

MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)



Programme Brochure



School of Law

香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong



GLOBAL GATEWAY is a registered mark of
the City University of Hong Kong

Message from Our Programme Director

Graduate legal education forms a crucial pillar of our Law School here at City University of Hong Kong. Since launching our LLM programme in 1995, CityUHK Law has been unyielding in its commitment to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the intricate labyrinth of modern legal practice. Anchored in both Chinese law and common law traditions, our LLM Programme also cultivates in-depth understanding in specialist areas such as international economic law, corporate law, intellectual property, and technology law.

Currently, our curriculum features five specialist streams - International Economic Law, Corporate and Financial Law, Intellectual Property and Technology Law, Common Law, and Chinese and Comparative Law. Alternatively, you have the flexibility to customise your own LLM programme by cherry-picking courses from our comprehensive offerings.

Every year, we welcome a global cohort of students, drawn to the opportunity to gain an Asian perspective on law while immersing themselves in the vibrancy of Hong Kong, one of the world's most dynamic and cosmopolitan cities. Our outstanding faculty at CityUHK is complemented by visiting scholars of international repute and seasoned regional practitioners, all contributing to our diverse and up-to-the-minute course offerings. This breadth and depth of expertise are testament to our dedication to delivering an avant-garde legal education.

I earnestly invite you to consider joining us for a rewarding year of master's study at CityUHK Law. We look forward to welcoming you as part of our vibrant intellectual community.



Prof He Tianxiang
LLM Programme Director
School of Law



Why Join CityUHK LLM?

Following the development of China's economic and legal reform, its accession to the World Trade Organization, the transformation of the Asian economy and the globalization of the world's economy, the demand for more lawyers with advanced legal education has increased. The professional demand for international lawyers with sophisticated legal skills and knowledge to execute international business transactions, participate in sound dispute resolution methods, promote sustainable development as well as contribute to the digital economy and cultural/scientific exchanges is expanding. The CityUHK LLM Programme is dynamic in meeting the society and the world's needs. It provides local and overseas students the opportunities to learn the professional skills and knowledge necessary to become an integral part of the emerging Asian economy. The programme permits students to structure their legal studies to design their own career goals. In particular, our comprehensive educational programme provides students the chance to write a publishable thesis, learn essential professional legal skills, hone them in a professional setting and study a variety of courses offered each semester.

Specialised Streams

International Economic Law Stream

deals with international legal issues concerning business transactions and economic development with a particular emphasis on problems relating to different jurisdictions.

Intellectual Property and Technology Law Stream

explores cutting-edge issues relating to copyright, patent, trademark, design, trade secret and cyberspace.

Chinese and Comparative Law Stream

focuses on a comparative understanding of the legal framework in China.

Maritime and Transportation Law Stream

(subject to the University's approval)

Corporate and Financial Law Stream

focuses on legal issues concerning corporations, finance and business with practical importance in the regional and international markets.

Common Law Stream

provides students with an opportunity to study the origins, practices, values, principles and theories of common law, and equips students with legal skills of comparing common and civil law systems and methods.

General Stream

provides students with the opportunity to study any topics in which they may be interested.

Cooperation with Overseas Universities

CityUHK Law operates collaborative programmes with the following overseas universities:

- Aix-Marseille University (France)
- Université de Fribourg (Switzerland)
- University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne (France)

Selected students will study at these partner universities and obtain one postgraduate degree from CityUHK and one from the partner university, where the designated study-loads at the institutions are successfully discharged.



Cooperation with the Supreme People's Court of the PRC

CityUHK Law also collaborates with the National Judges College and the Supreme People's Court of the PRC to provide advanced legal education to Chinese judges. A number of Chinese judges are selected to study in the Common Law stream of the LLM programme at CityUHK.






Mode of Programme and Class Schedule

Local students taking programmes in combined mode can attend full-time (12-18 credit units per semester) or part-time (no more than 11 credit units per semester) study in different semesters without seeking approval from the University.

For non-local students, they will be admitted to these programmes for either full-time or part-time studies. Non-local students must maintain the required credit load for their full-time or part-time studies and any changes will require approval from the University.

Classes are held during daytime. Classes may be offered in weekday evenings / Saturdays in special cases. CityUHK Law does not guarantee to offer weekday-evening or weekend classes to LLM students enrolled in the combined mode or part-time mode.



Duration of Programme

The programme can normally be completed in 1 year for full-time study mode and 2 years for combined study mode.

The maximum study period for full-time students is 2.5 years and for combined mode students is 5 years.

Award Requirements

Students who complete the LLM programme requirement of 24 credit units and achieve a cumulative Grade Point Average of 2.0 or better will receive the degree of Master of Laws (LLM).



Admission

Entrance Requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the General Entrance Requirements and the following programme-specific entrance requirements: *

- holding an honours degree in law or equivalent qualification; or
- having been admitted for professional practice of law in Hong Kong or other jurisdictions; or
- having obtained either a Common Professional Examination (CPE) of the United Kingdom or Hong Kong with satisfactory results, provided that a second class honours degree has also been obtained; or
- having obtained a Postgraduate Certificate in Hong Kong Law or Master of Arts/ Laws in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution; or
- (applicable to applicants for Maritime and Transportation Law Stream): holding an university degree in law with good academic performance; applicants with a non-law university degree (or equivalent) and significant experience in shipping evidenced by at least 3-year employment in shipping or transportation industry.

English Proficiency

For applicants whose entrance qualification is obtained from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English, the minimum English language proficiency requirement is as follows: ^

- a minimum total score of 88 (internet-based test) in TOEFL; or
- an overall band score of 6.5 in IELTS; or
- a score of 520 in the Mainland China's College English Test (CET) Band 6; or
- other equivalent qualifications.

The LLM programme do not accept the scores of English tests of 'TOEFL iBT Home Edition', 'TOEFL MyBest Score', 'IELTS Indicator', 'IELTS One Skill Retake' and 'IELTS Online'.

Application Deadlines

Non-local: 30 April 2025

Local: 30 June 2025

* An applicant who holds a legal qualification from a common law jurisdiction will not be eligible to enrol in the Common Law Stream. An applicant who holds a LLB degree from Mainland China will not be eligible to enrol in the Chinese and Comparative Law Stream.

^ TOEFL and IELTS scores are considered valid for two years. Applicants are required to provide their TOEFL / IELTS test results obtained within the two years preceding the commencement of the University's application period. For CET-6 scores, the validity period is three years.

Career Prospects

The LLM Programme has hundreds of graduates working locally and worldwide, including the United States, France, Italy, Germany, China and Singapore. In Hong Kong alone our graduates are working in governmental offices, law firms, non-governmental organizations and corporations. Our alumni network offers the potential of enriching your educational and professional opportunities.

Student Life

CityUHK offers the opportunity to study law with students from all over the world. Students from Austria, Belgium, Portugal, Russia, Switzerland, Taiwan and Thailand participate in the programme. The student body is composed of law students, attorneys, corporate executives, journalists and professionals from other law related disciplines.

Students can enjoy numerous shops, restaurants, movie theatres and even ice-skating in Festival Walk, one of the largest shopping mall in Hong Kong. The mall is conveniently located just across the street from the campus. Transportation is easy and convenient from the campus, as our stop, Kowloon Tong, serves as the transportation hub for downtown Central, Kowloon and the New Territories. Via the Mass Transit Railway (MTR) students can easily find themselves downtown in about 20 minutes. Downtown diversions include Lan Kwai Fong and Soho. Lan Kwai Fong provides the territory with the latest and most modern bar restaurants and discothèques. Soho, close by in the mid-levels, is a mellower alternative, located next to the longest escalator in the world, providing quiet and down to earth cafés and restaurants.



Course List

International Economic Law Stream

International Finance: Law and Regulation

International Investment Law

Private International Law: Basic Principles and Advanced Application in the Digital Economy

Legal Problems of Economic Globalization

International Economic Dispute Resolution: Law and Politics

Corporate and Financial Law Stream

Company Law

Comparative Corporate Governance

International Finance: Law and Regulation

Chinese and Comparative Company Law

Digital Money: Law, Finance, and Technology

Commercial Application of Equity and Trusts

Capital Markets and Securities Regulation

Banking and Financial Law

Mergers and Acquisitions

Comparative Competition Law: China, HKSAR and the US

Intellectual Property and Technology Law Stream

Selected Issues on Chinese IP Law
Cyber Governance and Law
Digital Money: Law, Finance, and Technology
International and Comparative Law of Copyright, Designs and Allied Rights
Chinese and Comparative Trade Secrets Law
Commercialisation of Intellectual Property

Common Law Stream

Introduction to Common Law System and Methodology
Constitutional Law
Law of Contract
Law of Tort

Chinese and Comparative Law Stream

Selected Issues on Chinese IP Law
Theory and Practice of Comparative Law
Chinese and Comparative Company Law
Law and Society in China
Chinese and Comparative Contract Law
Chinese and Comparative Trade Secrets Law Comparative
Competition Law: China, HKSAR and the US
International Economic Dispute Resolution: Law and Politics

Other Courses

Advanced Legal Research Methodology
Dispute Resolution in Theory and Practice
Dissertation
Energy and Environmental Law
Research Seminars
Judgment-writing: Principles and Practice (for Chinese Judge students only)
Mini Pupillage (for Chinese Judge students only)

Please note:

The courses are available but there is no guarantee that all the options will be offered in any given year. Based on demand and available expertise, new courses may be offered from time to time.

Message from our Graduates

The journey to study a LLM is nevertheless full of tears and swears, fortunately I have gained a fruitful experience in tasting the bittersweet of the LLM programme at CityUHK. I sincerely wish to express my gratitude to all the professors who have been assisting us without hesitation throughout the whole year. The support from CityUHK is genuinely precious and beneficial.



NG Ching Wai

LLM General Stream Graduate 2024



LIN Ye

LLM Common Law Stream Graduate 2024

Learning and discussing with professors and classmates are my most precious experiences; the journey of learning at CityUHK will forever inspire me to be a professional and impartial legal practitioner.

As a student of CityUHK School of Law can be the precious memory of my life. Despite the charm of Hong Kong itself, CityUHK provided not only the wonderful learning experiences but also the platform which enables us accessible to real-world practice, including but not limited to diversified lectures, law firm workshops.



GONG Siyi

LLM Corporate and Financial Law Stream Graduate 2024



TANG Xin

LLM Corporate and Financial Law Stream Graduate 2024

The LLM Programme not only enriches my academic experiences, but also allows me to engage with individuals from a variety of backgrounds and perspectives. Professors in this Programme are responsible and are willing to share their valuable experiences, from which I've benefited a lot. And now, I am closer to my dream.

I deeply appreciate having encountered professors who are not only highly professional but also friendly and helpful. Under their guidance, I have developed a fresh and broader perspective on legal issues. The critical and creative thinking instilled through the classes will serve as invaluable assets throughout my life's journey.



YANG Chen

LLM International Economic Law Stream Graduate 2024

Tuition Fees

The 2025/26 tuition fee is HK\$7,400 per credit unit. Fees are subject to review from time to time without prior notification.

LLM Scholarship for International Students

ONE scholarship in the amount of HK\$250,000 shall be granted each year, aiming at promoting diversity and attracting outstanding overseas students.

Applications are considered alongside with the LLM applications on a rolling basis. Applicants do not have to apply separately.

LLM Admission Scholarships

A maximum of 3 scholarships, each to the value of HK \$30,000.

The number of scholarships and the allocation of scholarships each year are left entirely at the discretion of the Law School.

Accommodation

Students should be prepared to arrange their own accommodation, as on-campus accommodation is usually not available due to limited space.





Government Financial Assistance

The Non-means-tested Loan Scheme (NLS) provides financial assistance to the LLM students who meet the eligibility requirements of the scheme.

Meanwhile, LLM course LW6126E “Dispute Resolution in Theory and Practice” is included in the list of reimbursable courses for Continuing Education Fund (CEF) purposes.

For details of other eligibility requirements of the NLS scheme and details of CEF, please visit the website of the HKSAR government’s Working Family and Student Financial Assistance Agency (WFSFAA).

Immigration and Visa Requirement

If you are a non-local applicant and do not have the right of abode in Hong Kong, you will need a student visa if you are accepted for admission. Information about visa application is available from the website of our Global Engagement Office or the website of the Hong Kong Immigration Department.

For applicants from the Mainland who wish to obtain information on application for pass permit to Hong Kong, please refer to the website of The Ministry of Public Security.

Please submit your student visa application as early as possible. The approval process may take about two months or even more.

Anyone who stays in Hong Kong for more than 180 days is required by law to apply for a Hong Kong Smart Identity Card. For more details, please visit the Hong Kong Immigration Department website.

Admissions Enquiry

Chow Yei Ching School of Graduate Studies
4/F, Fong Yun Wah Building
City University of Hong Kong
83 Tat Chee Avenue
Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 3442 5588
Fax: (852) 3442 0187
E-mail: tpadmit@cityu.edu.hk



香港城市大學
City University of Hong Kong



General Enquiries

LLM Programme
School of Law
Room 6101, 6/F
Li Dak Sum Yip Yio Chin Academic Building
City University of Hong Kong
83 Tat Chee Avenue
Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel: (852) 3442 8008
Fax: (852) 3442 0190
E-mail: lwllm@cityu.edu.hk
Website: <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/slw/>

FOLLOW US ON:



School of Law
Website



School of Law
Facebook



School of Law
WeChat