

Program Change Request

Date Submitted: 03/03/22 3:59 pm

Viewing: **AGLWLM : Agriculture Food and Law,**

Master of Laws

Last approved: 05/20/21 10:24 am

Last edit: 03/04/22 9:29 am

Changes proposed by: bhmiller

Catalog Pages Using
this Program

[LL.M. in Agricultural and Food Law](#)

Submitter: User ID: **bhmiller** ~~ktulca~~ Phone:
3706 7456

Program Status Active

Academic Level Law

Type of proposal Major/Field of Study

Select a reason for this modification

Making Minor Changes to an Existing Certificate or Degree (e.g. changing 15 or fewer hours, changing admission/graduation requirements, adding/changing Focused Study or Track)

Are you adding a concentration?

No

Are you adding or modifying a track?

No

Are you adding or modifying a focused study?

No

Effective Catalog Year Fall 2022

College/School Code

In Workflow

1. **LAWW Dean Initial**
2. **Director of Curriculum Review and Program Assessment**
3. **Registrar Initial**
4. **Institutional Research**
5. **LAWD Chair**
6. **LAWW Dean**
7. **Global Campus**
8. **Provost Review**
9. **University Course and Program Committee**
10. Faculty Senate
11. Provost Final
12. Registrar Final
13. Catalog Editor Final

Approval Path

1. 03/03/22 5:25 pm
Tiffany Murphy (tiffanym):
Approved for LAWW Dean Initial
2. 03/04/22 9:30 am
Alice Griffin (agriffin): Approved for Director of Curriculum Review and Program Assessment

School of Law (LAWW)

Department Code

Department of Law (LAWD)

Program Code AGLWLM

Degree Master of Laws

CIP Code

3. 03/07/22 8:45 am

Gina Daugherty

(gdaugher):

Approved for

Registrar Initial

4. 03/08/22 10:11 am

Doug Miles

(dmiles): Approved

for Institutional

Research

5. 03/08/22 10:14 am

Tiffany Murphy

(tiffanym):

Approved for LAWD

Chair

6. 03/08/22 10:14 am

Tiffany Murphy

(tiffanym):

Approved for LAWW

Dean

7. 03/08/22 10:19 am

Suzanne Kenner

(skenner): Approved

for Global Campus

8. 03/08/22 10:25 am

Ketevan

Mamiseishvili

(kmamisei):

Approved for

Provost Review

History

1. Aug 13, 2015 by

Charlie Alison

(calison)

2. Aug 13, 2015 by

Charlie Alison

(calison)

3. Jun 14, 2016 by Lisa

Kulczak (lkulcza)

4. Jun 27, 2016 by Charlie Alison (calison)
5. Jun 27, 2016 by Charlie Alison (calison)
6. Jun 27, 2016 by Charlie Alison (calison)
7. Dec 2, 2016 by Charlie Alison (calison)
8. Jul 26, 2017 by Amanda Corbell (ac087)
9. Aug 2, 2018 by Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza)
10. May 20, 2021 by Charlie Alison (calison)

22.9999 - Legal Professions and Studies, Other.

Program Title

Agriculture Food and Law, Master of Laws

Program Delivery

Method

On Campus

Online/Web-based

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Does this proposal impact any courses from another College/School?

No

What are the total hours needed to complete the program? 24

On-line/Web-based Information

Reason for offering
Web-based Program

Program is offered online, so CourseLeaf needs to reflect this. Dean Will Foster has approved this change.

Maximum Class Size na
for Web-based
Courses

Course delivery
mode

Method(s)
Online

Class interaction
mode

Method(s):
Electronic Bulletin Boards

Percent Online

100% with No Required Campus Component

Provide a List of
Services Supplied by
Consortia Partners or
Outsourced
Organization
na

Estimate Costs of the na
Program over the
First 3 Years

List Courses Taught
by Adjunct Faculty

Upload
Memorandum of
Understanding Forms
(if required)

Program Requirements and Description

Requirements

LL.M. Admission Requirements

Applicants for admission to the LL.M. Program in Agricultural & Food Law must have earned a J.D. or LL.B. degree from a fully accredited school in the United States **or a J.D., LL.B., or be admitted to a substantially equivalent degree from a fully accredited school in another country.** ~~bar.~~ **An applicant who has earned a J.D. or LL.B. degree** ~~Attorneys who have graduated~~ from a law school in ~~another country may be admitted upon~~ the **United States that is not fully accredited but who has been admitted to a bar may be admitted in special circumstances upon approval of the approval of the** Graduate Legal Studies **Committee.**

~~Admissions Committee.~~

~~Professional or Graduate level students may take courses on a non-degree basis.~~ All applicants should demonstrate academic excellence coupled with an interest in agricultural law or food law **issues.**

~~issues.~~

Factors considered by the Graduate Legal Studies Committee in evaluating an application for degree candidacy include:

the candidate's past academic performance, particularly his or her performance in relevant legal studies; for applicants seeking an LL.M. in Agricultural and Food Law, any past background that would evidence a special interest in agricultural and food law; and

such other factors as the committee may deem relevant in determining the likelihood of success of the applicant in the graduate law program.

~~A law school grade-point average of 2.50 or higher on a 4.00 scale is required; 3.00 or higher is preferred.~~ The following information is required for a complete **application:** ~~application from a domestic applicant:~~

A completed application ~~form;~~

A Statement of Interest explaining ~~An admission statement or letter explaining~~ the reasons why the applicant seeks to be admitted and demonstrating an interest in agricultural **and and/or** food law;

Official copies of transcripts from all post-secondary educational institutions attended (these must be sent from the school, directly to the ~~Director of the~~ LL.M. program);

At least one letter of recommendation (two in the case of international students) from an individual who can attest to the applicant's academic and professional abilities (~~sent (this should be sent~~ directly to the ~~Director of the~~ LL.M. Program).

~~A writing sample is optional, but will be considered if submitted. International candidates should refer to the application requirements as explained on the PDF of the application form. Non-degree seeking candidates should contact the program at llm@uark.edu for eligibility and application information.~~ The University of Arkansas School of Law's Graduate Admissions Committee will make all admissions decisions and may in some cases place conditions on a candidate's admission.

~~Applications for the 2017-2018 class will be accepted beginning Oct. 1, 2016.~~ The **Program program** has a rolling admissions policy, and applications will continue to be accepted until all candidate positions are filled.

Additional information and links to program application forms are found on the LL.M. Program's website at [How to Apply](#).

J.D. Electives in Agricultural and Food Law

J.D. students in good standing at the University of Arkansas School of Law have the opportunity to enroll in many of the specialized LL.M. courses as electives in the J.D. **program, as space permits.**

J.D. students who take LL.M. courses as J.D. electives and later apply for and are accepted into the LL.M. Program can request that up to 6 credits of the LL.M. courses taken be counted toward their LL.M. degree provided that:

The LL.M. course was taken within three years prior to admission to the LL.M. Program;

The student received a grade of 3.25 or higher in the LL.M. course; and,

The Graduate Legal Studies Committee grants permission in consultation with the Professor of the LL.M. course(s).

~~program. Food Law and Policy, Agriculture and the Environment, Global Issues in Food Law, and Agricultural Bankruptcy have all been popular choices for J.D. enrollment.~~ **Nine-Hour J.D. Students**

A School of Law student who is within nine hours of completing the total credit hours required to earn a J.D. degree may be admitted conditionally to the graduate law program. This allows students to begin their LL.M. coursework during their final semester of law school. Credits are assigned to either the J.D. program or the LL.M. program but cannot be counted toward both degrees. In order to be admitted to the nine-hour program, a J.D. student must:

Obtain advance approval from the Graduate Legal Studies Committee;

Obtain advance approval from the director of the graduate law program for credits to be applied toward the LL.M. degree; and

Earn a grade of 2.50 or higher in each course to be applied toward the LL.M. degree.

A student who satisfies these requirements and who is subsequently awarded a J.D. degree will be admitted to the graduate program as a degree candidate, unless the Graduate Legal Studies Committee determines that there are substantial grounds for revocation of the conditional admission.

Non-Degree Program

J.D. students, practicing attorneys, and graduate students in related disciplines may be allowed to enroll in **some of our specialized LL.M. agricultural and food law classes for non-degree credit. classes for non-degree credit. A number of LL.M. courses are open to J.D. students in good standing. This includes law students enrolled at University of Arkansas School of Law as well as students at other accredited law schools. Students** wishing to transfer credits **to must contact their degree program, must contact their Dean or Department head** for approval prior **to to** enrollment. ~~LL.M. alumni and other attorneys can take many of the LL.M. Attorneys seeking Continuing Legal Education (CLE) classes, and the class may qualify for CLE credit should contact (subject to their jurisdiction for credit requirements and certification forms. state CLE rules).~~

~~Graduate students working in a related discipline may also be allowed to take LL.M. courses. This includes graduate students enrolled at University of Arkansas School of Law as well as students in other accredited graduate programs. Students wishing to transfer credits must contact their Dean for approval prior to enrollment.~~ Interested students and attorneys should **email contact the program administrator, Sarah Hiatt, at llm@uark.edu** for the current class schedule and information about enrollment.

Degree Requirements

To receive an LL.M. degree in agricultural **and food** law, a candidate must:

Complete a total of 24-credit hours pursuant to a course of study approved by the director of the **LL.M. graduate law program; program including the following required courses: LAWW 786V Food Law and Policy,**

LAWW 796V Agriculture and the Environment, LAWW 7312 Agricultural Perspectives ;

Maintain a cumulative grade-point average of 2.50 or better (on a 4.00 scale); and

Conduct research in a specialized area of agricultural ~~law~~ and **food law and** produce a written product for graded credit. The required written product can be of the sort that is published in a law journal or, with the permission of the director of the ~~LL.M. graduate law program, a less traditional product that demonstrates rigorous legal analysis, significant academic content, and quality legal writing skills.~~ **program, a less traditional product that demonstrates rigorous legal analysis, significant academic content, and quality legal writing skills.**

Candidates may enroll on a full or part-time basis but may not enroll for more than 15 hours in any semester without the approval of the director of the ~~LL.M. graduate law program.~~ **program.** All coursework, including completion of the research requirement must be completed within four years of **matriculation unless an extension for good cause is granted by the Graduate Legal Studies Committee.** ~~matriculation.~~

All candidates are subject to the LL.M. Program Honor Code.

Dual Degree Program

The School of Law cooperates with the department of agricultural economics and agribusiness in the Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences to offer a dual-degree program leading to the LL.M. in agricultural ~~law~~ and **food law and** Master of Science in agricultural economics degrees.

Each program applies its own admission standards. For further information on the master's in agricultural economics, **visit Dual MS LLM, Bumpers College Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness.** ~~contact the graduate program adviser at 479-575-2256.~~

Course of Study

The LL.M. program offers **more than** 24 credits of specialized agricultural **and food law courses each year.** ~~courses.~~ **The director approves each student's course selection. Three of these specialized courses are required: LAWW 786V Food Law and Policy ; LAWW 796V Agriculture and the Environment, and LAWW 7312 Agricultural Perspectives. A final research project, Advanced Writing in Agricultural and Food Law is also required.**

Most students take **24 credits** ~~all of these~~ **the** specialized **courses to complete their degree.** ~~courses.~~ However, with the approval of the director, a student may substitute courses offered in the J.D. program (if not taken previously as a J.D. student) or courses offered for graduate credit elsewhere within the University of Arkansas provided that they are substantially related to agricultural or food law. ~~LL.M. Graduate Given an increasingly globalized food system, some LL.M. students have taken international law classes offered in the J.D. curriculum.~~ students may be allowed to earn up to six credits through alternative courses. An effort is made to accommodate each student's particular areas of interest, and the director works closely with each student to develop their preferred curriculum. Credit may not be granted for courses taken at other law schools.

Costs and Funding

The LL.M. Program in Agricultural and Food Law is one of the most affordable LL.M. opportunities available. **For on-campus students, the** ~~The~~ university provides an online calculator for tuition and fees information at **the Treasurer's website.** **Distance students are given the in-state tuition rate regardless of their state of residency and also pay lower fees.**

The Graduate School at the University of Arkansas and the School of Law provide for Graduate Assistantships to be awarded to a limited number of LL.M. candidates. These assistantships provide for a full tuition waiver plus a stipend of \$5,000 less withholding per semester in exchange for the candidate's work in a variety of legal and teaching capacities. Competition for the Graduate Assistantship positions is high, and the awards are primarily **merit-based.** ~~merit-based, although special consideration may also be given to particularly well-qualified international candidates.~~

Graduate Assistantships awards are made by the Graduate Admissions Committee after a candidate has been admitted to the LL.M. Program.

LL.M. Courses

Each semester, ~~The courses offered as part of~~ the LL.M. **Program offers an extensive** curriculum ~~are specifically designed to address the most current legal issues involving the law~~ of **courses that have been developed specifically for the program.** ~~food and agriculture.~~ The ~~curriculum and the focus in each of the individual~~ courses **that are offered each semester are tailored** ~~varies year~~ to **student interest, with "selected topics" courses created each semester to address emerging issues and current trends.** ~~year as professors incorporate new issues.~~ **Experiential opportunities are provided through externships and practicums.**

~~Each year's curriculum is based on candidate interest, professor availability, and current events.~~

Are Similar Programs available in the area?

No

Estimated Student Demand for Program NA

Scheduled Program **2026-2027** ~~NA~~

Review Date

Program Goals and

Objectives

Program Goals and Objectives

- 1. To recruit well-qualified attorneys to the integrated study of agricultural and food law**
- 2. To introduce our students to the wide-ranging and complex law and policy issues associated with food and agricultural systems**
- 3. To educate our students in a way that allows them not only to master an understanding of current agricultural and food law issues, but also prepares them to address these issues in a changing legal landscape**
- 4. To graduate students who will use the education they received to serve at the highest professional level, enhancing the reputation of the Program, the School of Law, and the University of Arkansas** ~~NA~~

Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

Understand the framework of the law that applies at each level of our food system;

Use advanced legal research skills to keep up with changes in agriculture and food law and identify new issues as they arise;

Apply the correct ethical standard to complex situations that arise within the food system, understanding and appreciating the perspectives of all those along the food chain, from farmer to consumer;

Effectively communicate an understanding of agricultural and food law to other members of the legal profession as well as those outside the profession, demonstrating leadership skills and professionalism in the practice of agricultural and food law;

Advocate effectively for agricultural and food law policies that reflect the interests of their clients and/or their own personal perspectives.

NA

Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
Changes to the LL.M. Admission Policy	Proposed Changes to the University Catalog: LL.M. Admission The following changes reflect amendments to our admissions policies, as approved by the Graduate Legal Studies Committee and the law faculty. We sought to clarify our admissions process and made specific changes to the admissions criteria. These changes reflect our current applicants, many of whom are experienced attorneys with distinguished careers. The reliance on a specific GPA for a degree obtained decades ago seemed inappropriate.

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
Proposed Changes to the University Catalog: J.D. Electives in Agricultural and Food Law - J.D. students who take LL.M. courses as J.D. electives and later apply for and are accepted into the LL.M. Program can request that up to 6 credits of the LL.M. courses taken be counted toward their LL.M. degree	The changes clarify the opportunities available to our J.D. students and reflect the recent amendments to our credit policy, as approved by the Graduate Legal Studies Committee and the law faculty and as proposed for UA approval.
Changes to the Non-Degree Program Section - language clarification	The following changes clarify the opportunities available to non-degree students. The current language is a little confusing and is duplicative. There are no substantive changes made, just edited wording. Also, this particular opportunity is not a separate "program," so this is removed from the title.
Changes to the Degree Requirements to clean up language and add our required courses	There is one substantive change to policy that adds mention of our three required courses. These courses have been required for decades, as reflected in UA Connect and on the law school website. However, they were never added to the catalog. The Graduate Legal Studies Committee and the law faculty approved this addition.
Dual Degree Program language clarification	We added "and food law" to reflect the name of our program.
Course of Study language clarification	Added language to include the requirement of the Director to approve proposed course schedules and our required courses.
Costs and Funding language clarification	Corrected minor errors and updated the language
LL.M. Courses language clarification	Corrected minor errors and updated the language

Upload attachments

[Edits to LLM Admissions - Catalog 2.docx](#)

[Edits to Last Sections - Catalog 2.docx](#)

[Edits to Non-Degree - Catalog 2.docx](#)

[Edits to JD Electives - Catalog 2.docx](#)

Reviewer Comments

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (03/04/22 8:57 am): Changing type of proposal from minor to major field of study. A minor proposal is related to an academic minor program not the type of change requested.

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (03/04/22 9:13 am): Hyperlinked courses under Degree Requirements heading so that the course subject and number, along with the title can be reflected in catalog. School is encouraged to review for accuracy.

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (03/04/22 9:17 am): Added "Department of" to Bumpers College statement under Dual Degree section.

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (03/04/22 9:22 am): Also hyperlinked courses in Course of Study section. School is encouraged to review for accuracy.

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (03/04/22 9:25 am): Inserted scheduled program review date.

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (03/04/22 9:29 am): Inserted program goals from assessment plan of 2016. Inserted SLOs from assessment report of 2020. School is encouraged to review and update appropriately.