this is U of T Law

GRADUATE ADMISSIONS GUIDE

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF LAW
imagine
your path
to success.
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Welcome to the University of Toronto Faculty of Law Graduate Program!

With more than 60 full-time faculty members and a host of distinguished visiting professors, the graduate program at the U of T Faculty of Law is able to draw on a rich array of intellectual resources. U of T law professors enjoy an international reputation for research and teaching excellence in areas ranging across aboriginal law, health law and policy, Islamic law, law and development, law and economics, law and philosophy, law and technology, public law and human rights.

Our graduate program offers an unparalleled learning environment. We have a truly committed faculty, who are not only excited to advance the educational mission of the law school, but also to incorporate their scholarship into their teaching. And learning goes beyond the classroom, as students will find a vibrant intellectual environment in numerous workshops, conferences and lectures, often bringing renowned scholars from all over the world to interact with faculty and students.

Each year we seek to admit an outstanding group of applicants to join this remarkably diverse and collegial community. Our graduate students come from across Canada, as well as from Africa, Asia, Europe, the Middle East, South America, and the South Pacific, and from a wide variety of backgrounds, age, experiences, and aspirations.

The relatively small size of our Graduate Program (approximately 60 LLMs and 10 SJDs), affords unique opportunities for the exchange of ideas among students, and between students and faculty. It also helps to foster a sense of community among the students, faculty and staff. Our school is institutionally committed to intellectual openness, collegiality, and reason, and students are constantly challenged by new ideas and experiences.

Whether you are interested in advocating for international human rights, promoting development in Latin America, working at a major law firm in New York City, or becoming a law professor in Canada, you should come to U of T Law. Our graduate degrees will provide you with the background and skills necessary to excel in whichever exciting careers you chose to pursue.

I look forward to welcoming you to our community.

MARIANA MOTA PRADO
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & ASSOCIATE DEAN
(GRADUATE PROGRAM)
become part of a community with an international reputation for excellence.

Learn from world-renowned faculty in an incredible new facility
Engage in an intimate learning experience in Canada’s largest city
Join a diverse student body that ranks among the strongest in North America
seek what’s possible in the heart of Toronto.

SUIT YOUR STYLE
Our students’ favourite local neighbourhoods—Yorkville, Kensington and Queen West—are all within easy walking distance of our campus.
SAMPLE THE WORLD
Toronto is known for its 140 distinctive neighbourhoods. Grab an espresso in Little Italy, go shopping in Little India and take in a Peking Opera in Chinatown.

MOVE WITH EASE
The Faculty of Law is just steps away from Museum Station where you can hop on the subway to get around this great city in just minutes.

CONNECT WITH EXPERTS
Our city is home to more than 3,000 law firms. You’ll be next door to the provincial legislature, the Superior Court of Justice, and the Ontario Court of Appeal.

SEE, HEAR, TASTE
Attend many of the 1,000+ festivals in the city, check out the vibrant arts, culture and entertainment scene and discover your inner foodie. With a population smaller than New York City but larger than Chicago, Toronto has it all.
DAVID DYZENHAUS

My experience as Associate Dean of the Graduate Program at U of T was enriched immeasurably by the quality of graduate students who come to our school to study each year. The mixture of excellent students from Canada and abroad, united by the desire to do work at the graduate level but with such diverse accomplishments, interests and backgrounds, makes for a tremendously stimulating academic environment.

JUTTA BRUNNEE

I truly enjoyed my time as Associate Dean of the Graduate Program. It is a role through which one gets to know and mentor an incredibly talented group of people. Our graduate students come from around the world and their experiences and perspectives help make our program so vibrant. It is tremendously rewarding to see our LL.M. students go on to exciting new opportunities in Canada and across the globe, and our doctoral students become fellow law teachers and scholars.

BUSINESS LAW CONCENTRATION
PROFESSOR ANITA ANAND

Our Faculty are global leaders and experts in the many components of business law, including securities, corporations, secured transactions, corporate tax and competition law, to name a few. Our expertise and commitment to students ensure that LL.M students who come here for the Business Law Concentration receive a top-notch legal education that is embedded in both the academic discipline and the policy implications of our research.
HEALTH LAW CONCENTRATION
PROFESSOR TRUDO LEMMENS

There has been an explosion of interest in the study of the interconnections between law and health, and our university is a perfect place for interdisciplinary studies in this area, with some of the world’s leading health research institutes, strong programs in global health and global relations, a vibrant Joint Centre for Bioethics, and good connections with health care decision makers. Those interested in the intersection of health, human rights, and bioethics will find particular strengths in this area at our university.

CRIMINAL LAW CONCENTRATION
PROFESSOR MARTHA SHAFFER

The Criminal Law LLM allows students to work with faculty with a wide range of interests and expertise, including antiterrorism legislation, criminal law theory, theories of punishment, criminal procedure, criminal evidence, feminist approaches to criminal law and violence against women. Prominent defence and Crown counsel serve as adjunct faculty and provide students with a knowledge of criminal law practice that complements the academic strength of our full time faculty.

LEGAL THEORY CONCENTRATION
PROFESSOR ERNEST WEINRIB

Theoretical reflection about law involves the fusion of theory and practice. This is the approach that guides the work of the large community of legal theorists at the Faculty of Law. Their writings have established the University of Toronto as one of the world’s great centers for legal philosophy. Students interested in legal theory will find themselves studying with legal theorists who are internationally regarded as leaders in their fields and who work at the cutting edge of interdisciplinary scholarship in law and philosophy.
BUILD YOUR LEGACY

As a graduate student of the SJD program, and former Dean of the Faculty, I can tell you that the U of T Faculty of Law offers an interesting and broad range of courses, which are enriched by workshops, colloquia and intensive courses taught by distinguished visiting professors. This creates an exciting intellectual atmosphere with first-class international scholars.


APPLY TO THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Faculty of Law offers three graduate degrees: the Master of Laws (LLM); the Master of Studies in Law (MSL); and the Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD). Through these degrees, we aim at training the next generation of leaders in academia, private practice, government, and non-profit and non-governmental organizations worldwide.
THE MASTER OF LAWS (LLM) PROGRAM
The Master of Laws (LLM) is a one-year graduate law degree for students interested in continuing their study of the law beyond their first law degree. It provides an opportunity to explore legal issues in greater depth and breadth in a rewarding academic environment.

The full-time LLM is designed as a 12 month program commencing in September. When applying to the LLM program, you can chose between two different streams:

The Thesis Intensive LLM: a strong emphasis on a thesis (short or long) with less coursework; or
The Coursework Intensive LLM: an emphasis on coursework

THE MASTERS OF STUDIES IN LAW (MSL) PROGRAM
The Master of Studies in Law is a very small program designed for established academics and scholars who work and write in a discipline related to law, and who wish to acquire a knowledge of law in order to add a legal dimension to scholarship in their own discipline.

Applicants should hold a doctorate from a recognized university, and should have demonstrated a high level of scholarship in a discipline related to law. Applicants often undertake this degree while on leave from their academic appointments.

THE DOCTOR OF JURIDICAL SCIENCE (SJD) PROGRAM
The doctoral program at the U of T Faculty of Law provides an opportunity for outstanding law graduates to pursue original academic research at the highest level. It is becoming increasingly common for Canadian and international law schools to hire doctoral graduates as law faculty. Research on the education of Canada’s law professors reveals that the University of Toronto’s graduate school is the leading institution from which Canadian law professors earned their highest graduate degree.

GENERAL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
To be admitted to any of our programs, we require a minimum B+ average on the final one year of a previous Law degree (or masters/double degree for the MSL program).

Students who studied in a language other than English must complete a TOEFL or IELTS test with the following minimum score:

TOEFL – Minimum 100 overall with at least 24 in each component
IELTS – Minimum 7.5 overall with at least 7 in each component

HOW TO APPLY
For full details on our admission policies, requirements and applications procedures, visit www.law.utoronto.ca/admissions/graduate-admissions. Still have questions about how to prepare your application? Our Associate Deans provide valuable tips to prepare an outstanding application. Check it out at http://youtu.be/R-fFc8jUlF4
JOIN IN, EVERYONE IS WELCOME

What truly engages you? Culture, recreation, politics, media, performance, social issues, professional development or academic debates? Explore your passion and discover new interests by getting involved in the huge range of student clubs and activities that reflect the diversity and strength of our student body.

40+ STUDENT CLUBS

Our student clubs host prominent speakers, put on plays, tackle social issues, and hold events that connect with the community. Our clubs have included:

- Aboriginal Law Student Association
- Alternative Dispute Resolution Club
- Afghan-Iranian Law Student Association
- Artists Legal Advice Services
- Asia Law Society
- Business Law Society
- Black Law Students Association
- Board Games Club
- Career Development Student Advisory Committee
- China Law Project
- Environmental Law Club
- University of Toronto Faculty of Law Review
- Feminist Law Students Association
- Health and Wellness Student Advisory Committee
- Health Law Club
- Indigenous Law Journal
- International Law Students Association
- Intramural Sports
- Jewish Law Students Association
- JD/MBA Students’ Association
- Journal of International Law and International Relations
- Journal of Law and Equity
- Law and Politics Club
- Law Follies
- Law Games
- Litigation Association
- Muslim Law Students Association
- Natural Resources Law Club
- Out in Law
- Peer Mentorship Program
- South Asian Law Students Association
- Spin Law
- Sports and Entertainment Law Society
- Student Animal Legal Defence
- Tax Law Society
- Technology and Intellectual Property Society
- Ultra Vires Student Newspaper
- University of Toronto Faculty of Law Conservatives
- University of Toronto Faculty of Law Liberals
- University of Toronto Faculty of Law Union
- University of Toronto Law and Social Justice Society
- Venture Law Group
- Women in Law

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The University of Toronto’s LLM program is world-class. It offers access to faculty who are leaders in their field, and encourages a critical and inter-disciplinary approach to legal scholarship. I am confident my LLM from the University of Toronto will be of great benefit to me in continuing my legal career.

Megan Pearce
Class of 2014

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GRADUATE LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION (GLSA) HALLOWEEN BASH

GRINDING SOME AXES

GLSA GOES BLUE

GLSA SKI AND SNOWBOARD DAY AT BLUE MOUNTAIN

ST. PATRICK’S DAY REVELRY

PHOTOS BY LIRAN KANDINOV

END OF EXAMS PARTY
GRADUATE STUDENT RESOURCES

The University of Toronto and Faculty of Law provide a wealth of student services. The following list some of the most important of these services for graduate students. Please call or consult the appropriate offices for more information.

FINANCING YOUR GRADUATE EDUCATION

In comparison to other top international law schools, the cost involved in obtaining a graduate law degree at the University of Toronto is very reasonable. We offer financial support to top candidates, and a range of open and targeted scholarships to ensure a diversity of students from around the world. The Faculty of Law distributes substantial scholarship assistance, which together with the more than $450,000 that comes from external scholarships, results in over a million dollars in funding support for our graduate students.

Please visit our website for a list of scholarships and awards for which graduate law degree applicants are eligible. These range from open awards available to all applicants, as well as awards targeted for specific research interests and projects. Additional sources of funding are available through the University, the School of Graduate Studies, and external government grants.
CAREER DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
The CDO is staffed with four full-time professionals, including a dedicated Graduate Studies Program Career Advisor. The Office is equipped to assist all Faculty of Law students, including graduate students, with job-seeking and career planning. More information may be found on our web site at www.law.utoronto.ca.

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE
The Centre for International Experience, located at the corner of St. George and College streets, is the social and administrative centre for the almost 4000 international students at U of T.
Website: www.cie.utoronto.ca
Email: cie.information@utoronto.ca
Phone: 416 978 2564

GRAD ESCAPES
Grad Escapes is a program for grad students offering discounted tickets to social, cultural, and recreational events in Toronto. A great way to meet other grad students from different departments, or to share a new experience with a friend. From opera to baseball, from musical theatre to historic tours, there’s something for everyone.
Website: www.studentlife.utoronto.ca/Student-Resources/Gradlife/Grad-Escapes.htm
Phone: 416 946 0148

FAMILY CARE OFFICE
Many students balance family obligations with their studies. The University of Toronto is committed to fostering a family-friendly learning and working environment, and provides family services through the Family Care Office. This office provides information, guidance and referral services to students who require childcare and financial matters and practical information about pregnancy and infant care.
Website: www.familycare.utoronto.ca
Phone: 416 978 0951

THE GRADUATE LAW STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
The Graduate Law Students Association (GLSA) represents all students enrolled in the Graduate Program at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. The objective of the GLSA is to assist graduate students in their dealings with the Faculty and provides representation for students on various committees and organizations that pertain to the graduate law program. The GLSA facilitates co-operation among students and faculty in order to improve the research activities and educational experiences of all graduate law students at the University of Toronto.
Email: glsa.law@utoronto.ca

HOUSING
The University of Toronto Housing Office offers information for both on-campus and off-campus housing. Students may search the off-campus housing ads, or apply for specific housing, such as Family Housing, or Graduate Housing. You can also review the Housing Office’s resources, including the costs of living in Toronto, and resources for people who will be renting housing outside of U of T.
Website: http://www.housing.utoronto.ca/
Email: housing.services@utoronto.ca
Phone: 416 978 8045

FACULTY OF LAW SJD ADVISOR PROGRAM
Each LLM student in the thesis-intensive stream will be paired with an SJD Advisor who will assist with developing a plan for focusing the thesis, producing a thesis proposal and preparing a comprehensive thesis outline or draft chapter.

WRITING CENTRE
The School of Graduate Studies Office of English Language and Writing Support (ELWS) offers free, non-credit courses throughout the year and single-session workshops during the fall and spring terms. In addition ELWS provides one-to-one consultations for graduate students who seek individualized assistance with their writing.
Website: http://www.writing.utoronto.ca

MASSEY COLLEGE
Massey College, a graduate college within U of T, offers residential and non-residential fellowships to outstanding graduate and professional students.
Website: www.utoronto.ca/massey
Phone: 416 978 2891
LAW.UTORONTO.CA

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THE FACULTY OF LAW SUPPORTS YOUTH SOCIAL ENTERPRISE.
PHOTOGRAPHY ASSISTANCE WAS PROVIDED BY THEREMIXPROJECT.CA,
an award winning cultural arts incubator for young people from disadvantaged communities.