

Introduction to the U.S. Legal System

A Seminar for International Law Students



UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER

Sturm College of Law

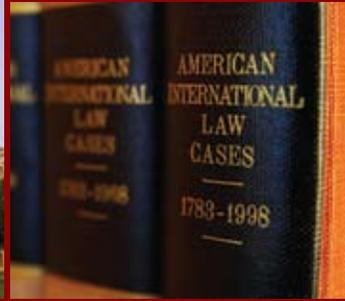


PRESENTED BY THE

LAWYERING IN SPANISH PROGRAM

AT THE

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER STURM COLLEGE OF LAW



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The *Introduction to the U.S. Legal System* seminar is a four week course offered by the University of Denver Sturm College of Law's Lawyering in Spanish program each year in June. The seminar is designed to provide law students from around the world with the theoretical and practical knowledge required to understand the practice of law in the United States. The goal is to expose foreign law students to the U.S. legal system and to stimulate interaction between international law students and U. S. students, faculty and legal professionals.

The implementation of numerous trade agreements by the U.S. and other nations, along with a significant increase in transnational legal disputes, demonstrate a need for hands-on legal training of U.S. laws and regulations. DU Law has implemented a curriculum that combines practical, hands-on learning with a traditional theoretical approach to prepare future civil law professionals for academic and professional work involving U.S. laws and regulations. Accordingly, participants will have an opportunity to improve their English language skills as well as develop social and professional networks in the United States.

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law (lô) *n.* 1. A rule of c
decreed by formal enactm
members of a community
of such rules. 3. The co
are observed: to establis
authoritatively establis

Seminar Objectives

This seminar provides an introduction to the American legal system, legal terminology and legal reasoning. The course is structured to develop the students' critical thinking, communication, legal research and organizational skills, as well as their competency to recognize and handle ethical issues encountered in transactional legal work.

This seminar enables students to:

- Recognize and understand basic legal terminology in English
- Understand the sources of American law
- Understand the structure and basic jurisdiction of U. S. federal and state court systems
- Understand the basics of civil litigation
- Demonstrate an ability to analyze statutes and case law
- Demonstrate an ability to apply legal reasoning to case-specific legal problems
- Have a broad overview of major substantive areas of law

Seminar Format

This is a lecture and discussion course in which topics are presented by the instructor and supplemented by class discussion. Students will work independently and in groups to complete assignments, which are designed to develop legal reasoning and critical thinking skills, and to introduce students to the form and substance of basic legal documents. Students will read and brief cases, draft legal memoranda, and analyze legal problems and issues. Students are expected to present their research to the director of the Lawyering in Spanish program in an oral presentation and scholarly paper near the end of the term. Certificates are awarded upon successful completion of the program.



Application Requirements

The following information and documents are required to be eligible for the course:

- Completed application
- Curriculum vitae
- Transcripts
- Research proposal (3-5 pages outlining the area in which you intend to focus your research)
- Letter of financial support*
- Proof of English proficiency*

Application available at: www.law.du.edu/lawinspanish/seminar.htm

All application materials must be emailed to Lucy Daberkow at ldaberkow@law.du.edu.

Housing and Living Expenses

Students are responsible for housing and living expenses during the seminar. Estimated housing and living expenses are \$1,500 per student. On-campus housing is limited, early application recommended.

Please visit the University of Denver Housing & Residential Education website at www.du.edu/housing or contact Lucy Daberkow for more housing information.

Registration

For more information or to register for the *Introduction to the U.S. Legal System* seminar, please visit the Lawyering in Spanish Program online at www.law.du.edu/lawinspanish.





Denver, Colorado, USA

The University of Denver is located just five minutes from downtown Denver, Colorado. The “Mile High City” stands sentry to the spectacular Rocky Mountains, settled a mile above sea level. The city’s temperate climate brings over 300 days of sunshine, an ideal environment for its young and active citizens. Denver offers cultural and recreational amenities to suit any taste, with a newly expanded public library, museums, theaters, zoos, and an aquarium. Leisure activities in town include shopping, amusement parks, fine restaurants and night clubs, golf courses and the city’s renowned professional sports teams.

Denver Highlights

- 300+ days of sun
- More than 40 museums and historic attractions
- Diverse entertainment opportunities from theatre to major league sports
- Within minutes of national parks and renowned ski areas

For further information on Colorado, visit www.colorado.com.



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University of Denver Sturm College of Law
Lawyering in Spanish Program
2255 East Evans Avenue, Suite 470
Denver, Colorado

The University of Denver Sturm College of Law is committed to providing facilities that are accessible to persons with and without disabilities. We encourage persons with disabilities to contact Katie Kostka, Manager of Student Affairs, at 303-871-6184 or kkostka@law.du.edu.



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