

KOBE SALAD 2026

KOBE University

Summer School of Asian Law And Dispute

17-20 August 2026



Venue: Graduate School of Law, Kobe University
Rokkodai 1st Campus

Mission of Kobe SALAD

This programme is designed to help students better understand the diversity of legal systems and social cultures across Asia. Its goal is to build inclusive, mutually beneficial relationships among the next generation of lawyers. Through lectures and workshops delivered by leading academics and practitioners from diverse backgrounds and regions, students will learn the value of sustainable diversity in legal cultures and how to build productive relationships in these circumstances.

Registration & Participation

Please send an email to 'law-kimap-admin@edu.kobe-u.ac.jp' by **Friday, 24 July 2026**, including the following information: full name, nationality, email address, affiliation, and whether you will attend (1) all sessions or (2) only some sessions (with the dates you will attend).

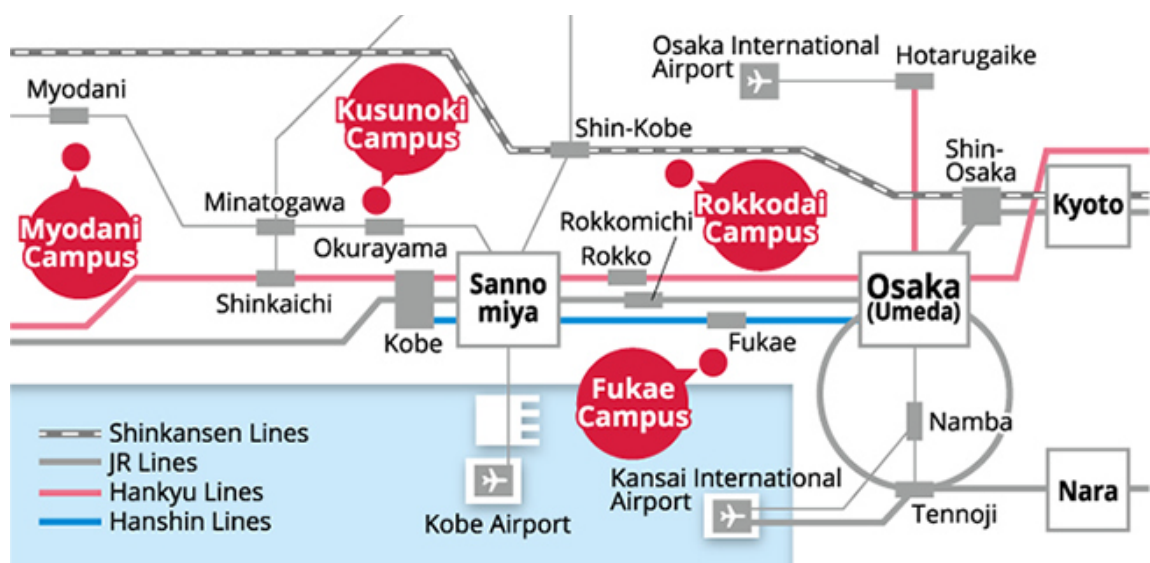
Certificate

The certificate of attendance will be given to participants who attend all the sessions.

How to Get to Kobe SALAD

To Kobe

Easily accessible by train (regular direct train/Shinkansen services)) and by air (<https://www.kobe-u.ac.jp/en/campus-life/maps/about/>).

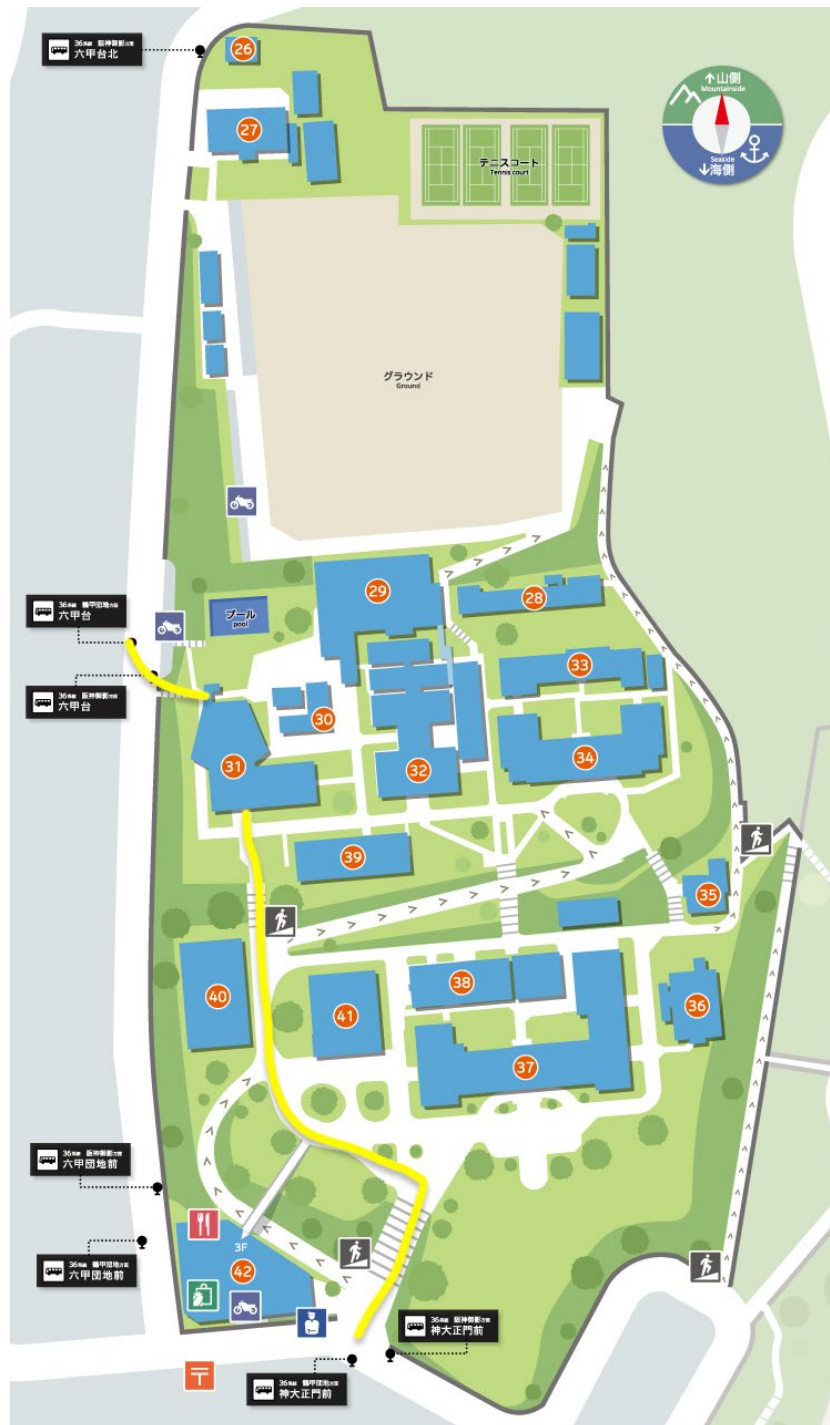


To Kobe University, Rokkodai 1st Campus

Kobe City Bus No.36 (from JR 'Rokkomichi' station/from Hankyu 'Rokko' station) to Shindai Seimon Mae/Rokkodai (approx. 15 minutes)

To Venue

Room 263 (2F) (Day 1 to 3) and Room 163 (1F) (Day 4), Faculty & Graduate School of Law (Building II) (**Building No. 31**), Kobe University (**Rokkodai 1st Campus**) 2-1 Rokkodai-Cho, Nada-Ku, Kobe 657-8501 Japan



Where to Stay & Explore

Please note that Kobe University is unable to provide accommodation for the participants. Participants are therefore kindly asked to arrange their own accommodation.

There are a number of accommodation options around JR Sannomiya Station and Hankyu Kobe-Sannomiya Station, both in a convenient area with good access to the venue, public transportation, restaurants, and shops.

Dress Code

As it is typically extremely hot in Japan during the summer, participants are strongly encouraged to wear light, cool clothing.

Cafeteria/Store

Please note that the cafeteria and shop (**Building No. 42**) will be open during the following hours:

- Cafeteria: 11.30 – 13.00 (order stop)
- Shop: 10.00 – 15.00

On Day 4, lunch break will begin at 12.50, so there may not be enough time to use the cafeteria. Please either bring your own lunch or purchase a light meal from the shop.

Contact Us

For further information and enquiries, please contact us:

Graduate School of Law, Kobe University (Rokkodai Campus) 2-1 Rokkodai-Cho,
Nada-Ku, Kobe 657-8501 Japan
Mail: law-kimap-admin@edu.kobe-u.ac.jp

PROGRAMME (tentative as of 7 August 2026)

Day 1 – Monday, 17 August 2026

9.00 – 9.10 Introduction to Kobe SALAD 2026

Dr. Kazuaki Nishioka

Session 1: Introduction to International Arbitration

9.10 – 10.40 International Commercial Arbitration: Principles, Process, and Practice (1)

Prof. Anselmo Reyes / Dr. Kazuaki Nishioka

10.40 – 11.00 Tea Break

11.00 – 11.50 International Commercial Arbitration: Principles, Process, and Practice (2)

Prof. Anselmo Reyes / Dr. Kazuaki Nishioka

11.50 – 12.40 Introduction to Investor-State Arbitration (Online)

Dr. Kabir Duggal

12.40 – 13.50 Lunch Break

Session 2: Specific Fields/Topics of Arbitration (1)

13.50 – 14.40 An Introduction to International Construction Arbitration

Justice Michael Black KC

14.40 – 15.30 Investment Arbitration: Dual Citizens (Ratione Personae) and Revoked Offer to Arbitrate (Ratione Voluntatis)

Dr. Ylli Dautaj

Career Talks

15.45 – 16.45 **Mr Icarus Chan / Professor Anselmo Reyes**

17.00 - Welcome Reception (Restaurant Sakura)

Day 2 – Tuesday, 18 August 2026

Session 3: Specific Fields/Topics of Arbitration (2)

9.15 – 10.05	Sports Arbitration in Perspective: Parallelisms and Divergences with Commercial Arbitration (online) Dr. Mingchao Fan
10.05 – 10.20	Tea Break
10.20 – 11.10	Sports Arbitration in Figures: Synthesizing Empirical Research Findings (online) Dr. Mingchao Fan
11.10 – 12.00	Some Thoughts on the Impact of Emerging Technologies on International Dispute Resolution Justice Michael Black KC
12.00 – 13.10	Lunch Break
13.10 – 14.00	Maritime arbitration in an age of disruption: Ukraine/Hormuz and El Niño Ms. Sarra Kay

Session 4: Multinationals and Human Rights in Asia

14.10 – 15.00	Business, Human Rights and Remedies in Asia: A Brief Look at Multinational Corporate Accountability Mr. Jason Ho Ching Cheung
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Day 3 – Wednesday, 19 August 2026

Session 5: Mediation Workshop

9.30 – 12.30	Mediation Workshop
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Sala Sihombing, Zealot Kenneth Tsui, Adrian Mak and Dr. Kazuaki Nishioka

12.30 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 – 17.00

Excursion in Kobe

Disaster Reduction and Human Renovation Institution

Day 4 – Thursday, 20 August 2026

Session 6: Now and Next – Cutting Edge Topics

10.00 – 10.50

The Recent Changes in Mediation Legislation of Uzbekistan and its Impact on Development of Cross-border Mediation

Prof. Otabek Narziev

10.50 – 11.50

Decoding Stablecoins: Where Law, Finance, and Geopolitics Collide

Dr. Anthony Neoh SC

11.50 – 12.00

Tea Break

12.00 - 12.50

Regulation of BigTech Platforms in a Comparative Perspective

Prof. Andreas Heinemann

12.50 – 14.00

Lunch Break

14.00 - 14.50

Esports Law and Governance

Assistant Prof. Tsubasa Shinohara

14.50 – 15.40

Fiduciary Duty and Corporate Externalities: Rethinking Directors' Climate Obligations Climate Change

Prof. Ernest Lim

15.40 – 15.50

Closing Remarks

Dr. Kazuaki Nishioka

Speakers

Session 1

Prof. Anselmo Reyes practises as an arbitrator. He was Professor of Legal Practice at Hong Kong University from 2012 to 2018. Before that, he was a judge of the Hong Kong High Court from 2003 to 2012, where he oversaw the Construction and Arbitration List (2004 to 2008) and the Commercial and Admiralty Lists (2008 to 2012). He was Representative of the Hague Conference on Private International Law's Regional Office for the Asia Pacific from 2013 to 2017. He became an International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court in 2015 and a member of the International Commercial Expert Committee of the China International Commercial Court in 2018. Author on several books on international arbitration and dispute resolution including *The Practice of International Commercial Arbitration: A Handbook for Hong Kong Arbitrators* (Lloyd's Arbitration Law Library). He is an Overseas Bencher of the Inner Temple.

Dr. Kabir Duggal serves as Senior Fellow and Advisor at Center for International Commercial and Investment Arbitration (CICIA) at Columbia Law School and as a Partner in Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP's New York and Washington, D.C. offices. He is a preeminent international arbitration and public international law practitioner. Recognized as a Chartered Arbitrator and Certified Mediator, he has served as arbitrator in over 70 complex investor-State and commercial disputes across multiple jurisdictions and industries, frequently acts as an expert on international arbitration and public international law matters, and has contributed to shaping global arbitration standards. He is also a Lecturer-in-Law at Columbia, an adjunct professor at Fordham University School of Law, and Course Director for the Columbia Law School-CI Arb Comprehensive Course on International Arbitration, with over 60 publications, multiple books—including *Evidence in Investment Arbitration* (Oxford), *Principles of Evidence in Public International Law* (Brill), and *Pro-Arbitration Revisited* (Juris)—and more than 500 speaking engagements worldwide. Dr. Duggal also advises the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States on the Investment Support Program, works with the Commercial Law Development Program initiatives, has conducted extensive global training for governments and institutions, and serves on

numerous advisory and steering committees for international arbitration bodies. He is consistently ranked by Lexology, Chambers and Partners, Legal 500, and Lawdragon. His work has been recognized with numerous awards, including the Hind Rattan, the Smit-Lowenfeld Prize, the “Champion for Change” Award by ArbitralWomen, Legal Era’s “40 under 40 Rising Star,” and the Dispute Resolution Practitioner of the Year—Americas and Global awards. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he also holds degrees from the University of Oxford (DHL–Times of India Scholar), New York University School of Law (Hauser Global Scholar), Leiden University (CEPANI Academic Prize), and the University of Mumbai (University Medal), and is admitted to practice in New York, the District of Columbia, England & Wales, and India. His LinkedIn profile is available here: [LinkedIn Profile](#)

Dr. Kazuaki Nishioka is a specially appointed associate professor at Kobe University and the organiser of the Kobe SALAD (since 2025).

[Session 2](#)

Justice Michael Black KC has been appointed as arbitrator around the world and previously appeared as Counsel in the Caribbean Supreme Court, Isle of Man, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas, Bermuda and Singapore International Commercial Court. He is now a full time international arbitrator and continues to sit as a Judge in the DIFC Court of Appeal and Judge in charge of the Digital Economy Court (DEC).

Dr. Ylli Dautaj is Associate Professor in Commercial Law and Commercial Arbitration at Durham Law School. He previously taught at various institutions in UK, India, Sweden, and US, including as an adjunct and visiting associate professor at Penn State Dickinson Law, US, and lecturer at Jindal Global Law School, India. He is a frequent guest lecturer at various legal institutions world-wide, including as part of the international adjunct faculty of Uppsala University’s master programme in investment treaty arbitration. Ylli graduated with a PhD from University of Edinburgh (UK) as a stipendiary scholar of the Scottish Graduate School for Arts & Humanities. He wrote his dissertation on sovereign immunity in the context of enforcing arbitral awards against sovereign States. Ylli has stood for clients as lead counsel in litigation and arbitration matters, domestic and international, commercial and investment. He represents individuals, private enterprises, State-owned enterprises, and States in various disputes. Ylli has represented clients in and with investor-State arbitration matters, shareholders’ and

JV-disputes, jurisdictional objections (investment and commercial arbitration), post-award proceedings (set-aside and enforcement/execution), energy or energy-related disputes (e.g., regarding transit, investor protection, and other contract related matters), etc.

Session 3

Dr. Mingchao Fan serves as the Executive Vice President of the Shanghai Arbitration Commission (SHAC). He has extensive knowledge of the Asia-Pacific region and is an experienced arbitrator. Over 200 arbitration proceedings have been conducted with him as presiding arbitrator, sole arbitrator or co-arbitrator under the rules of UNCITRAL, CAS, SIAC, HKIAC, KCAB, CIETAC, etc. Dr. Fan is a panel arbitrator of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), and a Council Member of the China Court of Arbitration for Sport (CCAS). He chaired the Arbitration Commission of the Chinese Football Association between 2019 and 2023 and served on the ad hoc panel of the 19th Asian Games in Hangzhou in 2023 as well as the 9th Asian Winter Games in Harbin.

Sarra Kay read law at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. Following qualification, Sarra joined Clifford Chance, where over a period of 20 years she built a career primarily as a maritime disputes lawyer, representing clients in all manner of disputes related to charterparties, bills of lading, international contracts of sale, letters of credits, sanctions and bribery & corruption. Sarra subsequently moved in-house to JPMorgan Chase, where she served as Managing Director and Assistance Counsel, becoming Head of the EMEA Commodities Legal team for over seven years. In that role, she held responsibility for legal support across a broad range of globally traded shipping and commodities, including oil, base and precious metals, coal, continental gas and power, and derivatives, as well as loans and the provision of working capital financing for offshore energy and construction projects. For the past 11 years, Sarra has practised as a full-time arbitrator and mediator, accepting appointments from parties, co-arbitrators and institutions alike on disputes involving shipping, international trade, offshore energy, banking, and financial services. Sarra is a Full Member of the London Maritime Arbitrators Association and on the Disciplinary Committee for the London Metal Exchange.

Session 4

Jason Ho Ching Cheung is a Hong Kong barrister and New York attorney based in Tokyo and Hong Kong. He is Foreign Counsel at Yodoyabashi & Yamagami LPC, a member of Albert Luk's Chambers, and a part-time lecturer at Doshisha University. His work focuses on international arbitration, cross-border dispute resolution, and cross-border corporate governance. He is also a PhD candidate at Leiden University and co-editor of *Multinationals and Human Rights in Asia*.

Session 5

Sala Sihombing works full-time as a mediator focusing on families in Hong Kong. She is an accredited mediator (Australia AMDRAS) (USA FINRA) (Hong Kong HKMAAL/HKIAC) (UK CEDR) and Family Mediation Supervisor (HKMAAL). Since 2013, she has taught as an adjunct lecturer at HKU in the LLM ADR Programme. Having originally qualified as a solicitor in the UK (1995) / Hong Kong (1996), she worked in Hong Kong as a criminal/civil litigator. She worked as in-house counsel at Peregrine Management Limited and at Credit Agricole Indosuez for various business lines. She moved to Morgan Stanley in 2000 for the Institutional Equity Division. In 2012, Sala received her LLM in Dispute Resolution from the Straus Institute (Pepperdine University, USA). Her LLB is from the University of Bristol, UK.

Adrian Mak is a fellow at the Stanford Law AI Initiative. His work focuses on the intersection of AI law and policy, data governance, and dispute resolution, including co-editing "Privacy and Personal Data Protection Law in Asia" (Hart Publishing) and contributing to "The Cambridge Handbook of Private Law and Artificial Intelligence" (Cambridge University Press). Adrian also works in international disputes, being a director (on academic leave) at a dispute resolution boutique, appointed as a Panel Arbitrator in the Republic of Uzbekistan and as a Specialist Mediator at the Singapore International Mediation Center. He served as a resource person to the Asian Development Bank to strengthen dispute resolution capacities across Asia-Pacific judiciaries and arbitral institutions. He is qualified in New York and Hong Kong and holds a Stanford LL.M.

Zealot Kenneth Tsui is an accredited mediator and an LLM candidate at UCL. Kenneth graduated from HKU, holding a double first class honour in Bachelor of Social Sciences and Bachelor of Laws. He has been a research assistant at various institutions including the University of Hong Kong. Kenneth's research focuses include equity, trusts,

insolvency, private international law, and dispute resolution. He is currently a contracted assistant at Anselmo Reyes KK.

Session 6

Dr. Otabek Narziev is a professor of the International Private Law Department at Tashkent State University of Law, a licensed attorney and a professional mediator.

Dr. Anthony Neoh KC SC JP is a senior member of the Hong Kong Bar, specializing in international litigation and arbitration. After teaching mathematics in High School for two years, he served in the Hong Kong Civil Service from 1966 to 1979 and left with directorate rank in the Administrative Service. While in the Civil Service, reading independently, he obtained a Law Degree from London University with honors in 1976, and was called to the English and Hong Kong Bars that same year. He began practice at the Hong Kong Bar immediately upon leaving the Civil Service, was admitted to the California Bar in 1984, and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 1990. From 1995 to 1998, he was Chairman of the Hong Kong Securities and Futures Commission. From 1999 to 2004, he served as Chief Adviser to the China Securities Regulatory Commission at the personal invitation of then Premier Zhu Rongji at the nominal annual compensation of One Yuan. Dr. Neoh was the first Asian to be elected Chairman of the Technical Committee of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (1996-1998), and he served as a member of the Hong Kong Basic Law Committee of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress from 1997 to 2007. Since 1980, he has served in a wide range of public and private positions and has also served as an adjunct or visiting professor at numerous universities, including Peking University, Tsinghua University, Harvard University, the National University of Singapore, and the National College of Public Administration of the People's Republic of China. In 2009, he was elected an Academician of the Eurasian Academy of Sciences. He holds honorary doctorates from the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the Metropolitan University, the Lingnan University and the University of London. He is an Honorary Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Securities and Investment and a Fellow of the Hong Kong Academy of Finance. Between 2018 and 2021, he was Chairman of the Independent Police Complaints Council, during one of Hong Kong's most tumultuous periods. He has been Chairman of the Asian Academy of International Law since 2018.

Prof. Andreas Heinemann is Professor of Commercial, Economic and European Law at the University of Zurich and permanent visiting professor at the University of Lausanne,

from which he was awarded an honorary doctorate in 2026. His research focuses on Swiss, European and International Economic Law with a special emphasis on competition and intellectual property law. He is a member of the board of the Europa Institute at the University of Zurich and chair of the University of Zurich's LLM programme in International Economic Law. He was president of the Swiss Competition Commission and a member of the Bureau of the OECD Competition Committee until 2022.

Dr. Tsubasa Shinohara is an Assistant Professor at the University of Tsukuba (Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences). He obtained a PhD in Law and Master of Law at the University of Lausanne (Switzerland) and a Master of Law and Bachelor of Law at the Meiji University (Japan). His main research interests include international human rights law (i.e., European Convention on Human Rights), especially "sports/esports and human rights", sports/esports law, and technology and law.

Prof. Ernest Lim is the Chan Sek Keong Professor of Private Law at the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore (NUS), where he also serves as a Vice Dean and Co-Director of the Centre for Technology, Robotics, AI & the Law. He received his DPhil (PhD) and BCL from the University of Oxford, LLM from Harvard Law School and LLB from NUS. An award-winning researcher, his expertise in comparative corporate law and governance, as well as other areas of private law, focuses on global challenges such as sustainability and artificial intelligence. He has published widely in his field. Recent books include the co-edited *The Oxford Handbook of Climate Change and Private Law* and *The Cambridge Handbook of Private Law and Artificial Intelligence*. Prior to joining academia, he practised corporate and securities law at Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP in New York and Hong Kong.