

Curriculum Guidance for International LL.M. Students

You should consider this course selection process as one of the most important events in your LL.M. year so please review the information carefully and follow the instructions. It is time-consuming and you will find that there are more interesting courses than you will be able to take during your LL.M. Here are some general suggestions that should be very helpful for you:

- The process starts with your review of the curriculum offerings. Begin by reviewing the Graduate classes for the Fall 2008 semester [on page 73 of the Course Schedule], and identifying the courses that interest you most. Then, review the upper-level J.D. classes [beginning on page 31 of the Schedule]. Do the same for the Spring 2009 semester [pages 98 & 51 respectively]. Also, look at the Course Schedule Supplement for recently-added courses. Remember that LL.M. students may register for any graduate or “upper-level” J.D. class that you have the background for. If in doubt, ask us, or make the request and we will decide after your arrival if you have the background. Trust your instinct, if you have the background, you should request a class that interests you.
- U.S. Legal Discourse I is a required course [offered only in the Fall semester] for all international students who did not attend Foundations of American Law and Legal Education. You must register for it. If you attended Foundations, then you should not register for it. All students can request the U.S. Legal Discourse II classes offered in fall and spring.
- You should read the course descriptions in the Course Description Booklet or the on-line Curriculum Guide so you understand the topics covered in each course [http://www.law.georgetown.edu/curriculum/tab_courses.cfm]. Do not presume that you can guess the content based on the course title. Note that there may be courses listed in the Curriculum Guide that are not offered in the 2008 - 09 academic year.
- List Your Preferred Classes First! So list something like U.S. Legal Discourse I [if you are required to take it] at the bottom of your course choices since there are seats reserved for all.
- Choose at least one or two extra classes each semester so you have some flexibility and to allow for the possibility of being placed on a Wait List. You can drop those extra credits during the first week of classes [which in turn allows other students to be taken off the Wait List] You may “hold” up to 15 credits each semester until the end of each semester’s “Add/Drop”; after that, you are limited to a maximum of 13 credits a semester, and we strongly recommend that you take no more than 10 - 12 credits per semester.
- Note that one 3-credit Corporations section, LAWG-121-10, with Professor Feinerman in Fall 2008 is specially designed for our international students. International students may request any of the other 4-credit Corporations sections we offer, although they may be more detailed than many international students want.
- Do not register now for the Externship Program in Spring 2009. You will apply in a separate process during the Fall semester. So, plan your schedule without the Externship, and if you arrange an Externship, you can drop one Spring course to add the Externship later in the year.
- We will hold a general information session during the first week of Foundations of American Law and Legal Education and, after that session, we will begin the individual appointments with each Foundations student. We will meet those students arriving in August during and in the days before Orientation Week. All of our individual meetings must take place before Friday, August 29th to ensure proper course selection and Registration. *Please Feel Free to Phone or Email with Questions [mayer@law.georgetown.edu; phone 202 662 9470].*

- Remember that there will be time to make changes in your schedule after we meet and during the first week of classes each semester.
- Although many classes list prerequisites (P), especially International Law I as a “mandatory” prerequisite, many of our students have completed these prerequisites based on their prior academic or professional experience. If you have taken such a course in your prior study, you have met the prerequisite and you should not take it again at Georgetown. If you have not taken an equivalent course but believe you have the background knowledge to have the prerequisite waived, you should indicate that on the Registration Sheet and arrange the waiver during the first week of classes. When we meet, we can advise you on whether your prior studies and professional experience fulfill the prerequisite, and how you should proceed.
- Abbreviations: Please refer to page 81 for a list of Abbreviations used in the Schedule. E.g. many students are surprised to learn that we use the letter “R” as an abbreviation for the day “Thursday.”
- If a class is noted by an “X” it is cross-listed, which means that some seats are reserved for LL.M. students and some seats are reserved for J.D. students. You should always list the Graduate Level Course [LawG] because you will have priority getting the LL.M.-level course. If a course has a limit, it probably means that is the minimum seats we will have available for students; others may become available.

We have listed below some course groups that you can use as a guide in doing your own planning. Remember, however, that these are just hints to get you started and you should review the entire curriculum to identify the best courses for your education, interests and career. Also, remember that many students combine their interests, with a mixture of public and private sector courses, and U.S. and international courses.

Required for all international students who did not attend Foundations of American Law and Legal Education: U.S. LEGAL DISCOURSE, offered Fall only.

Students focusing on an international private practice career:

- Most students combine a few domestic U.S. business courses like Corporations, Antitrust Law, and Accounting for Lawyers and then the majority of their classes in international law subjects.
- Most students like to include courses in areas such as international trade, international business law, international dispute resolution, international project finance, and international negotiations. Then, you can add a few more specialized courses or seminars in these areas, or focus on your own specialized interest such as international banking, intellectual property, telecommunications, or competition law.

Students focusing on an international public law career:

- Consider courses such as International Agreements; International Human Rights [numerous courses available]; International Criminal Law; International Trade Law; National Security Law; International Law I [public international law if you have not already studied it]; International Law II [a combination of International Trade Law and Dispute Resolution, International Finance and International Business Transactions].
- Comparative Law courses such as Investment and Trade Laws of the Middle East; Comparative Constitutional Rights, & Japanese/U.S. Comparative Legal Study.

- U.S. law courses such as Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law; Constitutional Law II [Individual Rights & Liberties]; Election Law: Ballots, Bucks and Maps and the Law; and Civil Rights.

Students focusing on U.S. Business Law

- Consider courses such as Corporations, Antitrust, Corporate Governance, Securities Regulation, Accounting for Lawyers, Federal Regulation of Financial Institutions, Commercial Law, Environmental Law, and Economic Reasoning and the Law.

Other Useful Information

- International Students specializing in Taxation or Securities and Financial Regulation should also consult those Curriculum Guides.
- Submit by the deadline to have the best opportunity to get seats you need. Submit both Fall and Spring choices.