

LL.M. Executive Track Spring 2026

W206.4, 1- UNIT LRW-Jodi Collova- Credit/no credit

Instruction: Monday, January 12, 2026 - Wednesday, April 15, 2026. Class meetings will be from 7:00-8:00am on January 12, January 21, February 4, February 18, March 4, March 18, and April 8.

Office hours will be held from 7:00-8:00am on January 30, February 11, February 25, March 11, March 25, and April 15.

Final paper due: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

This course will introduce students to U.S. legal reasoning and practice by examining court opinions, teaching legal research methods, and developing legal writing skills. The course emphasizes understanding the U.S. legal system, common law legal reasoning, legal problem solving, and effective written communication of legal analysis.

The spring 1-unit LRW course is part of a series of three courses that students complete during the LL.M. degree. During the online spring semester, students learn basic analysis, writing, research, and citation skills. During the summer, students complete 1-unit of LRW in person, where they develop legal research, writing, and analytical skills, and draft their Capstone Writing Projects (legal memoranda of 5,000 to 6,000 words on an assigned topic). During the fall semester, students complete the 1-unit online Capstone Writing Workshop, in which they revise and edit their Capstone Writing Projects. No textbook is required.

W208.9, 3-UNIT Fundamentals of US Law- Bill Fernholz- Letter graded

Instruction: Monday, January 12, 2026 - Monday, March 2, 2026

Live sessions: Tuesdays at 7:00am

Skills sessions: 7:00-8:00am on three Fridays, January 23, February 6, and February 20

Exams: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 - Sunday March 8, 2026

Fundamentals of U.S. Law introduces foreign law students to the American legal system, common-law method of case analysis, and American forms of governance. Initial classes focus primarily on (1) the structure of the American court system and sources of law and (2) case analysis through the study of a series of judicial decisions related to same-sex marriage in the United States. Students will learn how to read cases, find and synthesize holdings, and predict outcomes based on common law development. Classes during the rest of the semester will focus on the principal Constitutional doctrines that underpin the American legal and political system, primarily the doctrines of federalism and separation of powers. Throughout the course, students will practice skills that will help them succeed in law school, on the bar examination, and in practice. Required Textbook: <https://www.aspenpublishing.com/Fernholz-USLaw1>

W275.3, 3-UNIT Intellectual Property Law- Molly Van Houweling- Letter graded

Instruction: Monday, March 9, 2026 - Monday, April 27, 2026
Office hours: Thursdays at 7:00am
Exams: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - Sunday, May 3, 2026

This course introduces students to the main features of modern intellectual property law--including copyright, patent, trademark, and trade secret. It covers the fundamental concepts and rules that provide protection for artistic works, inventions, brands, and secrets, then applies them to emerging controversies involving digital technology. The focus is U.S. law, but international comparisons and complications are included as well. The required textbook will be available to download. More information will be provided by Professor Van Houweling.

W250, 3-UNIT Business Associations- Stavros Gadinis- Letter graded

Instruction: Monday, March 9, 2026 - Monday, April 27, 2026
Office hours: Fridays at 7:00am
Exams: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 - Sunday, May 3, 2026

In virtually every area of legal practice, some rudimentary knowledge about the laws governing business organizations (and particularly corporations) proves helpful. This 3-unit survey course provides much of that orientation, examining the laws governing the modern business organization (with an emphasis on corporations). We will cover a number of topics, including rules of agency law, partnership law, corporate formation, corporate identity, rights of creditors, fiduciary duties, corporate governance, executive compensation, mergers and acquisitions and securities fraud. At core, this is a survey course, so many of the topics we will discuss also have specialized courses offering a more detailed treatment. Consequently, our key goal will be to understand the rudimentary structure of each topic, and how the topics interrelate and in particular how corporate law regulates relationships among multiple different constituencies of the firm, including owners, managers, creditors, employees, customers, and suppliers. Viewed in this light, the governance of a corporation implicates the same challenges and concerns that affect any multi-party economic relationship, ranging from problems of collective action, free riding, private information, distribution and opportunism. The laws governing business organizations constitute an important set of rules, institutions, and practices that regulate and address these concerns. The required textbook is Commentaries and Cases on the Law of Business Organization, 7th edition, 2025 (Allen, Kraakman, Khanna).