



University of San Diego School of Law

General LLM with Concentration
LLM in Business & Corporate Law
LLM in International Law





The General LLM program provides a great deal of flexibility, allowing for customization based on professional needs and academic interests. I entered the program knowing my future assignment would focus on environmental law, but it also required an understanding of labor law and knowledge of litigation before administrative agencies and federal courts. Accordingly, my advisor helped me tailor a course of study to meet these goals. In this way, the General LLM from USD was instrumental in preparing me to handle a complex legal practice involving multiple subject areas.

*Major Timothy Kuhn, U.S. Marine Corps Judge Advocate
LLM with a concentration in Environmental Law, 2014*



Thank you for your interest in the University of San Diego School of Law and our General LLM program. You will soon learn that our long-standing tradition of quality graduate legal education and the personal attention our students receive—from the time they apply until graduation—sets our program apart.



The USD School of Law is one of only 81 law schools in the country to have a chapter of The Order of the Coif, the most distinguished rank of American law schools. We are accredited by the American Bar Association and are a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

Among our alumni are partners and associates at prestigious law firms throughout the United States and the world. Our alumni also include important domestic and international government officials, judges and corporate executives.

To enrich the educational experience, USD regularly attracts outstanding visiting faculty drawn from the nation's elite law schools and finest law firms, as well as an array of distinguished speakers.

As a major Pacific Rim gateway to Latin America, the Far East and Southeast Asia, San Diego is an exceptional location for the study of law in a global context.

I hope that this information encourages you to read on. I look forward to personally welcoming you to San Diego in the near future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen C. Ferruolo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Stephen C. Ferruolo Dean
and Professor of Law



General LLM with Concentration Program



The General LLM program provides attorneys and recent law graduates the opportunity to pursue additional training in a specific area of law. It is ideal for attorneys interested in changing the focus of their practice. It also allows attorneys to return to school in order to keep pace with new developments in their current field.

The course of study consists of upper-level courses within the USD School of Law curriculum. Available concentration areas within the General LLM include:

- Criminal Law
- Environmental and Energy Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- Labor and Employment Law



In all cases, candidates work closely with the Graduate Programs Office to design a program that meets their needs and is consistent with available School of Law resources.

SUMMARY OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To receive the Master of Laws degree, a candidate must successfully complete 24 credit hours of appropriate coursework, including a minimum of 10 credits in his or her chosen area of concentration (24 for IP concentration), plus a written work requirement. Students are then free to select their remaining credits from a wide range of courses available in the School of Law.

Intellectual Property Concentration - USD offers its JD students the unique opportunity to earn an LLM in just one semester after completion of the JD degree. Up to 12 credits of USD Intellectual Property Law courses taken as a JD within 30 months of enrolling in the LLM program may be applied toward the LLM degree. Candidates must still apply separately to the LLM program, and admission is not guaranteed. Students considering this option should contact Graduate and International Programs for planning and advice.

Admission

Admission to the General LLM program is competitive. Admitted candidates have excellent academic credentials, and many have significant professional experience.

The admission criteria are as follows:

- Applicants must possess a JD degree from an ABA-accredited law school
- Most accepted applicants have graduated in the upper half of their law school class
- Most successful candidates also possess some professional experience prior to enrolling in the program

Applicants may enroll full-time for two semesters, or on a part-time basis completing the General LLM program over a longer period, not exceeding six years. Enrolled students have the option to change their status at any time during their program.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

The University of San Diego School of Law is committed to providing all possible financial assistance to eligible citizens and eligible non-citizens whose personal resources are insufficient to meet the cost of law school. Financial aid awarded to School of Law graduate students consists of:

- Low-interest loans
- Private loans
- Federal work-study jobs

Prospective students are encouraged to apply early for priority consideration.

Applicants should not wait for an admission decision before applying for financial aid. Admission decisions and financial aid decisions are made independently.

GRADUATE LAW SCHOLARSHIPS

Partial tuition scholarships may be awarded to full-time applicants who have demonstrated a high degree of excellence in their previous legal education or in the practice of law. No separate application is required.

For current information on Admission and Financial Aid procedures, please visit: law.sandiego.edu.



After several years as a judge advocate practicing military justice, I came to the LLM program at USD to “pivot” to the practice of labor and employment law. The General LLM program allowed me to build on my experience with new, challenging scholarship that I draw on in my current practice. The opportunity to study with great faculty on this spectacular campus is one not to be missed.

*Major Emily Jackson-Hall, U.S. Marine Corps
Employment and Labor Counsel
General LLM with a concentration in Labor
and Employment Law, 2013*

Faculty

USD’s law professors are nationally recognized legal scholars and dedicated classroom instructors. Their backgrounds as practicing lawyers, policymakers, and ardent legal educators provide the foundation for a robust learning experience, both inside and outside the classroom.

Many USD faculty members have national and international reputations for excellence in numerous areas of law, including business and corporate law, intellectual property, public international law, environmental and energy law, criminal law, children’s rights, and family law.

Most of our professors have taught and regularly are invited to lecture around the world. Several of our faculty are members of the prestigious American Law Institute.

Our faculty welcome and value the contributions of our international law graduates and attorneys for their unique backgrounds and diverse perspectives in the classroom.

For information about USD’s faculty experience and scholarly publications, go to: law.sandiego.edu/faculty.

Center for Intellectual Property Law & Markets

The Center for Intellectual Property Law & Markets trains students in the fundamentals of intellectual property (IP) laws and in the ways clients use IP rights to compete in real-world markets.

USD’s focus on the role of IP rights in markets distinguishes it from other, more traditional IP centers. It also provides a forum where lawyers, clients, judges and policymakers can share ideas about IP doctrines and policies.



The LLM in Business and Corporate Law

The LLM in Business and Corporate Law program provides attorneys with the practical and theoretical knowledge required to expand an existing practice to include complex business transactions, or to change their practice from a law firm to an in-house position as corporate counsel.

The course of study consists of upper-level courses within the University of San Diego School of Law. Courses available for LLM in Business and Corporate Law candidates focus on a wide range of subjects that impact business transactions in the U.S. and around the world, including:

- Corporate finance
- Intellectual property
- International transactions
- Labor and employment
- Taxation

Degree candidates work closely with the Graduate Programs Office to design a program that best meets their professional interests and goals.

SUMMARY OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To receive an LLM in Business and Corporate Law, a candidate must complete 24 credit hours of appropriate course-work, including a 4-credit writing requirement. At least 15 of the 24 credits must come from core curriculum courses, including a required course in Corporations. The writing requirement may be satisfied by 2 research papers in the area of business and corporate law.

CORE CURRICULUM COURSES FOR THE LLM IN BUSINESS AND CORPORATE LAW INCLUDE TOPICS SUCH AS:

- Antitrust
- Bankruptcy
- Business Planning
- Comparative Corporate Law
- Corporate Finance
- Corporate Tax (Tax II)
- Corporations
- Deals
- International Business Transactions
- Securities Regulation
- Unincorporated Business Entities
- White Collar Offenses

Credits from up to three related course categories may also be applied toward the 15 core curriculum credits requirement.

Related categories include:

- Courses in Advanced Finance
- Courses in Advanced Tax
- Courses in Alternative Dispute Resolution
- Courses in Commercial Law
- Courses in Environmental Law
- Courses in Intellectual Property
- Courses in Labor & Employment Law
- Courses in Regulated Industries



Nathaniel Gallegos

Asst. Professor & Chair of
Business - Chadron State College
LLM in Business and Corporate
Law, 2012

I chose USD Law's LLM program for two main reasons: First, I felt that I lacked the preparedness to fully practice in the area of business law and corporate operations. Second, USD itself was a reason for my choice. I am a devout Catholic and USD allowed me to harmonize my faith with the mastery of law. I loved going to Mass at the Basilica and immediately floating over to the law library stacks for my study sessions.

The LLM has given me an edge over other candidates and further it has left no question to my mastery of the entire UCC, bankruptcy, business taxation, business organizations, and contracts. The LLM prepared me to not only practice business law, but to converse with any attorney about it, publish and present on it, and confidently practice in it, which I could not claim prior to my LLM at USD.

Admission

Admission to the LLM in Business and Corporate Law program is competitive. Admitted candidates have excellent academic credentials, and many have significant professional experience.

The admission criteria are as follows:

- Applicants must possess a JD degree from an ABA-accredited law school
- Most accepted applicants have graduated in the upper half of their law school class
- Most successful candidates also possess some professional experience prior to enrolling in the program

Applicants may enroll full-time for two semesters, or on a part-time basis completing the LLM in Business and Corporate Law program over a longer period, not exceeding four years. Enrolled students have the option to change their status at any time during their program.



Center for Corporate and Securities Law

The Center for Corporate and Securities Law helps enrich scholarly and popular debate on a wide range

of issues related to corporate governance, financial regulation and other business law topics. The center hosts academic and public conferences, publishes papers and discussions from those conferences, provides point-of-contact for popular and business media on issues of broad public interest, supports faculty and student research, and sponsors public lectures.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

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LLM in International Law (for U.S. attorneys)



The LLM in International Law program provides graduates of ABA accredited law schools with a unique opportunity. Students study international law with leading faculty members and international visiting faculty in the field, alongside the attorneys, judges and government officials from around the world.

SUMMARY OF DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To receive the LLM in International Law, a candidate must successfully complete 24 credit hours of appropriate course work, including a four-credit writing requirement. The writing requirement may be satisfied by a thesis or a minimum of two research papers in the area of inter-national law. Fifteen of the 24 credits must come from the program's required and core curriculum courses. Remaining credits may be elected from courses throughout the law curriculum.

REQUIRED COURSES

There are two required courses: *Public International Law* and *International Business Transactions*. The requirement for either course may be waived for candidates who have taken it or its equivalent in their JD program within the past four years.

KEY PROGRAM FEATURES

The LLM in International Law is a professional development degree that allows graduates of U.S. law schools to further develop their knowledge and expertise in the area of international law. With the growing global economy, studying international law in a dynamic, multi-cultural city that is home to the busiest land and port entry in the world is a unique opportunity for U.S. attorneys.

STUDY ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

Subject to prior approval, courses taken abroad through USD's Summer Study Abroad or Semester Exchange programs may be credited toward the degree.

INTERNATIONALIZATION

USD was recognized as 1 of only 5 universities to receive NAFSA's 2015 Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization. The award is given annually to schools that are "making significant, well-planned, well executed, and well-documented progress toward comprehensive internationalization."

I chose to complete an LLM in International Law at USD for several reasons, the first and foremost being that it was one-of-a-kind. Having practiced international law for several years, there was still a lot for me to learn. USD provided an expansive array of courses from which I could tailor the information I sought. I also had the opportunity to publish an article I had written as part of a writing assignment.

The LLM from USD gave me a competitive edge in the San Diego region, which is a hub for international transactions. I had access to a broad alumni group with whom to connect. With businesses operating on a global level, the information available through the LLM program is not only useful, but invaluable for various practice areas.

*Annureet Grewal
LLM in International Law, 2014
Associate, Littler Mendelson, P.C.*

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The University of San Diego



Located on 180 acres overlooking the city of San Diego, Mission Bay and the Pacific Ocean, the University of San Diego campus features Spanish Renaissance inspired buildings and beautiful landscapes. In addition to the School of Law, the University of San Diego has highly regarded schools of business, leadership and education sciences, nursing and health sciences, and peace studies.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

The university pursues academic excellence in its teaching, learning and research to serve the local, national and international communities. The university possesses the institutional autonomy and integrity necessary to uphold the highest standards of intellectual inquiry and academic freedom.

KNOWLEDGE

The university advances intellectual development; promotes democratic and global citizenship; cultivates an appreciation for beauty, goodness and truth; and provides opportunities for the physical, spiritual, emotional, social and cultural development of students. The university provides professional education grounded in these foundations of liberal learning while preparing students to understand complex issues and express informed opinions with courage and conviction.

COMMUNITY

The university is committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive and collaborative community accentuated by a spirit of freedom and charity, and marked by protection of the rights and dignity of the individual. The university values students, faculty and staff from different backgrounds and faith traditions, and is committed to creating an atmosphere of trust, safety and respect in a community characterized by a rich diversity of people and ideas.

ETHICAL CONDUCT

The university provides a values-based education that informs the development of ethical judgment and behavior. The university seeks to develop ethical and responsible leaders committed to the common good that are empowered to engage a diverse and changing world.

COMPASSIONATE SERVICE

The university embraces the Catholic moral and social tradition by its commitment to serve with compassion, to foster peace and to work for justice. The university regards peace as inseparable from justice and advances education, scholarship and service to fashion a more humane world.



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