

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW

Third Annual | **THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS**
Summer Law Program



JUNE 1 – JUNE 28, 2009

LAW
WASHINGTON COLLEGE OF LAW
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

2009 Summer in The



The Washington College of Law (WCL) Summer Program in The Hague offers students the opportunity to live and learn at the heart of the international justice community. In 1899, the world's first Peace Conference took place in The Hague; today this city on the North Sea is home to over 150 international legal organizations. What better place to become immersed in the rapidly changing field of international justice?

WCL's study abroad programs combine travel in a foreign country with the opportunity to broaden your learning experience, gain knowledge in another culture, and network with individuals from around the world. You will be amazed not only at what you bring to the table in your interviews following this experience, but what you will learn and take with you for the rest of your life.

Law Program Hague



Photo credit: Chris Schram



The Summer Law Program in The Hague gives students the opportunity to examine critical issues in international law, focusing on international criminal law and international legal approaches to terrorism. The Hague’s cosmopolitan atmosphere and history as the site of major international legal institutions makes it an ideal location for study of these issues. Through the program, law students and attorneys will enjoy a unique opportunity to spend a month in the “International City of Peace and Justice” among the practitioners, courts, and tribunals that are making history today.

Courses

The academic component of the program consists of two 3-credit courses: International Criminal Law: In Search of Accountability and International Legal Approaches to Terrorism in the 21st Century.

Classes will be held Monday through Thursday, with review sessions some Fridays. All classes will be taught in English. Knowledge of the Dutch language is not necessary for participation in the program.

International Criminal Law: In Search of Accountability will provide an introduction to international criminal law and explore the various ways in which national, internationalized and international courts and tribunals have attempted to enforce criminal responsibility for serious violations of human rights and humanitarian law. The course will also examine the role of states, their obligations under international law and the obstacles they face in bringing to justice those responsible for international crimes.

International Legal Approaches to Terrorism in the 21st Century will examine counter-terrorism measures from an international and comparative law perspective and consider the interrelation between these measures and the obligations of states under international human rights and humanitarian law. The course will explore the status of different international players under international law and address questions such as: What is the definition of terrorism? Is the use of force in response to acts of terrorism permitted under international law? Is international law adequately equipped to deal with the “war on terror”?



The Peace Palace is the seat of the International Court of Justice and the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

Sample Lectures for 2009

International Criminal Law: In Search of Accountability

Introduction to International
Criminal Law

War Crimes

Crimes Against Humanity

Genocide

Individual Criminal Responsibility

The ad hoc International Criminal
Tribunals for the former
Yugoslavia & Rwanda

The International Criminal Court

Filling the Impunity Gap: The Role
of Internationalized Tribunals

Defense Challenges and the Role
of Victims in International
Criminal Tribunals

Immunities and Amnesties:
Challenges to Accountability

The Proactive Role of States:
The Dutch Example

International Legal Approaches to Terrorism in the 21st Century

Defining “Terrorism” under
International Law

Use of Force in Response to Terrorist
Acts under International Law

The Applicability and Relevance of
International Humanitarian Law
to the “War on Terror”

The Applicability and Relevance of
Human Rights Law to the “War
on Terror”

Terrorism in the Name of Religion
“Terrorism in the Air”

International Cooperation and
Enforcement in the Fight Against
Terrorism and Terrorist-Related Acts

State Responsibility for “Terrorism”
and Terrorist-Related Offenses

Individual Criminal Responsibility
for “Terrorism” and Terrorist-
Related Offenses

A Closer Look at “Terrorist” Groups

Comparative Approaches: Investigation
and Surveillance; Preventive
Detention Practices; Interrogation
Practices; Use of Military Tribunals

“I really appreciated all the lectures, site visits and extra activities that were a part of the program and enjoyed the program immensely... I learned so much from this program and feel as though I learned more in one month in The Hague than I did in a semester of law school. It really was amazing.”

~ Past Participant

The T.M.C. Asser Institute will serve as WCL's partner in The Hague, hosting classes, receptions and resources for program participants.



Academic Partners

The Summer Law Program in The Hague is the product of a unique collaboration between the War Crimes Research Office of American University Washington College of Law and the T.M.C. Asser Institute.

American University Washington College of Law (WCL) was founded in 1896 by Ellen Spencer Mussey and Emma M. Gillett, who established a coeducational school to ensure that women, as well as men, were given the opportunity to study law. WCL has become one of the leading law schools in the U.S. in the area of international law. It is a member of the Association of American Law Schools and is approved by the American Bar Association. The Summer Law Program in The Hague is led by WCL's **War Crimes Research Office (WCRO)**, the core mandate of which is to promote the development and enforcement of international criminal and humanitarian law, primarily through the provision of specialized legal research assistance to international/ized courts and tribunals. The Office also engages in judicial training and promotes the development of practitioners in this field of law through educational activities and research opportunities.

The T.M.C. Asser Institute is a prominent research institute in international law. Through its affiliations with the University of Amsterdam and other Dutch centers of learning, the Asser Institute functions as an inter-university center of knowledge and research. The Institute's research areas include private and public international law, European law, international commercial arbitration and other related fields, such as international humanitarian law. An essential component of the Institute's objectives is the development of young talent, including offering promising young lawyers the opportunity to carry out their Ph.D. research at the Institute. In addition to producing its own research, the Institute links practitioners at the international organizations, courts and tribunals in The Hague with academic communities from the Netherlands and abroad. The Institute is also a founding member of the Hague Academic Coalition.



The International Criminal Court is the first permanent, treaty-based, international criminal court established to prosecute individuals for crimes of international concern, such as genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Faculty

In addition to WCL faculty members, instructors for the program include judges, prosecutors, and other staff from the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court (ICC), the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), the T.M.C. Asser Institute, and other international organizations. In 2008, guest lecturers included:

- **Judge Fausto Pocar**, President of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY)
- **Judge Mohamed Bennouna**, International Court of Justice
- **Judge Christine van den Wyngaert**, ICTY
- **Helen Duffy**, Legal Director, INTERIGHTS
- **Paul Seils**, Head of Situation Analysis Section, ICC Office of the Prosecutor
- **Phon van den Biesen**, Deputy Agent for Bosnia and Herzegovina in the Bosnian Genocide Case before the International Court of Justice
- **Olivia Swaak-Goldman**, International Cooperation Advisor, ICC Office of the Prosecutor
- **Stéphane Bourgon**, Defense Counsel, ICTY

“The expertise and knowledge of the lecturers was quite impressive. They were all leaders in their respective fields and brought valuable input to each discussion.”

~ Past Participant



View of a hearing at the International Court of Justice. The program will draw on distinguished lecturers and practitioners from The Hague's most respected organizations and institutions.



The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia is an ad hoc court responsible for prosecuting serious violations of international criminal law in the former Yugoslavia since 1991.

Academic Activities

Integral to the academic program are visits to major courts and legal institutions located in The Hague, where students will have the opportunity to meet and spend time with practitioners, and to observe hearings or proceedings when in progress. Institutions visited in 2008 include:

- International Court of Justice
- International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia
- International Criminal Court
- The Office of the Legal Counselor at the American Embassy
- District Court of The Hague, Criminal Law Section

Internships

The Asser Institute, the faculty who teach the class sessions, WCL alumni, and other friends of the program will assist students in exploring potential internship opportunities. It remains the student's responsibility, however, to secure an internship in The Hague at the conclusion of the coursework. Students who began the process of securing an internship early on have the greatest success in finding a placement. In the past, several participants pursued internships directly related to international criminal law. For instance, three students interned with a defense team at the ICTY and another worked with the Documentation Center of Cambodia, on issues related to public access to proceedings of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia.

The Hague is located on the North Sea; many afternoons and weekends are free for students to explore and enjoy the city and its surroundings.



Photo credit: larscapes.com

Extracurricular Activities

During the program, there are many opportunities for students to meet informally with students, researchers, and practitioners in the field of international justice. The Hague is a cosmopolitan city with beaches, museums, and a vibrant city life. Students will have free time most afternoons and weekends to visit cultural points of interest and enjoy the long June days on the North Sea. As experiencing the culture and visiting other parts of the country are integral to the learning process, the program includes a trip to Amsterdam. Students can use their other free weekends for more ambitious excursions; for instance, a fast train takes you from The Hague to Paris in under four hours and to London in under six.



Amsterdam has one of Europe's largest historic city centers.

www.wcl.american.edu/hague | 7

Photo credit: Julian Coccia

Right: Past participants on a canal tour in Amsterdam.

Far right: Past participants at the program's opening reception at the Peace Palace.



Program Details

Credits

This program is accredited by the American Bar Association. Program participants earn six credits for the two courses. Applicants who intend to transfer credits should inquire about their law school's policy on that issue. Applicants should be aware that participation in the program is unlikely to accelerate graduation for a full-time student.

Eligibility

- Full-time and part-time JD candidates who have completed their first year of study by May 2009,
- Candidates for graduate law degrees (LL.M., S.J.D.),
- JD graduates, and
- Graduate students in other disciplines may be eligible. The program director will determine their eligibility on a case by case basis.

Student applicants must be enrolled and in good standing at an accredited university or law school, as demonstrated by a letter of good standing to be submitted with the application.

Application

Application for admission is on a rolling basis, but interested students are strongly encouraged to apply early, as the program may fill before the deadline. All applications must be submitted by March 2, 2009, through the web portal accessible at www.wcl.american.edu/hague.



Photo credit: Laura Geddes-Páez

Each application must be accompanied by a \$100 nonrefundable registration fee. Non-WCL students must include a letter of good standing by their Dean or Registrar for the application to be considered. Participation in the program is limited to 40 students. The registration fee will be returned only if the application is rejected, the program is cancelled, or the student is disqualified.

Expenses

The program fee is \$8,586, which is the cost of six law school credits at Washington College of Law. At no additional cost, the program includes housing, reading materials, health insurance during the official dates of the program, organized tours, receptions, and transportation to program activities. Participants are responsible for the cost of all international travel, most meals (approximately \$30 per day) and the cost of commuting to and from classes (about \$3-5 per day if using public trams or bicycle rental). Applicants must submit an additional \$500 deposit within three weeks of notice of acceptance and in any event, no later than March 23, 2009. Failure to submit the \$500 deposit may result in forfeiture of place in the program. The balance of \$8,086 is due May 8, 2009. Checks should be made payable to the Washington College of Law. All payments are nonrefundable, except in the event the program is unable to accommodate an accepted applicant. Persons with disabilities should contact program staff prior to submitting their application fee to learn of any potential challenges while in The Hague. The program reserves the right to cancel at any time because of insufficient enrollment or for other good cause.

Financial Aid

WCL students are eligible for financial aid for the program. Non-WCL students should check with their law schools for financial assistance and possible consortium agreements with WCL.

Travel

Participants must make their own arrangements for travel between their home country and the Netherlands. Most participants will fly into Amsterdam; from the airport, The Hague is less than an hour by train. Travel arrangements are the sole responsibility of each participant. The program does not incur any liability for those arrangements.

Housing

Students will be provided housing, at no additional cost. Students may choose to travel locally by public transportation or by renting a bicycle for the month.

Passport and Visa

A passport is required for travel to the Netherlands. U.S. citizens with valid passports do not need a visa to travel to the Netherlands for under three months. It is the responsibility of citizens of other countries to obtain a visa, if required, from the Royal Netherlands Embassy in Washington, D.C. Students not holding valid passports at the time of application should take immediate steps to obtain them.

Apply online at www.wcl.american.edu/hague

Please send inquiries to:

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“The Summer Law Program in The Hague was a great educational and cultural experience that will serve me in my future as an advocate and a member of the world community.”

~ Past Participant



Schedule

SUMMER LAW PROGRAM IN THE HAGUE 2009

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
JUNE							
	1 <i>Orientation and opening reception</i>	2 9:00 – 12:50 Session 1	3 9:00 – 12:50 Session 2	4 9:00 – 12:50 Session 3	5	6 Visit to Amsterdam	
	<i>First night in program housing</i>		<i>Afternoon site visit</i>				
7	8 9:00 – 12:50 Session 4	9 9:00 – 12:50 Session 5	10 9:00 – 12:50 Session 6	11 9:00 – 12:50 Session 7	12 <i>Midterm review</i>	13	
			<i>Afternoon site visit</i>			<i>Networking panel</i>	
14	15 9:00 – 12:50 Session 8	16 9:00 – 12:50 Session 9	17 9:00 – 12:50 Session 10	18 9:00 – 12:50 Session 11	19	20	
	<i>Afternoon site visit</i>		<i>Afternoon site visit</i>				
21	22 9:00 – 12:50 Session 12	23 9:00 – 12:50 Session 13	24 9:00 – 12:50 Session 14	25 <i>Reading period</i>	26 <i>Final Exam 1</i>	27 <i>Final Exam 2</i>	
						<i>Final night in program housing</i>	
28 <i>End of program</i>	29	30					

**Tentative schedule; all program times and activities subject to change*



AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

W A S H I N G T O N , D C

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