JD/Tax LLM Program

The Master of Laws (LLM) in Taxation program at Washington University offers a rigorous course of study in tax law. By combining top tax professors with extraordinary tax practitioners, the LLM program offers students an intellectually stimulating yet practical education in tax law. This teaching approach — along with the small class sizes in the advanced practical tax courses that make up this program — allows for both a thorough and personal educational experience.

Tax law is a challenging and fulfilling area of legal practice. In fact, per a law firm associate survey conducted by Vault, tax lawyers were the most satisfied with their jobs out of more than 20 practice areas surveyed. Many careers in tax require an LLM, and having the option to obtain one in six or seven semesters is an amazing opportunity.

Students can earn both a Juris Doctor (JD) and an LLM in tax during the six-semester program. Alternatively, students can choose the seven-semester option, which means that they will earn their JD after three years and their LLM with only one additional semester. The innovative and unique six-semester program allows students to earn both degrees without sacrificing summer employment opportunities, thereby giving students a competitive advantage in the employment market at graduation. To achieve this, students need to complete 94 credit units in their JD program, rather than the usual 86 credit units. For the seven-semester option, up to 9 units of tax credits (not including Federal Income Tax) earned during the JD program can be applied toward the LLM degree. An advantage of the seven-semester option is that it does not require the student to earn any additional credits for the JD degree.

Students can still consider the traditional one-year program. Visit our LLM in Taxation Program webpage (https://law.wustl.edu/academics/llm-mls-jsd-programs-overview/programs-for-us-trained-lawyers-us-trained-llm-in-taxation/) for more information about that program.

Admission Process

Candidates must do the following:

a. Complete the online application (https://apps.law.wustl.edu/apply/llm/auth/register.asp). No application fee is required.

b. Complete the Permission to Release Academic Record/Information form that grants permission for the Tax LLM Committee to access the student’s JD records and transcript.

Application deadlines:

- Six-semester JD/LLM: This program has rolling admissions, but students must apply by the start of the second semester of the 3L year.
- Seven-semester JD/LLM: May 15 of 3L year

For curriculum information, contact one of the following:

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WashULaw Admissions (https://law.wustl.edu/admissions/)