



MASTER OF LAWS DEGREE (LL.M.) FOR FOREIGN LAWYERS

Valparaiso University Law School Master of Laws (LL.M.) is designed primarily for international students who have a law degree and wish to enhance their understanding of the American legal system. Students in the LL.M. program take classes with students enrolled in the Juris Doctor (J.D.) program, and are encouraged to participate in co-curricular activities with J.D. students.

Valparaiso University Law School's LL.M. students must complete a minimum of 24 credit hours with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0/4.0 or better. Students complete the program as a full-time student in 1 to 1 ½ years. The LL.M. program allows students to choose their own area of concentration. With the assistance and approval of the program director, students will develop a specific area of study that coincides with their individual needs and interests.

INTERLINK

For students who need to improve their English prior to beginning law school, Valparaiso University offers a program called Interlink. The INTERLINK Language Center at Valparaiso University (VU) provides international students with ESL (English as a Second Language) training, cultural orientation and academic preparation as well as conditional admission to assure a successful and memorable educational experience in the United States. Interlink also offers a course in English for Law. The English for Law course provides preparation for both the LL.M. and J.D. degree programs. The main objective of the nine-week course is to build participants legal vocabulary, classroom discussion skills, and presentation capabilities.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

Valparaiso University Law School enjoys a close relationship with the main campus Office of International Programs. The Office of International Programs is dedicated to serving the special needs of international students and helping to create a supportive environment in which to live and study. The Office coordinates all visa paperwork, and provides a welcoming community for students to connect with other international students outside of the law school.

VALPARAISO CAMPUS & REGION

The City of Valparaiso, Indiana, and Valparaiso University have grown together for more than a century. Located 50 miles southeast of Chicago, and 10 miles south of Lake Michigan and the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, the city has long cultivated its own distinct identity and sophistication. With its unique blend of history and modernity, the city's offerings include the Chicago Street Theatre, Memorial Opera House, the nationally recognized Brauer Museum of Art, the Porter County Museum, Taltree Arboretum and Gardens, a variety of trendy and traditional cafes, specialty shops, a seasonal farmer's market, outdoor concert venues, and more.

The Law School is located in Wesemann and Heritage Halls, on Valparaiso University's 320-acre campus in an area known as "Old Campus" which is part of the historic district of downtown Valparaiso. Heritage Hall, the Lawyering Skills Center, houses the Valparaiso University Law School Clinic, where students provide free legal services to disadvantaged residents in the area. Heritage Hall also offers students space to learn and build skills in moot court and trial advocacy competitions, appellate advocacy, dispute resolution, mediation, negotiation, client counseling, and pre-trial practice.

