

ENHANCE YOUR MARKETABILITY

with a Graduate Degree in TAX LAW

Attorneys and current  
John Marshall students—  
earn an LLM degree

Tax professionals—  
earn an MJ degree



THE  
JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL®  
CENTER FOR TAX LAW AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

CHICAGO

**The Mission of the Center is multi-fold: to offer graduate degrees with rigorous academic standards for students to effectively practice in their chosen area of expertise; to foster research for better understanding of the multi-disciplinary aspects of the law; to encourage student participation in relevant bar association committees; and to host educational forums to educate the bar and the community. The mission applies equally to both the Graduate Tax Law Programs and the Graduate Employee Benefits Programs.**

## Welcome to the Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits at The John Marshall Law School

We proudly offer a unique academic environment for students, faculty, and professionals to explore legal issues in tax law.

Our LLM Program in Tax Law is one of the oldest in the nation, attracting students both locally and nationally, especially:

- Newly admitted attorneys who want to focus their legal practice on taxation
- Seasoned attorneys who want to learn about or sharpen their skills in tax law

John Marshall students, particularly those with interests in business, securities, or corporate law, are encouraged to apply to the joint JD/LLM program. This enables them to efficiently and cost-effectively develop an expertise in tax law while they pursue their general JD and bar exam requirements.

We also offer a Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) degree in Tax Law for non-lawyers. This represents a unique opportunity for accountants, personal financial advisors, financial planners, and estate planners to become conversant with the law and the policy issues affecting taxation. The MJ degree in Tax Law gives students an impressive knowledge of taxation, as well as new skills to enable them to think analytically and critically in this ever-changing field.

Additionally, attorneys and tax practitioners are welcome to:

- Enroll in specific classes or seminars offered through the Center in order to receive a graduate certificate of completion
- Attend certain programs that are eligible for continuing legal education or other professional education credits

Please visit our website for up-to-date news about the Center, class and event schedules, and contact information: [www.jmls.edu/tax.html](http://www.jmls.edu/tax.html)



**ASSOCIATE DEAN AND PROFESSOR KATHRYN J. KENNEDY**  
*Director, Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits*

**“As a JD/LLM joint degree student in Tax Law, I was able to coordinate both my JD and LLM classes with work and extracurricular activities, allowing me to graduate with both degrees in three years. Having a specialized LLM degree has been a valuable addition to my JD education in many ways and will be instrumental as I pursue a career in tax law.”**



**Lisa K. Johnson** was the 2009 recipient of the Dale Wesley Phillips Scholarship for her excellence in tax law. In May 2009, Johnson received her JD, cum laude, and her LLM, with honors. Her other achievements include student publications editor of The John Marshall Law Review, extern in the Tax Exempt/Government Entities Division of the IRS' Office of Chief Counsel, student ambassador for the Office of Admission, and competition participant in the ABA Section of Taxation Law Student Tax Challenge.

- With more than 20 courses to choose from, the Graduate Tax Law Programs offer an array of introductory and advanced courses.
- A student who has specialized in one or more of the specialization tracks will receive a certificate acknowledging his/her proficiency in that area of law.
- Well suited to our small classroom sizes, our interactive instructional style is designed to engage every student in dialogue and discussion.
- Annual symposiums are held on timely tax or employee benefits issues, affording our students the opportunity of discussing these issues with academics, practitioners, and the community at large.
- We strongly encourage students to participate in the ABA Section of Taxation Law Student Tax Challenge; the University of Buffalo Law School Mugel Tax Moot Court Competition; the Paul Faherty Tax Law Writing Competition; and the Tannenwald Foundation for Excellence in Tax Scholarship annual writing competition.
- The Center hosts a variety of career-oriented, networking, and educational advancement events each semester.
- We strongly encourage student participation with:
  - The various committees of the Chicago Bar Association (CBA)
  - Section councils of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA)
  - The sections and committees of the American Bar Association (ABA)
- Our students have served as the student liaisons on committees of the ABA Section of Taxation.
- Externships with the Office of Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service enable students to learn the government's perspective in tax law and employee benefits issues.
- Each academic year, the Center director awards a \$10,000 scholarship from the Dale Wesley Phillips Scholarship Fund to the student who through his/her continued contributions has most enhanced the reputation of the law school and the Center.

The 2008 winner of the Dale Wesley Phillips Scholarship was Robert Byelich (MS '08), at right, who received a \$10,000 scholarship for his excellence in tax law. The scholarship was established in 1997 in honor of former Center Director Paul Faherty (at left), courtesy of an endowment contributed by alumnus Dale Wesley Phillips (JD '85), former CEO, chief financial officer of the Illinois Central Railway.



## JOINT DEGREE

**As a student pursuing a JD degree at John Marshall**, you are in a unique position to specialize your education and enhance your marketability by earning an LLM degree in Tax Law. A JD student must have at least a 2.5 grade point average, and must have completed 29 credit hours to be considered for admission to the joint degree program. Joint degree candidates may apply the first 10 credit hours satisfactorily completed in the LLM program toward the 90 credit hours required to complete the JD degree. Students will have a separate GPA in the LLM degree program.

Being accepted as a joint degree student usually only adds a semester or two to your overall law school education and experience. However, it is your decision whether to graduate and receive the JD degree and then complete the LLM degree requirements (you will be eligible to sit for the bar exam upon earning your JD) or to graduate with both degrees on the same day.

Joint JD/LLM degree students can complete both program requirements with 104 credit hours (i.e., 80 credit hours toward the JD and 24 credit hours toward the LLM), as opposed to the 114 hours that would be required otherwise. Up to six elective LLM credit hours can be taken from the Employee Benefits curriculum, or, with appropriate approvals, from any of the other Centers for Excellence at John Marshall. In addition, each student must submit a publishable research paper.

We are extremely proud of the depth and breadth of the materials covered in the curriculum and the quality of teaching. As a result of the continuous input from our faculty and advisory board, the curriculum remains timely, essential, and relevant to the field of tax law. Our smaller class sizes are conducive to in-depth discussions involving current trends in tax law, discussions that incorporate real-world aspects of the practice. The student body is diverse, some with little exposure to tax law, while others are practicing daily in the field. To accommodate students, classes are held in the late afternoon and evening, and on Saturdays. One-week accelerated courses are also offered during the summer.

***“The LLM in Tax Law enabled me to gain a solid foundation in corporate tax principles, and has prepared me to be a well-rounded tax practitioner.”***

**David F. Hayes** (JD/LLM '09) was a recipient of the CALI Award for being the highest-scoring student in the courses *Advanced Federal Income Taxation and Taxation of Corporations*. He was an extern at the IRS Office of Chief Counsel, served as a teaching assistant for Adjunct Professor Barry Kozak's *Federal Income Taxation* course, and was appointed Academic Fellow by the Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits. Hayes was one of three winners of John Marshall's 2008 Paul Faherty Tax Law Writing Competition, receiving an Honorable Mention Award for his paper about transfer pricing issues. His other accomplishments include 2008–09 lead articles editor of *The John Marshall Law Review*, editor-in-chief of the Center's Spring 2008 newsletter, participant in the ABA Section of Taxation Law Student Tax Challenge, and member of the Latino Law Student Association.





# CURRICULUM



The curriculum provides both a theoretical and practical grounding in tax law. With more than 20 courses to choose from, graduate students must complete a total of 24 credit hours, including the required courses, in order to earn the graduate degree.

Every **LLM and MJ degree candidate** must present at least one research paper to the director of the program before graduation. Diplomas will be awarded only to those students whose papers are published, or are deemed to be of publishable quality. We will assist students in getting their articles published in various legal and tax journals.

**MJ students** will take three introductory law courses on the substantive areas of law, general legal research and analysis techniques, and tax accounting. Thereafter, students pursuing this degree can enroll in the same tax courses available to LLM candidates, except for the differences in the set of required courses as noted below.

## REQUIRED COURSES

### Advanced Federal Income Tax (3) TX 340

■ ■ ■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES. PREREQUISITE: FEDERAL INCOME TAX AT THE JD LEVEL (OR EQUIVALENT KNOWLEDGE).** This course covers an advanced review of the inclusions, and exclusions, from gross income and of deductions therefrom in arriving at taxable income. The taxation of individuals will be stressed. Various doctrines, such as deferred compensation, assignment of income, and step-transaction, will be analyzed. Characterization of transactions as capital or ordinary and the federal income tax consequences arising from sales, exchanges, and other dispositions of property will be covered in depth.

STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE EITHER: **CORPORATE TAXATION I, CORPORATE TAXATION II, OR CORPORATE TAXATION: A SURVEY**, BUT NOT ALL THREE.

### Corporate Taxation I (3) TX 350

■ ■ ■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES.** This is the first of two separate courses relating to the taxation of corporations and their shareholders. These courses focus on corporations governed by Subchapter C, as distinguished from other forms of doing business such as partnerships and S corporations. This course will cover the organization of a C corporation, the distinction between debt and equity, distributions (including redemptions, stock distributions, and related company stock sales treated as distributions), and various other related issues. Detailed analysis will be given to corporation liquidations and to the allocation rules for income and deductions among taxpayers.

### Corporate Taxation II (3) TX 351

■ ■ ■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES.** The second of a two-course series in corporate taxation, this course makes an in-depth study of corporate reorganizations under Section 368 of the Code, including both stock and asset acquisitions, as well as corporate separations under Section 355. Also to be addressed are issues related to affiliated corporations, and the survival and transfer of corporate attributes. Problem sets will be handed out to illustrate the workings of these highly technical rules, but the course will go beyond the technical to emphasize tax planning considerations.

### Corporate Taxation: A Survey (2) TX 353

■ ■ ■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES.** This survey course covers the material presented in Corporate Taxation I–II (TX 350 & 351) on a less intensive basis. It is geared to those students who intend to specialize in areas other than corporate taxation, yet wish to learn the broad fundamentals of corporate taxation. Students who have taken Corporate Taxation I or II will only be eligible to take this course with the permission of the director.

**REQUIRED COURSES** continued**Gift and Estate Tax Law (2) TX 370**

■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES.** This course consists of a comprehensive survey of the principles and procedures of federal, estate, gift, and generation-skipping taxation, including the relevant principles of valuation, the concept of complete versus incomplete gifts, the reciprocal trust doctrine, the taxability of property owned by a decedent, life insurance, annuities, death benefits under retirement plans, joint property, powers of appointment, and transfers with retained income and reversionary interests. The course will also include a thorough analysis of the various deductions, credits, and exclusions available for transfer tax purposes.

**Tax and Employee Benefits Research (2) TX 333**

■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES.**

This course acquaints students with the extensive research materials available in the tax and employee benefits areas, and helps develop their skills in researching issues through the effective use of these materials. Primary and secondary sources will be examined in depth. Emphasis will be placed on researching judicial decisions, legislative histories, and administrative rulings. The course will also help students develop stronger skills in conducting computerized research. No final examination will be given. Student evaluations will be based on various research and writing assignments.

**Civil and Criminal Tax Procedure (2) TX 392**

■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM DEGREE.** This course examines jurisdictional and procedural problems arising in civil tax practice by exploring procedure and documents necessary at all stages of the controversy before the IRS, the choice of courts, pleadings and procedure for the Tax Court, the

District Court, and the United States Court of Federal Claims. Statutes of limitations, penalties, examinations, administrative appeals, and tax court procedure will be covered. Collection issues include offers in compromise, innocent spouse defenses, and IRS liens and levies. The burgeoning area of administrative tax practice will be studied in detail. The content of this course will be made up of at least two-thirds civil procedure and at most one-third criminal procedure. Topics will also include substantive and procedural federal criminal law in the tax and white-collar areas in the context of effective representation and professional responsibility.

**Partnership Taxation (2) TX 380**

■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM DEGREE.** Students closely examine the provisions of Subchapter K of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Included will be a study of when a partnership exists, the essential characteristics that distinguish partnerships from corporations, and the differences and similarities between partnerships and S corporations. The course will also cover the partnership-like tax treatment of limited liability companies. Basic partnership tax law, including the tax consequences relating to the formation, operating, and termination of partnerships and transfers of partnership interests will be analyzed in detail. Time will also be spent examining the subjects of partnership allocations, transactions between a partner and the partnership, and the treatment of partnership liabilities.

**Writing a Publishable Academic Research Paper**

■ **REQUIRED FOR LLM AND MJ DEGREES.** Every LLM and MJ degree candidate in the Tax Law Program must present at least one research paper to the director of the program before graduation. See page 9 for more information.



**“Not only did I get my first job out of law school because of my LLM in Tax Law, I was also offered a higher salary because of it.”**

**Jessica Arong O'Brien (JD/LLM '98, LLM '02)** is a special assistant attorney general with the Illinois Department of Revenue, litigating cases that involve corporate, partnership, and individual taxation, as well as property and sales taxation. She is a board member of The John Marshall Law School Alumni Association.



Tax Law Advisory Board Member Robert E. McKenzie, partner at Arnstein & Lehr LLP, presented "Preparer Penalties and IRC §7216 Return Disclosure Rules" at the Institute on the Ethics of Tax Law Practice, an annual event co-sponsored by John Marshall and the ABA Section of Taxation, where recognized experts discuss ethical issues in regards to recent legislative and regulatory changes.



## REQUIRED COURSES FOR MS DEGREE

### Introduction to Legal Analysis (1) TX 303

**REQUIRED FOR MJ DEGREE.** This course introduces non-lawyers to the workings of the legal system, legal methods (including research techniques), and the process of legal education. It must be taken concurrently with the Substantive Law Overview course.

### Substantive Law Overview (2) TX 304

**REQUIRED FOR MJ DEGREE.** This course introduces non-lawyers to the basic substantive areas of the law. Policy issues as well as legal issue-spotting will be emphasized. It must be taken concurrently with the Introduction to Legal Analysis course.

### Tax Accounting (2) TX 301

**REQUIRED FOR MJ DEGREE. PREREQUISITE: ADVANCED FEDERAL INCOME TAX (CENTER DIRECTOR HAS DISCRETION TO PERMIT TX 301 TO BE TAKEN CONCURRENTLY WITH ADVANCED FEDERAL INCOME TAX).** This course will examine a broad range of subjects related to accounting methods and periods. Topics include principles of income recognition, prepaid income, claim of right, cash equivalency and constructive receipt, special methods involving long-term contracts, depreciation, timing of deductions, inventories, estimated expenses, prepaid expense, expense versus capitalization, and conformity between tax and financial accounting. Time value of money concepts and LIFO/FIFO concepts will also be discussed. Matters covered will also include determination of the taxable event, the amount realized, adjusted basis, and loss limitations (including passive activity and at-risk provisions).

## ELECTIVE COURSES

### Basic Estate Planning (2) TX 371

**PREREQUISITE: GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW.** This course includes an analysis of all relevant estate-planning considerations, including gift, estate, and generation-skipping tax aspects. Some income tax issues relating to trusts and estates are discussed but are not the primary focus. Applicable probate law and methods of avoiding probate are also considered.

### Advanced Estate Planning (2) TX 373

**PREREQUISITES: GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW, BASIC ESTATE PLANNING, AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX.** This course is a rigorous application of the federal and state transfer taxes to hypothetical fact situations. It includes an analysis of all relevant estate-planning considerations and of the related income tax aspects. Particular emphasis is given to the drafting considerations to implement various estate-planning choices. Applicable probate law, along with methods of avoiding probate, is also considered.

### Asset Protection Planning (2) TX 389

**PREREQUISITE: ADVANCED ESTATE PLANNING.** This course will cover the techniques and legal strategies utilized to obtain maximum wealth protection, including the selection of a business entity and the use of trusts. Discussion will include federal and state income tax and estate and gift tax consequences under the various strategies, as well

as ethical issues and case law development. The use of offshore jurisdictions in connection with foreign asset protection planning will also be covered.

### Business Practices for Tax Lawyers (2) TX 330

Students learn the language and fundamentals of business activities. Topics will include basic accounting and interpretation of financial statements, as well as various business activities that give rise to tax issues, including debt, securities, mergers, and bankruptcy. The course provides the background necessary to apply tax law principles to common business transactions.

### Income Taxation of Estates and Trusts (2) TX 372

**PREREQUISITES: GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX.** This course offers a thorough review of the income taxation of personal trusts and estates. Topics covered will include the rights, powers, and duties of a fiduciary, principles of trust accounting, virtual representation, total return trusts, planning opportunities, and drafting issues.



### Independent Tax Law Research (1-3) TX 398

Research on an issue of tax law and formation of an original idea in connection with that issue, culminating in a written work of publishable quality.



**ELECTIVES continued****Personal Financial Planning (2) TX 335**

**PREREQUISITES: GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX.** This course is an overview of the financial planning that an individual should consider during his or her lifetime, including the disposition of property at death. It includes income tax concepts as they relate to personal financial planning, investment considerations, risk management, use of trusts, retirement options (when implementing plans and when withdrawing from plans), and gift and estate tax problems, including post-mortem planning. The course concludes with several cases to illustrate the tax savings that can be achieved with proper planning. This course will enable students to do personal financial planning for their clients, which is a growth area for practicing lawyers. Because of the nature of the material, there is no required sequence to this course with respect to the estate planning courses (TX 370 & 371).

**Post-Mortem Planning and Estate Administration (2) TX 374**

**PREREQUISITES: GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW, BASIC ESTATE PLANNING, AND FEDERAL INCOME TAX.** This course covers federal tax issues and state probate law issues that occur in the settlement of a decedent's estate. Topics covered will include the use of disclaimers and/or the OTIP election to obtain the optimum marital deduction bequest; post-death accounting issues facing owners of pass-through entities; income tax consequences of property distributions in satisfaction of bequests; valuation issues and estate tax-deferral considerations; and apportioning the tax burden.

**State and Local Taxes (2) TX 385**

This course is a study of state, income, excise, real property, and franchise taxes; retailer's occupation and related taxes (sales tax); and City of Chicago taxes. Appropriate tax planning becomes more difficult as expanding governmental revenue needs lead to

increasingly complicated state and local tax structures. The course is designed to provide a beginning familiarity with the practical aspects of a state and local tax practice, with emphasis on Illinois law.

**Tax-Exempt Organizations (2) TX 386**

This course covers problems associated with obtaining and maintaining exemption from federal income tax under Subchapter F of the Internal Revenue Code. Special emphasis is placed on private foundations, the extent of permissible commercial activities or transactions, unrelated business income tax problems, prohibited transactions, charitable contribution limitations, intermediate sanctions, and discussions of the professional responsibilities of attorneys dealing with nonprofit organizations. The mechanics of obtaining exemptions, as well as the philosophy behind such preferred status, are examined. Organizing and operating nonprofit corporations and tax-exempt trusts are also reviewed in depth.

**Taxation of Closely Held Businesses (2) TX 334**

**REQUIRED TAX PROFICIENCY; CORPORATE TAXATION I, ADVANCED FEDERAL INCOME TAX, OR EQUIVALENT KNOWLEDGE OF TAX PRINCIPLES. (PARTNERSHIP TAXATION IS RECOMMENDED BUT NOT REQUIRED).** This course will examine tax aspects of sole proprietorships, C corporations, S corporations, partnerships, and limited liability companies for small and closely held businesses. We will begin by examining issues that arise when selecting the type of entity, the annual accounting method, and setting compensation. Then, for each entity, we will discuss the consequences related to formation, distribution of profits and losses, and termination. Finally, we will examine how the selection of entity impacts the type of employee benefits that may be provided by the entity and the transfers of ownership interests during lifetime and upon death.



***“The LLM in Tax Law from John Marshall provided me with a solid foundation for understanding key federal tax concepts that are essential in tax consulting and structuring. I truly believe that the classes I took in the LLM program have helped me to excel in my career.”***

**Valarie Merrill-Cooke** (JD/LLM '01) is a transaction advisory services manager at Ernst & Young LLP. The primary focus of her work is on buy side tax due diligence, federal tax consulting, and tax structuring. Before joining Ernst & Young in 2009, Merrill-Cooke worked as a senior tax consultant in the Lead Tax Services Group at Deloitte Consulting LLP.

Adjunct Professor Barry Kozak moderates "Careers in Tax Law and Employee Benefits Panel & Discussion on Diversity Initiatives," an annual program co-sponsored by John Marshall and the ABA Section of Taxation that gives students and guests a look at how careers in these fields are breaking down employment barriers.



### **US Taxation of International Transactions and Foreign Taxpayers (2-3) TX 387**

This course is a study of the US taxation of international commercial transactions involving US and foreign taxpayers. As business becomes more international in scope, most practitioners will be exposed to foreign taxation. This course covers the US taxation of the income of US taxpayers operating abroad through branches and subsidiaries; the US foreign tax credit provisions; cross-border asset transfers; related party income allocations; foreign currency issues; the US taxation of non-resident individuals and foreign corporations; and bilateral income tax treaties.

### **Graduate Seminar: Tax Law (2) TX 324**

**DIRECTOR'S APPROVAL REQUIRED.** This advanced course is offered to prepare the student for the real world after leaving the purely academic environment. The course is restructured each time it is offered so that current topics are discussed and that the most relevant practitioners can participate as guest lecturers. Grades will be determined on participation in seminar discussions and on a specific writing requirement (which will be determined on the first day of the class).

### **Compensation Law: Taxation and Other Legal Issues (3) EB 344**

This introductory course will explore how businesses pay compensation to individuals in exchange for services, especially in relation to the following legal issues: how the federal Internal Revenue Code affects the taxation of that compensation to both the individuals and to the business; how publicly traded companies must disclose compensation packages (especially to executives) to their shareholders; how businesses must comply with minimum wage and other labor laws; and how businesses can be liable for discriminatory compensation policies and actions. In addition, as the market for independent legal counsel to compensation committees has exploded in the past few years, we will explore the best legal practices for sound corporate governance resulting from the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. No prior knowledge of federal tax, labor, or securities law is required for this course.

## **WRITING A PUBLISHABLE ACADEMIC RESEARCH PAPER**

Every LLM and MJ degree candidate in the Tax Law Program must present at least one research paper to the director of the program before graduation. Diplomas will be awarded only to those students whose papers are published, or are deemed to be of publishable quality.

This paper will give you a real and practical product that showcases the two most important legal skills that potential employers will be interested in: legal research and writing.

All writing for this requirement will be faculty supervised; students must present a topic for faculty approval and submit an outline and rough draft for faculty comment. The completed work must demonstrate original analysis and significant research and be well organized, carefully presented, and clearly written.

The scope of permissible topics for the paper is broad—any aspect of tax law is acceptable. For example, the paper may address one of the following:

- A public policy issue
- A critique of a leading case or doctrine
- A comment on a statute or the need for statutory modification
- A comment on a common tax law doctrine

Your paper should be typed double-spaced, set in Times New Roman font on 8.5x11 inch paper. Entries should be at least 25 pages long not including endnotes. Citations are to conform to *A Uniform System of Citation* (the *Bluebook*).

Additionally, a three-page summary, in the form of a "letter to a client," which summarizes the 25-page research paper in plain English, in a manner anticipated to be understood by a client of average intelligence, but with absolutely no knowledge of income tax or labor laws, is also required.

**Catherine Ho** (LLM '09) was recognized by the CBA Federal Taxation Committee as the outstanding John Marshall student specializing in tax law in 2009. Ho maintained the highest grade-point average in the May 2009 graduating class of the Tax Law LLM Program. She was a member of the John Marshall Graduate Tax Law Society.





The curriculum for the LLM degree and MJ degree in Tax Law includes both required and elective courses. Electives are offered periodically but not every year. One or two elective courses are offered each summer. Students must earn 24 credit hours to complete the program.

The Center admits students on a rolling basis, so applications are accepted at any time during the year. **LLM students** may enter for the fall, spring, or summer semesters. **MJ students** normally enter in the fall semester, but can take the one-week summer course. Students may complete the graduate program full-time over two semesters, or take up to five years on a part-time basis. It is expected that the three survey courses and the two fundamental courses eventually will be offered online through distance learning, thus allowing individuals who live outside of the Chicago area to earn their first few credit hours at home.

**The schedules below are just examples. It is strongly suggested that you meet with the Center director to work on a personalized schedule that will allow you to make the most of your educational experience.**

## LLM IN TAX LAW

All required courses are offered once each academic year either during the fall or spring semesters. Full-time students who intend to earn their LLM in Tax Law in two semesters need to take required courses when offered.

Required courses generally offered in the fall semester include: **ADVANCED FEDERAL INCOME TAX, CORPORATE TAXATION I, GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW, TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH, AND PARTNERSHIP TAXATION.**

Required courses generally offered in the spring semester include: **CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TAX PROCEDURE, CORPORATE TAXATION II, AND TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH.**

### Suggested 1 Year Schedule:

	SUMMER SEMESTER	CREDITS
Year 1	Corporate Taxation: A Survey	2
	<b>FALL SEMESTER</b>	
	Advanced Federal Income Tax	3
	Corporate Taxation I	2
	Gift and Estate Tax Law	2
	Partnership Taxation	2
	Tax and Employee Benefits Research	2
		<b>13</b>
	<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>	
	Civil and Criminal Tax Procedures	2
	Tax Elective	2
	Tax Elective	2
	Tax Elective	2
IRS Externship	3	
	<b>11</b>	
<b>Total Credits after 1 Year</b>	<b>24</b>	

## MJ IN TAX LAW

All required courses are offered once each academic year either during the summer, fall, or spring semesters.

Required courses generally offered in the fall semester include: **INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL ANALYSIS, SUBSTANTIVE LAW OVERVIEW, TAX ACCOUNTING, ADVANCED FEDERAL INCOME TAX, GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW, CORPORATE TAXATION I, AND TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH.**

### Suggested 2 Year Schedule:

	SUMMER SEMESTER	CREDITS
Year 1	Corporate Taxation: A Survey	2
	<b>FALL SEMESTER</b>	
	Introduction to Legal Analysis	1
	Substantive Law Overview	2
	Advanced Federal Income Tax	3
		<b>8</b>
	<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>	
	Tax and Employee Benefits Research	2
	Tax Elective	2
	Tax Elective	2
		<b>6</b>
	<b>Total Credits after 1 Year</b>	<b>14</b>
	Year 2	<b>FALL SEMESTER</b>
Gift and Estate Tax Law		2
Tax Accounting		2
Tax Elective		2
		<b>6</b>
<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>		
Tax Elective		2
Tax Elective		2
		<b>4</b>
<b>Total Credits after 2 Years</b>		<b>24</b>



## TAX LAW EXTERNSHIPS AND PRACTICUM

After completing 10 credit hours of LLM courses (which may include the prerequisites), students have the option of applying for one of the tax law externships or practicum. These programs provide an opportunity for students in the LLM program to gain first-hand experience in the practice of tax law. Students are only allowed to take up to 6 credit hours in all of the externships/practicum.

**Prerequisites for all externships and practicum:** **ADVANCED FEDERAL INCOME TAX (TX 340)**. Students must have completed 10 credit hours in the LLM program before applying. Center director approval is required.

### Illinois Department of Revenue Externship (3–4) TX 395

**PREREQUISITES: TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH AND CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TAX PROCEDURES.** Students selected to participate in this program will work closely with attorneys at the Illinois Department of Revenue (IDOR). The primary responsibility of IDOR is to serve as the tax collection agency for state government and for local governments.

**EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:** to provide students with practical experience in a specialized area of tax law by becoming familiar with the activities of the IDOR; to further develop research, writing, and drafting skills; and to learn practical lawyering skills of document review and application of law and policy.

### Internal Revenue Service Office of Chief Counsel Externship (3–4) TX 395

**PREREQUISITE: TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH.** Students selected to participate in this program will work closely with the attorneys at the Office of Chief Counsel of the IRS' Small Business/Self-Employed Division Counsel, Large and Mid-Size Business Division Counsel, or Tax Exempt/Government Entities Division Counsel.

**EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:** to provide students with practical experience in tax law; to further develop research, writing, and drafting skills; and to prepare pleading, discovery documents, stipulations of fact, and trial memoranda used in Tax Court cases.

### Tax Law Practicum (3–4) TX 395

**PREREQUISITES: CIVIL AND CRIMINAL TAX PROCEDURES; ONE OF 3 CORPORATE TAX COURSES: CORPORATE TAXATION I OR II OR CORPORATE TAXATION: A SURVEY; TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH; AND GIFT AND ESTATE TAX LAW.** The Tax Law Practicum was added to the curriculum to provide students with a hands-on experience in tax law practice. Under careful supervision, the student will work with a member of the adjunct faculty in one of the various settings where tax law lawyers practice: law firms, consulting firms, accounting firms, corporations, or government. The program is intended to meet the needs of the individual student who has not yet had significant practice experience in the field of tax law.

### Executive Compensation Practicum (3–4) TX 395

**PREREQUISITES: TAX AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS RESEARCH AND SURVEY OF EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION PLANS (EB 365).** Students selected to participate in this program will work closely with a member of the adjunct faculty in one of the various settings where employee benefits professionals practice: law firms, consulting firms, corporations, or government. The program is intended to meet the needs of the individual student who has not yet had significant practice experience in the field of executive compensation.

**EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES:** to provide students with a hands-on experience in the specific area of executive compensation.



*“My LLM degree and my externship experience with the IRS Office of Chief Counsel distinguished me from other law school graduates—which allowed me to compete successfully for law firm positions.”*

**Beth Heffernan (JD/LLM '07)** is an associate at KPMG LLP in international corporate tax practice. She accepted a short-term position at KPMG's office in São Paulo, Brazil, to work with Brazilian clients and to learn about Brazilian tax law.





## RESOURCES AT JOHN MARSHALL

### WRITING RESOURCE CENTER

The John Marshall Law School has long recognized the importance of writing in the legal profession. Among the services the law school provides its students is a fully staffed Writing Resource Center that helps JD, MJ, and LLM students further develop their writing skills. The professional writing specialists and advisors work with students in interactive workshops and in individual sessions.

### CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

The law school has a full-service, professional Career Services Office (CSO) committed to helping students in their job searches and career development. The CSO provides a wide array of services, ranging from career-planning advice to extensive electronic resources that are accessible from anywhere in the world.

As a student in our Tax Law LLM/MJ Programs, you will have access to:

- One-on-one counseling and mock interviews
- Career development workshops
- The CSO library
- Office equipment and resources
- *Symplicity*, the CSO online resource center

### LOUIS L. BIRO LAW LIBRARY

As a student in either the Tax Law LLM or MJ Program, you will spend a substantial amount of time in the law library. The staff of John Marshall's Louis L. Biro Law Library is there to assist you with your studies and legal research. The law library has:

- 391,000 volumes and 2,300 audiovisual tapes
- A professional library staff, including reference librarians with both law and library degrees
- Up-to-date computer research and reference services
- More than 75 Windows-based computers available for student use
- A school-wide wireless computer network
- Access to BNA, RIA, HeinOnline, LEXIS, WESTLAW, and CALI
- Copying and scanning facilities
- Special collections of popular law, academic success, and career-related materials
- Study carrels and study rooms
- An extensive microfilm collection
- Been designated an official US Government Documents Depository



*Zafar Musvi, JD/LLM joint degree candidate in Tax Law and president of the Graduate Tax Law Society, consults with Kristen Vogtsberger, assistant director of the Career Services Office.*

## SPECIAL TAX LAW EVENTS

**THE PAUL FAHERTY TAX LAW WRITING COMPETITION** was established in 2008 in honor of Paul Faherty, the former director of the Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits. It is underwritten by James M. Lynch, a tax partner at the Chicago law firm of Winston & Strawn LLP, who serves on the Center's Tax Law Advisory Board.

The competition is open to law students throughout the United States. Writers are not limited to a specific tax topic, and the submissions, generally 25–35 pages in length, cover a wide range of tax topics. Submissions are judged for originality, level of difficulty, use of analytical thinking and persuasive writing skills, clarity in writing, and detailed use of citations.

Twenty-three students from ten law schools entered papers in the 2009 Paul Faherty Tax Law Writing Competition. The 2009 grand prize winner was Sonja Pollack from Hofstra University School of Law for her paper, "The 5% University Endowment Spending Requirement: Analysis and Alternative Proposals." Honorable Mentions were awarded to Kristina Gordon from Loyola University Chicago School of Law for her paper, "Where is My Monet? Museums and Donors Lose an Important Incentive for Fractional Giving," and John Marshall student Nicholas Jenkins (JD '08, LLM '09) for his paper, "A Tactical Analysis of the Blitzkrieg on Subchapter K: Exploring the Ambiguities and Nuances of HR 2834 and Providing Proposals to Modify Future Versions of the Bill."



From left, Nicholas Jenkins, Paul Faherty, Kristina Gordon, and James Lynch. Not pictured is grand prize winner Sonja Pollack.



**THE IRS/DOL ROUNDTABLE** is an annual event where senior-level managers and governmental officials from the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Labor join John Marshall graduate students for an informal discussion about their careers in governmental service. Employee Benefits Advisory Board Member Craig Chomyok (standing), manager of the Employee Plans Compliance Unit at the IRS, explained why students should consider working in a regulatory agency as a viable career path.

Each Spring, the Center invites selected LLM alumni back to the law school to speak to students at the **TAX LAW ALUMNI CAREER PANEL** about their experiences as former program participants and as practitioners in the field.

Offering insights were, from left, Valarie Merrill-Cooke (JD/LLM '01), transaction advisory services manager at Ernst & Young LLP; Jeanine Cunningham (JD '91, LLM '99); and Adjunct Professor Rebecca Kulekowskis (JD/LLM '98), special assistant attorney general with the Illinois Department of Revenue.



## FACULTY

The faculty consists of knowledgeable tax practitioners, as well as current and former members of the IRS Office of Chief Counsel. As such, our professors are able to provide insights and perspectives on the practice of tax law. Without exception, they all bring a wealth of experience, enthusiasm, and an extraordinary commitment to teaching.



The director of the Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits is **ASSOCIATE DEAN AND PROFESSOR KATHRYN J. KENNEDY**, who joined The John Marshall Law School as a full-time faculty member after many years of private practice and teaching as an adjunct professor specializing in employee benefits law. She practiced with the law firm of McDermott Will & Emery LLP in Chicago and was an actuary with the consulting firm of Towers Perrin. Professor Kennedy graduated from Drake University, *with honors*, and from Northwestern University School of Law, *summa cum laude*. She is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA) and a contributing editor for the *Journal of Pension Benefits* and the *Journal of Individual Employment Rights*, as well as a member of Westlaw's Labor & Employment Advisory Board. She has testified before the United States Senate Finance Committee on several occasions and was instrumental in legislative changes made in the area of executive compensation plans. She is a co-author, with Paul T. Shultz, of the textbook *Employee Benefits Law: Qualifications and ERISA Requirements* (LexisNexis), and is the author of *BNA Tax Management Portfolio 367, IRAs*, and *Portfolio 368, SEPs and SIMPLEs*.

Professor Kennedy was a member of the Department of Labor's ERISA Advisory Council (2005–2008) and is a member of the IRS' Advisory Committee for Tax Exempt/Government Entities (ACT) (2009–2011). She is the past chair of the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) Employee Benefits Section Council and the Chicago Bar Association (CBA) Employee Benefits Committee and a member of the Employee Benefits Committee of the American Bar Association (ABA) Section of Taxation. She has lectured frequently on employee benefits and tax issues for a variety of organizations, including the CBA, the ISBA, and the ABA Section of Taxation, Employee Benefits Subcommittee.



Adjunct Professor David Berek (JD '99, LLM '06), director of Family Wealth Management at Credit Suisse Securities LLC, addresses his Advanced Income Tax class.



Adjunct Professor David C. Blum (JD/LLM '97), partner at Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC, teaches the course Partnership Taxation. He is a Tax Law Advisory Board member. Blum was named in the Chicago Daily Law Bulletin 2007 issue of "40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch."

## TAX LAW ADJUNCT FACULTY

The Center's adjunct faculty consists of some of the most prominent and knowledgeable tax attorneys and practitioners in the nation.

**Ronald Bauer**

Senior Tax Counsel, BP America, Inc.

**David A. Berek** (JD '99, LLM '06)

Director, Family Wealth Management  
Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC

**David C. Blum** (JD/LLM '97)

Partner, Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC

**Steven M. Bonneau**, Senior Attorney

Charles E. Dobrusin & Associates, Ltd.

**Steven S. Brown**, Partner

Martin Brown & Sullivan, Ltd.

**Vincenzo Chimera**

Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Illinois Attorney General's Office

**Mark Cohen**, Attorney at Law

**Stephanie H. Denby**, Shareholder

Burke Warren Mackay & Serritella PC

**Eric Fader**, Partner

Horwood Marcus & Berk, Chartered

**Paul Faherty**, Former Program Director

Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits  
The John Marshall Law School

**Sage Fattahian** (JD '02, LLM '04)

Associate, Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP

**John Foley**, Partner

Tatooles Foley & Associates

**James P. Greene**, Attorney

James P. Greene & Associates

**Charles Harris**, Partner

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

**Daniel T. Hartnett**, Partner

Martin Brown & Sullivan, Ltd.

**Rebecca L. Kulekowskis** (JD/LLM '98)

Special Assistant Attorney General  
Illinois Department of Labor

**Kerry M. Lavelle**, Attorney

Lavelle Law, Ltd.

**Michael Lee**, Wealth Strategist

Head of Corporate & Executive Services  
William Blair & Company LLC

**Anthony J. Madonia**, President

Anthony J. Madonia & Associates, Ltd.

**Jeffrey A. Maine**, Professor and

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs  
University of Maine School of Law

**Katrinna McBride**, Partner

Beermann Swerdlove LLP

**Jonathan W. Michael**, Partner

Burke Warren Mackay & Serritella PC

**Stacy Singer**, Vice President

Northern Trust Co.

**Mary Ann Spangler Sisco**

Managing Director, Wealth Advisory Practice  
JPMorgan Private Wealth Management

**Thomas Skallas**, Partner

Holland & Knight LLP

**Cyndi P. Trostin** (JD '91, LLM '05)

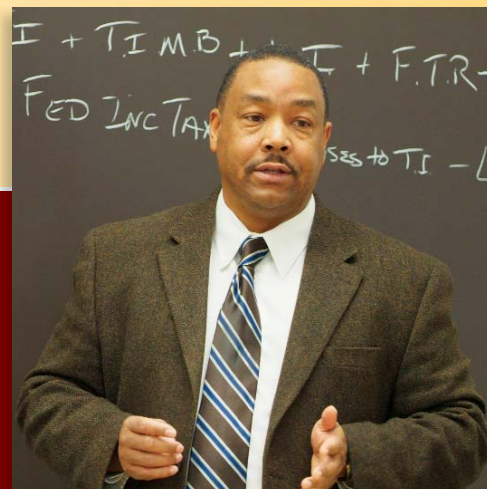
Attorney, Marvin H. Glick & Associates

**Michael J. Tuchman**, Partner

Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC

**Kevin J. Wolfberg**, Partner

Schain Burney Ross & Citron, Ltd.



Adjunct Professor James Greene, attorney at James P. Greene & Associates, teaches Corporate Taxation I and US Taxation of International Transactions & Foreign Taxpayers.



*We invite you to join this exciting program, and enhance your education and marketability.*



*Located in the heart of Chicago's Loop, within a block of the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, and right next door to the Chicago Bar Association, The John Marshall Law School uses its unique presence to draw on distinguished jurists and respected practitioners as adjunct faculty members and guest speakers at special programs and events.*

## **TAX LAW ADVISORY BOARD**

Our advisory boards continue to serve as an invaluable resource to ensure the programs remain relevant to the current trends in tax law and employee benefits and that the Center continues to graduate highly marketable practitioners.

**David C. Blum** (JD/LLM '97)  
*Partner, Levenfeld Pearlstein LLC*

**Steven S. Brown**, *Partner*  
*Martin Brown & Sullivan, Ltd.*

**Paul Faherty**  
*Former Program Director*  
*Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits*  
*The John Marshall Law School*

**Brian Fogue** (LLM '04)  
*Attorney, Law Offices of Brian Fogue*

**Claireen Herting**, *CPA, Manager*  
*PricewaterhouseCoopers*  
*Personal Financial Services*

**James M. Lynch**, *Partner*  
*Winston & Strawn LLP*

**Jeffrey A. Maine**, *Professor and*  
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*  
*University of Maine School of Law*

**Robert E. McKenzie**, *Partner*  
*Arnstein & Lehr LLP*

**Dale W. Phillips** (JD '85)  
*Former CEO, Chief Financial Officer*  
*Illinois Central Railway*

**Thomas D. Sykes**, *Partner*  
*McDermott Will & Emery LLP*

**Cyndi P. Trostin** (JD '91, LLM '05)  
*Attorney, Marvin H. Glick & Associates*

***“The John Marshall Law School is a ‘can do’ institution that, throughout its long history, has proudly maintained a tradition of equipping its graduates to meet the challenges of practice. The Tax Law and Employee Benefits Programs continue that great tradition in challenging, yet rewarding, fields of law.”***

*Former Director of the Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits **Paul Faherty** (JD/LLM) is an adjunct professor and advisory board member. He was branch chief for the chief counsel tax law advisory of the IRS in Washington, DC, and the corporate tax counsel for Amoco Corporation prior to his association with John Marshall.*



## CENTER FOR TAX LAW AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS STAFF

The staff at the Center strive every day to create an environment for the students that allows them to be successful and productive.

### Associate Dean and Professor

**Kathryn J. Kennedy**

*Director*

312.427.2737 ext. 515

[7kennedy@jmls.edu](mailto:7kennedy@jmls.edu)

### Barry Kozak

*Associate Director*

*Graduate Employee Benefits Programs*

312.427.2737 ext. 524

[6kozak@jmls.edu](mailto:6kozak@jmls.edu)

### Steven Szydelko

*Program Coordinator*

312.427.2737 ext. 313

[6szydelko@jmls.edu](mailto:6szydelko@jmls.edu)

### Kathy Winiczay

*Program Coordinator*

312.427.2737 ext. 380

[6winicza@jmls.edu](mailto:6winicza@jmls.edu)



**The John Marshall Law School  
Center for Tax Law and Employee Benefits**

315 S. Plymouth Court

Chicago, Illinois 60604

Fax: 312.427.5280

[www.jmls.edu/tax.html](http://www.jmls.edu/tax.html)



THE  
JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL®  
CENTER FOR TAX LAW AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

315 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois 60604

**[www.jmls.edu/tax.html](http://www.jmls.edu/tax.html)**

Graduate Tax Law Programs

**Non-Discrimination Policy**

The John Marshall Law School, finding any invidious discrimination inconsistent with the mission of free academic inquiry, does not discriminate in admission, services, or employment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, or disability.