Why GRADUATE STUDIES in LAW?

Established firms, large and small, report that many new Law graduates have the legal skills they need to succeed as lawyers, but these graduates often lack the business process and management skills necessary to thrive in today’s fast-changing legal markets. This Graduate Diploma will provide graduates with the knowledge and skills necessary to make legal services more accessible and more sustainable to provide by:

- Examining the foundational areas of business and management education (such as strategy, operations, human capital, and marketing) and apply that foundational knowledge to the practice of law.
- Providing a deep understanding of the economic and technological forces impacting the legal profession, equipping students to improve existing models of legal services delivery or innovate new ventures to take advantage of the forces impacting the legal profession.

Why QUEEN’S?

Queen’s Graduate Diploma in Legal Services Management is unique in Canada. No other program offers the fundamentals of business for the practice of law. It fits the busy schedules of law students and articling professionals by being available 100% online, and is taught by leading faculty and practitioners.

Regardless of where your career takes you, from private practice to in-house work, public service or not-for-profits, the business of law matters. Queen’s Graduate Diploma in Legal Services Management will help you be more successful in your career.

COURSES

- LSM 810: Financial Literacy for Lawyers
- LSM 820: Fundamentals of Legal Services Business
- LSM 830: Shaping the Future of Legal Practice
- LSM 840: Working with Teams & Managing People
- LSM 850: Project Management for Lawyers

Program STRUCTURE

- Comprised of 4 courses, 3.0 credits per course.
- Required courses: LSM 810 (Financial Literacy), LSM 820 (Fundamentals).
- Students select any two other courses to receive their Graduate Diploma.
- Courses available online, year-round on a semester basis.

“Managing partners and law firm leaders consistently tell me they’re looking for new lawyers with practical legal knowledge and business skills -- not just because these assets help lawyers connect more effectively with their commercial clients, but also because firms increasingly expect lawyers to ‘own their practices’ and be responsible for constantly improving their own productivity and value.”

Jordan Furlong, Legal analyst and author, speaker & consultant Owner/operator Law21
A new kind of lawyer needs a new kind of CLASSROOM

The intersection of business skills, law, and management isn’t currently taught at most Canadian law schools. Some firms bring in business trainers. Some lawyers pay for workshops and EMBA programs once they realize they’re falling behind. Some trade associations provide basic seminars. But until now, no law school has delivered a full range of future-proofing courses that lawyers need to thrive in practice.

We deliver our courses entirely online in a way that provides a highly personal and interactive experience while still fitting the busy schedules of legal professionals.

Admission REQUIREMENTS

- A Bachelor’s degree from a recognized university, or
- Enrolled in a JD program (we will consider JDs without an undergraduate degree), or
- Graduate from a JD (or equivalent) program.
- All applicants must have B to B+ average grades to meet Queen’s standards (https://www.queensu.ca/sgs/prospective-students/how-apply)
- Students apply for the Graduate Diploma through the Queen’s Student Graduate Studies Portal. (https://eservices.queensu.ca/apps/sgsapp/)
- Students will require supporting documentation to accompany their application

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Applicant Type</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All applicants</td>
<td>Statement of Interest</td>
<td>Explain your interest in the program! Include prior experience and how the program fits your career plans. (500 words maximum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>All non-Queen’s applicants*</td>
<td>Transcripts</td>
<td>Copies of all post-secondary transcripts are required (unofficial are accepted). Note: Original official transcript(s) will be required from all applicants who accept an offer of admission. *Queen’s University students and alumni do not need to submit transcripts from their studies at Queen’s.</td>
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<td>Anyone who is not in or has not graduated from a JD program</td>
<td>Two references</td>
<td>Names and contact information for two letter-of-reference writers who will support your application. The referee must submit letters directly to <a href="mailto:lawmanagement@queensu.ca">lawmanagement@queensu.ca</a>. (The applicant must tell the reference providers to send the letters).</td>
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<td>International Students</td>
<td>English Language Proficiency Test</td>
<td>Those applicants whose native languages do not include English will need to earn satisfactory standing in an English Language Proficiency Test as part of the application process, and before final acceptance is granted. Please contact the School of Graduate Studies’ website for further information. Any applicant whose first language is not English, but who, within the 12 month period prior to the month of application, has studied for at least one complete year at a post-secondary institution where English is the official language of instruction, may submit with their application a request to be exempted from the English language proficiency test requirement. The Director of Admissions, School of Graduate Studies, will review the request. The applicant will be informed of the results of the review.</td>
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