Faculty of Law

For more information

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Course participants gather to celebrate spring.

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MASTER PROGRAMME (ONE YEAR) INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION LAW









Stockholm – a leader in international arbitration

Stockholm is internationally recognized as a leader in the field of arbitration, known for hosting numerous arbitrations and as the home to one of the most active and respected arbitration institutes, the Arbitration Institute of the Stockholm Chamber of Commerce. The Department of Law at Stockholm University offers extensive postgraduate programmes and supports specialised institutes that attract students from around the world. These elements make Stockholm a natural place to engage in an intellectually vigorous study of both the theory and practice of international commercial arbitration.

A hands-on and dynamic learning approach

Stockholm University has developed a unique programme in International Commercial Arbitration Law. Led by Dr. Patricia Shaughnessy, the programme uses a variety of teaching formats, emphasises student participation in the learning process, and provides opportunities for students to apply theory in simulated arbitration exercises. Students from a broad range of backgrounds participate in a dynamic learning experience where the multifaceted aspects of arbitration are considered from a range of comparative perspectives and always with an inquiring mind and a hands-on, problem-solving approach.

Students in the programme undertake an intensive study of international commercial arbitration and participate in lectures by leading practitioners, judges and arbitrators, who are internationally recognized in the field. The interactive and dynamic learning approach also takes students out of the classroom. Participants attend seminars at international and local law firms, take part in international arbitration conferences, and visit some of the courts and arbitral institutes that support the international arbitration framework.

In addition, participating in the programme gives students the opportunity to put theory into practice. Participants complete a mock arbitration, following an international dispute from beginning to end by filing a Request for Arbitration and other written submissions, collecting evidence and interviewing witnesses, holding hearings, and issuing a final award. Students also hone legal research and writing skills by producing a master thesis on a topic in international arbitration. Thesis writing seminars enable students to cultivate skills as scholars and focus on developing a research project, crafting a thesis proposal, and writing effectively and clearly. Many students use the thesis as a springboard to pursue academic careers or choose to ultimately publish the thesis.

Engagement in the international community

In addition to attending seminars and conferences with international arbitration specialists, students also have the opportunity to engage in the international community by participating in international moot competitions. Each year students in the International Commercial Arbitration Law master programme represent the university at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna, the Investment Arbitration Moot in Frankfurt, and the ICC International Commercial Mediation Competition in Paris. The Stockholm University teams consistently excel in these competitions, advancing to the final rounds and winning awards for written submissions and oral presentations.

Preparation for an international career

This year marks the ninth year of the International Commercial Arbitration Law programme at Stockholm University. Alumnae from the programme work all over the world in a broad range of legal fields, serving as counsel in leading law firms and arbitral institutions, as government advisors, as researchers and Ph.D candidates, as lecturers and professors, as secretaries to arbitral tribunals and as in-house counsel. International events put current and former students in touch around the world, enabling participants to connect with the strong and collegial alumnae network the programme fosters.

Admission Requirements

The International Commercial Arbitration Law programme seeks to bring together a diverse group of accomplished students that are highly motivated to join the international arbitration community. Each year, participants come from all over the world with a variety of backgrounds from legal, business, and academic sectors.

The program is highly competitive and receives hundreds of applicants each year for the approximately twenty-five places. Applicants are assessed on past academic, extra-curricular, and professional experiences.