



Keio University Law School, LL.M. in Global Legal Practice



Expected full-time period of study : 1 year (part-time 1.5 or 2 years)
Enrollment from : April or late September
Language of instruction : English
Number of students : 30 (target)

Why Choose a Keio LL.M.?



A Top Japanese Law School in a Leading Japanese University

Keio University Law School (“KLS”) is widely acknowledged as one of the top Japanese law schools, and is located within a leading Japanese university.

Keio University has played a unique role in Japan’s modern history, and today is one of only a few universities designated as a “global leading university” by the Ministry of Education, Science & Technology. KLS has the broadest English language curriculum of any Japanese law school.

KLS regularly ranks at or near the top of Japanese law schools in bar passage rate—a crucial metric for Japanese J.D. programs. KLS alumni regularly make up one of the largest shares of incoming classes of judges, prosecutors and associates at major Japanese law firms, as well as partners at major Japanese law firms, placing Keio high in the top tier of Japanese law schools.

Study and Build Your Network with Exceptional Peers

At KLS, we believe that students should learn from and teach each other. The Keio LL.M. program is designed to be integrated with Keio’s entire law school curriculum, and seeks to attract the right mix of top-level international and Japanese students. Most of our English language courses are open to not only our LL.M. students, but also our Japanese J.D. and international J.D.-level exchange students. Our LL.M. program will give you an opportunity to study and build friendships with KLS Japanese J.D. students who have an interest in future international careers and take advantage of these courses.

During 2015 and 2016 we received exchange students from leading law schools around the globe such as Cornell Law School, Georgetown University Law Center, University of Gothenburg, Harvard Law School, Humboldt University (Berlin), National Taiwan University, Sciences Po Paris, Singapore Management University, Tsinghua University (Beijing), UCLA Law School, Yonsei University (Seoul) and University of Zurich.

Join the Keio Community

Keio’s growth and success have always relied on the strength of its community. Our inclusive community is

comprised of students, faculty, members, staff, alumni, parents and other supporters of Keio, making it one of our—and your—most valuable resources. Keio alumni around the world (who join in the “Mita Kai” alumni association) are known to come together across age, occupation, national origin and social status, building new lifelong connections and offering mutual support. In law, numerous Keio alumni are among the partners at all of Japan’s largest law firms, while in business Keio alumni serve as the CEOs of many major corporations, placing Keio in the top ten universities in the world in the “Global Executive Alma Mater Index” published by Times Higher Education.

Acquire Skills for Global Law Practice

Our programs focus on practical, skills-based training, not only via courses that are specially designed for skill acquisition, but throughout our curriculum. Internships at a wide range of law firms, companies and international organizations allow KLS students to apply and add to their knowledge, and to make contact with potential employers.

An LL.M. in Tokyo

Our location in Tokyo is a key benefit for our students, both professionally and personally.

Professional—KLS is located minutes from the heart of Japan’s international business center. The campus (Mita) is only an eight-minute subway ride from the Marunouchi/Otemachi area and Tokyo Station, where Tokyo’s major law firms and financial institutions are clustered.

Because of our location, KLS professors are joined by world-class practitioners—including partners from Japan’s “big five” law firms, attorneys from leading global firms’ Tokyo offices, general counsel of major corporations and government lawyers such as prosecutors and antitrust enforcers—who come to the classroom as guest lecturers and adjunct instructors, bringing experience from headline-making disputes and deals.

Our location also makes it possible for us to offer practical training through for-credit internships at nearby law firms and companies.

Personal—Tokyo, one of the world’s largest metropolitan areas, offers a chance to experience Japan through its capital city with its many contrasting faces: unique customs, natural beauty, rich history and futuristic technology. In 2015 and 2016, Tokyo was ranked as the world’s best city to live in by Monocle Magazine and praised for its balance of " hi-tech efficiency and traditional neighborhood values," its round-the-clock services (including late night restaurants and transport) and its unrivalled low crime rate.

Of course, Japan offers great opportunities for exploration and travel, a welcoming hospitality toward foreign guests (known as "omotenashi" in Japanese), breathtaking historical sites, the best destination ski resorts in Asia, and world class hiking, cycling and other outdoor activities.

Learn Japanese

For international students, we offer opportunities to study Japanese at any appropriate level via the Keio University Center for Japanese Studies’ leading Japanese language training programs. Whether you just want to learn to get around town, or need Japanese skills at a professional level for your research and business, Keio offers an appropriate program. Advanced students can further improve their language skills by taking elective J.D. courses taught in Japanese.

A Small Class Size

Our LL.M. program targets enrollment of approximately 30 students. With this small size class, you will not get lost in the crowd and can expect individualized attention as we help you achieve your goals. We offer every student an option for individual research courses supervised by our professors with specialties in areas of international business law, constitutional law, administrative law, civil law, law and development, public international law, environmental law, EU law, and intellectual property law, among others.

Reasonable Cost

Tuition at KLS is a small fraction of what an LL.M. degree would cost for an international student in the U.S., Australia or the U.K. and we make no differentiation in our tuition between Japanese and international students. Also, Keio has several scholarships and tuition waivers available for exceptional international students in its graduate programs.

Tuition and Fees

	Registration Fee	Tuition Fee	Total
1st Year	60,000 yen	1,560,000 yen	1,620,000 yen
2nd Year (Part-time)	60,000 yen	935,000 yen	995,000 yen

※Other fees will be charged separately
 ※2nd year(Part-time)will apply only to those who wish to extend their study year up to 1.5 or 2 years.



Exchange and Double Degree Arrangements

We plan to supplement our offerings through a range of exchange and double degree arrangements with law schools around the globe. Our first LL.M. double degree program is with the University of Washington School of Law in Seattle, a leader among U.S. law schools in its research and professional links with the Pacific Rim. We offer exchange opportunities with many of our partner institutions. These opportunities are primarily intended to allow our Japanese students to get a portion of their LL.M. education at a leading institution outside of Japan, but the arrangements may also be of interest to international students who need locational flexibility or whose specific interests lead to another institution.

If your future career plans involve Japan, a Keio LL.M. offers exceptional benefits!

KLS has recently launched an initiative to strengthen its global network focused on universities in the Mekong region countries, known as the Program for Asian Global Legal Professions (PAGLEP). Through PAGLEP, KLS is developing a joint program with partner universities including Hanoi Law University and the National University of Economics and Law in Ho Chi Minh City (Vietnam), Pannasastra University (Cambodia), National University of Laos (Laos), Thammasat University (Thailand), and Yangon University (Myanmar). Students at KLS, including LL.M. students, will be able to study some subjects at these partner institutions by exchange of credits. PAGLEP aims at fostering human resources who can find solutions to legal issues not from a narrow view confined within national interests, but from a global, long-term perspective.

KLS Partnership with Institutions in Mekong Region Countries

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    KLS((KLS English curriculum))
    PLP((PLP))
    UEL((UEL))
    TML((TML))
    LNL((LNL))
    HLU((HLU))
    YUL((YUL))
    Oth[Other Universities]

    KLS <--> PLP
    KLS <--> UEL
    KLS <--> TML
    KLS <--> LNL
    KLS <--> HLU
    KLS <--> YUL
    KLS <--> Oth
  
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Pannasastra University Faculty of Law and Public Affairs (Cambodia) : PLP
 Yangon University Faculty of Law (Myanmar) : YUL
 Hanoi Law University (Vietnam) : HLU
 National University of Laos Faculty of Law and Politics (Laos) : LNL
 Thammasat University Faculty of Law (Thai) : TML
 University of Economics and Law (Vietnam) : UEL

Purpose of Establishment

From April, 2017, Keio University Law School (KLS) established a master's degree program (LL.M.) in Global Legal Practice. English is the exclusive language of instruction, and the program allows students to obtain an LL.M., in principle, within a single year of instruction (1.5 or 2 years if part-time). The LL.M. program joins KLS' existing J.D. program which prepares students to sit for the Japanese bar exam and begin a career as Japanese lawyer, judge or prosecutor.

Target Students

The LL.M. program trains students who aim to be globally active lawyers, or legal staff of global companies and international institutions. Accordingly, the following types of candidates are encouraged to apply:

- 1) lawyers, and graduates of law schools, who wish to improve their capability to perform international legal work in English;
- 2) legal staff of corporations with international operations;
- 3) non-Japanese students who wish to study Japanese and Asian law and legal practice (and who hold a J.D., LL.B. or other law degrees), and
- 4) graduates of Japanese law faculties who wish to obtain a master's degree and aim to work at international institutions.

Curriculum

Global Legal Practice (a course of study with 9 subcategories)	
Core Program:	Elective Program:
• Japanese Law and Asian Law in Global Practical Perspective • Global Business and Law • Global Security and Law • Practical Training (e.g. moot court, negotiation and arbitration, internships, drafting and other practical training courses)	• Innovations and Intellectual Property Law • Current Legal Issues • Area Studies • Comparative Law • Legal Research and Writing

* The full course list is available online (<https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/lis/major/llm/course-list/>)

Diploma Policy

Degree offered: LL.M. in Global Legal Practice (a professional school master's degree)

At least 30 course credits required for completion, with requirements for at least 4 credits in either Global Business and Law or Global Security and Law, and at least 4 credits in Practical Training courses.

Additional Degree Requirements for Recent Law Faculty Graduates

For students who have not completed a law school (i.e. J.D.) program nor gained equivalent legal knowledge as evidenced by membership in a bar, graduate-level legal education, or significant work experience in a legal function, an additional 6 course credits (i.e. at least 36 course credits in total) are required for degree completion. At least 4 additional credits are required in the category Japanese Law and Asian Law in Global Practical Perspective, and at least 2 additional credits in the Practical Training category.

Application Qualifications and Admission Policy

- University graduates (including those who anticipate graduation prior to entry into the LL.M. program) will be qualified to apply for admission.
- Admission will be based upon the following factors:
 - Basic knowledge of jurisprudence (equivalent to graduation from an undergraduate law faculty or completion of the first year of a graduate law school) will be required;
 - Knowledge of legal practice (equivalent to graduation from a law school) will be evaluated;
 - English capability (please submit one of the following: a TOEFL iBT score, an IELTS academic score, or a TOEIC score.)
 - A personal statement, academic transcripts and two letters of recommendation; and
 - Overall contribution to the KLS community.

The program operates on a semester system, with both Spring Term (April) and Fall Term (late September) enrollment permitted. A limited number of courses are available in "concentrated" offerings between the main Spring and Fall terms.

Details of Admission:

<https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/admissions/grad/professional/llm/>

Exchange Programs

The LL.M. program recognizes up to 15 credits obtained at an overseas partner university, for students who wish to pursue a portion of their studies overseas. For our J.D. program, KLS has existing exchange arrangements with, among other universities: Cornell, Georgetown, UCLA, University of Washington (USA), The University of British Columbia (Canada), Sciences Po (Paris), Yonsei (South Korea), Tsinghua (China), National Taiwan University, and Singapore Management University. We expect to have exchange arrangements available with many of these and others as well for the LL.M. program.

Double Degree

KLS offers a double degree LL.M. Program with the University of Washington School of Law (Seattle), which offers LL.M. degrees in Asian & Comparative Law, Global Business, Health, Intellectual Property, Sustainable International Development, and Tax, as well as a General Law LL.M. The double degree will allow students to obtain LL.M. degrees at both universities more quickly (and at less expense) than if each degree were pursued separately. KLS is considering the possibility of additional double degree arrangements in the future.

NOTE: The LL.M. in Global Legal Practice does not qualify a student to sit for the bar exam in Japan or other countries.



Location: 2-15-45 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo, Japan

Contact : Keio University Law School TEL: +81-3-5427-1778 email: lawjm@info.keio.ac.jp

LL.M. in Global Legal Practice: <https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/lis/>

Keio University: <https://www.keio.ac.jp/en/>