

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES (MLS)

MLS 400 Human Resources Compliance - 3 Hours

This course examines the institutional models and regulatory schemes governing the management of employees in the workplace. Topics include a survey of the creation, maintenance and termination of the employment relationship, employee/employer duties, employment protections, torts in the workplace, workplace privacy and workplace safety and health. Delivery mode: traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 410 Staffing and Compensation Administration - 3 Hours

This course examines the planning for and implementation of the management of the hiring and compensation of employees. Topics include wage and hour regulations, workers' compensation, unemployment compensation, personal leave laws, other employment benefits regulations and Federal pre-emption of state wage and benefit laws. Delivery mode: traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 414 Employment Discrimination - 3 Hours

This course examines the legal rules and public policies surrounding employer practices and employee claims sounding in discrimination against members of protected classes or in hostility in the workplace. Topics include the state and federal regulations governing employment discrimination; employer planning, best practices and prevention of claims; and the legal processes for determination and redress of discrimination in the workplace. Delivery mode: traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 415 Labor Law and ADR - 3 Hours

This course examines the legal and policy implications of employee organization, bargaining and dispute resolution. Topics include employee organization – formal or informal, collective bargaining laws and processes, state and Federal regulation of organizing and bargaining, and arbitration of labor and employment disputes. Delivery mode: traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 421 Performance Assessment - 3 Hours

This course examines the institutional models for assessing the efficiency and contractual performance of employees. Topics include organizational planning for and implementation of standards and expectations on the part of employees and management, the efficient, fair, and ongoing assessment of management and worker performance, and the imposition of rewards for satisfactory performance and the remediation for under-performance. Delivery mode: traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 505 Philosophy and Theology of Justice - 3 Hours

This course surveys foundational sources in history, philosophy, Christian theology, and the Bible as the basis for law, justice, and governmental order in the United States. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 521 Contracts - 3 Hours

This course studies of the fundamentals of contract law, including the common law and selected portions of the Restatement (Second) of Contracts and the Uniform Commercial Code. Topics include remedies, offer, acceptance, discerning the agreement, parol evidence rule, Statute of Frauds, multi-party transactions, enforceability, consideration, promissory estoppel, warranties and conditions, breach, and defenses. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 531 Criminal Law - 3 Hours

This course teaches students how to deal with substantive criminal law problems in both practical and policy terms. The course inquires into the proper scope and objectives of criminal law, limitations on the State's power to define criminal liability, and general principles of liability and defenses for offenses against the person and property.

MLS 541 Torts - 3 Hours

This course examines common and modern law dealing with compensation for injuries to persons and property. Topics include intentional torts and defenses, negligence and defenses, strict liability, wrongful death, survival actions, statutes of limitation, immunities, vicarious liability, products liability, nuisance, defamation, invasion of privacy, civil rights, misuse of legal process, misrepresentation, and torts affecting businesses and familial relationships. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online and accelerated.

MLS 543 Human Trafficking and Economic Development-Cambodia - 3 Hours

This is an advanced course in human trafficking and economic development. Students will analyze and discuss current issues in human trafficking, focusing on sex trafficking in Southeast Asia. Students will learn the history of human trafficking, and how human trafficking is combatted in the modern world. Students will also learn about economic development in Southeast Asia, and how it is a modern way of combating human trafficking. Trinity Law School teaches this course from a Christian perspective and actively incorporates Biblical principles into the curriculum. Thus, this class/trip has three major aspects or themes to it: (1) basic concepts and laws relevant to human rights; (2) human trafficking; and (3) the role and relationship of worldviews and economic factors and development or lack thereof to human rights and human trafficking. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 558 Legal Fundamentals - 3 Hours

This course provides fundamental coverage relating to the key subjects of Constitutional Law, Civil Procedure, Tort Law, Contract Law, the Law of Property, and Criminal Law and Procedure. Also covered is the course of litigation, trials, appeals, and the foundational concepts of jurisdiction, and burdens of proof. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 600 Constitutional Law - 3 Hours

This course covers the powers of the federal government and selected topics regarding the relationship of the branches of the federal government to each other and to the States, as well as selected topics regarding the Bill of Rights, due process, equal protection, and the effect of the Fourteenth Amendment on the application of the Bill of Rights to the States. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 602 Government Structure Under the U.S. Constitution - 3 Hours

This course in Constitutional Law surveys the United States Constitution: its text, principles, original meaning, historical development, contemporary construction and case law. The specific focus is distribution of powers (federal, state and private), judicial review, jurisdiction, justiciability, and economic regulations including the Commerce Clause, the Contracts Clause and the Takings Clause (eminent domain). This course will satisfy the Constitutional Law requirement for the MLS program. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 660 Property - 3 Hours

This course focuses on the acquisition, disposition, and use of personal and real property. Topics include the nature of ownership and possession, bailment, adverse possession, common law classifications of estates in land, concurrent ownership, present and future interests in land, and landlord-tenant law, transfers of interests in real property, real estate contracts, legal descriptions, conveyances and deeds, recording systems, title insurance, private land-use restrictions (easements, covenants, and equitable servitudes), public land-use regulations, eminent domain, and regulatory takings. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 700 Introduction to Bioethics - 3 Hours

This course is an overview of the ethical issues in health care and biotechnology that make up the field of bioethics. Biblical-theological and other prominent contemporary perspectives are developed and assessed. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 702 Business Organizations - 3 Hours

This course covers the formation of agency relationships, partnerships and corporations, the fiduciary duties of agents, directors and officers, shareholder voting, shareholder lawsuits, rules around corporate disclosures, insider trading, and corporate control transactions. Particular attention is given to the way in which corporations organize and operate. The course also examines the respective roles, relationships, and liability exposure of shareholders, directors, and officers. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 710 Current Issues in Bioethics - 3 Hours

This course covers questions such as the proper role of law in shaping people's bioethical views and practices and the current state of the law regarding a wide range of bioethical issues are addressed with the help of case discussions. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 720 Classic Cases in Bioethics - 3 Hours

This course covers the many of the major issues in bioethics have been shaped by pivotal medical and legal cases. The course examines those cases in detail and uses them as a springboard for understanding the larger ethical issues that they address. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 735 Readings in Bioethics - 3 Hours

This course studies readings in bioethics from Hippocrates through the beginning of the modern bioethics period in Fletcher and Ramsey and on to the present. Readings in the earlier periods focus on the birth and development of the Hippocratic/Judeo-Christian tradition. Readings in the contemporary bioethicists place special focus on the secularization of bioethics as seen in such writers as Singer, Engelhardt, and Childress. The course may focus on either classical or contemporary readings. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 750 Bioethics Seminar - 3 Hours

This is a topical course conducted as a seminar on a question such as autonomy and informed consent, health care systems, resource allocation, genetic intervention, or end-of-life decision making. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 783 Criminal Procedure - 3 Hours

This course is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of important issues of criminal procedure arising during the investigation and early stages of prosecution of crimes. Topics include constitutional limits on arrests and stops, search and seizure, interrogation of suspects, right to counsel, exclusionary rule, identification procedures, and the privilege against self-incrimination. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 800 Wills, Trusts, and Estates - 3 Hours

This course examines rules pertaining to intestate succession, testamentary dispositions, execution, modification, and revocation of wills, testamentary capacity and will contests, interpretation of wills, protection of spouse and children, and the use of will substitutes. The creation, types, and characteristics of trusts are also examined, including coverage of the construction of trusts, trust administration, and wealth transfer taxation. Fiduciary administration issues also are considered. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 850 Exempt Organizations - 3 Hours

This course surveys government regulation and oversight of nonprofit organizations by federal and state tax agencies, and addresses the attorney's role in annual reporting requirements, managing unrelated business income, and bequests to charities. Nonprofit Law is a prerequisite for this class. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 855 Religious Organizations - 3 Hours

This course addresses the unique legal issues faced by religious organizations, with an emphasis on government regulation of religious organizations, the unique legal issues faced by churches, political activism by charities, and the handling of deputized giving and foreign charitable work. Nonprofit Law is a prerequisite for this class. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 860 Strategic Planning - 3 Hours

This course provides an overview and applications of strategic planning theories, methods, and group processes in different nonprofit organizational environments. The course will emphasize the application of strategic planning specifically to the mission, fundraising, operations and human resources of charities. Delivery mode: traditional, online, and accelerated.

MLS 861 Nonprofit Law - 3 Hours

This course is a study of nonprofit firms and the nonprofit sector. Topics include a survey of the role of nonprofits, theories and justifications of the nonprofit form, nonprofit statutes and other laws pertaining to nonprofits (e.g., the regulation of charitable solicitations), the formation, operation and dissolution of nonprofits, and tax and tax policy issues related to nonprofits. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 870 International Non-Government Organizations - 3 Hours

This course will explore the world of international nongovernmental organizations (INGOs) by reviewing the types of, and institutional issues related to, INGOs. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 901 International Criminal Law - 3 Hours

This course examines issues in the field of international criminal law, which encompass: individual responsibility for conduct that is labeled as criminal under international law; nation-state responsibility for conduct that may be considered a crime under international law; and, individual responsibility for conduct with international dimensions that is labeled a crime under U.S. domestic law. The course will expose students to the prosecution and punishment of individuals alleged to have committed crimes considered to be among the most serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law, including genocide, war crimes, and crimes against humanity. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 905 The Theory and Law of Armed Conflict - 3 Hours

This course studies the law of armed conflict (also known as the law of war and international humanitarian law) applicable in times of both international and non-international armed conflict, examining both the right of states to use force (*jus ad bellum*) and the rules governing conduct during conflict (*jus in bello*). Issues to be addressed include: the history, sources (e.g., treaty and custom), principles (e.g., proportionality, distinction), and application of this law; the obligations and protections of state and non-state combatants, non-combatants, civilians, and prisoners; permissible means and methods of warfare; and occupation and neutrality. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 910 The Right to Life and the Law - 3 Hours

This course studies the complex medical, social, legal, and ethical issues raised by topics such as: abortion, embryonic research, IVF, infanticide, and euthanasia. The course includes a survey of U.S. Supreme Court and other U.S. and international judicial decisions pertaining to these issues. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 913 The Rights of Women, Children, and Families - 3 Hours

This course is a survey of the international treaties and bodies intended to protect the rights of women, children, and families. Issues to be addressed include pertinent international instruments and principles of international law relating to gender-based discrimination; violence against women; children's rights to privacy, education, and information; pornography; slavery and servitude; child soldiers; and the implications of religious liberties on the family. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 914 The Rights of Minorities - 3 Hours

This course surveys international and regional efforts to articulate and protect the human rights of ethnic, racial, religious, linguistic, and national minorities, persons with disabilities, and indigenous groups. Related issues such as identity, autonomy, self-determination, xenophobia, nationalism, and racism will be addressed. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 919 International Human Rights Forum - Strasbourg, France - 3 Hours

This course covers the legal foundations for recognition, protection, and advocacy of human rights under international law. This unique course is taught over four weeks in June and July at the University of Strasbourg in Strasbourg, France. The course is presented in conjunction with the annual program of the International Institute of Human Rights, giving students the opportunity to study and network with law students, practitioners, and advocates from around the world. This also provides students with a first-hand experience of the competing views of human rights theories and practices. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 923 Introduction to International Human Rights Law - 3 Hours

This course provides an introduction to international human rights law. Topics include the foundational and historical development of human rights, and the development of international and regional legal systems to protect human rights. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 951 Religious Liberty and the Law - 3 Hours

This is an advanced course that examines critical issues of law and religion both in the United States and internationally. Issues to be addressed include the theological foundation of law and the legal foundation of theology; the relationship between church and state; religious discrimination and accommodation; prohibitions on blasphemy, apostasy, and defamation; persecution of and by religion; and the principles of law and regulations relating to churches and religious organizations, schools, and the military. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.

MLS 995 Genocide and the Law - 3 Hours

This course introduces students to the laws governing the crime of genocide. Topics include efforts to name and identify incidents as genocide, and then to prosecute and punish the perpetrators. Students will also investigate specific occurrences of genocide in the Ottoman Empire, Nazi Germany, Cambodia, Rwanda, Darfur, Iraq and Syria, and other places. Delivery mode: Traditional graduate, online, and accelerated.