

BEYOND A WARM WELCOME

FINDING AND MEETING THE NEEDS
OF INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

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U.S. LEGAL EDUCATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS - MUTUAL BENEFITS

For Students

- Career preparation
- Domestic students become more prepared for international practice

For Library

- Increased use of library services by students
- Attracts more students into the physical library
- Support for implementation of new services

For Institution

- Fosters quality experience in program
- Supports quality program and attracts more students



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PROGRAMS OF STUDY FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

2-Year J.D. for Foreign-Trained Lawyers

- Students looking to practice and/or gain credentials to practice in a jurisdiction outside that of their home country

LL.M. in American Legal Studies

- Targeted at international law students looking for extended understanding of American law in preparation for continued study, to sit for select bar examinations, and international practice

Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.)

- Intensive research and writing and year of course work, preparing students for work in legal academia or as senior public officials
- Carries requirements of accepted foreign degrees, a period of residency, selected course work, and dissertation completion



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UNDERSTANDING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Enrolled in J.D., 2-Year J.D., LL.M., and S.J.D. programs at KU Law

Known

- Motivated, educated, expertise from home countries, goal-oriented

Barriers

- Language, culture, stress and anxiety
- Previous knowledge of American legal research, writing, and resources
- Perceived library services

Questions

- What does this student population need in regard to educational support? How can we determine their information and service needs? Are there extra steps we can take?
- How can the library meet those needs, expand services and help to ensure a quality experience for the student and program at the institution?



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LIBRARY SERVICES AIMED AT INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

Participation in Student Orientation Activities

- International students attend first year orientation sessions alongside tradition students
- Focused orientation for international students
- Participation markets the library, its resources, and its services
- Librarians able to offer assistance in navigating a new library system
- All librarians participate



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LIBRARY SERVICES AIMED AT INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

International Student Handbook

- Contacts, Graduate Student Resources
- SJD Resources: Dissertation Formatting & Submission
 - Campus resources and workshops, law library contact
- Research and Course Resources
 - Wheat Law Library, Academic Resources Program, Advanced Legal Research Courses, Online Research
- Writing & Editing Resources
 - Campus departments and programs, International Dissertation Writing Fellow
- KU Resources for International Students
 - VISAs, orientation
- Student Organizations and Groups
- General Campus and Community Resources
 - ID Cards, Counseling, Medical, Public Transportation, Women, Safety, News



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LIBRARY SERVICES AIMED AT INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

International Dissertation Writing Fellow

- New service offered by law library and Academic Resources Program
- Developed through fielding student concerns with limits of general campus writing center and indications of need on faculty survey
- Provides general editing, proofing, and citation style
- Fellow and student able to schedule appointments when mutually agreeable
- Works in library study room reserved for appointments
- Sets specific goals for each meeting
- Tracking of hours spent, questions asked
- Helps to alleviate hurdles faced when practicing legal writing in a second language



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LIBRARY SERVICES AIMED AT INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

Alignment with Academic Resources Program

- First year courses, Lawyering Labs
- In-course bibliographic instruction
- Space for and cataloging and circulation of Academic Resources Materials
- Co-supervision of International Dissertation Writing Fellow



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LIBRARY SERVICES AIMED AT INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

SJD Student Resources LibGuide

- Law school administrative procedures
- Course work
- Dissertation Writing, Formatting, Workshops, Defense and Electronic Submissions
- Database Training, Academic Resources Materials, scholarly opportunities and research dissemination

(<http://guides.law.ku.edu/sjd>)



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LIBRARY SERVICES AIMED AT INTERNATIONAL LAW STUDENTS

Scholarly Communication

- Resources in handbook and LibGuide
- Formatting and submission of approved dissertation
- Current publishing formats and retention by libraries
- Open Access options
- Copyright information
- Embargos



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OTHER EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

Short Summer preparatory course

- Research
- Writing
- Introduction to American legal institutions
- Sample exercises related to course work: note-taking, analysis
- Addresses acculturation through extracurricular trips and gatherings
- Helps to alleviate language and cultural barriers as well as first day stress and anxiety

Translated academic support materials

- Glossary
- Study guide
- Key phrases from text

Others



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FUTURE INITIATIVES

Student survey

Tracking of services use

International student bibliographic instruction



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