

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Cooley Law School

ADVANCE YOUR LAW DEGREE ONLINE

A Guide to WMU-Cooley's **LL.M. Programs**

WMU-Cooley's Online LL.M. Programs

- **Corporate Law and Finance**
- **Homeland and National Security Law**
- **Tax**



LL.M. graduate Rebecca Pugliesi

Now is the time to advance your legal career through a flexible online LL.M. degree. Western Michigan University Cooley Law School LL.M. programs help you build the focused knowledge, skills, judgment, and confidence you need to succeed.

Flexible and Innovative

Busy practitioners can complete the program requirements in ways that fit their personal and professional schedules. WMU-Cooley offers students worldwide the opportunity to earn an LL.M. degree, no matter how far away they are from campus or how busy their schedules.

- Classes start in January, May, and September and are designed for full- and part-time study.
- Online LL.M. programs are live and interactive, in a virtual classroom environment. Courses are offered weekday evenings and weekends.

The information contained in this brochure includes descriptions of current WMU Cooley Law School LL.M. programs. It is not a contract and does not, and cannot, create any contractual rights. All policies, practices, available courses, and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

1. Online Master of Laws: Corporate Law and Finance



Program Director
Michael K. Molitor
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Professor Michael Molitor teaches Business Organizations, Secured Transactions, Securities Regulation, and Wills, Estates and Trusts. Previously, Professor Molitor was an attorney with the Grand Rapids, Mich., law firm of Warner Norcross & Judd L.L.P. from 1994 to 2004. While in private practice, he focused on business and securities law, counseling a variety of clients including publicly traded corporations, closely held corporations, and controlling shareholders. He has also served as a legal intern in the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office and as a student attorney in The Free Legal Aid Clinic., Inc., of Detroit. In law school, he was a member of the Order of the Coif; served as assistant editor, then editor-in-chief, of The Wayne Law Review ; won American Jurisprudence Awards in Constitutional Law II, Conflicts of Law, and Civil Procedure; and was the recipient of the Bronze Key Award. He has written two textbooks and several law review articles.

Overview

The WMU-Cooley Law Corporate Law and Finance LL.M. Program provides students with an opportunity to solve challenging, real-world business problems with guidance from our faculty of actively practicing litigation and transactional business law professionals. We provide classroom access to legal experts who not only understand the challenges confronting their business clients in today's economy, but also offer constructive and practical advice regarding the efficient delivery of legal services to both in-house and private practice clients.

Is Corporate Law and Finance Right for You?

Experts predict a continuing gap between the skill sets of available professionals and employment opportunities of the future. Employers are recruiting professionals who offer an understanding of strategic business opportunities, proven management abilities and business development skills. Your ability to offer all of these skill sets may be the determining factor in the trajectory of your career.

In the private sector, clients are seeking predictability of outcomes and cost, greater efficiency and, of course, cost-effective delivery of legal services. As business clients become more sophisticated and technology improvements positively impact the cost of transactions, litigation, and compliance work, attorneys need to redefine the value of their services. Prepare yourself for these significant changes that are occurring in the delivery of legal services.

2. Online Master of Laws: Homeland and National Security Law



Program Director

Michael C.H. McDaniel

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Retired Brigadier General Michael C.H. McDaniel holds a B.A. at St. Bonaventure University, a J.D. at Case Western Reserve University School of Law. and attended M.S.S. Army War and College M.A.S.S. Naval Postgraduate School.

He most recently served as U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Homeland Defense Strategy, Prevention and Mission Assurance. Professor McDaniel's responsibilities included supervision of the Department of Defense Critical Infrastructure Protection Program and the Global Anti-Terrorism/ Force Protection Policy. Formerly the Assistant Attorney General for Litigation in the executive division of the Michigan Department of Attorney General, Director McDaniel was appointed Michigan Homeland Security Advisor by Governor Jennifer Granholm in 2003 and served until 2009. During that time, he also served as Assistant Adjutant General for Homeland Security for the Michigan National Guard, of which he has been a member for more than 26 years and also has been a military judge.

Overview

WMU-Cooley Law School is one of the first law schools in the country to offer an LL.M. degree in Homeland and National Security Law and the program continues to excel. The program addresses relevant and emerging homeland and national security laws related to:

- Counter-terrorism
- Immigration
- Border protection
- Maritime and transportation security
- Public health and bioterrorism
- Intelligence and individual rights

The LL.M. program also offers electives in intelligence law and privacy, cybersecurity, emergency management, risk management and critical infrastructure, military domestic operations, and practical courses in federal contracting and administrative law.

Is Homeland and National Security Law Right for You?

The program is offered online making it available to you no matter where you are in the world. The very comprehensive curriculum provides unique and compelling courses developed through Director Michael McDaniel's diverse experience, both civilian and military, and his federal and state senior positions. Students in this program have the opportunity to serve on the prestigious *HNS Law Review*, a student-edited legal periodical published twice yearly.

3. Online Master of Laws: Tax Law



Program Director
Dan Sheaffer
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Dan Sheaffer, Tax LL.M. Program director, holds a B.A. from Western Michigan University, a magna cum laude J.D. from WMU-Cooley Law School, and an LL.M. from the University of Florida. Professor Sheaffer has expertise in federal taxation, including international taxation, business planning, and estate planning. Before joining WMU-Cooley, Professor Sheaffer was Senior Corporate Tax Counsel for Alticor Corp. While at Alticor, he planned and led the implementation of several sophisticated international corporate restructuring projects involving multiple foreign taxing jurisdictions. His practice involved complex tax issues including international tax-free reorganizations, transfer pricing, check-the-box planning, contract manufacturing arrangements, and Subchapter S planning. During his career at Alticor he served as the lead tax attorney for the company's European and Asian affiliates. Professor Sheaffer has also worked in public accounting at Ernst & Young LLP in Grand Rapids, and in private practice at Wishart, Norris, Henninger & Pittman in Burlington, North Carolina.

Overview

WMU-Cooley's Graduate Tax Program focuses on providing courses that give lawyers the knowledge and skills they need to accelerate their careers. The online program includes a mix of required and elective courses providing broad exposure to the field of tax. Specialization is available through a combination of electives and independent study for those who wish to have an emphasis in estate planning, or in federal, state and local, or international tax. The tax program includes the opportunity to obtain practical experience through externships with the Internal Revenue Service, state taxing entities, or specialty tax practices.

Is Tax Law Right for You?

If you require both a better understanding of tax law and a respected credential in the field, tax law is your choice. All of our faculty have significant experience in a variety of tax practice settings and specialties enabling a practice-oriented curriculum to help you expand your opportunities and reach your career goals. An LL.M. degree that can be earned in one to two years, the tax law curriculum focuses on the day-to-day aspects of tax practice through problem-oriented teaching. We continually enhance the quality of the educational offerings and the career paths of the program's graduates by maintaining connections with top tax attorneys.

LL.M. Admissions

Have you earned a J.D. or LL.B. degree?

Are you interested in learning a new area of law?



LL.M. graduate Ryan McCleary

Application Process

1. Review the application process here.
You will need to provide the following information:

- **A.** Undergrad and JD transcripts (not needed for Cooley JD Graduates)
- **B.** Personal statement
- **C.** Letter of recommendation (optional)
- **D.** Legal writing sample
- **E.** TOEFL score (English as a second language applicants)

2. Students must apply through LSAC.org. International students should submit education credentials for evaluation with a TOEFL score. If you require a student visa, you must apply at least three months before the start of your expected entering term to provide time for processing.

3. Graduate guest students can earn up to eight credits. Admission as a guest student does not guarantee admission into the program as an LL.M. degree seeking student.

4. The International Programs Office directs the U.S. Legal Studies for Foreign Attorneys program. For more information about the program, please contact the office at internationalprograms@cooley.edu.

Completion of the LL.M. degree does not guarantee that a graduate student can take the bar in any state. Each state applies its own criteria for allowing applicants to take its bar examination and for admitting attorneys to practice law.

For more information about the admission process or the application for the LL.M. program, please contact the Office of Graduate Programs at **LLM@cooley.edu.**