

U.S. Law & Language (formerly English for Lawyers)
JULY 2011

Program Dates: Introduction to U.S. Law & Language is a three-week program, July 16-August 2, 2012

Program Costs/Tuition: The cost for a single student participating in the program is \$1,900. This includes the price of all books and materials. Housing costs are not included.

Housing: University housing is limited; if you are interested in housing opportunities, please contact the CILE office for the most current information.

Academic & Social Program: Students attend class in the mornings and participate in lectures and visits to courts, law firms, and other legal institutions in the afternoons. Special social events will also be arranged.

Medical Insurance: Students are required to have medical insurance for the entire length of their stay.

Application Process: The completed application should be sent with a check in the amount of \$200 (nonrefundable tuition deposit) to Center for International Legal Education, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 3900 Forbes Avenue, Room 318, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 U.S.A.

Payment: The tuition balance is due in full on the **first** day of class. Payment may be made through an international money order, an international draft, or a check drawn on a U.S. domestic bank, made payable to the "University of Pittsburgh." Please write the student's name on the check.

Application Deadline: Space may be limited and acceptance will be based on the date on which an application is received. We suggest that applications be submitted as early as possible.

Inquiries should be addressed to the CILE office at the above address, or via phone at (412) 648-7023. You may also contact us by email at: cile@pitt.edu. Please visit our website at www.law.pitt.edu/cile.

The University of Pittsburgh School of Law reserves the right to cancel this program.

U.S. Law & Language

July 16- August 2, 2012

An Introduction to American Legal Education for
-non-U.S. law students preparing for U.S. LL.M. studies
-non-U.S. lawyers preparing to work with the American clients and law firms.
-legal professionals desiring a better understanding of U.S. law and legal terminology.



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UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH



**University of Pittsburgh
School of Law**

U.S. LAW & LANGUAGE

The University of Pittsburgh is one of very few law schools in the United States to offer this type of comprehensive introduction to legal English and American legal education.

The Introduction to U.S. Law & Language Program students the opportunity to learn to use English in a legal context, and to become better prepared for class discussions and assignments in American LL.M. programs.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Students entering this course should have basic competency in English, but may be unfamiliar with language and concepts they will encounter in American law schools. They may also be unfamiliar with how American law schools conduct classes. The U.S. Law and Language program addresses all of these needs for incoming LL.M. students or other legal professionals.

In this course, students learn to understand the language of the law and the American law school classroom. Students will be immediately immersed in reading, thinking, writing and speaking about the law in English. They will gain insight and understanding into the American legal system. Students learn to read and understand cases and statutes. They also become comfortable with briefing cases and using cases and statutes as precedent for hypothetical problems. They gain experience in the many subtleties of using English to communicate in various legal settings. For example, students engage in mock client interviews, negotiations and oral arguments. They learn legal vocabulary and usage by developing skills they need as law students, legal practitioners and scholars. Students gain needed experience in using English in a law school setting by discussing legal problems in guided exercises with fellow students and through individual presentations.

During the program, classroom discussions also focus on study skills and other coping mechanisms students need to succeed in law School. These topics range from culture shock to exam taking techniques.

Each day, students practice reading, speaking and writing in English on interesting legal topics with personalized attention given to each student by the program's two professors. The professors give each student written and oral comments on his or her progress each day during the program. They assess each student's needs and work individually with the students to help them develop their legal English-speaking, writing, listening and comprehension skills.

The professors work with each student to help him or her make a successful transition from the role of attorney to that of a student in an American law school.

In addition to formal classroom instruction, students also spend afternoons during the program visiting legal sites. In the past, students have observed trials, met with judges, toured courthouses and visited a jail. As a total program of experiences, the U.S. Law and Language program tries to empower each student to develop and refine the skills he or she needs to be comfortable and successful in an American LL.M. program. This is accomplished through a program of limited enrollment and caring, personalized attention to each student.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The course is recommended for all students entering an LL.M. program in the United States as well as for judges, law professors and legal professionals from other legal systems. While we do not require enrollment in this program for our LL.M. students, we strongly encourage them to attend. Students enrolled in other LL.M. programs attend the program as do other legal

professionals seeking to improve their fluency in English in an American legal context.

QUOTES FROM FORMER PARTICIPANTS

"The quality of the class was beyond my expectations. Professors Brostoff and Sinsheimer reflect the great education offered by this School of Law and University."

"We are better prepared to attend classes, with a better knowledge of the basics and foundation of the American Legal System."

"Because of this program, my work in Pittsburgh has only just begun... I wish all of my colleagues would experience this program to learn and discuss common law and its implications."

FACULTY

Teresa Brostoff
Professor of Legal Writing

Ann Sinsheimer
Associate Professor of Legal Writing

