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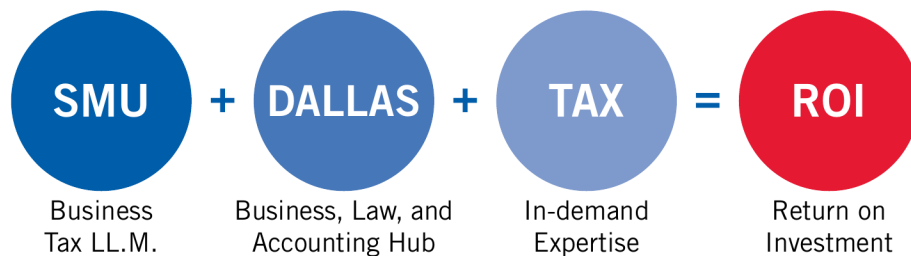
Why Dallas for business tax?

Dallas is one of the nation's major centers of business, law, and accounting. Classroom learning, externships, and professional relationships all happen in the same market where graduates build their careers.

- **Business:** a deep base of corporate headquarters, private companies, and energy, real estate, finance, and technology enterprises.
- **Law:** a large, sophisticated legal market with national and Texas firms and active in-house legal departments.
- **Accounting:** major accounting and professional services firms with large regional tax practices.

SMU Dedman Law is ranked 25th in the nation for corporate/business law by U.S. News & World Report.

The Business Tax Equation



For more information about SMU Dedman Law and the Graduate program, scan the QR code or visit smu.edu/law/llm-taxation.

Every Deal has a Tax Dimension.

Where Business Meets Tax



SMU[®] Dedman Law

Graduate Tax Program

about the BUSINESS TAX LL.M.

SMU Dedman Law's Graduate Taxation Program is a comprehensive, advanced degree for attorneys who intend to specialize in tax practice. For attorneys advising businesses, it builds the technical mastery that clients pay for: entity choice and structuring, transactions, compliance, and disputes with taxing authorities.

Our curriculum goes beyond J.D.-level courses with survey-level instruction and practice-oriented courses that focus on tax and fiscal policy issues.

Business tax areas of focus

- Taxation of corporations, partnerships, and LLCs
- Mergers, acquisitions, reorganizations, and other business transactions
- State and local and multistate tax issues for businesses
- International tax for companies operating across borders
- Tax controversy: audits, appeals, and litigation
- Executive compensation, benefits, and tax planning for business owners
- Family office and high net worth estate planning

Built for Return on Investment

- **Earn While You Learn.** Practicing attorneys can keep their jobs, clients, and income while completing their degree on the part-time track.
- **Cox Coordinator.** Of the 24 credit hours, four credits can be taken at SMU's Cox School of Business, making it a focused investment in a specialty.
- **Skills You Bill Immediately.** Practice-oriented coursework can be applied to current client and employer matters while you are still enrolled.
- **A Specialty Clients Need.** Business tax issues touch nearly every transaction, financing, and dispute, making tax expertise an in-demand practice area.
- **A Network That Compounds.** Classmates, faculty, and alumni practice at Dallas firms, accounting firms, and companies that hire and refer tax work.

CAPSTONE: Private Equity Tax Transactions*

Students apply their business tax training to a private equity deal from start to finish, working the problem the way a deal team does.

- **The Deal Life Cycle:** fund formation, acquisition structuring, portfolio company operations, add-on acquisitions, and exit.
- **Core Tax Issues:** partnership tax, M&A, carried interest, rollover equity, and management incentive equity.
- **Practice-ready Work Product:** structure memos, step plans, and deal-document tax provisions, reviewed as a supervising partner would.
- **Taught by Practitioners:** drawing on Dallas's private equity, law firm, and accounting communities.
- **The ROI:** graduates leave with experience on the kind of transaction that drives tax work at Dallas firms, accounting practices, and funds.

* Course pending approval for 2027–28.

about the DEGREE AND CAREERS

Located in the business and legal hub of Dallas, Texas, SMU Dedman Law connects students to externships, the Corporate Counsel Externship Program, the Tax Law Society, the Corporate Law Association, and the Energy and Real Estate Law Associations.

What are the degree requirements?

- Students must hold a J.D. degree from an ABA accredited law school.
 - » *Those with a law degree from a foreign country and a strong background in tax may also be considered for admission.*
- Residence in the School of Law for no fewer than two terms if a full-time student and no fewer than three terms if a part-time student.
- Completion of 24 term-hours in courses, seminars, or research and writing with at least 18 credit hours in the taxation area.
 - » *Students may take four of the required 24 credit hours in other graduate programs, including Cox School of Business, so they can pair tax law with finance, accounting, and strategy.*
- Students must maintain an average of C or 2.00.
- Full-time students must complete their requirements within 36 months of their enrollment date. Part-time students have 60 months to complete requirements.
- *For a full list of degree requirements and exceptions, visit smu.edu/law/degree-requirements.*

What can you do with a Business Tax LL.M.?

- Tax practice at law firms advising corporations, partnerships, and private businesses
- Tax roles at accounting and professional services firms
- In-house tax counsel and corporate tax department leadership
- Transactional practice in M&A, private equity, real estate, and energy
- Tax controversy and dispute resolution before the IRS, state agencies, and courts
- Government service, policy, and tax administration

CAPSTONE: Family Office and High Net Worth Estate Planning*

Students apply their tax training to family office and high net worth planning from start to finish.

- **The Planning Life Cycle:** planning for a wealth creation or liquidity event, entity and trust structuring, lifetime gifting, business succession, and transfers at death.
- **Core Tax Issues:** federal estate, gift, and generation-skipping taxes; marital deduction planning; grantor trusts; irrevocable life insurance trusts; charitable planning and common estate planning tools.
- **Practice-ready Work Product:** planning memos, trust and transfer drafting, and wealth transfer projections, reviewed as a supervising partner would.
- **Taught by Practitioners:** drawing on Dallas's private wealth, trust and estate, family office, and accounting communities.

* Course pending approval for 2027–28.