

Master of Juridical Science (SJD), Minor in Non-Profit Laws

HBI University

Course Duration: 2 years

Credit Hours: 69 (including minor)



Program Description

The Master of Juridical Science (SJD) with a Minor in Non-Profit Laws is an advanced, research-focused degree designed for legal scholars, policy analysts, and professionals seeking expertise in nonprofit law, governance, and policy development. This program equips students with the ability to analyze, interpret, and develop legal frameworks for nonprofit organizations and faith-based institutions.

Students will explore advanced legal research methods, jurisprudence, nonprofit regulations, tax-exempt status laws, and compliance issues affecting charitable and faith-based organizations. The minor in nonprofit laws focuses on the intersection of public policy, financial compliance, and governance for mission-driven entities operating within legal frameworks.

Graduates will be well-prepared for careers in academia, nonprofit legal consultancy, policy research, government advisory roles, and leadership positions in nonprofit governance and compliance.

Admissions Requirements

- Juris Doctor (JD) or Master of Laws (LL.M) degree from an accredited institution
- Minimum GPA of 3.3
- Two letters of recommendation from legal scholars or nonprofit executives
- Statement of research intent outlining proposed study in nonprofit law
- Interview with faculty admissions committee

Practicum Requirement

Students must complete a 300-hour supervised practicum in a legal research institute, nonprofit legal consultancy, or government agency focusing on nonprofit law and policy. This hands-on experience provides direct exposure to the legal challenges faced by nonprofit and faith-based organizations.

Master's Thesis

An SJD dissertation is required, focusing on nonprofit governance, tax law, regulatory compliance, or the legal challenges of faith-based organizations. The dissertation should be between 100-200 pages, follow APA or legal citation formatting, and provide a significant contribution to the field of nonprofit law.

Program Outcomes

- Develop expertise in advanced legal research, nonprofit governance, and regulatory compliance.
- Analyze the impact of nonprofit laws on charitable organizations, social enterprises, and faith-based institutions.
- Engage in policy research and legislative advocacy for nonprofit sector reforms.
- Apply legal and ethical principles to ensure nonprofit sustainability and fiduciary responsibility.
- Prepare for leadership roles in nonprofit legal consultancy, academia, and public policy.

Foundational Courses (30 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours
SJD 6001	Advanced Legal Research Methods and Writing	3
SJD 6002	Jurisprudence and the Philosophy of Law	3
SJD 6003	Legal Frameworks for Nonprofit Governance	3
SJD 6004	Comparative Nonprofit Law and Global Regulations	3
SJD 6005	Nonprofit Tax Law and Financial Compliance	3
SJD 6006	Corporate and Charitable Trusts Law	3
SJD 6007	Ethical and Legal Considerations in Nonprofit Operations	3
SJD 6008	Litigation and Advocacy for Nonprofit Organizations	3
SJD 6009	Risk Management and Fraud Prevention in Nonprofits	3
SJD 6010	Research Methods in Legal Studies and Policy Analysis	3

Core Courses (24 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours
SJD 6101	Faith-Based Legal Structures and Governance	3
SJD 6102	Public-Private Partnerships in Nonprofit Law	3
SJD 6103	Nonprofit Mergers, Acquisitions, and Dissolution Laws	3
SJD 6104	Government Relations and Legislative Advocacy for Nonprofits	3
SJD 6105	Technology Law and Digital Governance in Nonprofits	3
SJD 6106	The Role of Foundations and Endowments in Nonprofit Law	3
SJD 6107	Supervised Practicum in Nonprofit Law and Compliance	3
SJD 6108	Capstone Project in Nonprofit Legal Studies	3

Non-Profit Laws Minor (15 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours
NPL 6201	Tax-Exempt Status and Legal Compliance for Nonprofits	3
NPL 6202	Regulatory Compliance for Charitable Giving and Fundraising	3
NPL 6203	Ethical Considerations in Nonprofit Law and Policy	3
NPL 6204	Financial Accountability and Legal Risk in Nonprofits	3
NPL 6205	Public Policy and Nonprofit Law Reform	3

Career Outcomes and Potential Salary

- Nonprofit Legal Scholar and Policy Researcher – \$90,000-\$160,000
- Director of Legal Affairs for Charitable Organizations – \$95,000-\$170,000
- Government Regulatory Advisor for Nonprofits – \$100,000-\$180,000
- Professor of Nonprofit Law and Governance – \$85,000-\$150,000

Advocacy and Professional Development

Students are encouraged to engage with nonprofit law organizations such as the American Bar Association (ABA) Nonprofit Law Section and the National Association of Nonprofit Organizations & Executives (NANOE) for continued professional development and networking opportunities.

Additional Electives (9 Credit Hours)

Course Code	Course Title	Credit Hours
ELE 901	Advanced Legal Research in Non-Profit Law	3
ELE 902	Legal Regulations for Faith-Based Charities	3
ELE 903	Corporate Governance in Religious Organizations	3
ELE 904	Non-Profit Taxation and Compliance	3
ELE 905	Global Policy Trends in Non-Profit Law	3