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**STEPHEN S. WEINSTEIN  
TRIAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM**

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MASTER OF LAWS IN ADVOCACY

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MESSAGE FROM DEAN CLAUDIO GROSSMAN AND  
PROFESSOR DAVID E. AARONSON, DIRECTOR

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In the modern courtroom, new challenges confront experienced attorneys and recent graduates alike. Courtrooms have become increasingly high-tech and the ethical challenges facing practitioners have become more complex. The Advocacy LL.M. offers a rigorous academic program with practical litigation training for students to improve their pre-trial and trial skills, learn new litigation strategies and tools, and strengthen their persuasive abilities. The Advocacy LL.M. is designed for recent law school graduates, lawyers looking to diversify their practice or make a career change, and more experienced litigators who seek to expand their competencies and hone practical litigation skills.

Thank you for your interest in the Advocacy LL.M. Program. We hope you will visit our website to discover what the Advocacy LL.M. has to offer. Visit [www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm](http://www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm).



AMERICAN  UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON  
COLLEGE OF LAW

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## OVERVIEW

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The Master of Laws in Advocacy (Advocacy LL.M. Program) at American University Washington College of Law, administered by the law school's Stephen S. Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program, combines a rigorous academic component and a breadth of practical litigation training. The Program offers an array of courses, externships, and opportunities to pursue legal scholarship and gain teaching experience. Important focuses of the Advocacy LL.M. Program are the use of modern technology in litigation and the training of ethical trial lawyers. The Program's innovative curriculum will aid graduates in preparation for all aspects of litigation.

The Advocacy LL.M. is designed to provide students maximum flexibility. It was developed to take into account the differing needs and interests of students. Program participants may select an individualized curriculum from a list of 10 core trial advocacy courses and 35 litigation-based courses. Every student must complete the Advanced Trial Advocacy and Ethics for Trial Lawyers courses before receiving their LL.M. degree. To be awarded the LL.M. degree, a student is required to earn at least 24 credits while pursuing study on a full or part-time basis.

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## HIGHLIGHTS

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**EXPERIENCED FACULTY.** Courses are taught by full-time faculty as well as more than 35 distinguished judges and practitioners from the Washington, D.C. area who have extensive professional backgrounds in private practice, government litigation, and non-profit advocacy. Many of these judges and practitioners have been honored for their excellence in the courtroom and contributions to the greater legal community.

**SMALL CLASSES AND INDIVIDUALIZED ATTENTION.** Many of the courses offered as part of the Advocacy LL.M. Program meet in small sections of 8 to 14 students team-taught by two instructors, a practicing or recently retired judge, and either a full-time faculty member with litigation experience or an experienced litigator. The Program's classes emphasize developing and implementing a winning case theory and narrative, core pre-trial and trial skills, professionalism, persuasive communication, and the use of cutting-edge technology in a 21st century courtroom.



**FLEXIBLE STUDY AND ROLLING ADMISSIONS.** LL.M. students can study full-time and complete the Program in one year or part-time and complete the Program at their own pace. Students can tailor their experience to fit individualized goals. Required courses and most elective courses are offered in the evenings to accommodate students' work schedules.

**STATE-OF-THE-ART COURTROOM TECHNOLOGY.** The advanced technology of the courtroom is integrated into each course to further the development of skills critical for success in litigation in the digital age. The recently built Weinstein Courtroom permits LL.M. students to master cutting-edge trial technology. The courtroom provides numerous options for creative use of evidence within the framework of the rules and procedures governing digital evidence and demonstrative presentations. Features include interactive video screens, a stylus to permit digital alteration of exhibits during trial, an ELMO, remote controlled cameras, and digital recording equipment for reviewing performances.

**WIDE SELECTION OF COURSES.** The range of courses offered provides students with a foundation for litigation in a variety of practice areas. Course topics cover an array of advocacy subjects, including: Trial Advocacy, Pretrial Litigation, eDiscovery, Litigating in a High Tech Courtroom, Evidentiary Foundations and Objections, Arbitration, Mediation, Environmental Litigation, Expert Scientific Evidence, and Transnational Litigation. To view the full list of course offerings, visit [www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm](http://www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm).

**UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES.** LL.M. students may fulfill optional credit requirements through pre-approved litigation related writing projects, co-teaching trial advocacy courses, and participation in mentored externships.

**WASHINGTON, D.C. LOCATION.** American University Washington College of Law is located in the nation's capital and in close proximity to major suburban centers in Maryland and Virginia. This rich and diverse location provides LL.M. students with countless professional opportunities.

**Applications** for the Advocacy LL.M. Program can be found at [www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm](http://www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm).

**For more information**, please visit [www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm](http://www.wcl.american.edu/trial/llm) or contact Elizabeth Boals, Associate Director of the Weinstein Trial Advocacy Program, at 202.274.4073.

*The LL.M. Program is awaiting acquiescence from the American Bar Association.*