MASTER OF LAWS (LLM)

LLM in Chinese Business Law
LLM in Common Law
LLM in Energy and Environmental Law
LLM in International Economic Law

2019-20
As Dean of the Faculty of Law I am delighted that you are interested in our Master of Laws (LLM) Programmes.

Hong Kong is one of the world’s foremost global trading centres. It is thus the perfect environment in which to study International Economic Law. It is a vibrant place where entrepreneurs link China with the rest of the world, and so is the ideal location to study Chinese Business Law. Hong Kong is committed whole-heartedly to the rule of law and the dynamic development of its common law heritage, which makes it a fascinating place to study Common Law. Hong Kong, China and the greater Asia region face significant environmental challenges, and a need to ensure secure access to sustainable energy supplies. Our new programme in Energy and Environmental Law draws on local and international expertise to deliver a programme designed to address some of the most pressing concerns of our century.

All of our LLM Programmes are taught by an outstanding Faculty drawn from all over the world who offer informed, expert instruction in core subjects and a wide range of electives for all interests. We hope you will join us.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Gane
Simon F.S. Li Professor of Law and Dean, Faculty of Law

The CUHK Master of Laws Programmes provide students with an ideal platform to acquire expertise in one of the four specialized subject areas: Chinese business law, common law, energy and environmental law and international economic law. We are proud to offer our students an enriching and stimulating learning environment in which to study and discover the law. The programmes are enriched by the state-of-the-art research and practice experience of a first-rate faculty.

Our LLM Programmes attract intellectually outstanding students from all over the world. You will be joining a vibrant and dynamic community, with opportunities to build long-lasting professional and personal relationships with fellow students of an equally high calibre.

We look forward to welcoming you to our LLM Programmes.

Yours sincerely,

Bryan Druzin
Director of the Master of Laws Programmes
Programme Introduction to the Master of Laws (LLM) Programmes

The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) offers four LLM Programmes. Each one is taught in English by first-rate academics with specialist knowledge and global experience. All teaching takes place in our Graduate Law Centre, dedicated and state-of-the-art premises in the heart of Hong Kong’s legal and business district in Central. Our LLM Programmes offer an excellent opportunity for academic and professional growth, delivered by one of the world’s top universities, in one of Asia’s most exciting cities.

1. LLM in Chinese Business Law
The LLM in Chinese Business Law provides students with a structured course to study the principles, processes, institutions and methods of civil and commercial law in China in the context of an evolving political, economic and social environment. It is designed to enable students to develop a broad intellectual outlook on the legal aspects of doing business in China.

2. LLM in Common Law
The common law is an organic and exciting legal system which unites millions of people across the world. This programme will furnish students with substantive knowledge of Hong Kong law in some core common law subjects, and further develop the skills necessary to engage with the common law tradition more widely. Through the electives, students are given an opportunity to deepen their knowledge of the common law, or complement it with the study of new subjects.

3. LLM in Energy and Environmental Law
The LLM in Energy and Environmental Law aims to offer students an in-depth understanding of the legal aspects governing the key challenges of energy security and environmental protection. Students are trained for practice in the areas of energy investment and trade, project finance and infrastructure development, clean energy and climate change mitigation, with a focus on the specific energy and sustainability challenges of the Asia-Pacific region. The courses build on the expertise in energy and environmental law and investment and trade law at CUHK, and benefit from the participation of leading international practitioners in the field of energy and environmental law.

4. LLM in International Economic Law
The LLM in International Economic Law is designed to offer students an intensive course of study of the law and practice of cross-border business transactions. Students are trained for practice in key areas such as international sales and finance, M&A (mergers and acquisitions), WTO law and international banking law. Skills training modules ensure that graduates of the LLM in International Economic Law are able to conduct both practical work and independent research in relevant subject areas.

The programme consists of 24 units. Students are required to complete 12 units of Required Courses and 12 units of Elective Courses. The programme’s courses are designed to provide a foundational knowledge of the field. The ability to select from a wide range of Elective Courses allows students to complete the programme requirements while also pursuing their intellectual interests.

The majority of the LLM courses are worth 3 units. Students will have an average of 3 contact hours per week with teachers in each course. The Faculty of Law holds classes during the day and evenings Monday to Friday, and during the day on Saturdays. Evening classes typically begin at 6.30pm. Classes incorporate a mix of lectures, seminars, presentations and class discussion. All courses are taught and assessed entirely in English.

Students may enroll in full-time or part-time modes of study. Full-time students can complete the programme in one year while part-time students are able to complete the programme in two years.

In order to graduate, students must meet the minimum cumulative GPA required by the University for postgraduate programmes.
Course List

All courses are 3-unit courses except Independent Research Dissertation and International Legal Advocacy which are 6-unit courses.

**Required Courses**

- **LLM in Chinese Business Law**
  - Chinese Civil Law
  - Chinese Company Law
  - Chinese Contract Law
  - Legal System and Methods in China

- **LLM in Common Law**
  - Common Law: Origins and Development
  - Principles of Contract
  - Principles of Criminal Law
  - Principles of Tort

- **LLM in Energy and Environmental Law**
  - International and Comparative Energy Law
  - Principles of Environmental Law
  - Principles of Remedies
  - Principles of Energy and Infrastructure Law

- **LLM in International Economic Law**
  - Law of International Business Transactions I
  - Law of International Business Transactions II
  - Trans-National Legal Problems
  - World Trade Law

* Applicants who have already covered any of these subjects as part of a common law undergraduate degree can apply to the Programme Director to replace them with alternative common law subjects or research papers.

**Elective Courses**

Students may choose, subject to place availability and enrollment priority, from the wide range of Elective Courses offered under the LLM Programmes as well as the JD Programme. Elective Course offerings vary from year to year according to student demand and staff availability. The elective courses offered in 2018/19 are:

- Business and the Law in Hong Kong
- Chinese Environmental Law
- Chinese Financial Law
- Chinese Intellectual Property Law
- Chinese Investment Law
- Chinese Securities Regulation
- Chinese Tax Law
- Clean Energy and Climate Law
- Comparative Contract Law
- Copyright, Digital Subject Matter and Information Technology
- Disaster Law
- Dispute Resolution in the Energy and Natural Resources Sector
- European Union Law
- Financial Markets: Law and Operation
- International Commercial Dispute Resolution
- International Financial and Banking Law
- International Investment Law Policy and Development
- International Legal Advocacy
- International Taxation
- Investor State Dispute Settlement
- Issues in Contract
- Issues in Human Rights
- Law and Literature
- Law and Practice of Investment Arbitration
- Merger Control
- Oil and Gas Law
- Principles of Administrative Law
- Principles of Art, Antiquities, Cultural Heritage and the Law
- Principles of Aviation Law
- Principles of Civil Procedure
- Principles of Commercial Law
- Principles of Company Law
- Principles of Competition Law
- Principles of Constitutional Law
- Principles of Criminal Procedure
- Principles of Employment Law
- Principles of Equity and Trusts
- Principles of Evidence
- Principles of Family Law
- Principles of Information and Privacy Law
- Principles of Intellectual Property
- Principles of Land Law
- Principles of Remedies
- Principles of Securities Regulation
- The Clinic for Public Interest Advocacy

Details of course descriptions are obtainable online at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/page/PostgraduateStudentHandbook.

The Learning Environment

CUHK Graduate Law Centre

All LLM Programmes are taught at the CUHK Graduate Law Centre. The LLM students have this in common with other graduate students in the Faculty of Law studying on the JD and PCLL courses, creating a mature and professionally oriented environment. The Graduate Law Centre is located at 2/F, Bank of America Tower, Central. Within only a few minutes’ walk can be found the High Court and the appellate courts, the major business centres and many of the other attractions and amenities for which Hong Kong is famous. Facilities at the Graduate Law Centre include lecture theatres, seminar rooms, breakout rooms, the Warren Chan Moot Court, a computer laboratory, a student common area with additional computer work stations, and a Legal Resources Centre.

Our International Academic Faculty

The Faculty has a strong team of experienced academic staff from various jurisdictions. Our research staff are specialists in many areas of expertise. Some come from extensive practice backgrounds, holding senior positions in legal practice and other fields across many jurisdictions. All strive for excellence in teaching and research and are committed to educating students in the law by drawing on their diverse teaching, research and professional experience.
Cultural & Professional Diversity

Since 2006, the LLM Programmes have produced an alumni body of graduates hailing from diverse backgrounds. The jurisdictions of origin of the LLM alumni include 40 countries/regions. For the 2018 academic year, we admitted students from Australia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Mainland China, South Korea, and United Kingdom.

Most of our part-time students come from professional backgrounds: accountants, bankers, surveyors, civil servants, and legal practitioners. This mix creates an interesting and stimulating learning environment. Our part-time students study alongside our full-time students.

Professional backgrounds & Affiliations

- Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA)
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- The Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries (HKICS)
- The Hong Kong Institute of Bankers (HKIB)
- The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (ACCA)
- Registered Professional Surveyors (RPS)
- Qualified lawyers from various jurisdictions

Countries/Regions of Graduates since 2006

- Albania
- Australia
- Austria
- Belgium
- Brazil
- Canada
- Chile
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Hong Kong
- India
- Indonesia
- Israel
- Italy
- Japan
- Kenya
- Macau
- Mainland China
- Malaysia
- Mexico
- New Zealand
- Poland
- Russia
- Serbia
- Singapore
- South Korea
- Spain
- Switzerland
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Turkey
- Ukraine
- United Kingdom
- United States

Countries/Regions of Students admitted in 2018

- Australia
- France
- Germany
- Hong Kong
- India
- Italy
- Mainland China
- South Korea
- United Kingdom
Careers

The Faculty runs a careers advice programme that supports its students in many ways.

Law Student Careers Office

The Faculty’s Law Student Careers Office provides students with guidance on career choices, career preparation and professional development. The Faculty’s Director of Career Planning and Professionalism, Mr. Paul Mitchard QC, has designed and runs a programme which includes seminars on career and professionalism topics and presentations by representatives of law firms and barristers’ chambers and other prospective employers.

Virtual Careers Resource Centre

The Law Student Careers Office also maintains a Virtual Careers Resource Centre (VCRC). This is a powerful online resource that serves as a contact point for employers, teaching faculty and students. The VCRC has a Legal Careers Directory that contains up-to-date information on law firms, internships and other employment opportunities and provides information on careers seminars and other events. The VCRC website provides students with information on matters such as job applications, CV preparation and other resources.

The Faculty’s academic staff also frequently advise individual students on career development and write references for students to potential employers.

Studying Abroad

LLM Students can choose to study abroad as part of our International Exchange Programmes. These give students the opportunity to travel to new places, to meet new people, to experience new cultures, to learn new subjects and gain a greater international experience to impress future employers. Credits earned abroad may be transferred back to count towards degree requirements. In addition to university-level exchanges, which cover more than two hundred destinations worldwide, there are also faculty-level exchanges whereby graduate students can go to Faculty of Law, The University of Auckland (New Zealand), Melbourne Law School, The University of Melbourne (Australia), Faculty of Law, Maastricht University (The Netherlands) or The School of Law of Bocconi University (Italy). For further information please visit the Faculty’s website.

Mooting

Mooting gives students a taste of life as a lawyer presenting written and oral arguments in complex hypothetical court cases. In recent years, CUHK Law students have participated in faculty, local, regional and international mooting competitions. They have successfully represented Hong Kong at international competitions in Vienna, The Hague, and Seoul in 2017-18.

The Faculty of Law encourages students to participate in mooting competitions. Participation may attract course credits towards degree completion. For each moot an academic staff member advises the team and supervises its work. Practice moots also take place in the state-of-the-art Warren Chan Moot Court at the Graduate Law Centre.

The Faculty of Law has enjoyed great success in local, regional and international mooting competitions over ten years since mooting was first offered in the Faculty.

In 2017-18, the ICC mooting team received awards for the Best Prosecution Team, the Best Prosecution Memorial, and the Second Runner-up oralist award for individual advocacy at the International Criminal Court (ICC) Moot at The Hague and advanced to the competitions competitive rounds.

In the 2017-18 Vis (Vienna) International Commercial Arbitration Law Moot the team’s two orallists each received an Honourable Mention (top 10%) for their individual advocacy and the team ranked second out of 357 participating teams in the general rounds of the competition. The team advanced to the last 16 teams in the elimination rounds of the competition.

In the 2017-18 Vis (East - Hong Kong) International Commercial Arbitration Moot the team received a third place award for Respondent’s Memorandum.

In the 2018 The 9th Leiden–Sarin International Air Law Moot Court Competition the team were semi-finalists.

"Today’s prospective employers look for evidence of a broad range of skills going beyond academic achievement and it is crucial that students understand how to meet this challenge and take steps early in their University career to put themselves in the best position to meet these demands.”

Mr. Paul Mitchard QC
Director of Career Planning and Professionalism

Faculty’s Moot Team for 2016 ICC (Chinese)
After completing my legal studies in Switzerland and qualifying as an Attorney-at-law and working at court in Switzerland for some time, I wished to return to university in order to further develop my knowledge of international law. When I learnt about the LLM in International Economic Law Programme at CUHK, I was convinced from the very first moment that this would be the right programme for me not only in Hong Kong but also internationally. Law programmes and faculty members were very experienced. They were more than happy to help me enhance my legal knowledge and help me get the professional world. I found the lectures to be very practical and highly relevant to my career. In addition, the law centre, where the courses are held, is located in a very convenient area in the business district of Hong Kong. Learning Chinese Business Law in Hong Kong, which is one of the world’s leading financial hubs and one of the leading economic hubs of Asia, truly was an invaluable experience for me.

While studying the LLM in Chinese Business Law at CUHK, I experienced the best of both worlds: the learning environment in a stimulating international campus. It is a pathway into the profession for people with related work experience in the field. I really enjoyed studying alongside people from different academic and professional backgrounds. The programme laid a solid foundation for my academic growth in particular to conduct and identify legal problems arising out of business transactions on the mainland and develop creative solutions to help you with any difficulties you might come across. The LLM Programme at CUHK has provided me with insight regarding Chinese business law. All of the professors are extremely knowledgeable and qualified. They were more than willing to help me enhance my legal knowledge and help me get the professional world. I found the lectures to be very practical and highly relevant to my career. In addition, the law centre, where the courses are held, is located in a very convenient area in the business district of Hong Kong. Learning Chinese Business Law in Hong Kong, which is one of the world’s leading financial hubs and one of the leading economic hubs of Asia, truly was an invaluable experience for me.

First State Examination (LMU Munich) Second State Examination (Bavaria) LLM (CUHK)

I was always my greatest ambition to study in Hong Kong and thus I am extremely thankful and pleased for having the opportunity to study at one of Asia’s best law schools. Especially exhilarating is the teaching style at CUHK, which helps to open up the students to a very wide range of perspectives. The programme was much harder for personal opinions and value interaction, and it helped to study in small but active groups. This drilling learning experience in a highly international setting will no doubt help me to broaden my own views and perspectives. When it comes to Germany to work as a lawyer later this year. My fellow students from all around the world have contributed to the great team that I have had at CUHK. I found it to be a truly enriching experience. I feel very humbled to be part of this year’s executive programme and found CUHK to be the perfect place to study, grow as a person, and to make new life-long friends.

I was awarded the Master of Laws Global Scholarship offered by the CUHK Faculty of Law in 2016 and coming to Hong Kong to study LLM in International Economic Law has been the best decision I have ever made in my life. This LLM Programme not only equipped me with all the vital knowledge for a legal career on the international scene, but also the opportunity to expand my personal network. The lecture syllabus is well-organised, with four well-structured required courses and a broad enough choice of electives to cover my interests. The professors are highly-skilled, and the faculty staff is very approachable and is always ready to help you with any difficulties you might come across. This LLM Programme has been a rewarding experience and I cannot recommend it highly enough!
The LLM in International Economic Law equipped me with all the knowledge necessary to work as a lawyer on the international scene. The diverse range of courses taught by truly passionate and highly skilled professors also allowed me to develop both a practical and business-oriented view of the law. As a result, I gained a comprehensive knowledge of the law surrounding cross-border business transactions with a notable focus on mainland China and Hong Kong. The LLM also gave me the opportunity to connect with students from different backgrounds and engage in extra-curricular activities with the Graduate Law Students Association. It has been a truly enriching experience on both a personal and professional level.

Studying International Economic Law at CUHK has been a very fruitful and meaningful experience, building my understanding of the processes and principles of civil and commercial law in China. Moreover, they encouraged us to draw upon experiences from our respective countries and comparatively analyze the common law and civil law systems. Engaging in language exchange partnerships with my classmates in Mandarin and Cantonese even further enriched what has been a valuable experience.

As many areas of professional activity are related to law, we welcome applications from those who do not have a law degree but have work experience in the areas of commerce, accountancy, social work, public administration, and any other similar fields with relevant legal experience. For the LLM in Energy and Environmental Law, applicants without a law degree must have work experience in the areas of energy, environmental preservation, public administration, and similar relevant fields. Applications can be made before completion of an undergraduate degree, provided that the applicant is in the final year of study. In this situation, any offer will be conditional upon successful completion of the undergraduate degree, and satisfaction of the other admission requirements, prior to enrolment in the LLM Programmes.

Applications whose undergraduate studies were not conducted and assessed in English are required to take an appropriate English language proficiency test and to achieve a sufficient score, such as a score of 570 or above in TOEFL (Paper Based Test), 88 or above in TOEFL (Internet Based Test), Band 6.5 or better in IELTS, which result was obtained not more than two years prior to the date of applying to join the LLM Programmes, or equivalent.

For more information about the General Admission Requirements and the English Language Proficiency Requirement prescribed by the University’s Graduate School, please visit their website at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions.

The tuition fee for 2018/19 is HK$5,250 per unit for a total of 24 units within the normative study period. The tuition fee for 2019/20 is to be announced. A different tuition fee may apply for students studying beyond the normative study period.

Scholarships

A number of Master of Laws scholarships will be available for award on the basis of academic merit. For further details, please visit the Faculty’s website.

Continuing Education Fund

The LLM in Chinese Business Law and the LLM in International Economic Law, as well as thirteen postgraduate courses offered by the Faculty of Law, have been included in the list of reimbursable courses for Continuing Education Fund (CEF) purposes. For details regarding CEF, please visit www.wfias.gov.hk/cef.
Application Deadlines

Applications will be processed on a rolling basis until all places have been filled, so early applications are strongly encouraged. Applications received after 12 April 2019 may still be considered subject to the availability of places.

How to Apply

Applications should be submitted online. For details, please visit the website of the University’s Graduate School at https://www.gs.cuhk.edu.hk/admissions/programme/law.

Applicants are required to provide copies of certificates as evidence that they have met the Admission Requirements. Applications will not be considered until all the required documents have been received.

Applicants may provide a personal statement which addresses the applicant’s reasons to join the relevant LLM Programme.

There is a non-refundable application fee of HK$300.

Contact Us

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Application Deadlines

31 January 2019 (first round)
28 February 2019 (second round)
12 April 2019 (third round)

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31 January 2019 (first round)
28 February 2019 (second round)
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This brochure contains information as at August 2018. The University has the right at any time and from time to time to make changes in its rules, regulations and procedures.
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