally registered for the course for audit. The Law School Dean or his/her designee must provide written audit authorization to the student at the time of registration.
10. Additional Thesis Credit Fee Policy. An LL.M. student who has enrolled under either the seminar or directed study option for the Master's Thesis and who has completed all the requirements of the seminar or directed study option, but has not yet completed the Master's Thesis will be required to register for at least one credit of thesis direction until such time as the student:

- a. completes the requirements for the degree;
- b. declares him/herself no longer a candidate for the degree; or
- c. exceeds the time limit allotted for securing the degree.

For these credits, the student will pay customary fees and will register as an auditor. This requirement may be waived only in extraordinary circumstances by the Director of Graduate Studies 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.

APPENDIX A

Law School's Master's Thesis and Directed Study Guidelines and Requirements

Effective May 2, 2012

Introduction

After completing sixteen credit hours of course work, the Master of Laws student is eligible to begin work on the Master's Thesis. Upon request, an earlier start may be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies. All students must first participate in a Master's Thesis Workshop, offered in September of each academic year. The Workshop will cover topics of research, the graduate-level writing process and writing skills.

An LL.M. student may register for the Master's Thesis in one of two ways: (1) under a faculty member's independent supervision by registering for LEX 8999, Master's Thesis Direction (2 credits), or (2) a seminar requiring a substantial paper (3 credits), in which case the student will attend and participate in the 3 credit hour seminar, but formally register for LEX 8999, Master's Thesis Direction (2 credits) and LEX 7990, a directed study (1 credit) with the seminar professor. In either case, the student is expected to produce an original work related to his/her major. The Master's Thesis must receive a grade of "B" or above in order for the student to receive credit for the work. It is expected that the student will complete the Thesis within the term in which he or she is enrolled in LEX 8999 or the seminar unless conditions beyond the student's control prevent completion. Students who fail to complete the Master's Thesis in the semester in which they enroll must register for one credit of thesis direction for each semester in which the thesis remains incomplete. No LL.M. degree credit will be granted for these additional credits beyond the required credits for the Master's Thesis or seminar. See section J.10. for more details.

Procedure

1. Attend the Master's Thesis Workshop at the beginning of the academic year in which the Thesis is to be written.

2. Secure an advisor. If help is needed in this area, contact the Director of Graduate Studies.
3. Fill out the "Authorization for Master's Thesis Direction" form which is available in the Law School Records Office and secure approval of the topic from your advisor. Submit the form to the Director of Graduate Studies for his/her confirmation of eligibility. Return completed forms to the Law School Records Office no later than the first week of classes for the term in which you register for your Master's Thesis.
4. Submit a written outline to your advisor for approval no later than the end of the fourth week of classes, or as required by your advisor.
5. Submit a rough draft of the Thesis to your advisor for suggestions and changes, if needed, no later than the end of the tenth week of classes, or as required by your advisor.
6. Prepare the Thesis in final form. Submit one hard copy and one digital copy of the completed Master's Thesis to your advisor and secure the advisor's written certification of completion.
7. Your advisor will indicate his/her approval by grading, signing and dating the hard copy and submitting it to the Law School Records Office on or before the due date for grades for the term in which the Master's Thesis has been completed. The Records Office will then have the advisor submit the final grade. Your advisor will submit the digital copy to the Law School Library making it a part of the library's collection.
8. Extensions beyond the deadline for submitting the Master's Thesis must be approved *first* by the advisor, and then authorized by the Director of Graduate Studies.

Form

1. Essays should be typed on 8½" x 11" paper and double-spaced.
2. Legal citations shall be in accordance with the latest edition of A Uniform System

of Citation, published by the Harvard Law Review Association (the Bluebook).

3. It is ordinarily expected that a Master's Thesis will be approximately 25,000 to 35,000 words (not counting footnotes or table of contents).
4. Each Thesis must include as an appendix a bibliography of all relevant sources consulted in the course of the research, whether or not they appear in the final text or footnotes.
6. The organization of the Thesis should be as follows:
 - I. Title Page (see attached format)
 - II. Table of Contents
 - III. Text with footnotes, not endnotes
 - IV. Bibliography

Originality

The Thesis as a whole must represent your own analysis, organization and writing. This means:

1. Another person's ideas or language cannot be used without acknowledgment. It is as wrong to "crib" another author's footnotes as it is his or her text. And it is as improper to borrow bits and pieces of language from several sources as it is to purloin a single source in toto.
2. If you wish to use another author's language, you must use quotation marks. You should, however, avoid excessive reliance on quotations.
3. Close paraphrase is **never** acceptable, even if the source is cited. What is meant by "close paraphrase"? It is the appropriation of chunks of another author's language without quotation marks and with only minor word or syntactical changes.
4. The "ideas" of others which require citation include doctrinal analyses,

criticisms, and proposals appearing in any published form: cases, books, articles, or student notes, or papers written by others that have not been published formally. You may and should use and discuss such ideas, provided only that you do so with proper acknowledgment.

5. Always consult original sources. Do not, for instance, take an author's quotation from a case; go to the case itself. If the original source is unavailable, then be sure to cite the secondary reference upon which you were obliged to rely.

Copies of approved Theses are on file in the Law Library for reference as to format.

TITLE PAGE FORMAT

(TITLE OF ESSAY)

by

(Name of person submitting manuscript.)

AN ESSAY

Submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies,

Wayne State University Law School,

Detroit, Michigan

in partial fulfillment of the requirements

for the degree of

(FULL DEGREE NAME IN CAPITALS)

(Year)

MAJOR: *(IN CAPITALS)*

APPROVED BY:

Advisor

Date