BC Law offers LL.M. students the opportunity to complete a curricular concentration in one of five fields of study: business and commercial law, environmental law, human rights, intellectual property, and taxation. This initiative recognizes that many wish to focus their LL.M. studies in a particular field of law, and receive formal recognition for doing so. We have chosen to offer concentrations in fields that are popular among LL.M. students and reflect BC Law’s curricular strengths.

Each concentration requires that the student pursue approximately half of his or her program of study in the particular field. All of them require the student to complete certain specific courses, then list a range of other courses that the student may take in order to complete the number of credits (typically 12) required for the concentration. The particular courses required or permitted for each concentration appear below. At graduation, a student who has completed a concentration will receive a letter recognizing that fact. No notation of the concentration will appear on the student’s diploma or transcript, however. Students pursuing a concentration must still complete the basic requirements for the LL.M. degree (i.e., at least 24 credits, the course The United States Legal System, and the written work requirement).

**Whether or not you choose to pursue one of these concentrations is completely up to you.** Our fundamental approach to LL.M. study remains unchanged: each student designs a program of study that meets his or her needs. For some of you, that may mean taking courses in a range of different areas rather than a single area. For others, that may mean focusing on a field not represented among our concentrations.

Finally, please note: the courses listed for each concentration represent courses that have been offered in recent years. With the exception of the required courses, we cannot guarantee that a given course will be offered in any particular year.

**LL.M. CONCENTRATION IN BUSINESS AND COMMERCIAL LAW**

To earn the LL.M. Concentration in Business and Commercial Law, students must complete at least 12 credits in the field, drawn from the course list below.

1. The following courses are required: (a) Corporations; and (b) At least one of the following courses:
   - Antitrust Law
   - Commercial Law: Secured Transactions *or* Commercial Law: Secured Transactions and Securities
   - International Business Transactions
   - Securities Regulation

2. Students must complete the remaining credits (with #1 above, to total at least 12 credits) from the following list of courses:
• Advanced Contracts: Sales in Practice
• Advising the Business Planner
• Art of Lawyering and the Commercial Lease
• Banking Law
• Bankruptcy Law Research
• Business Bankruptcy
• Business Immigration Law
• Business Law and Health Care Enterprises
• Business Negotiations
• Commercial Law: Securities
• Community Enterprise Clinic
• Consumer Bankruptcy
• Consumer Law
• Contracts
• Copyright
• Corporate Finance
• Corporate Governance
• Corporations Lab
• Cyber Law
• Deals: The Economic Structure of Transactions
• Debt Instruments
• Employee Benefits Law
• Employment Discrimination
• Employment Law
• Energy law
• Entertainment Law
• Environmental Corporate Lawyering
• Financial Regulation and Reform Seminar
• First Amendment and Corporate and Commercial Speech Seminar
• Globalization and International Economic Law
• Insurance Law
• Intellectual Property Research
• Intellectual Property Survey
• International Aspects of U.S. Income Tax
• International Arbitration
• International Investment Law and Dispute Resolution
• International Trade
• Labor Law
• Law and Accounting
• Law of Money
• Legal Aspects of Doing Business in China
• Media Law
• Mergers and Acquisitions
• Mutual Fund Regulation
• Non Profit Corporations
• Partnerships: Transactions, Planning and Taxation
• Patent Law
• Real Estate Transactions, Development & Finance
• Representing the Family Business
• Securities Law Research
• Securities Litigation and Enforcement
• Sports Law
• Start Up Companies and Venture Capital Finance
• Tax I
• Taxation II (Corporate Tax)
• Taxation III (Advanced Corporate Tax)
• Technology Transactions and Licensing
• Telecommunications Law and Policy
• Theory and Practice in Business Decision Making
• Trademark and Unfair Competition
• A business-oriented graduate-level course in another Boston College department (requires the approval of the Director of LL.M. & International Programs)
• An independent study project on a topic related to business and commercial law (requires the approval of the Director of LL.M. & International Programs)

Not all courses are offered every year.

**LL.M. CONCENTRATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

To earn the LL.M. Concentration in Environmental Law, students must complete the following requirements:

1. At least 12 credits in the field, drawn from the course list below; and

2. The Regulatory Skills, Land Use and Environmental Practice Workshop (no credit, Spring semester).

The requirements, in greater detail: 1. At least 12 credits in the field, including (a) The following required course: LL32201 Environmental Law (4 credits, Fall); (b) An Environmental Law Practicum.

A significant part of the Boston College Law school’s approach to a professional area like Environmental Law is that students must have a realistic understanding of how laws operate in actual practice in real life settings which—due to human and political realities—often differs greatly from the law as it exists on the face of official statutes, codes, and regulations. To address this functional necessity the Concentration requires all
students to have a project, externship, or participatory experience approved as an experiential practicum in environmental or land law. This Practicum may be accomplished by off-campus involvement with community groups, law firms, government agencies or legislative committees, or by other similar investment of time and effort approved by the Concentration advisors. It can be (i) an independent study (as long as it also involves a significant writing component), (ii) associated with a law school course as an additional one-credit project where that is listed as an option in an offered course design, or (iii) a required research paper for a law school course or seminar, but only if it involves a significant off-campus hands-on experience. All Practicum proposals must be pre-approved by the Director of the LL.M. program in consultation with the Coordinator of the Land & Environment Program prior to their commencement.

(The Practicum will typically count for one course hour credit);

AND

(c) The remaining credits (with (a) and (b), to total at least 12 credits) from the following list of courses:

- Administrative Law (Fall or Spring)
- Land Use Planning and Regulation (Fall)
- Environmental Law Seminar: Selected Topics (Spring)
- State & Local Government Law (Spring)
- Real Estate Transactions and Finance (Fall)
- Legislation and Administrative Process (Fall or Spring)
- Environmental Legal Research (Fall)
- International Environmental Law (Fall)
- Environmental Law: Clean Water Act (Spring)
- New Frontiers in Environmental Law: Global Warming (Spring)
- Energy Law (Fall)
- Environmental Corporate Lawyering: Regulatory Compliance (Spring)
- American Indian Law (Spring)
- Food & Drug Law
- Natural Resource Remedies
- Housing Policy & Law
- Animal Law
- An environmentally-oriented graduate-level course in another Boston College department (requires the approval of the Director of LL.M. & International Programs, in consultation with the Coordinator of the Land & Environment Program)

2. Completion of the Spring semester Regulatory Skills, Land Use and Environmental Practice Workshop:

Environmental law practitioners need an active and practical understanding of the basic structures of the administrative agency process and the art of hands-on regulatory practice—working with agency officials and regulations, researching, interpreting, and applying administrative rules and guidelines. Modern administrative process parallels and often displaces the common law throughout the American legal system. According to some
professional observers, agency decisions affect 90% or more of all modern legal practice. The Regulator Skills, Land Use & Environmental Administrative Practice Workshop Series is developed and coordinated by Robert L. Brennan, ’95 and his law firm, in affiliation with the Boston College Environmental Law Society. The Workshop is offered in seven afternoon sessions with a series of guest lecturers and a diagnostic case study that runs through the course. Not offered for credit. A Certificate is awarded upon completion of the Workshop.

Not all courses are offered every year.

LL.M. CONCENTRATION IN HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

To earn the LL.M. Concentration in Human Rights Law, students must complete at least 12 credits in the field, drawn from the course list below.

1. At least one of the following courses is required (students may take both):

   • International Human Rights Law (3 or 4 credits);
   • Interdisciplinary Human Rights Seminar.

2. Students must complete the remainder of the 12 credits from the courses listed below:

   • Advanced Immigration Law Seminar
   • Advanced Topics in Civil Rights: Microaggressions
   • American Indian Law
   • Constitutional Law II
   • Criminal Procedure
   • Death Penalty Seminar
   • Feminist Jurisprudence Seminar
   • First Amendment
   • Immigration Law
   • International Criminal Law
   • Law of War, War Crimes and Genocide
   • Refugee Law
   • Sexuality and the Law
   • A related law or graduate-level course in another Boston College Department (requires the approval of the Director of LL.M. and International programs and Director of Human Rights Program).

Not all courses are offered every year.
LL.M. CONCENTRATION IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

To earn the LL.M. Concentration in Intellectual Property Law, students must complete at least 12 credits in the field, drawn from the course list below.

1. The following courses are required:
   • Copyright (Fall)
   • Patent Law (Fall)
   • Trademark and Unfair Competition Law (Spring)  

2. Students must complete the remaining credits (with 1 above, to total at least 12 credits) from the following list of courses:
   • Antitrust Law (Spring)
   • Art Law Seminar (Spring)
   • Cyber Law (Spring)
   • Entertainment Law (Fall)
   • Intellectual Property Research (Spring)
   • Patent Litigation (as offered)
   • Patents: Select Issues (as offered)
   • Technology Transactions and Licensing (Spring)
   • A related graduate-level course in another Boston College department  (requires the approval of the Director of LL.M. & International Programs, in consultation with the Coordinator of the Intellectual Property Program)

Not all courses are offered every year.

LL.M. CONCENTRATION IN TAXATION

To earn the LL.M. Concentration in Taxation, students must complete the following program of study:

1. The following three courses are required:
   • Taxation I
   • Taxation II (corporate taxation)
   • International Tax

2. In addition, students must complete at least one of the following three courses:
   • Partnership Taxation
   • Taxation III (advanced corporate taxation)
   • Tax Policy
Not all courses are offered every year.