

## REGLEMENT

### **LLM in Global Health Law and International Institutions Joint Master's Degree offered by**

**the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva,  
Switzerland,**

**and Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, USA**

### **LLM Degree**

The LLM Degree is offered jointly by the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland, hereafter the Graduate Institute, and Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, USA, hereafter Georgetown. The academic content and running of the Degree is the responsibility of the Joint Master's LLM Committee composed of representatives from the Georgetown University Law Center's Global Health Law Program, the Graduate Institute's International Law Unit, Global Health Programme, and Director of Masters' Programmes.

## **I. ADMISSION, ENROLMENT**

### **1. Admission**

The LLM programme is open to candidates who have already obtained a law degree or expect to obtain a law degree by the time they start the programme. Admission decisions are taken by Georgetown and the Graduate Institute. Academic results form the primary basis for the decision.

### **2. Enrolment**

Successful candidates enrol both at Georgetown and at the Graduate Institute and remain enrolled until they complete their studies.

## **II. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR OBTAINING THE LLM**

In order to be awarded the LLM degree, candidates must

- complete the study programme
- submit and have accepted a dissertation or internship report and deposit copies thereof according to the provisions hereafter.

### III. THE STUDY PROGRAMME

#### 1. Teaching

##### *a) Credits*

- i. Credits are the unit of measurement. One Georgetown credit is the equivalent of three European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) credits used at the Graduate Institute. One ECTS credit corresponds to 25-30 hours of student workload.
- ii. Six ECTS credits are obtained by a student upon successful evaluation of a two-hour weekly class over a semester

##### *b) General programme*

- i. Students in the LLM programme start their LLM at Georgetown in the autumn term and must obtain at least 12 Georgetown credits (equivalent to 36 ECTS credits). Students have to then obtain at least 39 ECTS credits in the spring term from the Graduate Institute (at least 24 ECTS credits to be obtained through coursework). The LLM degree is awarded on the basis of 75 ECTS Credits, equivalent to 25 Georgetown Credits.
- ii. Candidates who have not obtained the required total 75 ECTS credits by the end of their spring semester at the Graduate Institute are excluded from the LLM programme.

##### *c) Internship and report*

- i. Candidates will normally choose to complete an internship in a working environment. The internship, which shall last for a minimum of four weeks, must have a dimension linked to global health legal and/or policy questions. The internship allows one to gain credits and must be authorized in advance by the Joint LLM Committee. The candidate shall submit an application to the Committee at least one month prior to the beginning of the internship. The candidate must submit a written report to the Global Health Law Programme Director (Georgetown) of no more than 10,000 words developing some of the themes and questions addressed during the internship. The report is graded, in conjunction with completion of the internship, and counts for 15 ECTS credits.
- ii. Following approval from the Head of the International Law Unit and the Global Health Law Programme Director (Georgetown) a student may undertake a dissertation instead of (or in addition to) the internship. A dissertation entitles the student to 15 ECTS credits.

##### *d) Courses outside the Graduate Institute*

Candidates may attend optional classes outside of the Graduate Institute after authorization in advance from the Director of Masters' Programmes (Graduate Institute) in consultation with the Head of the International Law Unit and the Global Health Law Program Director (Georgetown). Up to 18 ECTS credits toward the 39 credits required for the Graduate Institute portion of the programme may be obtained outside the Graduate Institute's classes at other higher education establishments connected to the University of Geneva or the Graduate Institute or under their joint degree programmes.

*e) Assessment and grading*

i. Conditions for obtaining Georgetown or ECTS credits are: regular attendance, active participation and work judged acceptable by the supervising faculty members. Candidates' work is evaluated by a mark.

ii. Grading scales: Georgetown grades on a 4-point scale carried to 2 decimal points with a minimum passing mark of 2.00; the Graduate Institute grades on a 6-point scale with a minimum passing mark of 4.00.

iii. Marks obtained by the candidates in their classes in the spring term at the Graduate Institute must be communicated to the Graduate Institute's Secretariat one week after the end of classes at the latest. The internship reports and dissertations must be graded by 15 August.

iv. For courses at the Graduate Institute, in case a candidate does not obtain the required minimum mark, the instructor involved may require remedial work, if he/she considers this appropriate. Until this has been evaluated, attribution of corresponding credits will be suspended. If remedial work preparation is to be undertaken during summer vacation, the definitive result must be communicated to the Graduate Institute's Secretariat by September 15 at the latest. Remedial work of this sort is not permitted for courses at Georgetown.

v. Extra credits will be noted on the student transcript.

**2. Working languages**

a) The Graduate Institute's working languages are English and French. Candidates may express themselves orally or in writing in either of these two languages.

b) The Georgetown working language is English.

**3. Dissertation**

[This is considered equivalent to a piece of writing done in the context of Georgetown Graduate Independent Research (GIR)]

*a) Choice of subject, supervisor and registration*

i. To undertake preparation of a dissertation, candidates must obtain the agreement of a Graduate Institute faculty member willing to supervise (or co-supervise) it and propose a subject related to the field of global health law and international institutions.

ii. As soon as the subject is accepted by the dissertation supervisor, the student must register it at the Graduate Institute's Secretariat. The title of the dissertation, together with the name of the supervisor(s) and, if possible, the name of the second reader, must be given to the Graduate Institute's Secretariat during the spring semester, by **15 March at the latest**.

*b) Drafting and evaluation of the dissertation*

i. The dissertation must constitute an original contribution to the subject chosen. It

must be written in English or in French, and its length must be no longer than 15,000 words including footnotes.

ii. Normally, the final version of the dissertation must be given to the Graduate Institute's Secretariat during the second semester, by **15 July at the latest**.

iii. The dissertation will be evaluated by a committee composed of the dissertation supervisor and a second reader, within a period of four weeks maximum.

*c) Required mark and dissertation deposit*

A minimum mark of **4,00** (on the Graduate Institute's 6-point scale) is required for dissertation acceptance. Candidates obtaining less than 4,00 are excluded from the program. Once the dissertation has been accepted and evaluated by the committee, three copies must be deposited at the Graduate Institute's Secretariat, one copy to be deposited with Georgetown Global Health Law Program Director.

#### **4. Plagiarism**

a) Definition

For the purposes of academic work performed during a student's time at the Graduate Institute, plagiarism consists in appropriating someone else's creative work and presenting it as one's own; in reproducing text extracts, data, figures, pictures, etc. from external sources without mentioning their origin ; in using other authors' original thoughts, even when paraphrased, without indicating their origin.

b) Plagiarism, duly attested by the instructor(s) involved, will be ascertained by the Graduate Institute's Academic Committee as appropriate. As soon as plagiarism has been ascertained, a "0" mark is given for the class in question. This leads to exclusion from the Graduate Institute and the LLM Programme.

c) During the student's time at Georgetown, the plagiarism policy set forth in the Academic Bulletin will apply.

#### **5. Contesting a decision and Appeals**

a) During their time at the Graduate Institute, candidates shall have the right to contest a decision and to make an appeal. They should first seek an acceptable resolution through a discussion with the instructor of the course.

b) If a satisfactory solution is not reached, they can present their grounds for appeal to the Graduate Institute's Commission of Appeals, in writing, within 30 days following the notification of the decision.

c) That Committee's decision shall be final.

d) With respect to disciplinary decisions based on actions that occurred during the student's time at Georgetown, the appeals process set forth in the Bulletin will apply.

#### **IV. AWARD OF THE DEGREE**

Candidates having obtained the required **75 ECTS credits (equivalent to 25 Georgetown credits)** will be awarded the LLM degree.

The degree is awarded by the Graduate Institute and Georgetown.

#### **V. TIME LIMIT FOR COMPLETION of the LLM PROGRAMME**

##### **1. Time limit**

The Programme is normally completed in one academic year with students completing a fall semester at Georgetown followed by a spring semester at the Graduate Institute. Alternatively, students may enroll at Georgetown on a part-time basis and complete their Georgetown coursework in up to three semesters before completing the Programme during a full-time spring semester at the Graduate Institute. Candidates who have not completed all requirements mentioned in II to IV inclusive by the end of one year (for full time students) or two years (for students who enroll at Georgetown on a part-time basis) are excluded from the LLM Programme.

##### **2. Exemption**

The Director of Masters' Programmes (Graduate Institute) or the Associate Dean Graduate Programmes (Georgetown) can make an exception to the above rule only in cases of circumstances beyond the candidate's control duly certified.

#### **VI. ENTRY INTO FORCE**

Provisions of the present regulations will come into effect on 15 May 2009.

28.04.2009