The Florida State University College of Law offers three LL.M. programs in American Law for Foreign Lawyers, in Business Law, and in Environmental Law and Policy. The programs are intellectually engaging and provide students with sophisticated, advanced legal training.

Global Community
FSU Law’s student community is diverse and vibrant. Since the inception of our LL.M. programs, we have welcomed legal professionals from more than 35 countries on five continents.

FSU Law’s faculty is comprised of nationally and internationally recognized scholars with expertise in commercial law, corporate law, criminal law, environmental law, international human rights law, international law and tax law.

The law school supports a collegial academic culture and promotes close working relationships among students and faculty to inspire students to discover a path of their own.

Support
LL.M. students receive personal attention and counseling from faculty advisors who help them design a curriculum that best meets their needs and goals. FSU Law LL.M. students take law classes with J.D. students and are fully integrated into the FSU Law community. Students interested in improving their English language ability can also receive one-on-one English training with our in-house English instructor. LL.M. students also receive career advising based on their specific professional aspirations. They also have access to a wide variety of networking opportunities to connect with FSU Law alumni who are eager to mentor and help current students.

State-of-the-Art Facilities
Florida State has a comfortable, collaborative and open environment with state-of-the-art technology. All of the law school’s classrooms are either new or recently remodeled and the university has a strong wireless infrastructure that allows students to utilize the Internet throughout campus. Our 50,000-square-foot Advocacy Center houses five courtrooms for advocacy training, suites of offices for our business faculty and environmental faculty, and offices for the faculty and students serving clients in our Public Interest Law Center.

FSU Law students have 24/7 access to the Research Center, which houses one of the most comprehensive collections of legal materials. The distinctive feature of the Research Center is that its faculty proactively trains students and other faculty members to produce highly sophisticated, cost-effective legal research.

Studying in the Capital of Florida
Tallahassee is an ideal place to study law. It is the capital of Florida – the nation’s third largest state – and home to 500-plus law firms, state and federal courts, numerous state agencies, the Governor’s Office and the Florida Legislature, and many are within walking distance of the law school. During legislative session, students have the unique opportunity to immerse in the legislative process with Florida’s successful policy makers and lawyers.

Tallahassee also offers affordable living and a diverse range of activities from natural adventures to art exhibits to music festivals.
The LL.M. in American Law for Foreign Lawyers allows foreign-trained law professionals to gain profound understanding of the American legal system and the role of law in the United States. The LL.M. in American Law is FSU Law’s most flexible program, allowing students to design their curriculum according to their interests and career aspirations. Students can choose courses from a range of fields such as commercial law, criminal law, environmental law, intellectual property law, international law and other areas.

Students receive one-on-one individual attention and assistance with curriculum design and career planning. Students benefit not only from working with world-class faculty members and experienced administrators, but also by establishing professional relationships with other LL.M. students from around the world.

The 24-credit program can be completed in as few as nine months. All students are required to take two mandatory classes in the fall semester and can complete remaining credits by choosing specialized areas of law or selecting classes based on their interests.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Merit-based scholarships and partial-tuition waivers are offered to international students.
- Graduates are eligible to take the bar examination in some jurisdictions, including the District of Columbia, New York and Texas.
- Graduates interested in pursuing a J.D. degree can apply to transfer to FSU’s J.D. program without an LSAT score.

**ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

David E. Landau
Mason Ladd Professor and Associate Dean for International Programs
Ph.D., Political Science, Harvard University, 2015
J.D., Harvard University, 2004

“**I CURRENTLY HOLD A MANAGEMENT POSITION FOR THE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT AREA AT PwC PERU.** This was one of the many professional goals I had when I chose the LL.M. program at FSU. Not only did the program give me the opportunity to connect with great professionals from around the world, who ended up becoming my friends, but it also allowed me to look at my career with a broader professional scope. Also, the professors are great professionals and mentors. My experience at FSU taught me to always aim for a higher professional challenge, and this is where I find myself every day in my career.”

Cecilia Manrique Barrenechea (LL.M in American Law, 2014)
The LL.M. in Business Law is designed for both domestic and foreign lawyers who seek advanced training to better navigate today’s evolving business and legal landscape. The LL.M. in Business Law emphasizes areas of growing demand, such as regulatory compliance, in-house counsel, transactional law, complex business litigation, international law and financial regulation. Classes are taught by faculty who are experienced practitioners, entrepreneurs and industry leaders.

LL.M. students may participate in the College of Law’s Business Law Clinic, in which students learn transactional skills and earn academic credit by helping advise business and social entrepreneurs within the Florida State University community.

The 24-credit program can be completed in one year on a full-time basis or up to three years on a part-time basis. All students complete at least 16 credits from the business law curriculum and foreign-trained students all take two required courses to establish a solid foundation in the American legal system.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

» Hands-on training opportunities to apply theory and skills.

» Merit-based scholarships and partial tuition waivers are offered to international students.

» Graduates will be eligible to take the bar exam in New York and several other states in the U.S.

**ACADEMIC ADVISOR**

Manuel A. Utset, Jr.
William and Catherine VanDercreek Professor and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

J.D., University of Michigan, 1987

**“IN ADDITION TO A WONDERFUL CLASSROOM EXPERIENCE, FSU offers LL.M. students many opportunities outside of the classroom and I participated in several of those activities. I was admitted to the Journal of Transnational Law & Policy and also did pro bono work at the FSU Center for the Advancement of Human Rights, working primarily on immigration cases. Pro bono work, in addition to being one of the requirements for taking a bar exam, also is an incredible opportunity to get familiar with the environment of a legal office and types of work expected from a legal assistant/intern. It is also a good way to realize local social problems and help those who need support and cannot afford to pay for legal services.”**

Svitlana Astakhova (LL.M. in Business Law, 2017)
Building on its highly ranked environmental law program, FSU Law offers an LL.M. in Environmental Law and Policy. The degree gives both domestically and internationally educated lawyers the opportunity to concentrate in or enhance their knowledge of environmental law, land use law, natural resources law, and energy law. Working professionals can complete the program on a part-time basis and may take some online courses.

In addition to a rich curriculum taught by legal experts, students can take advantage of related courses offered by other departments at Florida State and benefit from our location in the capital of the nation’s third largest state. LL.M. students have opportunities to seek employment with government agencies, administrative tribunals, public interest organizations, the state legislature and leading private law firms over the course of the LL.M. program.

The 24-credit program can be completed in one year on a full-time basis or up to three years on a part-time basis. Foreign students interested in taking the bar exam can request to take courses outside of the environmental law curriculum.

HIGHLIGHTS

» Offers rich externship program.
» Year-round lectures, conferences and special events with renowned national and international environmental law scholars.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

Shi-Ling Hsu
D’Alemberte Professor and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs
Ph.D., Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of California at Davis, 1994
J.D., Columbia University, 1983

“MY COLLEAGUES AND I ALL WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH OUR LL.M. STUDENTS TO ENSURE THAT THEY OBTAIN A RICH EXPERIENCE AT FSU LAW. We help them select the most beneficial courses for their career goals, connect them with networking and co-curricular opportunities, and sometimes help them get published. We also do our best to help them find work experience if that is one of their goals. We’re proud of the many accomplishments of our LL.M. students, even over the short time that we’ve had this program.”

Shi-Ling Hsu, D’Alemberte Professor and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs

TOP 20

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT HAS RANKED FSU’S ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM AS A TOP 20 PROGRAM FOR 12 CONSECUTIVE YEARS.
To apply, you must have a first degree in law: either a J.D. from a U.S. law school or an LL.B. or an equivalent law degree from a non-U.S. college, university or law school, and provide the following:

» Official transcripts
» Updated CV
» Personal statement
» One letter of recommendation required, no more than two accepted (up to three for environmental program)
» Legal writing sample (required for environmental program ONLY)

We offer merit-based scholarships and the Latin America-Caribbean Scholarship. Students do not need to apply separately. The application will serve as the scholarship application as well.

Applications open: **October 1**  
Deadline: **July 15**  
Application fee: $30

**The application is available online at:**  
law.fsu.edu/academic-programs/ll-m-programs

**Contact:**

Anna Shum  
LL.M. Program Coordinator  
Florida State University College of Law  
425 West Jefferson Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32306-1601  
Phone: 850.645.0925  
Email: ashum@law.fsu.edu

*The Environmental Law and Policy LL.M. program will also accept applications for the spring semester. The deadline for spring is November 15.*