

College of Law

كلية القانون
College of Law

جامعة حمد بن خليفة
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY



Prospectus
24/25

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Overview



Excellence

Recognition of Quality Through Achievements

Innovation

Leading Transformation

Partners

Success Through Synergy

People

Shaping Society

Innovating Today, Shaping Tomorrow

Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF), was founded in 2010 to continue fulfilling QF's vision of unlocking human potential. HBKU is a homegrown research and graduate studies university that acts as a catalyst for positive transformation in Qatar and the region while having a global impact.

Located within Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities where inquiry and discovery are integral to teaching and learning at all levels, utilizing a multidisciplinary approach across its focus areas.

The university provides an array of graduate programs through its College of Islamic Studies, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Science and Engineering, College of Law, College of Health and Life Sciences, and College of Public Policy.

HBKU is also home to three research institutes – Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI), and Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI) – which together with the colleges are at the forefront of efforts to seek novel solutions to grand challenges facing Qatar and the region.

Additionally, HBKU's Executive Education Center delivers customized programs for the business community in Qatar and the region.

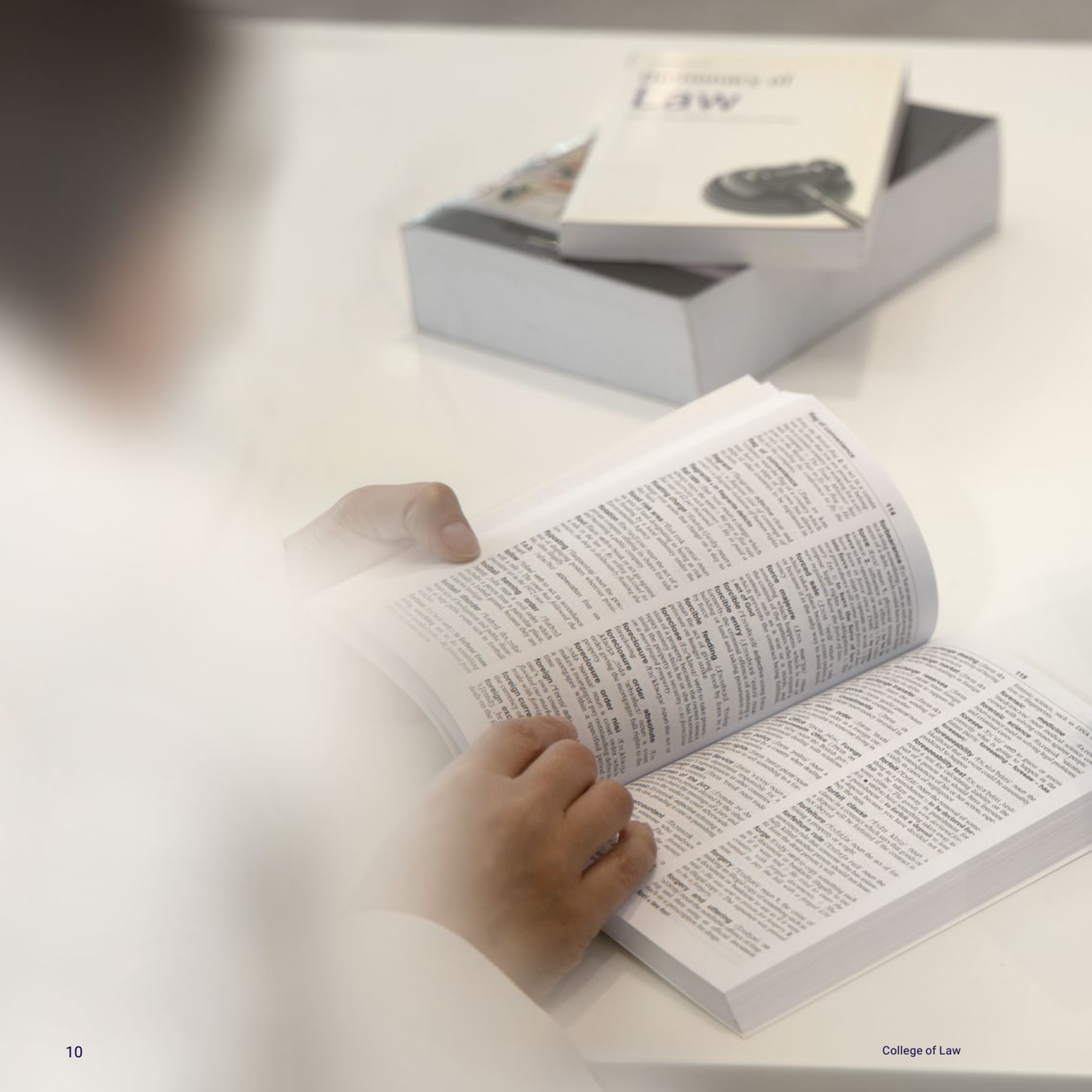
Why Study at HBKU?

At Hamad Bin Khalifa University, students join a vibrant community dedicated to excellence and innovation. We cultivate human capacity through enriching academic experiences, unique collaborations with partners, and interdisciplinary education for addressing global challenges.

HBKU offers students exposure to world-renowned faculty and industry leaders, equipping them with knowledge and skills to excel in their fields. Located in a regional hub, students gain diverse perspectives to contribute positively to their development and communities globally.

Moreover, HBKU thrives with an outstanding student-to-faculty ratio in Education City, a hub providing abundant opportunities for active participation in a dynamic multicultural setting. As an HBKU student, you can play a pivotal role in an institution dedicated to innovation and shaping the future.





Research

Research is the cornerstone of Hamad Bin Khalifa University's commitment to building human capacity through interdisciplinary education and innovation that support Qatar's journey towards sustainable growth. HBKU's interdisciplinary research and education environment is distinguished by a unique synergy among the colleges and research institutes.

The university's students, faculty, and researchers work within an ecosystem that addresses challenges of national priority and contributes to outcomes with a tangible impact on society. Collectively, they are achieving breakthroughs in the fields of biomedicine, genomics and precision medicine, information and communications technology, and sustainability, while advancing knowledge across the humanities, Islamic studies, law, and public policy.

At each of the six colleges, students work under the guidance of faculty to conduct research that results in tangible solutions and innovative outcomes.



About the College of Law





College Overview

Founded in 2015, HBKU's College of Law is a graduate-level law school located in Qatar Foundation's Education City. The College of Law offers four degrees: Juris Doctor (J.D.), Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Economic and Business Law, Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Law and Foreign Affairs, and Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)

HBKU's College of Law provides its students with professional legal skills to bolster the sectors vital to Qatar, the region, and the world. These sectors are many and include the most dynamic aspects of a society such as construction, courts, energy, environment, finance, healthcare, infrastructure, international investment and trade, media, sports, and technology (including intellectual property).

Four qualities distinguish learning at the College of Law:

- ▶ The curriculum balances theory with practical application. Each course integrates aspects from the profession, industry, government, and society sectors which the college is dedicated to serving.
- ▶ Courses have a strong international and comparative law focus. College of Law faculty members, who come from around the world, teach by using the disciplines needed to understand the three diverse legal systems—civil, common, and Shari'a—that inform Qatari law.

- ▶ Education occurs extensively outside of the classroom as students learn from leading legal academics from around the world, practicing lawyers, and government officials.
- ▶ Driving all aspects of the educational experience is the steady volume of high-level, societally relevant research produced by the faculty and students, which addresses contemporary problems in law and related disciplines.

College of Law students have abundant career prospects in Qatar and globally. The college encourages students to participate in internship programs and moot court competitions to gain professional experience. In addition to enabling students to gain substantive knowledge and develop their advocacy skills, these activities help students build long-lasting networks, all for their professional benefit.

Students

College of Law students have undergraduate and graduate degrees from around the world as well as diverse work experience.

Recent J.D. graduates have been admitted to outstanding LL.M. programs in the United States, Canada, and Europe, such as:

- ▶ Columbia Law School
- ▶ Duke University School of Law
- ▶ Georgetown University Law Center
- ▶ Harvard Law School
- ▶ New York University School of Law
- ▶ The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- ▶ University of Toronto Faculty of Law



Faculty

Faculty are graduates of the world's best universities:

Europe/United Kingdom:

- ▶ University of Athens
- ▶ University of Cambridge
- ▶ University of Glasgow
- ▶ University of Grenoble
- ▶ Heidelberg University
- ▶ University of Liverpool
- ▶ University of Oxford
- ▶ Kings College London
- ▶ The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- ▶ London School of Economics and Political Science

North America:

- US:
- ▶ Harvard Law School
 - ▶ University of Pennsylvania
 - ▶ University of Texas
 - ▶ University of Virginia
 - ▶ Yale Law School

Canada:

- ▶ University of Calgary

Asia

- ▶ The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Faculty have published in top academic presses:

- ▶ Cambridge University Press
- ▶ Edward Elgar Publishing
- ▶ Oxford University Press
- ▶ Routledge
- ▶ Springer Publishing Company

Faculty have served as advisors to:

- ▶ Council of Europe
- ▶ European Union
- ▶ Government of the People's Republic of China
- ▶ Federal Government of Nigeria
- ▶ International Development Law Organization
- ▶ Ministry of Public Health in Qatar
- ▶ Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council
- ▶ African Union
- ▶ The World Bank
- ▶ United Nations Development Programme
- ▶ United Nations Environment Programme



At a Glance

4 Programs

- ▶ Juris Doctor (J.D.)
- ▶ LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law
- ▶ LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs
- ▶ Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)

59

Students

80

Alumni

75

Nationalities
across HBKU

*Qatari students (54.23%)



Programs



Juris Doctor

The Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree is a unique model of graduate legal education designed to meet the needs of Qatar and the Middle East. The J.D. is the first-of-its-kind graduate law degree in the MENA region; courses are taught in English, preparing graduates to work locally as well as in the international legal market.

A J.D. targets individuals who already hold an undergraduate degree, which can be in any subject, including law. The J.D. education builds on the student's previous experience. Students may pursue expertise in law that is aligned with their previous degree or move in a completely different direction.

The College of Law's J.D. curriculum is consistent with the best offered internationally. The J.D. was created through a strategic partnership with Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. The program equips graduates with a high level of legal knowledge and complementary research, writing, and advocacy skills. The focus on skills training enables college graduates to make the most of a wide range of career options in the government, private corporations, law firms, international organizations, and academia.

A J.D. graduate was recently licensed to practice law in New York after completing the LL.M. degree at a US law school, and other graduates are pursuing licensing in

Qatar and Canada, subject to the requirements of those jurisdictions. Graduates are typically qualified to undertake further legal studies in the United States and other countries in Europe.

In short, our J.D. graduates rise to the top as they combine previous university education and training with three years of rigorous, interdisciplinary legal education.

Program Focus

▶ The first year and a half (Part I) of the program focuses on the foundations for lawyering, while the second year and a half (Part II) applies and elaborates on the legal principles from Part I to major sectors that are vital to Qatar and the region. The courses in Part I, foundations for lawyering, develop a student's understanding of legal doctrine in key subjects. They also develop analytical and reasoning skills so that the student can articulate the relevant principles and apply

them to real-world problems. Taught from a comparative perspective, the courses in Part I examine the different legal systems that converge in global legal practice with a focus on identifying common themes and points of departure. Part I also trains students on how to navigate systems, depending on the exigencies of the transnational transactions they will be required to manage during their professional careers.

- ▶ During Part II, students apply and further develop their foundational skills in sectors that are vital to Qatar and the region. These areas of law include construction, courts, energy, environment, finance, healthcare, infrastructure, international investment and trade, media, sports, and technology (including intellectual property).
- ▶ Accompanying a dynamic curriculum is an extensive offering of co-curricular activities, such as colloquia and Majlis, at which leading experts provide insights on contemporary legal topics. Additionally, student moot court competitions, in which students argue a simulated case before a court or arbitral tribunal, provide an important avenue for skill development. Through moot courts, students experience drafting memorials and engaging in oral arguments. The College of Law has fielded teams in top

international competitions, including the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, and the Europa Competition. In 2019, the College of Law hosted its first international moot, the Cybersecurity Moot Competition, featuring ten teams from around the world.

- ▶ **Graduates of this program will be equipped to:**
 - ▶ Exhibit comprehensive knowledge of the common, civil, and Shari'a legal traditions and how they apply to the practice of law within public, international, and private sectors.
 - ▶ Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of substantive and procedural issues of certain domestic systems and the international system.
 - ▶ Make use of legal doctrine to conduct comparative analysis of multiple systems and formulate reasoned analysis of contemporary legal issues.
 - ▶ Test research abilities to shape new policy in a comparative and international legal context.
 - ▶ Demonstrate effective communication skills and superior knowledge of professional responsibility issues and decisively identify the appropriate course of action in a given situation.

Juris Doctor (Continued)

Curriculum

Study Plan:

Year 1

Semester 1 (Fall)

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|----------------------|--|-----------|
| LAW 601 | Law and Global Legal Systems | 2 |
| LAW 652 | Injury Law/Torts | 4 |
| LAW 651 | Contract Law | 4 |
| LAW 650 | Property Law | 4 |
| LAW 667 | Legal Analysis, Research and Writing I | 2 |
| Total Credits | | 16 |

Semester 2 (Spring)

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| LAW 653 | Constitutional Law | 4 |
| LAW 654 | International Law | 4 |
| LAW 655 | Business Associations | 4 |
| LAW 668 | Legal Analysis, Research and Writing II | 2 |
| Total Credits | | 14 |

Year 2

Semester 1 (Fall)

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| LAW 665 | Administrative Law | 4 |
| LAW 659 | Commercial Law | 4 |
| LAW 666 | Criminal Law and Procedure | 4 |
| LAW 669 | Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research III | 2 |
| Total Credits | | 14 |

Semester 2 (Spring)

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| LAW 658 | Civil Procedure | 2 |
| LAW 678 | Dispute Resolution (Negotiation and Trial Advocacy) | 3 |
| LAW 675 | Ethics and Professional Responsibility | 2 |
| LAW 676 | Introduction to the Legal Foundations of the Global Economy (International Business Transactions, International Investment Law, and International Taxation) | 3 |
| LAW 679 | Entrepreneurship Law | 4 |
| Total Credits | | 14 |

Year 3

Semester 1 (Fall)

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|----------------------|---|-----------|
| LAW 752 | Construction and Infrastructure Development | 3 |
| LAW 750 | Energy Law | 3 |
| LAW 753 | Healthcare Law | 3 |
| LAW 760/765 | Sports Law, or Media and Cultural Law | 3 |
| LAW 763 | Law, Technology and Intellectual Property I | 2 |
| Total Credits | | 14 |

Semester 2 (Spring)

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|----------------------|--|-----------|
| LAW 756 | Advanced Dispute Resolution | 3 |
| LAW 751 | Global Economic Law and Governance | 3 |
| LAW 754 | Advanced Human Rights | 3 |
| LAW 757 | Environmental Law | 3 |
| LAW 764 | Law, Technology and Intellectual Property II | 1 |
| Total Credits | | 13 |

Total Degree Credits: 85

Additional Offerings

| Code | Course Name | Credits |
|---------|-------------------|---------|
| LAW 706 | Independent Study | 2 |
| LAW 701 | Law Seminar | 1 |

LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law

The LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law is a one-year program designed for recent or established university graduates in law. It is ideal for lawyers working or aspiring to work in international business, private practice, academia, government, and the judiciary.

The world's major commercial hubs, including Doha, rely on individuals equipped with legal and business tools to sustain and grow international trade and investment. Critical to this reliance is a culture based on the law. Understanding relevant legal principles, and how they apply to a myriad of existing and new situations, is key to the success of anyone working in this dynamic area.

The program examines a wide range of issues relating to international business and does so in an innovative, comparative manner, enabling students to develop analytical and problem-solving skills while gaining substantive knowledge.

Program Focus

- ▶ The program provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of critical substantive areas relevant to the role of the lawyer in a global

context. This focus is fitting given HBKU's location in Qatar – one of the world's most prosperous economies with vibrant and fast-growing business, energy, financial, construction, aviation, maritime, media, sports, healthcare, and tourism sectors.

- ▶ Students gain expertise relevant to the structure of international business transactions, entrepreneurship, e-commerce, financing, risk management, international trade law, international investment law, international banking and finance, intellectual property law, international environmental law, and the resolution of disputes in these and other areas.
- ▶ **Graduates of this program will be able to:**
 - ▶ Apply advanced knowledge and methodological skills to undertake research in the field of international economic and business law.



- ▶ Develop research and innovative solutions to complex international business and economic law issues.
- ▶ Analyze the social and policy impact of international economic and business law.
- ▶ Communicate themes and ideas in the fields of international economic and business law effectively.
- ▶ Demonstrate the ability to integrate professional legal ethics into the practice of international economic and business law.

Curriculum

Coursework is divided into mandatory core courses and electives. The program consists of 32 credits, including 26 credits for core courses and six credits for a thesis that must be completed within 12 months, and no more than 18 months, after course commencement.

The curriculum comprises foundational courses such as Contract Law, Research Methods in Law, and Global Legal Ethics and Entrepreneurship Law, which address principles needed to practice law in multiple convergent legal systems.

The curriculum also includes courses and seminars in transnational law, with modules on infrastructure development, international arbitration, global economic law and governance, energy law, commercial law, advanced dispute resolution, and others. These innovative courses are comparative and built on common law, civil law, and Shari'a traditions.

The thesis is the cornerstone of the LL.M. program. Students, in consultation with a faculty advisor, write a thesis on a policy sector of their choice with the aim of analyzing the current legal framework, putting forward reasons for reform by using the skills developed in the methodological courses, and making a policy proposal for legislative or regulatory reform.

Other integral features of the LL.M. program are professional skills training sessions, internships, and placements that focus on such skills as contract drafting, trial advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and effective negotiation and presentation techniques.

LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs

The LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs is a one-year program that offers world-class academic and professional training in international law and foreign policy decision-making on pressing global challenges facing today's world. Owing to its unique position in terms of culture, business, and geopolitics, Qatar is at the heart of a region that requires leaders who can manage multifaceted relationships that span different legal systems.

The specialized LL.M. program is ideal for lawyers and certain non-lawyers who wish to immerse themselves in the intricacies of international regulation in the fields of sustainable development, energy and environment, infrastructure development, healthcare, human rights, new technologies, anti-corruption, and the global economy, as well as the resolution of disputes in these and related areas.

Program Focus

- ▶ The program provides an ideal learning opportunity for lawyers, academics, members of the judiciary, and non-lawyers in the fields of international relations, political science, economics, and other fields related to global affairs and governance.
- ▶ Courses combine legal studies with public policy analysis relevant to all aspects of international relations.

▶ Graduates of this program will be equipped to:

- ▶ Apply advanced knowledge and methodological skills to undertake research in the field of public international law and foreign affairs.
- ▶ Develop research and innovative solutions to complex international legal and foreign affairs issues.
- ▶ Analyze the social and policy impact of international law.
- ▶ Communicate themes and ideas in the fields of public international law and foreign affairs.
- ▶ Demonstrate the ability to integrate professional legal ethics in the practice of international law and foreign affairs.



Curriculum

Coursework is divided into mandatory core courses and electives. The program consists of 32 credits, including 26 credits for core courses and six credits for a thesis that must be completed within 12 months, and no more than 18 months, after course commencement.

The LL.M. curriculum comprises foundational courses, such as International Law, Administrative Law, Research Methods in Law, Advanced Human Rights, and Introduction to International Law and Foreign Affairs, and Global Legal Ethics, which unpack the nature of international law and core principles of foreign policy decision-making in an increasingly turbulent world. They also provide the opportunity for students to reflect on the intricacies of diplomatic work, including the qualities and skills required for a career in international affairs in the 21st century.

The curriculum also includes intensive courses and seminars on international law and global governance that are comparative and built on common law, civil law, and Shari'a traditions. The thesis is the cornerstone of the LL.M. program. In consultation with a faculty advisor, students write a thesis on a policy sector of their choice with the aim of analyzing the current legal framework, putting forward reasons for reform by using the skills developed in the methodological courses and making a policy proposal for legislative or regulatory reform.

Other integral features of the LL.M. program are professional skills training sessions, internships and placements that focus on such skills as contract drafting, trial advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and effective negotiation and presentation techniques.

Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)

The Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) is the College of Law's most advanced degree. The program is one of the first full-fledged research-intensive doctorate degrees in the MENA region and one of the few of its kind outside of the United States. Dedicated to scholarship and teaching, the program aspires to create a vibrant community of legal scholars, who will assume teaching positions in universities and government positions at institutions in Qatar, the MENA region, and beyond.

The S.J.D. degree is designed to facilitate the relationship with the "real world" through world class innovative seminars and courses that will prepare students to apply legal knowledge in multiple convergent legal systems. Research production in the S.J.D. program, as well as its interdisciplinary nature, allows for creative and problem-based approaches that can have societal or policy impact.

The key strengths of the S.J.D. program are its flexibility to accommodate students wishing to conduct interdisciplinary research in a variety of areas, its focus on high-quality academic research, and the integration of the program with all other existing College of Law degree programs.

Program Focus

- ▶ The program focuses on research methodology and legal ethics in a globalized world.
- ▶ The S.J.D. degree provides students the freedom to apply highly analytical, interdisciplinary, and comparative research approaches that address important and relevant issues of the day.
- ▶ **Graduates of this program will be equipped to:**
 - ▶ Master theoretical and methodological aspects of law and legal scholarship.
 - ▶ Demonstrate the ability to independently conduct original research and formulate reasoned arguments on their topic and related legal issues.
 - ▶ Develop a dissertation of publishable quality that makes a substantial and original contribution to legal scholarship.
 - ▶ Demonstrate effective communication skills, as well as the ability to teach and explain the law.

- ▶ Demonstrate the ability to independently choose ethical courses of action in legal research and practice.

Curriculum

The S.J.D. should be completed in 3.5 years after commencement. In the first year, candidates have a reduced course load to enable them to develop the necessary skills and competencies to undertake doctoral research. Candidates are required to take a course on Advanced Research Methods in Law and a course on Advanced Global Legal Ethics. They may also be required to take additional research methods courses.

S.J.D. candidates participate in the S.J.D. Colloquium, which provides them with fundamental knowledge of the practical and professional aspects of doctoral studies. In addition to receiving

feedback on their doctoral research, students engage in meaningful and constructive scholarly exchanges about publishing, grant writing, and conference presentations, as well as career paths in academia and private, public, and international spheres.

Dissertation

Students are required to complete a dissertation that makes a substantial and original contribution to legal scholarship. Publication of S.J.D. candidates' work is a requirement for graduation.

Residence

The minimum residence requirement for the S.J.D. program is four semesters of full-time supervised research at the College of Law.



Admissions



Admission Requirements

J.D.

Bachelor's degree from a recognized university with a minimum 3.0 GPA (out of 4).

LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law

Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree or Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from a recognized university with a minimum 3.0 GPA (out of 4), with a preference given to candidates with at least a 3.3 GPA (out of 4).

LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs

Bachelor's degree from a recognized university with a minimum 3.0 GPA (out of 4) in any of the following areas: Law, International Relations, Political Science, History, Economics, Business and Finance, Sociology or Anthropology. A strong preference is given to candidates with at least a 3.3 GPA (out of 4) in Law, International Relations, Political Science, or Economics.

S.J.D.

J.D. or LL.M. degree, preferably from HBKU's College of Law. Exceptional candidates from other universities may also be considered. Candidates with an LL.B. degree from a recognized university require the LL.M. degree, preferably from the College of Law, or in exceptional cases from a recognized university. Candidates should have at least a 3.0 GPA (out of 4) in their previous law degree with a strong preference for candidates with a 3.3 GPA (out of 4).

English Language Requirements

Unless exempt, all applicants for any degree program are required to submit a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL score of 79. Please visit admissions.hbku.edu.qa for more details on the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption, when applicable.



Application Requirements

Application

A completed online application form

admissions.hbku.edu.qa

Academic transcripts

Official electronic copies of transcripts should be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system. For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied with an official translation. Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

Standardized test results

Official copies (where required) must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:

- ▶ TOEFL: 4981
- ▶ IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University

Applicants should also submit copies of their test scores with the online application.

Letters of recommendation

Applicants should submit two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from an academic referee.

Please visit admissions.hbku.edu.qa for further information about the submission process.



Personal statement of interest

The personal statement should introduce the applicant to the Admissions Committee. Topics that may be discussed include personal or professional goals and personal, academic, or career history.

The Committee looks beyond test scores and grade point averages in making selection decisions. The personal statement gives the Committee a means to consider a variety of factors in assessing applicants.

Research Proposal

Along with their application, LL.M. and S.J.D. applicants are required to submit a research proposal (1,000 words) that illustrates their readiness to explore a particular research question.

Resume/Curriculum vitae

Applicants are required to submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application.

Identification document

Applicants are required to submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.

Tuition and Student Funding

The College of Law provides a limited number of tuition waivers on a competitive basis.

| Program | Total Program Tuition Fees | Tuition Fees per Credit Hour | Total Program Credit Hours | Program Duration |
|---|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| Juris Doctor (J.D.) | QAR 164,250 | QAR 1,932 | 85 | 3 years |
| Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) | QAR 162,000 | NA | 60 | 3.5 years |
| LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs | QAR 54,750 | QAR 1,711 | 32 | 1 year |
| LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law | QAR 54,750 | QAR 1,711 | 32 | 1 year |



Contact Information

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