

Legal Studies, MLS

LWLGSMLEGS

Learn about the law and navigate the legal landscape without becoming a lawyer. Whether you're looking for a job in today's competitive market or you want to better understand how law can help you in your career, you'll benefit from this program.

Program description

Degree awarded: MLS Legal Studies

The MLS program is flexible; it is offered in the fall, spring and summer, full-time and part-time, in-person and online. Students may focus their program on popular areas of study listed below. To learn more or schedule a visit, students should refer to the [ASU Law website](#).

Emphasis areas offered in-person include:

- [business law](#)
- [conflict resolution](#)
- [criminal law](#)
- [entrepreneurship law and strategy](#)
- [federal Indian law and tribal self-governance](#)
- [health law](#)
- [Indian gaming](#)
- [Indian law](#)
- [intellectual property law](#)
- [international law](#)
- [international rule of law and security](#)
- [law and sustainability](#)
- [science and technology law](#)

Emphasis areas offered online include:

- [business law](#)
- [conflict resolution](#)
- [construction law](#)
- [contract management](#)
- [corporate and health care compliance](#)

- [criminal law](#)
- [federal Indian law and tribal self-governance](#)
- [Indian gaming](#)
- [Indian law](#)
- [intellectual property law](#)
- [law and sustainability](#)
- [arizona legal paraprofessional](#)

Pursuant to American Bar Association standards, no law credits completed prior to admission to a JD program, including credits earned in the Master of Legal Studies program, may be transferred to a future Juris Doctor program under any circumstances.

At a glance

- **College/School:** [Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law](#)
- **Location:** [Downtown Phoenix](#) or [Online](#)

Concurrent Program Options

Students can choose to create their own **concurrent degree** combination to match their interests by working with their academic advisor during or after their first semester of study. Some concurrent combinations are not possible due to high levels of overlap in curriculum; students should speak with their academic advisor for more details.

This degree is also offered as a concurrent program with the following:

[Information Systems Management, MS](#)

[Compare programs](#)

[Management, MS](#)

[Compare programs](#)

[Mass Communication, MMC](#)

[Compare programs](#)

[Real Estate Development, MRED](#)

[Compare programs](#)

[Sustainability Solutions, MSUS](#)

[Compare programs](#)

[W. P. Carey MBA - Evening Program](#)

[Compare programs](#)

[W. P. Carey MBA - Full-Time Program](#)

[Compare programs](#)

Degree requirements

30 credit hours

The program consists of 30 credit hours of approved study. The degree program can be completed on a full-time or part-time basis. Students are required to take:

SDO 501 U.S Law and Legal Analysis: Masters (3)

Students are required to choose one of the following basic foundational courses:

LAW 518 Civil Procedure (3/5)*

SDO 510 Business Organizations: Masters or LAW 654 Business Organizations (3/4)

SDO 511 Administrative Agencies/Regulation: Masters or LAW 609 Administrative Law (3)

SDO 514 Intellectual Property: Masters or LAW 664 Intellectual Property (2/4)

SDO 515 Criminal Law: Masters or LAW 516 Criminal Law* (3)

SDO 516 Criminal Procedure-Masters or LAW 604 Criminal Procedure (3)

SDO 518 Fundamentals of Contract Law: Masters or LAW 515 Contracts* (3/4)

SDO 521 Property Law: Masters or LAW 523 Property* (3/4)

SDO 525 Tort Law: Masters or LAW 517 Torts* (3/4)

SDO 529 U.S. Constitutional Law: Masters or LAW 522 Constitutional Law* (3)

*Students may enroll in no more than two of the LAW prefix designated courses marked with an asterisk. Such courses are subject to availability.

The remainder of the credits are electives. Elective course selection is flexible to accommodate the diversity of intellectual and professional interests the program is intended to serve.

Admission requirements

Applicants must fulfill the requirements of both the Graduate College and the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law.

Applicants are eligible to apply to the program if they have earned a bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited four-year college or university in the United States or attained a comparable degree from a foreign institution.

All applicants must submit:

1. completed Master of Legal Studies application form and application fee
2. official transcripts from all institutions attended
3. resume that does not exceed three typed pages
4. proof of English proficiency

Additional Application Information

An applicant whose native language is not English must provide proof of English proficiency regardless of their current residency. Applicants should see the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law website for acceptable TOEFL scores and additional information for foreign-educated applicants.

Master of Legal Studies applicants with foreign education credentials must have all transcripts evaluated by the Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute Inc. ACEI independently evaluates all academic documents issued in countries other than the United States. Students should contact ACEI through that organization's website to obtain an application for an evaluation. Applicants must request a course-by-course evaluation and order an official copy to be sent directly to:

Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law
Arizona State University
Beus Center for Law and Society
Office of Admissions and Financial Aid
Mail Code: 9520
111 E Taylor St.
Phoenix, AZ 85004

Applicants who have received their bachelor's or master's degree in the U.S. can apply through the MLS FastApp application process, which streamlines the application process and may allow for an offer of conditional admission to the Master of Legal Studies program while the applicant continues to submit any additional requested documentation.

If a decision cannot be made from the FastApp, the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law Admissions team may request additional information from the applicant, including any or all of the following:

- explanations to affirmative answers to application questions pertaining to conduct
- two letters of recommendation
- writing sample

Admission to the program is competitive. Selection is based on a variety of factors, including academic background and potential, diversity of experience and background, career experience and ambitions, space and resource limitations in the law school and other factors.

Tuition information

When it comes to paying for higher education, everyone's situation is different. Students can learn about [ASU tuition and financial aid](#) options to find out which will work best for them.

Attend online

ASU Online

ASU offers this program in an online format with multiple enrollment sessions throughout the year. Applicants may [view the program's ASU Online page](#) for program descriptions and to request more information.

Career opportunities

The Master of Legal Studies degree is designed for those who are looking to obtain working knowledge of the law but do not intend to become practicing lawyers. Graduates have achieved training in complicated legal topics and lawyering skills that prove invaluable to law firms, court systems, government agencies and corporations. Graduates have many career paths, including:

- accreditation director
- fraud investigator
- operations director
- risk analyst
- senior administrator (e.g., inside a law firm)
- senior business analyst
- senior compliance director
- senior contract negotiator

Professional licensure

ASU programs that may lead to professional licensure or certification are intended to prepare students for potential licensure or certification in Arizona. Completion of an ASU program may not meet educational requirements for licensure or certification in another state. For more information, students should visit the [ASU professional licensure](#) webpage.

Contact information

[Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law](#) | BCLS 420
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