

Columbia Law School

US Business Law Academy – General Information

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1. Who Should Attend

The US Business Law Academy is intended to provide foreign-trained law students, practitioners and other professionals with an introductory survey of select topics covering US business law and legal institutions.

2. Program Dates

The US Business Law Academy will take place over three weeks, with programming scheduled to run from Monday, July 13 through Friday, July 31, 2015.

3. Program Location

The US Business Law Academy will be hosted on the iconic campus of Columbia University in New York City. The program's courses will be held in the classrooms of Columbia Law School.

4. Academic Structure

The three-week program will feature an introductory survey of select topics covering U.S. business law and legal institutions, all taught by preeminent scholars from Columbia's world renowned faculty. Each course will conclude with a one-hour Pass/Fail exam.

5. Non-academic Programming

In addition to offering academic lectures, the US Business Law Academy will enable visits to professional and cultural sites in New York City; social and networking events; and presentations by leading practitioners, legal experts and career strategists.

6. Curriculum*

Corporations: [Prof. Robert Jackson, Professor of Law; Co-Director, Ira M. Millstein Center](#)

Corporate Governance: [Prof. Robert Jackson, Professor of Law; Co-Director, Ira M. Millstein Center](#)

Mergers and Acquisitions: [Prof. Jeffrey N. Gordon, Richman Prof. of Law; Co-Director, Richman Center for Business, Law & Public Policy](#)

Deals: An Introduction to the Law and Economics of Transactions: [Prof. David Schizer, Dean Emeritus and the Harvey R. Miller Professor of Law and Economics](#)

U.S. Tax Law and Policy: [Prof. Alex Raskolnikov, Friedman Prof. of Tax Law; Co-Chair, The Charles Evans Gerber Transactional Studies Center](#)

U.S. Legal Institutions – An Introduction: [Prof. Benjamin Liebman, Robert L. Lieff Professor of Law; Director of the Center for Chinese Legal Studies](#)

** Courses and faculty are projected as of December, 2014 and subject to change.*

7. Cost (with and without accommodation)

The overall program fee for the US Business Law Academy is \$6,500. This covers the costs of the academic program and materials, non-academic programming, program lunches, and housing in Columbia University student residence halls.

It is highly recommended that participants take advantage of the housing offered on the Columbia University campus. Participants may, however, elect to make their own housing arrangements. The program fee without housing is \$4,000.

Columbia Law School may be required to charge an additional \$300 visa fee all applicants who require a U.S. visa to participate in the program.

8. Early Bird Discount

Individual candidates who submit an application by February 15, and then make a non-refundable deposit within two weeks of receiving notice of admission, will receive a \$500 discount from the program fee.

For information on any other special arrangements, please consult with your home institution or contact the Office of International Programs at IntlProgramsManager@law.columbia.edu.

9. Group Discount

Partner institutions may make arrangements to reserve a group of places in the US Business Law Academy on a discounted basis.

To find out if you may be eligible for a group discount, please consult with administrators of your home institution, or write to the Office of International Programs at IntlProgramsManager@law.columbia.edu.

10. Program Schedule

The US Business Law Academy will present a total of six courses, each consisting of a total of eight hours of classroom instruction presented over the course of two consecutive days – either Monday and Tuesday, or Wednesday and Thursday.

Lectures will be presented each class day for two hours in morning and two hours in the afternoon. Lunch will be provided on-site, with occasional non-academic talks by leading practitioners, representatives from Columbia Law School's LLM program, and career strategists.

Fridays will be reserved for non-academic visits to law firms, courts, financial institutions, and other sites of professional and cultural interest throughout New York City.

11. Housing

Program participants will have access to accommodations located in student residence halls on or adjoining Columbia University's iconic New York City campus. All rooms will be single-occupancy, with shared bathroom facilities.

Rooms are available from Saturday, July 11 through Sunday, August 2. While special arrangements may be possible for groups, we regret that we cannot accommodate early arrivals or late departures for individuals.

12. Meals

All class-day lunches will be provided by the US Business Law Academy at no additional cost. Program participants will be responsible for other meals, and will have access to Columbia University's student cafeterias and a wide range of area restaurants and markets.

13. Visas

Participants who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States may require a student or other special, non-tourist visa to participate in the program. The Office of International Programs, in conjunction with Columbia University's International Scholars and Students Office (ISSO), will advise admitted students on an individual basis.

14. Transportation

Participants are responsible for arranging their own air transportation to and from New York, and also between the New York City airport and Columbia University. Partner institutions with questions about group transportation between the airport and Columbia University should contact the Office of International Programs at IntlProgramsManager@law.columbia.edu.

15. Academic Credentials

All participants in the US Business Law Academy receive a formal Statement of Attendance from Columbia Law School, bearing the signature of the Dean for International and Comparative Law programs. Upon request, they can also receive an official letter attesting to their participation in the Academy, and the names, instructors, hours of instruction, and grades (Pass/Fail) of the courses attended.

16. Academic Credit

Columbia Law School does not award credit for participation in the US Business Law Academy. In many instances, however, the Law School has assisted individual Partner institutions in making their own arrangements for awarding credit for or otherwise recognizing participation in the Academy. To determine if you are eligible to receive credit, please consult with your home institution or contact the Office of International Programs at IntlProgramsManager@law.columbia.edu.

17. Required Background

The US Business Law Academy is intended to provide a summary survey of select topics in US business law and legal institutions. Participants must therefore have the basic grounding generally attained by those going into their final years of a first university degree in law. More broadly, however, the courses will be structured so as to be both accessible and interesting to students with a wide range of backgrounds. We welcome graduate students, practicing lawyers, academics and other professionals.

18. Eligibility

Enrollment in the US Business Law Academy is not generally open to the public. Instead, admission is reserved for to individuals affiliated with a select group of leading global law schools or other institutions. (In limited cases, non-affiliated individuals may be admitted on a special basis.) To determine if you are eligible to apply, please consult with your home institution or contact the Office of International Programs at IntlProgramsManager@law.columbia.edu.

19. English Language Proficiency

All instruction in the US Business Law Academy will take place in English. Participants affiliated with a Columbia Law School Partner institution will be asked to submit a recommendation from their home

institution attesting to their language proficiency. The Academy will not, however, generally require formal scores from TOEFL, IELTS or other testing services.

20. Application Process - Individuals

Individual applications to the US Business Law Academy will be available on the US Business Law Academy website as of **December 15, 2015**. Applications will be reviewed as soon as they are submitted, on a rolling basis, for so long as spaces in the program remain open.

- A complete application will consist of a short personal **information form; a CV; and a \$50 application fee.**
- CLS will respond to each individual candidate after reviewing the completed application and asking for the **home institution's endorsement.**
- Candidates will be asked to submit a **non-refundable deposit of \$500** within two weeks of receiving notice of admission. The deposit will be credited towards their program fee.
- Candidates will be asked to pay the balance of the program fee by **May 1** (or two weeks after receiving notice of their admission, whichever is later).

21. Application Process – Groups

Special application processes, deadlines and discounts may apply to Partner institutions that make arrangements to reserve a group of places in the US Business Law Academy on a discounted basis.

To find out if you may be eligible to apply as part of a group, please consult with administrators of your home institution, or write to the Office of International Programs at IntlProgramsManager@law.columbia.edu.

22. Alteration and Cancellation Policy

Columbia Law School reserves the right to alter or cancel this program. Cancellation may occur due to unforeseen international events that could substantially inhibit program attendance or operations, under enrollment, or other unforeseen circumstances. Cancellation due to under enrollment would be announced before April 23, 2015. In the event that the program is cancelled, the Law School will return all program and housing fees.