Cumberland School of Law
Online Graduate Degrees 2021 Program
Information
Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.) | Master of Laws (LL.M.) | Graduate Certificates
About Samford University

Established 1841 87th-oldest university in the United States

Enrollment 5,692 3,591 undergraduate 2,101 graduate/professional

Graduate majors, minors and concentrations 70

52,838 alumni worldwide

#1 in Alabama
—The Wall Street Journal and Kiplinger’s Personal Finance

#2 in the nation for student engagement
—The Wall Street Journal

#34 private university in the U.S. for value and affordability
—Kiplinger’s Personal Finance

#40 in the nation for best undergraduate teaching
—U.S. News & World Report

47 states AND 28 countries
About Our Program

Available Degrees
- Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)
- Master of Laws (LL.M.)
- Graduate Certificate

What's the difference?
- The M.S.L. degree is **34 credit hours** and requires a bachelor’s degree for admission
- The LL.M. degree is **31 credit hours** and requires a J.D. for admission
- Certificates are **15 credit hours** and financial aid is not available; can be applied toward degree

Degree Concentrations
- Health Law and Compliance
- Financial Services Regulatory Compliance
- Higher Education Law and Compliance
- Legal Operations
- Regulatory Compliance - Custom
Program Format

Courses
- 100% online
- All courses are 3 credit hours, capstone course is 4 credit hours
- Students take 3 to 4 core legal courses
- Followed by 6 to 7 concentration-specific courses
- All students take the capstone course at the end of the program

Schedule
- Fall and Spring terms are 14 weeks total, split into A/B terms
  - Fall/Spring “A” term is 7 weeks – students take one class
  - Fall/Spring “B” term is 7 weeks – students take one class
- Summer terms are 10 weeks total
  - Students take two classes during summer term
Required Core Legal Courses

- MSLW 515: Introduction to Law and Legal Procedure*
- MSLW 525: Principles of Business Law
- MSLW 535: Legal Writing and Communication Skills
- MSLW 545: Introduction to Public Policy – Legislation and Regulation**
- MSLW 600: Capstone Course - *Students will work with a professional mentor in the student’s degree concentration to develop a project or paper designed to complement their area of professional interest.*

* - Not required for LL.M. students
** - Not required for Legal Operations students
Health Law and Compliance

- MHLW 520: Introduction to Health Care Delivery Systems
- MHLW 530: Health Care Compliance – Laws and Regulations
- MHLW 541: Health Care Insurance and Finance
- MHLW 550: Health Care Compliance – Programs and Policies
- MHLW 560: Corporate Ethics in Healthcare
- MHLP 570: Health Care Privacy and Security
Financial Services Regulatory Compliance

• MFRC 510: Banking Law and Regulation in the U.S.
• MFRC 520: Consumer Protection Laws and Regulations
• MFRC 530: Mortgage and Securities Regulation and Compliance
• MFRC 540: Crime and Compliance BSA/AML
• MSLW 555: Compliance Program Management
• MSLW 565: Information Privacy and Cybersecurity
Higher Education Law and Compliance

• MHLC 510: Higher Education Law and Governance
• MHLC 520: Data and Privacy in Educational Compliance
• MHLC 540: Student Rights and Campus Safety
• MHLC 560: Financial Compliance in Higher Education
• MHLW 555: Compliance Program Management
• MHLC 580: Compliance and Accreditation
Legal Operations

- MSLO 520: Law Firm Accounting
- MSLO 540: Legal Project Management
- MSLO 550: Legal Technology and Innovation
- MSLO 560: E-Discovery
- MSLW 565: Information Privacy and Cybersecurity
- MSLO 570: Law Firm Management
- MSLW 575: Business of Law
Student Benefits
Student Benefits

Health Law and Compliance
• Compliance Certification Board (CCB) – offers free conference registration to current students and credentialing exam eligibility upon graduation.

Financial Services Regulatory Compliance
• Association of Certified Financial Crime Specialists (ACFCS) – offers discounted certification packages to graduates and allows your degree to qualify you to sit for credentialing exam, once ten webinars have also been completed.
• Association of Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) – offers students a complimentary two-year membership as well as discounted certification packages.

Higher Education Law and Compliance
• Association of Title IX Administrators (atIXa) – offers complimentary student membership and discounted conference registrations.

Legal Operations
• Organization of Legal Professionals (OLP) – offers automatic eligibility to sit for the CeDP exam upon graduation, as well as discounted membership and other certifications.
• Association of Certified E-Discovery Specialists (ACEDS) – offers a discounted certification exam package to graduates
Program Faculty

**Micah Ascano**
Legal Project Manager
Jones Day
J.D., University of New Hampshire
B.S., South Dakota State University
*Legal Operations*

**Noelle Collins ‘98**
Project Risk & Contract Compliance Manager
Southern Power
J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law
B.S., University of Virginia
*Health Law and Compliance*

**Suzanne Clark**
Discovery Counsel
eDiscovery CoCounsel PLLC
J.D., University of Florida
B.A., University of Florida
*Legal Operations*

**Kim Davey**
Associate Professor
Samford University School of Public Health
Ph.D., University of Alabama at Birmingham
M.A., Seton Hall University
M.B.A., B.S., B.A., Samford University
*Health Law and Compliance*
Program Faculty

LaJuana Davis
Professor of Law and Director of Clinics
Samford University Cumberland School of Law
J.D., Harvard Law School
B.A., Georgia State University
Higher Education Law and Compliance

Michael DeBow
Stephen Everett Wells Professor of Municipal Law
Samford University Cumberland School of Law
J.D., Yale Law School
M.A., B.A., University of Alabama
Core Legal Courses

Bill Hairston
Shareholder
Engel Hairston and Johanson PC
J.D., University of Alabama
B.S., Cornell University
Financial Services Regulatory Compliance

Mark Hogewood
Attorney/Member
Wallace Jordan Ratliff & Brandt LLC
J.D., Vanderbilt University Law School
B.A., Wake Forest University
Legal Operations
Program Faculty

**Marci Johns**  
Associate Provost for Accreditation, Online and Professional Studies  
Samford University  
J.D., Faulkner University Thomas Goode Jones School of Law  
M.A., B.A., Auburn University at Montgomery  
*Higher Education Law and Compliance*

**Lynne Lee**  
Vice President, Risk Management  
Encompass Health  
J.D., Birmingham School of Law  
B.S., University of Alabama at Birmingham  
*Health Law and Compliance*

**Dawn Martin**  
Senior Consultant, E-Discovery  
FTI Consulting  
J.D., Vanderbilt University Law School  
M.B.A., Kennesaw State University  
B.S., University of Georgia  
*Legal Operations*

**Kerry McInerney ’98**  
Director of Online Graduate Programs  
Samford University Cumberland School of Law  
J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law  
M.A., Wayne State University  
B.A., Birmingham-Southern College  
*Financial Services Regulatory Compliance*
Program Faculty

Jim Phillips
Executive Vice President, Compliance Intelligence Officer
Regions Bank
J.D., University of Alabama
B.S., University of Alabama
Financial Services Regulatory Compliance

Chad Roberts
Founder
eDiscovery Co-Counsel PLLC
J.D., Florida State University
B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology
Legal Operations

Kelli Robinson ’98
Associate Counsel Manager
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Alabama
J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law
B.S., Louisiana State University
Health Law and Compliance

Terri Sharp
University Counsel
University of Alabama at Birmingham Office of Counsel
J.D., University of Alabama
B.S., Oakwood College
Higher Education Law and Compliance
Program Faculty

Lane Smith
Director of Student Financial Services
Samford University
M.S., University of Tennessee Knoxville
B.S., Ouachita Baptist University

*Higher Education Law and Compliance*

Henry C. “Corky” Strickland III
Dean and Ethel P. Malugen Professor of Law
Samford University Cumberland School of Law
J.D., Vanderbilt University Law School
B.A., Presbyterian College

*Core Legal Courses*

Clark Watson ’81
General Counsel
Samford University
J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law
B.S., Auburn University

*Higher Education Law and Compliance*

Tam Yelling ’98
In-House Counsel
Hibbett Sporting Goods Inc.
J.D., Samford University Cumberland School of Law
B.S., Spelman College

*Core Legal Courses*
Tuition and Fees

**M.S.L. Degree**
- 34 credit hours
- 2021-22 credit rate: $915/hour
- Average 3% tuition increase each academic year
- Distance Learning Fee: $100 per course x 11 courses
- Technology Fee: $175 per term (fall and spring only) x 4 terms

**Approximate program cost, excluding textbooks:**
$33,342

**LL.M. Degree**
- 31 credit hours
- 2021-22 credit rate: $915/hour
- Average 3% tuition increase each academic year
- Distance Learning Fee: $100 per course x 10 courses
- Technology Fee: $175 per term (fall and spring only) x 4 terms

**Approximate program cost, excluding textbooks:**
$30,497

Questions about Financial Aid? Please contact:
Dougles Johnson
djohns17@samford.edu
205-726-2905
Tuition and Fees

Certificate
• Available concentrations for Fall 2021
  ➢ Health Law and Compliance
  ➢ Legal Operations
• 15 credit hours
• 2021-22 credit rate: $915/hour
• Average 3% tuition increase each academic year
• Distance Learning Fee: $100 per course x 5 courses
• Technology Fee: $175 per term (fall and spring only) x 4 terms

Approximate program cost, excluding textbooks:
$15,093

Questions about Financial Aid? Please contact:
Dougles Johnson
djohns17@samford.edu
205-726-2905
Financial Aid

Aid Options

1. Stafford Loan
   • Apply through FAFSA
   • $20,500 annual maximum limit
   • Aggregate loan limits apply

2. Grad PLUS Loan
   • Apply through FAFSA
   • Credit-based
   • Amount limited only by other aid already received, credit decisions and the total annual financial aid maximum

3. Payment Plans
   • Offered through Samford’s Financial Aid office
   • $75 one-time enrollment fee
   • Four or five installment plans available
   • Available in fall and spring terms only (not for summer)

Questions about Financial Aid? Please contact:
Dougles Johnson
djohns17@samford.edu
205-726-2905

FAFSA deadline for Fall 2021 is July 15
Applying to the Program

- Application is 100% online
- Upload required documents into application
- Have official transcripts sent to us directly from issuing institution
- Provide contact information for references, we reach out to them on your behalf
- Admission decisions delivered via email within 2-3 business days of receiving completed application

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Resume</th>
<th>Personal Statement</th>
<th>Letter of Recommendation</th>
<th>Official Transcript</th>
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Application Deadline is July 1, 2021
Being an Online Student - FAQ

Do I have to be online at a specific time?
No! All of the courses run asynchronously, meaning that you do not have to do anything with classmates or faculty in real time. Instead, your course will be broken down into weekly modules. Each module will run Wednesday-Tuesday. Each week, you’ll log into your course and see the assignments and schedule for the week. You are then able to complete the module at your own pace and schedule. Because of this format, our students find it easier to manage work and family obligations.

What will I be doing in an online course?
Depending on the subject matter and instructor, you can expect to see text and outside reading assignments, pre-recorded lectures, videos from other experts, discussion board posts, etc. You may be asked to take a quiz at the end of a module or complete a short essay. Some courses require a group project while others have a final exam or paper.

What if I have problems with technology?
We use the online learning platform, Canvas. If you’ve ever taken online courses before, you’ve probably used Canvas. They have a 24/7 student support department for any issues you may run into. We rarely hear of any student issues that can’t be solved with a quick email to the support desk.

Will I know my classmates?
Yes! You’ll start the program with your cohort, and as long as you stay on track, you’ll move through the program with the same classmates. You’ll also notice that courses rely on a heavy use of discussion board posts. This gives you an opportunity to get to know your classmates and also learn from other perspectives who may be in the industry you are studying.
Interested? Take these next steps!

• Visit program websites for detailed information including course descriptions and career options
• Contact the Graduate Programs office with any application or curriculum questions
• Start your application
• Order transcripts
• Contact Financial Aid with financial questions
• Application deadline July 1
• New Student Virtual Orientation early August 2021
• Classes begin late August 2021