This yearlong study abroad program awards the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School students an LLM in Transnational Arbitration and Dispute Settlement from the elite Institut d’Études Politique de Paris (Sciences Po) in Paris.

Program Description

Paris is one of the most attractive and important international arbitration venues worldwide thanks to the presence of the International Chamber of Commerce’s Court of International Arbitration. This yearlong program welcomes students from Sciences Po, several elite North American law schools, and other European institutions. The program is enriched by interaction between students from different countries with differing aspirations and cultural backgrounds. Two students from Penn’s Law School are nominated annually for this program.

However, please note that because this LLM program extends through the summer, 3L participants would not be eligible for a July bar exam and would need to defer until February.

Curriculum

The LLM offers an extensive training in theoretical and practical aspects of arbitration and dispute settlement. The program also covers other mechanisms of international dispute settlement including judicial and non-judicial means of dispute resolution such as litigation before the International Court of Justice, at the World Trade Organization (Panel and Appellate Body), or Human Rights Litigation (e.g. European or American framework).

In addition, the program offers insight into litigation before domestic courts, recourse to mediation, and online dispute settlement. Lectures cover public international law, international contracts law, private international law, energy law, international investment law, and the protection of human rights. The combination of these procedural and substantial insights will adequately prepare students to act before the extraordinary variety of tribunals and courts that exist in the world today.

Students in the program are offered a series of small-group courses (intensive, mandatory classes, as well as elective courses) to further intellectual and professional exchange, workshops (on practice skills) entirely taught in law firms and at the ICC International Court of Arbitration, conferences, internships, and participation in international moots.
Credits at Sciences Po

Prior to their departure, students must ensure they have completed the necessary upper-level semester hours to meet their JD degree requirements. Joint Degree students receive 27 credits for the Sciences-Po program during their 3L year.

Sample of Courses

» Transnational Commercial Arbitration
» Litigation Strategy in Inter-State Dispute Settlement
» Selected Issues in the Law of Treaties
» Settlement of Inter-State Disputes
» EU Conflict of Laws
» Arbitration in Latin America

» Sport Arbitration
» Dispute Settlement in the Law of the Sea
» French Arbitration Law and Practice
» Arbitral Legal Order
» Human Rights Issues in Investment Arbitration
» Comparative Procedural Tools

Grading and Evaluation

Academic performance is assessed by various methods, including written exams, oral presentations, and papers. The French grading system employs a scale of 1 to 20, with 20 being the maximum, and 10 being the minimal passing grade. All classes at Sciences Po must be taken for a grade (i.e., not pass/fail) but will not be factored into your Penn Carey Law GPA.

Academic Calendar

The LLM is a full-time program, running from late August to the end of August of the following year. Please note that because this LLM program extends through the summer, participants would not be eligible for a July bar exam and would need to defer until February. Although the program dates vary from year to year, the Sciences Po academic term generally has a Fall exam timetable and winter break similar to Penn’s Law School. Spring break typically falls in late February, with Spring exams in May. Grades for the third summer term are typically available in early September.
Cost of Living
Estimates for living expenses in Paris are provided on the Sciences Po website.

Visa Information
Students who are admitted to the program will need to apply for a visa. Before doing so, they must register with Campus France. The registration process can take some time and must be completed before a visa application can be completed. See Campus France’s website for more information.

Health and Safety
You must register for compulsory, government-mandated health coverage. This coverage guarantees you basic, comprehensive health care coverage for the entirety of your stay in France.

Please review the Health and Safety information available on the Penn Global Support Services website. Details on Travel Warnings, if relevant, are posted under International Travel Guidance.

Disability Access and Special Needs
Students must register for compulsory, government-mandated health coverage. This coverage guarantees students basic, comprehensive health care coverage for the entirety of their stay in France.

Housing Information
Sciences Po does not directly arrange housing, but offers a special service that assists and advises students with finding accommodation, and provides a list of contacts to make housing-seeking easier. Housing information for the area can be found online.

Contact Info for Foreign Institution
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http://www.sciencespo.fr/ecole-de-droit/en/content/2nd-year-global-governance-studies-ggs