



LLM in Comparative Law
UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO SCHOOL OF LAW







THE SCHOOL OF LAW

The University of San Diego School of Law is one of only 81 law schools in the country to have a chapter of the Order of the Coif, the most distinguished rank of American law schools. We are accredited by the American Bar Association and are a member of the Association of American Law Schools. As a long-standing leader in graduate legal education, USD School of Law offers our students personal attention from the time they apply until graduation.

PROGRAM INFORMATION

For almost 40 years, the University of San Diego has enjoyed a distinguished history of introducing the U.S. legal system to students who have earned law degrees outside of the United States. International law school graduates have the opportunity to design a program that specifically suits their academic interests and professional goals within the LLM in Comparative Law.

LLM in Comparative Law candidates can benefit substantially from the opportunity to study side-by-side with JD and LLM students from across the United States and around the world. Being immersed in our contemporary and dynamic JD curriculum prepares LLM in Comparative Law candidates to deal effectively with U.S. attorneys on questions of common interest, and aids lawyers serving international governments and international organizations in understanding U.S. legal issues.

The program is designed not only to fulfill degree requirements, but also the attorney's professional goals. We offer career counseling and many other resources, ranging from networking events to information about job opportunities. Students are also invited to participate in job fairs designed specifically for LLM candidates. Student visa regulations permit LLM candidates to gain practical experience with Optional Practical Training, which allows for placement with a U.S. law firm or agency for up to 12 months after finishing the degree.



CURRICULUM

The LLM in Comparative Law degree requires successful completion of 25 credits of coursework, including four credits of required courses. Candidates must complete the following courses as part of their degree program: *Introduction to U.S. Law* (2 credits) and *Legal Writing and Research* (2 credits). Candidates must also complete a written work requirement in the amount of two credits to obtain the degree. LLM students work closely with an academic advisor to select their remaining credits from a variety of elective courses offered in all areas of the law. The wide selection of elective courses can be viewed on our website at law.sandiego.edu/llmccourses.

Prior to the beginning of the semester, all entering students are encouraged to participate in an Introduction to U.S. Legal Education program which consists of various workshops and events. This allows our new students to seamlessly integrate into the law school community and make the most of their studies at USD School of Law.

Not every course is offered each academic year. Course availability, descriptions, content, and requirements are subject to change.

Fjoralba Caka, Albania, 2013

Lecturer of European Union Law, Faculty of Law, University of Tirana



Attending USD School of Law was a great decision both for my education and career. I enjoyed the fact that I could design my own curricula and choose from a diverse range of courses that fit my academic profile and career interests. The Socratic method used by many professors helped me share my opinions and developed my critical thinking skills. The student-centered teaching method was a new perspective for me, and I now employ it in my work as a lecturer of European Union Law. International students are not treated differently at USD. They can pursue the same classes and are exposed to the same dynamic and challenging environment as all JD students. Finally, I was able to develop a network

of international lawyers that has been significant in my professional and personal life.

ACADEMIC CONCENTRATIONS

LLM in Comparative Law degree candidates have the option of pursuing a concentration in one of six key practice areas. These concentrations highlight curricular strengths, offering a rich selection of courses taught by leading scholars and expert practitioners. Enrolled students may consult the concentration curriculum as an informal guide for shaping their education or may choose to meet the specific requirements for earning a Certificate of Concentration and corresponding transcript notation. For detailed information about concentrations, go to law.sandiego.edu/lmc.

Academic concentrations are available in:

- Business and Corporate Law
- Criminal Law
- Environmental and Energy Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International Law
- Taxation

Marcus Suether, Germany, 2016

Attorney-at-Law, SLB Kloepper



The University of San Diego campus is voted one of the most beautiful in the U.S. every year. I chose the LLM program because it allowed me to focus on my interests (Intellectual Property Law & Unfair Competition). The professors were all very welcoming and provided useful course information. They help you achieve your goals by pushing you from the get-go. The mostly small classes allow a real discussion, rather than a mere lecture. Furthermore, the staff helps out with every inquiry you might have. The LLM program helped with my career goals because not only did I improve my English, but I also learned a lot about Intellectual Property Law, which I deal with on a daily basis. Moreover, the program offered great opportunities to

network on both a personal and professional level. I met a lot of interesting people and made friends with students from all over the world. I am thankful for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.



ADMISSION

Admission to the LLM in Comparative Law program is competitive and based primarily upon previous excellence in law studies and/or significant professional experience. Admission criteria include the following:

- Applicants must possess the equivalent of a U.S. law degree from an accredited institution outside the United States
- Applicants must have graduated in the upper half of their law school class or must otherwise establish qualifications indicating their ability to complete graduate law work successfully
- Applicants must establish competency in English through successful completion of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

Candidates for the LLM in Comparative Law degree may complete the degree requirements in as little as one year as a full-time student, or may enroll on a part-time basis over a longer period, not exceeding three years. Enrollment status is subject to visa restrictions.

FINANCIAL AID AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The University of San Diego School of Law is committed to providing financial assistance to eligible citizens and eligible non-citizens whose personal resources are insufficient to meet the cost of law school. Admission decisions and financial aid decisions are made independently.

Merit scholarships may be awarded to full-time LLM applicants who have demonstrated a high degree of excellence in their previous legal education or in the practice of law. These partial-tuition, non-renewable, merit-based scholarships are available to both domestic and international candidates.

International applicants may also wish to consider external sources of funding, such as Fulbright, Rotary, or private scholarship programs. For more information about financial aid, go to law.sandiego.edu/financial_aid.



FACULTY

USD's law professors are nationally recognized legal scholars and dedicated classroom instructors. Their backgrounds as practicing lawyers, policymakers, and ardent legal educators provide the foundation for a robust learning experience, both inside and outside the classroom.

Many USD faculty members have national and international reputations for excellence in numerous areas of law including business and corporate law, intellectual property, public international law, environmental and energy law, criminal law, children's rights, and family law.

Most of our professors have taught and regularly are invited to lecture around the world. Several of our faculty are members of the prestigious American Law Institute.

Our faculty welcome and value the contributions of our international law graduates and attorneys for their unique backgrounds and diverse perspectives in the classroom.

For information about USD's faculty experience and scholarly publications, go to law.sandiego.edu/faculty.



Ruslan Kudabayev, Kazakhstan, 2009, Muskie Scholar

Associate, Baker & McKenzie, LLP

Let's be honest, there are many universities which offer a great education – but in the end it is up to you and your personality to make any educational experience truly great. For this reason, I believe that the key goals of the university are to provide its students with all necessary tools for studying and to create a professional and friendly environment. In my opinion, the University of San Diego successfully reaches both goals. I value every moment I spent at USD, where I grew up as a person and as a professional.



About the University of San Diego

Located on 180 acres overlooking the city of San Diego, Mission Bay, and the Pacific Ocean, the University of San Diego campus features Spanish Renaissance-inspired buildings and beautiful landscapes. In addition to the School of Law, the University of San Diego has highly regarded schools of business, leadership and education sciences, nursing and health sciences, and peace studies.

Academic Excellence — The university pursues academic excellence in its teaching, learning and research to serve the local, national and international communities.

Knowledge — The university advances intellectual development; promotes democratic and global citizenship; cultivates an appreciation for beauty, goodness and truth; and provides opportunities for the physical, spiritual, emotional, social and cultural development of students.

Community — The university is committed to creating a welcoming, inclusive and collaborative community accentuated by a spirit of freedom and charity, and marked by protection of the rights and dignity of the individual.

Ethical Conduct — The university provides a values based education that informs the development of ethical judgment and behavior.

Compassionate Service — The university embraces the Catholic moral and social tradition by its commitment to serve with compassion, to foster peace and to work for justice.

For more information, please contact:

University of San Diego School of Law
Graduate and International Programs
5998 Alcalá Park, Warren Hall 203
San Diego, CA 92110-2492 USA

p. 619-260-4596 e. llminfo@sandiego.edu w. law.sandiego.edu



University
of San Diego®

SCHOOL OF LAW
