



Northwestern
PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW

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Graduate and
International Programs

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law blends a rigorous intellectual environment with a collegial and supportive community. Our students have access to some of the most accomplished interdisciplinary research faculty in the nation, and with one of the lowest student-to-faculty ratios, they enjoy a great deal of individual access to these scholars, even after graduation.



Our lakefront location in the heart of downtown Chicago provides a spectacular setting in which to live and study. A major world financial center, Chicago is the third largest city in the United States and one of its largest legal markets. Northwestern Law's proximity to courts, commerce, and public interest activities enables students to experience the practice of law, as well as its theory, in one of the most vibrant legal and business communities in the world.

The Northwestern Law community is distinguished for its hospitality, friendliness, and sincerity. To many international students, it is highly favorable to study and to live in such a supportive environment.



International Student Life on Campus

The International Programs team ensures that international students and their families have an exciting and successful experience at Northwestern Law, both academically and personally. The following activities and events highlight the international student experience at Northwestern Law:

- **ACE (Academic, Curricular, Career, Cultural, & English Excellence)** helps students succeed academically while learning professional skills and cultural competencies that will benefit them throughout their legal careers. ACE programming includes English language discussion groups, private writing tutors, peer advising (including one-on-one meetings and workshops on exam preparation and study skills), and career-related information and advice.
- **Global Village** celebrates the culture and diversity of the Law School. Students from all degree programs proudly share food, cultural customs, and performances from their home country.
- **The LLM Committee** plans academic, professional, and social events of interest to current LLM students. The committee also advances the interests of the LLM students amongst the larger student body and collaborates with student organizations.
- **Lunch Lectures** are a series of lectures by faculty members for students in the LLM Class. Recent topics include the presidential impeachment, artificial intelligence and the law, and mergers and acquisitions.
- **Global Conversations** is a semi-annual event open to all law students. This event provides students the opportunity to discuss cross-cultural issues at a higher level in a fun and relaxed setting.
- **LLM Thanksgiving Host Program** matches LLM students with JD students, faculty, and staff to provide an authentic, American holiday experience.
- **Legal Field Trips** allow LLM students to experience the US legal system firsthand by visiting courts, law firms, government agencies, and corporations.
- **The Student Bar Association** invites LLM students to participate in its various committees. Additionally, an LLM representative is elected to the SBA board each fall. The SBA is highly committed to serving LLM students during their time at Northwestern Law.

Student Organizations

Northwestern Law has more than 40 Student Organizations, and they are all open to international LLM students. Participating in student organizations is an excellent way for LLM students to gain knowledge, develop interests, and make friends.



LLM DEGREE PROGRAM

Program Structure and Curriculum

The General LLM Program at Northwestern is very flexible, allowing students to design a program of study that meets both their academic and career goals. During their time in residence, students enroll in two mandatory courses – Common Law Reasoning, which focuses on the fundamental research, analysis, and drafting skills expected of U.S.-trained lawyers, and a course in American legal studies. With very few exceptions, LLM students are completely integrated with students in the JD program.

Students must complete at least 20 law credit hours to earn the LLM degree and are provided with a broad array of 360-degree learning curricular choices. These include practical courses with a focus on lawyering skills, such as Structuring Transactions, Contract Drafting, Negotiation, Mediation, and Trial Advocacy. There are also many unique offerings at the intersection of law and business, including Cross-Border Transactions, Arbitration, Mergers & Acquisitions, Entrepreneurship, and Private Equity.

LLM graduates may qualify to sit for the New York and California State Bar exams, two of the most widely used among global companies, if they meet specific entry requirements and complete the requisite coursework.

The Kellogg Partnership

Students have the opportunity to take a suite of five core Kellogg School of Management courses taught by full-time Kellogg professors, devoted solely to our law students. Offerings include:

- Accounting for Decision-making
- Business Analytics
- Business Strategy
- Finance 1
- Leadership in Organizations



“Northwestern provides a rich curriculum combined with an excellent student experience. In this environment, I discovered my professional interests and developed lifelong friendships!”

— JIAYUE WANG '19
Attorney, JunHe LLP
Shanghai

Career Services

The LLM program has a dedicated career advisor who counsels LLM students and provides career guidance. The Career Strategy Center provides training and workshops on all aspects of a job search in the US, including cover letter and resume writing, networking, and interview preparation. Students may also participate in job fairs in New York and California, where many larger American and international employers interview students for positions in the United States and abroad.

“Northwestern Law immediately felt like home. Students, faculty and staff always strive for academic excellence, but in a welcoming environment. At Northwestern, competition takes a backseat to camaraderie and collaboration.”

— LEOPOLDO MELO '19
Pursuing JD, Venezuela

EXECUTIVE LLM CHICAGO (ELLMC) PROGRAM

The Executive LLM Chicago (ELLMC) is a unique four-month summer program for working professionals in which students earn an LLM focused on international business law. Students are taught by Northwestern Law faculty members who are leading experts in their fields. The ELLMC Program is flexible and can accommodate various client and employer demands.

Program Structure and Curriculum

The ELLMC curriculum focuses on critical topics in business law. Courses vary from year to year, but the core curriculum typically includes:

- Fundamentals: Negotiations, Contracts and Business Associations.
- Advanced corporate topics: Mergers and Acquisitions, Corporate Governance, and Shareholder Activism.
- Ethics and Professional Responsibility, an additional course that focuses on the laws governing lawyers, is available as an elective online.

Career Services

Students in the ELLMC program have a dedicated career advisor who meets with students individually for counseling appointments and offers a series of professional development workshops.



“I dreamed of taking an LLM for years, but could never carve out the time to do so. The four-month ELLMC program was perfect for me. The faculty and my classmates were incredibly prepared. Sitting in those classes, discussing complex legal scenarios reminded me why I enjoy studying law so much.”

—ALESSANDRA DE ROSA
Lead Counsel, IP
Facebook



TAX LLM DEGREE PROGRAM



Career Services

The Career Strategy Center has a career advisor devoted exclusively to students in the Tax Program. In addition to individual counseling appointments, the advisor provides tax-specific seminars, panels and workshops on such topics as tax careers, networking, interviewing and business etiquette. Northwestern also organizes and participates in the Tax Attorney Recruiting Event (TARE) job fair in Washington D.C.

Program Structure and Curriculum

Students in Northwestern's Tax Program must take eight required courses. During the fall semester, students take four courses in the principal areas of tax law:

- Taxation of Property Transactions
- Corporate Taxation
- Partnership Taxation
- International Taxation

In the spring semester, students build upon those core courses by taking four advanced courses.

Beyond the required courses, students may design their own program of study by taking four elective courses.

Tax LLM students also have the option to earn a certificate in one of four substantive areas of taxation by earning 10 credits in one of the following areas of tax:

- Corporate Tax
- International Tax
- Tax Controversy
- Wealth Transfer and Legacy Planning



“I could not be happier with my decision to attend Northwestern’s Tax LLM Program. The International Tax coursework gave me the necessary tools and opportunities to help me land a job in an international law firm.”

—LUCAS RESENDE
Tax LLM '19

International Tax
Associate,
Garrigues

LLM IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS



The LLM Program in International Human Rights (IHR) is designed for students who wish to undertake an in-depth study of international human rights law and international criminal law and their implementation by international courts and organizations and in domestic legal systems.

With fewer than 12 enrolled, students in the LLM IHR program benefit from a close working relationship with the professors, all of whom have hands-on legal practice and academic experience in the field. Students also have access to programs in the Center for International Human Rights, which gives students the rare opportunity to combine an immersive, hands-on, real-world investigation of international law, while also witnessing the life-changing fruits of their labor. With faculty supervision, CIHR students provide advocacy before international tribunals and human rights bodies, traveling to countries such as Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda, Switzerland, and France to speak on behalf of marginalized groups.



Program Structure and Curriculum

The LLM in International Human Rights curriculum consists of five core courses, which fulfill 11 of the 20 required credits for the LLM in International Human Rights:

- International Human Rights
- Human Rights Advocacy: Legal Analysis and Writing
- Human Rights Colloquium
- Nation Building: International Human Rights Law in Transitional Societies
- A New World Order: The Role of the United Nations in Advancing a Rule of Law and Individual Human Rights

LLM IHR students must earn an additional nine credits related to international human rights law or international criminal law.

“I heartily believe my passion is in rule of law and human rights. Northwestern opened up many doors that have been integral in my career development. The LLM in International Human Rights offered me an opportunity to build up my career in a field of study that I hold dear.”

—CHARLES MAJINGE, LLM
IHR '07
United Nations
Arusha, Tanzania



ADMISSIONS

The application filing period for the ELLMC, LLM, and LLM IHR Programs is August 1 – January 15. The filing period for the Tax Program is August 1 – June 15.

Applicants to all programs must have a first degree in law and/or be eligible to sit for the bar exam in their home country. Applicants should also have a high level of English proficiency. A completed application consists of the following:

- Application for admission
- Personal statement
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae written in English
- The Law School LLM Credential Assembly Service (CAS) consisting of:
 - » *Post-Secondary Transcript(s) translated into English*
 - » *TOEFL or IELTS score report*
 - » *A minimum of one letter of recommendation*
- Non-refundable application fee of \$75

Applicants may also conduct an optional online video interview. Interviews provide the Admissions Committee with additional information about your communication skills, maturity and motivation.



Contact Us

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