

MASTER OF LEGAL STUDIES

The MLS Program Mission

The Master of Legal Studies (MLS) program at Trinity Law School is designed to give a broad understanding of law and legal systems for those students and professionals who seek to advance their careers in areas that involve legal compliance, regulations, contracts, negotiation, business, property, or human rights. The program provides a general introduction to legal principles that gives students already in the work force the ability to aid their employers in legal issues. The program will also provide students with the ability to assess the effectiveness of counsel retained by employers and use legal services effectively. In addition to a general survey of law and legal systems, the Trinity Law School MLS degree will provide opportunities for students to concentrate their degree program in Alternative Dispute Resolution, Bioethics, Church and Ministry Management, Contracts and Negotiation, Criminal Justice, Human Resources, Human Rights, or Nonprofit Organizations.

The MLS degree program is a 30-unit online degree program. Students complete a core curriculum of 15 units and must choose from one of several 15-unit tracks available for a total of 30 units.

Except as provided in rule 4.30 of the *Admissions Rules* (Legal education in a foreign state or country), completion of a professional law degree program at this law school other than for the Juris Doctor degree does not qualify a student to take the California Bar Examination or satisfy a requirement for admission to the practice law in California. It may not qualify a student to take the bar examination or to satisfy requirement for admission to the practice of law in any other jurisdiction. A student intending to seek admission to practice law should contact the admitting authority in the jurisdictions where the student intends to qualify to sit for the bar examination or to be admitted to practice for information regarding their legal education requirements.

MLS Student Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the MLS program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Demonstrate a basic knowledge of the law in areas applicable to a wide range of business and management positions.
2. Apply the law as a tool for effective and ethical decision-making.
3. Identify and formulate the legal issues and theories that impact their professional career.
4. Effectively interact with attorneys regarding the application of legal solutions to business and ministry challenges.
5. Recognize and resolve ethical issues by applying knowledge of secular law and biblical principles to content area topics.

Accreditation

Trinity Law School is a school of Trinity International University, which is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

Final Course Grades

Grading in the MLS program is on a criterion basis. Criteria are determined by the professor for each assignment. At the completion of a course, student scores for assignments will be totaled and translated into

a final letter grade. Based on the total point percentage, students will be assigned a final letter grade as follows:

Grading Scale:

A = 92-100%	B- = 80-80%	D+ = 68-69%
A- = 90-91%	C+ = 78-79%	D = 62-67%
B+ = 88-89%	C = 72-77%	D- = 60-61%
B = 82-87%	C- = 70-72%	F = 0-59%

Degree Requirements

To graduate with an MLS degree, students must successfully complete 30 units of study. A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above is required for the degree.

Graduation with Honors

The following criteria are established for the determination of graduation honors for students in the MLS program:

Summa cum laude	3.90
Magna cum laude	3.80
Cum laude	3.50

Dual Emphasis

Trinity Law School allows students to earn an MLS degree and up to two emphases. Students must complete the required 30 units of the first track and complete an additional 15 units of the other track to earn a second emphasis. If the classes for the two emphases overlap, students will be given credit for the three units of overlap, and must complete a minimum of 12 track-specific unique units.

Academic Year

The academic calendar consists of modular classes meeting for seven-week periods with a one-week break between each module. Full-time students will complete the program in two years. Please see the academic calendar (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/university/calendar/>) for module start and end dates, registration deadlines, and holidays.

Transferring units from Trinity Law School J.D. program

Students who either have completed courses at Trinity Law School or have graduated with their Juris Doctor degree from Trinity Law School can transfer up to 18 units from the completed Juris Doctor units toward the 30 required units for the MLS degree. These students must complete a minimum of 12 MLS units.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities requiring special arrangements will be accommodated upon petition accompanied by supporting documentation of the disability and upon approval of the Registrar. Special accommodations will be carefully tailored to meet the documented need in accordance with the Trinity Law School disability policy. An informational packet detailing the services available for students with disabilities can be obtained from the Registrar's Office.

Students with a Bachelor's Degree from a Foreign School

Trinity Law School accepts students who have earned a Bachelor's degree at a foreign institution. Students who have completed course work or earned degrees from foreign institutions must submit transcripts through a foreign credit evaluation service to determine eligibility for transfer credit. In addition, students for whom English is not the first language must demonstrate English competency by earning a minimum TOEFL score of 92 for the internet based examination, 237 for the computer based examination, or 580 for the paper based examination.

Core Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
MLS 505	Philosophy and Theology of Justice	3
MLS 521	Contracts	3
MLS 541	Torts	3
MLS 558	Legal Fundamentals	3
MLS 702	Business Organizations	3
Total Hours		15

Tracks to choose from (15 hours):

Alternative Dispute Resolution Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 670	Alternative Dispute Resolution	3
MLS 675	Mediation	3
MLS 680	Negotiation Theory and Practice	3
Electives (2 courses)		6
Choose 2 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 415	Labor Law and ADR	
MLS 686	Cross Cultural Dispute Resolution	
MLS 691	Conflict Management in Business and Nonprofit Organizations	
Total Hours		15

Bioethics Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 600	Constitutional Law	3
MLS 700	Introduction to Bioethics or MLS 700b Intensive Bioethics Institute	3
Electives (3 courses)		9
Choose 3 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 710	Current Issues in Bioethics	
MLS 710a	Bioethics National Conference	
MLS 710b	Bioethics Regional Conference	
MLS 720	Landmark Cases in Bioethics	
MLS 750	Bioethics Seminar	
MLS 760	Bioethics and Public Policy	
MLS 760a	The Public Policy Context & MLS 760b and Bioethics and Public Policy	
MLS 790	Advanced Bioethics Institute	
MLS 910	The Right to Life and the Law	
Total Hours		15

Church and Ministry Management Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 600	Constitutional Law	3
MLS 850	Exempt Organizations	3
MLS 861	Nonprofit Law	3
Electives (2 courses)		6
Choose 2 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 400	Human Resources Compliance	
MLS 410	Staffing and Compensation Administration	
MLS 660	Property	
MLS 800	Wills, Trusts, and Estates	
MLS 855	Religious Organizations	
MLS 860	Strategic Planning	
MLS 951	Religious Liberty and the Law	
MLS 543	Human Trafficking and Economic Development–Cambodia (Study Abroad)	
Total Hours		15

Contracts and Negotiation Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 670	Alternative Dispute Resolution	3
MLS 675	Mediation	3
MLS 680	Negotiation Theory and Practice	3
Electives (2 courses)		6
Choose 2 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 415	Labor Law and ADR	
MLS 523	Contract Drafting	
MLS 686	Cross Cultural Dispute Resolution	
MLS 691	Conflict Management in Business and Nonprofit Organizations	
MLS 962	Real Estate Transactions	
Total Hours		15

Criminal Justice Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 531	Criminal Law	3
MLS 783	Criminal Procedure	3
Electives (3 courses)		9
Choose 3 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 540	Human Trafficking	
MLS 565	Juvenile Law and Delinquency	
MLS 567	Race, Ethnicity, Gender, and Criminal Justice	
MLS 570	Forensic Mental Health	
MLS 572	Victimology and Restorative Justice	
MLS 573	Cyber Criminology	
MLS 575	Law and Theory of Corrections	

MLS 543 Human Trafficking and Economic Development–Cambodia (Study Abroad)

Total Hours 15

General Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 600	Constitutional Law	3
MLS 660	Property	3
Electives (3 courses)		9
Choose 3 elective courses from those listed below or from the other available tracks		
MLS 531	Criminal Law	
MLS 783	Criminal Procedure	
MLS 800	Wills, Trusts, and Estates	
Total Hours		15

Human Resources Management Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 400	Human Resources Compliance	3
MLS 531	Criminal Law	3
Electives (3 courses)		9
Choose 3 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 410	Staffing and Compensation Administration	
MLS 414	Employment Discrimination	
MLS 415	Labor Law and ADR	
MLS 421	Performance Assessment	
MLS 860	Strategic Planning	
Total Hours		15

Human Rights Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 600	Constitutional Law	3
MLS 901	International Criminal Law	3
MLS 923	Introduction to International Human Rights Law	3
Electives (2 courses)		6
Choose 2 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 540	Human Trafficking	
MLS 700	Introduction to Bioethics	
MLS 905	The Theory and Law of Armed Conflict	
MLS 910	The Right to Life and the Law	
MLS 913	The Rights of Vulnerable Persons: Women, Children and the Impoverished	3
MLS 914	The Rights of Minorities	
MLS 951	Religious Liberty and the Law	
MLS 995	Genocide and the Law	
MLS 543	Human Trafficking and Economic Development–Cambodia (Study Abroad)	

MLS 920 & MLS 921	International Institute of Human Rights and International Forum on Human Rights (Study Abroad)	
Total Hours		18

Nonprofit Organizations Track

Code	Title	Hours
Concentration		
MLS 850	Exempt Organizations	3
MLS 861	Nonprofit Law	3
Electives (3 courses)		9
Choose 3 elective courses from those listed below		
MLS 410	Staffing and Compensation Administration	
MLS 660	Property	
MLS 800	Wills, Trusts, and Estates	
MLS 830	Legal and Ethical Issues in Fundraising for Nonprofits	
MLS 855	Religious Organizations	
MLS 860	Strategic Planning	
MLS 870	International Non-Governmental Organizations	
MLS 543	Human Trafficking and Economic Development–Cambodia (Study Abroad)	
Total Hours		15