

Keio University (Private) Law School

◆ Program name

Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Global Legal Practice/
Professional Degree Program

◆ Degrees:

Master of Laws (LL.M.)

Specialization certificate is available in:

- Business Law
- International Dispute Resolution
- Japanese Law
- Law and Development in Asia
- Intellectual Property Law

For more details and requirements, please see Features of the Program, IV Certificate for Specialization.



◆ Credit and years needed for graduation:

- Expected Full-time Period of Study: 2 years (for JDS program)

- Degree Requirements:

At least 30 course credits required for completion.

At least 4 credits in either category

(1) Global Business and Law, or

(2) Global Security and Law.

At least 4 credits in the Practical Training category (e.g. moot court, negotiation and arbitration seminars, internships, drafting and other practical training courses).

For more details, please see the links below.

•Key Points

<https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/keypoints.html>

•Course List

https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/course_list.html

◆ Address:

2-15-45 Mita, Minato-ku Tokyo 108-8345 Japan

Features of University <https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/>

Keio University was established in 1858 and has 10 undergraduate faculties, 14 graduate schools, over 30 research centers, a university hospital, and a university library boasting one of Japan's largest collections of books. Between its undergraduate faculties and graduate schools, Keio offers an extensive range of subjects, including numerous degree programs offered entirely in English. 3 undergraduate faculties and 9 of Keio's graduate schools offer degree programs in English. The Japanese Language Program also provides students with high quality Japanese language training and fosters students' affinity for, and specialist knowledge of, Japan. Many of the students use their experiences on the program towards successful international careers.

Features of Graduate School <https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/>

Keio University Law School (KLS), established in 2004 with the founding principles of "internationalism, multidisciplinary and pioneerism." Since 2004, KLS has come to occupy a position as one of Japan's top law schools. It has established a strong track record of "internationalism", with many non-Japanese adjunct and full-time research faculty members, and a curriculum that includes more than 50 courses conducted in English. In addition, the Law School accepts around 20 exchange students each year from partner law schools in America, Asia and Europe. With this background, it is preparing to undertake further training of legal professionals who can be active in many fields that have developed as a result of the globalized society.

I. Internationalism

Rapid globalization has globalized legal disputes and crime, and internationalized the work of legal professionals. In today's society, not only lawyers practicing in international business law but legal experts of all kinds need to be international in outlook. KLS aims to meet this need by offering a rich range of optional courses teaching the basics of law in the United States, Europe and Asia, and American law in particular is taught primarily by full-time international instructors with legal and educational experience in Japan. Based on a hands-on study of international business law, students are trained in the ability to solve legal issues that span national borders from an international perspective.

II. Developing an Interdisciplinary Outlook

With today's society changing at dizzying speed, new legal problems are arising all the time, and legal professionals must be able to keep pace with and deal with these problems as they arise. They must therefore be armed with the critical legal thinking skills to produce innovative solutions untrammelled by conventional wisdom, and this is where interdisciplinarity comes in. With its 10 undergraduate faculties and 14 graduate schools and 160-year history as a leader in the field of liberal arts education in Japan, Keio University is just the place for students to develop a balanced historical sense in an environment that provides ample opportunity for the study of neighboring subjects and experience of international exchange.

III. Varied Range of Advanced Optional Courses

The four fields increasingly in demand on the business frontline are corporate law, financial law, international business law and intellectual property law. KLS's curriculum is designed assuming that most graduates will go on to play central roles as legal practitioners in these fields. A rich choice of related optional courses centering on a core of four workshop programs is therefore provided. Taught by instructors who are themselves active as practitioners in these fields, students are given the opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of the functions of law in these fields through hands-on experience of legal practice, enabling them to acquire academic knowledge and skills that can be applied in the real world. This is of course not the only pioneering element of KLS's curriculum, which also consists of advanced courses on subjects such as administrative law, tax law, criminal law, labor law, social security law, environmental law and medical law.

IV. Support for International Students

KLS accepts international students from various universities. For example, during 2017 and 2022 we are receiving international students from leading law schools around the globe such as Cornell Law School (USA), University of Washington (USA), University of Illinois (USA), University of British Columbia (Canada), Georgetown University Law Center (USA), Universität Hamburg (Germany), Humboldt University (Germany), National Taiwan University (Taiwan), Université Libre de Bruxelles (Belgium), Technische Universität Dresden (Germany), The University of Melbourne (Australia), University of Southern California Gould School of Law (USA), Tsinghua University (China), UCLA Law School (USA), University of Auckland (New Zealand), Hanoi Law University (Vietnam), National University of Economics and Law in Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam), Pannasastra University (Cambodia), Thammasat University (Thailand), Chulalongkorn University (Thailand), University of Dhaka (Bangladesh), University of Rajshahi (Bangladesh), University of Chittagong (Bangladesh), University of Zurich (Switzerland), etc.

Faculty members in KLS provide a great deal of support and advice to help students to work on their study and to be effective professionals after they return to their countries. In addition, KLS has established an Advisory Board and intends to draw upon the professional and academic experience of its members for advice regarding KLS's academic programs of study and related matters.

According to the acceptance of foreign students, as term schedule in Japan differs from foreign countries, it is considered to secure the number of school days (for example, introduce a quarter term) for foreign students.

With an aim to encourage study life in Japan, KLS cooperates with Keio University International Center and provides necessary information for foreign students, including daily life information.

Some of the staffs who belong to KLS have long been engaged in legal assistance for Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Myanmar, Nepal, etc. They understand well the features of the laws in those countries and their current problems through the legal assistance activities such as participating in seminars in those countries, teaching at the study trip to Japan, TV meeting, etc. They recognize that the importance of the promotion of Access to Justice through strengthening the functions of judiciary. Thus they can adequately provide advices for various topics to strengthen the functions of judiciary including the reform of practices in court procedures, capacity building for legal professions such as judges, prosecutors, lawyers, the legal education in universities, etc. and comparative study with useful experiences of other Asian countries in the process of development in accordance with the needs of students so as to promote the Rule of Law.

Features of the Program

In 2017, within KLS, a new Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Global Legal Practice program (KLS LL.M.) was added, while retaining the current Juris Doctor (J.D.) program for prospective Japanese legal professionals. The new KLS LL.M. program permits many students to obtain an LL.M. degree in one year, taking instruction in English, and has been the first program of its kind at a Japanese law school.

At KLS, it is believed that students should learn from and teach each other. KLS LL.M. program is designed to be integrated with Keio's entire law school curriculum, and seeks to attract the right mix of top-level international and Japanese students. Most of our English language courses will be opened to both our LL.M. and our Japanese J.D. and international J.D.-level exchange students.

About KLS:

<https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/about/kls.html>

About KLS LL.M.:

<https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/>

I. Program

KLS LL.M. course will allow students to obtain master's degree. English will be the exclusive language of instruction and the program will allow students to obtain an LL.M., in principle, within a single year of instruction. KLS will actively accept foreign students who are international legal professional or who hold J.D. This approach will have synergistic effect in learning with Japanese legal professional at our campus and will lead to form a global network. KLS LL.M. program will target enrollment of approximately 30 students. With this small size class, you will not get lost in the crowd and can expect individualized attention as you will be helped achieve your goals. KLS LL.M. offers every student an opinion for individual research courses supervised by professors with specialties in areas of international businesses law, constitutional law, administrative law, civil law, law and development, public international law, environmental law, EU law, and intellectual property law, among others.

II. Professional Courses

KLS LL.M. Course offers professional courses created specifically to meet the requirements of rapidly changing society. The curriculum of each of these classes is designed to train students to become experts in global scale. KLS LL.M. Course provides various classes : Japanese Law and Asian Law in Global Practical Perspective, Global Business and Law, Global Security and Law, Innovations and Intellectual Property Law, Area Studies, Comparative Law, Current Legal Issues, Legal Research and Writing. For more information about classes, please visit,

https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/course_list.html

III. Practical Legal Education

The most important feature of KLS LL.M. is the emphasis on practical legal education. Not only legal researcher but also legal practitioner will teach courses in this program. Since KLS is located only minutes away from the heart of Japan's international business center, KLS professors are joined by world-class practitioners—including partners from Japan's largest law firms, attorneys, general counsel of major corporations and government lawyers such as prosecutors and antitrust enforcers—who come to the classroom as guest lecturers and adjunct instructors, bringing experience from headline-making dispute and deals. With these experienced professors, KLS LL.M. will provide professional and high level practical legal education courses such as: Negotiation, Arbitration, Drafting International Agreements, Drafting and Negotiation of M&A and JV Transactions and Moot Court. Also, KLS LL.M. arranges Internship programs in various fields in law firms, companies, NGOs. KLS offers the opportunity for students to earn a certificate demonstrating specialization in: Business Law, International Dispute Resolution, Japanese Law, Law and Development in Asia, and Intellectual Property Law.



Externship in Myanmar (2020, Yangon)

IV. Certificate for Specialization

Keio LL.M. program offers the opportunity for students to earn a certificate demonstrating specialization in

- Business Law,
- International Dispute Resolution,
- Japanese Law,
- Law and Development in Asia, and,
- Intellectual Property Law

Each certificate will require satisfactory completion of at least 10 credits in the relevant field, as well as 2-credit research paper. For the certificates in Business Law and International Dispute Resolution, at least one related 2-credit practical training class must be included. As the course requirements set forth a minimum only, and a certificate is intended to evidence a significant degree of focus and specialization, a student may apply for a certificate in only a single area of specialization.

About KLS LL.M courses: http://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/course_list.html

V. Double Degree and International Joint Program

Furthermore, double degree arrangements with partner universities around the globe will speed up the process. KLS entered into a formal double degree arrangement with the University of Washington School of Law. In 2019, KLS concluded a dual degree agreement with Hanoi Law University (Vietnam), and National University of Law and Economics in Ho Chi Minh (Vietnam), and in 2021, with Thammasat University (Thailand). Under these arrangements, students are able to apply credits from each school toward LL.M. degrees at both schools. Furthermore, KLS began a new program called the “Program for Asian Global Legal Professions (PAGLEP)” with its partner universities in Mekong region countries: Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand and Myanmar. KLS and its 6 partner universities provide joint study programs and exchange programs in Mekong region countries. It aims to turn out global legal professionals who are able to solve legal issues from a truly global perspective.

About Double Degree Program:

<https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/dd/uw.html>

About PAGLEP:

<http://keiglad.keio.ac.jp/en/paglep/>



Necessary Curriculum to Obtain the Degrees

*Please see the links below. JDS Fellows will be enrolled in the LL.M. program.

- LL.M. Program Overview: <https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/>
- Key Points: <https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/keypoints.html>
- Course List/Catalogue: https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/course_list.html
- Syllabus: <https://gslbs.keio.jp/pub-syllabus/search>
- Requirements & Admission: <https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/grad-admissions/masters/ls/>

List of faculty members capable of guiding JDS Fellows

Please refer to the links below for details.

- Faculty Members
<https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/faculty.html>
- Adjunct Teachers
<https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/kyouin/part.html>
- Advisory Board
https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/advisory_board.html

Academic Schedule

Academic Calendar:
https://www.ls.keio.ac.jp/en/llm/academic_calendar.html

Facilities

Dormitories

Students in the LL.M. program can apply for university housing (dorms), but the dorms are not subsidized by Keio and accordingly rent at roughly market housing rates. More information on the dorms is available at http://www.ic.keio.ac.jp/en/life/housing/ryu_boshu.html.

Please note that not every student will be accommodated at the Keio University dormitory housing since the number of rooms are limited.

Media Center (Library)

Media Center is open to all students. The center has one of the largest collections of books and journals in Japan. For more information, please see the website indicated below.
<https://www.lib.keio.ac.jp/en/mita/>

Health & Well-being

Keio University will ensure that its campuses are safe and that its students, faculty members, and staffs have access to facilities that keep them healthy and active. See below for information on disaster relief, medical care, and counseling services available at Keio.
<https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/student-life/health.html>

Message for Applicants

Following the Keio tradition, KLS is not simply a place where "teachers" teach "students," but is also a place where students teach professors and other students according to their unique background. It also has the setting where students, who will forever be part of the Keio community, first meet and play an important part in each other's growth and development as legal professionals. Furthermore, the Keio environment makes it possible for individual students to apply themselves to their own development in accordance with one of Keio's principles of

"Independence and Self-respect." This process continues after graduation, with past graduates serving as a network of support for their juniors and current students. It is strongly hoped to receive the next intake of ambitious students who will take their place alongside their predecessors in contributing not only to the national interests of their own, but also to the social justice and peace of the world.

KLS firmly believes that the international exchange program will form a critical part of your total educational experience. Students spending a semester or a full academic year at KLS are treated as members of the Keio community.

It is pleased to invite you to consider KLS as an excellent place to study as an international exchange student and to make lasting relationships with great teachers and students.



Online Class (June 2021)