

## **Online Master of Laws (LL.M. Online)**

The Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Oral Justice in the Criminal Justice System is offered entirely online to provide a high-quality learning experience in a flexible format for today's professionals.

The online LL.M. follows best practices in distance education and quality, ensuring that students actively participate and collaborate with their instructors to achieve the best learning experience possible.

### **The Online Format**

Online LL.M. classes are offered asynchronously, allowing students the flexibility to complete coursework and participate at times that best suit their schedule, regardless of their professional obligations. However, all courses will have at least three synchronous sessions during the semester. Practical courses will require more synchronous sessions, which will be coordinated at the beginning of the course.

Our courses are specifically designed for online learning, utilizing some of the following pedagogical techniques: weekly assessments, group and individual assignments, discussion chats, and virtual office hours. Throughout our courses, students will interact and have the opportunity to meet and interact with experts in the areas of litigation, evidence, and criminal procedure.

Our online LL.M. program maintains the same academic excellence as any course offered at our school. Our teachers ensure that all students have a high-quality learning experience and, in turn, offer the necessary support throughout the entire academic process.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:**

### **1. I have never taken an online program. Are there specific things I should do to prepare?**

You will be provided with an orientation session before the beginning of the semester. During this session, you will become familiar with the technology and be provided with best practices for distance learning. You will be guided through the system so you know how to use it and all the tools it offers, so you're ready. You will also have access to technical support as often as needed should any problems arise.

### **2. How will my instructor know I attended class?**

Your attendance is documented through automatic tracking each time you log in to your course; the system also tracks all submitted work.

### **3. What types of interactivity will be offered within the online course?**

There are several ways an instructor may interact with you throughout each course, including group sessions, posting questions and comments through discussion chats, module assessments and quizzes, multiple-choice polls, requesting short answers through submissions, virtual office hours support, video simulations, and other means.

**4. Although the program is asynchronous, it indicates that there are assignments. How does this component of the program work?**

While the asynchronous format allows students to complete coursework on days or times that fit their individual schedules, students are not allowed to "save" classwork until the final days of the semester. Therefore, each module has an "open" and "accessible" time during which the student must complete the coursework and submit it through the digital platform. All courses have been designed so that students log into their classes weekly and work on the corresponding module for that week.

TECHNICAL ISSUES

**5. Are there any technical requirements to participate?**

At a minimum, a student should be prepared to have access to a reliable, high-speed broadband internet connection. Students may use a laptop or desktop computer. However, such devices must have a camera, speakers, and microphone. They must have basic computer skills and connectivity to the internet and digital platforms. It is important to emphasize that turning on cameras and microphones during synchronous sessions is mandatory.

**6. What happens if I have a technical problem?**

All courses are supervised by staff to ensure the continued success of the course. Staff will verify that students have access to internet connections, functional webcams, and microphones. Students can use the help button within each course, which alerts staff to a potential problem and allows staff to chat with the student immediately to resolve the issue.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSIONS PROCESS

**7. Do I ever need to visit the Law School, either to be accepted or admitted to the program, or at any other time during the program?**

No. There is no requirement that you physically visit the campus.

**8. What is required to submit my application?**

To be considered for admission, you must complete the application at the following link: <https://solicitud.upr.edu> or through the Dean of Graduate Studies and Research - General Information portal ([uprrp.edu](http://uprrp.edu)) and complete the admissions application using the NEXT platform. The application processing fee is \$30.00. In addition, you must mail two (2) original, sealed university transcripts to the University of Puerto Rico School of Law. These documents must be sent directly from the issuing university to our Law School at the following address:

Master's of Laws Program (LL.M. Online)  
University of Puerto Rico School of Law  
7 University Ave. Ste. 701  
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00925-2527

Additionally, you can send the following documents by email to the following address:  
[llm-online.derecho@upr.edu](mailto:llm-online.derecho@upr.edu):

- Copy (evidence) of your Juris Doctor diploma or equivalent degree in law studies.
- Updated resume.
- Digital copy of your transcript (this is to expedite the evaluation of your application while we wait to receive the originals by mail).
- Letters of recommendation.
- Personal statement with background and personal profile, motivations for pursuing a master's degree in law, areas of interest, and career plans.

**9. I received my law degree outside the United States. How does this affect my ability to enroll in the UPR Online LLM?**

Having a law degree outside the United States does not affect your ability to enroll at all; quite the contrary. It is our vision that students who received their degrees outside of Puerto Rico, whether in the United States or other countries around the world, enroll in the Online LLM, as this is the primary reason for our program.

**10. I received a J.D. from a law school in the United States. How does this affect my ability to enroll in the UPR Online LLM?**

Absolutely not. On the contrary, it is our vision that students who received their degrees outside of Puerto Rico, whether in the United States or other countries around the world, enroll in the Online LLM, as this is the primary reason for our program. However, they must understand and speak Spanish fluently, as all classes are in Spanish.

**11. What level of criminal law knowledge do I need to be successful in this online LLM program?**

None. However, in your Juris Doctor or Bachelor's degree studies completed prior to admission to the Online LLM, you are expected to have passed the general criminal law course, so a basic knowledge is expected.

**12. What is the length of the program and maximum time to complete the degree?**

The Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Oral Law in the Adversarial Criminal System is designed for one (1) year of full-time study and twenty-four (24) credits. Considering that the Program is intended for practicing professionals, part-time study lasting two (2) years is likely to be of interest.

**13. How much does the program cost?**

Tuition is \$500.00 per credit for a total of \$12,000.00 (24 credits). A non-refundable deposit of \$500 is required to reserve your seat if you are accepted into the program; this deposit will be credited toward your final semester's tuition.

A technology fee of \$75.00 per semester is also charged, in addition to additional expenses such as textbooks, etc. Upon completion of the degree, you must apply for graduation, and the graduation fee is \$80.00.

#### **14. Can I take the bar exam in any state with an online LLM?**

At this time, we have not received confirmation from any state that accepts an online LLM and allows you to sit for the bar exam. We have received information indicating that California and the District of Columbia accept online LLMS as long as they meet other required coursework requirements.

We cannot guarantee that any student will be able to sit for the bar exam with our Online LLM in the state of their choice. We do guarantee that we will be available to assist you if you identify an alternative. If you identify a state that accepts our Online LLM and requires you to take additional courses or obtain some other type of certification or validation from us, you can contact us so we can coordinate and provide you with the service you need to meet those requirements.

For more information, please contact the Online LLM Program Coordinator, Verónica Vega Ferrer, at 787-999-9675 or send an email to [llm-online.derecho@upr.edu](mailto:llm-online.derecho@upr.edu).