



Northwestern
PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW

law.northwestern.edu

Graduate and
International Programs

Northwestern Pritzker Law is a longstanding leader in innovative legal education and aims to prepare students for success in a rapidly changing legal profession. Technology, globalization, and the need for progress on social and racial justice are transforming our society, and Northwestern Pritzker Law is building its next chapter of innovation that makes a difference in the U.S. and around the world.





Northwestern Pritzker Law leads in interdisciplinary research and teaching, blending 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 (over 50% with PhDs) who produce impactful scholarship, and with one of the lowest student-to-faculty ratios, students enjoy an exceptional level of 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 Pritzker Law's proximity to courts, commerce, and public interest activities enables students to experience the practice of law in one of the most vibrant legal and business communities in the world.

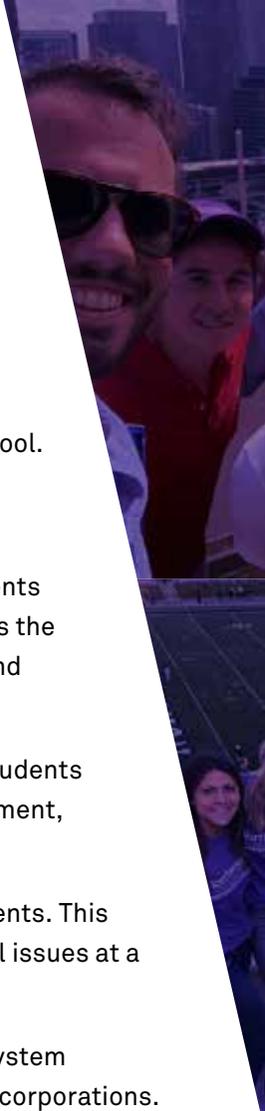
The Northwestern Pritzker Law community extends well beyond our campus and the city of Chicago. Over 17,000 alumni across more than 90 countries are working in countless firms, corporations, nonprofits, and other sectors; together they constitute an invaluable lifelong network.

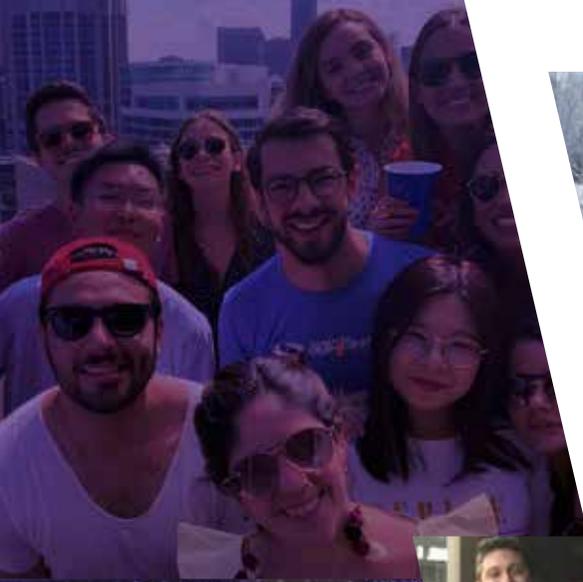
International Student Life on Campus

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

- **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.
- **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.

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





International Student Support

At Northwestern, LLM students participate and engage in interactive programming through the ACE Program, which provides holistic support in the following areas:

- Academic
- Curricular
- Career
- Cultural
- English

Through the ACE Program, LLM students participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular sessions to help them succeed academically and learn professional skills and cultural competencies that will benefit them throughout their legal careers.



GENERAL LLM 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 fully integrated with JD students in the classroom.

Students must complete at least 20 law credit hours to earn the LLM degree and are provided with a broad array of curricular choices. These include practical courses designed to build lawyering skills in areas such as negotiating, contract drafting, litigation and mediation.

There are also many unique offerings in a variety of subject areas, such as law and business, public interest, law and technology, and alternative dispute resolution. Students may also have the opportunity to take courses through the Kellogg School Management.

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 International Programs Office provides guidance to students who wish to sit for a state bar examination after completing the LLM Program.

“Northwestern’s LLM Program provided the opportunity to bring my career to the next level. The flexible curriculum with a broad range of practical business law courses allowed me to focus on corporate/M&A-related laws and legal writing. Additionally, I am confident that the strong and close relationship with classmates, professors, and faculty members is one of the most valuable assets in my professional and personal life.”

—DAICHI IINAGA, LLM '22, Japan

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 LLM students for positions in the United States and abroad.

“Having LLM students in my classroom guarantees a good discussion. These students bring their legal knowledge and experience to the subjects we study, and the whole class is enriched from learning about legal systems around the world. LLMs are deeply engaged in, and fully integrated into, student life at the law school and we all benefit from their energy, passion, and perspective.”

—PROFESSOR STEPHEN REED



“The LLM is one of the most intense experiences I’ve ever had. The Northwestern community is amazing. During the LLM academic year I had the opportunity to share experiences with people from all around the globe. The LLM also provided possibility of studying directly with JDs which enriches the LLM with great network opportunities. Finally, Chicago is incredible city to live.”

—VINICIUS HERCOS DA CUNHA LLM '22
Brazil



“Obtaining an LL.M. at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law was the best decision I could have made for my legal career. I was able to build a program around my own ambitions and career interests. Northwestern offers a wide range of courses taught by phenomenal professors that ideally prepared me for my new position in International Arbitration.”

—CORRINA WEINACKER LLM '22, Germany

TAX LLM DEGREE PROGRAM

The Tax Program at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law is a recognized leader in the field. Our comprehensive curriculum, outstanding faculty and collaborative community provides students with a solid understanding of the complexities of tax law and the specialized skills needed to practice at all levels. With an average of 40 full-time students in the Tax Program each year, Northwestern offers a close-knit and collaborative learning environment in which students are able to develop close relationship with each other and with the faculty. International students typically comprise 15-20% of the Tax LLM Class each year.



Program Structure and Curriculum

Students in Northwestern's Tax Program must take eight required courses: two semesters of coursework in the following areas:

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

Beyond the required courses, students may choose from a wide array of elective courses to complete the degree requirements.

Tax LLM students 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



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.



“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 their 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 classroom studies with immersive, hands-on, real-world advocacy on behalf of marginalized communities and individuals. With faculty supervision, CIHR students engage in advocacy before national and international tribunals and human rights bodies; their work may involve travel to countries such as Malawi, Ethiopia, Cambodia or Colombia to meet with victims and witnesses and work with NGO partners, or to Geneva, to participate in advocacy before UN human rights mechanisms.



Program Structure and Curriculum

The LLM in International Human Rights curriculum consists of four required courses and an array of electives. Required courses, which fulfill 10 of the 20 credits required for the degree, are:

- International Human Rights Law
- International Criminal Law
- Human Rights Advocacy: Legal Analysis and Writing
- Human Rights Colloquium

Electives, which may vary from year to year, include the IHR clinic as well as courses on refugees and asylum; health and human rights; human trafficking; international environmental law; business and human rights; women, gender and human rights; public corruption; and graduate research/thesis.



“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 LLM, and LLM IHR Programs is September 1–January 15. The filing period for the Tax Program is September 1–June 1.

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 are strongly encouraged, as they provide the Admissions Committee with additional information about your communication skills, maturity, academic focus and career goals.

FINANCIAL AID

The Law School awards scholarships to admitted LLM applicants on a rolling basis after an offer of admission has been made. All applicants who have been admitted to the LLM and Tax LLM programs are automatically under consideration for a scholarship award; no additional form or application is required.

Applicants admitted to the LLM in International Human Rights Program will receive a scholarship application with their letter of admission. Scholarships typically only cover a portion of tuition costs. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to investigate other sources of support, including employers and government agencies, scholarship funds, and family and personal funds.



General LLM Program Information

www.law.northwestern.edu/academics/degree-programs/llms/llm



Tax LLM Program Information

www.law.northwestern.edu/academics/degree-programs/llms/tax



LLM IHR Program Information

www.law.northwestern.edu/academics/degree-programs/llms/llmihhr



Application Information

www.law.northwestern.edu/admissions/applying



International Programs Office

www.law.northwestern.edu/student-life/student-services/intlprograms



ACE Program

www.law.northwestern.edu/student-life/student-services/intlprograms/internationallife/#aceprogram



Frequently Asked Questions

www.law.northwestern.edu/admissions/faq/faqlm.html

