

2000

Masters in Health Law Overview

Nova Southeastern University

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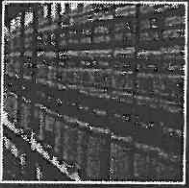
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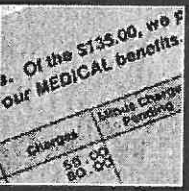


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Nova Southeastern University

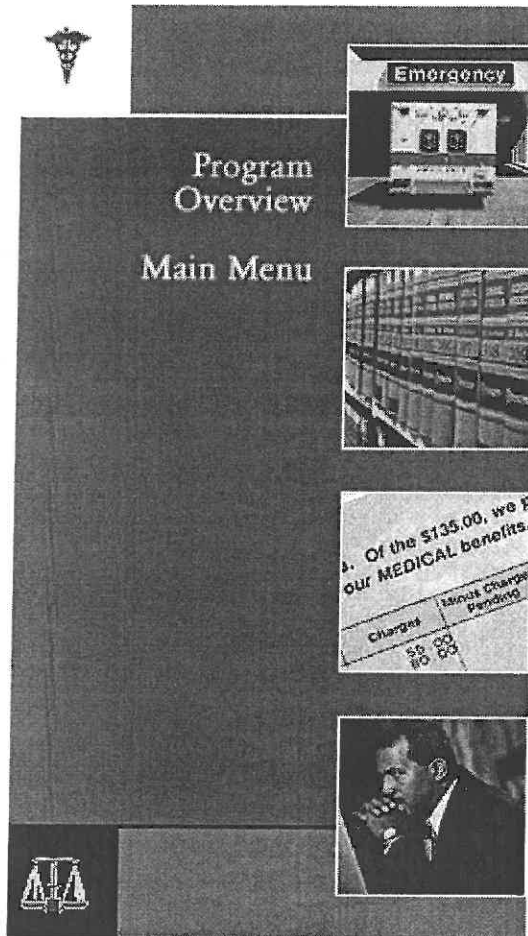
Shepard Broad Law Center

Master's in Health Law



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Nova Southeastern University

Program Overview

During the past decade, health care has witnessed dynamic changes, with enormous advances in technology and medical science matched only by the breadth of law and regulation which now permeate every aspect of the profession. The task of successfully navigating this increasingly difficult system is, at the very least, challenging and, all too often, seemingly overwhelming.

NSU Law's, two-year, 30-credit Master's in Health Law program teaches non-lawyer, health care professionals the skills necessary to effectively identify, understand and deal with the intricate set of legal issues riddling today's health care environment. The program, taught by experts in the interrelationships of the practice of law and professional health care, is intensely focused on the significant role of the law in health care delivery, regulation, management and public policy.

The curriculum examines core legal concepts, procedures and policy interpretations affecting the health care industry. The critical knowledge acquired imbues our graduates with a legal awareness, sensitizing them to health care issues, giving them the ability to gauge the scope and severity of potential problems, and enabling them to recognize when and where a lawyer's assistance is needed.

Accommodating the need and desire of most health care professionals to remain in their present location and employment and, at the same time, draw upon a nationwide faculty, the MHL program offers a unique opportunity via NSU Law's state-of-the-art, internet-based distance learning technology. The majority of work, with the exception of attendance at two or three brief on-campus Institutes, will be accomplished conveniently from the student's own home, on the student's own timing, without compromise of career or other obligations.

Health care providers, physicians, nurses, program administrators, pharmacists and those in the allied health professions, now require an elevated level

health professions, now require an elevated level of knowledge with respect to the ever expanding body of law and regulation under which our health care delivery system operates, the contractual relationships involved and the intricacies of Medicare and Medicaid billing and coding. The staffs of managed care companies or insurance companies must understand the regulatory regime governing risk management and privacy issues.

And, all must be acutely aware of patients' rights.

MHL graduates will find themselves well prepared for the challenges presented by new legislation, regulations, and judicial decisions governing American health care - today and into the future.

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This two-year, 30-credit master's degree program offers health care practitioners, administrators, members of the insurance and managed care industries, public policy advocates, and others involved in health care the opportunity to study the issues, processes and concepts that determine the framework and function of American health care law. As the law and health care delivery become increasingly interconnected, it is essential for those in the industry to keep pace with the significant changes in health law and their impact on the health care system.

Each student will complete three 20-week terms of coursework, attend either two or three brief on-campus Institutes for the Study of Health Law, and complete an Individual Research Project. The 20-week terms of coursework each are divided into two ten-week-long sessions. Students take two courses per session, except for the final session, during which only one course is required. Thereafter, students have approximately six months to complete an in-depth research project.

To accommodate the need and desire of most health care professionals to remain in their present location and employment and, at the same time, draw upon a nationwide faculty, the M.H.L. program is uniquely offered via NSU Law's state-of-the-art, Internet-based distance learning technology. The majority of work, with the exception of attendance at two or three brief on-campus Institutes, will be accomplished conveniently from the student's own home, on the student's own timing, without requiring compromise of career and other obligations.

The program begins with a brief, mandatory, on-campus, Institute for the Study of Health Law at NSU's campus. Students at this, their first Institute, become oriented with classmates, meet the faculty, tour NSU's legal facilities and undergo intensive computer training. They also begin coursework in at least two of their courses (Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning and Administrative Law). Sessions include discussions of the health care system's regulatory scheme and of the judicial system of the United States. The Institute is mandatory, and students must attend for the entire time.

Students return after a year of coursework to attend a second, shorter, Institute. At this Institute, returning students will meet incoming students, engage in some hands-on work relating to their courses, and discuss their



Individual Research Projects with advisers. This Institute is also mandatory, and students must attend for the entire time.

Online, students are guided through interactive class lessons over the Internet, working closely with faculty members and exchanging ideas with fellow classmates online.

Grades will be mailed out via the registrars office at the end of each session. Grades may also be viewed by visiting <http://webstar.nova.edu/> and entering in your personal identification number, PIN. The M.H.L. program uses the following grading scale: A+, A, B+, B, C+, C, D+, D, F

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Administrative Law (2) #1030

This course explores the role of administrative law in health care and the effects of federalism and constitutional issues in that context. Students will review the sources of law for health care providers (institutions, organizations and individuals). In doing so, they will chart the overlapping and sometimes conflicting roles of federal and state legal regulation and study the implications and effects of the various types of laws that govern the provision of health care: administrative agency regulations, constitutional provisions, statutes, and court decisions.

Corporate Law in Health Care (2) #2050

The sheer variety of health care organizations that exist today is overwhelming. In this course, students will examine the legal considerations underlying the structure, function, and transactions among various forms of health care organizations. Prerequisite: 1020

Individual Research Project (2/3) #2080

In this course, students will have the opportunity to merge their studies with their duties in the health care setting. Each student will work with a faculty adviser to apply the theory and law gained in one or more courses to a problem he or she perceives either in the workplace or in the industry in general. Successful completion requires compliance with rigorous academic research standards, a written product, and an oral presentation of the project to persons in the industry and faculty. Prerequisite: 1010-2020

Institute for the Study of Health Law, Part I (1) #1010

At this on-campus Institute, conducted during orientation, students will be exposed to the American legal system's structure and history, the basics of the court system, and legal research and reasoning techniques. They will also have the opportunity to speak with and hear from leading practitioners in various areas of health law.

Students will receive instruction in the legal structure of U.S. health care. They will preview the

structure of U.S. health care. They will preview the federalist method of regulating health care in the US, thus laying the foundation for the course on Administrative Law. Students also will examine the relatively recent shift in America from fee-for-service medicine to managed care and the various legal regulatory changes it has spawned.

**Institute for the Study of Health Law, Part II
(1) #2000**

At this on-campus Institute, students will undergo further instruction in legal research, attend courses and presentations on specialized topics building on their year of coursework, and confer with faculty advisors regarding their Individual Research Projects. They also must present their Individual Research Project ideas to a group of their peers, incoming students, various faculty members, and practitioners in the field. Such presentations will offer opportunities for further development of their ideas and refinement of their project plans. Prerequisite: 1020

**Institute for the Study of Health Law, Part III
(1) #2090**

At the final on-campus Institute, students orally present the results of their Individual Research Projects, attend additional courses and presentations, and participate in a graduation ceremony. Prerequisite: 1020

Law of Accreditation & Licensing (2) #1090

This course provides a detailed examination of the legal aspects of two credentialing concepts, namely accreditation and licensure, in both the individual health care practitioner setting and the institutional setting. Students will examine the primary goal of these concepts (i.e., protecting the public), how accreditation differs from licensure, and how they interrelate. Prerequisite: 1020

Law of Medicare & Medicaid (3) #1050

This course focuses on the legal structure of two federal governmental programs enacted in 1965 when Congress expanded the Social Security Act. To enhance their understanding of these complex programs, students will examine the legal fundamentals of these programs (program purposes; populations served; eligibility requirements; program limitations; the scope of covered benefits; and reimbursable services) through the relevant federal statutes and case law interpretation. Prerequisite: 1020

**Law of Patients' Rights and Advocacy (2)
#1080**

Over the last century, the law governing medicine

Over the last century, the law governing medicine has seen a shift from paternalism to respect for patients as the decisionmakers. Beginning with the development of the bedrock legal principles of informed consent, this course will examine the legal aspects of patients' rights movements and will trace the status of patients' legal abilities to control their treatment. Part of the course will be devoted to the existence of, substance of, and reasons for patients' rights statutes specific to hospital and nursing home settings. Prerequisite: 1020

Law of Risk Management (2) #2030

This course focuses on the legal importance of risk management programs for health care institutions. In doing so, it examines the keys to organizing and implementing successful risk management programs. It also focuses on considerations for developing effective risk management programs, evaluating them, and addressing specific risk areas, including those arising in managed care and integrated health care delivery systems. Prerequisite: 1020

Legal Issues Governing the Provision of Health Care as an Employee Benefit (2) #2040

This course focuses on the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), which was enacted by Congress in 1974. It will examine the reasons for enactment of ERISA, the various types of health-care-related employee benefit plans that have arisen under ERISA, and the implications of ERISA preemption in the health care field. Prerequisite: 1020

Legal Issues in Health Care Human Resources (2) #2070

This course examines legal issues relevant to the management of employees within health care organizations. The specific areas examined include: (1) the legal impact of changes in health care on the management of health care organizations, including the need to control health care usage and costs, corporate health care fragility, mergers, and acquisitions; and (2) in the context of that background, the basics of health care employment law, including employment discrimination issues, unionization, permissible bargaining units, concerns about strikes, and managed care considerations. Prerequisite: 1020, 1070

Legal Negotiation (2) #2020

This course seeks to familiarize students with the various ways in which their legal counsel will

various ways in which their legal counsel will attempt to resolve disputes on their behalf. Lawyers, of course, may litigate to resolve disputes, but far more commonly-used weapons in the lawyer's arsenal are negotiation, arbitration and mediation. Students in this course will have the opportunity to review, discuss, and experiment with some of the skills their lawyers will be using on their behalf. They will come to appreciate the legal issues that can affect such non-litigation techniques. Attention will also be paid to the legal mechanisms by which parties to disputes are more and more often being forced into mediation or arbitration. Prerequisite: 1020

**Legal Perspectives on Health Care Ethics (2)
#1040**

This course examines how the law has affected health care ethics by exploring the principles of ethics for health care providers; the ways in which these ethical principles are reflected in the law; and the legal, ethical, and policy aspects of issues affecting health care providers. Students will analyze situations arising in the health care context and will consider issues relating to both individual and institutional health care providers' ethics. Prerequisite: 1020

Legal Regulation of the Workplace (2) #1070

The law regulates the workplace with regard to both intangible and physical conditions. For example, laws prohibiting discrimination against and among employees regulate working conditions in one sense. The government also regulates physical occupational health and safety through the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 U.S.C. 651 (OSHA). This course will examine both the regulations governing prevention of and notice to employees about worker safety and the law of employment discrimination in the health care setting. Prerequisite: 1020

**Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning (3)
#1020**

The law is never static. Coupled with its ever-increasing role in the governance of health care institutions and health care practitioners, this truism means that health care practitioners and administrators may need to obtain, review and apply newly issued laws or legal decisions in their day-to-day activities. This course will enable students to find the law, to read and understand legal statutes and regulations, and to understand the analytic process lawmakers and lawyers use.

Regulatory Compliance in the Health Care Industry (2) #2010

Industry (2) #2010

This course will follow up on the course on Medicare and Medicaid, exploring in more depth the steps health care institutions and individual health care practitioners can take to protect themselves against severe legal penalty in the areas of potential Medicare and Medicaid fraud and abuse and anti-kickback liability. Prerequisite: 1020, 1050

Tort & Contract Law (3) #1060

This course provides a detailed introduction to the legal principles and major concepts of tort law and contract law, focusing on legal claims and disputes in the health care context. Prerequisite: 1020


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The program begins with a mandatory on-campus four-and-a-half-day-long Institute for the Study of Health Law, to which the students will return each year. Thereafter, online, each student will complete three 20-week terms of coursework. The 20-week terms of coursework each are divided into two ten-week-long sessions. Students take two courses per session, except for the final session, during which only one course is required. Thereafter, students have approximately six months to complete an in-depth research project.

An initial slate of eight courses is required: Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning; Administrative Law; Legal Perspectives on Health Care Ethics; The Law of Medicare and Medicaid; Tort & Contract Law; Legal Regulation of the Workplace; The Law of Patients' Rights and Advocacy; and The Law of Accreditation and Licensing.

After completing these initial course requirements, students can either earn the basic Master's in Health Law or specialize in one of two tracks: Legal Regulatory Compliance or The Law of Risk Management.

Book Information

Student Calendar, Basic Track:

Institute for the Study of Health Law, Part I, 7/25 to 7/29/2001 **1 credit**

First Term of Classwork **10 credits**

Session One:
 July 30 to October 12, 2001
 Courses:
 Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning (3)
 Administrative Law (2)

Session Two:
 October 15 to December 21, 2001
 Courses:
 Legal Perspectives on Health Care Ethics (2)
 The Law of Medicare and Medicaid (3)

Second Term of Classwork **9 credits**

Session One:

January 21 to March 31, 2002

Courses:

Tort & Contract Law (3)

Legal Regulation of the Workplace (2)

Session Two:

April 22 to June 30, 2002

Courses:

The Law of Patients' Rights and Advocacy (2)

The Law of Accreditation and Licensing (2)

**Institute for the Study of Health
Law, Part II, 7/24 to 7/28/2002****1 credit****Third Term of Classwork****6 credits**

Session One:

July 29 to October 11, 2002

Courses: Choice of Two Electives from list of:

Regulatory Compliance in the Health Care Industry,

Legal Negotiation, The Law of Risk Management,

Legal Issues Governing the Provision of Health

Care as an Employee Benefit, Corporate Law in

Health Care, or Legal Issues in Health Care Human

Resources

(all 2 credits)

Session Two:

October 14 to December 20, 2002

Course: Choice of one elective from above list

(all 2 credits)

Capstone Project**2 credits***

Each student must complete his or her Individual Research Project between December and the Institute for the Study of Health Law which occurs during the next July, at which he or she will graduate.

**Final Institute for the Study of
Health Law, 7/2003****1 credit***

* Students have the option of completing a more robust Individual Research Project for three credits instead of completing a two-credit Individual Research Project and earning one credit for attending the Final Institute.

**Student Calendar, Legal Regulatory
Compliance Track:****Institute for the Study of Health
Law, Part I, 7/25 to 7/29/2001****1 credit****First Term of Classwork****10 credits**

Session One:

July 30 to October 12, 2001

Courses:

Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning (3)

Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning (3)
Administrative Law (2)

Session Two:
October 15 to December 21, 2001
Courses:
Legal Perspectives on Health Care Ethics (2)
The Law of Medicare and Medicaid (3)

Second Term of Classwork

9 credits

Session One:
January 7 to April 20, 2002
Courses:
Tort & Contract Law (3)
Legal Regulation of the Workplace Safety (2)

Session Two:
April 22 to June 30, 2002
Courses:
The Law of Patients' Rights and Advocacy (2)
The Law of Accreditation and Licensing (2)

**Institute for the Study of Health
Law, Part II, 7/24 to 7/28/2002**

1 credit

Third Term of Classwork

6 credits

Session One:
July 29 to October 11, 2002
Courses:
Regulatory Compliance in the Health Care Industry
(2)
Corporate Law in Health Care (2)

Session Two:
October 14 to December 20, 2002
Course: Legal Negotiation (2)

Capstone Project

2 credits*

Each student must complete his or her Individual Research Project between December and the Institute for the Study of Health Law which occurs during the next July, at which he or she will graduate.

**Final Institute for the Study of
Health Law, 7/2003**

1 credit*

* Students have the option of completing a more robust Individual Research Project for three credits instead of completing a two-credit Individual Research Project and earning one credit for attending the Final Institute.

**Student Calendar, The Law of Risk
Management Track:**

**Institute for the Study of Health
Law, Part I, 7/25 to 7/29/2001**

1 credit

First Term of Classwork

10 credits

First Term of Classwork

10 credits

Session One:
July 30 to October 12, 2001
Courses:
Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning (3)
Administrative Law (2)

Session Two:
October 15 to December 21, 2001
Courses:
Legal Perspectives on Health Care Ethics (2)
The Law of Medicare and Medicaid (3)

Second Term of Classwork

9 credits

Session One:
January 7 to April 20, 2002
Courses:
Tort & Contract Law (3)
Legal Regulation of the Workplace (2)

Session Two:
April 22 to June 30, 2002
Courses:
The Law of Patients' Rights and Advocacy (2)
The Law of Accreditation and Licensing (2)

**Institute for the Study of Health
Law, Part II, 7/24 to 7/28/2002**

1 credit

Third Term of Classwork

6 credits

Session One:
July 29 to October 11, 2002
Courses:
The Law of Risk Management (2)
Legal Issues in Health Care Human Resources (2)

Session Two:
October 14 to December 20, 2002
Course:
Legal Issues Governing the Provision
of Health Care as an Employee Benefit (2)

Capstone Project

2 credits*

Each student must complete his or her Individual Research Project between December and the Institute for the Study of Health Law which occurs during the next July, at which he or she will graduate.

**Final Institute for the Study of
Health Law, 7/2003**

1 credit*

* Students have the option of completing a more robust Individual Research Project for three credits instead of completing a two-credit Individual Research Project and earning one credit for attending the Final Institute.

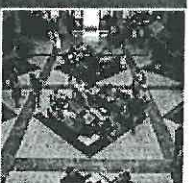
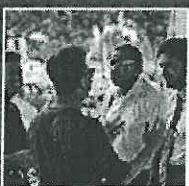
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Nova Southeastern University

Masters in Health Law

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The goal of the admission process is to identify candidates who have or currently work in the Health Care Industry and would benefit from a Health Law degree. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of academic achievements as shown through their academic record, and familiarity with the Health Care Industry as shown by the personal statement, and prior or current work experience. Professional experience in the Health Care Industry is required as well as two letters of recommendation.

Admission to the program is on a rolling basis. Applications are processed as they are received. All application material must be received by the admissions office no later than April 15, 2002 for the July 2002 start. Application material is considered the application, application fee, signature page, official transcripts, two letters of recommendation with the recommendation forms completed by both applicant and evaluator, and the personal statement.

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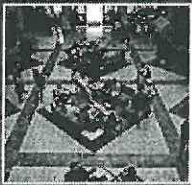
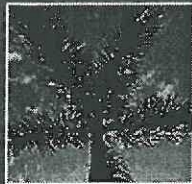
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1. Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited school. Undergraduate degrees from a foreign institution must be evaluated and translated by an outside agency. A TOEFL score may be required.

2. Applicants must have at least two (2) years of work experience in the Health Care Industry.

3. Students must submit two (2) letters of recommendation. At least one letter must come from past or present employers in the Health Care Field. The second letter may be from a professor, employer, or an individual who has the ability to evaluate your aptitude for advanced study. Each letter must be submitted with the recommendation form. The recommendation form must be filled out by the evaluators and the applicant. The recommendation portion of an applicants file will not be considered complete until both the recommendation letters on letterhead and the recommendation forms completed by both applicant and evaluator are received.

* Resident alien students are required to submit a copy of their registration card. For more information, contact the International Students office at (954) 262-7240 or (800) 541-6682 ext. 7240.

Foreign nationals who reside outside the U.S. at the time of application, and whose native language is not English, must present evidence of proficiency in English by satisfactorily completing the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 550. Test scores must be submitted to the admissions Office. For a TOEFL application visit the website at www.toefl.org or write to:

TOEFL

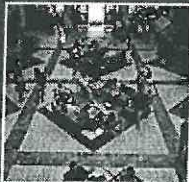




Educational Testing Services
Princeton, NJ 08540

Applicants who have attended foreign universities or colleges are required to have their academic credentials evaluated for U.S. institutional equivalence by the following company.

Josef Silny & Associates
P.O. Box 248233
Coral Gables, FL 33124
(305) 273-1616
www.jsilny.com

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Master's in Health Law \$495.00 per credit hour.
Application fee \$50.00 (one time fee)

The M.H.L. program requires 30 credits for graduation. The program is approximately two years in length.

Payment is due when registration is completed. If payment is not received at the bursars office 30 days after classes begin students will be assessed a \$50.00 late fee. If payment is not received by the end of the term the student will not be allowed to register for the next term. Please visit the bursars website for more information on payments.

Financial Aid is available for those who qualify. Students must be enrolled at least part time in order to qualify for financial aid. Part time at the graduate level equals one three credit course that spans the entire term. Financial aid applications and requested material must be completed and returned to the financial aid office. Students may apply for financial assistance on the Internet through the NSU Student Financial Assistance Web site.





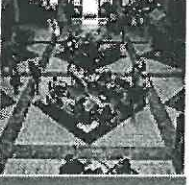
If a students employer will be paying the tuition a letter must be received by the office of International and External programs upon registration. The letter must be on company letterhead, signed by the responsible cooperate official and state the following. The company will pay the entire tuition upon receipt of a bill from NSU and make payment regardless of the grades received by the student.

A student must remain in good standing with the bursars office. If a student's account is not clear of charges before a registration period begins, the student will not be allowed to register for classes.

Tuition and fees are subject to change.

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Incomplete Grade Policy

Graduation Requirements

Students with Disabilities

Transfer of Credit

- Students must remain in good standing with Nova Southeastern University.
- Students must remain in good standing with the Bursars office.
- Students must maintain a GPA of at least 2.5*
- Cheating and Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Students may be suspended or expelled for such actions.**
- The Master of Health Law must be completed within 5 years of beginning the program.***



* If a students GPA falls below a 2.5 the student will be put on academic probation. The student will have one term to raise their GPA above a 2.5, and will sign a contract to this effect. Term is defined by registration dates. If the students GPA is not above a 2.5 after this time the student will have the option of re-taking a class in which the student received a poor grade or being dismissed from the program. Please keep in mind that MHL classes are on a yearly cycle and the student may wait one year or more for the class to be offered again.

**Students are expected to comply with the legal and ethical standards of the institution. Academic and non-academic dishonesty and/or misconduct will result in disciplinary action. Dishonesty includes but is not limited to cheating, plagiarism, knowingly furnishing false information to the institution, forging and/or altering institution documents or credentials. Misconduct can include but is not limited to theft, vandalism, disruptive behavior, sexual harassment, or abuse against other class members or NSU faculty or staff. This includes written or verbal threats against individuals. This includes improper use of technology resources Students must abide by Nova Southeastern University and the Law Centers codes of conduct.

Plagiarism is generally defined as literary theft, representing the words or ideas of another as your own, and this is not tolerated by either the Law Center or the University. All sources must be acknowledged. Quotations from, and paraphrases and summaries of, the work of others must be referenced in appropriate manner as required by the professor.

***A student has five calendar years to complete the Master in Health Law degree. If after five years you have not graduated you will need to retake courses that were taken before that point in time. Leaves of absences taken during the course of the program, even for medical reasons, do not extend the five year time limit.

Privacy of Student Records

Nova Southeastern University maintains a system of records that includes forms, letters or recommendations, application material, and transcripts from student's previous academic work. These records are available for review by the individual upon written request to the department. The original/official documents must be maintained by the university while the student is enrolled in the program. However the department will not release transcripts of students' academic records until their accounts have been paid. The department considers each student's file confidential, and will release those documents requested in writing by the student. If you have waived your right to see your letters of recommendation then these cannot be released, even at your request.

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Incomplete Grade Request

To be completed by student and turned in to the office of International and External programs no later than the end of the present term.

Student's Name _____

Social Security Number _____

Course Name and Number _____ course # _____

Term/Session _____

Reason for requesting incomplete:
(attach an additional sheet if necessary)

Denied _____

Approved _____

If approved, work to be completed:

Grade must be resolved by: _____

(no later than the final day of the following semester)

The grade will automatically become a (F) failure if the work is not completed by the date above.

Student's signature

Date

Professor's signature

Date

Graduation Requirements

In order to be eligible for confirmation for the Master's of Health Law degree, students must have completed all course work with a GPA cumulative of a 2.5 or better. Students must be in good academic standing with the Law center and NSU to graduate. If a student is presently on academic probation the student is not in good academic standing.

Please complete and return this form to the NSU Law Center's International & External Programs (3305 College Avenue Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33314). Please include a recent assessment from a physician including recommendations for accommodations. Once received, a staffperson will evaluate the disclosed information and discuss the accommodations with the student. Please print form and mail completed form to the International and External office.

Name _____ Date: _____

SS#: _____ Current Telephone: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Please check the description which best represents your disability:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visual impairment | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical/psychiatric disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Specific learning disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Speech impairment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing impairment | <input type="checkbox"/> Muscular – skeletal disability |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify below) | |

Past accommodation(s) granted for your disability:

- 1) Were you granted testing accommodations for taking the SAT, LSAT, ACT, GRE, or GMAT examinations? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, please specify which test(s) you took and describe the accommodation(s):

- 2) Did you receive additional time for any exams in college? ____ Yes ____ No

If yes, please specify which test(s) you took and describe the accommodation(s):

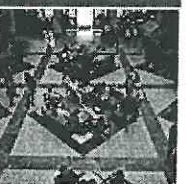




Accommodation(s) requesting (please be as specific as possible). If you require extra writing space, Please do so on the back of this sheet. (*"Documentation from a physician may be required"*)

MHL Credit transfer Policy:

An applicant for the MHL program may request credits towards the MHL program for academic work in another graduate program subject to the following:

1. The Course or courses for which the credit is requested must, in the opinion of the program director in consultation with the Associate Dean substantially overlap the subject matter of the MHL degree.
2. The student must have earned at least a grade of "B" or its numerical equivalent in the course or courses for which transfer credit is requested.
3. No more than three(3) such transfer credits are permitted.
4. The credits must have been earned within five years of the date of the student's matriculation in the MHL program.
5. The credits must have been earned at a regionally accredited school.
6. The credits must not have been taken in a degree program for which a degree was earned.
7. The student must supply the program with a syllabus or course description.

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Nova Southeastern University
Masters in Health Law

Technical Requirements

All courses are offered via the web with the exception of a short residential institute. Students must meet the computer requirements below in order to access their classes. Students will need to be familiar with bulletin boards, email and chat rooms.

Hardware:

- Pentium II 266 Mhz or AMD processor (Pentium III at 400Mhz or higher recommended, AMD Athalon Processor or compatible also recommended).
- 64MB RAM (128MB RAM recommended).
- 56k V.90 Modem. (recommended).
- 8x CD-ROM (higher speed recommended).
- 8MB Video Card or higher recommended.
- 4 GB Hard Disk free space (8 GB or higher recommended).
- 128K cache.
- 32 bit Sound Blaster card or compatible sound card.
- ISP (Internet Service Provider) (a DSL line recommended)
- Printer (optional)
- Speakers

Software:

- Office 97 or 2000 including Word, Power Point, Excel.
- Internet Explorer 5.0 or Netscape Navigator 4.7 or higher recommended
- Windows 98 SE, Windows NT or Windows 2000 (recommended).
- Real Player which you can download for free.
- Antivirus (McAfee or Norton recommended)

Requirements also include: DirectX version 3.0 or later is recommended.

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Admissions Requirements


Tuition & Fees

Academic Regulations

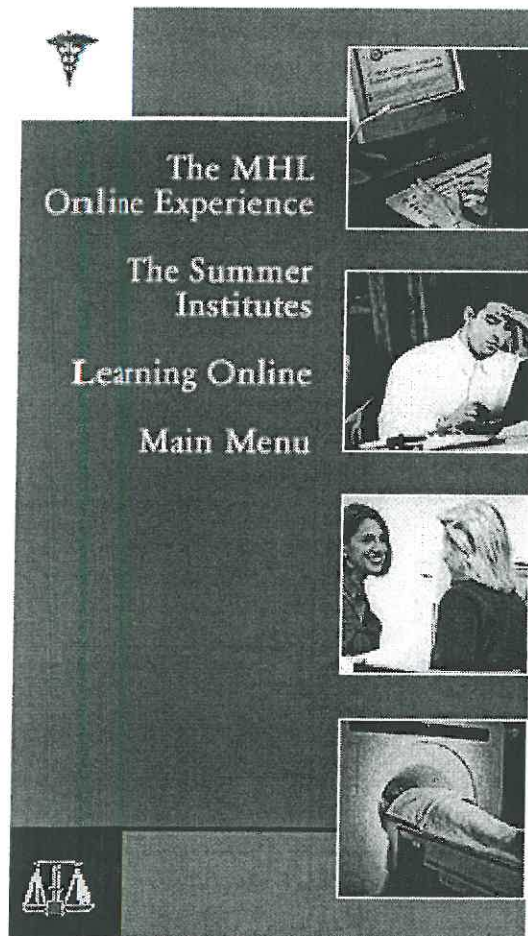
Technical Requirements

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Nova Southeastern University

MHL Online Experience

With the exception of three brief on-campus Health Law study institutes, the MHL program takes place entirely online. Our courses utilize WebCT, one of the most widely used and full-featured distance education platforms. Students will find a comfortable online "home" for learning and interacting with other students and the faculty.

Online students receive passwords to access their courses. At each course site, the student will find reading assignments, links to materials pertinent to the course, a syllabus, a statement of the course goals, a number of hypothetical problems, lecture notes, video clips of lectures, a threaded discussion board, and a quiz. The assignments, materials, problems, lectures and quizzes will be organized by module, with each module representing a major topic of the course. Modules will roughly correspond to weeks. (In other words, a 10-week-long course will contain either 10 modules or nine modules plus a week for a final examination.)

Students are responsible for covering the material assigned, accessing materials as instructed, viewing lecture clips and participating in online discussions. The discussions might take place on the class's threaded discussion board, on which student questions and responses to each other are arranged so that the reader can follow the written "conversation" that develops on line. Alternatively, they might take place via an integrated email program, which every student can access. They also might take place in live "chat" sessions, during which the professor may meet with students, or a group of students may arrange to meet, online. Participation in "live" chat is optional, to preserve student flexibility in time and place of accessing coursework.

Professors are able to track student participation and progress. The faculty is also able to interact with each student in a personal manner through individually-directed emails or discussion board postings.

At the end of each module, students will take a short quiz to monitor their progress before moving on to the next module of classwork.

Online learning provides students with a number of unique advantages.

Students need not relocate or leave their jobs to obtain a degree online. The MHL program offers a flexible learning environment for the busy student because there is no need to be at a particular location at a particular time.

Since education is taking place online, the Law Center is not bound by geography in choosing faculty members. Health law experts from all over the country can lend their expertise to the program, providing a richer educational experience for the student.

Students learning online can attend class at the time and place of their choosing. All students need are properly equipped computers to click in and obtain assignments, view a lecture, post a written response to an analytic question asked by the professor, or read a professor's answer or another student's response to a question posed earlier.

Online learning enhances a student's opportunity to meet other students of diverse backgrounds. It is possible in the online environment for groups of students from across the country, or from several different countries, to collaborate on class projects or study material together.

Additional Links/Information:

- [Program Calendar](#)
- [Academic Regulations](#)
- [Technical Requirements](#)
- [Mock Class](#)

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Nova Southeastern University

The Summer Institutes

Students are required to begin their M.H.L. experience with, and to return annually to, a four-and-a-half-day-long Institute for the Study of Health Law. Such visits to NSU's campus in Fort Lauderdale provide students with opportunities to meet their classmates face-to-face and to interact personally with faculty, Industry Advisory Board members and health law practitioners.






At the first on-campus Institute, students will be exposed to the American legal system's structure and history, the basics of the court system, and legal research and reasoning techniques. They will preview the federalist method of regulating health care in the U.S., thus laying the foundation for the course on Administrative Law, and will examine the relatively recent shift in America from fee-for-service medicine to managed care. They will also have the opportunity to speak with and hear from leading practitioners in various areas of health law.

At the second on-campus Institute, students will undergo further instruction in legal research, attend courses and presentations on specialized topics building on their year of coursework, and confer with faculty advisors regarding their Individual Research Projects. They also must present their Individual Research Project ideas to a group of their peers, incoming students, various faculty members, and practitioners in the field. Such presentations will offer opportunities for further development of their ideas and refinement of their project plans.

At the final on-campus Institute, students orally present the results of their Individual Research Projects, attend additional courses and presentations, and participate in a graduation ceremony.

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With the exception of brief annual Summer Institutes, the MHL program takes place entirely online. Our online courses utilize WebCT, one of the most widely used and full-featured distance education platforms. Students will find a comfortable online "home" for learning and for interacting with other students and with the faculty.

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Students in each course will be responsible for covering the material assigned, accessing materials as instructed, viewing lecture clips and participating in online discussions. The discussions might take place on the class's threaded discussion board, on which student questions and responses to each other are arranged so that the reader can follow the written "conversation" that develops on line. Alternatively, they might take place via email, which each student will have. They also might take place in live "chat" sessions, during which the professor may meet with students, or a group of students may arrange to meet, online. Participation in "live" chat is optional, to preserve student flexibility in time and place of accessing coursework.

The professor in each online course is able to track student participation and progress, and is able to interact with each student in a personal manner through individually-directed emails or discussion board postings.

At the end of each module, students take a short multiple-choice quiz to monitor their progress before they move on to the next module of classwork. In some courses, professors may wish to administer a closed-book, essay final examination as they would in law school classes. In such instances, students will go to testing centers located near their homes or places of business to complete this examination under controlled, secure conditions.

Online learning provides students with a number of opportunities.

First, because education is taking place online, the Law Center is not bound by geography in choosing faculty members. Health law experts from all over the country can lend their expertise to the program, providing a richer educational experience for the student.

Second, students learning online can attend class at any time, in any place they choose. All a student needs is a properly equipped computer to click in and obtain assignments, view a lecture, post a written response to an analytic question asked by the professor, or read what the professor or another student has responded to a question posed earlier.

Third, students need not relocate or leave their jobs to obtain a degree online. Because there is no need to be at a particular location, and no need to be in a classroom at any particular time, online learning provides a flexible environment for the busy student.

Fourth, online learning enhances a student's opportunity to meet other students of diverse backgrounds. It is possible in the online environment for groups of students from across the country, or from several different countries, to collaborate on class projects or study material together.

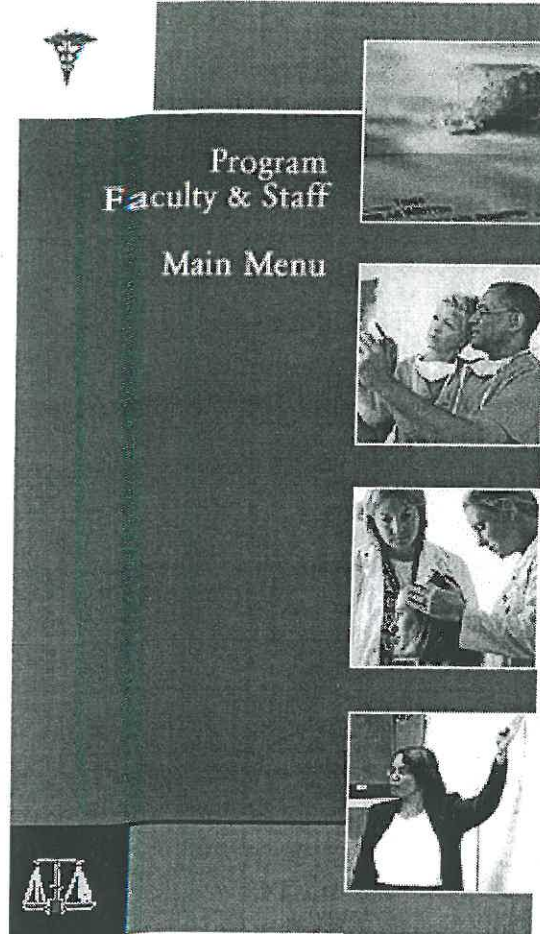
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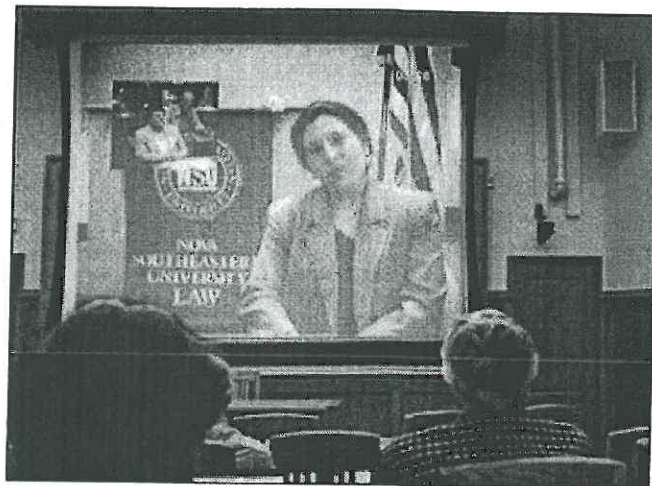


Nova Southeastern University

Program Faculty & Staff

The M.H.L. faculty will consist of full-time and adjunct professors from all over the country. Full-time faculty members from NSU's Shepard Broad Law Center include:

- Johnny Burris
- Kathy Cerminara, *Program Director*
- Michael Flynn
- Steve Friedland
- Joseph D. Harbaugh, *Dean*
- Linda F. Harrison
- Judith Karp



MHL Director, Professor Kathy Cerminara, addresses the Workshop on Distance Learning sponsored by Cornell's Legal Information Institute on the operation of the cutting-edge MHL Program via compressed video. Photo by Charles Saxon.

Adjunct professors include:

- Char Hummel
- Troy Kishbaugh
- Paul Nidich

The M.H.L. staff are:

- Paul R Joseph, *Associate Dean for*

Paul R Joseph, *Associate Dean for
International and External Programs*

- Marla I. Friedman, *Associate Director for
International and External Programs*
- Jennifer N. McIntyre, *Assistant Director of
Admissions and Student Services for
International and External Programs*
- Amber T. Gongora, *Assistant to the Associate
Dean*

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Nova Southeastern University

Industry Advisory Board

In designing and offering this program, NSU Law has been fortunate to benefit from advice from its Industry Advisory Board. The Board consists of people interested in legal online education and high-level executives at various health care providers, insurers, managed care corporations and trade associations. Please meet our Industry Advisory Board.

Cindy Boily

Chief Nursing Officer, Aventura Hospital & Medical Center

Richard Brown

Chief Operating Officer, Holy Cross Hospital

Mark Bryan

Vice President, Operations, Tenet Healthsystems

Michael Greenberg

Attorney at Law

Deidre Law

Executive Vice President, Vitas Healthcare Corporation

Ralph Marrinson

President, Marrinson Group

William Mauk**Linda Quick**

President, S. Florida Hospital & Healthcare Assoc.

Roger Rosenberger

Independent Consultant

Anita Silverman

President, Compassionate Care Management, Inc.

Affiliations are for informational purposes only.

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[NSU Home](#) [NSU Law Home](#) [NSU Distance Education](#) [Contact Us](#) [Apply Now](#)*Nova Southeastern University***Frequently Asked Questions**[FAQ](#)
[Main Menu](#)**What is the aim of the program?**

The M.H.L. Program is specifically designed for the mixed population of professionals working on both the "provider" and "payer" sides of the health care industry. It is intended to assist members of those populations in understanding and navigating the regulations governing the health care industry, and in communicating with lawyers on the job. The program does not prepare students to practice law or to sit for any bar examination, but it does provide in-depth instruction of the law, its function and the myriad regulations governing the health care industry.

Who enrolls in the program?

The program has enrolled health care financial managers, information officers, nurses, risk managers, compliance officers, nurse paralegals, dentists, psychologists, health care facilities administrators and employees of federal and state governmental health-care-related entities.

What are the admissions requirements?

The program is open to students who hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited school, and have been working in the area of health care, insurance or managed care for at least two years.

Do I have to take the GRE or the LSAT?

No, you need not take a standardized test to be admitted to the M.H.L. Program.

Will law students be in the same classes?

These courses are especially designed for master's-degree students. Occasionally, a law student may take an individual course out of personal interest. M.H.L. students will not be placed into classes full of law students and given the same assignments as law students.

Is the program accredited?

Yes. The Shepard Broad Law Center is accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the American Association of Law Schools. NSU is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges

accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The American Bar Association Section of Legal Education has acquiesced in the Law Center's offering the M.H.L. program.

Who is NSU?

Nova Southeastern University (NSU) is the largest, private/independent university in Florida. NSU has provided traditional and distance educational options at bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels to over 63,000 students since 1964.

How long will it take me to get my degree?

The M.H.L. is a 2-year program. Approximately a year-and-a-half will be spent taking classes. The final six months will be spent working on an Individual Research Project.

Can I work while I earn my degree?

The M.H.L. Program is designed to allow health care professionals to continue working while obtaining their degrees. With the exception of a few brief on-campus Health Law Institutes, students never have to leave their own homes. All coursework can be accomplished at a time most convenient to each student, without requiring compromise of career or other obligations.

Does that mean I am totally free to check into and out of my courses at any time?

It means that you are free to determine the times of day at which you wish to do your classwork. The program is not, however, a free-form program permitting you to check in with each class infrequently. Rather, the courses provide a great deal of interactivity, requiring you to check into threaded discussion boards virtually each day.

Where will I take classes?

All courses are offered via the Web with the exception of a short residential Institute. Students log on at their own convenience and use email, chat rooms, streaming audio and video, and bulletin boards to communicate with other students and faculty members in a system called WebCT.

So how does each class work?

Each course will require you to work, along with your classmates and your fellow students, on a series of modules. All students must proceed through the modules together. Within each module (which roughly represents about a week of course time), each student must complete a reading assignment, click into audio or video clips constructed by the professor, respond to problems on a threaded discussion board and submit an

on a threaded discussion board and submit an assignment (often in the form of a quiz).

version 3.0 or later is recommended.

What type of technical support is offered to students? Technical support is available through the NSU Law Center's Help Desk as well as a comprehensive Web page devoted to troubleshooting WebCT issues.

What types of courses will be taught?

Every student enrolled in the M.H.L. Program must complete the following eight courses:

Administrative Law; Law of Accreditation and Licensing; Law of Medicare and Medicaid; Law of Patients' Rights and Advocacy; Legal Perspectives on Health Care Ethics; Legal Research, Methods & Reasoning; Legal Regulation of the Workplace; and Tort & Contract Law. Thereafter, students may choose from a variety of electives to complete course credit requirements.

What is the Individual Research Project?

After completing the required number of class credits, students each must complete an Individual Research Project for either two or three credits, depending on the complexity of the subject matter. Students may choose the topics of their Individual Research Projects by identifying a health-law-related situation at their workplaces and working toward a solution that benefits both them and their employers. Students may also choose scholarly topics of individual interest.

How will my diploma read?

Master's in Health Law.

How much will this cost? Tuition is \$495 per course credit. Financial aid is available for this program to the extent that it is available for any graduate-level educational program.

What are the technical Requirements?

Hardware:

- Pentium II 266 Mhz or AMD processor (Pentium III at 400Mhz or higher recommended, AMD Athalon Processor or compatible also recommended).
- 64MB RAM (128MB RAM recommended).
- 56k V.90 Modem. (recommended).
- 8x CD-ROM (higher speed recommended).
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- 4 GB Hard Disk free space (8 GB or higher

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- Real Player which you can download for free.
- Antivirus (McAfee or Norton recommended)

Requirements also include: DirectX version 3.0 or later is recommended.

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