



Kobe University
Kobe LL.M.
GMAP in LAW

Mission

The Kobe LL.M. seeks to cultivate well-rounded practitioners able to understand both the law and the practice of international business from an interdisciplinary perspective. Many courses focus on practical skills and include role-plays and interactive exercises that simulate international practice and dispute management. Our mission is to prepare students to find jobs and prosper in international law firms, international business enterprises, and international organizations.

Features

At a Glance

- Graduate degree in international business law taught in English
- Combines an LL.M. program with experiential training
- 1-2 years to complete with commencement in the fall or spring
- Instruction by top international academics and lawyers
- Internships in law firms, arbitral institutions, international organizations, and corporations
- Coaching and financial support for international moot competitions
- Completion of a master's thesis under close professor supervision
- Idyllic wooded campus in Kobe, Japan



Curriculum

Courses

Graduation Requirements (30 credits)

Compulsory (6 credits)

- Master's thesis (4 credits)
- Internship (2 credits)

Electives (24 credits)

- Courses of Economics or Business Administration (at least 2 credits)
- Courses of Law (at least 22 credits)

Master's Thesis

Students must complete a master's thesis or research paper on a topical legal issue in order to complete the program. Each student is assigned a supervising professor who acts as advisor and mentor through this process. Students are encouraged to take advantage of formal coursework and informal assistance from native English speakers to improve their drafting.

Internship Program

A hallmark of the GMAP program is its compulsory internship program. Students gain practical work experience through 1-3 month placements in law firms, arbitral institutions, international organizations and corporations. The law faculty maintains a network of partners for this purpose. Students can also gain credits for placements outside of this network with prior approval.



International ADR Courses

Alternative dispute resolution, in a variety of forms including international arbitration, is a leading method for resolving international disputes today. Recognizing its importance, the Kobe LL.M. offers a variety of academic and extracurricular opportunities for students to learn about skills and simulate the practice of international dispute management.

Mooting

The law faculty has a strong tradition of international mootings. Students participate in various regional and national mootings competitions. Mooting participants benefit from generous financial support and coaching for international competitions.

Seminars & Conferences

The Kobe LL.M. sponsors a number of seminars and conferences annually. These feature leading academics and practitioners from around the world drawn from a variety of legal and business disciplines.



Seminar by Prof. Philippe Sands
(University College London)

Kobe SALAD

The Kobe University Summer School of Asian Law and Dispute Management is a one-week symposium of academics and lawyers. Speakers include leading thinkers from across Asia who engage about important trends in law and business.

Care is taken to include participants from a diverse variety of jurisdictions.



English Language Support & Legal English

English Language Support

English is the language of instruction of the core curriculum given its prevalence in international business. To enable students to cope with any initial language difficulties and to achieve the high level of language skills required to function effectively in an English-speaking business environment, English language support is provided which is both comprehensive and responsive to the individual needs of each student. In addition to legal English courses from intermediate to advanced levels, one native speaker professor is allocated to provide support to students in all aspects of their English language needs.



Prof. Keith Carpenter

TOLES

Students who attend the legal English courses have the opportunity to obtain internationally recognized certification of their legal English skills by taking the TOLES exams. TOLES is the world's leading English exam for lawyers, law students and legal translators. More information about TOLES, including the extent of international recognition, can be obtained from www.toleslegal.com.



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Ver. 2019-01