Southwestern LL.M. students are able to design an individualized course of study in consultation with a faculty advisor. The particular courses each student takes will depend upon their area of concentration. The following concentrations were developed by the international law faculty specifically for international students.

**ADVOCACY AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

A concentration in Advocacy and Dispute Resolution hones a wide range of skills necessary for effective advocacy and dispute resolution in multiple practice areas. Through a combination of theoretical and hands-on training courses, students in this concentration enhance their academic background through proficiency in real world know-how. Students in the Advocacy and Dispute Resolution track must take all of the following required courses. To fulfill the 24 required units, additional courses may be selected from the electives category.

**REQUIRED COURSES**
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (2)
- Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiation (3)
- Introduction to American Laws (2)
- Legal Writing for LL.M. Students (2)
- Trial Advocacy (3)

**ELECTIVES**
- Administrative Law (3)
- American Justice System Seminar (2)
- Art of Persuasion (1)\(^a\)
- Art of Storytelling (1)\(^b\)
- Civil Pretrial Practice (3)
- Class Action (2)
- Complex Criminal Litigation Capstone (2)
- Constitutional Criminal Procedure (3)
- Courtroom Procedure 101 (1)\(^a\)
- Entertainment Business Affairs Negotiation (2)
- Evidence (4)
- Family Law Procedure and Practice (2)
- Forensic Evidence (2)
- Legal Profession (2 or 3)
- International Litigation and Arbitration (2)
- Mass Tort Litigation Capstone (2 or 3)
- Practical Legal Research (1)
- Products Liability (3)
- Remedies (2 or 3)

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**INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LAW AND NEGOTIATION**

Southwestern offers international students the opportunity to concentrate their studies in International Business Law and Negotiation through a wide selection of courses and training in practical skills. They can learn American and International business concepts and practices, and refine skills in advocacy, counseling and negotiation, or drafting business contracts. Students in the International Business Law and Negotiation track must take the following three required courses and choose at least one of the additional required courses. To fulfill the 24 required units, additional courses may be selected from either the additional required courses or electives categories.

**REQUIRED COURSES**
- Contract Law, Skills, and Negotiation (3)
- Interviewing, Counseling and Negotiation (3)
- Introduction to American Laws (2)
- Legal Writing for LL.M. Students (2)

**REQUIRED SKILLS COURSES** (choose at least one)
- Alternative Dispute Resolution (2)
- Business Planning (2)
- Drafting Business Contracts (2)
- Drafting Technology Agreements (3)

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Note: Students may petition to take other upper division courses not listed here to fulfill the required units for the LL.M. degree. Petitions are approved on a case-by-case basis. Course selection is subject to change. Some elective courses are not offered every year, and seminar topics vary from year to year.
INTERNATIONAL LL.M. STUDENT VOICES

“...I think Southwestern is an excellent program for international students. The school has a very diverse student body, allowing you to meet other people from different countries.”
– Matthew Giuliani, Australia

“I love the LL.M. program at Southwestern because I have a foot in the entertainment industry. The campus is central to Los Angeles—the entertainment capital of the world.”
– Caroline Stussi, Switzerland

“Southwestern has a very student-oriented approach—they focus on the students. They make sure you understand what you are studying, and if you face any kind of difficulties, they will guide you and help you find a solution.”
– Abel Emhaye, Eritrea

“When I came to Southwestern, I did so with only one thing on my mind—to learn the law here in order to make a difference when I go back to Mexico. However, upon arriving at the law school, I was not only delighted by its history and beauty, but also by its people. There was never a day when someone on campus did not make me feel happy, make me laugh, encourage me to go on, or make me feel a part of the Southwestern family.”
– Cristal Gonzalez Obregon, Mexico

“Having worked as an in-house entertainment legal counsel for many years, Southwestern Law School was my only choice for pursuing my LL.M. in Entertainment & Media Law. Southwestern offers more than 60 courses related to entertainment law, and I’m able to focus on just what I need to excel in this field. The entire faculty and staff at Southwestern are amazing and helpful as they work each day with me to make my dreams come true. I am very happy and proud to be here at Southwestern!”
– Persis Hodiwalla, India

“When I was researching law schools, the first thing I did was contact some attorneys and prospective employers in the Los Angeles area to ask their opinion about Southwestern Law School. The response was phenomenal. I decided this was the place for me to earn my LL.M. degree.”
– Siddharta Peddinti, Canada

“The LL.M. field trip to the L.A. Superior Court was really interesting, getting to know the courts, the judges, actually watching the criminal process as it runs every day. The most interesting thing, actually, was finding out that our system is not that different from the American system. Our process is not entirely oral as it is in America, but we are heading toward it, so it was like a glance into the future.”
– Federico Sergio Efron, Argentina
OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Enrichment beyond the classroom is gained through exposure to guest speakers and visitors representing a wide range of perspectives on issues related to the law and current events. From Supreme Court justices to studio executives, visitors share their world views with students through symposia, Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute events, the Treusch Public Service Lecture, roundtable discussions, panel presentations and guest lectures.

The Southwestern Journal of International Law complements the law school’s extensive course offerings and faculty expertise in international and comparative law. Recent volumes have examined future trends in international law and arbitration, environmental law, privatization in Central and South America, immigration and human rights, international crime and a host of other comparative law issues. Journal-sponsored symposia have explored such subjects as the future of children in international law, transnational litigation and civic procedure, the future of the exclusionary rule, the World Cup and Arctic sovereignty.

Southwestern’s LL.M. program enables students to immerse themselves in the practice of law with the city of Los Angeles as their classroom. They can enrich their legal knowledge as well as their legal skill sets through a variety of classes. They can gain direct experience in some of the most fascinating judicial, advocacy, and transactional work that goes on in this city by participating in our clinics and our extensive externship program. In short, Southwestern offers the tools to bridge knowledge and experience, doctrine and application, study and practice—all in the setting of one of the most vibrant cities in the world.

– Professor Priya Gupta, Faculty Director of the General LL.M. Program
Southwestern Law School is approved by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools (Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association, 321 North Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60610; (312) 988-6738). Since 1911, Southwestern Law School has served the public as a nonprofit, nonsectarian education institution. Southwestern does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, religion, national origin, ancestry, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, medical condition, pregnancy, marital status, veteran/military status, or any other characteristic protected by state or federal law in connection with admission to the school, or in the administration of any of its educational, employment, housing, financial aid, scholarship, or student activity programs. Nondiscrimination has been the policy of Southwestern since its founding. The law school also requires employers using its placement services and facilities to abide by these standards and to ensure that no such discrimination occurs in hiring, promotion, or compensation for work assignments.

THE LEGAL LABORATORY OF LOS ANGELES

There is no place even remotely like it. From its wide sunny beaches to its vibrant downtown, from its ultra-chic shops to its trendy clubs, from its thriving cultural neighborhoods to its many corporate headquarters, Los Angeles lives and breathes energy and diversity.

The city is also on the leading edge of several growth industries. LA County, with more than 87,000 jobs in the fashion industry, has surpassed New York’s fashion district workforce. The LA five-county area also has more than 700,000 people at work in health services/biomedical activities and 190,000 people in aerospace/technology. Below are just a handful of facts and figures about this cultural hotspot with beautiful weather.

I greatly enjoy working closely with our international students from dozens of countries around the world. We want to ensure that they get the most out of their experience in class and in our city—from choosing the right courses to finding housing to touring Hollywood, and all the other unique aspects of Southwestern and Los Angeles!”

– Anne Wilson, Assistant Dean for General LL.M. and International Programs

DIVERSE DEMOGRAPHICS

- Population of nearly 4 million people representing 140 different countries
- Nearly 100 different languages spoken
- Largest populations of Armenians, Cambodians, Filipinos, Guatemalans, Iranians, Japanese, Koreans and Mexicans in the U.S.
- Second-largest LGBT population in the country

CLIMATE/GEOGRAPHY

- An average of 330 days of sunshine a year
- Average temperature in December: 68°F; average temperature in July: 83°F
- Altitudes ranging from 9 feet below sea level to 10,080 above
- Geography suitable for surfing, fishing, golf, snowboarding, skiing and hiking

ENTERTAINMENT/CULTURE

- 30 major movie and television studios
- An average of 150 productions filmed daily on L.A. streets
- More than 80 stage theaters, with 1,500+ annual theatrical productions
- Music industry capital and home of the world-famous Capital Records Building
- World-renowned professional sports teams: Dodgers, Galaxy, Kings, Lakers, Clippers and Sparks
- Major amusement parks within 30 miles: Disneyland, Disney’s California Adventure, Universal Studios, Knott’s Berry Farm and Six Flags Magic Mountain
- More than 2,000 professional arts organizations
- Greatest concentration in the U.S. (300+) of museums of art, history, science, ethnic heritage and western culture
- More than 20,000+ restaurants offering cuisines from Argentine to Vietnamese

BUSINESS

- Number 1 ranked customs district and the nation’s leading customs districts for trade with 12 of its top 20 trade partners: China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, Australia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Ecuador and the Philippines
- 16th largest economy in the world (L.A. County)
- Number 1 import/export port in the U.S.; 5th largest in the world (cargo handled)
- Banking and financial center of the West Coast
- Largest government center outside of Washington D.C.
- Largest fashion district in the U.S. and hub of the apparel industry on the West Coast
- Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) is the number 1 international gateway to Asia/the Pacific and is the 6th busiest passenger airport in the world

“Our international LL.M. students energize the class with their enthusiasm and offer unique comparative perspectives on legal issues that they share both in and out of the classroom.”

– Professor Jonathan Miller

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