

# Online Learning at American University Washington College of Law

David Rose and Cathy Schenker



# Online JD, LLM, and certificate courses at AUWCL

- **J.D.**—6 courses fully online + 1 course hybrid
- **LL.M.** ~30 credits of online courses in International Human Rights & Humanitarian Law LL.M.
- **Certificate**—8 online courses of varying length, structure, and cost (Intro to U.S. Immigration Law, Arbitration, Spanish for Lawyers, etc.)

# MLS

- Fully online Master of Legal Studies Program
- Developed in partnership with 2U
- Began in April 2019
- No overlap with JD and LLM programs
- General and three concentrations:
  1. Business
  2. Health Care Compliance
  3. Technology
- Students can take other 2U courses offered at AU – Business and International Service

# Challenges & Synergies

- AUWCL lacks financial resources to support large scale online offerings, such as a fully online degree program. Services like marketing, admissions, AV/tech, course design, etc. are limited as is for J.D. and LL.M...
- ...but partnership with 2U allowed us to launch program with no up front investment, and we can now learn from and leverage their resources in marketing, admissions, technology, etc.

# Challenges & Synergies

- Scale of MLS program is much greater than one-off online JD courses. Risk of OOL becoming defined by MLS, and therefore 2U...
- ...but that scale has brought an increased awareness and buy-in of online learning in general.

# Challenges & Synergies

- 2U's video-heavy production style can give the false impression that high production quality is a necessity for online learners...
- ...but we own the rights to all this high quality video content that can be repurposed as async material in other courses and programs.

# Challenges & Synergies

- 2U's course development process is rigid and labor intensive...
- ...but that has increased understanding of the rigor and thoughtful course design that goes into online learning.

# Get in Touch

Cathy Schenker, Director of Online Learning

[schenker@wcl.american.edu](mailto:schenker@wcl.american.edu)

David Rose, Online Learning Trainer & Curriculum Designer

[rose@wcl.american.edu](mailto:rose@wcl.american.edu)

