Master of Legal Studies (MLS)

The Master of Legal Studies (MLS) program is a customized curriculum — students may specialize in a particular area or take a broad range of law courses to develop a general understanding of the legal system. Counselors from the Office of Graduate and International Programs (OGIP) work with each student to identify the best combination of courses to fit individual career or enrichment goals.

Most law courses are open to MLS students allowing for MLS students to work with exceptional faculty and student colleagues from across the world. Although course offerings vary from year to year, prospective students can get a sense of typical offerings by visiting our online Course Directory (http://law.wustl.edu/registrar/pages.aspx?id=2124).

Students are required to complete successfully Introduction to U.S. Law and Methods either online (prior to beginning the degree) or in the first semester of the MLS program. Additionally, students are encouraged to enroll in one traditional first-year law course as a basis for understanding the Socratic Method and common law analysis.

The MLS degree is designed to fit a student’s needs.

Contact: Assistant Dean Tomea Mersmann  
Email: mersmann@wustl.edu  
Website: http://law.wustl.edu/mls

Degree Requirements

Master of Legal Studies (MLS)

Completion of the MLS degree requires students to earn 24 academic credits at Washington University Law. Students may study full-time or part-time. Students may complete the degree in as few as two semesters full-time but no more than eight semesters part-time.

Note: MLS degree credits do not transfer to the JD program at Washington University Law.