Frequently Asked Questions

1. Is the LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies for Foreign Law School Graduates at St. John's the right program for me?
   Our LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies is the right program for you if you are a foreign law school graduate seeking admission to the New York Bar.

2. How does your LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies program help people like me?
   To qualify to sit for the NY Bar Exam, students must have a qualifying degree and must have fulfilled the academic requirements to practice law in another country. The qualifying degree must be in law and it must be from a law school accredited by the foreign country. Also, the foreign legal education must be substantively and durationally equivalent to the legal education provided by an ABA-approved school in the U.S. Foreign graduates may “cure” either a substantive or durational deficiency with an LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies, but not both. It is the student’s responsibility to ensure that his/her credentials fulfill all requirements to sit for the NY Bar Exam.

3. Will the program help me accomplish my goals of passing the NY Bar Exam, meeting important people in the field, and enhancing my marketability as a lawyer?
   Our LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies is a focused program tailored to give the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the NY Bar Exam and to practice in New York. It offers the keys to a world of practice opportunities you can access as a New York lawyer.

4. Can I afford the program?
   Federal financial aid is available for U.S. citizens and permanent residents. We offer scholarships to talented foreign students.

5. Does/how does the program give me easy access to a rich job/business network in New York and beyond?
   New York is home to the world’s preeminent law firms and to leading attorneys in every practice area.

6. Is the program faculty first-rate and experienced in my field of interest?
   Some of our most experienced and highly regarded tenured faculty members teach in the program.

7. Why/how is the St. John's Law LL.M. superior to similar LL.M. programs I’m considering?
   a) If your goal is to pass the NY Bar Exam, why go anywhere but St. John’s, a thriving law school in New York?
   b) Unlike general LL.M. programs, the LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies at St. John’s is designed to prepare students to pass the NY Bar Exam. From the first day, we integrate bar preparation into the coursework.
   c) LL.M. students take substantive courses tested on the NY Bar Exam together with J.D. students;
   d) Manhattan is only a 20 minute drive or a quick subway ride from our Queens, NY campus;
   e) The cost of living in Queens is as much as 30% less than in Manhattan;
   f) The Queens campus features broad lawns, handsome stone buildings, and state-of-the-art athletic facilities. It combines urban excitement with suburban tranquility.

8. Who will I be studying with? What’s the St. John’s Law community like?
   At St. John’s, you will find exceptional legal education, an environment that will help you achieve outstanding results, and you will meet every day with people from all over the world.

9. How do I apply?
   Prospective students may apply for the LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies program at St. John’s through LSAC or by completing and returning the application forms available at stjohns.edu/law/llm/usls/apply.

To Learn more about the LL.M. in U.S. Legal Studies program at St. John’s Law, please contact Jeffrey K. Walker, Assistant Dean for Transnational Programs, at walkerj@stjohns.edu or 718-990-8385.