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 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 first and second 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%2006)
- **Introduction to U.S. Legal Systems** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAWG%20978%2000)
- **Law, Society, and Culture** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%202072%20v00)
- **Presentation Skills for International Lawyers** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%202086%20v00)
- **Transnational Legal Skills Workshop** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%202098%20v01)
- **U.S. Legal Research, Analysis, and Writing** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%202084%20v09)
- **Discussion Skills for International Lawyers** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW%203061%2000&srcdb=201819)
- **Introduction to Torts** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW+2029+00&srcdb=201819)
- **Introduction to U.S. Constitutional Law** (https://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW+730+01&srcdb=201819)
- One or two elective LL.M. classes

**Contact Information**

To learn more, please contact:
Marta Baffy, Faculty Director of the Two-Year LL.M. Program
Phone: (202) 662 - 9236
Email Address: Marta Baffy (mlb258@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 Courses (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, 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 address 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 will 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, 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.
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 3079 v00 Oral Communication Skills for International Lawyers I (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW %203079%20v00)
LL.M Seminar | 2 credit hours
Oral Communication Skills for International Lawyers I is required for students in the Two-year LL.M. Program. This fall semester 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. 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 989 v01 Transnational Legal Skills Workshop (http://curriculum.law.georgetown.edu/course-search/?keyword=LAW %20989%20v01)
LL.M Course | 1 credit hour
This is an intensive, problem based course that explores the role of law in a global context. The problem is one that involves both U.S. and non-U.S. law and forces students to examine how to be effective as lawyers in a dispute that crosses borders. Students will be broken into teams to represent “clients” and to participate in a mock negotiation, arbitration, or court hearing.

Note: Withdrawals are permitted up until the last class for this specific course. A student will be permitted to drop a course that meets for the first time after the add/drop period, without a transcript notation, if a student submits a written request to the Office of the Registrar prior to the start of the second class meeting.

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.
In the first half of the semester, students will explore US legal discourse through a critical examination of legal resources, research methods, and analytical paradigms. During this first half of the semester, students will meet as a large group with Legal English faculty to review language, form, and rhetorical conventions that US lawyers use in legal writing.

In the second half of the semester, students will meet in smaller groups with adjunct faculty where students will apply what they have learned in the first half of the semester. Each student will do independent legal research and write a legal memorandum. As part of this legal writing project, students will also meet with law librarians to learn more about legal research and citation.

Each student will submit a first draft of the memorandum, and the Legal English faculty and the adjunct faculty will provide written feedback on the first draft. After an individual conference with a faculty member, each student will submit a final draft of the memorandum.

Note: This class is mandatory for, and restricted to, students enrolled in the Two-Year LL.M. Program. This course is graded on an honors-pass-fail basis. Students who enroll in this course may not enroll in any other section of U.S. Legal Research Analysis & Writing.

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

**The Honorable Albert G. Lauber, Jr.**
Judge, United States Tax Court
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: Introduction to U.S. Legal Systems

Albert G. Lauber is a judge on the United States Tax Court. He served as a law clerk to Judge Malcom R. Wilkey of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and Justice Harry A. Blackman of the United States Supreme Court. Professor Lauber served in the United States Department of Justice as a tax assistant to the Solicitor General and later served as Deputy Solicitor General from 1983 to 1988. He spent seventeen years as a partner at the Washington, D.C. tax firm of Caplin & Drysdale, where he specialized in tax litigation at the trial and appellate levels. He previously served as Director of the Graduate Tax and Securities Programs at Georgetown Law.

Professor Lauber received his B.A. and J.D. from Yale University and an M.A. from Clare College, Cambridge.

**Jean-Baptiste M. Pessey**
Adjunct Professor of Law

Course taught: Presentation Skills for International Lawyers

Jean-Baptiste Pessey is Assistant Director and Legal Contracts Counsel at Ernst & Young U.S. LLP in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining EY, Professor Pessey served as Assistant General Counsel for the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) in Washington, D.C. Professor Pessey previously practiced as an attorney in the dispute resolution department of Lovells (Paris) LLP and Hogan Lovells (Paris) LLP. He also served as a consultant for various units of the World Bank Group.

Professor Pessey graduated from the Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris. He received a Master of Laws in international law (Diplôme d’Etudes Approfondies) and a Master of Laws in business and tax law (Diplôme d’Etudes Supérieures Spécialisées) from the University of Panthéon Assas – Paris II, as well as an LL.M. from Georgetown Law.

**Mari Sakai, Ph.D.**
Linguistics Fellow

Courses taught: Academic Legal English I and II

Mari Sakai is a linguist who has a long and personal history with languages as she learned English, Spanish, and Japanese from her parents and relatives as a young child. Her connection to languages led her to a career teaching adult learners in the college and university setting. Over the past 9 years, she has taught courses in Academic English, Linguistics, and Education in Florida, Washington, DC, and Cuba. Her academic and research interests include the cognitive processing of second language sounds, foreign accents, and pronunciation instruction. She is interested in how adults of all ages learn to hear and pronounce second language sounds correctly. Professor Sakai joined the team of professors in the Two-Year LL.M. Program in the Summer of 2016.

Professor Sakai received her B.A. in English literature and Spanish from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, an M.A. in Education from the University of South Florida, and a Ph.D. in applied linguistics from Georgetown University.

**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.