

Global Law Scholars Program Requirements

Updated 10.20.25

Each GLS participant is provided with a course confirmation form that will need to be submitted in the spring of their graduation year. This form will be used to confirm the requirements that have been met and which requirements are still outstanding. Participants are also given the opportunity to meet with the Faculty Director or Administrator to discuss course requirements.

Courses offered in the **2025-2026 Academic Year** are shown below in **BOLD**.

F= Fall courses

S= Spring courses

F/S= courses offered in Fall and Spring

SU= Summer courses

SU/S= courses offered in Summer and Spring

YR= year-long courses

WI= upper-class Week One courses.

New

Please note that course availability is subject to change. Students should always consult the online course schedule to confirm course information. The current year's course schedule can be found at http://apps.law.georgetown.edu/curriculum/tab_schedules.cfm.

Note: Except where noted, it is recommended that students try to complete as many of the GLS requirements in the 2L year as possible.

Selection of alternatives and substitutions for the courses/seminars/clinics listed below requires prior written approval from the GLS Faculty Director. If a course/seminar/clinic is not listed as meeting a particular requirement, students should assume that it does not meet that requirement until they receive written approval.

Requirements

GLS 1L Seminar

GLS 2L Seminar

International Law I

International Economic Law

International/Transnational/Comparative Law Writing Requirement Seminar

Comparative Law Requirement

Focus Elective

1) GLS 1L Seminar (restricted to GLS students)

In their first year, the Global Law Scholars participate in a year-long non-credit seminar that meets approximately ten times a semester. Generally, this seminar aims to acquaint incoming GLS participants with the wide variety of practice areas in international and transnational law through presentations by faculty and practitioners. There are also some practical sessions on navigating law school with upper level law students. The specific content changes from year to year based on students' interests and the availability of speakers.

2) GLS 2L Seminar (restricted to GLS students)

Building an International Skill Set (F)

Applying an International Skill Set (S)

During their second year, Global Law Scholars also participate in a year-long seminar, for which they earn one credit each semester, for a total of two credits. This seminar focuses on building and applying the particular skills required by lawyers in the international, transnational and comparative areas. Because these semester components must be taken on a pass/fail basis, they do not count toward the 7 credit pass/fail maximum.

The 2L Seminar includes individual sessions focusing on comparative law, specialized research in international and transnational law, and international negotiation and advocacy techniques. (There is required reading for the comparative law session.) For the bulk of the 2L seminar the students work on a group project in a substantive area of their own choosing. The topic varies from year-to-year. For example, the GLS 2L class of 2012 worked on the international legal dimensions of climate change, the class of 2013 worked on protection of persons in the event of disasters, the class of 2014 examined the issue of labor trafficking in U.S. government contracting, the class of 2015 used qualitative and quantitative research to analyze compliance with statutory disclosure requirements related to conflict minerals, and the class of 2016 produced a descriptive "anatomy" of a variety of implementation review mechanisms (IRMs) used in international treaties, designed to assist practitioners who are engaged in treaty negotiation.

Another feature of the 2L seminar involves three roundtable discussions of recent books on international law and related issues (including for example recent award-winning volumes or those representing new or challenging perspectives), intended to supplement classroom work and to stimulate the participants' appreciation of developments in the field. The books we discussed in the past few years include: Jens David Ohlin, The Assault on International Law (2015); Lawrence Wright, Thirteen Days in September: Carter, Begin, and Sadat at Camp David (2014); Shane Harris, @War: The Rise of the Military-Internet Complex (2014); Ryan Goodman and Derek Jinks, Socializing States: Promoting Human Rights Through International Law (2013); Karen Alter, The New Terrain of International Law: Courts, Politics, Rights (2014); John Yoo, Point of Attack: Preventing War, International Law and Global Welfare (2014); Joel Trachtman, The Future of International Law: Global Government (2013); Curt Bradley, International Law in the U.S. Legal System (2013); Eric Posner and Alan Sykes, Economic Foundations of International Law (Harvard 2013); Jeremy Waldron, Partly Laws Common to All Mankind: Foreign Law in American Courts (Yale 2012); Paul Schiff Berman, Global Legal Pluralism: A Jurisprudence of Law Beyond Borders (Cambridge 2012); and David Fischer, Morality and War: Can War be Just in the 21st Century? (2011).

3) International Law I

Must be taken as the elective during the Spring Semester of the first year; GLS students are assured admission into this elective.

4) International Economic Law

This requirement is intended to provide students with an understanding of the major legal issues in international business, trade, and investment activity. The following courses meet this requirement.

International Business Transactions (F/S)

International Business Transactions and Trade Law

International Economic Law

International Economic Law and Institutions (F)

International Economic Law & Policy Colloquium (S)

International Economic Law Practicum

International Finance and Regulation

International Trade (F)

International Trade Law

International Trade, Development & the Common Good (S)

International Trade, Energy & Climate Change Law

International Trade and Investment Law(S)

International Trade Law & Regulation (F)

International Trade Law and Regulation (WTO)

International Trade rules and Climate Change Seminar - Can the Two Get Along?

International Trade and the World Trade Organization

World Trade Organization: Agreements, Negotiations, and Disputes

S) Global Law Scholar Writing Requirement

GLS students **must** complete their Upper class Legal Writing Requirement in a seminar dealing with international, transnational or comparative law.

The GLS Writing Requirement (WR) must be met in one of two ways:

- (1) In a seminar that has been specifically designated as meeting the GLS requirement listed here. **This seminar MUST satisfy the Upper class Legal Writing Requirement (WR) for the J.D. Program. (see "Upper class Legal Writing Requirement" in the Juris Doctor Program section of the Georgetown Law Student Handbook). This means that the seminar MUST have a WR listed as the course requirement in the course schedule.**
- (2) In another WR seminar or supervised research project with the prior written approval of the GLS faculty co-directors to ensure that the chosen paper topic is sufficiently international, transnational or comparative. (see" Supervised Research" in the Juris Doctor Program section of the Handbook).

Students who wish to choose this alternative must contact Professor DeRosa for approval in advance of registering for the seminar or supervised research project. The topic must be substantially international, transnational or comparative in nature or must focus primarily on a component of foreign law. GLS participants are responsible for ensuring that their work will meet this requirement **before** undertaking their research.

List of Courses in which the Global Law Scholars Writing Requirement can be satisfied under Option 1:

- o Asian Law and Policy Studies Seminar
- o **China and International Law (S)**
- o Chinese Law Seminar
- o Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar
- o Comparative Constitutional Law - Free Expression
- o Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar: The South African Bill of Rights
- o Current Issues in Transnational (Private International) Law Seminar
- o From Nuremberg to Kyiv: Aggression and Accountability Seminar
- o International Law in Domestic Courts Seminar
- o International Law Seminar: Use of Force and Conflict Resolution
- o International Law Seminar: Water Resources
- o **International Law Seminar: Poverty Reduction and Accountability (S)**
- o International Legal Philosophy Seminar
- o International Migration and Development
- o **International Trade, Development & the Common Good (S)**
- o International Trade Law & Regulation (WTO)
- o **International Trade Law & Regulation (F)**
- o International Trade Seminar: The WTO and Subsidies
- o **Investor-State Dispute Resolution Seminar (S)**
- o Latin American Law Seminar
- o Law and Development Seminar
- o Palestine/Israel: A Legal and Historical Account
- o Space Law Seminar
- o **The International Court of Justice: Its Role, Jurisprudence and Future (S)**
- o Use of Force, National Security, and Human Rights Seminar

(6) Comparative Law Requirement

A course in Comparative Law or an **approved substitute** must be taken prior to graduation. The course or seminar must devote at least a third of its curriculum to examination of a non-U.S. legal system. The GLS comparative law requirement must be met in one of two ways:

(1) Taking one of the approved comparative law courses listed below

(2) Writing a paper in a WR course on a comparative topic that **the professors approve in advance**. That topic must compare approaches in two different legal systems (e.g., civil and common law) and discuss their relevant differences.

(If a student satisfies the comparative law requirement in a JD WR course, they may satisfy the GLS writing requirement, described in (5), above, with the same course.)

Illustrative List of Courses Satisfying Comparative Law Requirement

- o Advanced Antitrust Seminar: A Comparative Look at EU and US Competition Law
- o China's Financial Markets
- o Chinese Law Seminar
- o Chinese Legal Systems
- o Comparative Bill of Rights Seminar
- o Comparative Civil Procedure

- o Comparative Constitutional Law
- o Comparative Constitutional Law - Free Expression
- o Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar
- o Comparative Constitutional Law Seminar: The South African Bill of Rights
- o Comparative Corporate Governance
- o **Comparative Law (S)**
- o **Comparative Law: China in Context (S)**
- o Comparative Law: Focus on EU and US (S)
- o Comparative Law: Law and Society in the Middle East Seminar
- o Comparative Property Law: Focus on U.S. and Europe
- o Comparative Reproductive Technologies and "Reproductive Tourism"
- o Comparative Tax Law
- o Constitutional Rights and Human Rights in Comparative Perspective
- o Constitutionalism in Greater China: China, Taiwan, Hong Kong
- o **Cross-Border Transactions in Latin America (F)**
- o **EU Law: Foundations and International Research (F)**
- o EU Law: Selected Topics in ECJ Jurisprudence (WI)
- o **EU Tax Law (WI)**
- o Global Cybercrime Law
- o Global Revolutions and Civil Society
- o International and Comparative Antitrust Law
- o International and Comparative Law on Women's Human Rights
- o International Litigation in Europe: Key EU Regulations
- o Investment and Trade Laws of the Middle East
- o Roman Law (formerly Introduction to Roman Law)
- o Islamic Finance Law
- o Japan/US Comparative Legal Study (WI)
- o Japanese Civil Procedure
- o Latin American Law Seminar
- o Law and Foreign Investment in China
- o Law and Society in Latin America
- o **Legal Spanish: The Traditions, The Culture and Lawyering Tools (S)**
- o **Nationalisms, State & Cultural Identities Seminar (S)**
- o **Regulating Migration: Comparative Perspectives and Theory Seminar (S)**

Note Clinics and Seminars: Students who wish to satisfy the comparative law requirement by participating writing seminars or in the Harrison Institute for Public Law: Policy Clinic must have a sufficiently comparative focus to their clinic work. Students must discuss the topic of their work with one of the GLS Faculty Directors and receive written approval to count as the comparative law requirement.

(7) Focus Elective

Students must also enroll in a qualifying course or seminar that focuses on international or transnational legal problems in a specific context. Students generally elect, but are not required, to take this course in their third year. (This requirement has to be met independently of the requirements set forth above. Thus, for example, a student may *not in one course* satisfy the "focus" elective requirement and the J.D writing requirement seminar described in (5), above.) Students are strongly encouraged to choose an elective that focuses on an area that they have not already explored in another course.

Illustrative Courses Satisfying "Focus" Elective

- o Advanced Constitutional Law Seminar: Challenges to Liberal Democracies
- o **Advanced International Commercial Arbitration {S}**
- o Advanced Issues in International Human Rights Seminar
- o **Advanced Patent Law Seminar {S}**
- o **Advocacy in International Arbitration {S}**
- o Anti-Corruption Laws and Enforcement Mechanisms: An International Approach
- o Art and Cultural Property Law Seminar: Indiana Jones and the Elgin Marbles
- o Asia-Pacific Legal Issues
- o Asian Law & Policy Seminar
- o **Aviation Law {F}**
- o **Between Crime and War: Protecting Life in Conflicts with Non-State Groups Seminar {F}**
- o **Business and Human Rights Practicum (F)**
- o **China and International Law (S)**
- o Chinese Legal System
- o Comparative Law: Law and Society in the Middle East Seminar
- o Conflict of Laws/Private International Law
- o **Constitutional Aspects of Foreign Affairs Seminar (F)**
- o Constitutionalism in Greater China: China, Taiwan, Hong Kong
- o Contract Law Seminar: Franchising
- o Criminal Practice Seminar: White-Collar Crimes in a Transnational Context
- o Current Issues in Transnational (Private International) Law Seminar
- o Cross-Border Commercial Regulation: Aviation and Maritime Law
- o **Cross-Border Transactions in Latin America (F)**
- o Cyber and National Security: Current Issues Seminar
- o **EU Law: Foundations and International Research (F)**
- o **Foreign Relations Colloquium (S)**
- o **Foreign Relations Law {F}**
- o From Nuremberg to Kyiv: Aggression and Accountability Seminar
- o Gender and U.S. Foreign Policy
- o **Global Anti-Corruption Seminar (S)**
- o Global Commerce and Litigation
- o **Global Health Law (F)**
- o **Global Securities Offerings (S)**
- o Health, Human Rights and Social Justice
- o **Human Rights Advocacy in Action {Project-Based Practicum} {F/S}**
- o **Human Rights and the Inter-American System (S)**
- o Human Rights at the Intersection of Trade and Corporate Responsibility
- o Human Rights Fact-Finding (Project-Based Practicum)
- o **Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in the 21st Century: Legal Perspectives {S}**
- o **Immigration Law and Policy {S}**
- o Intellectual Property in World Trade
- o International and Comparative Antitrust Law
- o **International and U.S. Customs Law (S)**
- o International Bankruptcy
- o International Business Litigation and Federal Practice
- o **International Business Negotiations (S)**
- o **International Business Transactions (F/S)** International Civil Litigation and Federal Practice
- o **International Commercial Arbitration {F/S}**
- o **International Criminal Law {S}**

- International Courts and Tribunals: Theory and Practice
- International Efforts to Combat Corruption Seminar
- **International Environmental Law (F)**
- International Environmental Law and Natural Resources Law
- International Finance
- International Human Rights Colloquium
- International Human Rights
- **International Human Rights Law (F/S)**
- **International Investment Law: Theory and Practice (F)**
- International Justice for War Crimes and Atrocities Practicum (Project-Based Practicum)
- International Law and the New Global Political Economy Seminar
- International Law of Racial Discrimination
- Global Law of Work
- International Legal Philosophy
- **International Negotiations (F)**
- **International Negotiations Seminar (F/S)**
- **International Project Finance (S)**
- **International Project Finance and Investment (F/S)**
- International Trade and Health
- International Trade and Investment Litigation Strategy
- International Trade Remedies and the WTO
- International Trade, Investment, and Sustainable Development: Reconciling Open Markets and Environmental and Social Concerns
- International Trafficking in Persons
- **International White Collar Crime (F)**
- **Interstate (State to State) Dispute Resolution (S)**
- **Introduction to International Commercial Arbitration (F)**
- **Issues in Disarmament: Proliferation and Terrorism, & Great Power Rivalry Seminar (S)**
- Justice and Accountability for International Atrocities Crimes: Bridging Theory and Practice Seminar
- Law and Culture of Migration
- Law and Development Seminar
- **Law of War (F)**
- Law of War Seminar
- Managing National Security
- **Maritime Law (F)**
- Modern Law of the Sea
- **National Security and Human Rights Seminar (S)**
- **National Security and the Law of the Sea (F)**
- **National Security and Presidential Power Seminar (F)**
- National Security Crisis Law
- **National Security Lawyering (S)**
- **Nuclear Non-Proliferation Law & Policy (F)**
- Pre-Negotiation Strategies for Cross-Border Transactions
- **Refugee Law and Policy (F)**
- Regulation of International Securities Markets
- Religion and Constitutions in Global Perspective Seminar
- Religion, State and Multiculturalism Seminar
- **Reproductive Health and International Human Rights Law Practicum (F)**
- Resolution of International Financial Crises
- Restorative Justice in International Human Rights: A New Paradigm

- **Rule of Law and the Administration of Justice (F)**
- **Tax Treaties (two credit version only) (S)**
- The Federal Courts and the World Seminar: History, Developments, and Problems
- **The International Court of Justice: Its Role, Jurisprudence and Future (S)**
- Trade and Integration in the Americas
- Treaties and the Constitution: New Directions
- U.S. Taxation of International Transactions
- **National Security and Human Rights Seminar (S)**
- **War Crimes Terrorism and International Criminal Procedure (F)**

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