



LL.M. Writing Project (L6694) Registration Form

In order to graduate, every LL.M. student must register for L6694 by completing either option A or B below.

Name: _____
Last First

Email: _____ UNI: _____ Term: _____

Student's Signature: _____ GLS Signature: _____

Date of Student Signature: _____ Date of GLS Signature: _____

OPTION A

Check this box and complete this section if you will fulfill the LL.M. Writing Project by writing a 20+ page research paper in a seminar or other course.

Course Number: _____ and Title: _____

Instructor Name: _____
Print

Instructor Signature Date

OR

OPTION B

Check this box and complete this section if you will fulfill the LL.M. Writing Project by writing a 20+ page research paper under the supervision of a faculty member independently of any course or seminar (Research for the LL.M. Degree, L6691).

Instructor Name: _____
Print

Instructor Signature Date

If you are selecting this option, you must also complete the LL.M. Supervised Research Registration Form, to be signed by Dean Sylvia Polo, Jill Casal, Alison Sherwin, or Marissa Zalk in the Office of Graduate Legal Studies.

Rules for L6694:

- 0 academic points are earned for the LL.M. Writing Project apart from those earned in the course, seminar or for supervised research.
- A grade of CR will be entered to confirm completion of the LL.M. Writing Project, but a letter grade will be entered for the course, seminar or supervised research.
- You do not need to have selected your research topic in order to register your LL.M. Writing Project.
- Registration of L6694 is due by **October 1** for the fall term and **February 1** for the spring term.

LL.M. Writing Project Guidelines

The LL.M. Writing Project is a research paper based on a student's original legal research, and must meet the following criteria:

1. the paper must be worth at least two points of academic credit; and
2. the paper must be graded on the A-B-C-F scale; Credit/Fail or other non-evaluative grades are not permitted.

Ways to Fulfill the LL.M. Writing Project Requirement:

1. Seminars

If a student is enrolled in a seminar that requires a 20+ page research paper, and that seminar is worth at least two points of academic credit, the seminar paper will fulfill the LL.M. Writing Project requirement. **To register, complete the reverse side of this form.**

If a seminar or course worth at least two credits requires a shorter research paper (*i.e.*, less than 20 pages), a student may seek the instructor's permission to write a longer research paper (for a total of 20+ pages or 6500 to 8000 words) in order to fulfill the LL.M. Writing Project.

If a student writes 10-15 additional pages, the student may be entitled to earn one additional point of academic credit. In the case of a 2-credit seminar, the student will earn a total of three points of academic credit—two for the seminar and one for the additional work done on the paper. The student must register the additional point as Supervised Research: Course-Related, L6689. **To register for L6689, complete the reverse side of this form as well as the LL.M. Supervised Research Form**, to be signed by Dean Sylvia Polo, Jill Casal, or Marissa Zalk in the Office of Graduate Legal Studies.

2. Supervised Research

(Research for the LL.M. Degree, L6691)

Supervised research entails writing a research paper independently of any course under the supervision of a Columbia Law School faculty member (including clinical, visiting, and adjunct faculty) who agrees to supervise the work and grade it on the A-B-C-F scale. The paper must be worth at least two points of academic credit and 20+ pages in length. The student must register the paper as Research for the LL.M. Degree, L6691. To register for L6691, complete the reverse side of this form, as well as the LL.M. Supervised Research Form, to be signed by Dean Sylvia Polo, Jill Casal, or Marissa Zalk in the Office of Graduate Legal Studies.

3. LL.M. Essay

The LL.M. Essay represents a larger undertaking than supervised research. Students who select this option typically are seeking to produce a work of publishable quality, more along the lines of a Master's thesis (see www.law.columbia.edu/students/graduate-legal-studies/llm-degree-requirements for more information on the LL.M. Essay). The principal difference between the two options lies in the formality of presentation required for an LL.M. Essay. The LL.M. Essay must be placed before the Faculty Supervisor well in advance of the final due date so that it can be reviewed and revised before submission of the Essay in its final form. A copy of the final Essay is deposited in the Law School Library, and its title appears on the student's transcript.

Students seeking to register for LL.M. Essay must discuss the option with Dean Sylvia Polo before the end of the Add/Drop Period.

The Following Will NOT Fulfill the LL.M. Writing Project:

1. Reaction papers, opinion papers, journal entries, or critiques.
2. A series of shorter research papers whose total equals 20+ pages.
3. Non-research based writing projects.
4. Papers for which the research is based entirely or mostly on reading materials (cases, articles, commentaries, etc.) provided by a professor for the course or seminar.
5. Papers written for courses taken outside the Law School.
6. Any paper written for LL.M. Legal Research and Writing (LRW).
7. Student journal articles, notes, or research assistant papers, unless the paper meets the LL.M. Writing Project standards and is registered as Research for the LL.M Degree, L6691.