



Study Plan LL.M. Educational Program with American University - WCL

Important Rules

- This study plan is designed for students taking part in the mentioned LL.M. Educational Program and spending the academic year 2025-2026 at American University Washington College of Law (WCL). The list of courses to be taken abroad may be subject to changes should the academic offer at WCL be amended.
- Interested students are required to read and understand this study plan and its rules. These are to be considered binding to the successful completion of the LL.M. Educational Program. Changes to the study plan are usually not possible and any request in this sense must be conveyed to the International Development Office and the academic coordinator.
- During the mobility, students will be subject to the rules of the partner university.
- At the end of the program, if compliant with both Luiss and WCL academic requirements, students will obtain both the LL.M. Degree (issued by the WCL) and the Single Cycle Master's Degree in Law (issued by Luiss).

Study Plan

LL.M. at WCL is 24 USA credits¹ (48 ECTS taught courses).

During the V year, students will study at the WCL in one of the following LL.M.:

- **LL.M. in International Legal Studies** open to students majoring in Diritto Internazionale, Diritto Penale, Diritto Societario e Tributario, Diritto ed Economia delle Imprese, European Law, Diritto civile
- **LL.M. in Law and Government** open to students majoring in Diritto Penale, Diritto societario e Tributario, Diritto ed Economia delle Imprese, Diritto Civile, Diritto Amministrativo
- **LL.M. in International Human Rights and Humanitarian Law** open to students majoring in Diritto Internazionale
- **LL.M. in Intellectual Property and Technology** open to students majoring in Law and Innovation, Diritto ed Economia delle Imprese
- **LL.M. in Advocacy** open to students majoring in Diritto Penale
- **LLM in International Business and Trade Law** open to students majoring in European Law
- **LLM in Gender, International and Comparative Law** open to students majoring in Diritto internazionale, Diritto penale, Diritto civile

¹ Transfer credits with a 2:1 ratio.



- **LLM in International Arbitration and Business Law** open to students majoring in Diritto societario e tributario, Diritto ed economia delle imprese, Diritto internazionale, Diritto civile

General rules for all LL.M.:

Non-common law trained students are required to take in the first semester:

- American Legal Institutions (LAW-580-001; 2 credits)
- Legal Research and Writing (LAW-580-002; 2 credits)

LL.M. candidates can complete up to 6 credit hours of the 24 credits required through independent research and writing under the supervision of a faculty member, externships, and non-law classes at other schools at American University.

Writing Requirements:

There are two options to comply with the LL.M. writing requirement:

- **Research Track:** LL.M. candidates are automatically in the research track. They must successfully complete two research papers that demonstrate a high degree of skill in legal scholarship and writing. The papers can be written in connection with a class, or through independent research and writing.
- **Practical Skills Track:** LL.M. candidates must register for and successfully complete an externship for credit, as well as write one research paper.

Each research paper must contain at least 3,500 words. The memo written for the Legal Research and Writing course (LAW-580-002) counts as one of these papers.

For more information, please visit this website:

<https://www.wcl.american.edu/academics/degrees/LL.M./>

Thesis and Graduation

- Students will complete the thesis for WCL following the Partner University deadlines, during the mobility period.
- Students will identify a Luiss supervisor and will need to follow the regular [Luiss procedure and deadlines](#) for the graduation at Luiss.
- Once returned to Luiss, they will defend the Master thesis at Luiss in July, in October / November (depending on the availability of transcript of records), or March/April.

Grade Conversion and Conversion Table

The academic activities recognized by the partner university will be transferred according to a Block Transfer Recognition.

During the V year the student will follow courses and take exams at the Partner University, in order to receive the LL.M. Degree. Upon his/her return, all the courses reported on the "Transcript of Records" issued by the foreign university will be recognized on the Luiss student's career through a Block Transfer



Recognition, which will automatically recognize all the courses of the Luiss profile chosen (IV year II semester and V year I and II semester).

Grades will be transferred based on the calculation of the weighted average of the LL.M. grades. The weighted average grade of the courses taken abroad is converted following the grade conversion table (see below). Please note that the LL.M. thesis grade is excluded from the calculation. Grades will not be rounded up under any circumstance.

WCL letter grade	Luiss
A/4.0	30 lode
A-/3.7	30
B+/3.3	29
B / 3.0	28
B-/2.7	27
C/2.0	24
F/0	<18

While every effort will be made to provide students with complete, accurate and timely information, Luiss reserves the right to change, amend, modify or revoke the aforementioned program. Luiss is not responsible for any cancellation or modification due to events beyond its control. If the program is cancelled or modified for these reasons, Luiss will inform all interested students in a timely manner.