

LAW

Bienvenue à la Faculté de droit de l'Université McGill!

McGill's distinctive legal education is one of the best in the world. It crosses boundaries of language, jurisdiction, legal tradition, discipline, and culture. It equips jurists with the critical knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding to excel as problem solvers and architects of social order. It prepares graduates for a world where boundaries are porous and shifting—where people, goods, and ideas move further and faster than ever.

Our double-degree program explores legal traditions from a unique comparative and integrated perspective. Consistent with the Faculty of Law's location on the traditional territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka people and with the calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, our double-degree program increasingly includes Indigenous legal traditions. Within our graduate program's vibrant community, our master's and doctoral students receive dedicated attention from a diverse group of leading researchers. Our doctoral students receive a preparation for law teaching that has no equal.

La Faculté de droit est située au cœur de Montréal, une métropole francophone caractérisée par un environnement culturel dynamique et pluraliste. Cet environnement cosmopolite a guidé notre mission fondamentale. L'enseignement et la recherche s'y déroulent en anglais et en français, en droit civil comme en common law.

The Faculty is outward-looking and international, recruiting professors from around the world. The BCL/JD class entering in 2019 included students born in 29 countries and speaking 15 mother tongues, and our graduate student population is drawn from five continents.

We earned our extraordinary reputation with our unique program and path-breaking research. Our professors are deeply committed to our students' success. And we're taking steps to be more inclusive towards a broad range of learners—and to better represent our diverse society, including Canada's indigenous peoples.

About Law

Graduate students in Law at McGill have one thing in common: a sharp curiosity to explore ideas and projects in an environment that is uniquely comparative and pluralist.

The extensive and impressive history of graduate teaching and supervision at McGill, combined with the innovations in legal pedagogy for which the Faculty of Law is celebrated, create

an unrivaled experience for graduate students. Grounded in Montreal, a city that embodies a lively mix of languages, cultures, and communities, the Faculty of Law invites students pursuing their D.C.L. and LL.M. degrees to discover and write within a community of legal scholars that is internationally renowned and engaging.

McGill's Faculty of Law is a meeting place for the languages of North America, for the world's legal traditions, and for students who wish to participate in the graduate life of a truly outstanding, prestigious, and intellectually vibrant Faculty of Law.

The Faculty of Law offers a range of programs at the graduate level. These include the degrees of **Master of Laws** (LL.M.) with thesis

and non-thesis options, **Doctor of Civil Law** (D.C.L.), and **Graduate Certificates**.

Students may choose to pursue either the LL.M. in general Law, Air and Space Law, Bioethics, Comparative Law, or Environment; or the D.C.L. in general Law, Comparative Law, or Air and Space Law. Graduate Certificates may only be completed in Comparative Law or in Air and Space Law.

Law Admission Requirements and Application Procedures

Admission Requirements

Applicants must submit their application through McGill's online application system at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/how-apply/submit-your-application. For detailed information on the application process, please visit the Faculty website.

Language Requirement

Graduate-level courses are generally offered in English, and an adequate level of proficiency in English must be demonstrated for admission. In order to understand all course materials, the ability to speak and read French is an asset. At McGill's Faculty of Law, all students may choose to write essays, examinations, and theses in English or French. In areas such as the study of private law in the civilian tradition or comparative private law, a reading knowledge of French is essential.

For graduate applicants whose mother tongue is not English, and who have not completed an undergraduate or graduate degree from a recognized Canadian or American (English or French) institution or from a recognized foreign institution where English is the language of instruction, documented proof of English proficiency is required **prior to admission**. For a list of acceptable test scores and minimum requirements, visit mcgill.ca/law/grad-studies/admissions-guide/eligibility.

LL.M. Programs

Candidates for admission to the master's programs must hold a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) in Law (such as LL.B. or J.D.), with a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.0 out of 4.0 (or equivalent). This standing does not guarantee admission; the Graduate Admissions Committee weighs the entire dossier, including the applicant's reference letters and the quality of the research proposal.

LL.M. Interdisciplinary Options

Note: The availability of these options is subject to relevant courses being offered in a given year.

1. **Environment Option:** This option is available to students who apply for admission to the LL.M. Thesis or Non-Thesis program at the Faculty of Law. For further information, see the Environment page or visit the Bieler School of Environment.
2. **Bioethics Option:** This option is available to students who apply for admission to the LL.M. Thesis program at the Faculty of Law. For further information, see the Bioethics page or visit the Department of Equity, Ethics, and Policy.

D.C.L. Programs

Applicants demonstrating outstanding academic ability will be considered for admission to the doctoral program.

In addition to the requirements for admission to the LL.M. programs, D.C.L. applicants must also hold a master's degree (or equivalent) in Law, with a minimum cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.0 out of 4.0 (or equivalent). Admission to the doctoral program is always dependent on the availability of a suitable supervisor.

Graduate Certificate Programs

The requirements for admission to the graduate certificate programs are essentially the same as for the LL.M. programs, except that greater weight may be placed on professional experience. For further information, visit mcgill.ca/law/grad-studies/admissions-guide/eligibility. Graduate certificate programs are available in the following two fields:

1. Graduate Certificate in Air and Space Law
2. Graduate Certificate in Comparative Law

Application Procedures

McGill's online application form for graduate program candidates is available at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/how-apply.

See the Application Procedures page for detailed information.

Additional Requirements

The items below are additional requirements set by the Faculty of Law. For further information, visit mcgill.ca/law/grad-studies/admissions-guide/deadlines-and-documents.

- Proof of English proficiency (for applicants whose mother tongue is not English)
- Research Proposal (D.C.L. and LL.M. applicants)
- Personal Statement (graduate certificate applicants only)
- Two Reference Letters from **academic referees**
- Curriculum Vitae
- Master's thesis (D.C.L. applicants only)

Application Dates and Deadlines

Application opening dates are set by Enrolment Services in consultation with Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (GPS), while application deadlines are set by the Faculty of Law and may be revised at any time. Applicants must verify all deadlines and documentation requirements well in advance on the appropriate McGill departmental website; please consult the list at mcgill.ca/gps/contact/graduate-program.

Information on **application deadlines** is available at mcgill.ca/gradapplicants/how-apply/application-steps/application-deadlines.

The application deadline to all graduate programs in Law (LL.M., D.C.L., Graduate Certificates) is **December 1. The Faculty of Law will not consider applications received on or after December 2.**

The Faculty of Law offers **Fall term admission only**; the Faculty will not consider applications for Winter or Summer entry. Applications submitted for the Winter and Summer terms will be cancelled without reimbursement of the application fee.

Note: The application fee is non-refundable.

Course Selection (Graduate and Postdoctoral Law Programs)

It should be noted that not all courses are offered in each year. Students wishing to pursue research topics outside of these particular fields are welcome to do so, subject to the availability of appropriate thesis supervisors.

The graduate-level Law courses are grouped into five inter-related concentrations.

Legal Traditions and Legal Theory

This concentration combines two areas of strength: the coexistence of diverse legal traditions, particularly (but not exclusively) the civil and common law, and the awareness of the importance of theoretical approaches to law as a means of understanding both the internal dynamic of legal phenomena and their relationship to other social phenomena.

Courses offered within this concentration may include:

| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| CMPL 500 | Indigenous Peoples and the State. | 3 |
| PUB2 501 | Advanced Criminal Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 505 | | 3 |
| CMPL 547 | Canadian Legal History. | 3 |
| CMPL 601 | | 3 |
| CMPL 602 | | 3 |
| CMPL 519 | Comparative Modern Legal History. | 3 |
| CMPL 504 | Feminist Legal Theory. | 3 |
| CMPL 603 | Human Rights and Cultural Diversity. | 3 |
| CMPL 501 | Jurisprudence. | 3 |
| LAWG 625 | Legal Education Seminar. | 3 |
| CMPL 506 | Legal Theory. | 3 |
| CMPL 600 | Legal Traditions. | 3 |
| CMPL 507 | | 3 |
| PRV4 500 | Restitution. | 3 |
| CMPL 510 | | 3 |
| PUB2 504 | Sentencing in Canadian Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 511 | Social Diversity and Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 513 | Talmudic Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 641 | Theoretical Approaches to Law. | 3 |

International Business Law

This field has practical significance in international business relations and also provides opportunities to apply experience derived from multiple legal systems to the development of multi-jurisdictional, "international" commercial rules.

Courses offered within this concentration may include:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|---------|
| ASPL 614 | Airline Business and Law. | 3 |
| ASPL 632 | Comparative Air Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 517 | | 3 |
| BUS2 500 | | 3 |
| BUS2 505 | Corporate Finance. | 3 |
| CMPL 536 | European Union Law 1. | 3 |
| CMPL 537 | European Union Law 2. | 3 |
| CMPL 574 | Government Control of Business. | 3 |
| ASPL 639 | Government Regulation of Space Activities. | 3 |
| BUS2 502 | Intellectual and Industrial Property. | 3 |
| CMPL 604 | International Business Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 515 | International Carriage of Goods by Sea. | 3 |
| CMPL 516 | International Development Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 546 | International Environmental Law and Politics. | 3 |
| CMPL 553 | International Maritime Conventions. | 3 |
| CMPL 539 | International Taxation. | 3 |
| CMPL 543 | Law and Practice of International Trade. | 3 |
| ASPL 638 | Law of Space Applications. | 3 |
| BUS2 501 | Patent Theory and Policy. | 3 |
| ASPL 636 | Private International Air Law. | 3 |
| ASPL 633 | Public International Air Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 533 | Resolution of International Disputes. | 3 |
| BUS2 504 | Securities Regulation. | 3 |

Human Rights and Cultural Diversity

Building on the Faculty's strength in public law, this concentration promotes the comparative study of human rights law. It provides students with opportunities to reflect critically on the emergence and institutionalization of human rights norms in both domestic and international settings and to explore complexities arising from cultural diversity.

Courses offered within this concentration may include:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---------|
| CMPL 500 | Indigenous Peoples and the State. | 3 |
| PUB2 501 | Advanced Criminal Law. | 3 |
| PRV2 500 | Children and the Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 573 | Civil Liberties. | 3 |
| CMPL 575 | Discrimination and the Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 504 | Feminist Legal Theory. | 3 |
| CMPL 603 | Human Rights and Cultural Diversity. | 3 |
| PUB2 502 | International Criminal Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 565 | International Humanitarian Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 571 | International Law of Human Rights. | 3 |

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|----------|---------------------------|---|
| PUB2 500 | Law and Psychiatry. | 3 |
| CMPL 511 | Social Diversity and Law. | 3 |

Regulation, Technology and Society

This concentration focuses on the comparative and interdisciplinary study of legal regulation in areas of rapid technological change. It encourages critical reflection on notions of the public interest and its protection in areas as diverse as the biomedical sciences, the environment, the growth of computer networks, and the commercial exploitation of space.

Courses offered within this concentration may include:

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| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------|---------|
| CMPL 577 | Communications Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 551 | | 3 |
| CMPL 578 | | 3 |
| CMPL 580 | Environment and the Law. | 3 |
| CMPL 574 | Government Control of Business. | 3 |
| BUS2 502 | Intellectual and Industrial Property. | 3 |
| CMPL 546 | International Environmental Law and Politics. | 3 |
| PRV4 545 | Land Use Planning. | 3 |
| CMPL 642 | Law and Health Care. | 3 |
| PUB2 500 | Law and Psychiatry. | 3 |
| CMPL 522 | Medical Liability. | 3 |
| CMPL 518 | Policies, Politics and Legislative Process. | 3 |
| CMPL 605 | | 3 |
| CMPL 521 | | 3 |

Air and Space Law

This field explores legal issues that arise from international civil aviation and new technologies in space. It provides a comprehensive understanding of the legal processes regulating worldwide aerospace activities.

Courses offered within this concentration may include:

Expand all Contract all

| Course | Title | Credits |
|----------|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| ASPL 613 | Government Regulation of Air Transport. | 3 |
| ASPL 614 | Airline Business and Law. | 3 |
| ASPL 632 | Comparative Air Law. | 3 |
| ASPL 633 | Public International Air Law. | 3 |
| ASPL 636 | Private International Air Law. | 3 |
| ASPL 637 | Space Law: General Principles. | 3 |
| ASPL 638 | Law of Space Applications. | 3 |
| ASPL 639 | Government Regulation of Space Activities. | 3 |

Available Programs

- Air and Space Law (D.C.L.)
- Air and Space Law (Gr. Cert.) (15 credits)

- Comparative Law (Gr. Cert.) (15 credits)
- Law (D.C.L.)
- Law (Non-Thesis) (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Non-Thesis): Air and Space Law (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Non-Thesis): Comparative Law (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Non-Thesis): Environment (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Thesis) (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Thesis): Air and Space Law (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Thesis): Bioethics (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Thesis): Comparative Law (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law (Thesis): Environment (LL.M.) (45 credits)
- Law: Comparative Law (D.C.L.)

Location

Faculty of Law

Graduate Programs in Law

New Chancellor Day Hall

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