TWO-YEAR LL.M. WITH CERTIFICATE IN LEGAL ENGLISH FOR FOREIGN-TRAINED LAWYERS

The Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English was established in 2008 and is the first of its kind in the United States. The Program offers students a more comprehensive LL.M. experience than is possible with the regular two-semester LL.M. Students complete their LL.M. courses over four semesters of study, allowing them to integrate our innovative Legal English Curriculum into their LL.M. program and focus on a specific area of law more intensively. Students in the Two-Year Program also have more time to complete the requirements for special LL.M. Certificates (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/llm/llm-certificate-programs) and fulfill the requirements for the New York Bar Exam (http://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/academic-programs/graduate-programs/us-bar/New-York-Bar-Examination.cfm).

The Two-Year Program at Georgetown is unique because students begin the Program as members of the LL.M. class. In the first year, students take required courses in the Legal English Curriculum along with a limited number of courses from the LL.M. Curriculum. After the first year of study, students in the Two-Year Program can spend the summer between their LL.M. years continuing their legal studies in a number of ways, including working in internships, taking classes in the Georgetown London Summer Program (https://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/transnational-programs), or participating in the Georgetown LL.M. Summer Experience (http://www.law.georgetown.edu/academics/academic-programs/graduate-programs/foundations). In the second year, students select all of their own classes from our extensive LL.M. Curriculum, with over 300 graduate course offerings.

All classes in both years of the Program, including the Legal English classes, are taught at Georgetown Law by Georgetown Law Faculty and Legal English Faculty (p. 4) who either have a Ph.D. in Linguistics, an American J.D., or both.

Students take the following courses in the first year of the Program:

- Academic Legal English I (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%202058%20v00) and II (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%202092%20v00)
- Drafting Contracts (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAWG%20160%20v06)
- Introduction to U.S. Legal Systems (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAWG%20978%20v00)
- Law, Society, and Culture (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%20721%20v00)
- Presentation Skills for International Lawyers (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%20861%20v00)
- Transnational Legal Skills Workshop (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%20989%20v01)
- U.S. Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%20844%20v09)
- Discussion Skills for International Lawyers (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%203061%20v00&srcdb=201819)
- Introduction to Torts (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%20292%20v00)
- Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%20730%20v01&srcdb=201819)
- One or two elective LL.M. classes

Contact Information
To learn more, please contact:
Julie Lake, Assistant Director of the Two-Year LL.M. Program, Lecturer in Legal English
Phone: (202) 662 - 6649
Email Address: Julie Lake (jbl34@georgetown.edu)

Please address any questions about admissions to the Office of Graduate Admissions (http://www.law.georgetown.edu/admissions-financial-aid/graduate-admissions). (https://dev.law.georgetown.edu/admissions-aid/graduate-admissions)

Search LL.M Two-Year Extended LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English for Foreign Law Graduates (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?program=program_91)

LAW 2058 v00 Academic Legal English I (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search?keyword=LAW%202058%20v00)
LL.M Seminar | 4 credit hours
Academic Legal English is a required course for students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. Program. This year-long course is designed to help prepare students for the linguistic and intellectual demands of LL.M. study at a law school in the U.S. The course focuses on enhancing students' language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with particular emphasis on developing language skills for both understanding legal texts (e.g., judicial opinions, law review articles, and court documents) as well as producing legal texts (e.g., case briefs, "issue spotter" exam answers, and academic papers). Throughout the academic year, students will work closely with course instructors and receive extensive, individualized feedback on their skills development.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis.
LAW 2092 v00 Academic Legal English II (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%202092%20v00)
LL.M Seminar | 4 credit hours
Academic Legal English is a required course for students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. Program. This year-long course is designed to help prepare students for the linguistic and intellectual demands of LL.M. study at a law school in the U.S. The course focuses on enhancing students' language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading, and writing, with particular emphasis on developing language skills for both understanding legal texts (e.g., judicial opinions, law review articles, and court documents) as well as producing legal texts (e.g., case briefs, "issue spotter" exam answers, and academic papers). Throughout the academic year, students will work closely with course instructors and receive extensive, individualized feedback on their skills development.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis.

LAW 3061 v00 Discussion Skills for International Lawyers (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%203061%20v00)
LL.M Seminar | 2 credit hours
Discussion Skills for International Lawyers is required for students in the Two-year LL.M. Program. This semester-long course will focus on speaking and listening skills necessary to succeed in law classes in the United States, and students will complete a variety of assignments that will help develop their oral communication skills to participate in class. At the beginning of the semester, students will be evaluated on their oral communication skills and will be provided with an individualized pronunciation plan that addresses problematic sounds and intelligibility issues unique to each person. Thereafter, class time will be spent working on the articulation of individual sounds, word and sentential stress, and intonation. Students will also practice listening strategies to aid in the comprehension of a variety of American English accents they will likely encounter in the U.S. Finally, students will read texts related to current legal topics and practice the essential skills of being a good discussion facilitator and participant in a seminar class setting.

Note: This class is restricted to students enrolled in the Extended LL.M. with Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis.

LAW 160 v06 Drafting Contracts (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20160%20v06)
LL.M Seminar | 2 credit hours
This course introduces foreign-educated LL.M. students to the principles, processes and techniques for drafting contracts in the United States. Students will develop skills in reading and interpreting a contract and thereby better understand the function of its component provisions. Students will learn how to draft contract provisions with precision and clarity. Among the topics covered will be: the structure of the contract, representations, covenants, conditions, allocation of risk, incentives, stipulative provisions, remedies, enforceability, and applicable law. The course will address the lawyer’s role in deal-making, including the negotiation of the contract’s terms and related ethical and practical aspects of transactional practice. Some attention will be devoted to characteristics of U.S. legal culture that contribute to the distinct features of its contracts.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis. Students who enroll in this course may not also enroll in the course Drafting Contracts.

LAW 2029 v00 Introduction to Torts (Two-Year Program) (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%202029%20v00)
LL.M Course | 3 credit hours
This course will introduce students to the American law of torts. It will focus first on negligence, and explore five major areas: duty, breach of duty, scope of liability, affirmative defenses and damages. It will then use product liability law as an example of the imposition of strict tort liability.

Note: This course is only open to foreign-trained LL.M. students (i.e. those students who do not have a U.S. J.D. degree).

LAW 730 v01 Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law (Two-Year Program) (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20730%20v01)
LL.M Course | 2 credit hours
This course surveys landmark constitutional cases in their social and cultural context. The first half of the course focuses on how the U.S. Constitution affects the fundamental structure of American government. The second half of the course will focus on individual rights, with particular emphasis on equal protection and substantive due process. Emphasis will be placed on the distinguishing features of common law method, and students will use close reading techniques to identify the defining discourse characteristics of the U.S. judicial opinion.

Note: This class is restricted to students in the first year of the Two-Year LL.M. with Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis. Students who enroll in this course may not also enroll in the course Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law.
This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis.

LAW 978 v00 Introduction to U.S. Legal Systems (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20978%20v00)
LL.M Course | 2 credit hours
This course introduces students to the institutions, methods, and practices at the core of the American common-law legal system. During the first half of the course, we will focus on the Judicial Branch of the Government. We will examine the structure and boundaries of judicial power; the procedural mechanisms through which that power is exercised; and the ways in which common-law courts make (or decline to make) law. We will pay close attention to the political and social contexts in which the cases that we study arise, and we will consider how changing contexts affect the judicial decision-making process. During the second half of the course, we will turn our attention to the Legislative Branch of the Government, with special attention to problems of statutory construction. We will examine the tools—both legal and linguistic—that common-law courts employ when called upon to determine the proper interpretation of a statute.

Mutually Excluded Courses: Students may not receive credit for both this course and Foundations of American Law.

Note: This course is graded honors-pass-fail and is only open to foreign-educated LL.M. students (i.e., those students who do not have a U.S. J.D. degree).

LAW 721 v00 Law, Society, and Culture (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20721%20v00)
LL.M Seminar | 2 credit hours
Note: This class is restricted to students enrolled in the Two-Year (Extended) LL.M. with Certificate in Legal English for Foreign-Trained Lawyers.

LAW 861 v00 Presentation Skills for International Lawyers (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20861%20v00)
LL.M Seminar | 1 credit hour
The purpose of the course is to give to the students tools to improve their public speaking and oral presentation skills in English in a law-related context. To achieve this goal, the class will analyze how to build and deliver an effective presentation. Each student will participate in several presentation exercises, will be filmed and will receive feedback from the professor and from other students.

The expectation is that by the end of the semester, students will have reviewed and practiced key skills that support the effective preparation and delivery of informative and persuasive presentations on law-related topics. After taking this class, students should know how to adapt a topic to an audience, select information, structure and deliver a presentation, with emphasis placed on connecting with the audience.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis.

LAW 844 v09 U.S. Legal Research Analysis & Writing (Two-Year Program) (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%20844%20v09)
LL.M Seminar | 2 credit hours
This class will introduce students to U.S. legal resources, research methods, and analytical paradigms, and will give students the opportunity to develop written analysis using the approaches, forms, and conventions common in U.S. law. Students will write a series of documents that are related to their representation of a client in their context of a U.S. law firm, and will give oral presentations of their research findings. Students will receive individual feedback on both written and oral work.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. with a Certificate in Legal English. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis. Students who enroll in this course may not enroll in any other sections of U.S. Legal Research Analysis & Writing.
Marta Baffy is a linguist and a lawyer who has over a decade of teaching experience in Hungary and the United States. She has taught courses in English and Linguistics at a variety of institutions, including New York University, The New School University, Columbia University, Boston University, and Georgetown. Since Fall 2013, she has been teaching in the Two-Year LL.M. Program, where she prepares students linguistically and intellectually for legal study in the U.S., using her expertise in English teaching methodology and drawing on her own experiences as a former law student. Professor Baffy’s research interests lie at the intersection of law and linguistics, particularly in the contexts of the courtroom and legal classroom. Her most recent work focuses on how foreign-trained attorneys are socialized into the culture of a U.S. law school during classroom interactions.

Professor Baffy received her B.A. in psychology from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, an M.A. in applied linguistics from Columbia University, a J.D. from the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and a Ph.D. in sociolinguistics from Georgetown University.

Julie Lake, Ph.D.
Assistant Director, Two-Year LL.M. Program
Lecturer in Legal English

Courses taught: Academic Legal English I and II

Julie Lake is a linguist who has worked in the Two-Year LL.M. Program and the Center for Legal English at Georgetown Law since July 2015. Professor Lake’s classroom experience includes teaching English for Academic Purposes at Georgetown University and the University of Maryland. She also taught conversational English to children and adults in Berlin, Germany. While in graduate school, she carried out a teaching methods course for second/foreign language teachers at Georgetown University and conducted a second language teaching methods workshop in Camaguey, Cuba. In addition to her classroom experience, she has completed classroom-based and psycholinguistic research. She has researched and published about best practices for needs analyses for instructional settings. Her dissertation research focused on reading comprehension, examining the role of individual differences in first and second language processing.

Professor Lake received her B.A. in religious studies from Oberlin College and an M.S. and Ph.D. in applied linguistics from Georgetown University.

Stephanie Duff-O’Bryan, J.D.
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: U.S. Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing

Stephanie Duff-O’Bryan is an attorney in the Enforcement Division of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, D.C., where she investigates and enforces potential violations of federal consumer financial protection laws. Prior to joining the Bureau, Professor Duff-O’Bryan litigated business and employment disputes as an associate at a private law firm in Austin, Texas. In that role, she contributed to numerous winning complex motions and briefs, including several appellate briefs. Professor Duff-O’Bryan also served for two years as a judicial clerk with United States District Judge Alia Moses in the Western District of Texas.

Professor Duff-O’Bryan received her B.A. in philosophy and government from the University of Texas-Austin and her J.D. from Columbia Law School.

Andrew J. Kerr, J.D.
Assistant Director, Center for Legal English
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: Law, Society & Culture

Andrew Kerr is a lawyer who has taught at Georgetown Law since July 2014. He instructs classes in academic legal writing, legal English and U.S. legal method. Prior to Georgetown Professor Kerr was a Senior Lecturer at the Peking University School of Transnational Law, where he taught legal research and writing, as well as seminar courses in animal law and law & literature. He has published on a range of topics, including at the intersection of law & language in the California Law Review Circuit, University of Pennsylvania Law Review Online, Journal of Legal Education and Columbia Journal of Race and Law (forthcoming).

Professor Kerr received his B.A. in social studies from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Columbia Law School.
Anna Sandor, J.D.
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: U.S. Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing

Anna Sandor is a lawyer whose practice focuses on the regulation of investment advisers, mutual funds and private investment funds on a variety of regulatory and transactional matters. She assists clients with ongoing investment company compliance, registration, corporate governance, and other securities law issues. Prior to joining Morgan Lewis, Professor Sandor worked at the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) through the Student Honors Program. At the SEC she worked at the Disclosure Review and Accounting Office in the Division of Investment. Management and at the Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations’ Market Oversight Office. While attending Georgetown Law, Professor Sandor was the Solicitations Editor of the Georgetown Journal of International Law.

Professor Sandor received her B.A. in political science and French literature from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a J.D. from Georgetown Law.

Adam Schneider, J.D.
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: U.S. Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing

Adam Schneider is Global Compliance Counsel at News Corp, where his work focuses on anti-bribery and anti-corruption compliance. He has experience with third-party due diligence, internal investigations, risk assessments, policy development, compliance monitoring and training programs, as well as Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) investigations and arbitrations. While attending George Mason University School of Law, Professor Schneider was a member of the Journal of Law, Economics, and Policy.

Professor Schneider received his B.A. in American history from Columbia University and a J.D from George Mason University.

Abram Shanedling, J.D.
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: U.S. Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing

Abram Shanedling is an Associate at Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP in Washington, DC where he is a member of the firm’s Business Trial Practice group. His practice includes counseling clients in complex litigation and regulatory matters across various industries, including communications regulatory issues, commercial disputes, data security and privacy, and administrative law. He has represented clients before federal and state courts across the country as well as federal and state administrative agencies, with matters ranging from multi-district products liability litigation to government investigations and enforcement actions. In 2015, Professor Shanedling was a recipient of the Burton Distinguished Legal Writing Award for his paper “Removing Weapons of Mass Destruction from the World’s Most Volatile Region: How to Achieve a WMD-Free Zone in the Middle East,” 46 Geo. J. Int’l L. (2014). Professor Shanedling previously served as a law clerk with the United States Senate Committee on the Judiciary. While attending Georgetown Law, he was Managing Editor of the Georgetown Journal of International Law and competed on the Appellate Advocacy ( moot court) team.

Professor Shanedling received his B.A. in journalism and political science from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a J.D. from Georgetown Law.