



HAMLIN
UNIVERSITY

School of Law

**MASTER IN THE
STUDY OF LAW**

THE HAMLIN MSL





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UNIVERSITY

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Learn to think like a lawyer.

Hamline University's **Master in the Study of Law (MSL)** program is designed for working professionals who recognize that a sophisticated understanding of law and conflict resolution will make them more valuable in their current job — or the next one.

The Hamline MSL is offered in two concentrations, Conflict Resolution and Healthcare Compliance, powered by two of Hamline Law's nationally renowned centers of excellence — the Dispute Resolution Institute and the Health Law Institute. Students take regular law school courses alongside full-time law students. And they can complete the degree in 12 months.

The Hamline MSL is for anyone whose work involves law or who routinely receives the advice and counsel of lawyers, including a wide range of non-lawyer professionals such as:

- Human resources and employee benefits professionals
- Health care administrators and compliance officers
- School and university administrators
- Risk managers
- Government regulators
- Business executives

HAMLINE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Small classes, top-ranked professors, and a spirit of collaboration distinguish Hamline Law, where students are challenged to become competent, professional, and ethical lawyers with a global perspective. Hamline Law is located on the main university campus, and is home to nationally recognized Institutes, ranking third in Alternative Dispute Resolution and in the top twenty for Health Law programs.

At Hamline Law, we understand that today more than ever, meaningful experience needs to be the core of any legal education, which is why Hamline integrates skill training and work experience throughout every facet of our curriculum. We are also committed to developing compelling new ways to instruct and connect our students, which is why we were recently named one of the nation's most innovative law schools by *National Jurist*.

Hamline University, established in 1854, is the oldest university in the state of Minnesota and attracts a diverse group of 5,000 undergraduate and graduate students who develop their passions working alongside professors invested in their success. Challenged to create and apply knowledge in local and global contexts, Hamline students develop an ethic of inclusive leadership and service, civic responsibility, and social justice. Hamline is the top-ranked university in Minnesota in its class according to *U.S. News & World Report*, and the only Minnesota school in its class to be considered a "best value."



Professor James Coben

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTORS

As colleagues working together in Hamline Law's top-ranked Dispute Resolution Institute, we have spent the last two decades designing and implementing graduate legal education classes and certificate programs at home and abroad that bring law and other graduate students, lawyers, and other professionals together in multi-disciplinary classrooms. Time and again, we have personally witnessed the vitality of such mixed classroom environments. Everyone benefits. Our JD students have gained invaluable perspective from potential future clients. The non-JD students have gained unique insights on how lawyers think.

No surprise then that we are thrilled about the opportunity to launch Hamline Law's latest innovation in legal education — the Master in the Study of Law (MSL). This new degree program continues and builds upon our very successful Hamline Law tradition of multi-disciplinary education and provides students who do not wish to complete a JD program and secure a law license with an alternate path to a valuable

post-graduate legal education degree. We know from experience that MSL students will thrive in our Hamline law school classrooms. We know from experience that our JD students will be better lawyers because of their MSL peers. And both pools of students, as well as their current and future employers, will benefit from the MSL program's emphasis on sophisticated conflict resolution and creative problem-solving.

We couldn't be happier than to be there at the beginning!

James Coben,
MSL Academic Director

Kitty Atkins,
MSL Managing Director



PROGRAM OVERVIEW

At Hamline Law, we believe:

1. Law impacts virtually all aspects of contemporary life.
2. Many professionals come into contact with law and lawyers and have to conduct their careers in ways that require some knowledge of law; business activity has become increasingly regulated; legal compliance is a frequent and early consideration in most transactions.
3. “Bridge” professionals — those individuals who can combine technical expertise in a particular field with basic legal knowledge — are best positioned to solve complex, interdisciplinary problems.
4. Law is more than just cases, statutes, and regulations — it is a way of thinking, a culture all its own that takes immersion to fully understand.
5. Proactive conflict management, creative problem-solving, and state-of-the-art dispute resolution are critical for all organizations; effectively managing conflict is a science that can be learned.

With these five themes in mind, the Hamline MSL is designed to offer students a rigorous, integrated approach to legal education, including a sophisticated exposure to conflict resolution. Program graduates will have a nuanced understanding of how their work affects and is affected by the American legal system, and will receive training in practical dispute resolution and problem-solving that is applicable in all work environments.

THE HAMLINE MSL PROVIDES:

- Immersion in the “culture of law” (thinking like a lawyer) that will make students superb and sophisticated consumers of legal advice and information;
- Education about how law and legal process work in general; understanding of how laws are made and policies implemented;
- Tools to evaluate legal authority and how to apply it in diverse factual situations;
- Perspective on the legal implications of workplace decisions;
- Rigorous training in writing clearly and analytically;
- Basic legal research tools; and
- Mastery of conflict resolution theory and practical skills, including negotiation and creative problem-solving

The last bullet point is a feature that makes the Hamline MSL unique among comparable U.S. programs. Ranked third in the nation in dispute resolution (*America’s Best Graduate Schools: U.S. News & World Report 2013* edition), Hamline has long recognized that evolution in conflict resolution management is critical. With two decades of experience teaching law students together with other professionals in our Dispute Resolution Institute January term, summer institutes and study abroad programs, a key goal of our curriculum is producing conflict interveners who can deliver real value to employers through their ability to creatively anticipate and solve complex problems.

PLEASE NOTE: This program is not approved by the American Bar Association for training paralegals and does not qualify recipients for the practice of law.



MSL CURRICULUM

MSL students complete 30 academic credits, including 10 credits in four required foundation courses, 17 credits in an elective subject area concentration, and a 3-credit capstone seminar or research action project. MSL students learn side-by-side with JD students and may elect to take day, weekend, January term, summer institute and/or study abroad classes offered as part of the regular Hamline law curriculum. Taking advantage of the flexible scheduling options Hamline offers for working professionals, the program can be completed in one calendar year (including summer and January term courses); most students will take 18 to 24 months to complete 30 credits.

FOUNDATIONS IN LAW (6 credits)

Legal Method and Ethics (3 credits)

Torts 1 or Contracts 1 (3 credits)

Central to the MSL experience is the concept of immersion in the culture of law. This is best accomplished by giving MSL students the opportunity to experience at least some of the required first year “doctrinal” courses that so powerfully shape lawyer’s critical thinking and vocational identity. Thus, at a minimum, each MSL student must complete either Torts I or Contracts I. To prepare them for academic success in these first-year doctrinal classrooms, each new MSL cohort of students will also participate in a rigorous, skills-intensive legal methods and ethics course.

FOUNDATIONS IN PROBLEM-SOLVING (4 credits)

Theories of Conflict (2 credits)

Negotiation (2 credits)

Nothing could be more fundamental to problem-solving than a solid grounding in the theory and practice of conflict and conflict response. Recognizing this reality, Hamline has been a leader among U.S. law schools in regularly offering an interdisciplinary course in the theory of conflict. The course is required for all MSL students. Also required is our introductory course in negotiation. The course offers a theoretical framework for understanding negotiation practice in a variety of contexts, addresses the fundamental skills of systematic and thorough negotiation preparation, the ongoing management of a negotiation process, and the identification and achievement of optimal agreements. Legal and ethical constraints of negotiation also are considered.

ELECTIVE SUBJECT AREA CONCENTRATION (17 credits)

Each MSL student will focus their studies in a 17-credit subject area concentration — each includes a set of required courses but also the opportunity to explore elective subjects from the rich array of course offerings in the JD curriculum. The program’s initial concentrations are organized around the law school’s top-ranked institutes in dispute resolution and health care.

Conflict Resolution Concentration	Healthcare Compliance Concentration
Arbitration (2 credits)	Compliance Summer Institute (3 credits)
Cross-Cultural Dispute Resolution (2 credits)	Compliance Laws and Regulations (2 credits)
Dispute Systems Design (2 credits)	HIPAA Privacy (2 credits)
Mediation (3 credits)	Health Care Compliance Skills: Auditing, Investigating and Reporting (3 credits)
Electives (8 credits)	Governance and Ethics in Health Care Compliance (2 credits)
	Compliance Capstone (no credit; 2-day residency program)
	Electives (5 credits)

CAPSTONE (3 credits)

MSL students may choose to enroll in a regularly scheduled law school seminar or complete a research action project for their capstone experience.

Students choosing the seminar option are required to complete a substantial thesis-quality research paper., MSL students electing the research action project option will complete a project of direct relevance to their current workplace. Research action projects will utilize standardized approaches used in a student’s chosen field such as development of an environmental assessment, creation of a legal compliance program, design of a workplace dispute system, or preparation of a conflict resolution curriculum.

Powered by Hamline Law's nationally ranked centers of excellence

The Hamline Law MSJ builds on the strength of our internationally renowned centers of excellence, the Dispute Resolution Institute and the Health Law Institute.



dispute | resolution INSTITUTE

The Dispute Resolution Institute (DRI) is committed to teaching about conflict in all

its complexity and to educating students to be successful creative agents of conflict resolution and problem-solving at home and abroad. We teach our students the art of negotiation because it is central to both making and saving deals. We teach arbitration because it is the global forum of choice for business. And we teach mediation because it provides a unique perspective on mutual understanding and creative problem-solving. This commitment to leading-edge dispute resolution scholarship and instruction is one of the many reasons why Hamline Law is ranked third in the nation in dispute resolution by *America's Best Graduate Schools: U.S. News & World Report* (2013 Edition).

With an internationally renowned faculty, DRI offers an outstanding curriculum featuring rigorous academic discourse, hands-on simulation experience, and cross-disciplinary examination of conflict theory, advocacy, and problem-solving. Hamline students bolster their education through study-abroad programs in Budapest, Jerusalem, and London and in certificate programs that include Advocacy and Problem-Solving, Global Arbitration Law and Practice, and International Business Negotiation, the latter of which is powered by Hamline's proprietary iPad app. DRI programs reach beyond Hamline, attracting practicing lawyers and students from other law schools, as well as other professionals, providing an opportunity for law students to study with future clients and colleagues. These programs are so well respected that students from more than half of the American Bar Association accredited law schools have participated.



DRI is directed by Associate Professor Sharon Press, a leading alternative dispute resolution scholar and practitioner.

health | law INSTITUTE

With health law impacting every American, every day, **Hamline's Health Law Institute (HLI)** bridges the gap between health law scholarship and policy through engagement, collaboration, and innovation. But equally important, HLI also develops health law professionals who can provide immediate value to employers at a time when health law employment has been a bright spot in a challenging job market. HLI's work has earned Hamline Law a national reputation in health law, and our program has been consistently ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top 20 health law programs in the nation.

HLI students learn from experts, including distinguished members of the health care and legal communities who serve as adjunct faculty and guest presenters and bring the real world into the classroom. Hamline students can also earn valuable certificates in programs that include General Health Law and Compliance. Compliance is an especially dynamic area because compliance professionals stand at the intersection of governing law and organizational management. Knowledge is essential to succeed in this ever-growing field, but practical experience is every bit as important. HLI students do not have to wait for graduation to gain that experience, as HLI offers numerous experiential learning opportunities. This includes participation in Hamline Law's well-respected practicum and clinic programs, enabling students to make connections and learn hands-on.



HLI is directed by Associate Professor Thad Pope, a leading scholar in end-of-life treatment issues, medical liability, public health law, and bioethics.



APPLYING TO THE HAMLINE MSL

The ideal candidate for the Hamline MSL program is the early-to mid-career professional, with a minimum of two years of full-time professional experience. To be considered for admission, all MSL applicants must submit the following items:

- Completed application
- Official undergraduate transcripts
- Graduate admission test score (GMAT, GRE, or LSAT) or narrative explaining at least two years applicable professional experience
- Personal statement
- Resume
- Letters of reference
- Application Fee: \$35

ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING REQUIREMENTS

Applicants whose native language is not English must submit evidence that they possess a sufficient level of English to undertake graduate studies at Hamline Law. Applicants can demonstrate their English proficiency in one of the following ways:

- A minimum score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) of 600 (paper-based format), 250 (computer-based) or 100 (iBT).
- A minimum score of 7.0 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).
- A minimum score of 90 on the Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB).

Please note that scores more than two years old will not be accepted.

TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID

For academic year 2012-2013, tuition rates per credit are \$750. The Hamline University Office of Financial Aid assists all prospective and current graduate students with financial aid-related questions, as well as the processing of financial aid packages.

For current and complete application instructions and detailed program information, visit law.hamline.edu/msl

STUDENT SUPPORT

Hamline MSL students have access to a comprehensive support system designed to maximize their graduate school experience. Upon admission, MSL students are assigned to an academic advisor who will serve in that capacity for the duration of their program. Advisors provide counsel on the full range of academic issues including:

- Course selection and program planning
- Registration issues
- Academic concerns
- Degree progress
- Transfer credit requests
- Resource referrals

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

Hamline Law's long-standing Academic Success Program offers three primary services for MSL students:

Individual tutoring services: Individual instruction is the most critical component in helping students to improve their skills, and the individual tutoring sessions are the cornerstone of the Academic Success Program. Individual tutoring affords students an opportunity to create a program in consultation with their tutor based on the areas in which they most want (or need) assistance. We are fortunate to have a wonderful team of tutors, including both professional tutors and several outstanding Hamline graduates who are practicing attorneys and who devote their evenings and weekends to our program.

Structured study groups: Led by upper-class students who have excelled in law school, structured study groups are available for all sections of Contracts, Civil Procedure, Criminal Law and Constitutional Law. The groups provide an excellent venue for learning skills and for engaging in active learning. Group leaders offer tips on exam-taking and provide perspective on the “big picture” of an area of the law.

Workshops: Workshops are presented by members of the faculty. Fall workshops will focus on case synthesis and note-taking; outlining for exams; and preparing for and writing exams. Spring workshops will focus on improving exam performance; and the art of persuasion.

Frequently Asked Questions



The Hamline MSL is designed for the working professional who recognizes that a sophisticated understanding of law and conflict resolution would be “value added” to current employment, even if they do not want to attend three years of law school in order to earn the JD degree and secure a law license.

Will I take regular JD classes with JD students?

Yes, with the exception of your introductory course in Legal Method and Ethics that prepares you for success in law school classes, you will sit side-by-side with JD students in regularly scheduled law classes.

What are the scheduling options?

MSL students may take courses in the full-time fall or spring semester program, choose the work-friendly part-time weekend program, enroll in short-term courses offered during January term and in the law school’s summer institutes (a typical 2-credit class would have 4 or 5 evening sessions and one all day Saturday session), and/or travel internationally to participate in one of Hamline’s study abroad programs. By taking a recommended schedule, students can complete the program in a single calendar year; however, most students will choose to complete the program in 18 – 24 months.

Is it possible to include any of Hamline’s certificate programs in my MSL studies?

Yes. Many of the law school’s certificate programs are easily incorporated into an MSL course of study. Indeed, some of our recommended subject area concentrations include certificate completion as part of the concentration.

May I take courses outside the law school?

Yes. With advance approval of their academic advisor, MSL students may also take classes offered by other Hamline graduate divisions, including the School of Business and School of Education.

Will the MSL train me to be a lawyer?

No. Although the Hamline MSL offers a rigorous, integrated approach to legal education (including sophisticated exposure to conflict resolution), completion of the program will not allow you to sit for the bar exam and secure a law license. If you want to become a lawyer you should apply to our JD program.

Will my MSL courses apply toward a JD degree, if I later choose to pursue one?

No. American Bar Association accreditation standards forbid law schools from awarding JD credit for courses completed prior to matriculation in a JD program.

What are the study expectations for the MSL program?

There is no denying it — law school classes are tough, especially the first-year foundational courses that so profoundly shape lawyer professional vocational identity and problem-solving perspectives. Law professors expect students to be fully prepared for every class, with the rule of thumb being three hours of study for every hour of class. You will be challenged; you also will get the reward of fully engaging in your graduate education. We won’t admit you to the program if we aren’t confident you will excel within it!

What is the grading system?

MSL students will meet the same individual course requirements as JD students. However, MSL students will be graded separately as a cohort so that class rankings for JD students (an indicia of academic success often utilized by law employers making initial hiring decisions) are not impacted by the addition of non-JD students in the classroom.

Can I succeed in the program as a working professional?

Yes! The program is designed for working professionals, as is Hamline’s part-time weekend law program.

What are the program costs?

Tuition is \$750 per credit. There is a one-time fee of \$175, plus the costs of books and materials (which varies depending on the courses you choose).

Are international students eligible for admission?

Yes. Applicants whose primary language is not English must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and achieve a score of at least 600 (paper-based format), 250 (computer-based format), or 100 on the iBT.

CHOOSING AMONG HAMLINE GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN LAW

Hamline University offers a broad array of graduate-level programming for students interested in legal studies. Our degrees and certificate programs are all taught by experienced, dynamic teachers focused on helping students achieve their professional aspirations.

HAMLINE LAW DEGREE PROGRAMS

The Hamline JD

The Hamline JD prepares lawyers not only as advocates, but also as problem-solvers for individuals, business entities and government agencies. Hamline receives high marks from students for our passionate faculty, student-centered atmosphere and strong opportunities to develop legal skills — both locally and abroad — while learning the law within a friendly campus community. Hamline offers two outstanding pathways to a law degree:

- Full-time Weekday Program: Students participating in the full-time weekday program may complete law school in six academic semesters. Under the full-time program, students must register for a minimum of 12 credits per fall or spring academic semester.
- Part-time Weekend JD: Designed for those seeking quality legal education in a weekend format, admission to the part-time option is selective and has a limited enrollment. Required courses are taught by experienced, full-time professors, and students receive the same academic support and extracurricular opportunities as their full-time colleagues.

The Hamline MSL

Hamline University's Master in the Study of Law (MSL) is for the working professional who recognizes that a sophisticated understanding of law and conflict resolution will be "value added" to current employment, even if they do not want to attend three years of law school in order to earn the JD degree and secure a law license.

L.L.M Degree for International Lawyers

Hamline University's Master in Law (LL.M.) for international lawyers provides attorneys who possess an LL.B. or equivalent degree from a country other than the United States the specialized training and education necessary to compete globally. Hamline LL.M. students participate with Hamline JD and international students in their studies. Once admitted to the program, each student develops a course of study that best fits his or her goals while maximizing the value of studying the U.S. legal system for non-U.S. attorneys.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Paralegal Certificate Program

Offered by Hamline University's College of Liberal Studies, the post-baccalaureate paralegal certificate program provides instruction tailored to the development of professional paralegal skills. Hamline's unique pairing of practical legal training and the liberal arts, combined with the program's ABA approval and recognition in the community, make Hamline's paralegal education highly valued by employers.

Certificate in Conflict Engagement for Health Professionals

Offered by Hamline Law's top-ranked Health Law Institute, this program is an in-depth, transformative learning program designed to creatively advanced levels of collaborative practice and conflict competence among health professionals and industry leaders who are responsible for: improving patient safety; achieving health care; developing health work environments; and creating a resilient workforce.

Online Certificate in Healthcare Compliance

Offered by Hamline Law's top-ranked Health Law Institute, a compliance certification helps professionals gain the skills needed to guide a healthcare organization through the complex maze of government laws and regulations and effectively develop and deliver training; create and enforce a code of conduct; audit, monitor, and investigate; assess risk; and be a champion of an ethical corporate culture.

Certificate in Dispute Resolution

Offered by Hamline Law's top-ranked Dispute Resolution Institute (DRI), the 14- credit certificate program in dispute resolution is designed for graduate students and professionals from virtually any field or specialty who want the ability to develop their alternative dispute resolution knowledge and skills in an organized, thoughtful, and scholarly way.

Certificate in International Business Negotiation

DRI's International Business Negotiation certificate program, in collaboration with the Institute for Conflict Engagement and Resolution at Hong Kong Shue Yan University, is a month-long summer program that introduces students to the skills and dynamics of the negotiation process. Law and business students interact with international counterparts to experience the dynamic nature of international business negotiation.

Certificate in Global Arbitration Law and Practice

This DRI program is a 6-credit summer study-abroad program at Queen Mary University of London, and is designed for the lawyer, business executive or other professional who desires a systematic and comprehensive exposure to international commercial arbitration. It begins with a foundation course covering the salient aspects of U.S. arbitration law as it relates to domestic and international disputes. Building on the foundation experience, three advanced courses on international commercial arbitration give students the opportunity to apply basic principles in specialty areas.

HAMLINE MSL LEADERSHIP



Donald M. Lewis
Dean and Professor of Law
Hamline University School of Law



James Coben
Professor of Law and Academic Director, Master in the Study of Law
Hamline University School of Law



Kitty Atkins
Managing Director, Master in the Study of Law
Hamline University School of Law

IMPORTANT ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

The Admission Committee reviews and renders admission decisions approximately 3 to 4 weeks after receipt of a completed application file. We highly suggest that for the Spring semester you apply by December 1 and for the Fall semester we suggest you apply by July 1. This will allow for adequate placement in courses and for the financial aid process to be completed on time.

Please mail all application materials to:

Kitty Atkins, MSL Managing Director
Hamline University School of Law
1536 Hewitt Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104
katkins@hamline.edu
651-523-2897

For current and complete application instructions and other resources, visit law.hamline.edu/msl

Hamline Law is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA) and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

Hamline University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, disability, religion, age, sexual orientation, or veteran status in its education or employment programs or activities.

Hamline University is registered as a private institution with the Minnesota Office of Higher Education pursuant to sections 136A.61 to 136A.71. Registration is not an endorsement of the institution. Credits earned at the institution may not transfer to all other institutions.



MSL students can take advantage of the offerings in Hamline's new Carol Young Anderson and Dennis L. Anderson Center.



HAMLIN UNIVERSITY
School of Law

Office of Admissions
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law.hamline.edu/msl