INTRODUCTION TO

MICHIGAN
The University of Michigan Law School in Ann Arbor is one of the world’s finest institutions of legal education. Housed in the Cook Quadrangle on the University of Michigan’s central campus, the Law School boasts a sizable and diverse faculty, many preeminent in their fields. We offer a vast array of courses and seminars, taught by faculty representing strength in international and comparative law and all branches of American law. In addition, a plethora of opportunities for extracurricular student involvement in more than 50 student organizations and eight law journals provide learning experiences outside the classroom. Our alumni—more than 21,000 in 80 countries worldwide—hold prestigious positions in the public, private, and academic sectors in the United States and abroad.

Of all the elements that combine to give Michigan Law its special character, we take greatest pride in our student body. Our graduate students are legal professionals and academicians from around the world who join our outstanding JD student body in sharing their remarkable talents and accomplishments. The result is an academic community characterized by serious purpose, high academic achievement, social commitment, and the joy of intellectual inquiry.

Students and scholars at Michigan Law also have the unique opportunity to take advantage of the rich intellectual life and tremendous resources found at the University of Michigan, from libraries and curricular offerings to cultural and recreational events, conferences, and lectures.

We encourage you to explore our Law School and Ann Arbor on the following pages to acquaint yourself with this vibrant community where intellect, collegiality, and opportunity meet and create stepping stones and memories lasting a lifetime.
Michigan Law's faculty is considered, in the United States and abroad, one of the very best in the country. It is noted for excellence in effective classroom teaching, student accessibility, and collegiality, as well as for its legal scholarship and law reform. Many of the nation's leading legal treatises and scholarly works—including those in commercial transactions, constitutional law, criminal law, feminist jurisprudence, federal jurisdiction, criminal procedure, and international human rights—are the work of Michigan faculty. Excellence in traditional fields of law is often coupled with outstanding scholarship in other disciplines: More than a third of Michigan's law professors also hold doctorates in history, economics, political science, public policy, psychology, sociology, classics, philosophy, and literature. Several of our faculty members are also included in the ranks of the American Academy of Arts & Sciences. Outside of academia, many faculty members have served in the federal government, as advisers to international organizations and to the governments of other countries.
Michigan Law treats students as partners: As an LLM student, and even more so as an SJD, I found our professors easy to talk to. We receive guidance and feedback from experts in the field, many with worldwide renown. In the colloquia and workshops, for example, I felt deeply encouraged by the respectful and enriching scholarly debates in which we all participated. At first, it was a bit intimidating, but I learned a lot about how to present and discuss ideas with peers, and always felt genuine interest and concern from the faculty for my research and career goals.

Ivana Mrazova, LLM '08, SJD Candidate
Czech Republic

The collective breadth of scholarship of a distinguished group of faculty members places Michigan Law at the forefront of international legal education. The faculty’s legal expertise includes the fields of international finance, business and competition, international tax, investment and trade, comparative constitutional, environmental, asylum and refugee, and human rights law. Michigan also has assembled faculty with unparalleled expertise in the laws of some of today’s largest economies: Nicholas Howson (People’s Republic of China), Dean Mark West (Japan), Adam Pritchard (Korea), and Vikramaditya Khanna (India). Prof. Khanna is also the cofounder and codirector of the Joint Centre for Global Corporate and Financial Law and Policy, a collaboration between Michigan Law and Jindal Global Law School in Delhi. European legal studies were pioneered in U.S. law schools by the late Michigan Law Emeritus Prof. Eric Stein, ’42, while Daniel Halberstam is the founding director of the University’s European Union Center of Excellence. Prof. Halberstam is the only U.S. scholar to have worked at both the U.S. Supreme Court and the European Court of Justice.

The Law School community also benefits from the presence of our William W. Cook Global Law Professors, leading scholars and legal experts from around the world who are regular visitors to the Law School and enhance our curriculum by bringing global perspectives to a variety of fields, from human rights and international trade to corporate governance and intellectual property. The faculty is further enriched by visiting faculty members from other outstanding overseas institutions such as Tokyo University; Bocconi University, Milan; Higher School of Economics, Moscow; Nottingham University, England; and the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.
40-55
LLMs and International Tax LLMs enrolled each year

1M+
Volumes housed in the Law Library, one of the world's premier collections of domestic, foreign, comparative, and international law publications

22
Average number of countries represented by the LLM cohort

50+
Number of student organizations and student-edited journals

2
Second smallest and most diverse LLM program among top-tier law schools in the country
Michigan's broad curriculum is designed to encourage the development and reinforcement of our students' capacity and confidence to teach themselves new areas of law, new sets of lawyering skills, and the ability to operate in new legal or other professional settings. This pedagogic attitude and approach is a truly distinctive characteristic of the entire University of Michigan.

Apart from the interdisciplinary approach and the international perspective which permeate Michigan Law, some traditional fields of law deserve to be noted separately for their outstanding strength even within the overall high level of our curriculum: corporate and financial law, intellectual property, human rights, and environmental law. Many legal areas are enhanced by activities organized by the Law School's specialized centers and programs such as the Environmental Law and Policy Program, the European Legal Studies Program, and the Japanese and Chinese legal studies programs. A tremendous range of international, comparative, and foreign law courses, clinics, and student activities ensures that students find ample opportunities to explore the fluidity of the boundaries between domestic and international law and the foundations of law at the international level.
There are three notable offerings at Michigan that particularly attract internationally focused lawyers: the International Transactions Clinic (ITC), directed by Deborah Burand, the Program in Refugee and Asylum Law (PRAL), directed by James Hathaway, and the Human Trafficking Clinic, directed by Bridgette Carr, JD '02. The ITC provides legal support for international transactions that address some of the world's most pressing problems. Interested LLM students enroll in the clinic as student advisors, while LLM alumni partner with the ITC to provide legal advice on corporate transactions for nonprofits and organizations abroad. PRAL not only comprehensively addresses the theoretical foundations in the refugee and asylum law field, but also affords an outstanding opportunity to research current issues and participate in a colloquium that draws international practitioners and government officials to Michigan every other year. The widely recognized Michigan Guidelines on the International Protection of Refugees and the Refugee Caselaw Site were born out of this program and continue to be prime resources for decision-makers in refugee and asylum law the world over. The Human Trafficking Clinic—the first of its kind in the United States—also welcomes graduate students. The clinic offers students the opportunity to work on both domestic and international human trafficking issues and cases, including direct representation of both domestic trafficking victims and foreign nationals trafficked into the United States, advocacy for trafficking victims, and community education and training.

In addition to formal classes, all graduate-degree students are invited to enroll in the highly popular mini-seminars—in informal classes that meet in professors' homes to focus on such various topics as The Israel-Palestine Conflict: Who's Acting (Il-)legally? Who cares?; Prison and Jail Conditions of Confinement; and Hollywood, Bollywood and the Law.

"I chose Michigan because of the excellent reputation of the International Tax LLM program. The experience far surpassed my expectations. I arrived with several years of professional experience in tax law already, but I still learned so much more for my tax law career—and I also got to study and hang out with the other LLMs and the JDs. Taking classes in the Socratic Method was a challenge, but the faculty and administration were helpful from beginning—with a really thoughtful orientation session on living in the U.S., studying, bar preparation, and career development—to end.

Li Tan, International Tax LLM '13
Senior Associate, Deloitte, Shanghai
EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Outside of class, graduate students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities offered at the Law School, which provide an opportunity to become immersed in various aspects of the law and to participate in community service projects. There are more than 50 student groups to choose from, including the Asia Law Society, Business Law Association, Environmental Law Society, Intellectual Property Students Association, International Law Society, and LAWBreaks. In addition, the Law School's eight student-run journals—among them the Michigan Law Review, the Michigan Journal of International Law, and the University of Michigan Journal of Law Reform—host cutting-edge conferences and symposia on such topics as human trafficking, environmental health and the law, class-action litigation, affirmative action and diversity in education, and international trade. These events, along with the International Law Workshop, bring prominent practitioners and scholars to the Law School. Recent visitors have included judges from the International Court of Justice and the German Federal Constitutional Court, lead attorneys in Guantanamo detainee cases, and the administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Beyond student groups and symposia, students can hone their professional skills in moot court competitions, mediation workshops, and client-counseling and negotiation competitions.

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW

The Center for International and Comparative Law, guided and managed by our assistant dean for international affairs, is the Law School's focal point for the internationally related endeavors of students, faculty, visitors, and alumni. The Center serves as a central clearinghouse for international activities taking place at the Law School and around the University, and provides direction and support for faculty and student conferences and workshops and for international projects such as student internships, faculty exchanges, and study-abroad opportunities.

The assistant dean and her staff are dedicated to making the academic and personal experience of graduate students and scholars at the Law School a rich and meaningful one. The Center offers programs that provide them with a sense of community and integrate them into the life of the entire School. An orientation program at the beginning of the academic year introduces graduate students to Michigan Law, the culture of U.S. law classes, and the curriculum. Individual academic advising is also available to each student for arranging his/her academic program for the year. Ongoing assistance is provided to graduate students on academic, social, and professional matters, while an international host program, talks, and language lunches bring together graduate students and scholars with J.D. students.
The Michigan Law Library houses one of the world's foremost collections of research materials. Its comprehensive collection supports study and legal research on any topic, from any country, during any period in history. With more than one million volumes, it is a center for legal research for faculty, students, lawyers, judges, and scholars from around the world. International students and visitors often discover that materials on their native countries are more accessible and complete here than at home.

The Law Library's collection includes reports of the American federal and state courts, the court reports of Great Britain and the Commonwealth, and those of most European, Asian, and South American countries. Both past and current constitutions, codes, and statutes of most foreign countries, as well as of the American states, are kept in the collection. Legal documents and special collections in the fields of Roman, comparative, and international law, and of supra-national and inter-governmental organizations such as the United Nations, World Trade Organization, and the European Community represent a particular strength of the collection. In fact, the Law Library was the first academic library in the United States to become an official depository institution for documents of the European Union.

With wireless and wired access to the Internet, LexisNexis, and Westlaw, the Law Library provides domestic and international legal materials free of charge to law students and faculty. Remote access is also available for all electronic resources.

The Office of Career Planning (OCP) advises and supports both JD and graduate students with their career planning goals. Services include individualized counseling, specialized group seminars and programs, interviewing and networking skills enhancement, and access to an excellent career library, online career databases, and Internet resources. In addition, Michigan Law is a partner in the Overseas-Trained LLM Student Interview Program held in New York each winter, during which nearly 200 legal employers—with offices in the United States and abroad—interview more than 300 select LLM students from Michigan, Columbia, Harvard, Yale, Stanford, the University of Chicago, and the University of Virginia.

While international students are encouraged to use the professional contacts they have in their own countries, OCP helps international graduate students with networking and establishing professional relationships with other Michigan Law graduates working domestically and throughout the world. A career handbook with information on job searching for international students is distributed to all interested graduate students. In addition, OCP compiles and distributes a résumé book to American legal employers and maintains a list of employers who would like to receive the résumés of international graduate students interested in temporary or permanent employment.
ANN ARBOR IS A VIBRANT, welcoming, and unusually sophisticated city with a population of more than 110,000, one-third of whom are college or graduate students. At its heart is the University of Michigan, which draws individuals from all over the world to teach, attend class, work, and make their homes. As a result, the city offers the cultural, educational, and recreational advantages of a major urban center, but with the tranquility, warmth, and safety of a small town.
The LLM at Michigan really opens your mind. Academically, the faculty combine scholarly expertise with top-level practical experience, and intensely engage their students, both inside and outside the classroom. At the same time, we learn so much by meeting LLMs and JDs from across the U.S. and the world, sharing a sense of community and taking advantage of extracurricular events. I participated in "Mr. Wolverine," a guys' parody of beauty pageants (with proceeds going to charity), something I don't think you'd find at another law school. I wholeheartedly recommend Michigan.

Conor O'Hanlon, LLM '13
Trainee Solicitor and Attorney,
Allen & Overy, London

Ann Arbor's charms include a bustling downtown, beautiful tree-lined streets, and an extensive system of parks. The city is surrounded by rivers, lakes, farms, and forests, and is considered a recreational gem. Its outstanding elementary and secondary schools rank among the very best in the country, and quality housing is available in a wide variety of types and neighborhoods. Students enjoy living on-campus at the Lawyers Club, which forms part of the Law Quadrangle and is extremely popular for its beauty and convenient location, or at Northwood Community Apartments, which include excellent facilities for spouses and children. Alternatively, attractive private housing is available in apartments, cooperatives, condos, and houses within easy walking distance of the Law School, or located near bus routes. For more housing details, visit law.umich.edu/prospectivestudents/Pages/housing.aspx.

Numerous national and international figures come to Ann Arbor for lectures, presentations, shows, dance performances, and concerts—the city, in fact, has earned a national reputation for excellence in the performing arts. Students can see Broadway touring companies or avant-garde drama, attend University Musical Society performances featuring world-renowned symphony orchestras, ensembles, and choral societies, and frequent local clubs and concert halls featuring jazz, hip-hop, techno, classical, indie, alternative, folk, zydeco, and other genres. Two independent movie theaters are within easy walking distance of the Law Quad and they, along with nearby multiplexes, offer art films, national and international film festival winners, cult cinema and classics, and first-run traditional movies. Culinary tastes are easily satisfied thanks to an impressive array of cafés, bistro, restaurants, and pubs, not to mention farmers markets, specialty shops, mini-breweries, and health/organic food stores. And few areas of the country can rival the range of college and professional sports events available for spectators. Such richness of arts, culture, and entertainment offerings is hardly typical of a small city, but it is an integral part of what makes Ann Arbor vital and attractive.

With Detroit less than 50 miles to the east and Chicago and Toronto just a few hours away, Ann Arbor is centrally situated. Train and bus stations are conveniently located near the campus. Detroit's Metropolitan Airport, just a 30-minute drive from the Law School, offers easy connections to Africa and Australia, and more than 1,200 nonstop flights from Michigan to 160-plus cities in North and South America, Asia, and Europe.