LAW - MASTER OF STUDIES IN LAW (MSL)

Colorado Law’s Master of Studies in Law (MSL) degree is a one-year, 28-credit, no-LSAT-required program that enables students who hold at least an undergraduate degree to obtain legal training short of a full Juris Doctor (JD). Increasingly, emerging job markets have openings that require some legal knowledge and employers are assigning a number of legal tasks traditionally performed by lawyers to non-lawyers. Colorado Law’s MSL will prepare students to obtain and excel in those positions. MSL students will be admitted into one of two specialty tracks: ethics and compliance or patent law.

Ethics and Compliance Curriculum

The ethics and compliance track trains students to become compliance and ethics officers at large corporations, as well as at nonprofit entities, such as colleges, universities, and hospitals. These organizations are subject to an increasing number of legal requirements and need trained professionals to lead effective in-house programs to ensure compliance with statutes and regulations.

This track prepares students to develop, improve, and manage ethics and compliance programs and help organizations obey the law, reduce the risk of fraud, other law-breaking, and misconduct, and mitigate their firms’ legal liability and reputation risk. Students have the opportunity to focus on specific fields of law, such as privacy/cybersecurity, healthcare and financial services.

Requirements

MSL students will be admitted into one of two specialty tracks and take courses specifically tailored for that track. The MSL in patent law is designed to train prospective patent agents. The MSL in ethics and compliance is designed to prepare prospective ethics and compliance officers in privacy/cybersecurity, health care and financial services. We anticipate offering additional specialty tracks in other areas in subsequent years.

All MSL students will take two courses designed specifically for MSL students—one that introduces them to the American legal system, and one that introduces them to legal research, writing, and analysis. In addition to those introductory courses, MSL students will take required and elective courses, alongside JD students, relevant to their specialty track.