Experience the Difference

Enrolling students starting August 2012

LLM Program

Northeastern University
School of Law
Founded in 1898, Northeastern University is a private research university located in the heart of Boston. Northeastern is a leader in worldwide experiential learning, urban engagement and interdisciplinary research that meets global and societal needs. The university’s broad mix of experience-based education programs — our signature cooperative education program, as well as student research, service learning and global learning — build the connections that enable students to transform their lives. The university offers a comprehensive range of undergraduate and graduate programs leading to degrees through the doctorate in nine colleges and schools.
Welcome from the Dean

At Northeastern University School of Law, innovation is our tradition. From the time of its founding in 1898, the law school has committed itself to addressing the needs of students and of society. Now, building on our signature approach to experience-based legal education, we are launching a new LLM program.

In this vibrant LLM program, our esteemed faculty will guide you through the complexities of US law while providing you with the skills and confidence you need to build a successful and fulfilling legal career in our increasingly global economy. You will take classes with law students from throughout the United States and around the world, obtain vital hands-on practice experience in a legal placement with a US employer, and enjoy the benefits of a lively university campus located in the heart of Boston, one of the world’s most interesting and beautiful cities.

We welcome your interest in our program and your presence in our community.

Sincerely,

Emily A. Spieler
Dean and Hadley Professor of Law
Northeastern University School of Law is the preeminent US law school in experienced-based legal education. Our unique approach to training lawyers brings together outstanding classroom teaching with simulation courses based on real-world legal problems, clinical programs working with real clients, and legal placements (called “co-ops”) with law firms, courts, corporations and governmental and non-governmental organizations in the United States and around the world. In the process, our students gain the intellectual tools, the practical experience and the confidence they need to become outstanding legal professionals.

The School of Law’s LLM program combines some of the best elements of our more than 40 years of creating experience-based legal education programs, with courses specifically designed to give LLM students the foundational knowledge and skills to become effective global lawyers. Whether you are looking to enhance your understanding of the US legal system, gain first-hand practice experience working with US lawyers, increase your expertise in a particular field of law, enhance your attractiveness to employers in your home country or seek the necessary credential to sit for a US bar examination, a Northeastern University School of Law LLM will help you to achieve your personal and professional goals.

We invite you to experience the Northeastern difference by enrolling in the Northeastern University School of Law LLM program.

www.northeastern.edu/law
LLM Program

Course Offerings

Northeastern University School of Law offers a broad choice of courses across a range of legal fields. As an LLM student, you will have an opportunity to take courses from the regular law school curriculum, and, as you choose, concentrate by enrolling in courses in specific practice areas.

Some of the areas in which you might study include:

- Business, commercial and trade law
- Public international and comparative law
- Intellectual property law
- Law and economic development
- Human rights law
- Health and social insurance law
- Criminal law
- Labor and employment law
- Property law
- Constitutional and comparative constitutional law
- Public interest litigation/law and social change

For a complete course listing, please visit our website at www.northeastern.edu/law.

Curriculum includes

- Two courses specifically designed to provide LLM candidates with the skills and training necessary to succeed in a US law school and a global legal practice environment:
  - Intensive Introduction to American Law and Institutions
  - Introduction to Legal Research and Writing
- Legal Externship/Co-op Experience (such as working in a US law firm, court, government agency or advocacy institution)
- Capstone Seminar designed to integrate the externship/co-op experience with classroom learning
- Opportunity for an independent research and writing project under the direction of a Northeastern faculty member
- Opportunity to enroll in courses from the first-year and the upper-level law curriculum based on your interests, with guidance from the LLM faculty director
- Opportunities to specialize in substantive areas, such as corporate law, commercial law, trade law, public international law, intellectual property, human rights and many others.
I teach in the areas of corporate and commercial law, both of which are rapidly evolving and of great importance to foreign lawyers. Likewise, a knowledge of American commercial law is essential for foreign lawyers engaged in international transactions. My experience includes helping to draft the new Massachusetts Business Corporations Act, several years doing law and development work in South Korea, and a research interest in foreign investment in the United States. I am excited about foreign lawyers coming to our classrooms because I know the exchange of ideas and experiences will be enriching for all of us. “
Eight Great Reasons to Come to Northeastern for Your LLM

Commitment to Excellence with a History of Results

1. For more than 40 years, Northeastern University School of Law has been a recognized innovator and global leader in delivering an experience-based approach to legal education that law schools worldwide are now trying to emulate. We have long known that combining excellent classroom teaching with practice-based simulation exercises and real-world practice experience builds skills, confidence and practical expertise, while reinforcing students’ doctrinal knowledge of the law. The result of this approach is the production of excellent lawyers. Our graduates are working at the highest levels of the profession in private practice; as in-house counsel for international corporations, labor unions, universities and other institutions; and as judges, in government and in non-governmental organizations around the world.

Flexible Program to Meet your Needs

2. The LLM program is small and diverse, designed to ensure that you get the legal foundation and skills you need to succeed while affording you the freedom to tailor your coursework, legal placement and written research project to meet your interests. Whether you want to pursue corporate law, human rights, international trade, comparative law or litigation for social change, Northeastern University School of Law has the courses, faculty, library facilities, student organizations and programs to support you as you explore your legal interests and dreams.
Today’s global lawyer needs an appreciation of the cultural, historical and institutional underpinnings of different legal systems. In my comparative law class, we examine the roles served by law in different regimes, from legitimizing the state, supporting a market economy and settling disputes to giving voice to political participation. Because laws are not self-enforcing, we also examine those who use and work in the legal system, from the judges who enforce the law and the lawyers who employ the law to the citizens who rely on the law.
Hands-On Practice Experience

In the LLM program you will be required to do a part-time legal placement in a legal practice setting such as a law firm, court, government agency or advocacy organization, starting in the second half of the LLM year. In addition, through a specially designed Capstone Seminar, you will be able to integrate your legal practice experience with the legal skills and doctrinal knowledge you gained in the classroom. No other LLM program in the US includes a legal practice placement as one of the formal course requirements for an LLM degree.

Outstanding Faculty with Teaching Built on Experience

Northeastern University School of Law’s faculty are graduates of some of the world’s most prestigious law schools and academic institutions. With a broad range of research interests, they are recognized and respected leaders in their scholarly fields. But, what most distinguishes Northeastern’s faculty from those at other US law schools is the breadth and depth of practice experience that each faculty member brings to his or her teaching, scholarship and student mentoring. Nearly every member of the faculty practiced law in their field of research before coming to the legal academy, and most have a continuing commitment to participating in cutting-edge legal practice as an integral part of their academic life. This means that the Northeastern faculty bring to the classroom and to their one-on-one student advising the kind of practical wisdom that can only be gained through real-world experience and a passion for lawyering. With our faculty, law comes to life for you, both as an academic pursuit and a professional vocation.
Having practiced and studied in the United States, France, the Netherlands and the UK, I build a truly international dimension into my teaching at Northeastern. In International Trade Law and Transnational Litigation, in particular, we combine doctrinal perspectives and experience from practice. I'm regularly in contact with diplomats and WTO officials to make sure my scholarly work stays in tune with the field experience of practitioners and policymakers. I find it fascinating to see how the various perspectives mesh to result in more creative and original approaches that can be useful for different constituencies.
LLM Program Fully Integrated into the Law School Community

As a Northeastern LLM student, you will be fully integrated into the law school community — taking classes and interacting with JD students and other LLM candidates, participating in student organizations and community events, and making full use of the research and other facilities the law school provides. Our goal is for you to have a real US law school experience, while providing you with the resources and support necessary to help you to succeed both in the classroom and in your legal placement.

Collaborative Educational Environment

In most contexts, the practice of law is not an isolated pursuit, but a collaborative enterprise designed to bring all available skills and resources to the service of protecting your clients’ interests and achieving your clients’ aims. In this spirit, the School of Law fosters a collaborative educational environment and a supportive community atmosphere. This manifests in many ways: the extensive use of group or team educational exercises; student participation on law school committees and governance; and faculty and student participation in an annual talent show to raise funds for students to pursue unpaid public interest co-op placements, among others. The community atmosphere and collective commitment to the achievement of both individual and institutional goals is a unique aspect of Northeastern’s culture, which makes it a very special place to study, to work and to teach.

Accessible Faculty Committed to Mentorship

The School of Law faculty prides itself on its commitment to mentorship through collaborative work with students. Many faculty members have an “open door” policy and all are regularly available to meet with students for discussions of coursework or advice about legal careers. Many students often assist faculty on research and practice projects, and faculty regularly supervise students on independent research projects. As a student in the LLM program, you can work closely with an individual faculty supervisor on a research and writing project. You will also have the opportunity to engage other faculty members for advice and mentorship as your time and interest allows.
In my scholarship and my classroom teaching, I try to bring the insights and experience gained from many years as an international corporate lawyer, business executive and entrepreneur, together with interdisciplinary analytic methods to explore the diverse local, national, regional and transnational legal regimes that structure economic activity in the global economy.

Understanding the complex interrelationships among these regimes, as well as the role of multinational corporations in shaping the content, operation and effects of these regimes, is crucial for business lawyers, regulators and policymakers navigating an increasingly integrated global economy.
Boston – A Beautiful City and a Sophisticated Legal Market

Northeastern is located in one of America’s most beautiful, exciting and truly livable cities. Within walking distance of the law school, you can take in the galleries at the Museum of Fine Arts, a Boston Pops concert at renowned Symphony Hall or a Red Sox baseball game at historic Fenway Park. Or, if you want to soak up local and international culture, hop on the T (Boston’s subway) right outside of the law school’s doors for a short ride to the Italian North End or Chinatown for authentic regional cuisines. Or go shopping at Faneuil Hall or relax in Boston’s famed Public Garden. What’s more, because the city is filled with hundreds of thousands of students, there are tons of opportunities to get student discounts at great museums, theaters, concerts and events.

Boston is also one of the most sophisticated legal markets in the United States. A center for technological innovation, financial services, education and health care, Boston is home to some of the oldest and most prestigious law firms in the country. Massachusetts has a long history of producing distinguished jurists, and its courts are respected across the United States and around the world. For an introduction to the highest levels of US legal practice, you couldn’t be better located than at Northeastern University in the heart of Boston.

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GLOBAL LAW

At Northeastern University School of Law, we approach legal education from a global as well as an American perspective. Our faculty teach, conduct research and advocate on a wide range of global law issues. Students can combine solid educational and practice experiences in US law with a range of international courses, including trade, international litigation and foreign relations law.
Just as important as scholarly excellence is the crucial role faculty members play in mentoring students. Faculty members counsel students in the choice of work placements and post-graduate employment, integrate students’ co-op/work experiences into the classroom and invite student participation in their research projects and pro bono activities.
The law school is equipped with more than 50 lab computers running Windows XP. Our larger classrooms contain a teaching station with built-in technology to aid in class presentations. Wireless Internet is available throughout the university for laptop users, and there are also network ports available for those who do not have a wireless card. All students receive a personal email account, as well as access to Lexis and Westlaw computer research.
DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

- Satisfactory completion of 33 quarter credits, including required courses in the LLM program and electives.

- Successful completion of one co-op externship (a field placement in a law office or court for a minimum of 20 hours per week for 11 weeks).

- Successful completion of a research and writing project in a substantive field of law.
The Law Library houses more than 322,000 volumes, over 100 unique electronic databases, and is continually adding to its collection in all areas. Of particular note are the library’s collections in public interest law, international human rights, law and public health, death penalty issues and progressive lawyering.

The library is rich in natural light-filled study and research areas. A wireless network is available for research and study in addition to three computer labs, two of classroom size. The labs also include high-speed printers, scanners and an infrared port to facilitate printing from laptops. Four of the library’s eight professional librarians hold both the JD and advanced degrees in library science. The library staff is eager to assist you in your research and curricular needs.

Snell Library, the university’s main library, holds 985,000 volumes and welcomes more than one million visitors a year.
At a Glance

HISTORY
Located: Boston, Massachusetts
Founded: 1898

LAW STUDENT PROFILE
Total number of JD students 629
Male 40%
Female 60%
People of Color 33%
Number of US states represented 30
Number of undergraduate institutions represented 241

FACULTY
Full-time total 39
Male 41%
Female 59%
People of Color 21%

INSTITUTES AND SPECIAL PROGRAMS
• Civil Rights and Restorative Justice
• Domestic Violence Institute
• Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy
• Public Health Advocacy Institute
• Health Law Program (launching fall 2011)

DUAL-DEGREE PROGRAMS
• Sustainable International Development (MA, Brandeis University)
• Environmental Law (MELP, Vermont Law School)
• Public Health (MPH, Tufts University School of Medicine)
• Business Administration (MBA)
• Accounting (MS/MBA)
• Law and Public Policy (MA and PhD)