Peking University

School of Transnational Law

Master of Laws(LL.M.) Program Overview
Program Overview

STL’s LL.M. Program

Peking University School of Transnational Law (“STL”) is unique in China and unique in the world. STL’s LL.M. program is rich in courses emphasizing transnational law and practice, Chinese law and legal traditions, and other cutting-edge courses designed to equip STL graduates of all nationalities for leadership in the 21st century. LL.M. graduates will emerge from their the program as lawyers uniquely equipped for leadership in today’s interconnected world, with deep knowledge and understanding of Chinese and Western law and legal traditions and with the practical skills necessary for cross-cultural success. LL.M. graduates from PKU STL will go on to distinguished careers in private sector, public sector, public interest legal work, and legal academia around the world.

Peking University

Peking University (“PKU”) is one of the most distinguished research universities in the world. The Times of Higher Education has named PKU the number 1 university in China, the number 1 university in all BRICs nations, the number 4 university in all of Asia, and the 46th most academically renowned university in the world.

Students, Faculty and Careers

Leading students from around the world compete for admission to STL. The law school’s multinational faculty includes world-renowned scholars and practitioners from China, the U.S., the E.U., and elsewhere. STL graduates are highly sought after for positions with leading multinational law firms and corporations, leading Chinese law firms and corporations, major SOEs, and leading international NGOs.

Cutting-Edge Curriculum

STL’s curricula emphasize lawyering skills and knowledge for the 21st century: (i) transnational law and practice, (ii) cross-cultural competence, and (iii) the professional responsibilities of lawyers in these contexts. No law school anywhere better equips graduates for private sector, public sector, or public interest legal work related to China, the United States, the United Kingdom, or British Commonwealth nations.
Global Leaders

STL graduates will be uniquely equipped for leadership in today’s inter-connected world, with deep knowledge and understanding of Chinese and Western law and legal traditions and with the practical skills necessary for cross-cultural and transborder success.

Shenzhen—A Dynamic City

STL is located in the Southern city of Shenzhen. A fast-growing metropolis of 12 million people, Shenzhen has been on a steady rise since it was established as China’s first Special Economic Zone in 1979. Now, Shenzhen is not only a major hub of China’s most populous province, Guangdong, but also a market leader within all of China and a unique area where the world’s great legal systems merge and influence transborder conduct. The city is a lodestar for biotechnology, logistics, and new energy industries, and top companies such as Huawei and Tencent are based here. On the world stage, Shenzhen has made its mark as well; in 2008, it was named UNESCO City of Design, and in 2011, it hosted the 26th Summer Universiade.

Geographically and economically, Shenzhen is also closely integrated with Hong Kong, with which it shares a border. Extensive public transportation options link the two cities—from downtown, one may visit Hong Kong via bus, metro, and ferry. With a combined GDP of more than $650 billion, the Shenzhen-Hong Kong region is one of the largest metropolitan areas in the world.

Program Structure

Like the LL.M. programs offered by the best U.S. law schools, PKU STL’s LL.M. program for foreign students will consist of one year of full-time study. The curriculum will be designed to emphasize skills and knowledge for the 21st Century: (i) transnational law and practice; (ii) cross-cultural competence; and (3) the professional responsibilities of lawyers in these contexts. Specialized offerings in Chinese legal history and law will enable students to acquire a deep understanding of the cultural traditions and modern developments of China today.

LL.M. graduates will emerge from the program as lawyers uniquely equipped for leadership in today’s inter-connected world, with deep knowledge and understanding of Chinese and Western law and legal traditions and with the practical skills necessary for cross-cultural success. The curriculum is the most diverse and extensive English-language coursework in China with more than 60 English-language courses covering a wide range of subjects, from international and comparative law to American law to
Chinese law; courses cover complex transnational business transactions and dispute resolution, and as well as China law, legal system and legal history. LL.M. graduates from PKU STL will go on to distinguished careers in private sector, public sector, public interest legal work, and legal academia around the world.

To earn the LL.M. degree, candidates must:

(i) have been in residence for at least three full academic quarters;
(ii) earn a minimum of 36 credits (approximately 12 courses);
(iii) complete a thesis or substantial research paper under faculty supervision on a topic of their choice, pass the thesis defense and;
(iv) have completed their studies with a minimum grade point average of 80 or better.

How to Apply

Applicants ordinarily should have a first degree in law (e.g., J.D., J.M., or LL.B.) or otherwise be licensed to practice law in their home jurisdiction. We also accept applications from students currently enrolled in a first degree program in law who wish to earn credits toward STL’s LL.M. degree simultaneously. For example, U.S. law students are eligible to transfer a certain number of credits earned abroad toward their J.D. degrees; credits earned in STL’s LL.M. program accordingly might be eligible to apply simultaneously toward both the U.S. J.D. and STL’s LL.M.

Applicants whose first language is not English or who did not have a postsecondary education entirely conducted in the English language must must provide evidence of English proficiency. The Program requires a minimum score of 92 in TOEFL IBT, or 6.5 in IELTS with 7.0 in IELTS writing.

Application Procedures

1. Please apply by submitting your complete application via email by April 15, 2015. Email your application materials to the following address: LLM@stl.pku.edu.cn.
2. After electronically submitting your application, please print out the completed form and send it by mail to our campus along with the supporting documents listed below.
Application Checklist

Applicants must submit the materials listed below. Applications will only be reviewed after all materials are received. All documents should be written in English. If the documents are not in English, they must be accompanied by a notarized English translation.

1. Peking University School of Transnational Law Application Form.
2. Personal statement: Submit a personal statement explaining the reasons you are pursuing an LL.M. degree and how the degree will help you advance your plans and goals. (700 to 1000 words)
3. Academic Records: Official transcripts from all undergraduate and graduate institutions, and official degree certificates (original or notarized documents with English translations if documents are not in English).
4. Resume or Curriculum Vitae
5. Letters of Recommendation: At least two signed letters of recommendation from professors, employers, or others familiar with your academic and professional qualifications. (original)
6. Proof of English Competency: One photocopy of results of TOEFL or IELTS examination (unless you are a native English speaker or you have a degree from a postsecondary institution entirely conducted in the English language).
7. Copy of passport, or identification card.

Please note: all the Application Materials must be received before the April 15, 2015 deadline.

Application Fee

Amount: 800 RMB.
Please note that the application fee is waived for the inaugural LL.M. class that begins in August, 2015.

Applicants should send the application package to:

Admissions for Master of Laws, Room B103
Peking University School of Transnational Law
University Town, Nanshan District Shenzhen 518055, China

Deadline for Application

The deadline for application is April 15, 2015. All application materials should reach the program office before the deadline.
Admission Decisions

The Admissions Committee will make decisions according to the applicants’ materials after approved by Peking University. Official admission letter will be sent out by June, 2015.

Accommodations and Services

Most international students choose to live on our beautiful campus and to enjoy the community, dining, and sports opportunities as well as the close proximity to the law school building. Single and double rooms are available on campus. Students may also choose to live off campus.

Tuition and Costs

The tuition fee for the STL LL.M. program is 176,000 RMB. STL is committed to making the program accessible for qualified candidates and there are a limited number of international fellowships available. Applicants are also encouraged to consider scholarships for which they are qualified.

Scholarships

STL is committed to making the program accessible for qualified candidates and there are a limited number of international fellowships available. Applicants are also encouraged to consider scholarships for which they are qualified.

Contact Us

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