



SMU. DEDMAN
SCHOOL OF LAW

International Externships

2016 General Information

Students interested in international externships must apply well in advance. This document contains general information and links to application forms. Please see **Professors Colangelo, Jenks, or Turner** for further information about application and issues regarding academic credit.

INTERNATIONAL EXTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNALS (5-6 credits, summer, fall, or spring semester)

Application Process:

If you want to apply for an internship at one of the international tribunals listed below, please submit completed applications to the **Career Services Office**. Please also have each of your recommenders provide two (2) copies of his/her letter in sealed envelopes, one for internal review, and one to be sent to the tribunal. Both copies may be addressed to the tribunal.

If you would like to have SMU's official endorsement of your application, you must first have your application approved by SMU. Therefore, please submit your application to the Career Services Office **AT LEAST two weeks in advance** of the postmark deadline of the internship program to which you are applying. Professors Colangelo, Jenks, and Turner will identify the applications to be endorsed by the law schools. Important factors for selection will include general academic performance, familiarity with international and criminal law, and, for some positions, proficiency in French and/or Arabic.

Students may receive credit for the externship even if they apply independently, without being endorsed by the law school. We recommend seeking official endorsement, however, as it usually increases your chances of admission into an international externship.

SMU offers externship credit for 3-month and 6-month international internships with international tribunals and organizations and with attorneys practicing before these courts and organizations. The three-month internships take place during the summer, fall, and spring semesters. Participants are eligible for 5 academic credits for a 3-month internship and 6 credits for a 6-month internship, conditioned on regular reports about their work at the court or organization. SMU students are assigned a field supervisor and a faculty supervisor who evaluate the student's work. To receive academic credit, students are required to report regularly to their faculty supervisor regarding their work at the tribunal.

Students may also be eligible to apply for directed research with Professors Colangelo, Jenks, or Turner, as part of which they can gain up to 3 credits (which would satisfy the General Writing requirement) upon the completion of a substantial paper.

*NOTE: **Qualifications:** We regret that, for purposes of endorsement, we will not accept 1L/rising 2L/1E/2E applications because of a lack of international law and other relevant coursework.

*NOTE: **Law Review eligibility:** Students (particularly rising 3Es) should be aware that acceptance into the international law externship program for an externship during the 2L or 3E academic year will preclude eligibility for *Law Review* membership that year. Students who are selected for one of the externships will be eligible for the *Law Review* writing competition upon their return.

TRIBUNALS:

International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY): The Hague, Netherlands

SMU has sent several externs to the ICTY in the last few years. For more information about the externships, you may access the ICTY application forms here:

- Information: <http://www.icty.org/sid/127>
- Application Form: <http://www.icty.org/sid/113>
- **Deadline: applicants are encouraged to apply 6 months in advance of their starting date**

International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR): Arusha, Tanzania + office in The Hague, Netherlands.

You may access the ICTR application forms and other information about the ICTR externship here:

- <http://41.220.139.198/tabid/122/default.aspx>
- **Deadline: applicants are encouraged to apply 6 months in advance of their starting date**

Special Tribunal for Lebanon: The Hague, Netherlands.

You may access the STL application forms and further information here:

- <http://www.specialtribunalforlebanon.org/en/jobs/internships>
- **Deadline: at least 4 months before anticipated start date**

Inter-American Commission of Human Rights: Washington, DC.

You may access information about the IACHR internship program here:

- <http://www.oas.org/interns/>
- **Deadlines: about 3 months before anticipated start date (see table)**

Inter-American Court of Human Rights: **San Jose, Costa Rica.**

You may access information about this internship program, which requires strong Spanish language skills, here:

- <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/index.php/en/about-us/programa-pasantias>
- **Deadlines: about 3 months before anticipated start date (see table)**

U.S. Mission to the EU: Brussels, Belgium

This is a legal affairs internship for U.S. law students specifically interested in European law. Interns would analyze and report on cases in the European Court of Justice relevant to U.S. Government

interests, as well as more broadly observe and report on other legal developments relating to the EU institutions, particularly in the field of Justice and Home Affairs. The intern also would undertake research, and prepare briefing materials and public remarks, for the U.S. Ambassador to the EU, thus gaining as well first-hand exposure to the breadth of the Mission's diplomatic activities. The Mission's website, <http://useu.usmission.gov>, under "About Us," provides details on the legal affairs internship, as well as a link to the State Department's application process. Only U.S. citizens may apply, and successful applicants must receive a security clearance. State Department internship positions are unpaid, but some logistical and administrative support is provided.

- **Deadlines: Interns typically serve for ten week terms, throughout the year. Note that applications must be filed considerably in advance** (because of the long time it takes to get a security clearance).

Dean Acheson Stage Program, European Court of Justice: Luxembourg

The Dean Acheson Legal Stage Program at the Court of Justice of the European Communities (European Court of Justice), organized through the U.S. Embassy in Luxembourg, offers *stage* (traineeship/internship) opportunities at the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance to a limited number of students from select U.S. law schools. Students are nominated to the Court by their law schools, and the Court makes the final selection decision. SMU Law students and alumni are eligible to apply for the internship, which typically lasts three months and enables them to work in the chambers of a judge or advocate general of the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. The work environment is collegial, as clerks of all chambers spend a good deal of time together within and outside the Court of Justice.

- <https://www.law.umich.edu/mlawglobal/internationalopportunities/fellowshipsandfundingopportunities/Pages/deanachesonstageprogram.aspx>
- **Deadline: April, 2016 (for externships in the fall of 2016 or spring of 2017)**

OTHER INTERNATIONAL-LAW EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Department of State

- Office of Legal Advisor, <http://www.state.gov/s/l/3190.htm>
- Office of Assistant Legal Adviser for Private International Law (see Professor Winship (pwinship@smu.edu) for more information)

Department of Justice Office of International Affairs

- <http://www.justice.gov/legal-careers/interns-recent-graduates-and-fellows>

Department of Defense

- <http://www.dod.gov/dodgc/contact.html>

American Society of International Law

- <http://www.asil.org/about/asil-internships>

American Red Cross

- <http://www.redcross.org/support/get-involved/internship-program>

American Bar Association

- http://www.americanbar.org/groups/law_students/resources/intern.html

Human Rights Watch

- <https://www.hrw.org/about/internships>

Human Rights First

- <http://www.humanrightsfirst.org/careers>

Civilians in Conflict

- <http://civiliansinconflict.org/who-we-are/our-team/join-our-team/policy-advocacy-internship>