



Tax Law

What would I do? Tax law is a dynamic field that deals with domestic and international transactions. Because of the frequent modifications to local, state, and federal codes and the complexity of fiscal policy that guides these changes, experts in tax law engage in continuous education at greater rates than in many other fields of law. Apart from ensuring the legality of the levies on economic transactions, tax lawyers help clients reduce fiscal liabilities. (<https://www.brown.edu/academics/college/advising/law-school/fields-law/fields-law>)

Where would I practice? Tax attorneys are employed in a large variety of practice settings, including large law firms, boutique tax firms, accounting firms, federal and state government agencies, nonprofit organizations, corporations, and tax courts. Clients can include individuals, public and private companies, governments, non-profits, educational and health care entities, private foundations and trade associations. (<https://www.law.georgetown.edu/careers/career-planning/practice-areas/tax.cfm>)

What types of cases would I handle? (<https://www.hq.org/tax.html>)

- Duties on Imports
- Estate Tax
- Property Tax
- Income Tax
- Transactional Tax
- IRS Regulations

What schools in Florida specialize in this field of law?¹

School Name	Specialty Program(s) ²
Florida State University College of Law (Tallahassee)	-Tax Assistance Externship
St. Thomas University School of Law (Miami)	-Tax Clinic -Tax Law Certificate
Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School (Tampa)	-Taxation Concentration ³

¹This is not an exhaustive list of Florida schools specializing in this field. **Although these schools offer specialty programs in this field, this does not mean you are unable to gain exposure to this field at another law school not listed above.**

²Information obtained through school website and officialguide.lisac.org

³This program is offered across WMU's regional campuses, contact the Tampa Bay, FL location to confirm its offering.

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Fields of Law

As designated by the Law School
Admissions Council (LSAC)



What are these “specialty programs?”

Specialty Program	Definition
Certificates	<p>Specialization certificates allow JD students to focus their elective courses, build substantive knowledge and relevant skills, and enhance their resumes. Though specializations are not required for graduation, they can provide a guiding structure for exploration of various fields of law. With a variety of courses to choose from within each field, students can customize their specialization to their particular area of interest.</p> <p>(http://law.ggu.edu/academics/specialization-certificates/)</p>
Clinics	<p>At many law schools, clinical pedagogy is well established and robust. Typically clinics are focused in areas of law – civil or criminal litigation, civil rights litigation, or representation of community organizations. These clinics involve “live” clients with active legal matters. They include a classroom component and close supervision by a clinical faculty member.</p> <p>http://digitalcommons.tourolaw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1002&context=jel</p>
Concentrations	<p>"While it is not the best comparison to make, a Concentration is similar to a major in undergraduate studies, in that a student with a specific interest in a field can do focused study in that field. A major difference though, is that students who graduate law school with a Concentration will have the same degree as those without a Concentration, a juris doctor, that will be viable in any area of law in which they wish to practice."</p> <p>(http://www.ils.edu/academics/concentrations/)</p>
Externships	<p>Today, accepted externship pedagogy involves faculty instruction in a classroom component to every externship opportunity, and some training for the practitioner supervising attorneys. Further, while externships used to include the equivalent of 3-5 credit hours of work outside the law school, an emerging form of externship involves the student spending the entire semester, and 15 credits, working onsite on an externship assignment.</p> <p>http://digitalcommons.tourolaw.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1002&context=jel</p>
Practicum	<p>In practicum classes law students get hands-on learning working under the supervision of attorneys and professors in a non-lawyering role as they work on cases and practica give students insight into a specific area of legal interest and a window into what it is like to practice in that area.</p> <p>http://www.law.miami.edu/academics/externships-fellowships</p>