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Berkeley Law

LL.M. Degree Program

Keep up with the latest news from our community and see more of what life is like as a student at #BerkeleyLaw by following us on social media:

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llm@law.berkeley.edu

Contact us via WhatsApp by scanning the QR code:



Visit our website by scanning the QR code:



On the cover: Recent LL.M. students Rio Fafen Ciptaswara, Rita Powolot, Wang Zhang, Anais Jansen-Fernandez, and Anyelle Ribeiro da Rocha.



Maria Galan Azcoitia '22
on the first day of class.



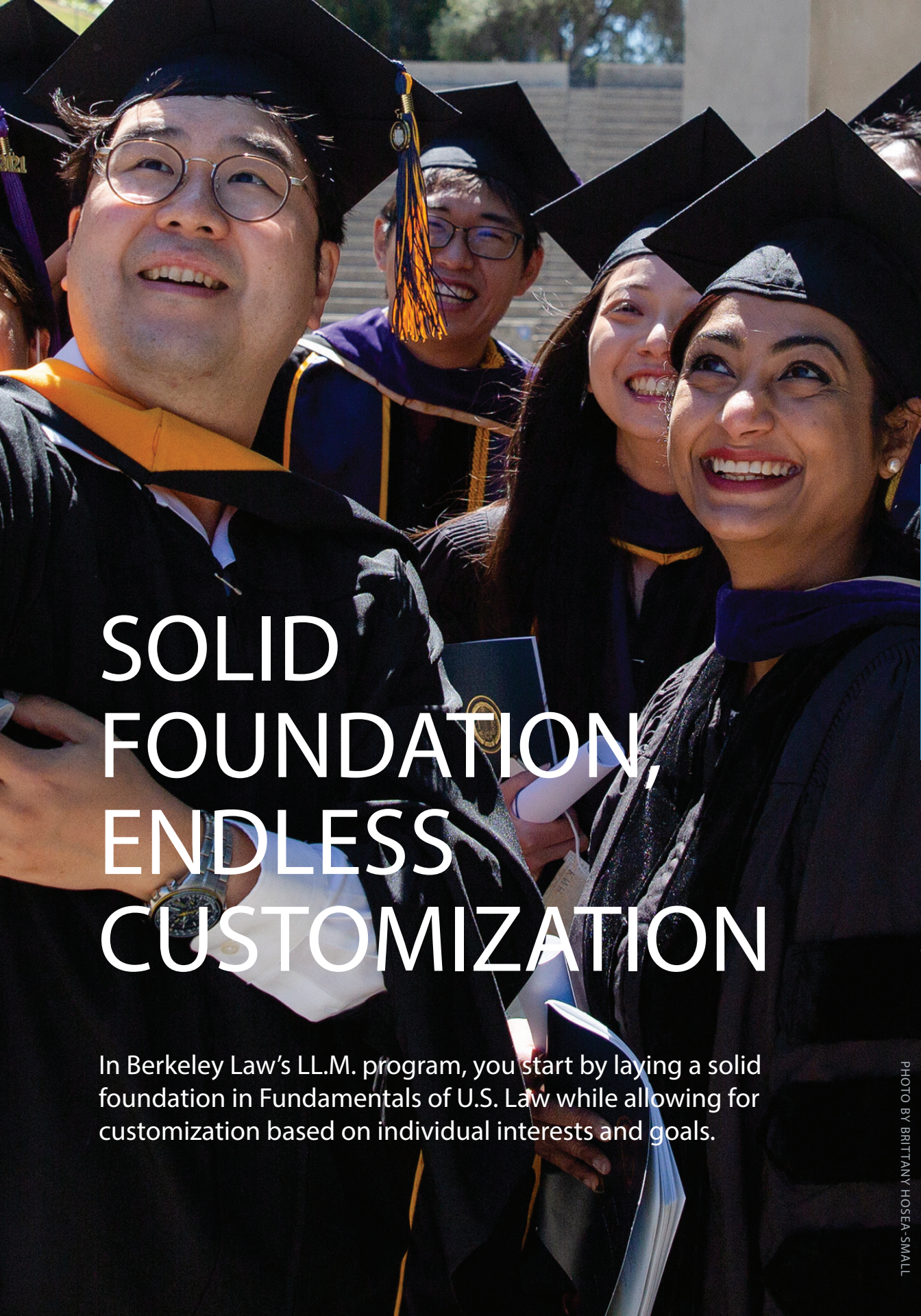
A Berkeley Law LL.M. means earning your degree at one of the top law schools in the United States — a public institution committed to academic excellence, social engagement, and a public mission of using law to make our community and our world better. It means coming to a place where we’ve been teaching LL.M. students for over 70 years and J.D. students for more than a century. It means learning from and engaging with internationally renowned faculty and distinguished scholars. It means creating long-lasting relationships with legal professionals from around the globe. And it means living in the San Francisco Bay Area, one of the world’s most culturally and intellectually stimulating regions.



“The LL.M. program provided me with unique problem-solving tools as well as excellent analytical, research, and communication abilities, which enabled me to land the job of my dreams. Nevertheless, the most valuable gift from the LL.M. is the lawyers from all over the world that I can now call friends.”

CHADIA ABREU MANON '22 –Dominican Republic

PHOTO BY BRITTANY HOSEA-SMALL



SOLID FOUNDATION, ENDLESS CUSTOMIZATION

In Berkeley Law's LL.M. program, you start by laying a solid foundation in Fundamentals of U.S. Law while allowing for customization based on individual interests and goals.

PHOTO BY BRITTANY HOSEA-SMALL

CHOOSE YOUR PATH

Berkeley Law offers two different program options, each leading to the same LL.M. degree. Explore your options and choose between the Executive Track and the Traditional Track.

Please note, you can apply to more than one track.

LAY THE FOUNDATION	Complete mandatory coursework in Fundamentals of U.S. Law and Legal Research & Writing.
SPECIALIZE	<div>Pursue a certificate of specialization to deepen your study in a practice area.</div> <div><div>Technology Business International* Post-Graduate Executive Leadership**</div><div>Public Interest & Social Justice* Energy & Clean Tech* Environmental* Practical Lawyering†</div></div>
FIND YOUR COURSES	<div>Customize your degree by choosing from our wide variety of course offerings.</div> <div>Scan the QR code to explore courses</div> <div></div>
GET INVOLVED	Gain valuable experience in our top-ranked programs, clinics, and centers.

*Available only in academic-year program tracks
**Available only for Executive Track only
†Available only for Traditional Track only

ONE LL.M. DEGREE TWO PROGRAM OPTIONS

EXECUTIVE TRACK

1

REMOTE + SUMMER

This timeline allows you to earn your LL.M. degree in one calendar year, with part-time spring/fall semesters online and one full-time summer semester in Berkeley.

TWO SUMMERS

This timeline allows you to earn your LL.M. degree over two consecutive full-time summer semesters in Berkeley.

Berkeley Law’s LL.M. is a general degree designed to provide a strong basis in the fundamentals of U.S. law while allowing for customization based on individual interests and goals.

TRADITIONAL TRACK

2

This track spans one nine-month academic year in Berkeley and integrates LL.M. students with those pursuing a J.D. degree, with access to academic-year activities.



“You will not find this level of richness in terms of cultural and intellectual diversity anywhere else in the world. The best of professional and academic excellence and an exceptional level of culture and compassion is engraved deeply within the Berkeley community.”

AARUSHI PATIL '20 — India

PROGRAM CALENDAR

	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC
EXECUTIVE TRACK (R+S)														Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
										ONLINE				IN BERKELEY				ONLINE		
EXECUTIVE TRACK (S+S)		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4									Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4			
		IN BERKELEY												IN BERKELEY						
TRADITIONAL TRACK																				
					IN BERKELEY															

EXECUTIVE TRACK

OUR MOST FLEXIBLE PROGRAM

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The flexibility of the Executive Track enables students to take the same number of units and receive the same LL.M. degree as our other tracks, but with less time spent away from home. Specifically designed with working professionals in mind, this non-traditional program structure compresses our academic-year course schedule, allowing students to delve deeply into a few subject matters at a time for a rigorous and intensive educational experience.

The Executive Track is the only degree program running at the law school during the summer semester, resulting in a tight bond among LL.M. students and faculty. Shortly after starting your semester you'll know every person you see in the hallways.

COURSEWORK AND DEGREE CUSTOMIZATION

Unlike an academic-year semester in which students take multiple courses at the same time, students in the Executive Track take one or two courses every few weeks with exams immediately following. Only students in the remote + summer timeline take courses part-time in the spring and fall semesters while students in the two summers timeline only take courses in the summer. After students complete mandatory coursework in Fundamentals of U.S. Law and Legal Research and Writing, they are free to enroll in any of the electives they choose. Students in the Executive Track may also focus their studies to earn a Certificate of Specialization in one of our most popular areas of study — Business Law, Law and Technology, or Post-Graduate Executive Leadership. With careful planning, students can also meet the requirements to become eligible to sit for the California Bar Examination.



"Berkeley Law is the perfect combination of fun and challenging. To be amongst the brightest attorneys from around the world and learn from professors who are stalwarts in their fields has helped me push my limits and challenge myself not only intellectually but also socially."

AISHWARYA TODALBAGI '22 — India



"The faculty, professors, and students at Berkeley Law create an environment that engages, supports, and inspires. Whatever the ambition, each individual feels empowered to redefine themselves and pursue their true potential."

SERKAN GUENGOER '22 — Germany

REMOTE + SUMMER

Complete your degree in one full calendar year, starting remotely in January and ending remotely in December with one in-Berkeley semester during the summer. Online spring and fall semesters each take approximately 15 hours or less of work per week.

TWO SUMMERS

Complete your degree during two consecutive 10- or 13-week summer semesters (May-August) in Berkeley. This unique summer semester structure allows students to participate in required and elective courses for full-time study in a shorter period of time.



PHOTO BY MARISSA GUTIERREZ

TRADITIONAL TRACK

OUR ACADEMIC-YEAR PROGRAM

This track spans one nine-month on-campus academic year and integrates LL.M. students with those pursuing a J.D. degree, with access to academic-year activities.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The Traditional Track is designed to integrate American and international law students at various levels of study in courses and seminars offered to students across different academic programs. This program option takes place during the standard academic year in Berkeley from August to May, giving students the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of activities ranging from centers, clinics, field placements, journals, and other student groups.

COURSEWORK AND DEGREE CUSTOMIZATION

After completing mandatory degree requirements in Fundamentals of U.S. Law and Legal Research and Writing, LL.M. candidates may then customize their studies by choosing elective coursework as they see fit. Students seeking in-depth training in a particular area of law may also earn a Certificate of Specialization in one of seven practice areas: business law, technology law, international law, practical lawyering, public interest and social justice law, energy and clean technology law, and environmental law. With careful planning, students can also meet the requirements to become eligible to sit for either the California or New York Bar Examination.



“The rare blend of theory and practice that Berkeley Law offers through its diverse subject options, taught by the most renowned professionals, makes this journey special.”

SUMEDH RISHI '22 – India



PHOTO BY RACHEL DELETTO (TOP) AND B RITTANY HOSEA-SMALL (BOTTOM)

GLOBAL NETWORK + PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Earning your LL.M. degree from Berkeley Law means you've met rigorous standards, learned from top legal scholars, and acquired skills and a global professional network to move you forward in your career.

YOUR FUTURE GLOBAL NETWORK AT A GLANCE

200⁺ | 50

Legal experts in your
professional network

Countries where your new
colleagues (and friends!) live



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

- INDIVIDUAL ADVISING with specialized attorney-counselors dedicated to the professional development needs of LL.M. students
- PROGRAMS AND WORKSHOPS tailored for LL.M. students, including resume writing, interviewing skills, business etiquette and networking, and legal practice areas
- NETWORKING EVENTS to help LL.M. students build and cultivate professional networks
- International and domestic JOB SEARCH ADVISING
- F-1 OPTIONAL PRACTICAL TRAINING (OPT)*

*Traditional track only

RAISE YOUR BAR



THE CALIFORNIA BAR determines eligibility based on whether you've been admitted to practice law in any jurisdiction in the world. But don't worry if you haven't yet been admitted, we offer all the coursework you might need to become eligible for the California Bar Exam in all of our tracks!*

THE NEW YORK BAR divides exam applicants by those who have been educated in a common law or civil law system. If, like most of the world, you are trained in civil law, you will find all the bar-related coursework you might need in our traditional and thesis tracks!*

*Bar eligibility is determined by the relevant state bar and not Berkeley Law. Please contact the state bar with questions about your eligibility.



"Berkeley provided me with a clearer path to legal innovation and societal change."

MATHEUS DRUMMOND '22 – Brazil

BERKELEY BY THE NUMBERS

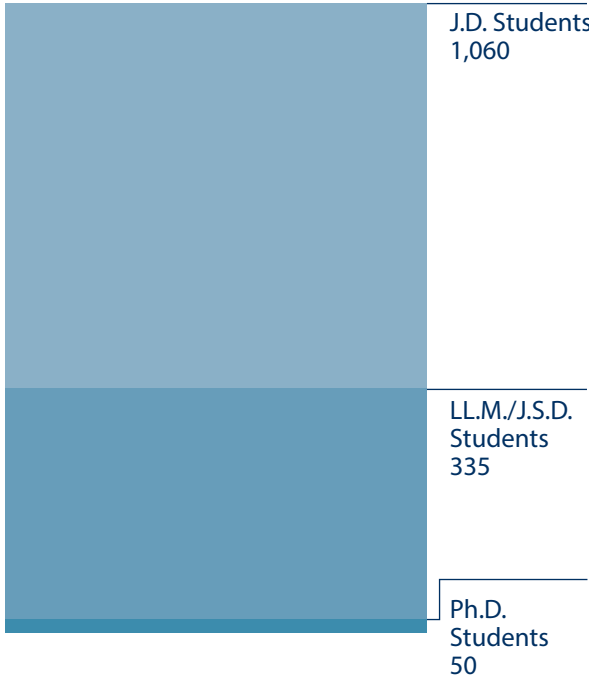
4,272

Collective years of experience
for the class of 2023

#4

Best University in the World
According to Shanghai Rankings, 2023

TYPICAL SIZE OF STUDENT BODY ANNUALLY



#1

Intellectual Property

#3

Environmental Law

#4

Business/Corporate Law

#7

Criminal Law

#5

Contracts/Commercial Law

#7

International Law

According to U.S. News
& World Report, 2023-24

LIVING HERE

12

Performing arts theatres

47

Miles to Point Reyes
National Seashore

130+

On-campus group exercise
classes offered each week by Cal
Recreational Sports

52

Parks

2,079

Acres of trails, lakes, and woods in Tilden Regional
Park, just two miles from Berkeley Law

APPLYING

THE LL.M. DEGREE PROGRAM

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Admissions requirements for all programs are largely the same.

A complete LL.M. application includes:

- An application form submitted online via LSAC
- An application fee
- A personal statement
- A curriculum vitae
- Official academic records
- Two letters of recommendation
- A TOEFL score of 100 or IELTS score of 7.0
- Video Assessment (for Executive Track only)

SCHOLARSHIPS

Berkeley Law awards selective merit or citizenship-based scholarships to outstanding admitted LL.M. students. Scholarship decisions are made at the time of admission.

Scan this QR code to review current scholarship opportunities:



LL.M. students Aastha Daftary, Mike David, Arunabha Ganguli, and Tanya Manalaysay chatting between classes.

ADMISSIONS TIMELINE

AUG. 1	APPLICATIONS OPEN: All Tracks
SEPTEMBER	ADMISSION DECISIONS BEGIN: Executive Track
NOV. 10	APPLICATIONS CLOSE Executive Track: Remote + Summer
DEC. 18	APPLICATIONS CLOSE Traditional Track, Executive Track: Two Summers
MARCH	ADMISSION DECISIONS BEGIN Traditional Track

THE BAY AREA

More than 400 eateries within a mile of the school. More than 2,000 acres of hiking and biking trails just up the road. More than 50 live music venues in Berkeley. More than 255 sunny days per year waiting for you. From politics to poetry, food to film, nature to nightlife, Berkeley has it all.



Berkeley is an iconic college town surrounding the world’s premier public university, renowned for its intellectual dynamism, cultural tolerance, political awareness, and natural beauty. Sitting at the crossroads of the Pacific Rim, Silicon Valley, and San Francisco, Berkeley is the perfect launchpad for Bay Area adventures. San Francisco is just 20 minutes away by transit; down the road, Oakland is a fast growing hotspot. If you need a respite from the hustle and bustle, the East Bay hills beckon with take-your-breath-away views of the Bay. Wherever your interests may take you, the Bay Area is here to provide you with countless opportunities.

LL.M. students (opposite page) Wang Zhang, Alexander Mann, Thelma Kristjánsdóttir (above) Prathyush Natarajan, Rita Powolot, Luisa Egli, Julie Pasquale, and Michelle Enz

PHOTOS BY DARIUS RILEY, RACHEL DELETTIO, MARISSA GUTIERREZ, LAURIE FRASIER, AND ALEX A.G. SHAPIRO