Master of Laws

Strathmore University
Law School
“We work together to make this world better based on the principle of justice and fairness. As the former Secretary General of the United Nations, I extend my deep appreciation to the Strathmore Law School for your commitment to the rule of law.”

*Ban Ki Moon,*
*8th Secretary General of the United Nations*
Course Description

The Master of Laws at Strathmore Law School is an 18 month programme designed for experienced lawyers and legal practitioners who wish to expand their knowledge and expertise without interrupting their careers. The SLS LL.M offers the students first-rate increased understanding of local, regional and international legal principles. Students may enroll for a general LL.M or may choose to major in one of the five thematic areas of law offered, namely Intellectual Property Law, International Criminal Law, International Financial Law and Regulation, Oil & Gas Law and Corporate & International Tax Law.

Through lectures taught by predominantly international faculty members, case studies depicting actual problem cases in the industry, research and through group work amongst academic peers, the Programme will aim to provide students with the theoretical and practical building blocks and conceptual tools necessary for the more advanced tasks they will be called upon throughout the course.

Programme Objectives

The learning outcomes of the Master of Laws programme are to:

1. Critically assess and provide modern, innovative and adequate legal training to complex situations in their line of work at individual, institutional, national and regional level.
2. Acquire advanced specialist knowledge in emerging areas of the law with an in-depth knowledge guided by the specific choices the candidates may make during their progression within the LLM programme.
3. Conduct independent academic legal research in the legal field and to make a societally relevant contribution to the development of the law.
4. Independently engage in academic discourse with peers from a diversity of legal backgrounds.
Thematic areas

Intellectual Property Law

This major will be offered under the Strathmore Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology, a research centre dedicated to strengthening capacity of Intellectual Property practitioners and innovators. The programme offers instruction by international and regional experts in various intellectual property subjects with the goal of providing practical skills in the classroom. An elective clinical component allows students to gain further practical experience in recognizing and dealing with intellectual property issues. The LLM directly responds to the need to create capacity at the African level to handle intellectual property issues by offering the distinct combination of academic and practical instruction under different modules.

Electives in this thematic area include:

• Advanced Copyright
• Advanced Trademarks
• Enforcement of Intellectual Property Rights
• Advanced Patents
• Intellectual Property Law & the Digital Age
• Plant Breeders Rights & Genetic Resources
• Intellectual Property & the Developing World
• Traditional Knowledge & Traditional Cultural Expressions (Folklore)
• Social Media Law
• Economics and Intellectual Property Law
• Intellectual Property Clinic

International Criminal Justice

The major in International Criminal Justice adopts a pioneering approach that combines both academic and practical instruction. This focuses on core foundational courses, distinctive thematic courses of contemporary relevance and skills-based courses to equip graduates with the necessary tools to address international justice issues and transnational criminality. The programme leverages available networks to offer instruction by the highest rated international and regional career practitioners which is a pioneering approach to legal education by bringing on-the-job training into the classroom. The LL.M programme will be one of the most innovative and intellectually exciting of advanced legal education programmes offered in the field of international criminal justice and human rights in Africa today.

Electives in this thematic area include:

• International Criminal Law
• International Criminal Law Procedure
• International Humanitarian Law
• Criminology & Complex Investigation
• Accountability Mechanisms for International Crimes
• Legal Responses to Terrorism & Violent Extremism
• Crimes of Sexual & Gender Based Violence
• Organized Crime & Corruption
• Advocacy & Legal Clinic
• Transitional Justice
• International Legal Studies
• International Mechanisms for Cooperation
International Financial Law and Regulation

This thematic area focuses on the legal, theoretical and practical aspects of financial regulation and supervision with a particular focus on global events. This focus extends to analyze financial firms and the pertinent issues. Domestic and international statutes and standards will be examined in regards to banks which although are regulated domestically, their activities invariably transcend borders. It will aim to analyze the issues relating to financial firms by first outlining the rationale behind regulation. The programme critically evaluates the policy considerations that have come and gone to enhance the effectiveness of these tools.

Oil & Gas Law

This thematic area is a uniquely innovative and an unparalleled market-oriented opportunity in Kenya (and the broader African region) linking oil and gas to multiple perspectives of domestic, regional and international law. The curriculum is designed to respond to the increasing demand for oil and gas legal practitioners in Kenya that are equipped with the requisite skills in oil and gas contracting; oil and gas financing and project economics; and socio-environmental aspects. These skills form the very foundations of the legal aspects in oil and gas and give students the opportunity to acquire or deepen their analytical and practice skills for a legal career in the oil and gas sector.

Electives in this thematic area include:

- International Banking & Financial Services Law
- Capital Markets & Securities Law
- Insurance Law & Related Services
- Insolvency & Reorganisations
- Contract Law: Drafting, Negotiation & Management
- Corporate Governance & Business Ethics
- Contemporary Legal Issues in Finance
- International & Comparative Competition Law
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Public Private Partnerships
- Public Procurement Law & Policy
- Company Law
- International Corporate Finance
- Legal Aspects of International Finance
- Taxation of Financial Institutions

Electives in this thematic area include:

- Fundamentals of Oil & Gas
- Investor-State Relations in International Oil & Gas Contracts
- Kenya’s Petroleum Legal Context & Contract Negotiations
- Investment Decision Analysis in Oil & Gas Projects
- Risk Management & Corporate Governance
- Human Rights Issues in Oil & Gas
- Oil & Gas Environmental Impacts
- International Dispute Resolution in the Oil & Gas Industry (International Practicum / Module Abroad)
- Renewable Energy Law in Kenya
Thematic areas

**Corporate & International Tax Law**

Tax law is a moving target, constantly changing and becoming ever more complex as it evolves. The increased globalization of the world economy in recent years has increased the prominence and importance of international tax to businesses and governments. The programme focuses on both the domestic and cross-border tax framework that determines where and how profits of global businesses and mobile individuals are taxed. It provides a firm foundation for the understanding of the workings of the Kenyan tax system as well as the policy that drives it in relation to the ever-changing world of tax. The curriculum then builds upon this foundation to equip the student with a firm grasp of international tax aspects by exploring tax treaties, transfer pricing, international tax planning among others.

Electives in this thematic area include:

- Income Taxation
- Value Added Tax
- Tax Policy
- International Tax Law
- Tax Treaties
- International Tax Planning
- Transfer Pricing
- Taxation of the Extractive Industry
- Customs Law
- Comparative Corporate Tax Law

At Strathmore University Law School, our students will get the opportunity to rediscover the roots of their decision to study law.
Dr Luis G Franceschi, LL.B (UCAB), LL.M (Nairobi) and LL.D (Navarre) has published more than a dozen peer reviewed articles and books on topics relating to law and ethics. He is also a Peer Reviewer for the Council of Legal Education (Kenya) and a Consultant for the Ministry of Justice, National Cohesion and Constitutional Affairs, the Constitution.

"Strathmore’s LLM is tailored to connect brilliant law practitioners and scholars to some of the top leading experts. Anybody who wishes to join our LLM should be ready to be part of a life changing experience through a demanding yet attractive and engaging programme."

Dr Joy Malala-Scholz has a special interest in researching the structure of regulation and supervision, risk-based system of supervision, legal accountability of regulators, corporate governance, enforcement sanctions, deposit insurance and the use of external auditors. She is interested in the examination of the role of Central Banks.

"This course was developed in consultation with the industry and delivered by leading international and local experts on financial regulation. This innovative LLM in International Finance Law and Regulation provides an interdisciplinary approach in the global context of the theory, practice and regulation of financial firms."

Dr Peter Kwenjera holds a PhD in Law and a Masters in Governance and Culture of Organisations from the University of Navarre, as well as a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from the University of Nairobi. He is qualified as a Certified Public Accountant and is a member of the Law Society of Kenya. His areas of focus include: negotiation skills, contract skills, management law for entrepreneurs and legal ethics.

"The continued existence of gaps in diversity of legal thought and areas in legal academia in Kenya manifests not only the problem but also the growth potential of legal education in Kenya. Suffice it to say, the LLM at Strathmore Law School is uniquely placed as an important tool in fostering the latter while obliterating the former. In tackling, among others, International Criminal Law and Information Technology Law, this Masters Program in essence emphasizes the adaptation of new, localised and practical ways of effectively resolving contemporary legal problems in Kenya and Africa."
Dr Isaac Rutenberg is a senior lecturer and Director of the Center for Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law (CIPIT) at Strathmore university in Nairobi. He is licensed to practice law in California and to practice before the patent offices in the USA and Kenya. His academic research focuses on efficient use and implementation of IP rights in Kenya and across the African Continent.

“With the recent rapid advancement of technology, there is a need to create awareness about people’s rights in intangible property e.g. intellectual property. In Africa, Intellectual Property (IP) is a largely untapped area, yet it is a rapidly growing area of law as more people are trying to develop solutions to the various problems in the continent. The Strathmore Law School LL.M combines academic lectures with clinical experience, is aimed at capturing the creative minds in various industries with a yearning for intellectual stimulation by increasing their knowledge about intellectual property and the law that surrounds it.”

Dr. Melba Kapesa Wasunna, SJD, is the Director of the Extractives Baraza based at Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya. She was a legal associate at one of New York’s premier law firms, Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP. She is admitted to practice as an attorney at the New York State Bar.

“Developed in collaboration with the industry and delivered by leading international and local experts on oil and gas, this exciting LL.M in Oil and Gas programme provides an interdisciplinary approach – the first of its kind in East Africa - set in the broader context of contemporary oil and gas regulation, law and policy. Our mission is to make you a highly effective legal specialist, capable of operating in a transnational oil and gas context.”

Dr J Osogo Ambani, LLD (UP), LLM (UP), LLB (UoN), Dip KSL, teaches at Strathmore Law School and is also the Editor-in-Chief, Strathmore Law Journal. He has taught, published, and consulted widely in the areas of Constitutional Law, Human Rights, Gender, Governance, Jurisprudence and Research Methods.

“A good Masters Program aims at making candidates start feeling like masters. An excellent one makes them raise more questions than they can answer, suspending premature celebrations of ‘mastery’. Ours will do exactly this. And more! Candidates will have to find new, and higher goals to aim at!”
Professor Claus Kreß (Dr. jur. Cologne; LL.M. Cantab.) is Professor for Criminal Law and Public International Law. He holds the Chair for German and International Criminal Law and he is Director of the Institute of International Peace and Security Law at the University of Cologne, Germany.

“Scholarship and teaching in international criminal law has been thriving at Strathmore Law School over the past years. Through the inauguration of a Master’s program with a strong major in International Criminal Law and Justice, Strathmore University Law School is now firmly on its way toward establishing itself as an East African lighthouse in the field. It is much to be hoped that many students, not least from Africa, will avail themselves of the splendid new opportunity to study for their Master of Laws degree in Kenya.”

Dr. Arielle Emmett, Ph.D., is a writer, visual journalist and traveling scholar specializing in East Asia, African-China relations, science writing, and human interest. She is a recipient of a 2015 Fulbright grant to teach visual media and online journalism curriculum for the Universitas Padjadjaran, West Java, Indonesia. Emmett has been a professional journalist and teacher since beginning her career as a correspondent for Newsweek in the 1970s. Currently she is a regular contributor to Smithsonian Air & Space, Smithsonian.com, and Business North Carolina.

“Legal advocates are, first and foremost, communicators. Deep research, writing and speaking skills must go beyond the comparatively specialized jargon of professional journals and legal briefs. Rather, the great advocate writes and speaks with a clarity and directness that commands the attention of all peoples, including lay audiences and the press. The LL.M programme challenges experienced attorneys to find that clarity, linking it to their deepest convictions regarding justice and human rights.”

Professor Santiago Legarre, PhD (Universidad de Buenos Aires), M. St (University of Oxford), LLB (Universidad Catolica, Argentina), is a visiting professor at the University of Notre Dame Law School (Indiana) and at Strathmore Law School (Kenya), where he developed a teaching system of expressing knowledge through art. In 2016 he lectured at Harvard Law School, invited by the American Constitution Society; and at Cornell Law School, where he was part of the Berger International Speakers Series. In 2017 he presented on natural law and constitutional law for the Eric Voegelin Institute at Louisiana State University.

“Having been part of the founding of Strathmore Law School not long ago, it is now a great honor and pleasure to be part of this new stage in its development and growth. I have no doubt that the LL.M will be a great success and that laying solid foundations in legal theory will contribute to that.”
Why Strathmore Law School

A One-of-a-Kind Uniqueness

The programme allows you to modify your own course of study based on your individual academic and career objectives while experiencing Kenyan and African law school culture. The LL.M Office assists students in designing a study programme from 60 courses, including common courses, pre-requisite and advanced electives, research seminars and legal clinics.

Participant Centered Learning

At SLS, our students are at the heart of our existence. We seek to enrich the participants professional, academic and social well-being in light of their legal careers.

Networking

The SU alumni network comprises of professionals from diverse backgrounds and thus provides an excellent opportunity for networks to be built within and across the various faculties.

International Character and Participation

SLS collaborates with various international universities and institutions such as Aberdeen University, University of Texas, Queen Mary University of London, the IBFD amongst many other reputable legal institutions. The synergy builds a firm foundation for the growth of our students’ legal professions.

Strong Research Base

SLS is home to six research centres, namely
i. SIASIC- Strathmore Institute of Advanced Studies in International Criminal Justice;
ii. SEIC- Strathmore Extractives Industries Centre;
iii. CIPIT- Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology;
iv. STRC- Strathmore Tax Research Centre;
v. SDRC- Strathmore Dispute Resolution Centre; and
vi. SCLP- Strathmore Centre for Law and Policy.

They provide a channel of professional knowledge that enriches the scholarly life at SLS. The centres provide unmatchable research opportunities for its LL.M students and a chance to work directly with faculty on core intellectual agendas.

Executive Coaching

Our students will be coached by some of the best legal minds, who understand the local, regional and international legal systems, enabling them to exploit their potential and further transform their legal careers.

International Module

This is an exciting one week intensive course offered in conjunction with partner universities and institutions abroad such the University of Texas, the IBFD amongst others. Our legal executives are offered highly sought-after expertise in the international legal fraternity. This collaboration ensures that our students benefit from global exposures to new and vibrant cultural settings.

International Faculty

SLS hosts over a dozen visiting professors and legal practitioners annually. They bring their own unique perspectives to the courses offered at SLS, thereby greatly enriching our students’ legal education experience.

World-Class Facilities

SLS has avant-garde architecture that has been designed and built uniquely and in compliance with energy conservation requirements. This ensures delivery of a rich and holistic learning experience for its students.
LL.M Admission / Entry Requirements

Applicants should have a minimum of two years’ working experience in the legal field. We administer our own Graduate Entrance Exam (GEE), but a candidate may present their GMAT results if they are less than four years old. The application fee is KES 5,000 payable upon registration for the GEE or upon submission of GMAT results.

Additionally, candidates must meet the following academic and work experience qualifications:

• Holders of First Class or Upper Second Class honours degree in Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) from recognized universities, with at least two years relevant academic or professional experience; or

• Holders of other related qualifications from recognised universities, considered by the Academic Council as equivalent to a First Class or Upper Second Class honours degree in Bachelor of Laws (LL.B); or

• Holders of Lower Second Class degree in Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) plus postgraduate diplomas or certificates, or with at least three years relevant academic or professional experience.

• Holders of a qualification equivalent to a Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) degree or any similar degree in the legal field, issued by a recognised university. These may be admitted to the Master’s degree only under exceptional circumstances. The conditions under which they may be admitted will be determined by the School Board, Board of Graduate Studies and approved by the Academic Council.

How to Apply

Application forms are available at the SLS Office or can be downloaded from www.law.strathmore.edu. Send the completed application form with your CV, two reference letters (one professional / official and one personal / academic), copies of your academic certificates and transcripts, and a passport size photograph to llm@strathmore.edu. You may also drop your fully completed application form at our offices. For inquiries, call the Programme Manager on +254-703-034-607.

Participant Profile

Applicants include experienced lawyers, in-house counsel, judges, government officials, legal practitioners, policy makers and law school graduates. Admission is highly competitive and based on an all-inclusive assessment of the submitted application including prior academic performance, recommendations, and work experience.

Mode of Delivery

The LL.M will be offered on Modular basis, which involves participants attending classes for two weeks full-time after every quarter, over an eighteen-month period. In line with the needs of the students as experienced lawyers and legal practitioners, the primary focus of delivery is participant-centered learning. This type of learning is particularly suitable to this audience in that it has its core ingredient in the combined experience of student participants.
### Scheduled Master of Laws (LL.M) Timelines for the Academic Year 2018/19

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Scheduled Dates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LLM Launch</td>
<td>Fri 29 September 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Admissions</td>
<td>Mon 2 October 2017 to Fri 5 January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orientation</td>
<td>Mon 8 January 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Module 1</td>
<td>Mon 8 to Sat 20 January 2018</td>
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<td>Module 2</td>
<td>Tue 3 to Sat 15 April 2018</td>
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<td>Module 3</td>
<td>Mon 2 to Sat 14 July 2018</td>
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<td>Module 4</td>
<td>Mon 1 to Sat 13 October 2018</td>
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<td>Module 5</td>
<td>Mon 7 to Sat 19 January 2019</td>
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<td>Module 6</td>
<td>Mon 1 to Sat 13 April 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pioneer Class Graduation</td>
<td>Fri 28 June 2019</td>
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For more information:
Write to: llm@strathmore.edu
Call: +254-703-034-601 / 607
Visit: http://www.law.strathmore.edu/study-at-sls/llm