



NEW PROGRAM PROPOSAL FORM

Sponsoring Institution(s): University of Missouri-Columbia

Program Title: American Law

Degree/Certificate: LL.M.

Options: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Delivery Site(s): MU School of Law – Columbia, MO

CIP Classification: 220203

*CIP code can be cross-referenced with programs offered in your region on MDHE's program inventory higher.ed.mo.gov/ProgramInventory/search.jsp

Implementation Date: Fall 2016

Cooperative Partners: Paul Ladehoff

*If this is a collaborative program, form CL must be included with this proposal

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**Master of Laws in American Law
(LLM) in
American Law**

University of Missouri-Columbia

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Executive Summary

Through its Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, the MU School of Law has offered an LL.M. in Dispute Resolution since 1999¹. To build on that success and to respond to the growing need and demand among foreign attorneys for familiarity with the U.S. legal system, the MU faculty of law proposes creation of an LL.M. in American Law program.

The program will provide an introduction to the American legal system and U.S. legal practice for students who received their first degree in law outside the United States. It will help prepare students for a U.S. bar exam, for U.S. law practice, or to work with U.S. clients in the students' home countries or with foreign clients doing business in the U.S.

As with the existing LL.M. in Dispute Resolution, full-time students will complete a 24-credit hour program in one academic year. Three core required classes will provide foundational skills and orient students. Elective classes will provide flexibility to customize and focus study in a number of fields in the law school such as intellectual property, commercial law, tax law, environmental law, and employment law.

Nationally, there has been rapid growth in the number of foreign law graduates seeking an LL.M. in American Law degree. To meet this dramatically increasing demand, many law schools across the U.S. are offering LL.M. in American Law degrees.² At the MU School of Law, we also see strong interest in an LL.M. in American Law as demonstrated by inquiries and applications from students as well as offers to partner from foreign law schools.

The new program will complement our existing programs and will have no adverse impact on our J.D. or LL.M. in Dispute Resolution. We will concurrently use staff resources already in place for our LL.M. in Dispute Resolution. The majority of tasks will overlap between the programs. LL.M. in American Law students will be integrated into the current J.D. curriculum without requiring additional faculty resources. The one new required course may be taught by current regular or adjunct faculty. We will use our current capacity to serve a new pool of students.

LL.M. in American Law students will pay the non-resident LL.M. tuition rate and study full-time. This, together with the very low cost, leads us to expect that the program will break even in the first year when at least five (5) students enroll. After a few years to establish the program, we expect regularly to enroll 12-15 new students annually.

¹ Because of the way the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution was originally established, we must submit this proposal as a new degree program rather than as a new concentration in an existing degree.

² Alternate names for this LL.M. specialization at other law schools include: American Law for Foreign Lawyers, Foreign Scholars Program, U.S. Law for Foreign Lawyers, and U.S. Legal Studies. More than 70 such programs are listed on the ABA site www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/llm-degrees_post_grad_non_grad/programs_by_category.html, most developed in the last decade.

1. Introduction

The purpose of the proposed LL.M. in American Law program is to provide an introduction to the American legal system and practice for students who received their first degree in law outside the United States. It will help prepare LL.M. students for a U.S. bar exam and U.S. law practice. This could be working with a law firm or government agency here in the U.S. It could also be working with a law firm, company, or government agency in the students' home countries providing legal work for U.S. clients doing business in the home country or with foreign clients doing business in the U.S.

Specific goals and objectives include:

- create new opportunities for both LL.M. and J.D. students;
- enhance the diversity of our student body;
- increase the visibility of the MU Law School and the University throughout the world;
- leverage academic and administrative resources already in place to serve a new pool of students;
- create a new revenue source;
- supplement subscription to the J.D. curriculum and serve as a J.D. recruiting tool;
- enroll 5 to 10 students in initial years, with an average of 12-15 students per year in the future

Traditionally law school LL.M. programs primarily served domestic attorneys who sought advanced training in a specialized area such as Tax or Patent Law. There were only 110 programs in 28 practice areas in 2000. The University of Missouri's LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program, established in 1999, was the first of its kind in the U.S. In the past 10 years the total number of LL.M. programs has grown dramatically with a large portion of that growth being programs for foreign attorneys.

In the past 4 years, the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC), which administers the Law School Admissions Test and serves as the sole gateway for admission to U.S. J.D. programs, expanded its services to include LL.M. programs. LSAC has recently started including workshops for LL.M. administrators at its annual conference and holding LL.M. admission forums in parallel with a few of their major market J.D. admission forums. The current director of the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program attended LSAC sponsored events and saw the extent of the rapid development of programs for foreign attorneys at other law schools and acquired information showing that such a program was feasible at MU. It is a good time to join this growth area in legal education.

No additional faculty will be needed to deliver the LL.M. in U.S. Law program and there will be minimal changes to current teaching assignments. We will develop one new 2-credit course providing an overview of the American legal system. We will also continue to designate a separate section of our existing Legal Research and Writing course for LL.M. students only. Otherwise, LL.M. students will be integrated into the current J.D.

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curriculum, including requiring them to take our existing Professional Responsibility course. Elective classes will be drawn from our existing J.D. curriculum which will provide flexibility to customize study in any number of fields in the law school such as intellectual property, commercial law, international law, tax, environmental law, employment law, etc.

Paul Ladehoff has been director of the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program since September, 2011, and will serve as director of the proposed LL.M. in American Law program. He graduated with honors from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1994, served as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and directed several community-based mediation centers in Nebraska before coming to MU. Professor Ladehoff has served as director of the MU Campus Mediation Service since 2004 and training coordinator for MU's Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution from 2004 to 2011. As an academic administrator with a non-tenure track appointment, Professor Ladehoff has taught Negotiation, Mediation, Conflict Management and Client Counseling at the Law School and Group Dynamics and Conflict Resolution for MU's Truman School of Public Affairs.

2. Fit With University Mission and Other Academic Programs

2.A. Alignment With Mission and Goals

The mission of the University of Missouri, as a land-grant university and Missouri's only public research and doctoral-level institution, is to discover, disseminate, preserve, and apply knowledge. The university promotes learning by its students and lifelong learning by Missouri's citizens, fosters innovation to support economic development, and advances the health, cultural, and social interests of the people of Missouri, the nation, and the world.

The proposed LL.M. in American Law aligns well with this mission. For example, it will bring talented international lawyers to our campus for advanced study and thereby enrich campus life and strengthen cross-cultural understanding. It will foster interaction between domestic and international students, exposing domestic J.D. students to international perspectives in law and helping prepare them to serve diverse clients in a global economy. It will prepare the LL.M. students to work with U.S. clients in the students' home countries or with foreign clients doing business in the U.S. It will create and strengthen relationships with international alumni and institutions abroad. This also aligns with MU's vision to "[e]nhance MU's strengths to prepare graduates to face tomorrow's challenges." Mizzou 2020 Goal 1, (2015).

Likewise, MU seeks to "[i]nvest in new tools and strategies to recruit and retain students." by "[i]nvest[ing] in new innovative degree programs that build on MU's strengths." Mizzou 2020, Goal 1.2, 5th bullet point (2015). The LL.M. in American Law aligns with this goal by, among other things, creating avenues for our faculty to share their expertise abroad. For example, there is the potential draw of the Law School's Intellectual Property expertise and Center for Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship. This would also serve to "strengthen a diverse, safe, and inclusive campus culture." Mizzou 2020, Goal 3.2, (2015)

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The MU Law School seeks to “maintain and build on our established reputation for producing leaders in local, state, and national government, public service, and global issues. This focus aims to be inclusive of, and compatible with, the interests and aspirations of students wanting to practice in Missouri . . . and beyond.” Vision for Mizzou Law proposed by the Strategic Planning Committee, spring 2014. The LL.M. in American Law aligns with this goal by bringing talented students with law degrees from outside the U.S. and creating curricular and extra-curricular opportunities for interaction with domestic J.D. students. It will provide all constituents an opportunity to broaden their perspectives and gain understanding and appreciation. This will serve them well in their present and future roles, including our graduates who will perform better as legal practitioners as a result.

The program, broadly conceived as an immersion in the U.S. legal system and cultural exchange for foreign law graduates, adds to the J.D. student’s educational experience and the campus’s global strategic initiatives in ways that inure to the benefit of the law school as a campus partner in such initiatives. Enhanced diversity within J.D. classes may promote cultural exchanges and provide an international perspective. Among other things, this will provide J.D. students experience with cultural barriers they will encounter in practice.

As Missouri becomes increasingly diverse and our economy more globalized, attorneys practicing in Missouri will need skill and experience with diverse clients and an international perspective. Developing a pool of LL.M. alumni working with U.S. clients in foreign countries or with foreign clients doing business in the U.S. will lead to greater employment opportunities for future J.D. students and enhance opportunities for international commerce within the state of Missouri.

Upon referral from the Provost, the MU Graduate Faculty Senate approved the preliminary proposal for the LL.M. in American Law on September 23, 2014. At its regular meeting on April 18, 2014, the MU Law Faculty voted unanimously to approve development of the LL.M. in American Law program. The proposal was made by the Strategic Planning Committee and endorsed by the Dean. The Strategic Planning Committee began discussing the proposal in September 2013.

2.B. Duplication and Collaboration Within Campus and Across System

2.B.1 MU’s LL.M. in American Law will not Duplicate or Compete with UMKC

The LL.M. in American Law is similar to an LL.M. program administered by the UMKC School of Law. Both programs are exclusively open to students with law degrees from foreign institutions, offer a Master’s Degree based on 24 credits, and will integrate these foreign students with J.D. students to promote and provide a diverse, international perspective throughout the law school and campus. The MU program will be unique, however, in that we have expertise in distinct specialty areas of law, such as Intellectual Property Law supported by our Center for Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship, as well as the resources of a Research I University. These will attract different students than those who might be attracted to the UMKC program. Also, a component of our

marketing strategy (see below) is focused on building upon existing relationships among MU programs and professors and their international counterparts. Thus the program will attract its own group of students without competing with the UMKC program. Washington University and Saint Louis University also offer similar programs and, for similar reasons of specialized expertise and specific faculty connections, we do not believe the proposed program will be duplicative.

2.B.2. The LL.M. in American Law will Complement the Existing LL.M. in Dispute Resolution without Diverting Resources or Students from that Program.

The MU School of Law has offered an LL.M. in Dispute Resolution since 1999.³ Because of the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution Program's specialized focus and distinct pool of applicants, the LL.M. in American Law Program will not duplicate or compete for students. The LL.M. in Dispute Resolution is open to both domestic and foreign students and focuses on the field of dispute resolution. The LL.M. in American Law would be open only to foreign students and each student will focus on a substantive area of law and not dispute resolution. Currently, the Admissions Committee for the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution each year rejects a number of otherwise qualified foreign applicants whose interests in American Law lie outside of the field of dispute resolution. The LL.M. in American Law will provide educational opportunities to a pool of applicants that we currently turn away precisely because we do not have a program aligned with their goals.

3. Business-Related Criteria and Justification

3.A. Market Analysis

3.A.1. Need for Program

ABA-approved law schools "reported a 52 percent increase in enrollment in non-J.D. programs from 2000 to 2012," with a significant portion of the increase coming from LL.M. degrees providing foreign law graduates with an overview of the American legal system. See "Enrollment in Non-J.D. Programs at U.S. Law Schools Is Up, Figures Show," ABA Journal, December 21, 2012, included in the appendix.

The LSAC (Law School Admissions Council) LL.M. Applicant Report of August 17, 2015, indicated that 7,209 attorneys whose first law degree is from outside the U.S. processed LL.M. applications through the LSAC. Unlike for J.D. programs, LL.M. applicants are not required to use LSAC's Credential Assembly Service; many LL.M. programs, including the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution Program at MU School of Law, allow applicants to apply directly. So, the 7,209 applicants who did apply through LSAC are only a portion of the LL.M. applications from attorneys whose first law degree is from outside the U.S. A search of the LSAC Candidate Referral Service (CRS) database for international candidates registering their interest in a U.S. LL.M. degree yielded 3,425 prospective students on September 24, 2015, early in the 2015-2016 LL.M. recruiting season.

³ Because of the way the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution was originally established, we must submit this proposal as a new degree program rather than as a new concentration in an existing degree.

There is no national body publishing statistics on the number of students enrolling in LL.M. in American Law type programs. However, there are numerous indicators of the demand for these programs. The American Bar Association (“ABA”) lists sixty-nine (69) “U.S. Legal Studies Programs for Foreign Lawyers or International Students.” By comparison, there were six (6) programs in “Banking and Finance Law,” twelve (12) programs in “Business Law,” ten (10) programs in “Dispute Resolution,” twenty-five (25) programs in “Intellectual Property,” and thirty-one (31) programs in “Taxation/Tax Law.” The ABA site listing LL.M. programs, www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/llm-degrees_post_j_d_non_j_d/programs_by_category.html, was visited September 21, 2015. The most recent enrollment data published by the ABA in fall 2013 indicated enrollment of 9,401 students in 147 Post-J.D. programs at ABA-approved schools across all program categories. Thirty-five (35) of these programs had more than 100 students enrolled, while ninety-five (95) programs had 15 or fewer enrolled. “ABA-Approved Law School J.D. and Non J.D. Enrollment Data: Fall 2013” available at http://www.americanbar.org/groups/legal_education/resources/statistics.html

Likewise, a search on the key word “foreign” the LSAC LL.M. Program Guide at <http://www.lsac.org/llm/choosing-a-law-school/llm-program-guide> on September 21, 2015, yielded one hundred and two (102) results. There are also numerous web-based services that seek to help potential LL.M. students find suitable programs. For example, a search of “The LL.M. Guide,” <http://www.llm-guide.com/search>, to locate programs in the U.S. focused on American Law /U.S. Law yielded eighty-six (86) programs on September 3, 2013.

3.A.2. Student Demand for Program

Table 1a. Student Enrollment Projections (anticipated total number of students enrolled in program during the fall semester of given year).

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full-Time	5	5	10	10	15
Part-Time					
Total	5	5	10	10	15

There is strong demand for an LL.M. in American Law program. Nationally, there has been rapid growth of comparable programs at law schools across the U.S. and the number of students seeking an LL.M. degree. To meet this dramatically increased demand in recent years, law schools are increasingly offering LL.Ms in American Law. Yet demand remains high.

At the MU School of Law, we continue to see strong interest in an LL.M. in American Law. This demand is demonstrated by inquiries and applications from students as well as offers to partner from foreign law schools. For example, in the 2013-2014 recruiting year we received more than 44 inquiries seeking an LL.M. in an area other than dispute resolution, which is currently our only LL.M. offering. While a small number of inquiries sought a specific topic such as intellectual property, the largest portion sought general familiarity with the U.S. legal system. This is despite the fact that we are not

listed as offering an L.L.M. for foreign-trained attorneys on any of the L.L.M. guides or lists or on our web page or marketing materials.

Furthermore, we currently receive a significant number of applications each year for the L.L.M. in Dispute Resolution which are denied because these applicants indicate that they wish to become familiar with the U.S. legal system but do not express interest in the field of dispute resolution, the focus of our current program. In fact, the primary reason for rejecting applicants who otherwise meet our eligibility criteria for academic excellence, English proficiency, etc., is their “goodness of fit,” that is, their academic goals are not in the field of dispute resolution. An L.L.M. in American Law would be better suited for students with the goal of doing legal work with U.S. clients or with foreign clients doing business in the U.S. Because such goals are distinct, we do not expect the L.L.M. in American Law to have a negative impact on enrollment in our current L.L.M. in Dispute Resolution. We expect that interest in our L.L.M. in Dispute Resolution will remain strong with students whose primary interest is in the growing field of Dispute Resolution.

Table 1b. Student Enrollment Projections (anticipated number of students enrolled during the fall semester of given year who were new to campus).

Year	1	2	3	4	5
Full-Time	5	5	10	10	15
Part-Time					
Total	5	5	10	10	15

The program is only open to international students who obtained their first law degree outside the U.S.

Table 1c. Projected Number of Degrees Awarded

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
# of Degrees Awarded	5	5	9	9	13	14	13	14	13	14

The program is a one-year program. We will not enroll students who are not academically prepared to succeed and graduate. We will cap the program at 15 students. The overall graduation rate for our L.L.M. in Dispute Resolution program is 88% and we expect a similar rate for the L.L.M. in American Law program.

3.B. Financial Projections

3.B.1. The Program Will Not Require New or Additional Resources

The L.L.M. in American Law program will not require the hiring of any new faculty or staff. The program will have minimal one-time startup costs.

There will be a faculty cost associated with teaching a new “Overview of the U.S. Legal System” summer course and a separate fall section of legal research and writing designated for L.L.M. students. Otherwise, all courses taken by L.L.M. in American Law students will be courses already taught in the J.D. curriculum, so there is no “new” cost.

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2. By agreement with the MU Provost, the educational discount rate for the proposed LL.M. in American Law program will be 35%.

Table 3. Enrollment at the End of Year 5 for the Program to Be Financially and Academically Viable.

Enrollment Status	Full-Time	Part-Time	Total
Number of Students	5		5

The program is only open to international students. To maintain an F-1 visa status, international students must enroll full-time. Thus, the program will have no part-time students.

3.C. Business and Marketing Plan: Recruiting and Retaining Students

The LL.M. in American Law Program will be marketed in conjunction with our existing LL.M. in Dispute Resolution Program. The need for separate marketing specific only to the LL.M. in American Law will be minimal. We will simply add the new LL.M. option to our current marketing which is directed at attorneys considering an LL.M. degree. If any specific marketing of only the LL.M. in American Law becomes necessary, we will use email and other low-cost marketing. Below are examples of our current marketing strategies for the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution.

LSAC: The Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) provides a credential referral service (CRS), annual recruiting forums, an online LL.M. Guide, and an online application process to help connect programs with interested students. Apart from the forums, these services are provided without cost to the school. We currently use the LSAC resources for our LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program and will as well for the LL.M. in American Law. For example, we will query the CRS database for students interested in an LL.M. in American Law and send recruiting emails. A search of the LSAC CRS database on 3/31/2014 showed 1,274 students seeking an LL.M. in U.S. law.

Faculty contacts: We would expect to draw on existing faculty contacts/relationships. For example, MU Law Professor David English travels frequently to China. For example, in spring 2014 he met with the Dean and faculty at the School of Economic Law at East China University of Politics and Law, one of the leading law schools in China. Our LL.M. in American Law program, if approved, could be coordinated with ECUPL's 3-year LL.M. degree. Students would spend their second graduate year in the US, could complete the requirements for our LL.M., and would then return to China and receive the ECUPL degree with one additional year of study. Likewise, we would hope to draw on faculty contacts in the greater university such as through the International Center, the Missouri Transatlantic Center, and through exchange and summer programs in other units like CAFNR's summer study in the Czech Republic.

MU Partner Schools: We will draw on partners of the Law School and University for recruiting. For example, the Law School and University have a long standing and special relationship with the University of the Western Cape in South Africa. We currently host

one or more UWC students each year in our LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program. We will also seek to participate in new relationships. For example, in fall 2014, the International Center hosted the Dean of the Law School of the Free University in Tbilisi, Georgia. They requested that one of our faculty members visit to teach an “overview of U.S. law” course as part of their pre-LL.M. summer program and were interested in sending their graduates to MU for an LL.M. The LL.M. in American Law would be a better fit for more of the students than our LL.M. in Dispute Resolution.

4. Institutional Capacity

Before 2010, enrollment in our J.D. program was relatively stable at around 150 first-year law students starting each fall. In response to changes in the legal education and employment markets, we had a planned reduction in our incoming J.D. class to approximately 120. The LL.M. in American Law would take advantage of currently unused capacity.

The admissions process would utilize the current LL.M. staff and admissions committee. It would not place any additional burdens on the J.D. admissions office or require the hiring of any additional staff. The program should not require any additional facilities – basically the LL.M. students will be filling seats in existing J.D. classes made available by our smaller J.D. class size. Likewise, there should be minimal additional burden on the Career Development staff associated with LL.M. in American Law due to our overall decreased class size.

Accreditation of our J.D. program requires that the proposed post-J.D. program will not burden or interfere with the quality of our J.D. program. Since 1952, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (“Council”) of the American Bar Association (“ABA”) has been approved by the United States Department of Education as the recognized national agency for the accreditation of programs leading to the J.D. For post-J.D. programs like the proposed LL.M. in American Law, the ABA does not approve or accredit the program, but rather acquiesces. Standard 308 of the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools states that an ABA-approved law school may not establish a degree program other than its J.D. degree program unless the school is fully approved, and the additional degree program will not detract from a law school’s ability to maintain a sound J.D. degree program. The school must obtain acquiescence prior to commencing such a program and this will occur only if the program does not detract from the J.D. program.

5. Program Characteristics

5.A. Program Outcomes

Graduates of the LL.M. in American Law Program should:

- Possesses substantial knowledge of the legal system in the United States;
- Possesses substantial knowledge in *legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, problem solving, and oral communication* as practiced in the U.S. legal community.

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- Understand the goals, structure, values, rules, and responsibilities of the U.S. legal profession and conduct their legal practice in a *professional and ethical manner*.
- Possesses the *lawyering skills* generally regarded as necessary for effective and responsible participation in the U.S. legal profession.
- Possesses substantial knowledge in areas of the law considered to be foundational for *admission to the bar*, and for *the practice of law* in the United States;

5.B. Structure

The LL.M. in American Law will be a 24-credit program. There will be three core required courses – Overview of the U.S. Legal System, Legal Research and Writing, and Professional Responsibility. The Overview of the U.S. Legal System course will be a new course not open to J.D. students. We will also continue to designate a separate section of our existing Legal Research and Writing course for LL.M. students only. Otherwise, LL.M. students will be integrated into the current J.D. curriculum, including into our existing Professional Responsibility course.

Elective courses will be selected from the existing J.D. or LL.M. curriculum. This will provide flexibility for students to customize study in any number of fields in the law school such as intellectual property, commercial law, international law, tax, environmental law, and employment law.

Residency requirements, if any: Open only to international students who have their first degree in law from an institution outside the U.S.

General education

Total credits for general education courses:

Courses (specific course or distribution area and credit hours):

Course	Hrs	Course	Hrs	Course	Hrs

Major requirements

Total credits specific to degree:

Courses (specific course or distribution area and credit hours):

Course	Hrs	Course	Hrs	Course	Hrs
Overview of U.S. Legal System	2				
Legal Research and Writing	2				
Professional Responsibility	3				

Free elective credits

Total free elective credits: 17 credit hours in law classes offered in the J.D. or LL.M. curriculum.

The sum of hours required for general education, major requirements and free electives should equal the total credits required for graduation.

Requirement for thesis, internship or other capstone experience: None.

Any unique features such as interdepartmental cooperation: None.

5.C. Program Design and Content

In order to design the curriculum for the proposed LL.M. in American Law program the LL.M. director, among other things, attended workshops sponsored by the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC), conducted a review of the curricula of similar programs at other law schools, considered the requirements for foreign educated LL.M. students to qualify for the Missouri, New York, California, and other bar exams, and consulted with the MU Law School's Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Chair of the Faculty Curriculum Committee.

The Overview of U.S. Legal System course and the Legal Research and Writing course will be required in the first semester. The Overview may also be offered as a summer session before fall entry into program to facilitate student readiness for substantive first year courses. Professional Responsibility will be required in second semester (spring) or summer.

Required Courses:

- (a) At least 2 semester hours of **Legal Research and Writing**;
 - a. Legal Research and Writing is an existing required course in our first-year J.D. curriculum offered each fall semester. We will offer a separate section for LL.M. students. This is currently being done with existing faculty resources (adjunct faculty).

- (b) At least 3 semester hours of **Professional Responsibility**;
 - a. Professional Responsibility is an existing required course in our J.D. curriculum offered each semester, including summer. LL.M. students will take this course along with J.D. students. This can be done with existing faculty resources.

- (c) At least 2 semester hours in a course providing an **Overview of the American Legal System**;
 - a. The Overview of the American Legal System will be a new course created for LL.M. and other non-J.D. graduate students. This can be done with existing faculty, several of whom have offered to develop and teach the course. Once developed, it could be taught by an adjunct faculty member, if needed. We plan to offer this course during the

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summer so that incoming LL.M. students will be more fully prepared for success in their fall semester classes.

- b. This course has potential uses outside the LL.M. program including increasing the law school's presence across campus and possible recruitment of J.D. or LL.M. students. For example, we have been asked to provide such a course at international partner schools. We could provide it as a basic survey course for MU graduate students in appropriate certificate programs or undergraduates in the honors college. The Law faculty believes the widespread application of the basic survey course outweighs the initial start-up costs in developing it and that it can be taught by any number of interested faculty (full-time and adjunct) across campus without compromising course coverage elsewhere.

Elective Courses:

LL.M. in American Law students also will take a minimum of 17 semester hours in elective courses to complete the requirements for the degree. These electives will be selected from existing law school courses in the J.D. or LL.M. in Dispute Resolution curriculum. The courses will be selected to meet the student's goals with the advice of their academic advisor⁴. This will allow students to customize the LL.M. in American Law to reflect their individual interests in various law fields. For example, the Law School's Intellectual Property expertise and Center for Intellectual Property and Entrepreneurship would be a draw for some foreign students. This would set us apart from other LL.M. in American Law programs by offering a center that gives foreign law students access to U.S. Law and business, and possibly STEM type issues related to the IPE center. Providing program electives can be done with current faculty and without changes to current teaching assignments.

In addition, flexibility in electives will allow LL.M. in American Law students (who desire to do so) the opportunity to qualify to take a U.S. bar exam. Including Missouri, there are 30 U.S. jurisdictions that permit non-U.S.-trained law graduates to become members of their bar after receiving an LL.M. degree in the U.S. at an ABA-accredited law school. The New York State Board of Law Examiners are "now testing over 3500 candidates per year who qualify based upon their foreign education and having obtained an LL.M. degree from an ABA-approved law school in the United States." Diane Bosse, NY BOLE Chair, memo to ABA Law Deans, May 7, 2014. The specific requirements to be eligible to take a bar exam vary by jurisdiction, but would not require courses outside our current J.D. curriculum. Indeed, the courses in our J.D. curriculum are designed to enable our J.D. students to take a U.S. bar exam and qualify for legal practice in the U.S.

⁴ The LL.M. director serves as academic advisor to LL.M. students. No additional staff will be required for advising.

5.D. Program Goals and Assessment

A significant portion of our current LL.M. in Dispute Resolution students have a parallel goal of sitting for a U.S. bar exam and seek to take classes that will help them qualify for and pass a bar exam. While we've had LL.M. students successfully sit for the Missouri, New York, and California bar exams, the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution is not well suited for students with this goal. The curriculum for an LL.M. in American Law would be better suited for this purpose. We estimate that a high proportion of the LL.M. in American Law students who elect to take a bar exam will be successful.

We project we will have 10 graduates in the third year, and 12-15 graduates per year starting in the fifth program year. We anticipate a very high retention and graduation rate, similar to our existing LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program. From 1999 to 2013, the graduation rate for LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program was 88%. Likewise, our current graduates pursue a wide variety of employment and professional activities – legal practice, program administration, teaching, continuing education, etc. -- after earning their LL.M. in Dispute Resolution degree, and we expect the same will be true for LL.M. in American Law graduates.

We will track and regularly review our graduation rate, bar passage rate, and employment rate as indicators of achievement of student learning outcomes.

5.E. Student Preparation

Eligible students must have a college degree in law (J.D. or LL.B.) from a law school recognized and accredited by the appropriate body in their home country. Qualification to practice law in their home jurisdiction and experience in legal practice are recommended. They must meet the minimum academic eligibility requirements of the MU Office of Graduate Studies, and also an LL.M. program English proficiency standard higher than the MU Office of Graduate Studies requirement.

Applicants must have demonstrated English proficiency, evaluated through an English proficiency test score, such as the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam and, in some cases, a personal interview with the director of the program or a designee. Interviews in person or via video conference are preferred, but can also be conducted by telephone if necessary. The MU Office of Graduate Studies requires at TOEFL score of 80, with no component below 20, or an IELTS score of 6.5, with no component below 6. As with the existing LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program, the proposed LL.M. in American Law Program will set a high standard for acceptable English skills, typically requiring higher scores than the Office of Graduate Studies' minimum requirements. We expect our students generally to have scores on the TOEFL internet-based exam at or near 100, or an IELTS of 7.0. MU offers an Intensive English Program: <http://iep.missouri.edu/> Participation in MU's IEP may be a required condition of admission for candidates who need more English exposure prior to the commencement of graduate legal studies.

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The LSAT (Law School Admissions Test) is not required, but qualification for legal practice in their home country is preferred.

5.F. Faculty and Administration

Paul Ladehoff is director of the LL.M. in Dispute Resolution program at the University of Missouri School of Law and director of the MU Campus Mediation Service. Paul will devote 35% of his time to the combined LL.M. programs (Dispute Resolution and American Law), 35% of his time to Campus Mediation, and the remaining 30% to teaching, training and administering our international visiting scholars program. As an academic administrator with a non-regular, non-tenure track appointment, Paul has taught Negotiation, Mediation, Client Interviewing and Counseling, and Conflict Management at the Law School. He has also taught Group Dynamics and Conflict Resolution for MU's Truman School of Public Affairs. Paul provides 3-day basic mediation training three times per year to the Missouri bench and bar, as well as other shorter negotiation or mediation trainings. He was a project leader of MU's Difficult Dialogues program. Paul graduated with honors from the University of Nebraska College of Law, served as a trial attorney for the U.S. Department of Justice, Environment and Natural Resources Division, and directed several community-based mediation centers in Nebraska.

With the exception of the required "Overview of the U.S. Legal System" course and a separate fall section for LL.M. students of our Legal Research and Writing course, all other courses taken by LL.M. in American Law students will be courses already taught in the J.D. curriculum by regular full-time faculty. The Overview and Legal Research and Writing may be taught by regular full-time faculty or by adjuncts. Hence, the percentage of credit hours in the program assigned to full-time faculty will be at least 83% (20 out of 24 credit hours). All instructors in the program will be required to have at least the J.D. degree.

The following table lists the names of faculty who are likely to teach students in the LL.M. in American Law program. Because LL.M. in American Law students will be integrated into J.D. classes already being taught, with the exception of Professors Ladehoff and Maguffee, no faculty will have time "dedicated" to the LL.M. in American Law program. Rather, some pro-rated share of the time dedicated to teaching in the J.D. curriculum will be accountable to the LL.M. based on the relative proportion of J.D. and LL.M. students enrolled in a particular course.

Faculty Member	Regular Full time (FT) or Adjunct (A)	Course(s)
Robert Bailey; Assistant Dean Emeritus, joined faculty 1979	FT	Arbitration
Carli N. Conklin Associate Professor of Law, joined faculty 2011	FT	Non-binding Methods Int'l Human Rights Negotiation Overview of U.S. Legal System

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<p>Dennis D. Crouch Co-Director of the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship, Associate Professor of Law, joined faculty 2007</p>	FT	Intellectual Property Patent Law
<p>Rafael Gely Director, Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution and James E. Campbell Missouri Endowed Professor of Law, joined faculty 2008</p>	FT	Employment Law Labor Arbitration Labor Law
<p>Robert H. Jerry, II Isidor Loeb Professor of Law, rejoined faculty 2015, having previously served 1998-2003</p>	FT	Insurance Law Insurance Claims Processing and Dispute Resolution
<p>Paul Ladehoff Director of LL.M. in Dispute Resolution Program; Director of the Campus Mediation Service, joined faculty 2004</p>	A	Conflict & Conflict Management Negotiation Mediation Group Dynamics Overview of U.S. Legal System
<p>John Lande Isidor Loeb Professor Emeritus of Law, joined faculty 2000</p>	FT	Dispute System Design Negotiation Family Law Dispute Resolution
<p>Ilhyung Lee Edward W. Hinton Professor of Law, joined faculty</p>	FT	International Commercial Arbitration Cross Cultural Dispute Resolution
<p>James Levin Co-Director for the Center for Intellectual Property & Entrepreneurship, Associate Director of the Center for the Study of Dispute Resolution, joined faculty 1995</p>	A	Mediation Mediation Clinic LL.M. Externships Comparative Dispute Resolution Professional Responsibility Overview of U.S. Legal System

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Richard Reuben James Lewis Parks Professor of Law, joined faculty 2000	FT	Administrative Law Conflict and Conflict Management Emotional Intelligence in Law Employment Law, Local Government Law
S.I. Strong Manley O. Hudson Professor of Law, joined faculty 2007	FT	Comparative Law International Commercial Arbitration Private International Law Public International Law Trusts and Estates
Ben Trachtenberg Associate Professor of Law, joined faculty in 2010	FT	Criminal Procedure, Evidence, Professional Responsibility, Trial Practice
Thom Lambert Wall Chair in Corporate Law and Governance, joined faculty in 2003	FT	Antitrust Business Organizations
Douglas Abrams Associate Professor of Law, joined faculty in 1990	FT	American Legal History Constitutional Law Family Law
Sarah Maguffee Adjunct Professor of Law, joined faculty in 2011	A	Legal Research and Writing Overview of U.S. Legal System

Please note that other members of the MU Law faculty may also have LL.M. students in their courses. However, those listed above are likely to host LL.M. in American Law students.

5.G. Alumni and Employer Survey

Exit surveys of graduating students will be conducted annually. Regular anonymous, web-based surveys of alumni and employers will be conducted. The purpose of these surveys will be to track graduates' preparedness to enter the workforce and to assess strengths and weaknesses in the content and format of the curricula. In addition, qualitative information will be obtained from alumni and employer interviews. These interviews will help provide a context for the quantitative information and to identify trends in employer and marketplace needs. Graduating students will also be given the opportunity to participate in separate focus groups and web-based surveys about the program curricula, teaching, and administration. The feedback will be an input into our continuous improvement model.

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5.H. Program Accreditation

American Bar Association Acquiescence: Since 1952, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar (“Council”) of the American Bar Association (“ABA”) has been approved by the United States Department of Education as the recognized national agency for the accreditation of programs leading to the J.D. For post-J.D. programs like the proposed LL.M. in American Law, the ABA does not approve or accredit the program, but rather acquiesces. Standard 308 of the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools states that an ABA-approved law school may not establish a degree program other than its J.D. degree program unless the school is fully approved, and the additional degree program will not detract from a law school's ability to maintain a sound J.D. degree program. The school must obtain acquiescence prior to commencing such a program.

Applications for non-J.D. programs are considered at Council meetings in November, January, April, & June. Applications received less than 60 days prior to the next meeting are carried over to the following meeting. If we submit our application by November 24, 2015, it will be considered at the January 21-23, 2016 meeting. If we submit our application to the ABA by February 16, 2016, it will be considered at their meeting April 14-16, 2016. The latter would give us approximately 5 months to recruit a first class to start fall of 2016.

6. Appendices:

6a. Letters of Approval from Graduate Faculty Senate and Chancellor’s Office


6b. Mizzou 2020

December 10-11, 2015

UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

OFFICE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

October 20, 2014

TO: Marla Applebaum
FROM: Leona Rubin 
Interim Vice Provost for Advanced Studies and Dean of the Graduate School
RE: Preliminary Proposal for LLM in American Law Degree

Attached you will find a preliminary proposal for a LLM in American Law.

The Graduate Faculty Senate reviewed the preliminary proposal and approved it on September 23, 2014.

Please let me know if you have any questions related to the pre-proposal.

c: Paul Ladenhoff

Attachment – Preliminary Proposal Request from School of Law for an LLM in American Law Degree



UNIVERSITY *of* MISSOURI

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

October 28, 2015

President Tim Wolfe
University of Missouri System
321 University Hall
Columbia, MO 65211

Dear President Wolfe,

Enclosed please find a request from the University of Missouri-Columbia to establish a new degree program in the School of Law, LLM in American Law.

It is anticipated that this program will be revenue generating and will more than cover its cost after Year I.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



R. Bowen Loftin
Chancellor

RBL:mma

Cc: Garnett S. Stokes, Executive Vice Chancellor & Provost
Steven Graham, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs



MU's mission as a public, land-grant university is to discover and disseminate knowledge. Building on its unique interdisciplinary research and teaching strengths, exemplified by Mizzou Advantage, MU will, by 2020, enhance its academic stature as measured by publicly available metrics, including those of the Association of American Universities.

Enhance MU's strengths to prepare graduates to face tomorrow's challenges

- 1.1 Increase student research and creative activities and collaborative and experiential learning
 - Promote student research and creative activity through schools and colleges, the Office of Undergraduate Research, Student Affairs, Graduate Studies and Mizzou Advantage
 - Increase internships, study abroad and service learning
- 1.2 Invest in new tools and strategies to recruit and retain students
 - Enhance scholarships for high-ability undergraduates
 - Enhance graduate student recruitment through competitive stipends and professional development opportunities
 - Enhance transfer experience
 - Expand graduate programs that enhance research priorities
 - Invest in new innovative degree programs that build on MU's strengths

Key metrics

- Five- and six-year graduation rate
- First-year retention
- Student enrollment (total and targeted subsets)
- Average ACT score
- Student participation in internships, study abroad, service learning and undergraduate research
- Placement of undergraduate, graduate and professional students
- Number of students in new degree programs
- Time to degree (doctoral)

Grow high-impact interdisciplinary research

- 2.1 Recruit and develop high-impact faculty
 - Recruit 20+ senior faculty members who have an immediate effect on AAU indicators, focusing on these areas of strength: medicine (5), health sciences (2), physical sciences (4), life sciences (4), engineering (4), journalism/new media (1)
 - Recruit early and mid-career faculty with demonstrated excellence in teaching and research
- 2.2 Increase postdoctoral fellows in high-impact areas
- 2.3 Invest strategically in high-impact collaborative research centers/groups

Key metrics

- Federal research dollars
- Number of faculty in national academies
- Number of faculty awards
- Number of post doctoral fellows
- Citations
- Number of doctoral degrees awarded annually

Ensure that MU has the resources and processes to support high-impact teaching and research

- 3.0 Reward excellence with competitive faculty and staff compensation
 - Reward the most productive and effective faculty and staff
 - Enhance MU's position among the AAU publics in average faculty salary
- 3.1 Continually strengthen a diverse, safe, and inclusive campus culture
 - Create a new campus structure for issues of inclusion, diversity and equity
 - Increase faculty, students and leadership from underrepresented groups
- 3.2 Prioritize new construction, renovation, and infrastructure investments based on strategic priorities
 - Invest in facilities needed to meet teaching, research and retention/enrollment priorities
 - Reduce number of deficient buildings
 - Provide research, library and IT resources to meet campus needs
- 3.3 Ensure that MU's revenue model allows for strategic investments
 - Produce new net revenues through increased online enrollment, economic development, student retention, development
 - Implement new allocation processes to ensure success with strategic goals
- 3.4 Enhance faculty development
 - Provide effective leave programs
 - Enhance mentoring for faculty and postdoctoral fellows
 - Establish teaching and learning center

Key metrics

- Number of buildings with a FCNI above 0.40
- Faculty and staff performance and compensation data
- Faculty, students and leadership from underrepresented groups
- Student credit hours through Mizzou Online
- "Mizzou: Our Time to Lead" campaign metrics
- Association of Research Libraries indicators
- Campus climate data

From: Harmon, Cindy S. (Curators)
To: Whitehurse, Jessica S.
Subject: RE: LLM American Law Documents for BOC
Date: Monday, December 14, 2015 3:02:04 PM

Dear Jessi,

The recommendation below was approved by the Board of Curators on December 10, 2015.

Sincerely,
Cindy Harmon
Secretary of the Board of Curators

From: Whitehurse, Jessica S.
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2015 9:09 AM
To: Harmon, Cindy S. (Curators) <harmonc@umsystem.edu>
Subject: LLM American Law Documents for BOC

Cindy, let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks!
Jessi

Jessi Whitehurse
Project/Program Coordinator I
Office of Academic Affairs, Research and Economic Development
University of Missouri System

**BOARD RECOMMENDATION
ACADEMIC, STUDENT AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

December 1, 2015

TO: Robert Schwartz, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Research and Economic Development

SUBJECT: The University of Missouri-Columbia Proposes a New Master's Program in American Law, to begin in the Fall Semester of 2016, for Approval at the December 10-11, 2015,

Board of Curators Meeting

I recommend that the item listed below be submitted to the Academic Affairs Committee for consideration, and to the Board of Curators for approval at the December 10-11, 2015, Board of Curators Meeting:

1) The new LLM Program in American Law will provide 24-credit hours of core required classes as well as elective classes within one academic year. This new program compliments existing

programs, including the LLM in Dispute Resolution, and responds to the growing need and demand among foreign attorneys to be familiar with the US Legal System. It will provide an introduction to the US legal system and a logical next step for students who received their first degree in law outside the United States. In addition it will prepare students for the US bar exam, for US law practice, or to work with US clients in the student's home countries or with foreign clients doing business in the US.

The faculty of the University of Missouri-Columbia, therefore, recommends to the President and to the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri that a new LLM Program in American Law be established to begin in the fall semester of 2016.

Approved:
Henry C. Foley, Interim Chancellor