College of Law
Prospectus 2023/2024
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About HBKU
Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF), was founded in 2010 to continue fulfilling QF’s vision of unlocking human potential.

HBKU is a homegrown research and graduate studies university that acts as a catalyst for positive transformation in Qatar and the region while having a global impact.

Located within Education City, HBKU seeks to provide unparalleled opportunities where inquiry and discovery are integral to teaching and learning at all levels, utilizing a multidisciplinary approach across its focus areas.

The university provides an array of graduate programs through its College of Islamic Studies, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, College of Science and Engineering, College of Law, College of Health and Life Sciences, and College of Public Policy.

HBKU is also home to three research institutes – Qatar Biomedical Research Institute (QBRI), Qatar Computing Research Institute (QCRI), and Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute (QEERI) – which together with the colleges are at the forefront of efforts to seek novel solutions to grand challenges facing Qatar and the region.

Additionally, HBKU’s Executive Education Center delivers customized programs for the business community of Qatar and the region.
At Hamad Bin Khalifa University, our people are our greatest strength, and when students enroll in one of our academic programs, they become part of a thriving community that is committed to the pursuit of excellence and innovation. HBKU has a mandate to build and cultivate human capacity by offering students an enriching academic experience that extends beyond the classroom. By utilizing unique collaborations with local and international partners, we aim to tackle the challenges of the region and the world through interdisciplinary education and innovative research.

HBKU is proud to offer students the opportunity to learn from world-renowned faculty and industry leaders through our colleges and our three national research institutes, providing the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to become experts in their chosen fields, and take their careers to the next level. HBKU is situated in a regional economic and cultural hub, and our students benefit greatly from exposure to diverse perspectives as they determine how to use their degrees to positively contribute to their own development and that of their communities, whether in Qatar or across the world.

Additionally, HBKU benefits from an exceptional student-to-faculty ratio and from being based in Education City – a unique hub of learning that offers students a wealth of opportunities to play an active role in a vibrant multicultural environment.

As a student at HBKU, you have the opportunity to play a key role at an institution that, at its heart, is committed to innovating today and shaping tomorrow.
Research

Research is the cornerstone of Hamad Bin Khalifa University’s commitment to building human capacity through interdisciplinary education and innovation that supports Qatar’s journey towards sustainable growth. HBKU’s interdisciplinary research and education environment is distinguished by a unique synergy among the colleges and research institutes.

The university’s students, faculty, and researchers work within an ecosystem that addresses challenges of national priority and contributes to outcomes with a tangible impact on society. Collectively, they are achieving breakthroughs in the fields of biomedicine, genomics and precision medicine, information and communications technology and sustainability, while advancing knowledge across the humanities, Islamic studies, law, and public policy.

At each of the six colleges, students work under the guidance of faculty to conduct research that results in tangible solutions and innovative outcomes.
Founded in 2015, HBKU’s College of Law is a graduate-level law school located in Qatar Foundation’s Education City. The College of Law offers four degrees: Juris Doctor (JD), Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Economic and Business Law, Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Law and Foreign Affairs, and Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.).

Mission
A world-class provider of legal education with an international reputation for quality and innovation in teaching and research whose graduates contribute positively to shaping the legal profession and society in Qatar and beyond.

HBKU’s College of Law provides its students with professional legal skills to bolster the sectors vital to Qatar, the region, and the world. These sectors are many and include the most dynamic aspects of a society such as Construction, Courts, Energy, Environment, Finance, Healthcare, Infrastructure, International Investment and Trade, Media, Sports, and Technology (including Intellectual Property).

Four qualities distinguish learning at the College of Law:

- The curriculum balances theory with practical application. Each course integrates aspects from the profession, industry, government and society sectors which the college is dedicated to serve.
- Courses have a strong international and comparative law focus. College of Law faculty, who come from around the world, teach by using the disciplines needed to understand the three diverse legal systems – civil, common, and Shari’a – that inform Qatari law.
- Education occurs extensively outside of the classroom, as students learn from leading worldwide legal academics, practicing lawyers, and government officials.
- Driving all aspects of the educational experience is the steady volume of high-level and societally relevant research produced by the faculty and students, which addresses contemporary problems in law and related disciplines.

College of Law students have abundant career prospects in Qatar and globally. The college encourages students to participate in internship programs and moot court competitions to gain professional experience. In addition to enabling students to gain substantive knowledge and develop their advocacy skills, these activities help students build long-lasting networks, all for their professional benefit.
College of Law students have undergraduate and graduate degrees from around the world as well as diverse work experience.

Recent JD graduates have been admitted to outstanding LL.M. programs in the United States, Canada, and Europe, such as:

- Columbia Law School
- Duke University School of Law
- Georgetown University Law Center
- Harvard Law School
- New York University School of Law
- The Graduate Institute, Geneva
- University of Toronto Faculty of Law
Faculty

Faculty are graduates of the world’s best universities:

Europe/United Kingdom:
- University of Athens
- University of Cambridge
- University of Glasgow
- University of Grenoble
- University of Heidelberg
- University of Liverpool
- University of Oxford

North America:
US:
- Harvard Law School
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Texas
- University of Virginia
- Yale Law School

Canada:
- McGill University
- University of Calgary

Faculty have published in top academic presses:

- Cambridge University Press
- Edward Elgar Publishing
- Oxford University Press
- Routledge
- Springer Publishing Company

Faculty have served as advisors to:

- Council of Europe
- European Union
- Government of the People’s Republic of China
- Federal Government of Nigeria
- International Development Law Organization
- Ministry of Public Health in Qatar
- Qatar Research, Development and Innovation Council
- African Union
- The World Bank
- United Nations Development Programme
- United Nations Environment Programme
About College of Law

At a Glance

4 Graduate Programs + Certificate Program

- Juris Doctor (JD)
- LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law
- LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs
- Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)
- Certificate Program: Law in Practice in Qatar

60 Students

Qatari Students (63%)

70 Nationalities

across HBKU

59 Alumni

College of Law Prospectus 2023/2024
Programs
The Juris Doctor (JD) degree is a unique model of graduate legal education designed to meet the needs of Qatar and the Middle East. The JD is the first-of-its-kind graduate law degree in the MENA region; courses are taught in English, so graduates are prepared to work locally as well as in the international legal market.

A JD targets individuals who already hold an undergraduate degree, which can be in any subject, including law. The JD education builds on the student’s previous experience. JD students may pursue expertise in law that is aligned with their previous degree or move in a completely different direction.

The College of Law’s JD curriculum is consistent with the best offered internationally. The JD was created through a strategic partnership with Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law. The program equips graduates with a high level of legal knowledge and complementary research, writing, and advocacy skills. The focus on skills training enables college graduates to make the most of a wide range of career options in the government, private corporations, law firms, international organizations, and academia.

A JD graduate was recently licensed to practice law in New York after completing the LL.M. degree at a US law school, and other graduates are pursuing licensing in Qatar and Canada, subject to the requirements of those jurisdictions. Graduates are typically qualified to undertake further legal studies in the United States and other countries in Europe.

In short, our JD graduates rise to the top as they combine previous university education and training with three years of rigorous, interdisciplinary legal education.

Program Focus

- The first year and a half (Part I) focuses on foundations for lawyering, while the second year and a half (Part II) applies and elaborates on the legal principles from Part I to major sectors that are vital to Qatar and the region. The courses in Part I, foundations for lawyering, develop a student’s understanding of legal doctrine in key subjects. They also develop analytical and reasoning skills so that the student can articulate the relevant principles and apply them to real world problems. Taught from a comparative perspective, the courses in Part I examine the different legal systems that converge in global legal practice with a focus on identifying common themes and points of departure. Part I also trains students how to navigate systems, depending on the exigencies of the transnational transactions they will be required to manage during their professional careers.

- During Part II, students apply and further develop their foundational skills to sectors that are vital to Qatar and the region. These areas include Construction, Courts, Energy, Environment, Finance, Healthcare, Infrastructure, International Investment and Trade, Media, Sports, and Technology (including Intellectual Property).

Accompanying a dynamic curriculum is an extensive offering of co-curricular activities, such as colloquia and Majlis, at which leading experts provide insights on contemporary legal topics. Student moot court competitions, in which students argue a simulated case before a court or arbitral tribunal, provide an important avenue for skills development. Through moot courts, students experience drafting memorials and engaging in oral argument. The College of Law has fielded teams in top international competitions, including the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot, and the Europa Competition. In 2019, the College of Law hosted its first international moot, the Cybersecurity Moot Competition, featuring ten teams from around the world.

Graduates of this program will be equipped to:

- Exhibit comprehensive knowledge of the common, civil, and Shari’a legal traditions and how they apply to the practice of law within public, international, and private sectors.
- Demonstrate comprehensive knowledge of substantive and procedural issues of certain domestic systems and the international system.
- Make use of legal doctrine to conduct comparative analysis of multiple systems and formulate reasoned analysis of contemporary legal issues.
- Test research abilities to shape new policy in a comparative and international legal context.
- Demonstrate effective communication skills and superior knowledge of professional responsibility issues and can decisively identify the appropriate course of action in a given situation.
## Juris Doctor (Continued)

### Curriculum

#### Study Plan:

#### Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester 1 (Fall)</th>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW 601</td>
<td>Law and Global Legal Systems</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 652</td>
<td>Injury Law/Torts</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 651</td>
<td>Contract Law</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Property Law</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 667</td>
<td>Legal Analysis, Writing,</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and Research I</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 653</td>
<td>Constitutional Law</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 654</td>
<td>International Law</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 655</td>
<td>Business Associations</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 668</td>
<td>Legal Analysis, Writing,</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and Research II</td>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 665</td>
<td>Administrative Law</td>
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<td>LAW 659</td>
<td>Commercial Law</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 666</td>
<td>Criminal Law and Procedure</td>
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<td>LAW 669</td>
<td>Legal Analysis, Writing,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and Research III</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 658</td>
<td>Civil Procedure</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 678</td>
<td>Dispute Resolution</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Negotiation and Trial Advocacy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 675</td>
<td>Ethics and Professional Responsibility</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 676</td>
<td>Introduction to the Legal</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Foundations of the Global Economy</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(International Business Transactions,</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International Investment Law,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>and International Taxation)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 676</td>
<td>Entrepreneurship Law</td>
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#### Year 2

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<tr>
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<td>Constitutional Law</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 654</td>
<td>International Law</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 655</td>
<td>Business Associations</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 668</td>
<td>Legal Analysis, Writing,</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>and Research II</td>
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<th>Semester 2 (Spring)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LAW 656</td>
<td>Advanced Dispute Resolution</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 751</td>
<td>Global Economic Law and Governance</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAW 753</td>
<td>Advanced Human Rights</td>
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<td>LAW 754</td>
<td>Environmental Law</td>
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<td>LAW 757</td>
<td>Law, Technology and Intellectual</td>
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<td>Property II</td>
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<td>LAW 764</td>
<td>Law, Technology and Intellectual</td>
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<td>Property III</td>
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<td><strong>Total Credits</strong></td>
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### Additional Offerings

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<tr>
<td>LAW 706</td>
<td>Independent Study</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>

**Total Degree Credits: 85**
The LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law is a one-year program designed for recent or established university graduates in law. It is ideal for lawyers working or aspiring to work in international business, private practice, academia, government, and the judiciary.

The world’s major commercial hubs, including Doha, rely on those equipped with legal and business tools to sustain and grow international trade and investment. Critical to this reliance is a culture based on the law. Understanding relevant legal principles, and how they apply to a myriad of existing and new situations, is key to the success of anyone working in this dynamic area.

The program examines a wide range of issues relating to international business and does so in an innovative, comparative manner so that students develop analytical and problem-solving skills while gaining substantive knowledge.

**Program Focus**
- The program provides students with a comprehensive knowledge of critical substantive areas relevant to the role of the lawyer in a global context. This focus is fitting given HBKU’s location in Qatar – one of the world’s most prosperous economies with vibrant and fast-growing business, energy, financial, construction, aviation, maritime, media, sports, health care, and tourism sectors.
- Students gain expertise relevant to the structure of international business transactions, entrepreneurship, e-commerce, financing risk management, international trade law, international investment law, international banking and finance, intellectual property law, international environmental law, and the resolution of disputes in these and other areas.

**Graduates of this program will be equipped to:**
- Master theoretical and methodological aspects of law and legal scholarship.
- Demonstrate the ability to independently conduct original research and formulate reasoned arguments on their topic and related legal issues.
- Develop a dissertation of publishable quality that makes a substantial and original contribution to legal scholarship.
- Demonstrate effective communication skills, as well as the ability to teach and explain the law.
- Demonstrate the ability to independently choose ethical courses of action in legal research and practice.

**Curriculum**

Coursework is divided into mandatory core courses and electives. The program consists of 32 credits, including 26 credits for core courses and six credits for a thesis that must be completed within 12 months, and no more than 18 months, after course commencement.

The curriculum comprises foundational courses such as Contract Law, Research Methods in Law, and Global Legal Ethics and Entrepreneurship Law, which address principles needed to practice law in multiple convergent legal systems. The curriculum also includes courses and seminars in transnational law, with modules on infrastructure development, international arbitration, global economic law and governance, energy law, commercial law, advanced dispute resolution and others. These innovative courses are comparative and build on common law, civil law, and Shari’a traditions.

The thesis is the cornerstone of the LL.M. program. Students, in consultation with a faculty advisor, write a thesis on a policy sector of their choice with the aim of analyzing the current legal framework, putting forward reasons for reform by using the skills developed in the methodological courses, and making a policy proposal for legislative or regulatory reform.

Other integral features of the LL.M. program are professional skills training sessions, internships and placements that focus on such skills as contract drafting, trial advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and effective negotiation and presentation techniques.
The LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs is a one-year program that offers world-class academic and professional training in international law and foreign policy decision-making on pressing global challenges facing today’s world. Owing to its unique position in terms of culture, business, and geopolitics, Qatar is at the heart of a region that requires leaders who can manage multi-faceted relationships that span different legal systems.

The specialized LL.M. program is ideal for lawyers and certain non-lawyers who wish to immerse themselves in the intricacies of international regulation in the fields of sustainable development, energy and environment, infrastructure development, healthcare, human rights, new technologies, anti-corruption, and the global economy, as well as resolution of disputes in these and related areas.

Program Focus

- The program provides an ideal learning opportunity for lawyers, academics, members of the judiciary, and non-lawyers in international relations, political science, economics, and other fields related to global affairs and governance.
- Courses combine legal studies with public policy analysis relevant to all aspects of international relations.
- Graduates of this program will be equipped to:
  - Apply advanced knowledge and methodological skills to undertake research in the field of public international law and foreign affairs.
  - Develop research and innovative solutions to complex international legal and foreign affairs issues.
  - Analyze the social and policy impact of international law.
  - Graduates communicate effectively themes and ideas in the fields of public international law and foreign affairs.
  - Demonstrate the ability to integrate professional legal ethics in the practice of international law and foreign affairs.

Curriculum

Coursework is divided into mandatory core courses and electives. The program consists of 32 credits, including 26 credits for core courses and six credits for a thesis that must be completed within 12 months, and no more than 18 months, after course commencement.

The LL.M. curriculum comprises foundational courses, such as International Law, Administrative Law, Research Methods in Law, Advanced Human Rights, and Introduction to International Law and Foreign Affairs, and Global Legal Ethics, which unpack the nature of international law and core principles of foreign policy decision-making in an increasingly turbulent world. They also provide the opportunity for students to reflect on the intricacies of diplomatic work, including the qualities and skills required for a career in international affairs in the 21st century.

The thesis is the cornerstone of the LL.M. program. In consultation with a faculty advisor, students write a thesis on a policy sector of their choice with the aim of analyzing the current legal framework, putting forward reasons for reform by using the skills developed in the methodological courses, and making a policy proposal for legislative or regulatory reform.

Other integral features of the LL.M. program are professional skills training sessions, internships and placements that focus on such skills as contract drafting, trial advocacy, alternative dispute resolution, and effective negotiation and presentation techniques.

The curriculum also has intensive courses and seminars on international law and global governance that are comparative and build on common law, civil law, and Shari’a traditions.
The Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) is the College of Law’s most advanced law degree. The program is one of the first full-fledged research-intensive doctorate degrees in the MENA region, and one of the few of its kind outside of the United States. Dedicated to scholarship and teaching, the program aspires to create a vibrant community of legal scholars, who will assume teaching positions in universities and government positions in institutions in Qatar, the MENA region, and beyond.

The S.J.D. degree is designed to facilitate the relationship with the “real world” through world-class innovative seminars and courses that will prepare students to apply legal knowledge in multiple convergent legal systems. Research production in the S.J.D. program, as well as its interdisciplinary nature, allows for creative and problem-based approaches that can have societal or policy impact.

The key strengths of the S.J.D. program are its flexibility to accommodate students wishing to apply interdisciplinary research in a variety of areas, the integration of the program with all other existing College of Law degree programs, and its focus on high-quality academic research.

Program Focus
- The program focuses on research methodology and legal ethics in a globalized world.
- The S.J.D. degree provides students the freedom to apply highly analytical, interdisciplinary, and comparative research approaches that address important and relevant issues of the day.
- Graduates of this program will be equipped to:
  - Master theoretical and methodological aspects of law and legal scholarship.
  - Demonstrate the ability to independently conduct original research and formulate reasoned arguments on their topic and related legal issues.
- Develop a dissertation of publishable quality that makes a substantial and original contribution to legal scholarship.
- Demonstrate effective communication skills, as well as the ability to teach and explain the law.
- Demonstrate the ability to independently choose ethical courses of action in legal research and practice.

Curriculum
The S.J.D. should be completed in three years after commencement. In the first year, candidates have a reduced course load to enable them to develop the necessary skills and competencies to undertake doctoral research. Candidates are required to take a course on Advanced Research Methods in Law and a course on Advanced Global Legal Ethics. They may also be required to take additional research methods courses.

S.J.D. candidates participate in the S.J.D. Colloquium, which provides them with fundamental knowledge of the practical and professional aspects of doctoral studies. In addition to receiving feedback on their doctoral research, students engage in meaningful and constructive scholarly exchanges about publishing, grant writing, and conference presentations, as well as career paths in academia and private, public and international spheres.

Dissertation:
Students are required to complete a dissertation that makes a substantial and original contribution to legal scholarship. Publication of S.J.D. candidates’ work is a requirement for graduation.

Residence:
The minimum residence requirement for the S.J.D. program is two semesters of full-time supervised research at the College of Law.
Admissions
Admission Requirements

**JD:**
Bachelor’s degree from a recognized university with a minimum 3.0 GPA (out of 4).

**LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law:**
Bachelor of Laws (LLB) degree or Juris Doctor (JD) degree from a recognized university with a minimum 3.0 GPA (out of 4), with a preference given to candidates with at least a 3.3 GPA (out of 4).

**LL.M. in International Law and Foreign Affairs:**
Bachelor’s degree from a recognized university with a minimum 3.0 GPA (out of 4) in any of the following areas: Law, International Relations, Political Science, History, Economics, Business and Finance, Sociology or Anthropology. A strong preference is given to candidates with at least a 3.3 GPA (out of 4) in Law, International Relations, Political Science, or Economics.

**S.J.D.:**
JD or LL.M. degree preferably from HBKU’s College of Law. Exceptional candidates from other universities may also be considered. Candidates with an LL.B. degree from a recognized university require the LL.M. degree, again preferably from the College of Law, or in exceptional cases from a recognized university. Candidates should have at least a 3.0 GPA (out of 4) in their previous law degree with a strong preference for candidates with a 3.3 GPA (out of 4).

**English Language Requirements:**
Unless exempt, all applicants for any degree program are required to submit a valid IELTS score of 6.5 or TOEFL score of 79. Please visit admissions.hbku.edu.qa for more details on the language proficiency requirement and the process to seek exemption, when applicable.
Application Requirements

Application:
A completed online application form:
admissions.hbku.edu.qa

Academic transcripts:
Official electronic copies of transcripts are to be submitted as part of the online application. Final transcripts and graduation statements are required for all previous university studies. All transcripts submitted should include an explanation of the grading system. For those who have not completed their current studies, transcripts must include results from the last completed semester of coursework. Transcripts in languages other than English or Arabic must be accompanied with an official translation. Applicants who are admitted to the program based on copies of or incomplete transcripts will be required to provide original transcripts upon enrollment in order to register for courses.

Standardized test results for English proficiency:
Official copies (when required) must be sent directly to HBKU. Please refer to the institutional codes below:
- TOEFL: 4981
- IELTS: No code required. Students should ask the IELTS center where they tested to send the IELTS TRF to Hamad Bin Khalifa University

Applicants should also submit copies of their test scores with the online application.

Letters of recommendation:
Two letters of recommendation from previous or current professors, employers, or other individuals familiar with the applicant’s qualifications. Please visit admissions.hbku.edu.qa for further information about the submission process.

Personal statement of interest:
The personal statement should introduce the applicant to the Admissions Committee. Topics that may be discussed include personal or professional goals and personal, academic, or career history. The Committee looks beyond test scores and grade point averages in making selection decisions. The personal statement gives the Committee a means to consider a variety of factors in assessing applicants.

Research Proposal:
Along with their application, LL.M. and S.J.D applicants are required to submit a research proposal (1,000 words) that illustrates their readiness to explore a particular research question.

Resume/curriculum vitae:
Applicants are required to submit a copy of their current resume or curriculum vitae as part of the online application.

Identification document:
Applicants are required to submit an electronic copy of their passport as part of the online application. Nationals and residents of Qatar should also submit their valid Qatari ID.
The College of Law offers a limited number of partial tuition waivers for the JD program and the S.J.D. program, which are awarded on a competitive basis.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Total Program Tuition Fees</th>
<th>Tuition Fees per Credit Hour</th>
<th>Total Program Credit Hours</th>
<th>Program Duration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juris Doctor (JD)</td>
<td>QAR 164,250</td>
<td>QAR 1,932</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>3 years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)</td>
<td>QAR 164,250</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>QAR 54,750</td>
<td>QAR 1,711</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 year</td>
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<tr>
<td>LL.M. in International Economic and Business Law</td>
<td>QAR 54,750</td>
<td>QAR 1,711</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contact Information

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