The Singapore Government, in a major review of the domestic supply of lawyers, confirmed a shortage of lawyers in Singapore. 2007 hence marked a major milestone in the development of legal education in Singapore - the setting up of the nation’s second law school.

SMU is honoured to be entrusted with this important responsibility. As Singapore’s first private university and the only university here with a city campus purpose-built to its pedagogy of small class size and interactive learning, SMU will be extending its unique approach to its School of Law.

SMU’s undergraduate law programme aims to mould students into excellent lawyers who will contribute significantly to society. The objective is to produce law graduates who have contextualised legal expertise and the ability to think across disciplines and geographical borders. In terms of pedagogy, SMU’s seminar-style learning will be put to good effect to nurture students who are confident, articulate and analytically agile.
Rigorous & Challenging Curriculum

The Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) is a 4-year merit-based honours programme with 36 course units worth of courses. The LL.B. curriculum, recently revised to take into account student feedback, was originally formulated by legal academics and practitioners after extensive discussions, and endorsed by the Ministry of Law and Singapore’s then Board of Legal Education.

The curriculum comprises a careful mix of University Core courses, Law Core courses, Law-related courses, Law electives as well as General Education courses to ensure that graduates possess the desired contextual and cross-border knowledge and expertise.

### University Core Courses
- Analytical Skills (0.5 course unit)
- Creative Thinking (0.5 course unit)
- Business, Government & Society
- Ethics & Social Responsibility
- Leadership & Team Building
- Technology & World Change

### General Education Courses
- Any 2 General Education Courses
- Any 1 Elective from SMU (including Law Electives)

### Law Core Courses
- Commercial Conflict of Laws
- Comparative Legal Systems
- Constitutional & Administrative Law (1.5 course units)
- Contract Law 1
- Contract Law 2
- Corporate law
- Criminal Law (1.5 course units)
- Economic Analysis of Law / Law & Regulation (Choose 1)
- Law of Business Organisations
- Law of Equity & Trusts (1.5 course units)
- Law of Evidence & Civil Procedure (1.5 course units)
- Law of Property (1.5 course units)
- Law of tort (1.0 course units)
- Legal System, Legal Method & Analysis
- Legal Theory & Philosophy

### Law Electives (Choose 7)
- Advocacy
- Banking Law
- Biotechnology & Pre-Law
- Chinese Contract Law
- Chinese Foreign Investment Law
- Comparative Law of Sales
- Complex International Arbitration
- Competition Law
- Corporate Crime
- Corporate Insolvency Law
- Economic Analysis of Law
- Entertainment Law
- Family Law
- Financial & Securities Regulation
- Foreign Direct Investment Law & Practice
- Information Technology & the Law
- Insurance Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- International and Comparative Criminal Justice
- International Commercial Arbitration
- International Commercialization of Intellectual Property
- International MoU
- International Patent Law and Policy

### Law-related Courses
- Financial Accounting
- Finance for Law
- Accounting and Finance
- Legal Theory
- Legal Practice
- Business, Government & Society
- Ethics & Social Responsibility
- Leadership & Team Building
- Technology & World Change

Holistic Pedagogy and Course Assessment

Students at SMU Law School put in a substantial amount of pre-class preparatory reading and thinking and participate actively in class discussion. A significant amount of time is devoted to group presentations. SMU’s experience is that the interactive participative learning environment helps students to become articulate, confident and analytically agile, attributes which will be crucial for excelling in the legal and corporate world.

A holistic approach towards course assessment is adopted. Significant assessment weightage is allocated to class participation, term assignments, oral and written presentations, whilst the end of term written examination (usually open book) typically accounts for a maximum of 50% of the final grade in a course.

A distinctive feature of the LL.B. programme is that legal practitioners from law firms and members of the judiciary are invited to participate in the classroom teaching of the LL.B. courses. This provides our students the opportunity to learn directly from their practical expertise and experience.

To hone the legal writing skills of the students, from Year 2 onwards, each student will be required to submit a substantial individual written assignment of about 2,000 to 3,000 words for one of the law courses read in each term.

JOSHUA LIM
Alumnus, School of Law
Justice Law Clerk
Supreme Court Singapore
The curriculum’s emphasis on a contextual and holistic legal education has struck the right balance and should be warmly welcomed. The law graduate of tomorrow must be equipped with a deep reservoir of knowledge as well as multi-dimensional skills if he is to successfully navigate the ever-evolving challenges of legal practice and business.

JUSTICE V K RAJAH
Judge of Appeal, Supreme Court Singapore

The internship is intended to acquaint the students with the practical workings of the legal system and the realities of law practice in the private and public sectors. The internship may include an overseas component, as is the case of the internships arranged through our partners, the New York State Bar Association. Each student will only be allowed to intern with a maximum of 5 partners within the period of 10 weeks.

In his speech at the Opening of the Legal Year 2012, Chan Sek Kang CJ announced the establishment of a mandatory pro bono programme for all Singapore law students from 2013, with a fast run of the same in 2012. SMU’s forward thinking is reflected in our compulsory community service programme that has been in place since the founding of the Law School. Students perform 80 or organisations involved in pro-bono and legal aid work.
SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

WITH THE DIVERSITY OF THE LEGAL COMMUNITY AT LARGE, THE LAW SCHOOL IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE A NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS TO RECOGNISE AND ENCOURAGE OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE FROM OUR STUDENTS.

TOP AWARDS
- LaiKee Kay Chia Prize for Top First Year Law Student
-linkshah Pru for Top Second Year Law Student
- The Punch Cosmasawamwami Prize for Top Third Year Law Student
- DBS Bank School Valedictorian Award
-Eva Geck Choo Top Law Student Award
-Rajah & Tann Prize for Most Outstanding Law Graduate

SUBJECT AWARDS
- Adrian Pate for Best Student in Law of Tort (Year 1)
- David Marshall Prize for Top Student in Criminal Law (Year 1)
-Jonathan Mamoudou Prize for Best Law Student in Critical Thinking (Year 1)
- Phang Sing Eng Prize for Top Student in Contract Law (Year 1)
- Roshieh Pate for Top Student in Legal Research and Writing (Year 1)
- The Jurist Prize for Best Student in Legal Systems, Legal Method and Analysis (Year 1)
- Emeritus Professor Gerald Dworkin Prize for Best Student in Intellectual Property Law (From Year 2)
- Lawfast Prize for Top Student in Law of Property (Year 2)
- Leakawon Prize for Student with Best Year Two Low Research Paper (Year 2)
- Roshieh Prize for Top Student in Corporate Law (Year 3)
- Stamford Low Prize for Top Student in Finance (Year 2)
- AHV Bird & Bird Prize for Student with Best Year Three Low Research Paper (Year 3)
- Barrister & Solicitor for Top Student in Insurance Law (From Year 3)
- Drew and Hasper Prize for Top Student in Advocacy (From Year 3)
- Harry Elias Partnership LLP Prize for Top Student in Corporate Law (From Year 3)
- Harry Elias Partnership LLP Prize for Top Student in Public International Law (From Year 3)
- Khorstamang Prize for Top Student in Corporate and Commercial Laws (Year 3)
- Michael Hwang Prize for Top Student in International Commercial Arbitration (From Year 3)
- Peggy Phang Prize for Top Student in Legal Theory and Philosophy (Year 3)
- Pictorials Trust Prize for Top Student in Law of Equity and Trust (Year 3)
- Roshieh & Tann Prize for Top Student in Banking Law (Year 3)
- Roshieh & Tann Prize for Top Student in Innsolvency Law (Year 3)
- Roshieh & Tann Prize for Top Student in Information Technology & Law (From Year 3)
- Roshieh & Tann Prize for Top Student in Shipping Law (Year 3)
- Stamford Low Prize for Top Student in Financial and Securities Regulation (From Year 3)
- The Amarendra Singh SC Low Prize for Top Student in Public International Law (From Year 3)
- The Rodyk Challenge Competition and Prizes
- TAPM Law Corporation Prize for Best Student in Law of Evidence and Civil Procedure (Year 3)

COMPETITIONS
- The Rodyk Challenge Competition and Prizes
- Asian Perspectives Moot Prize for Best Team in the 3rd Edition of the APM Moot (Year 3)
- International Law Moot Prize for Best Team in the 6th Edition of the ILA Moot (Year 3)
- TAPM Law Corporation Prize for Best Team in the 5th Edition of the SMU Moot (Year 3)
- The Rodyk Challenge Competition and Prizes

BURSARIES
- Converse DB & Paseman Bursary
- Converse Bursary
- School of Law Bursary

As part of its commitment to holistic education, the Law School currently hosts three competitions in collaboration with the legal community – the Howard Hunter Moot, the Harry Elias Partnership LLP-SMU Moot, and the Rockie Challenge – with the promise of more, and more interesting, competitions to come to cater to our diverse student community. Our students also participate actively in national and international competitions and have consistently done us proud in these competitions. The Law School made its debut in international moot competitions in 2009, less than two years after admitting its first cohort, and emerged 1st runners-up at the 4th edition of the LawAsia Moot.

The following year, before graduating a single student, our students tasted success in not one but two international moot competitions – the 3rd edition of the Monore E Price Moot and the 12th edition of the Asia Cup Moot. SMU law students also placed 1st, 5th and 7th in an international online negotiation competition hosted by Smart Settle in the same year. Our students successfully defended the Asia Cup in 2011 and also took top honours at the 2011 edition of the International Youth for Peace competition as part of a joint team between SMU and NUS. Although they lost out narrowly to NUS at the national rounds of the Philip C Jessup moot, our students’ performance earned them an invitation to participate in the Exhibition rounds for the competition, where they prevailed to emerge champions among the Exhibition teams.

SMU School of Law
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS
Students are encouraged to maximise their learning experience by spending a term abroad. SMU has exchange agreements with more than 200 reputable universities worldwide. Most of these international exchange opportunities are available to students from the Law School though some may require fluency in a foreign language. The SMU Law School is itself partnered with the following universities for direct law-to-law exchange and is continuously negotiating with other universities to expand its international exchange programme.

UNITED STATES
- Atlanta
  School of Law, Emory University, USA
- Urbana-Champaign
  College of Law, University of Illinois, USA

EUROPE
- Germany
  Bucerius Law School, Hamburg, Germany
  Humboldt-Universitat Zu Berlin, Berlin, Germany
- Italy
  School of Law, University of Bocconi, Milan, Italy
- Netherlands
  Tilburg Law School, Tilburg University, Tilburg, Netherlands
  Universiteit Maastricht (Law, ICT, College), Maastricht, Netherlands
- Spain
  Universitat Pompeu Fabra Law School, Barcelona, Spain
- Sweden
  Gothenburg University, Gothenburg, Sweden
  Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden
- Switzerland
  University of St Gallen, St Gallen, Switzerland
  School of Law, University of Lucerne, Lucerne, Switzerland
- United Kingdom
  School of Law, University of Exeter, Exeter, United Kingdom
  School of Law, The University of Manchester, Manchester, United Kingdom
  School of Law, University of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom
  University of St Andrews, Scotland, United Kingdom

ASIA-PACIFIC
- Australia
  Bond University, Queensland, Australia
- China
  China Youth University for Political Science, Beijing, China
  School of Law, Peking University, Beijing, China
  Koguan School of Law, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Shanghai, China
- Hong Kong SAR
  Faculty of Law, University of Hong Kong
  Faculty of Law, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- India
  NALSAR, University of Law, Hyderabad, India
  National Law School of India University, Bangalore, India
- Republic of Korea
  Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea
  Yonsei University Law School, Seoul, South Korea
- Taiwan
  National Cheng Chi University, Taipei, Taiwan
  National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan

MIDDLE EAST
- Israel
  The Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel

The SMU law degree is held in high regard by Rajah & Tann. This is not only because of the sterling reputation of SMU and the standard, content and scope of the legal education and training given by the SMU School of Law to its students.

We have gotten to know many SMU law students through our internship programme and in the course of working with them to sponsor or organize activities within the School and have been very impressed by their ability, diligence and spiritedness.

The SMU Law School believes that legal education with a contextual orientation and a cross-border appreciation will enable its law graduates to be better lawyers. Our law students are equipped to work in a diverse array of jobs. In addition to corporate and commercial law practice in local and offshore law firms, they can choose to work in other fields such as legal practice in non-corporate and commercial fields such as in-house counsel work in a multinational corporation, state counsel/prosecution and judicial work in the Singapore Legal Service and international legal practice in a foreign law firm.

MR. LEE ENG BENG, S.C.
Managing Partner, Rajah & Tann LLP
Purpose-built over 4.5 hectares of prime Singapore land, SMU’s campus is designed, integrated and constructed in the heart of a fully developed cityscape. Surrounded by museums, theatres, cafés, restaurants and a range of retail outlets, it is designed to be directed towards the challenges of the new millennium while remaining connected to the historical origins of this important district.

The campus is surrounded by trees, anchored by the park landscape of the Campus Green in the centre, and its buildings share glazed façades shaded by a veil of plants. This idyllic tableau of greenery provides a welcome backdrop to a whole range of student activity. An underground Concourse that links all of the schools provides students the convenience of moving easily between classes, rain or shine.

The SMU campus enjoys unparalleled transport connectivity amongst tertiary institutions in Singapore. It is directly connected via its underground Concourse to the new Bras Basah MRT station (Circle Line) directly beneath SMU’s University Square and both City Hall MRT station (North South Line / East West Line) and Dhoby Ghaut MRT station (North South Line / North East Line / Circle Line) are located within walking distance of the campus.

A city campus also brings a palpable sense of vibrancy throughout the day. Fun is always around the corner. For students at the SMU Law School, the close proximity of the Supreme Court also means that they can pop by to attend a public trial on a whim in between classes to see law in action.

Classrooms in SMU are all thoughtfully configured to meet different teaching and learning needs. Each of them has been designed to meet specific requirements given by the domain experts and is equipped with state-of-the-art facilities. The seminar rooms, where most of the classes for the SMU Law School are conducted, all have access to the campus-wide wireless network and every seat is equipped with a power socket so that students can all use their laptops to take notes, search for information, or do presentations without having to worry about battery life. Their tiered and U-shaped configuration is specially designed to facilitate seminar-styled delivery.

A standard seminar room is equipped with a variety of facilities to support different instructional styles. An instructor can choose to write on the multiple layered whiteboards or project his presentations onto the screens or a document camera. If the instructor wishes to use videos or other multimedia content to enhance learning, he can play them using either his own laptop or the DVD player or the computer inside the audio-video closet. The ability to project wirelessly to the two screens in each room allows both the instructor and his students to share their solutions concurrently. Controls can also be passed to the students seamlessly through software specifically developed for this purpose.

The campus is also equipped with flat classrooms that are suitable for activity-based learning. To facilitate active discussions, tables and chairs are movable and configurable. In addition to the library, the campus is also equipped with a range of facilities for students to study, meet for project discussions or just hang out, including group study rooms, study banches and tables throughout the courtyards, walkways and Concourse, and scenic rooftop gardens.
The SMU Centre for Dispute Resolution was established in late 2008, and is located within the School of Law. One of the objectives in establishing the Centre is to provide a vehicle for research and teaching across the range of “alternative” dispute resolution procedures. Within the University, the Centre’s mandate is to foster such research and teaching activities across all the Schools and Departments at SMU, particularly as a number of academics in all Schools have been identified with research interests in dispute resolution.

In addition to research and teaching, the Centre promotes collaboration with university, professional, governmental, non-governmental and inter-governmental agencies in the promotion of effective, collaborative forms of dispute resolution and access to justice. In doing so, the Centre thus works towards promoting Singapore as the dispute resolution resource for the region, in line with the vision of the Singapore Academy of Law and the Government.

The Centre builds on the experience already gained both within the judicial system and in the wider community in the use of mediation and non-judicial processes. It also builds on the long and diverse traditions of mediation in all countries of the region and works with the various relevant agencies in building local capacity in dispute management, for example where recent and on-going conflicts constitute challenges to security. In its most public role, the Centre hosts public lectures and seminars, including the Herbert Smith SMU Asian Arbitration Lecture series and a regular series of Practitioner Seminars.

The International Islamic Law and Finance Centre is a collaborative initiative between SMU’s School of Law and Lee Kong Chian School of Business, which draws upon the resources of all schools in the University. The mission of the IILF Centre is to carry out research and be a thought leader in Islamic law and finance. We provide a catalyst and synergy for Islamic law and finance knowledge development and dissemination through international collaborations with other institutions, conferences and industry forums, visiting scholars, funded research grants, and IILF Centre research assistants and research fellows.

While research creates value, value must be extracted and disseminated effectively in order for its potential to be fully realized. To facilitate research, and the effective dissemination of its value to the industry through applied education and training, the IIF Centre is developing a clearly defined and industry-focused IIF Centre Research Initiative and IILF Centre Industry-Applied Education Initiative, and it is anticipated that other specialist Initiatives will be defined and added in the future. Research, education and training programs, conferences and seminars/forums focus on the practical aspects of Islamic law and finance and enhance our distinct role as a vehicle for developing the Islamic finance industry in Singapore and internationally. The IIF Centre works closely with all stakeholders, and in particular with the Monetary Authority of Singapore, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Law and other public institutions, as well as with the financial industry in Singapore and abroad. Our research and education functions will have broad impact on development of the Islamic finance industry in Singapore and beyond, as well as on enhanced market connectivity, especially with other parts of Asia and the Middle East.
Asian Peace-building and Rule of Law Programme

The Asian Peace-building and Rule of Law Programme (APRL) is a collaboration between Access to Justice Asia LLP (AJA) and the SMU School of Law. It serves as a focal point for coordinating cross-disciplinary human rights and good governance research within SMU. To this end, APRL conducts seminars and executive education courses, carries out innovative socio-legal research, and leads direct impact litigation in Asia. APRL has worked with leading law schools, such as Yale Law School and Berkeley Law School, and supports regional human rights mechanisms and courts.

To bridge theory and practice, APRL provides SMU students with hands-on experience working on active human rights cases and projects. The skills-training imparted through directed research instruction and simulations is applied and tested in the context of real-world advocacy. Working in partnership with the Programme’s director, associates and experienced international lawyers and advisers, students contribute to effecting positive social change regionally and globally as they hone their critical thinking, media advocacy and legal professional skills.

Since its inception in 2010, the Programme has, among other things, represented genocide survivors in war crimes trials in Cambodia, co-written a multi-site rule of law study on ten ASEAN countries, advised the IHN on transnational corporate responsibility to respect human rights, carried out policy-relevant research in relation to post-conflict Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste and Bangladesh, and co-hosted Singapore’s 1st Summer Institute on Human Rights & Humanitarian Law which saw prominent professors teach seminars on the rights of women and children in conflict and peace.

APRL hopes to help nurture a new generation of Asian scholars, lawyers and practitioners who are equipped to refine and develop human rights and international law practice and policy in Asia.
The international experience of our Law Faculty is reflected in their profiles and they hold postgraduate degrees from renowned universities worldwide such as Harvard and Oxford. The diversity in legal research and teaching is apparent from the list of global publications of the faculty and the spectrum of courses being offered in various areas of law. The faculty are also very actively involved in service within the university, the legal fraternity and in society.

The faculty community is a closely-knit and collegial one and, in conjunction with the relatively small size of the school, engenders a sense of being part of an extended family amongst our students.

For more information on our faculty full profiles, visit our website at http://www.law.smu.edu.sg/faculty/index.asp
Howard HUNTER
Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Contract and Commercial Law
- American Constitutional Law

Pearlie KOH
Associate Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Corporate Law
- American Constitutional Law

Jack LEE
Assistant Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Corporate Law
- American Constitutional Law

Jeremy LEONG
Assistant Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Contract and Commercial Law
- International Financial and Business Law

LOO Wee Ling
Assistant Professor of Law (Practice)
Areas of Specialisation:
- Contract and Commercial Law
- Credit and Security Law

Ian MACDOUP
Assistant Professor of Law (Practice)
Areas of Specialisation:
- Dispute Resolution
- Mediation (Domestic and International)

Eliza MIK
Assistant Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Contract Law
- Internet Law
- Information Technology and the Law

S. Chandra MOHAN
Associate Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Criminal Law
- Corporate Crime
- Criminal Procedure and Evidence

Mahdev MOHAN
Assistant Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Criminal Law
- Corporate Crime
- Criminal Procedure and Evidence

Rathna NATHAN
Assistant Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Contract Law
- Dispute Resolution

Austin PULLE
Associate Professor of Law (Practice)
Areas of Specialisation:
- Commercial Litigation
- Commercial Arbitration
- Legislative Skills

Howard HUNTER
Professor of Law
Areas of Specialisation:
- Contract and Commercial Law
- American Constitutional Law

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- Commercial Arbitration
- Legislative Skills
Tertiary education is about more than just studying, even at SMU where the classroom is the world at large. No university experience is complete without a range of activities completely unrelated to the classroom. With over 100 core curricular activities (CCAs) to join, SMU students are true all-rounders. From sports and outdoor adventure to community service and the arts and culture, there’s something for everyone. Not only does SMU’s location ensure that fun is always just around the corner, it is also cleverly designed to facilitate a range of student activities. Sports facilities include a stunning rooftop swimming pool, one of the best equipped gymnasiums within the city and a multi-purpose sports hall equipped with a rock wall. The campus is also equipped with facilities to stir budding artists, including an Arts & Culture Centre, a multi-purpose hall, a basement studio, the Campus Radio Studio and The Box, a multi-purpose space for such diverse activities as film-talks, seminars, multimedia presentations, art-space or even craft demonstrations.

It is Friday, 20th November midnight, with a week to go before my exams. As an SMU student, I was spending my time the only way I knew how: with my professor completing, collectively, 666 laps (x33.3m) at the pool for charity. SMU Law School isn’t just a school. It’s an experience. Warning: not for the faint-hearted.

If the graduation of the first cohort of SMU law students is regarded as the close of the first chapter of the School of Law’s story, the second chapter promises to be just as exciting. Two developments in the near term include the setting up of the Kwa Geok Choo Law Library and the David Marshall Moot Court to enhance the learning experience of SMU law students.