Cumberland School of Law
Fall 2018 Program Information
Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)
Master of Laws (LL.M.)
About Samford University

- Founded in 1841, 87th-oldest university in the United States
- Fall 2017 enrollment: 5,509: 3,373 undergraduate and 2,136 graduate
- 50,605 alumni worldwide
- 30 undergraduate and graduate/professional degree programs
- Ranked #87 nationally and #1 in Alabama by The Economist
- Ranked #3 in the South, #5 in the South for most innovative by U.S. News & World Report (2018)
- Ranked #50 private university in the U.S. for value and affordability by Kiplinger’s Personal Finance (2018)
About Cumberland School of Law

• One of the oldest law schools in the country, established in 1847


• Ranked #9 for Best Quality of Life by Princeton Review (2019)

• Network of over 8,000 alumni worldwide

• Accredited by the American Bar Association since 1949
Online Graduate Programs at Cumberland School of Law

• Launched Master of Science in Health Law and Policy in 2015
• Successful program led to ideas for new offerings
• Faculty and alumni expertise as well as demand for jobs in compliance and legal project management inspired the new curriculum

“LPM isn’t just here to stay, it is on a growth trajectory that is helping to fast change and improve the whole legal business model.”
- Josh Reeves, artificiallawyer.com, 3/1/2018

“10 Legal Jobs to Watch in 2018”
• Litigation Support / eDiscovery Manager
• Compliance manager
- Robert Half Legal, roberthalf.com
Our Degrees

• Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)
• Master of Laws (LL.M.)

What's the difference?

• The M.S.L. degree is 36 credit hours and requires a bachelor’s degree for admission
• The LL.M. degree is 30 credit hours and requires a J.D. for admission

“American businesses today deal with statutory and regulatory demands that are complex and subject to rapid change. Cumberland’s M.S.L. and LL.M. programs provide students with an understanding of the current compliance framework, so that they become more valuable to their organizations. It also seeks to enable students to self-educate with regard to changes that come after they have graduated from the program.”

- Prof. Michael E. DeBow, MSLW 545, MSLW 525
Career Pathways

“I am absolutely loving this program. It has allowed me to feel much more comfortable in advising our health care clients with respect to HIPAA issues, physician contracts and the like...the confidence comes from knowing more about what our clients have to deal with from an overall regulatory perspective.

- Louis Hatcher, J.D., M.S. in Health Law and Policy
Student Benefits

We understand how much you value professional development and career growth. As a student in the online graduate programs at Cumberland, you will enjoy a variety of benefits, depending on your concentration.

“This program has enriched and enhanced my employment opportunities. I received many offers from organizations who were specifically interested in the skills I obtained as a direct result of this master’s program. I have happily accepted a new role as a Vendor Auditor, in which I will be responsible for conducting audits of legal and non-legal vendors for compliance with all internal, regulatory, and agency specific guidelines and standards...with an increase in salary, 40% larger than my beginning offer at my previous role. I am grateful for this program, and I am eager to see where my career leads me.”

- Kristen Iqal, M.S., Health Law & Policy, 2017
Student Benefits

**Health Law and Policy** students enjoy the benefits of our program being approved by the Compliance Certification Board. You’ll be eligible to sit for their credentialing exams immediately upon graduation. You may also be eligible for free conference registrations while in the program.

“I’m confident that with the knowledge and expertise gained from Cumberland’s distinguished faculty, I will have the opportunity to influence health policy in a manner consistent with the facts and that yields the best outcomes from the program.”

- Tammy Ponder, M.S. Health Law & Policy, 2017
Student Benefits

Higher Education Law and Compliance students enjoy the benefits of our institutional membership to atIXa, the Association of Title IX Administrators. You will have a complimentary membership for the duration of the program, and after graduation. You’ll also receive discounts for campus-hosted events and Joint Conferences.

“Through the higher education law and compliance concentration, students will gain an understanding of the diverse and often complex legal environment in which public and private colleges and universities operate. Students now employed or who hope to have a career in higher education will benefit from a formal course of instruction that focuses on the many laws, regulations and agencies that impact the academic and business functions of colleges and universities.”

- Clark Watson, Samford University General Counsel & faculty member, teaches MHL 510
Student Benefits

Financial Services Regulatory Compliance students enjoy benefits from both the Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) and the Association of Certified Financial Crime Specialists (ACFCS). All students will enjoy a complimentary 2-year membership to ACAMS as well as discounted certification packages. ACFCS offers a discounted certification package to our students. In addition, ACFCS will allow the M.S.L. degree to qualify students to sit for their credentialing exam, once ten webinars have also been completed.
Student Benefits

Legal Project Management students enjoy benefits from both the Organization of Legal Professionals (OLP) and the Association of Certified E-Discovery Specialists (ACEDS).

Students who earn their degree with a concentration in Legal Project Management are automatically eligible to sit for the CeDP exam, offered by the OLP, and enjoy discounts on membership and certification. ACEDS offers a discounted certification exam package to program graduates.
Faculty & Advisory Board

Each concentration or area of study boasts a dedicated faculty and advisory board. Our faculty includes full-time law professors as well as lawyers and others who are experts in their field and want to share their knowledge with the next generation of leaders.

As a student in the program, you will have the opportunity to network with our advisory board at Orientation and connect with one or more members as you develop and complete your capstone project.

“I really enjoyed the orientation. It was great! The discussion with the advisors was very enlightening.”

“I've been to a few orientations for different organizations and most were a total waste of time. Here, I never felt we were just marking time over our couple of days.”

- 2016 Orientation Participants
Tuition and Fees

- Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)
- 36 credit hour program
- 2018-2019 tuition is $837 per credit
- Fees include $100 per course distance learning fee and $175 per term technology fee (fall and spring)
- Approximate tuition and fees for entire program assuming 3% tuition increase for AY 2019-2020 = $32,482

See Samford University Student Financial Services website for official rates and fees.
Tuition and Fees

• Master of Laws (LL.M.)
• 30 credit hour program
• 2018-2019 tuition is $837 per credit
• Fees include $100 per course distance learning fee and $175 per term technology fee (fall and spring)
• Approximate tuition and fees for entire program assuming 3% tuition increase for AY 2019-2020 = $27,260

See Samford University Student Financial Services website for official rates and fees.
Financial Aid

• Stafford Loans and Grad PLUS Loans available

• FAFSA is required to receive either loan

• $20,500 annual maximum limit is enforced for Stafford Loans

• Grad PLUS Loans are limited only by other aid already received, credit decisions and the total annual financial aid maximum

• FAFSA priority deadline is July 15 – FAFSA.GOV

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

• Payment plans available for fall & spring terms
• Four-Installment or Five-Installment (fall only) plans available
• $75 enrollment fee
• Payment plans not available for summer terms
• See Student Financial Services website for details: https://www.samford.edu/departments/financial-services/
• Payment plan dates for 2018-2019 should be posted by June 1
Curriculum

• Each plan of study includes “core” courses followed by 24 to 27 hours of “specialty” courses.
• All courses are three credit hours
• M.S.L. students will complete 2, three-credit hour courses each term for six terms
• LL.M. students will complete one three-credit course in the first two terms, and two three-credit courses each term for the following four terms

“This program provides a particularly robust toolbox of information designed to give students an advantage over their peers in the compliance world.”
- Prof. Kelli Robinson, teaches MHLP 530, MHLP 570
Being an Online Student - FAQ

• How long per week?
• How are the courses organized?
• What will I be doing?
• What if I have problems with technology?
• Will I know my classmates?
• How will I interact with peers and faculty?

“There were a lot of places I applied but none of them actually wanted us to come to campus . . . I didn’t know about Samford until I applied, but once I showed up it felt like a place where a degree from here would mean a lot . . . people in the program really care about whether you succeed.”

- Mercedes Lewis, M.S., Health Law and Policy, 2017
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
• Complete your application
• Contact Financial Aid with financial questions
• Order transcripts
• Application deadline June 1
• Classes begin August 27

CONTACT US

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