LLM with a Concentration in Negotiation & Dispute Resolution

Washington University School of Law is a long-standing leader in negotiation and dispute resolution education. At Washington University, we believe that lawyers must be versed in negotiation, problem solving, collaboration, and creative dispute resolution to practice successfully in today's world.

A Master of Laws (LLM) with a Concentration in Negotiation & Dispute Resolution prepares practicing lawyers to further their careers as effective and skilled negotiators, advocates, mediators, arbitrators, diplomats, ombudspersons, practitioners, policymakers and business leaders in local, national and international arenas. Negotiation and dispute resolution (NDR) have grown considerably over the past 40 years and are now the primary vehicles for legal dispute resolution in almost every area of legal practice in almost every country in the world.

Law firms, agencies and businesses greatly value practitioners with expertise in dispute resolution, and some large firms have developed specialized NDR units. In addition, there are a growing number of jobs in the field of NDR as mediators, ombudspersons and NDR program administrators for courts, corporations, government agencies, bar associations, nonprofits and NDR providers.

Washington University has a robust Negotiation & Dispute Resolution Program with a curriculum that is one of the largest — if not the largest — in the country, with more than 25 courses, seminars, internships and competitions. Importantly, the school offers almost all of the NDR courses every year, with multiple sections of key NDR courses. The university's top-ranked social work and business schools also offer related courses in negotiation and dispute resolution.

Our distinguished faculty includes several full-time faculty members with expertise in psychology, business, economics and international human rights, who teach, write and practice in the field of dispute resolution. The Negotiation and Dispute Resolution Program adjunct faculty includes top local practitioners with expertise in various NDR fields.

Degree Requirements

LLM with a Concentration in NDR

- Students must satisfactorily complete 15 credits in the Negotiation & Dispute Resolution curriculum as part of the 24 credits required for graduation.
- Candidates who have already completed these subjects may apply to waive required courses and substitute other approved Negotiation & Dispute Resolution courses.
- Students may complete the degree in one year.
- Students may also pursue the LLM degree part-time for up to four years.
- Students seeking to extend course work beyond four years must receive approval of the director.
- Washington University JD students may complete the degree in six semesters during their JD studies.

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