

LEGAL STUDIES MASTER OF ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF
ILLINOIS
SPRINGFIELD

ONLINE

The graduate program in legal studies adopts an interdisciplinary approach to the study of law as a social phenomenon. The program emphasizes analytical and conceptual thinking as expressed both in writing and orally. Public policy and current social issues are interwoven with the study of law and lawmaking by the various political actors in the United States and globally.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

Individuals seeking a comprehensive understanding of what the legal system is, how it works, how it interrelates with social change, and how it assists people in asserting their rights.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

www.uis.edu/apply

TRANSFER HOURS POLICY:

All transfer credit hours are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the Legal Studies Department. Up to 12 hours of prior graduate credit may be accepted.

TEXTBOOK PURCHASE:

Required textbooks may be ordered at www.uis.bkstr.com. You may also call the UIS Bookstore at (217) 206-6766.

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Allows students to gain professional skills at various levels, as well as study legal theory and the role of law in American society. The curriculum seeks to develop the professional and scholarly abilities graduates will need in law-related careers or more advanced studies. Particular emphasis is placed on analytical thinking, research, and writing skills.

COST:

www.uis.edu/registrar/tuition-fees

FINANCIAL AID INFO:

Please contact the UIS Financial Assistance Office at (217) 206-6724 or www.uis.edu/cost-aid/financial-aid

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

www.uis.edu/registrar/registration

ACADEMIC CALENDAR:

Fall, spring, and summer semesters.

DELIVERY MODE:

Fully online.

CONTACT PERSON(S):

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MS PAC 350
Springfield, IL 62703

WEBSITE:

www.uis.edu/legal-studies

REQUIRED COURSES:

CORE Courses (16 Credit Hours)

LES 401 – Legal Research and Citation (4 credit hours) Required course taken in the first year generally offered on campus in fall and online in spring. (Students with professional or academic legal research and citation experience may petition to take an elective in lieu of this course with the approval of their advisor.)

LES 501 – Introduction to Graduate Legal Studies (4 credit hours) Taken first fall semester
LES 587 – Public Advocacy (4 credit hours) Should take fall semester after successful completion of LES 401 and LES 501. Must complete LES 401 & LES 501 prior to taking LES 587

LES 504 – Graduate Capstone Seminar or LES 590 - Thesis (4 credit hours) Taken final spring semester. Must complete LES 587 prior to taking LES 504.

Electives (20 credit hours)

Must be at the 400 or 500 level. A minimum of 12 credit hours of LES prefixed electives are required. Must be pre-approved by the student's faculty advisor. Four credit hours may be substituted with clinical education (LES 554: Clinical Education) if approved by advisor.