Concentration: Intellectual Property and Technology Law

Concentration Curriculum
Offerings subject to change. View course descriptions below.

Credit Requirement
Students must complete at least 30 credits to earn the M.S.L degree; at least 15 credits of related coursework in IP and Technology Law count toward this 30-credit requirement.

Required M.S.L. Courses
All M.S.L. students must take the two foundational M.S.L. program courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW 8550: Legal Research and Writing</td>
<td>Spring &amp; Summer</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 8525: Intro to US Legal System</td>
<td>Fall &amp; Summer</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Core Concentration Courses
Students must take these 3 courses to earn a concentration in Intellectual Property and Technology Law:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7804: Law of Cyberspace</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 8535: Introduction to Tech &amp; IP Transactions*</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7805: Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Regulation and Compliance</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>Online or In-person (both are available to MSL students)</td>
<td>3</td>
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*alternatively, students can enroll in the in-person course, LAW 7815: Introduction to Intellectual Property (3 credits), offered in the Fall.
**Elective Concentration Courses**

Students must take at least 3 additional courses from among the following courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW 8896: Biotechnology Law and Policy</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7800: Copyright Law</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7803: Trademark</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7812: Patent Prosecution or</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7809: Patent Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 8811: Food &amp; Drug Law</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAW 7117: Online Dispute Resolution in the</td>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>In Person</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digital Age</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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**Optional Courses**

Students may take the remaining credits to complete the 30-credit requirement from any other available in-person courses listed in the College's [course catalogue](#). Optional courses may vary year to year.

**CONTINUE NEXT PAGE TO VIEW COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**
REQUIRED M.S.L. FOUNDATIONAL COURSES

Intro to US Legal System (3 credits) - online
The course provides an introduction to the basic structure of the US legal system, including the Constitution, the separation of powers, and federalism. The course introduces students to foundational principles underlying many substantive areas of law, including among other topics administrative law, contracts, criminal law, property, and torts. The course also describes the adversary system, the state and federal court systems, and the legal profession generally.

Legal Research and Writing (3 credits) - online
The course provides MSL students with a foundation in conducting legal research, reading legal materials, and analyzing those materials. The course will help students learn how to find, read, and use cases, statutes, and secondary materials. Students will also develop an understanding of how to review contracts by learning contract drafting style and conventions, key types of provisions (such as declarations, covenants, and representations and warranties), and important contractual provisions. Finally, students will hone their writing skills by learning how lawyers communicate and how to communicate like lawyers, both informally (through, for example, email correspondence) as well as in more formal persuasive writing.

CONCENTRATION COURSES

Biotechnology Law and Policy (2 credits) – in-person
An interdisciplinary approach to examining many of the legal, business, ethical, and policy issues raised by the biotechnology industry.

Copyright Law (4 credits) – in-person
This course will provide an in-depth view of U.S. copyright law, the legal regime governing rights in original works of authorship (books, music, movies, artworks, photographs, software, etc.). Topics covered include: copyright's underlying policies and theoretical framework, the requirements for copyright ability under the Copyright Act, among other topics.

Law of Cyberspace (3 credits) - online
Can the internet be regulated? Who gets to decide? What is the law of the internet? How is it enforced? Is the internet special or exceptional, or is it simply a new variation on long-standing structures? This course will examine the law of the internet – some things old (traditional legal concepts applied to new technological and legal constructs); some things new (government regulation specific to “cyberspace”); and the merging of both old and new legal concepts to govern ever-changing technologies.

Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Regulation and Compliance (3 credits) – online or in person
This course examines the legal, policy, operational and risk management issues related to data privacy and data protection in a digital world. Data privacy law affects a vast range of
businesses, products, and processes, including social media, marketing, healthcare, manufacturing, finance, retail, and technology. This course reviews U.S. federal and state law and regulations in depth and provides an overview of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and other global data protection schemes. It adopts an operational approach that focuses on a privacy lawyer or privacy professional’s role within the corporate environment, touching on the various aspects a data privacy function has on legal and compliance, information technology, marketing, human resources, information security, and internal audit.

**Food & Drug Law (3 credits) – in-person**
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which is tasked with protecting and promoting the public health, is one of the most powerful administrative agencies in the federal government, regulating approximately 25% of the U.S. consumer economy. This course will explore various FDA law and policy issues, including the scope of FDA’s jurisdiction, the relationship between FDA, the President, Congress, and the courts, how FDA interacts with industry and other stakeholders, how FDA addresses emerging technologies, and how FDA addresses public health emergencies, like the COVID-19 pandemic. The course involves various general legal doctrines, including common law, constitutional law, administrative law, and statutory interpretation. Specific to FDA, we will cover some topics that are common to all of the product areas that the FDA regulates, such as the FDA’s civil and criminal enforcement powers, as well as product-specific legal and policy questions with respect to food, drugs, biologics (including vaccines), devices, and tobacco products.

**Introduction to Intellectual Property (3 credits) – in-person**
This is a survey course that introduces the basic principles of intellectual property law. It will cover each of the three major federal IP regimes (patent, copyright, trademark) and touch briefly on the related state doctrine of trade secret law. The overarching goal is to understand why we create information entitlements, and how the existing doctrinal approaches fit together within that space.

**Introduction to Tech & IP Transactions (3 credits) - online**
This course provides an overview of the types of tech and IP contracts, including basics on copyright, patents, trademark, trade secrets in these contracts, tech and IP issues in mergers and acquisitions, and important contract provisions for the procurement and provision of technology.

**Online Dispute Resolution in the Digital Age (3 credits) – in-person**
This course explores the online dispute resolution (ODR) systems and use of technology by major companies in addressing legal problems. The class also will include deep consideration of both the potential and drawbacks of ODR systems. Therefore, we also will discuss development of best practices and question policy directions. For starters, consider whether rules regarding alternative dispute resolution (“ADR”) offline could or should apply to ODR? How does technology change the equation? Can ODR be effective when parties are not looking into the eyes of the other side? How can offline neutrals best translate their skills online? How can technology merge with face-to-face ADR to make it more effective? What ethical challenges does ODR present? Are there contexts in which ODR should be banned?
Patent Law (3 credits) – in-person
This course will cover the basic elements of patent law, including patentable subject matter, utility, novelty, non-obviousness, claims, disclosure and enforcement of patents—all in light of the recently enacted America Invents Act. There is no expectation that students in the class will have the technical knowledge to prosecute patents.

Patent Prosecution (3 credits) – in-person
This course will focus on patent prosecution practice and will combine a study of case law and the rules and regulations applicable to patent applications. The course will cover issues of compliance with U.S.C. sections 102, 103, and 112; claim drafting; how patent applications are processed; and how to respond to various actions by the Patent and Trademark Office.

Trademark Law (2 credits) – in-person
This course will explore the following: creation, enforcement, and limitation of trademark rights; and related unfair competition issues.

OPTIONAL COURSES (in-person)
Course descriptions are available here.