

LEGAL STUDIES (MS)

Law School

Program Website (<https://www.lawschool.cornell.edu/academics/degree-programs/msls-program/>)

CIP: 22.0203 | HEGIS: 1401.00 | NYSED: 32537

Program Description

This master's degree in legal studies from Cornell Law School is designed specifically for business professionals. Covering key areas ranging from contracts and negotiations to corporate governance and compliance, to employment and immigration law, to privacy and intellectual property issues, the courses in this degree program will help you develop a sense of how the law works, along with the deeper regulatory knowledge and frontline skills in legal research, effective communication, and critical reasoning needed to work at the intersection of business and law.

Program Information

- Instruction Mode: Distance Education
- Location: Ithaca, NY
- Minimum Credits for Degree: 30

Program Requirements

- This program is intended as a part-time program. Students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of 3 credits each semester and may not exceed a maximum of 7.5 credits per term.
 - Students may petition the Program Director to exceed these limits.
- Note: A minimum of 6 credits is required to qualify for financial aid.

Satisfactorily complete 30 credits of work. This coursework includes:

Code	Title	Hours
Required Courses		
LEGAL 5100	Introduction to the U.S. Legal System	3
LEGAL 5101	Working with Business Contracts	3
LEGAL 5104	Business Organizations and Corporate Governance	1.5
LEGAL 5108	Compliance Systems	3
LEGAL 5109	Regulatory Policy and Process	1.5
LEGAL 7100	Capstone Project I	1.5
LEGAL 7101	Capstone Project II	3
Elective Coursework		
LEGAL Electives		13.5

M.S.L.S. students are not permitted to enroll in any residential or online courses at Cornell Law School or any other unit of Cornell University beyond what is offered for the M.S.L.S. program.

General M.S.L.S. Academic Deficiency

Depending on the grade scale for the course, an M.S.L.S. student who receives a U or grade of D+ or below after completion of any course within the program will be placed on informal probation, and must meet with the Assistant Dean of External Education prior to continued enrollment. An M.S.L.S. student will be dropped for scholastic deficiency if in the judgment of the faculty the student's work at any time is markedly unsatisfactory. Work may be considered markedly

unsatisfactory if, for example, the merit point ratio for work after completion of at least 6 credits is lower than D+ or two or more U grades are received.

Program Calendar

Fall 2025

Date	Event
August 25, 2025	First Day of Term
August 25, 2025	First day of Instruction
September 1, 2025	Labor Day - No Classes
October 13-19, 2025	Fall Break
November 24-29, 2025	Thanksgiving Break
December 14, 2025	Last Day of Instruction
December 14, 2025	Last Day of Term

Spring 2026

Date	Event
January 12, 2026	First Day of Term
January 12, 2026	First Day of Instruction
January 19, 2026	Martin Luther King Jr Day - No Classes
March 2-8, 2026	Spring Break
April 26, 2026	Last Day of Instruction
April 26, 2026	Last Day of Term

Summer 2026

Date	Event
May 11, 2026	First Day of Term
May 11, 2026	First Day of Instruction
May 25, 2026	Memorial Day - No Classes
June 19, 2026	Juneteenth - No Classes
June 29-July 4, 2026	Break