

# INTERNATIONAL AND BUSINESS LAW DEPARTMENT

## **CURRICULUM MAP WITH LEARNING OUTCOMES**

**UNIVERSITY MISSION:** American University of Central Asia is an international, multi-disciplinary learning community in the American liberal arts tradition that develops enlightened and impassioned leaders for the democratic transformation of Central Asia.

**DEPARTMENT MISSION:** The mission of the AUCA International and Business Law Department is to educate new generation of lawyers through a program with a focus on independent, analytical learning and practical skills within a liberal arts framework for them to play a role in transformation of society to rule of law and market economy in Central Asia.

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**Note: More information on learning outcomes in separate courses is presented in an Excel document attached.**

### I. ORAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS

Graduates are able to communicate clearly and in a range of contexts with the ability to both work in and lead group discussions and participate in various tasks involving communicative competence in the legal context.

LEARNING OUTCOMES	EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES	RESPONSIBLE COURSES	ASSIGNMENTS
<b>Present information</b>	Ability to present information in an appropriate form; Ability to communicate orally, using relevant legal terminology	All courses	Oral assignments  Free discussion
<b>Listen and contribute to discussion</b>	Ability to listen actively and follow the discussion well, respond to questions and make comments in a constructive way		Pyramid discussion  Syndicate discussion
<b>Communicate</b>	Ability to use proper grammar, word choice, and style in order to hold a discussion in an academic context as well as to present one’s own position in a clear, comprehensive way		Student-led seminar discussion  Individual student presentations
<b>Debate</b>	Ability to engage in discussions, to express own ideas in an understandable and logical way; Ability to use relevant arguments and evidence to support one’s own position;	All courses, especially Moot Court; National Commercial Arbitration; International Commercial Arbitration;	Group student presentations  Role-play

	<p>Ability to understand the opposite side’s position and respond to it in a constructive and attentive manner;          Ability to perform rebuttal and surrebuttal</p>	<p>Legal Skills</p>	<p>Brainstorming activities          Buzz group          Fishbowl discussion          Case study discussions          Role-play discussion          Debate          Moot court exercises          Simulation exercises (negotiation, arbitration, mediation)</p>
<p><b>Deliver effective oral presentations</b></p>	<p>Ability to present and discuss ideas and arguments effectively, in a coherent, comprehensive, and engaging way;          Ability to use visual aids to support oral presentations;          Ability to demonstrate professional poise, speak articulately, and ensure that the information is presented in an engaging way (paying attention to eye contact, flow and pace, appropriate language, and clear pronunciation);          Ability to respond to questions in a constructive manner;          Ability to demonstrate comprehensive knowledge and understanding of topic</p>	<p>All courses</p>	<p>Individual student presentations          Group student presentations          Oral defense of senior project</p>
<p><b>Plead a case before a court/arbitration tribunal/jury</b></p>	<p>Ability to present a claim before a court of law, arbitration tribunal, jury at national and international levels.</p>	<p>Civil Procedure;          Criminal Procedure;          Civil Law. Obligations;          Legal Skills;          Public International Law;          Private International Law;          Legal Clinic I and II;          Investment Law and Sustainable Development;          National Commercial Arbitration;</p>	<p>Moot court exercises          Simulation exercises (litigation, arbitration, exercises)          Representation of clients in courts</p>

		International Commercial Arbitration; International Human Rights Law; International Humanitarian Law; Law Enforcement Bodies of KR; International Criminal Law; International Trade Law; Commercial Law of KR	
<b>Represent client's interests</b>	Ability to identify clients' interests, develop best strategy to address client's problems based on the relevant sources of law; Ability to communicate with clients in a comprehensive, clear, and constructive way; Ability to interact with various state and non-state actors/agencies in addressing clients' legal problems	Legal Writing; Legal Clinic I and II; Legal Skills; Internship I and II; National Commercial Arbitration; International Commercial Arbitration; Public International Law; Private International Law; Moot Court; Civil Procedure; Criminal Procedure;	Legal memoranda Legal briefs Client opinion letters Client counseling and meetings with clients Letters requesting information on behalf of clients from relevant bodies Meetings with relevant representatives of state bodies
<b>Conduct client interview and counseling</b>	Ability to communicate with clients effectively, extract legally important facts, formulate and identify legal issues; Ability to propose solutions to legal problems of clients in a clear, understandable way	Legal Writing; Moot Court; Civil Procedure; Criminal Procedure; Legal Skills; Legal Clinic I and II	Client interview Client counseling

## **II. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

Graduates are able to draft comprehensive, consistent, and well-structured pieces of academic writing of different length, genres, and for a variety of audiences in the legal context in a rigorous manner.

<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE COURSES</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>
<b>Collect data, locate primary and secondary</b>	Ability to identify appropriate sources of information for	All courses	Reading assignments

<b>sources</b>	<p>individual research projects and other written work;          Ability to use Internet and on-line databases available in AUCA (Lexis-Nexis, JSTOR, Paragraph, etc.) to find primary and secondary sources;          Ability to develop efficient strategies for collecting legal materials;          Ability to evaluate the reliability of information, quality of sources and choose appropriate sources.</p>		<p>Reading critique          Written Exams (open-book, take-home)          Reaction papers          Reflection papers          Position papers          Essays</p>
<b>Cite sources properly</b>	<p>Ability to explain the concept of plagiarism and differentiate between presenting their own ideas and plagiarizing source materials;          Ability to document references and citations according to Chicago Manual of Style and Bluebook</p>	<p>All courses, especially Legal Writing, Legal Research Methods, Senior Thesis Seminar, Legal Skills</p>	<p>Literature review          Research proposals          Senior project roadmap          Senior project</p>
<b>Construct legal arguments and perform legal analysis</b>	<p>Ability to structure an academic work following styles and standards of academic writing followed in U.S. universities;          Ability to identify, understand and use legal reasoning to present a legal argument</p>		<p>Case briefs          Legal memorandum          Client opinion letter</p>
<b>Demonstrate analytical and critical writing</b>	<p>Ability to present logical, strong, and persuasive argumentation;          Ability to understand strengths and weaknesses of an argumentation, identify argumentation fallacies and avoid them;          Ability to prepare, analyze, and evaluate legal documents</p>	<p>All courses</p>	<p>Procedural legal documents</p>
<b>Master academic legal writing style</b>	<p>Ability to use grammar, vocabulary, and style appropriate for academic writing pieces (considering writing, style, clarity of expression, coherence and unity, grammar, word choice, sentence fluency, spelling, punctuation);          Ability to comment, annotate or edit texts and documents correctly in line with the requirements set for the legal discipline</p>		

<p><b>Organize writing in a coherent, structured way</b></p>	<p>Ability to use appropriate academic language and style;          Ability to synthesize and integrate legal data in one's writing;          Ability to organize complex information in a coherent manner to support one's position;          Ability to demonstrate coherence and structure in one's writing</p>		
<p><b>Draft legal documents</b></p>	<p>Ability to draft legal memoranda, client opinion letters, and procedural documents</p>	<p>Legal Writing          Criminal Law 1 and 2          Civil Procedure Law          Criminal Procedure Law          Moot Court          Civil Law. Property          Civil Law. Business          Entities          Civil Law. Contracts          Civil Law. Obligations          Legal Clinic I and II          Public International Law          Private International Law          Labor law          Tax Law          International          Humanitarian Law          National Commercial          Arbitration          International Commercial          Arbitration          International Trade Law          Commercial Law of KR          Investment Law and SD          Legal Skills</p>	<p>Case briefs          Legal memorandum          Client opinion letter          Legal briefs          Procedural legal documents</p>
<p><b>Carry out a longer research project (longer paper, senior project)</b></p>	<p>Ability to select a research topic (considering theoretical and/or practical significance, currency, relevance, rationale of the study)          Ability to formulate a research question and a thesis statement;          Ability to understand and use appropriate research methods;          Ability to synthesize and integrate legal data in one's writing;          Ability to use relevant evidence and strong arguments to support the thesis statement as well as demonstrate critical analysis of the project issues (considering command of the topic, depth and development of discussion,</p>	<p>Legal Research Methods,          Senior Thesis Seminar</p>	<p>Research proposal          Senior project roadmap          Senior project</p>

engagement with sources, effective use and interpretation of evidence, argumentation and response to counter-arguments)

### III. CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

Graduates are able to reason logically and analytically and form an informed, argued judgment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES	EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES	RESPONSIBLE COURSES	ASSIGNMENTS
<b>Reason logically within and outside of the discipline</b>	Ability to recognize and use logical models such as induction, deduction, analogy, etc	All courses	Written assignments Reflection papers Oral presentations Legal memorandum Various legal procedural documents Resolution of hypothetical situations Court briefs
<b>Think critically</b>	To understand and assess the origin of information, be able to recognize, analyze, assess, select and construct arguments on the basis of their merits	All courses	Legal memorandum Legal opinion Client letter Reflection papers Research papers Other written assignments
<b>Form an informed, reasoned judgment</b>	Ability to make a well-reasoned judgment, use of varied multiple sources, verify value of evidence and recognize subjectivity	All courses, specifically in Legal Writing; Moot Court; Legal Skills; Private International law; Legal Research Methods; Thesis Research Seminar; Legal Clinic I and II	Legal memorandum Legal opinion Client letter Written assignments Reflection papers Research papers

		Various legal procedural documents
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#### **IV. DIGITAL LITERACY**

Graduates are able to use computer, mobile technology and Internet to find, learn and assess information, communicate and share information and experiences personally and professionally.

<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE COURSES</b>	<b>ASSIGNMENTS</b>
<b>Use digital devices to fulfill coursework</b>	Ability to use computer hardware, software, other digital devices (tablets, smartphones) to access readings, produce written assignments, presentations, spreadsheets and other learning products.	All courses	Written assignments Presentations Reading Assignments Oral Assignments In-class work Exams (in class home)
<b>Use digital devices to search for information in Internet</b>	Ability to use computer hardware, software, other digital devices (tablets, smartphones) to connect to Internet and search for information; Operate various search engines; Distinguish between academically reliable and unreliable sources of information; Browse through large quantities of materials found in Internet, critically evaluate them, and find the most relevant ones for the completion of the given research tasks.	All courses, specifically in: Moot Court; Legal Research Methods; Thesis Research Seminar; Legal Skills; Legal Writing;	
<b>Use digital devices to access and search for information in legal databases and e-platforms of courses</b>	Ability to search for legal information in subject specific databases (Toktom, LexisNexis, Westlaw, Jstor and etc.), to sort received data and use for learning purposes Ability to use e-learning platforms of courses: reach reading materials, submit assignments, understand main functions, use communication functions of the e-learning platforms (creating forums, following online classes, and other). Ability to create, upload, and download information and multimedia data.	All courses	
<b>Use digital devices for communication</b>	Ability to use computer hardware, software, other digital devices	All courses	



purposes	(tablets, smartphones) and Internet to communicate and collaborate with other students (e.g. for team assignments), to distinguish between informal and formal social networking, tools and sites for sharing information and creating personalized digital content (create user profiles, blogging, using tools provided by webpages for registered users).		
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### V. PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS

Graduates are able to identify, analyze and find a solution to complex issues.

LEARNING OUTCOMES	EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES	RESPONSIBLE COURSES	ASSIGNMENTS
<b>Identify a legal problem</b>	Ability to identify a legal problem within factual problems. Ability to identify the branch-(es) of law to which the problem relates.	All courses, specifically in: Theory of Law; Criminal Law I; Legal Writing	
<b>Identify and assess various approaches and methodological legal tools that can help to solve a legal problem</b>	Ability to find and evaluate all approaches and legal tools (identify relevant legal norms, find applicable court cases and secondary sources) that can potentially help to solve a problem.	All courses, specifically in: Criminal Law II; Public International Law; Business Entities; International Criminal Law; Property; Constitutional Law; Moot Court; Civil Procedure; Obligations; Contracts;	Group assignments Written assignments Presentations Reading Assignments
<b>Choose the most appropriate (efficient) tool and use it to solve the problem</b>	Ability to choose the most appropriate way of solving a legal problem (which legal norms should be used, court procedure followed, and etc.).	All courses, specifically in: Civil Procedure; Obligations; Contracts; International Business Transactions; Tax Law; Natural Resources Law; Legal Skills; Private International law; Legal Research Methods; Thesis Research Seminar; Legal Clinic I and II; Investment Law; Intellectual Property Law;	Oral Assignments In-class work Exams (in class, home)



## VI. GLOBAL AWARENESS

Graduates are able to understand and apply knowledge and examine global issues from various perspectives.

LEARNING OUTCOMES	EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES	RESPONSIBLE COURSES	ASSIGNMENTS
<b>Describe, compare and address different issues from various perspectives within a field</b>	Ability to define and relate different features of globalization, be aware of different cultural perspectives, rule of law, human rights, democracy, awareness of the wider context, discuss developments, trends, and problems that are confronting the world community	All courses, specifically in: Theory of Law; Constitutional Law; Legal Writing; Public International Law; Legal Research Methods	
<b>Identify and apply theoretical knowledge in the practical situations in relation to global issues</b>	Ability to identify global issues and disparities and to discuss issues of equality, justice and construct solutions considering different values and viewpoints, recognize and negotiate differences in cross cultural contexts, compare and use approaches in various jurisdictions	All courses, specifically in: Constitutional Law; Public International Law; Moot Court; Legal Research Methods	Writing a research paper Written assignments Presentations
<b>Use and integrate and evaluate various dynamics from different disciplines</b>	Ability to compare and assess legal/political/economical/social/environmental issues, evaluate various issues critically and thoroughly related to the global issues and organize in a coherent manner	Theory of Law; Labor Law; Legal Skills; Legal Research Methods; Tax Law; Natural Resources Law; International Human Rights Law; International Criminal Law; International Humanitarian Law; International Private Law; International Trade Law; Health Law and Equity; European Law and Human Rights; Investment Law and Sustainable Development; International Commercial Transactions; Legal Skills; Thesis Research Seminar	Examinations (in class and take home) Quizzes (open questions) Trial simulations Debates

## VII. CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY

Graduates are able to engage both in thought and in action in the public life of a community, value further learning and professional development

LEARNING OUTCOMES	EXPLANATION OF OUTCOMES	RESPONSIBLE COURSES	ASSIGNMENTS
<b>Identify rights and responsibilities, gather information, solve problems</b>	Ability to get involved into different issues in the community, recognize the value of each individual, do research on a particular question/problem, has an ability to express, listen and consider ideas	All courses, specifically in: Legal Writing; Theory of Law; Constitutional Law; Legal Skills; Legal Research Methods	Interviewing clients  Legal Memorandums  Client Opinion Letters Research Papers  Reflection papers  Reports, daily journals
<b>Respond, reflect and assist in relation to public inquiry</b>	Ability to effectively communicate and show the ability to express, listen and provide coherent arguments as well as directions for solving the issue, show commitment to further actions	Theory of Law; Legal Writing; Moot Court; Legal Clinic I; Constitutional Law; Civil Procedural Law; Criminal Procedural Law; Legal Skills	Applying with the client cases and representing in the courts at all levels
<b>Determine ways to impact public policy and understand the consequences of those directions</b>	Ability to participate in service to the community, recognize and negotiate differences, recognize and promote the impact of the activity and taking great responsibility to serve the community, design and implement research projects which can inform policy makers	Theory of Law; Constitutional Law; International Human Rights Law; Legal Clinic II; Legal Research Methods; Thesis Research Seminar; Internship	Extensive Research Papers  Legal Memorandums  Applying with the client cases and representing in the courts at all levels  Reports, daily journals