

Graduate Degrees

A Personalized Approach

MAINE
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SCHOOL OF LAW
LAW



Graduate degrees with a difference.



“Studying at Maine Law will provide you with many expert professors, kind staff, and wonderful classmates who are both American and foreign students. In addition, I feel safe living in Maine because the people in Maine are so nice.”

- Varunlak Hammarach '17 (Thailand)



Like many of the top law schools in the U.S., the University of Maine School of Law is small and selective. This allows us to maintain our commitment to a personalized legal education that few law schools can match. If you are looking for a candidate-focused program of legal study, Maine Law is the place for you.



“During this past year, all the professors, classmates, and staff have been very kind, and they also gave us lots of help. They support study sessions every week to help us catch up in class. They are always inviting us to join some local activities to help us understand the culture. That’s more than I expected.” - Mingyue Zhao '17 (China)





Graduate degrees built around you.

Maine Law affords graduate students the ability to customize their studies to meet their individual needs and interests.

Our **rigorous curriculum, influential scholarship, and innovative programming** prepare students for success in a variety of fields. Students can select from a range of courses and specialize in a variety of subject areas, including:

- > Administrative, Government & Regulatory Law
- > Business & Commercial Law
- > Constitutional Law & Civil Rights
- > Criminal Law*
- > Environmental, Energy, and Land Use Law*
- > Family and Elder Law
- > General U.S. Law*
- > Health and Bioethics
- > Information Privacy Law*
- > Intellectual Property Law*
- > International Human Rights Law
- > Litigation and the Judiciary
- > Oceans & Maritime Law*
- > Taxation
- > Trust and Estates Law

** Specialized track available or pending*

Students at Maine Law receive not only **robust classroom** instruction but also **hands-on learning experiences, practical skills, and advising** that will prepare them for careers as attorneys, judges, academics, business innovators, and government leaders in fields like information privacy, entertainment, medicine, and the environment.

Maine Law also takes its students out into the world to take advantage of the many opportunities outside the classroom. Through our many partnerships and strong alumni connections, Maine Law has direct access to the highest levels of government, industry, and the legal community. This access means students can study some of the most cutting edge problems facing society today. And **we bring the world into our classrooms** – it's not unusual to run into Maine's Chief Justice, state leaders, or members of the Congressional delegation in our halls, and our Frank M. Coffin Lecture on Law and Public Service has drawn inspiring public servants including U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and former U.S. Labor Secretary Robert Reich.



At Maine Law education is personal.

The Law School's commitment to students extends beyond the classroom. From the moment students arrive, Maine Law offers them full academic and community support.

Faculty and peer mentors. All graduate students are assigned faculty mentors in their areas of interest. These faculty mentors become close and trusted advisors. Each graduate student is paired with a law student liaison as well, to help integrate our graduate students into the Law School community and to share academic, personal, and cultural experiences.

Professional staff who specialize in student support. Maine Law's academic support program provides workshops specifically to help graduate students make the most of their studies, as well as access to teaching fellows and individual consulting and one-on-one tutoring when needed. Graduate students can also take advantage of individual library research assistance to help them with their legal writing and research.

Small class sizes. Students at Maine Law enjoy the luxury of small class sizes that foster intellectual discussion and cultivate a strong personal connection between students and faculty.

University-affiliated housing. Unlike students in many other LL.M. programs, students at Maine Law do not need to worry about finding housing. Maine Law provides housing with other LL.M. and J.D. students in a nearby apartment complex that is regularly monitored by university staff.

School and cultural activities. Graduate students are invited to several extracurricular activities to allow them to experience all that Portland, Maine and American culture have to offer. Snowshoeing with other students, Thanksgiving holiday dinner at the Dean's house, and going to professional baseball and basketball games are just a few examples.

Networked for success. When you are at Maine Law, you are among family, and when you graduate, you will be a lifelong member of an alumni network spread across the globe. Maine Law graduates are leaders in both the public and private sectors in many different countries, and work for companies like Accenture, Yahoo!, Playdom, and Ernst & Young.

Maine Law is also working to become one of only five states in the U.S. that allows foreign-educated law students to be eligible to seek admission by examination to their state bar on the basis of their LL.M. degrees. This represents a significant advantage for those seeking the credentials to practice as attorneys in the U.S. The State of Maine also recently adopted the Uniform Bar Examination (UBE), which allows students to use their exam score to apply for admission in other UBE jurisdictions.

The LL.M Degree Program

The Master of Laws (LL.M.) program at Maine Law is designed for both U.S. and foreign students and practitioners who have earned a law degree or equivalent qualification to practice law in their home countries. Through an intensive program of study, LL.M. candidates learn about many aspects of the U.S. legal system as well as international law.

The LL.M. academic program requires students to complete twenty-four (24) credits of coursework. All foreign students are required to take Introduction to U.S. Law (LAW 785). Beyond that requirement, students can choose from a sampling of courses (depending on course availability and requirements). No thesis is required, so students have the freedom to pursue writing projects and applied research projects or fieldwork in keeping with their interests.

Degree candidates may elect to complete the degree in up to eighteen months. Degree candidates are required to be in residence for two semesters, however, except in cases of exceptional circumstances.

LL.M. Program Admission Standards

1. Completion of a law degree at an ABA accredited law school in the United States or an equivalent degree at a duly accredited foreign university; OR qualification to practice law in a foreign country or the equivalent thereof as determined by the LL.M. Admissions Committee.
2. For all candidates for whom English is not their primary language:
 - a. A TOEFL score of 550 or above (paper), 79 or above (internet based), or 213 or above (computer based); or
 - b. An IELTS score of 6.5 or higher; or
 - c. A China National Legal English Certification Test Score of 130 or higher; or
 - d. Submission of an English writing sample for review as well as completion of a telephone or video conference interview. (This option is available only under exceptional circumstances and on a case-by-case basis.)

Students whose English proficiency scores do not meet the standards above are nonetheless strongly encouraged to submit an application to Maine Law for consideration.

Advanced Standing – The LL.M. to J.D. Transfer Option

Qualified students who complete their LL.M. at Maine Law also have the unique opportunity to transfer to our J.D. program. Admission to the J.D. program will be based on the LL.M. student's performance at Maine Law and on the student's application, but applicants do not need to take the LSAT. Accepted students will be granted advanced standing and may transfer many of their credits from the LL.M. program toward their J.D. degree.

For more information on applying to the LL.M. Degree Program, visit mainelaw.maine.edu/admissions/llm/.



Internationally recognized faculty

The faculty at Maine Law are prolific scholars who serve as advisors, consultants, and teachers at institutions around the globe.

The faculty also bring their vast wealth of experience into their classrooms to provide their students with a real-world perspective and understanding of current legal issues. Maine Law faculty are enthusiastic educators, and they encourage a collaborative discourse in the classroom to facilitate learning. They work closely with the graduate program students on research and writing projects, course selection, and career development.

Through their cutting-edge scholarship, the faculty have established a number of centers at Maine Law that help to drive research and public policy development in Maine and beyond. Scholars from around the world are engaged in a number of projects through the centers, in areas of law ranging from maritime security to data privacy.

- › The **Center for Oceans and Coastal Law**, for example, is a teaching and interdisciplinary research center devoted to law and policy of the oceans. Center activities embrace a broad range of teaching and research, seeking to enhance the skills of lawyers and policy scientists as applied to oceans problems from the Gulf of Maine to the seas of Europe, Africa, and Asia. Professor Charles H. Norchi serves as director of the Center for Oceans and Coastal Law. Through its program of conferences, lectures, and publications (including the Ocean & Coastal Law Journal), the Center builds on a long-standing Maine maritime tradition.
- › Likewise, the **Center for Law + Innovation** connects students to opportunities in intellectual property, information privacy law, and cybersecurity. Maine Law has a unique and strong connection with the world's largest privacy organization - the International Association of Privacy Professionals (IAPP). IAPP's president and CEO, Trevor Hughes, is a Maine Law alumnus, and he also teaches Information Privacy Law at Maine Law. With more than 26,000 members in 86 countries, the IAPP is the world's largest and most comprehensive privacy resource. The Center also hosts the Information Privacy Summer Institute, a unique summer institute in privacy law bringing scholars from around the world to teach law students and professionals about global privacy and cybersecurity law.



A location like no other

We're not the only ones saying it. There really is no place like Portland, Maine.

In the digital era, as professionals are moving away from major metropolitan areas in search of a better quality of life, Portland has become a hot destination. The city consistently ranks high in national “best of” lists for all sorts of categories, from *Forbes’* latest list of the best places to find a job to *Travel and Leisure Magazine’s* list of the top ten greenest cities in the U.S.

With just over 60,000 residents in the city proper, Maine’s largest city would be considered small by many standards. But with a thriving arts community, dozens of exceptional restaurants, and minor league sports teams, there is always something to do in Portland.

Surfing, swimming, boating, hiking, fishing, island-hopping, mountain climbing and skiing are some of the activities that are available in the city or a short drive away. Portland is home to a vibrant and growing multicultural population. Students enrolled in Portland Public Schools speak more than 60 languages. The city embraces diversity, and traditions from many nations are reflected in the unique neighborhood shops, restaurants, and festivals.

In Portland you can find the historic (Portland Head Light, commissioned by George Washington, and the most photographed lighthouse in the world), and the offbeat (the world’s only cryptozoology museum. Think proof of Bigfoot and Nessy).

Portland is well known as a haven for foodies. It is one of the top cities for restaurants per capita, offering affordable world cuisine, from Greek and Italian to Cuban and Eritrean. Live music abounds in Portland’s Old Port District, which is marked by cobblestone streets, coffee shops, restored brick buildings, and historic sites.

Portland by the Numbers

Portland is the largest city in Maine, with an estimated population of 66,881 in 2015. The greater Portland and metropolitan area, with a population of around 514,000 is home to one-third of the state's residents.

Casco Bay, home to the port of Portland, boasts 7 lighthouses, 12 major islands, nearly 100 smaller islands, several marinas and a popular year round ferry service.

Portland is 100 miles from Boston; 125 miles from Montpelier, Vermont; 200 miles from Montreal, Quebec; and 280 miles from New York City. For a truly adventurous road trip, head south on historic U.S. Route 1. The road doesn't stop until you hit the Gulf of Mexico at Key West, Florida.



"I think Portland is one of the most beautiful cities in America. The Law School is near downtown, and it is also close to the city's major attractions. I really enjoy my life here."

- Chengying Fan '17 (China)



The best educational value

Maine Law's reasonable tuition, combined with the modest cost of living in Portland, represents one of the best values for a graduate law degree in the United States.

A University of Maine School of Law education is an important investment in your future.

Yearly Tuition Charges 2017-2018

LL.M. Student \$35,000

Charges Per Credit Hour (for students registered for less than 12 credits):

LL.M. Student \$1,459

Student Budget

Single students will spend approximately \$10,000 during the nine-month academic year on room and board (not including fees, books, travel, and other incidental living expenses). The University of Maine System also requires proof of health insurance but offers a Student Health Insurance Policy at a very reasonable cost.

Scholarships are available for students recommended by the China Association of Legal English Teaching and Testing (CALETT) or the Fulbright Commission of Iceland, and for students applying from any one of Maine Law's many partner universities:

- › Beijing Foreign Studies University Law School (Beijing, China)
- › Capital Normal University College of Political Science and Law (Beijing, China)
- › East China Jiaotong University (Nanchang, China)
- › Gansu University of Political Science and Law (Lanzhou, China)
- › Hubei University of Arts and Science (Xiangyang, China)
- › Hubei University of Economics (Wuhan, China)
- › Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics (Nanchang, China)
- › Liaoning Normal University Law School (Dalian, China)
- › Minzu University of China Law School (Beijing, China)
- › Nankai University Law School (Tianjin, China)
- › Reva University School of Legal Studies (Bengaluru, India)
- › Reykjavik University (Reykjavik, Iceland)
- › Seoul National University School of Law (Seoul, Korea)
- › Shanghai University (Shanghai, China)
- › Shanghai University of Political Science and Law (Shanghai, China)
- › University of International Business and Economics Law School (Beijing, China)
- › University of the Philippines Law Center (Quezon City, The Philippines)
- › Zhongnan University of Economics and Law (Wuhan, China)



"Maine Law is not just a school, or an institution that offers education. Rather, it is a place that showed me how we are all equal, and that there is no difference among us, the students of Maine Law."

- Ali Farid '13 (Iraq)

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