

# Master of Legal Studies (Online)

The **Master of Legal Studies (MLS)** is an online degree for professionals who can benefit from legal training but who do not wish to practice as attorneys. Designed for non-lawyers, the MLS improves students' understanding of U.S. law and explores the relationships between law and various disciplines. MLS students are typically inquisitive and ambitious people who see value in participating in conversations about the law and who are looking to learn as much as they can about legal procedure in the United States. They do this not only to further their careers but also to gain valuable knowledge that can be used across a range of settings.

A comprehensive understanding of the legal system creates opportunities for growth in a variety of careers. Every profession works with legal procedure in some capacity, from risk management to government regulation, so it is important for professionals who work closely with the law to fully understand the U.S. legal system to become leading legal experts in their chosen career fields.

Candidates for the MLS hold the following positions, as well as many others:

- Paralegals
- Patent agents
- Business executives
- Health care professionals
- Teachers and professors
- Engineers
- Government employees
- Human resource professionals

Offered entirely online, WashU Law's MLS allows students to earn their degree from anywhere in the world without putting their careers or personal commitments on hold. With the same rigorous curriculum as WashU Law's on-campus program, the online MLS focuses on the application of U.S. law across a broad spectrum of today's business topics. With a curriculum similar to a student's first year in law school, the MLS teaches students about appropriate legal procedures related to contracts, legal writing, professional responsibility, intellectual property, business associations, negotiation, international business transactions, property and more. Professors use the Socratic method to facilitate an in-depth understanding of U.S. legal procedure. Students learn to think, debate and question like an attorney.

MLS students are taught by WashU's distinguished faculty. They participate in an interactive, supportive learning environment; attend an optional in-person immersion experience in St. Louis; and are invited to attend the commencement ceremony in St. Louis upon completion of the program. Graduates of the online MLS program earn a degree from WashU Law, which is ranked among the top 20

law schools by *U.S. News and World Report*. Students also become members of the WashU Law alumni network upon graduation, which offers them the opportunity to form professional relationships with some of the nation's best legal professionals.

Earning an online MLS from WashU Law offers professionals from a wide array of careers the opportunity to continue their professional work while expanding their legal knowledge with a master's degree from a prestigious law school. Students use the training and knowledge gained during their experience to take the next step in advancing their careers, without having to relocate or put their current jobs on hold.

Phone: 314-281-5200  
Email: [admissions@onlinelaw.wustl.edu](mailto:admissions@onlinelaw.wustl.edu)  
Website: <https://onlinelaw.wustl.edu/mls/>