

<b>USC SCHOOL</b>	Gould School of Law
<b>ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT</b>	Graduate & International Programs
<b>GRADUATE PROGRAM</b>	Master of Studies in Law
<b>POST CODE</b>	1772
<b>TERM EFFECTIVE DATE</b>	Fall 2024

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

A brief description of the graduate program.

The Master of Studies in Law (MSL) provides students with a fundamental understanding of U.S. law and an opportunity to gain legal skills and knowledge to redefine their careers. Designed for individuals who want to gain an understanding of legal issues that will impact their professional lives as entrepreneurs, business owners, administrators, scientists, engineers, educators, advocates, activists and more, USC Gould's Progressive Degree Program – Master of Studies in Law offers the option of earning a certificate in business law, human resources law and compliance, or media and entertainment law. (Note: the MSL is not intended for a student who wishes to go on to law school and practice law.)

**COMMON BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAM PATHWAYS**

A list of common bachelor's degrees that undergraduate students pursue in advance of pursuing a progressive degree option with this graduate program. Some programs are restricted to certain majors while others are open to all students.

Open to all students	
Open to all Majors	

**PREPARATORY UNDERGRADUATE COURSES**

A list of courses at the undergraduate level that prepare students for the graduate program. Required coursework is listed first, followed by recommended courses. If not applicable, this section will be blank.

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Required or Recommended	Units

**UNDERGRADUATE COURSES USED TO REDUCE GRADUATE LEVEL UNITS**

A list of undergraduate level courses that may be used to reduce the number of graduate level units required for the graduate program. If there are none, that is specified instead.

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Units
LAW 210	Fundamentals of the US Legal System	4

**CORE GRADUATE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS (# units required)**

A list of all required graduate courses for the graduate program. None of these courses may be used toward satisfying undergraduate degree requirements.

*If special exceptions for any of these courses are made by the academic department, the course # is marked with an asterisk (\*) and the exception is explained in the "Department Notes" section at the end of this course plan template.*

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Units
<b>Option #1 – Master of Studies in Law (MSL) Degree Only – No Certificate</b>		
<b>Mandatory MSL Course – 2 units</b>		
LAW 520	Introduction to US Legal System	2
<b>Electives – Select 19 units from the following</b>		
LAW 513	Effective Writing for Professionals	2
LAW 525	Fundamentals of Intellectual Property Law	3
LAW 559	Human Resource Compliance	2
LAW 567	Introduction to Litigation in US Courts	2
LAW 598	Regulatory Compliance	2
LAW 603	Business Organizations	3
LAW 613	Corporate Governance	2
LAW 635	Employment Discrimination Law	2
LAW 650	Entertainment Law	2
LAW 676	Dealmaking	2
LAW 710	Contract Drafting and Strategy	2
LAW 845	Negotiation Skills	2

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Units
<b>Option #2 – Master of Studies in Law (MSL) Degree with Business Law Certificate (21 units)</b>		
<b><i>Mandatory MSL and Business Law Courses (8 units)</i></b>		
LAW 520	Introduction to US Legal System	2
LAW 525	Fundamentals of Intellectual Property Law	3
LAW 603	Business Organizations	3
<b><i>Business Law Courses – Select at least 6 units from the following</i></b>		
LAW 613	Corporate Governance	2
LAW 676	Dealmaking	2
LAW 710	Contract Drafting and Strategy	2
LAW 845	Negotiation Skills	2
<b><i>Electives – Select at least 7 units from the following</i></b>		
LAW 513	Effective Writing for Professionals	2
LAW 559	Human Resource Compliance	2
LAW 567	Introduction to Litigation in US Courts	2
LAW 598	Regulatory Compliance	2
LAW 635	Employment Discrimination Law	2
LAW 650	Entertainment Law	2

Dept. Prefix - Course #	Course Title	Units
<b>Option #3 – Master of Studies in Law (MSL) Degree with Human Resources Law and Compliance Certificate (21 units)</b>		
<b><i>Mandatory MSL and Human Resources Law and Compliance Courses (15 units)</i></b>		
LAW 520	Introduction to US Legal System	2
LAW 598	Regulatory Compliance	2
LAW 559	Human Resource Compliance	2
LAW 603	Business Organizations	3
LAW 635	Employment Discrimination Law	2
LAW 710	Contract Drafting and Strategy	2
LAW 845	Negotiation Skills	2
<b><i>Electives – Select at least 6 units from the following</i></b>		
LAW 513	Effective Writing for Professionals	2
LAW 525	Fundamentals of Intellectual Property Law	3
LAW 567	Introduction to Litigation in US Courts	2
LAW 613	Corporate Governance	2
LAW 676	Dealmaking	2
LAW 650	Entertainment Law	2

<b>Dept. Prefix - Course #</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Units</b>
<b>Option #4 – Master of Studies in Law (MSL) Degree with Media and Entertainment Law Certificate (21 units)</b>		
<b><i>Mandatory MSL and Media and Entertainment Law Courses (14 units)</i></b>		
LAW 520	Introduction to US Legal System	2
LAW 525	Fundamentals of Intellectual Property Law	3
LAW 603	Business Organizations	3
LAW 650	Entertainment Law	2
LAW 710	Contract Drafting and Strategy	2
LAW 845	Negotiation Skills	2
<b><i>Electives – Select at least 7 units from the following</i></b>		
LAW 513	Effective Writing for Professionals	2
LAW 559	Human Resource Compliance	2
LAW 567	Introduction to Litigation in US Courts	2
LAW 598	Regulatory Compliance	2
LAW 613	Corporate Governance	2
LAW 635	Employment Discrimination Law	2
LAW 676	Dealmaking	2

**PRE-APPROVED ELECTIVE COURSEWORK**

Elective coursework is approved at the discretion of the academic department. Note the following details about the total number and units required of elective coursework.

12	<b>TOTAL ELECTIVE COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE TRADITIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE</b>
19	<b>TOTAL ELECTIVE UNITS REQUIRED FOR THE TRADITIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE</b>

**TOTAL UNIT COUNTS AND REQUIRED GRADUATE UNITS**

21	<b>TOTAL UNITS REQUIRED FOR THE TRADITIONAL GRADUATE DEGREE</b>
0	<b>TOTAL GRADUATE UNITS THAT MAY BE WAIVED (IF ANY)</b>
21	<b>MINIMUM NUMBER OF GRADUATE UNITS THAT MUST BE AT THE 500 LEVEL OR ABOVE</b>

**NOTES FROM THE DEPARTMENT**

This section highlights any unique considerations, exceptions, or requirements for the graduate program. If a program has specific restrictions (courses, majors, etc.), they are detailed below.

USC Gould's Progressive Degree Program - Master of Studies in Law offers students the option of earning a graduate certificate in business law, human resources law and compliance, or media and entertainment law concurrent with the master's degree:

- **Master of Studies in Law - No Certificate (21 Units):** 2 required units + 19 elective units
- **Master of Studies in Law - Business Law Certificate (21 Units):** 8 required units, 6 Business Law elective units + 7 elective units
- **Master of Studies in Law – Human Resources Law and Compliance Certificate (21 Units):** 15 required units + 6 elective units
- **Master of Studies in Law – Media and Entertainment Law Certificate (21 Units):** 14 required units + 7 elective units

If students enrolled in LAW 210: Fundamentals of the US Legal System, then they may waive the required LAW 520: Introduction to US Legal System.

Note: Units earned may not be applied toward a JD degree even if you elect to pursue one at a later time.

---

Misa Shimotsu

**Name of Authorizing Master's Program Dean**

01/22/2024

**Date Approved**

Associate Dean & Dean of Students, Graduate and International Programs

**Authorizing Dean's Title**