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SPACE2016

A general overview for the Air and Space Law Master Program (L.L.M)

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General Overview

Vision of the contracting parties (GCAA & University of Sharjah):

- Building the Future of Civil Aviation Together, in recognition of joint work and concerted efforts;
- Fostering a culture of critical review in a diverse learning environment which leads to the discovery, creation, and diffusion of knowledge.

Both parties are proceeding the accreditation of the Master program in Air and Space Law that is expected to start in September 2016.



Aims and Description of The Program

Aims:

Enhancing the legal education and culture for its candidates in order to deal with national and international challenges arising because of the accelerating developments in the related fields of the program.

Description:

The Program offers a combination of public air law, private air law and space law, both from an international and national perspective as well.

Air law is the branch of law that concerns flight, air travel, and associated legal and business concerns. In many cases, aviation law is considered a matter of international law due to the nature of air travel. However, the business aspects of airlines and their regulation also fall under aviation law.

Space law is an area of the law that encompasses national and international law governing activities in outer space. International treaties drafted by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space will be a main target of research in this program as well. At the national level, the activities of space law exceeds (6) billion dollars, (6) national satellites for commercial and communication purposes are operated via Milsatcom programs. Forecasted real GDP growth will average 4% in 2015-2019. UAE satellites currently orbiting around the world are: Dubai Sat 1 (launched in 2009); Dubai Sat 2 (launched in 2013); Yahsat 1 (launched in 2011); Yahsat 2 (launched in 2012).



Stakeholders

- Law graduates wishing to pursue a challenging advanced master's study at postgraduate level;
- Experts in internationally operating law firms, private companies (e.g. airlines, aircraft parts manufacturers), civil aviation authorities, telecommunications authorities, international and local organizations and representatives from governments wishing to specialize in the area of air and space law.

Candidates of the second category are required to enroll basic courses of law, which will be determined by a special committee at the faculty of law, getting into consideration the education of each case in unique



Learning outcomes

The Program prepares candidates for careers which require expertise in the function of the international and national measures in the area of the subject of the program. Candidates are expected to:

- Attain a depth knowledge of the basic principles of both laws;
- Compare legislative and jurisdictional trends in areas related to Air and Space Law;
- Conduct in-depth scientific research in the field of Air and Space Law and use adopted legal research methods and scientific sources; Drafting legal papers (memoranda, contracts, and model draft laws) in a sound language.



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Language of the program

English.



Admission requirements

- 1- A Bachelor's degree or its equivalent from an accredited university recognized by the UAE Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, in an area appropriate to the academic area to which application is being made;
- 2- A cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent, in all undergraduate work; and
- 3- A score of at least 6.0 on the IELTS Academic exam or equivalent, within the last two years at the time of application, with the following exceptions:
 - A native speaker of English who has completed his/her undergraduate education in an English-medium institution and in a country where English is the official language; or
 - An applicant with undergraduate degree from an English-medium institution who can provide evidence of acquiring a minimum TOEFL score of 550 on the paper-based test, or its equivalent, at the time of admission to his/her undergraduate program.
 - An applicant with an IELTS score of 5.5, or its equivalent can get a conditional acceptance by getting into consideration the following rules:
 - 1- Must achieve a minimum IELTS score of 6.0, or its equivalent, by the end of the first year;
 - 2- May take a maximum of six (6) credits hours in the first semester, not including intensive English courses;
 - 3 – Must achieve an overall GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale in the first 9 credit hours of credit-bearing courses studied in the Master's program.



Curriculums

- A total of 33 credit hours including:
- Six compulsory courses (three credit hours each) including: Private Air law; Public Air law; Aviation safety and Security; Civil Aviation law and Policy; Liberalization of Air Transport; Legal research and writing.
- Two elective courses (three credit hours each) since the student has the right to choose from the following courses: Air Transport Coopetition Law and policy; Space and Communication law; European Aerospace Law, Policies, and Practices; Aviation and Aerospace Risk, Liability, and Dispute Resolution.
- Additionally, the candidate must write a thesis based upon dedicated research, under the supervision of a faculty member, according to the College rules. Each student has to submit a thesis of 120-160 pages on a topic of their interest on finishing all the required courses that are part of the curriculum.



Tuition Fees

- Tuition: AED 4,000 per credit hour.
- Thesis fee: AED 6,000 (supervision, resources...).



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THANK YOU

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