

**Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of Law (LL.M) at the  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

UNC-Chapel Hill requests authorization to establish a Master of Law degree program (CIP 22.0202) effective January 2011.

**Program Description**

This is to be a master in law program for foreign lawyers who already have received a primary law degree from a university in their home country. The focus of the program will be United States law and procedures. It would allow foreign lawyers who practice internationally to gain a greater understanding of the American legal system. The program will typically be one calendar year.

Such programs are common among American law schools with more than 130 US law schools offering such programs. In North Carolina both Duke and Wake Forest have such programs.

**UNC Tomorrow Relevance**

This program is one way the UNC Chapel Hill law school can bring a greater international dimension to the preparation of lawyers. Since many classes will be shared by JD students and LL.M. students, there will be many opportunities for UNC Chapel Hill students to build friendships and learn more about the legal systems in other countries.

**Highlights from UNC-GA Data Template**

Duke and Wake Forest both have similar programs with Duke graduating 82 in the most recent year and Wake Forest graduating 10. UNC Chapel Hill envisions a program larger than Wake Forest's but much smaller than Duke's. Eventually their target is an enrollment of approximately 25. In the near term the program will start up on a smaller scale until the new law building at Carolina North is constructed.

**Disciplinary Panel**

Representatives of the UNC-CH law school and the General Administration participated, and the North Carolina Central University Law School was represented by their dean. Any issues raised were satisfactorily addressed. Dean Pierce of NCCU was very supportive of the program and expects the two schools can find additional ways to cooperate.

**Student Demand**

The widespread availability of similar programs at other law schools indicates that there is a large international appetite for this kind of program. Having an option at a public law school in North Carolina will be very attractive to lawyers who seek out such programs. Once lawyers come from a particular country and have a good experience that tends to drive greater demand from that country.

### **Opportunities for Graduates of the Program**

The idea is that with greater knowledge of American law, opportunities will open up for them to do international legal work in their home countries. They will also likely form relations with JD candidates and alumni of the law school which will be a set of contacts they will reach out to for assistance by American law firms in their future practice.

### **Resource Implications**

**Resource needs:** There will be the need for a slight increase in staff to support this program, but it is planned as an entirely self-supporting program. Tuition for the program will not only fully support all aspects of the program, but will also provide a revenue source for ongoing improvement in the program in legal education at the law school.

**Resources allocated:** The initial tuition has been proposed to be \$38,500 per year.

**Estimated cost to the State:** This program will not be on the State funding formula for the law school. The cost to the State will be zero in enrollment appropriations from the State.

**Accreditation:** The ABA does not technically accredit master's level programs, but it does require notification and "prior acquiescence" before a new master's level program can be started. Upon program approval by the Board, the Law School would initiate that process.

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve UNC-Chapel Hill's request to establish a Master of Law (LL.M) degree program (CIP 22.0202) effective January 2011.

## General Information Template for Academic Program Review

### ***Degree Area and Level:***

LL.M. in United States Law and Procedure (CIP 22.0202) at UNC Chapel Hill

### ***Addressing UNC Tomorrow:***

This proposed program would address several Recommendations within the UNC Tomorrow Report including the components to enhance Our Global Readiness (Recommendation 4.1) and Our University's Outreach and Engagement (Recommendation 4.7).

### ***Role of Program in Relation to State and Regional Needs:***

According to the proposal, "With the internationalization of law practice, there is a growing need for lawyers who are educated in more than one legal system. Both the State of North Carolina and the United States will benefit from educating foreign lawyers about U.S. law. The University of North Carolina School of Law will develop a cadre of alumni practicing around the globe. Domestic JD students will interact with these LL.M. degree candidates and thereby develop both a great understanding of the law of other countries and international contacts who will become their professional colleagues throughout their careers."

### ***US Labor Department Analysis:***

- *Summary* – No summary is provided for this CIP cluster.

### ***Availability of Programs Statewide (Enrollment and Degrees Awarded in Last 3 Years):***

- *Public universities* – Not available
- *Private universities* – Source: Occupational Demand Supply System and the National Center for Educational Statistics.

Enrollment			Academic Year				
			2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010	2010-2011
Duke University	International Law Graduates	LLM	76	81	76	83	78
Wake Forest University	American Law	LLM	17	25	14	14	14

Number of Degrees Awarded			Academic Year			
			2006-2007	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010
Duke University	International Law Graduates	LLM	75	81	75	82
Wake Forest University	American Law	LLM	12	23	13	10

### ***Available or not from Academic Common Market:***

Not available.

### ***UNC-CH Campus enrollment and degrees awarded by similar programs at the Masters level:***

(Based on two CIP digits – 22 CIP is the summary group for Law, Legal Services, and Legal Studies under which United State Law and Procedure is a program.) UNC-CH does not offer any Master level degrees in the 22 CIP area.

## APPENDIX I

***Campus Average of enrollment and degrees awarded in this degree area at the Masters level:***  
(Based on two CIP digits – 22 CIP is the summary group for Law, Legal Services, and Legal Studies under which United State Law and Procedure is a program.) No UNC institution offers Masters level degrees in the 22 CIP area.

***UNC Chapel Hill Degree Programs added in the past three years:***

- *Bachelor*
  - BA Archaeology (09/07/2007)
  - BA English – joint with the National University of Singapore (01/11/2008)
  - BA Economics – joint with the National University of Singapore (01/11/2008)
- *Master*
  - MS Neurobiology (11/09/2007)
  - MMDS Molecular Diagnostic Science (06/13/2008)
  - MS Clinical Research (06/13/2008)
  - MA German Studies – joint with Duke University (06/13/2008)
  - MA Technology and Communication (04/09/2010)
  - MRS Radiologic Science (04/09/2010)
- *Doctoral*
  - PhD Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (11/09/2007)
  - PhD German Studies – joint with Duke University (06/13/2008)

***UNC Chapel Hill Degree Programs discontinued in past three years:***

- *Bachelor*
  - BA Russian & East European Studies (03/20/2009)
- *Master*
  - MA Romance Languages and Literatures (03/20/2009)
  - MA Romance Languages and Literatures, Italian Literature (03/20/2009)
  - MA Romance Languages and Literatures, Spanish Literature (03/20/2009)
  - MA Romance Languages and Literatures, Spanish-American Literature (03/20/2009)
  - MA Geological Sciences (05/09/2008)
  - MS Speech and Hearing Sciences, Speech and Language Pathology (05/09/2008)
- *Doctoral*
  - PhD Romance Languages and Literatures, French Language and Literature (03/20/2009)
  - PhD Romance Languages and Literatures, Italian Language and Literature (03/20/2009)
  - PhD Romance Languages and Literatures, Spanish Language and Literature (03/20/2009)
  - PhD Romance Languages and Literatures, Spanish-American Language and Literature (03/20/2009)
  - PhD Romance Languages and Literatures, Romance Philology (03/20/2009)