LLM 510 Introduction to United States Legal Systems (2 units)
This course provides the background necessary to the understanding and study of the remainder of the curriculum. Students study the US legal system, including the structure of the federal courts and the state courts, as well as the role of administrative agencies. The course examines the separation of powers among the three branches of the federal government. The course will focuses on introducing students to case analysis through the study of the American contract law doctrine. Students will learn how to read and brief cases, the meaning of binding and persuasive precedent, and the principles of the common law as well as statutory analysis. Students will complete four written assignments: a case brief, an IRAC exercise, an outline, and a memorandum of law. Students will also take a final written examination.

LLM 512 Torts (3 units)
Tort law is an introduction to the system governing civil liability for wrongs. Tort litigation is controlled by the injured person who seeks personal compensation via money damages from the person whose violation of the laws caused harm to the victim. The course covers the tort of negligence, intentional torts (such as assault, battery, false imprisonment, trespass, intentional and negligent infliction of emotional distress, fraud, and defamation), and strict liability and product liability.

LLM 513 Property (3 units)
This course is devoted to exploring topics involved in the law of real property, including adverse possession, possessory estates in land, future interests (including the Rule against Perpetuities), restraints on alienation, marital property, landlord-tenant law, concurrent estates, easements, covenants, and equitable servitudes, nuisance law, private and public land-use planning, and takings.

LLM 514 Civil Procedure (3 units)
The first part of this course covers the concepts of personal jurisdiction, subject matter jurisdiction, venue, the Erie Doctrine, service of process, and right to hearing. The second part of the course covers the study of the process of civil litigation from the commencement of a lawsuit (the pleading stage), joinder of parties and or claims, class action lawsuits, written discovery, depositions, making and opposing motions, summary judgment, motions for judgment as a matter of law, claim and issue preclusion, settlement considerations, alternative dispute resolution, right to trial, and appeals. The course covers both the federal rules of civil procedure and the California rules of civil procedure, with a focus on the federal rules.

LLM 515 Contracts (3 units)
This course covers the law of contracts, including contract formation (offer, acceptance, and consideration) problems of performance, excuses from performance, breach of contract, remedies, third-party beneficiary contracts, assignments, and delegation of contractual rights and duties.
LLM 516 Evidence (2 units)
Within the context of the California Evidence Code and the Federal Rules of Evidence, students analyze the nature of judicial proof and consider the theory and application of the rules regulating the admission and exclusion of testimonial and documentary proof.

LLM 517 Criminal Law & Procedure (3 units)
The course covers the philosophy of criminal responsibility, the laws defining crimes and establishing punishment, and the negation of criminal responsibility by reason of general and special defenses. It also focuses on the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth, Amendments to the United States Constitution in regulating police practices such as search and seizure, confessions, lineups, and right to counsel, and on the nature and application of due process in relation to the criminal procedure structure. Particular areas, such as defense of mistake, insanity, intoxication, and the impact of legal doctrine on the actual administration of criminal justice are also explored.

LLM 518 Professional Responsibility (1 unit)
This course explores the goals, rules, and responsibilities of the American legal profession and its members. The course also explores the profound dilemmas facing responsible attorneys seeking to practice ethically and to adhere to the highest professional values in the 21st Century. The course will address many of the issues that appear on the California bar exam, such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest, candor to the courts and others, the role of the attorney as counselor, the structure of the attorney-client relationship, issues around billing, the tension between “cause lawyering” and individual representation, and lawyers’ duty to serve the underrepresented.

LLM 519 Constitutional Law (3 units)
This course provides an introduction to American constitutional law. In addition to examining questions of interpretive method, the course focuses on the powers of the federal government and the allocation of decision making authority among government institutions, including both federalism and separation of powers.

LLM 520 Advanced Legal Writing (2 units)
Students will review the different types of legal documents generally used in the practice of law, and the purposes for which they are used. They will review objective and persuasive legal writing styles, and when it is appropriate to employ each style. Students will complete a number of legal writing projects and examinations designed to improve their legal analysis, legal writing, and test-taking skills. In addition, students will refine their legal writing skills with a goal of communicating sophisticated legal and factual analysis in clear and concise language, with proper citation to legal authorities. Students will also have the opportunity to respond to questions, and perform tasks that have been presented in past administrations of the California Bar Examination. Students’ submissions will be graded according to standards comparable to those applied in grading the California State Bar Examination. In addition to receiving numerical grades, students will receive comments designed to help them improve their legal analysis, legal writing, and test-taking skills.