

# For JD students

## Berkeley Law Certificate of Specialization in International Law

Berkeley Law students may undertake a specialization in international law. The specialized curricular program ensures students develop a broad background in fundamental areas of law while receiving advanced training in international law. Graduating 3L students who meet the requirements are awarded a Certificate of Specialization in International Law.

J.D. students who wish to earn the certificate must complete the following three requirements:

**1. Take the basic four-unit course in International Law.**

A. An International Law course completed at another law school may be considered for fulfilling this requirement, subject to Faculty approval. **All requests for waiving out of the basic International Law course must be received no later than the Fall semester of the student's graduation year.**

**2. Take nine other course units in the "International and Comparative Law" category in the Berkeley Law Course Listings, toward a total certificate requirement of thirteen units.**

A. The International Human Rights Law Clinic and Seminar both count as course units for this requirement.

**3. Complete a substantial writing paper on an international or comparative topic.**

A. The 20- to 30-page major research paper requirement may be met through an international or comparative law course with a paper option, an independent study (Law 299), or another seminar for which the student completes a major research paper on an international or comparative law topic, including work undertaken in the International Human Rights Law Clinic if approved for this purpose by Faculty.

The following may count as one unit toward the coursework requirement (one-unit limit from this group). Your transcript must reflect credit earned for participation in any of these activities for which you want to earn credit toward the Certificate:

A. Service on the *Berkeley Journal of International Law* or the *Berkeley Journal of Middle Eastern & Islamic Law*.

B. Participation in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition.

Applications are accepted from students in their last year of study on a rolling basis during the Fall and Spring semesters. The final due date is April 1 of the student's graduation year (or November 1 for December graduates). Only graduating students are eligible to apply. Interested graduating candidates should obtain the application from the website for the Miller Institute for Global Challenges and the Law, at <https://www.law.berkeley.edu/research/the-miller-institute-for-global-challenges-and-law/certificate-of-specialization-in-international-law>. Please email application materials and any questions to: [InternationalLawCertificate@law.berkeley.edu](mailto:InternationalLawCertificate@law.berkeley.edu).

**Students in their last year of study are encouraged to submit the application once you have completed all the requirements. Decisions on completed applications will be made on a rolling basis.**

***Final Submission Deadline: April 01, 2025***