



College of Law



What if



we told you that
everything
you are looking for
in a U.S. law school
could be found
at Illinois?

LLM
PROGRAM

Welcome



I have known since I was an undergraduate that the University of Illinois College of Law is one of the oldest and best-regarded law schools in America. Yet only after the start of my deanship here did I fully grasp why we enjoy such a strong reputation.

We have a first-rate faculty that is both interdisciplinary and distinctively engaged in law and professional training, a large and extremely accomplished alumni base that can be tapped to help support the school in a variety of ways, a talented and collegial student body, and a world-class university setting with special access to a major metropolitan market.

Legal education is at a pivotal moment right now, and Illinois Law is evolving and innovating to address the needs and changes brought on by the shifting landscape. We are focused tightly on increasing the value that the College provides, to our students and to society.

We are working on making law school more affordable and accessible. We are increasing engagement between the academy, the legal and business professions, and the public through large-scale intellectually enriching events. Most importantly, we are educating and preparing our students for the practice of law in an ever-changing legal profession through rigorous classroom instruction and in-depth practical experiences.

I invite you to learn more about all the University of Illinois College of Law has to offer.

Vikram David Amar
Dean
Iwan Foundation Professor of Law



A WORLD-CLASS UNIVERSITY

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign community of students, scholars, and alumni is changing the world.

With a land-grant heritage as a foundation, Illinois pioneers innovative research that tackles global problems and expands the human experience. Our transformative learning experiences, in and out of the classroom, are designed to produce alumni who desire to make a significant, societal impact.

1867

Year Founded



28

Pulitzer Prizes

#32

University in the world
(Center for World University Rankings)

#2

Among public universities for international students enrolled

47K+

Students from all 50 states and 110+ countries



The LLM Academic EXPERIENCE

Areas of Strength

- Business and Law
- Criminal Law
- Family Law, Health Law, and Torts
- Government and Law
- Technology and Intellectual Property (IP) Law

Concentrations

Students may apply to earn a Concentration rather than a General LLM degree. Concentrations will enable students to deepen their knowledge in a particular legal field. The following Concentrations are available:

- Corporate Law, Commercial Law and Trade
- Criminal Law
- Intellectual Property & Technology Law
- International and Comparative Law
- Justice, Democracy, and Legal Rights
- Regulation, Sustainability, and Compliance

Bar Examination

For students planning to take the bar examination, the Illinois LLM is compliant with the requirements of the New York, California, Washington, D.C., and Missouri bar exams, among others. Students are provided individualized counseling and advising to assist them in meeting the requirements of bar and other qualifying professional examinations.

Flexible LLM Program

Start Date:

Most students begin the program in the fall semester (August). Limited applications are accepted to begin in the spring semester (January).

2 or 3 Semester Option:

Students may elect to complete the LLM program in 2 or 3 semesters. This allows students the flexibility to customize a program of study, enjoy greater internship opportunities, and benefit from more time to study for the bar exam.



Putting Principles Into Practice

Analytical thinking, problem-solving, research, pre-trial and trial skills, negotiation, and interviewing are critical skills needed for real-world success. Students receive instruction and practice in critical lawyering skills, including client interviewing and oral advocacy.

Trial Advocacy for LLMs

In the Trial Advocacy Program, students tackle real-world challenges through experiential learning to gain the skills they need to succeed in the practice of law. A dedicated faculty of seasoned trial practitioners supports the Program, giving students unparalleled opportunities to learn from a variety of experienced attorneys and judges. The Program also provides the opportunity to practice oral advocacy in English.

Clinical Education

Illinois is one of the few law schools that allow LLM students to participate in clinics. Working with real clients on real problems is one of the richest ways to learn about lawyering and the complexity and depth that clients bring to cases. With class sizes of eight students, you can be sure you'll get a very hands-on experience. Furthermore, the College recently completed a major renovation of our clinic space, providing students a professional legal setting in which to grow their skills as a practitioner.

Law Competitions

There are ample opportunities for Illinois Law students to participate in competitions, with some of our most popular offerings being client counseling and negotiation competitions.

More Experiential Learning Opportunities at
law.illinois.edu/clinics

Our Faculty



The faculty at Illinois Law are acclaimed **teachers**, community-minded **innovators**, and interdisciplinary **experts**. They are national leaders in many areas of law, and their highly cited research is shaping the modern legal landscape.

- **Range of perspectives** – 39% of the tenured faculty have advanced degrees in other fields in addition to their law degrees.
- **Homegrown talent** – of the 53 full-time faculty members, 5 received their law degrees at the University of Illinois.
- **Powerhouse** of legal scholarship – Ranked #36 in the Leiter Score for scholarly impact.

Imparting Knowledge and Support in Equal Measure

Professor Suja Thomas, an expert in juries, employment discrimination, civil litigation, and civil procedure, employs a variety of tactics to influence the courts, many of them involving collaboration with her law students. Last year, an employment discrimination lawyer approached her and asked her to submit an amicus brief on why summary judgment is unconstitutional. She worked with a group of five students and a former colleague of hers to submit the brief.

Thomas is currently working on a documentary film project about the jury system with a third-year law student. She worked with another student to build her website, and she has additional student collaborations in progress, including one on the issue of whether juveniles should have the right to a jury trial. In each of these instances, Thomas has identified and tapped into the particular strengths of her individual students, which has proven to be mutually beneficial.

Thomas touts the expertise of Illinois Law students. “So many law students have special skills and experience. As a law professor engaged in wide-ranging work, it’s wonderful to be able to tap into those abilities and work with some of these talented students.”

Clearly, Thomas is engaged with and committed to her students and their academic success, but she also cares about their well-being. She and another faculty member lead weekly mindfulness sessions for interested students.

Thomas said “For years, mindfulness has helped me focus on the present. Some years ago, I suggested that we do a session on mindfulness for law students. Now, students can learn about mindfulness during orientation and can attend weekly mindfulness sessions.”

And, because law school can’t be all hard work all the time, Thomas has graciously hosted students for meals and gatherings in her home.

Allison Slocum ’16 said, “I’m honored to have had Professor Thomas as a law professor, a colleague, and now consider her a friend.

“As a law student, Professor Thomas made an effort to get to know my husband and two children as well. Anytime she hosted a student dinner, my entire family was invited. To this day, she invites my family to celebrate Labor Day while watching the local parade from her front lawn.”



The Chicago Connection

A variety of programming options are available for LLM students to participate in, offering ample opportunities to network with the College's more than 4,000 Chicago-based alumni.

The Chicago Program

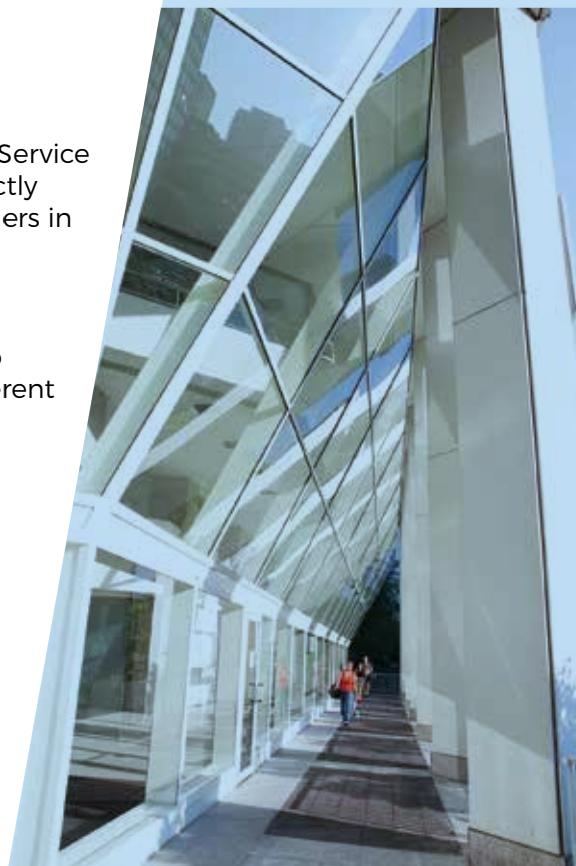
The Chicago Program offers semester-long Chicago-based courses and events for interested LLM and third-year JD students. Taught by leading practitioners and College faculty, courses are taught in the Illini Center in downtown Chicago, The Chicago Bar Association, and in the offices of several preeminent law firms, including Winston & Strawn, Foley & Lardner, Steptoe & Johnson, and Burke, Warren, MacKay & Serritella.

Chicago Service Project

Partnering with firms and judges in the city, the Chicago Service Project provides an opportunity for students to work directly with assigned attorneys and to meet and speak with leaders in the Chicago legal market.

Professional Experience Day

Each October, our entire first-year and LLM class travels to Chicago for a daylong multi-stop visit with dozens of different legal employers, including firms of all sizes, government agencies, public interest law firms, in-house legal departments, and various courtrooms in Chicago.



Career PLANNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SPECIALIZED PROGRAMMING

International Student Interview Program (ISIP)

Illinois Law participates in ISIP. The annual consortium event sponsored by 33 law schools nationwide facilitates the hiring of highly qualified, foreign-trained lawyers enrolled in LLM programs at each school.

The program attracts more than 160 of the leading legal employers from around the world, who review student resumes based on their hiring needs and country of practice. Over 1,600 candidates representing 75+ countries will have an opportunity to be considered for internship and permanent positions in the United States and abroad.

Fundamentals of Legal Practice

This course is intended to better prepare students for practice, covering topics like the business of law, business development and marketing, professional communications, and project management.

Perspectives on Practice

Throughout the academic year, the Careers office partners with various student organizations to bring in guest speakers to share perspectives on their legal practice.

Workshops

Law School 101 is a comprehensive program to introduce incoming students to the study of law and the legal profession. Beyond academic support, students receive career support through resume and cover letter workshops, mock interviews, and special bar preparation workshops.





Our Alumni

Illinois Law alumni include managing partners at leading international law firms; founders of cutting-edge boutiques; CEOs, CFOs, and in-house counsel at Fortune 500 companies; federal and state judges, prosecutors, and public defenders; and lawyers working in other public interest positions. Our alumni are not only accomplished, but incredibly loyal, helping to mentor, teach, hire, and support our students.



12,500+ Global Illinois Law Alumni



Our Students

THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Illinois Law students are smart, driven, and passionate. Here, you can pursue your interests and create lasting relationships in our vibrant community. Complementing the breadth of courses and practical training is an array of opportunities for active engagement outside the classroom.

30+
student organizations

100+
lectures and events
per year



@uillinoislaw
Follow us on
Instagram for a
sneak peek at
student life!

Meet Agung, Ophelie, and Luis



**Agung Prabowo,
Indonesia**

Besides its educational excellence, the people are the main reason why I chose Illinois. Since my application process, I was impressed by how attentive, helpful and responsive the faculty, staff and administration were to me. This continued to be true as I attended the school. The professors are also excellent. They are enthusiastic in their teaching and always treat the students with respect. They are very approachable either inside or outside the class.

The atmosphere at the school is competitive yet collegial at the same time. The courses are designed to equip students with practical lawyering skill to address real-world issues. The school also offers various opportunities and resources to help students to develop our skills and networks or to plan our future after graduation, whether in the form of workshops, competitions, networking events, or job interview opportunities. Illinois is one of the selected schools participating in the International Student Interview Program (ISIP) which allows LLM students to find jobs or internships in the US. The other thing that I like from being a student here is that there is always

an event happening in the school every week. These events often invite notable speakers and discuss current legal issues which provide new insights for the students.

Ophelie Gyssels, France

I chose to attend Illinois instead of another U.S. university because of the good reputation of UIUC. This university is particularly well ranked and also well known, which was a determining factor in my decision. Moreover, the proximity to Chicago was very important for me as big cities usually have more job opportunities. Another factor that guided my decision was the concentration in IP Law and new technologies offered by the College of Law. I was really interested in this subject and throughout the year I was able to develop my skills in this particular area of law.

I really appreciate living on campus and the various events organized each week by multiple associations. The conferences which usually take place during lunch at the College of Law are also very enriching and I like the fact that the topics are different each time. Furthermore, the administrative staff and the professors at the College of Law are always really helpful and understanding making my experience as a foreign student easier.

**Luis Sanchez Tapia
Perez Duarte, Mexico**

Because I was attending only for a year, I tried to participate as much as possible in the activities offered by the College of Law. The most remarkable activity due to personal reasons was to be awarded together with my teammate, as the winning team of the 2017 University of Illinois College of Law LL.M. Negotiation Competition. In addition, I attended the public speaker events offered, I was enrolled in the Latino Law Students Association, and I participated in the traditional tournament of softball.



I enjoyed the environment of effort and warm relations existing among the students, as well as the professional experience and close relationship that the professors have with all of us.

I will miss the bond existing among the campus and the cities of Champaign and Urbana when I graduate. Because the University is an essential element of the cities, there is always a reference to the University of Illinois that makes me proud to belong and be part of the history of this University.





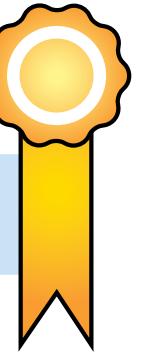
THIS IS OUR Community

LIFE IN CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

A micro-urban community known for its big-city amenities yet small-town affordability, accessibility, safety, and friendliness, Champaign-Urbana (C-U) is dynamic and vibrant, with a lively cultural scene, a variety of restaurants, and numerous recreational opportunities.

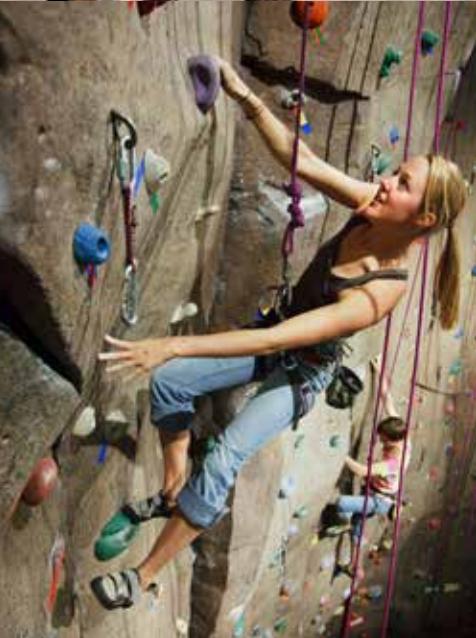
Things to Know

- Average monthly rent for a 2-bedroom apartment: **\$900**
- Getting around town is fast and easy.
 - Mass transit bus system – **FREE** for students
 - Pedestrian and **bike-friendly**, with countless dedicated walking and biking paths and a dockless bike share system.
 - Uber, Lyft, and Zipcar are available
- Ranked the **fastest-growing city** in Illinois in 2018 (*Business Insider*). C-U boasts an assortment of restaurants, bars, coffee shops, and cultural venues.
- Recreation opportunities abound, with one of the **premier campus recreation facilities** in the country just steps away from the law school, and plenty of public and state parks in the region.



#1 Top 10 Best Cities for Recent College Grads (*Livability*, 2018)

#2 Best College Towns in America (*Business Insider*, 2018)





Tuition & Aid

- 1) All admitted students are automatically considered for merit-based **scholarships**.
- 2) More than **80%** of admitted students receive at least a partial scholarship.
- 3) Cost of living is **9% lower** than the U.S. average.

Cost of Attendance (Expenses for Academic Year 2019-2020)

Tuition	\$49,500 USD
Fees	\$3,216 USD
Health Insurance	\$1,392 USD
Room and Board	\$13,710 USD
Books and Supplies	\$1,800 USD
Other Expenses	\$3,090 USD
TOTAL	\$72,708 USD

Admissions Timeline		
Application deadline	None. Applications are accepted year-long on a rolling basis.	
Entry Term	Fall	Spring
Admissions and scholarship decisions begin	October	June
Seat deposit and acceptance deadline	April	September
Start date	August 3, 2020	January 19, 2021

Application Requirements

Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree, LLB, or equivalent degree. The bachelor's degree need not be in law. Application requirements include:

- Completed application
- Résumé
- Statement of purpose
- Certified transcripts and credentials
- At least one letter of reference
- TOEFL or IELTS score reported from ETS or IELTS

Learn More and Apply:

law.illinois.edu/apply-llm





Your Law Career Advances
at Illinois.

law.illinois.edu/apply-llm

law-gradprograms@illinois.edu

504 East Pennsylvania Avenue
Champaign, IL 61820

@uillinoislaw