

FREDRIC G. LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

UF LAW

LL.M. in Comparative Law





“I am able to personally devote time and attention to each and every student.”

THE LL.M. IN COMPARATIVE LAW PROGRAM at the University of Florida's Fredric G. Levin College of Law is designed for foreign law school graduates who want to hone their legal skills, gain detailed knowledge in fields of United States law of special interest to them, and experience living and studying in a community uniquely suited for academic pursuits. Our rich curriculum, certificate programs, and diverse, world renowned faculty provide students with the opportunity to create their own individualized course of study.

We are very selective in admitting students. Those who are admitted have excellent credentials, having graduated near the top of their class from some of the best law schools around the world. We usually enroll fewer than 20 each year. As a result, students are able to interact extensively with each other, and as the director, I am able to personally devote time and attention to each and every student.

We appreciate your interest in the University of Florida LL.M. in Comparative Law Program. If, after examining this catalog, you have any questions, please contact me personally at HUDSON@LAW.UFL.EDU.

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David M. Hudson
Director, LL.M. in Comparative Law Program
Professor of Law



“The program is unique because its small class size ensures foreign students of the extra attention we all need. I found [it] to be as enriching as it was challenging, making it probably my most rewarding single year in school.”

- Perry M. Muhebwe, Uganda

Florida's LL.M. in Comparative Law

DESIGNED EXCLUSIVELY FOR GRADUATES FROM LAW SCHOOLS OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES AND TAILORED TO YOUR INTERESTS.

The LL.M. in Comparative Law Program is designed exclusively for graduates of foreign law schools who want to enhance their understanding of the American legal system and the English common law system from which it evolved. Unlike other law schools, Florida's LL.M. program caters to the individual through a course of study tailored to the needs and objectives of each student, a limited annual enrollment of between 15 and 20 students, and individualized counseling by the director, faculty and staff. LL.M. students select from more than 100 courses and seminars offered each year.

The program builds on the University of Florida's renowned international studies programs and decades of involvement by its law faculty in international legal issues, including trade, environmental and land use law, human rights, law revision, and constitutional reform. The law school has established programs and relationships in Central and Latin America, Asia, and Europe, with specific emphasis on Poland, Brazil, France, Korea, Mexico, China and South Africa.

“My year in the Comparative Law Program has been the best I have ever had in school. Every component you need to succeed is available — outstanding, comprehensive faculty; helpful and warm administration; friendly and diversified student body. I only wish I could stay another year.”

— Amine M. Fawzi, Morocco



Lawyers from around the world who want to enhance their understanding of the American legal system are attracted to the UF Law Comparative Law Program. The Class of 2008 (above) hailed from Brazil, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Tanzania, France, Nigeria, Venezuela and Bulgaria.

Diverse and Accomplished Student Body

Students accepted to the LL.M. in Comparative Law program at Florida join a talented and ambitious student body with diverse interests, ethnic backgrounds, ages and experience. Florida's student body includes approximately 1,200 full-time J.D. students; 100 lawyers enrolled in the Graduate Tax Program; and up to 20 foreign lawyers in the LL.M. in Comparative Law Program. Approximately half are female and about 25 percent are minorities.

Numerous opportunities exist to participate in student organizations and journals, such as the International Law Society or the Florida Journal of International Law. Several student organizations, including Moot Court, Trial Team and Law Review, are recognized for excellence at state, regional and national levels. Florida students develop not only the knowledge and skills needed in today's rapidly changing legal profession, but the friendships and professional colleagues that make law study one of life's most rewarding and empowering experiences.



FACULTY AND CURRICULUM

FACULTY

Florida's faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and legal scholarship. Their diverse professional activities and areas of expertise allow for a wide array of unique and interesting courses and exciting curricular concentrations. The involvement of leading private practitioners helps keep course work on the cutting edge of developments impacting the legal profession. Faculty members are known and respected worldwide, and are leaders in bar associations, top legal educational organizations, and many state, national and international organizations. The faculty is larger than that of many law schools, and includes approximately 60 full-time professors and 30 lawyers working as legal writing and clinical instructors, social policy and environmental researchers, and law librarians.

CURRICULUM

Florida's comprehensive curriculum prepares students from around the world for a broad range of traditional and nontraditional legal careers. Course work develops students' analyti-

cal ability, knowledge of the theory and practice of law, communication skills and understanding of the legal profession's codes of responsibility, ethics and commitment to professionalism. Teaching methods include the traditional "case" and "Socratic" methods as well as problems, simulations, role-playing, video-taping and computer-assisted instruction.

More than 100 courses and 30 seminars each year support a variety of legal practice areas, including environmental and land use, estates and trusts, corporate, media, family, intellectual property, tax, and international and comparative law.

The college's centers and institutes complement the academic program and bring together faculty, students and practitioners with similar interests in areas such as social policy and public interest law, children and family law, dispute resolution, international financial crimes studies and the study of race relations.

For lists of faculty, courses and seminars visit: www.law.ufl.edu/programs/comparative/courses.shtml.

A GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

The Levin College of Law is affiliated with 60 countries, operates specialized cooperative programs with nine international universities, and hosts noted visiting world scholars and faculty. It ensures international emphasis throughout the curriculum, and offers American Bar Association-approved study abroad programs, initiatives in International Trade Law, a pioneering Visiting Foreign Scholar Research Program, and a history of emphasis on legal and policy issues in the Americas.

Since the program's inception in 1994, more than 150 lawyers from Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Ecuador, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Korea, Lithuania, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands Antilles, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Switzerland, Taiwan, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Venezuela have earned their LL.M. in Comparative Law from the University of Florida Levin College of Law.

LL.M. Degree Requirements

THE LL.M. IN COMPARATIVE LAW PROGRAM OFFERS A CHALLENGING COURSE OF STUDY TAUGHT BY SOME OF THE COUNTRY'S BEST FACULTY.

Students earn the LL.M. in Comparative Law upon successful completion of 26 semester hours of work — including a research paper (two credit hours) supervised by a faculty member, and four credits for the required three-week “Introduction to American Law” course given the summer before fall enrollment.

“Introduction to American Law” introduces students to various aspects of the study of law in the U.S., including the Socratic method of instruction, case briefing,

legal research, simulation exercises and final examinations. It also helps prepare students for successful interaction with American students and professors in J.D. courses, and helps students acclimate to the law school and university community prior to the start of the academic year.

During fall and spring semesters, with the director’s approval, students choose their remaining credits from more than 100 courses and seminars offered each year in the J.D. and LL.M. in Taxation curriculums. Students also benefit from a weekly tutorial session with the director.

Students receive letter grades in accordance with University of Florida policy, and must achieve a 3.0 (4.0 scale) grade point average (GPA) to earn the LL.M. While no specific grade distribution or grading curve for LL.M. candidates is prescribed, the faculty recognizes that GPA requirements for the LL.M. differ from the requirements for a J.D. — and that foreign law graduates for whom English may be a second language may face difficulties that the typical UF law student does not.

Certificate Programs

UF offers certificate programs for lawyers seeking a broad-based understanding of United States law in specific practice areas. Students interested in earning a certificate must complete at least 15 of the 26 credit hours required for the LL.M. in Comparative Law degree in approved course work in a specific certificate area.

A member of the faculty from the program area serves as the adviser and writing supervisor for students pursuing a certificate in that area. Students may pursue certificates in International Business and Trade Law, or Environmental and Land Use Law.



Professor Jeffrey Davis (above) is a part of the nationally and internationally renowned faculty of UF Law that is larger and more diverse than the faculties of many U.S. law schools. The outstanding faculty help the Levin College of Law earn its ranking each year as the one of the nation’s top law schools.



FACILITIES ON THE LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW CAMPUS

Students at the UF College of Law will enjoy the benefits of a \$25 million expansion project that creates a legal learning setting second to none. Located on the wooded western border of the UF campus, the law school is housed in state-of-the-art facilities that include an expanded library, two new education towers with modern, comfortable classrooms, and a Ceremonial Classroom that seats up to 160 for conferences, receptions and special sessions.

As one student put it, “the quality of the law school’s physical appearance matches the quality of education a student receives here. The facilities are spacious, bright and ready to take us into the future.”

Most classrooms offer advanced technology such as wireless Internet access, outlets for laptop computers, and “smart podia” for presentations. Faculty members can easily incorporate web-based or multi-media instruction into the classroom.

“The College of Law creates a great academic atmosphere, with a wonderful variety of resources, small class sizes and excellent teachers.”

CHILES LEGAL INFORMATION CENTER

Blending the tradition of the past with the technology of the future, the Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center offers rare books and historic displays alongside high speed data ports and ergonomic study areas. The foyer replicates the entrance to Bryan Hall, home to the UF law school from 1914 to 1969, and opens up to spacious rooms with leather arm chairs and floor-to-ceiling views of azaleas and moss-draped oak trees.

As the laboratory and social heart of the law school, the three-story library houses more than 600,000 volumes in open stack displays. Students also have access to 3.5 million-plus volumes in UF libraries and 43 million titles held by libraries throughout the world as well as databases that provide access to federal and state laws, periodicals, news articles and background materials.

— Martin Blumann, Germany

FLORIDA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

Qualified students can gain valuable, practical experience by researching, writing and editing for the *Florida Journal of International Law*. The publication is devoted to timely discussion of legal issues relating to international, comparative and foreign law. Its subscribers include practitioners, jurists, and legal scholars from around the world. The *Journal* is published four times a year and is one of four co-curricular journals produced at the Levin College of Law. Recent articles have covered a variety of subjects such as international commercial and trade law, intellectual property law, human rights law, terrorism, national security law, war crimes tribunals, international environmental law and maritime law.

Admissions

How to Apply

For an application, contact Director David M. Hudson, LL.M. in Comparative Law Program, University of Florida Levin College of Law, P.O. Box 117643, Gainesville, FL 32611-7643, USA. Phone: 352-273-0775, Fax: 352-392-9419. To download the forms, go to: www.law.ufl.edu/programs/comparative.

The application form is in two parts. The first part must be completed and sent, along with official copies of your transcripts and diploma in the original language (with certified English translations), TOEFL report and a nonrefundable \$30 application fee (check or money order payable in U.S. dollars) to: Office of Admissions, P.O. Box 2946, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-2946, USA. The second part of the application, titled "DEPARTMENT COPY," must be completed and sent, along with transcripts, a personal statement, letters of recommendation, and TOEFL scores, to Professor Hudson at the preceding address. Neither the LSAT nor GRE are required.

Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Admission decisions will begin to be made, on a rolling basis, in January. While the Comparative Law Program has no absolute application deadline, no guarantee of consideration is possible for applications not completed by April 30. An application is not complete until we receive the application form and all supporting documents (transcripts, TOEFL report, etc.)

Admissions

The qualified applicant must:

1. Have a law degree with high academic standing from a recognized foreign university.
2. Have a thorough knowledge of the English language. Students whose primary language is not English are required to take the Test Of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and should achieve a minimum score of 600 overall.
3. Submit completed application form, personal state-

ment / proposed study plan, letters of recommendation, and college and law school transcripts (or nearest equivalent record of grades and rank). Transcripts must be in the original language (and if not English, must be accompanied by a certified English translation). Two letters of recommendation (in English or accompanied by a certified English translation) from law professors or other references commenting in detail on the scholastic and professional qualifications of the applicant are required.

4. Prove sufficient financial support in the form of a letter of credit from a sponsor or bank demonstrating the ability to pay for expenses.

Personal interviews are not part of the application process. However, a typed personal statement recounting your background and why you have chosen to pursue the LL.M. in Comparative Law is required. You should include your areas of special interest and career goals; consider your written personal statement to be "an interview on paper." Work experience following the first professional degree is encouraged, and applicants who demonstrate a commitment to careers in teaching and public service are preferred. Outstanding achievement in the legal profession is a positive factor.





TECHNOLOGY AT THE LEVIN COLLEGE OF LAW

COMPUTER REQUIREMENT

The sophisticated use of computers and computerized legal research is an essential component of student life and learning at the Fredric G. Levin College of Law. Information is disseminated via e-mail or listserves, faculty members may utilize Internet-based courses or make classroom presentations available on their website, and academic advice and registration is available online through UF's ISIS program. Because of this major emphasis on access to network information, the college requires that all entering J.D. and LL.M. students own a portable notebook or laptop computer with the following:

- Microsoft Windows XP Professional Edition or Microsoft Windows Vista Business/Ultimate. Law school computer applications, including electronic courseware, run under Microsoft Windows. Several applications will not run on Macintosh computers, which do not meet these requirements.

- CD/DVD drive.
- Wireless Ethernet port for network connectivity at the law school (and broadband connectivity – Cable or DSL – at home), and a modem meeting at least the v.90 standard for those without broadband at home. Detailed specifications are available online at <http://www.law.ufl.edu/services/laptop.shtml>.
- Microsoft Office Suite (Word) or Corel Office Suite (WordPerfect). Electronic work is often required to be submitted in Word or WordPerfect, which are standard and commonly used in the legal profession. (Microsoft Works is not accepted by many professors.)
- Software for e-mail, updated virus protection and Internet access, available on CD-ROM in the UF bookstore at a nominal cost.
- Letter-quality ink-jet or laser printer. (Printing at UF and the law school is provided at 13 cents per page.)

TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Services available to students include:

- Wireless Internet access in classrooms, library and study areas.
- Individual AC power outlets at seats in most classrooms to facilitate note taking on laptop computers. (Laptop computer use in classrooms is at the professor's discretion.)
- University of Florida GatorLink accounts, which provide 90 hours per month of local dial-up Internet access, after which a nominal fee is charged. Accounts are available following registration, and necessary for wireless access.
- UF e-mail addresses (yourname@ufl.edu). To ensure consistency of information dissemination to students, UF will not permit GatorLink addresses to be forwarded to third party accounts.
- Licenses for the two principal computer-assisted legal research services: Lexis-Nexis and Westlaw.

The law school's student financial aid office budgets up to \$2,500 toward the cost of portable computer equipment. The Levin College of Law is not responsible for the maintenance, upgrade, or loss of equipment.

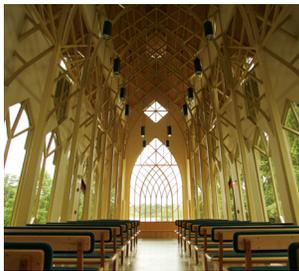
Additional information is available on the College of Law Technology Services website at <http://www.law.ufl.edu/services>.

HOUSING INFORMATION

For information regarding on- and off-campus housing, contact the University of Florida Division of Housing, P.O. Box 112100, Gainesville, FL 32611-2100; Phone: 352-392-2161; Fax: 352-392-6819; E-mail: houinfo@housing.ufl.edu. New and current UF law students also may access the UF College of Law Roommate Referral System on the web for assistance in finding roommates. Go to www.law.ufl.edu, click on "Admissions," then "Housing."

Law Study at Florida

THE LL.M. IN COMPARATIVE LAW PROGRAM IS A DISTINCTIVE PART OF A PREEMINENT RESEARCH UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA.



UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

The LL.M. in Comparative Law Program is a distinctive part of a preeminent research university and of a law school that is one of the nation's most comprehensive. Founded in 1853, the University of Florida is one of only 30 public universities in the prestigious Association of American Universities — which recognizes outstanding North American graduate research universities. Professional degrees are offered in law, dentistry, medicine, pharmacy and veterinary medicine.

Founded in 1909, the Levin College of Law is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools. Student and faculty research is supported by one of the nation's leading law libraries, the newly expanded and renovated Lawton Chiles Legal Information Center.

NATURAL BEAUTY, WORLD CLASS CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

The University of Florida offers a wide variety of social and extracurricular activities, including sporting events, art and natural history exhibits, performance arts, several gyms and pools. A Center for Performing Arts features Broadway touring productions, operas, ballet, symphony orchestras

and world-famous performers, while local venues offer first-class theater and popular productions.

With a population of approximately 110,000, Gainesville is located between the Atlantic Ocean and Gulf of Mexico, less than two hours by car from either coast — as well as from major cities such as Orlando, Tampa and Jacksonville — and is on the I-75 corridor halfway between Atlanta and Miami. Its moderate temperature averages 70 degrees.

Money magazine and other publications consistently rate the home of the University of Florida Levin College of Law as one of America's most livable cities, and *Outdoor Explorer* magazine identified Gainesville as one of the nation's top 10 cities for outdoor recreation. The area is dotted with lakes, rivers and springs, and offers numerous opportunities for outdoor sports, including boating, diving, bicycling and hiking.

Local historical sites, festivals, special events, shopping and award-winning restaurants enhance Gainesville's rich cultural and entertainment offerings. UF's Gator football, basketball and other top-ranked men's and women's athletic programs offer an exciting variety of sports activities.



WWW.LAW.UFL.EDU/PROGRAMS/COMPARATIVE

“I particularly enjoy the peacefulness of the natural environment, and that we can study in beautiful surroundings. I feel very comfortable because professors are accessible and encourage an exchange of ideas and different views.”

- Songhong Wang, China

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

	2008-2009	2009-2010
SUMMER TERM		
Suggested date of arrival	July 21	July 20
“Introduction to American Law” begins	July 28	July 27
“Introduction to American Law” ends	August 16	August 15
FALL SEMESTER		
Classes start	August 25	August 24
Classes end	December 5	December 4
Exam/reading period starts	December 8	December 5
Exam/reading period ends	December 19	December 18
SPRING SEMESTER		
Classes start	January 9	January 4
Classes end	April 24	April 16
Exam/reading period starts	April 27	April 19
Exam/reading period ends	May 8	April 30
Graduation	May 15	May 7

* Dates subject to change. Contact the LL.M. in Comparative Law Office to verify.



UF Law:

UF LAW ONLINE

Access the latest on UF Levin College of Law faculty, programs and events, a variety of legal links and more at

www.law.ufl.edu

- One of the NATION'S LARGEST law schools, with 1,300 students, approximately 60 tenure/tenure track faculty and 40-plus other full-time faculty who support the college through clinical, research, skills training and administrative programs. It offers J.D. certificate programs in Environmental and Land Use Law, Estates and Trusts Practice, Family Law, Intellectual Property Law, and International and Comparative Law; an extensive array of joint degree programs; specialized centers, institutes and program areas; and strong clinical offerings.
- A high quality, comprehensive law school, with LEADING PROGRAMS in GRADUATE TAXATION, ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND USE LAW, and FAMILY LAW.
- Has offered STRONG INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS for more than three decades, and many faculty are experts in international legal issues. These programs and its LL.M. in Comparative Law Program for foreign lawyers expand the school's curriculum and international offerings and strengthen its ties with programs and scholars around the globe.
- Has a LONG-STANDING TRADITION FOR PREPARING ITS GRADUATES FOR SIGNIFICANT LEADERSHIP ROLES. Its alumni include four presidents of the American Bar Association, the majority of The Florida Bar presidents, 34 judges in U.S. federal courts, four governors of Florida, and hundreds of state senators and representatives and Florida Cabinet members. Nine graduates became college presidents, including at UF. A dozen have served as deans of law schools.

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA

Levin College of Law

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