



# AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF ARMENIA

A U.S. - ACCREDITED GRADUATE INSTITUTION AFFILIATED WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

## DEPARTMENT OF LAW

### MISSION

The AUA Law Department aims to prepare high-caliber, English-speaking legal advisers and advocates who are conversant in international best practices in the field of law and committed to serving both public and private sectors with the goal of protecting the rights of Armenia and Armenians domestically and internationally and fostering Armenia's continued development into a prosperous and just country.

The AUA Law Department is proud of the scores of professionals who have gained new skills and insights through their study at AUA and who apply their knowledge for the betterment of society in public service and private practice. Well-trained attorneys contribute in practical ways to

- Efficiency and stability of transactions
- Security and protection of rights and investments
- Expedience and fairness in dispute resolution, and
- Prudent design and improvement of laws, regulations, policies, institutions and legal frameworks

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

To be considered for admission, an applicant must meet the AUA General Admission Requirements (see the AUA website), as well as Law Department-specific requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in law or related field from a recognized institution of higher education
- Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) at a level acceptable to the Department
- Experience in legal practice or a related field is highly desirable

### ABOUT AUA

Deciding to pursue an American master's degree is a big decision, but choosing the best school to meet your needs is even harder. AUA offers excellent U.S.-accredited graduate programs and provides several unique advantages.

- A safe, welcoming environment. Armenia offers a warm and hospitable social environment where all cultures are welcome and appreciated.
- Motivated students. Students from the U.S., China, Iran, Syria, Georgia, Russia, India and around the world join Armenian students for an increasingly international student body.
- Accommodating facilities and services. Facilities, including the new, state-of-the-art Paramaz Avedissian Building, with services such as wireless Internet and the latest software, the open-stack Papazian library, a cafeteria and health center.



## LL.M. PROGRAM

The LL.M. is a two-year part-time evening program. Typically classes are held four nights a week after 6 p.m. during the regular academic year. At AUA, students work toward their degree by earning credits. Credits are earned by successfully completing courses. To earn the Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree, students, at a minimum, must earn a total of 32 semester credits: 30 credits from the LL.M. curriculum and 2 credits from the environmental science program. All LL.M. students must complete a set of core law courses, which constitute roughly half the credits required for graduation. To earn the remaining credits students have the opportunity to choose from a variety of "elective courses." By appropriately choosing elective courses, students can tailor their education to focus on either the public or the private law sphere. Before graduating all students must also complete a Master's Paper presenting original research on a topic approved by the Department. This is an opportunity to produce publishable work in English.

## CURRICULUM

The LL.M. curriculum is designed to build essential practice-oriented skills for attorneys while simultaneously offering new perspectives and knowledge on a variety of legal topics. The curriculum includes a number of core courses which are required for all students. In addition, the curriculum offers a number of "elective courses" from which students can choose as they earn credits toward their degree. By offering choice, students can tailor their educational experience to their interests and goals. The curriculum also includes "topics courses" which allows the LL.M. program to periodically offer students courses on timely and special topics of interest in law.

### Core Required Courses:

- o International Legal English
- o Legal Method and Argumentation
- o Human Rights Law – or – European Convention on Human Rights
- o Business Organizations
- o Master's Paper

### Elective Courses:

- o Law & Justice in Popular Culture
- o Comparative Law
- o Constitutional Law
- o Administrative Law
- o European Union Law
- o Public International Law
- o International Business Transactions
- o Intellectual Property
- o Taxation
- o Negotiation & Alternative Dispute Resolution
- o Topics in Public Law
- o Topics in Private Law

(More courses are under development)

## LEGAL RESOURCES CENTER

The AUA Legal Resources Center (LRC) is housed in the Law Department and has a diverse collection of English language law books and legal materials available to AUA students, faculty and outside researchers.

The LRC also has many books on Armenian law and Armenian law databases. The LRC aims to make student and faculty research accessible to the wider public via its website, the Armenian Law Review on-line, Citizen's Rights Guides, Arbitration in Armenia resource page, as well as a range of Armenian treaties, laws, and international documents in Armenian and English.



## A PRACTICE-ORIENTED APPROACH

AUA's LL.M. program aims to help students develop the practical skills and knowledge necessary to be an effective professional in an ever more competitive globalized market. Our practice-oriented approach emphasizes analytical, advocacy and English communication skills that attorneys need to succeed. Courses are designed to expose students to a range of fields as well as current trends. The program affords students opportunities to develop practitioner skills through instruction and daily interaction with highly qualified professionals.

The LL.M. is a rigorous academic and professional program. Instructors have high expectations of students. Although many students work, it is often difficult to balance the demands of work, courses and family. The grading scale for coursework is in line with US law school programs. AUA requires students to maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.0 to remain in good standing and graduate.



The American University of Armenia is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Senior Colleges and Universities of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, 985 Atlantic Avenue, #100, Alameda, CA 94501, 510-748-9001.

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