



School of Law

香港城市大學  
City University of Hong Kong



# MASTER OF LAWS IN ARBITRATION AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION (LLMArbDR)

法學碩士（仲裁及爭議解決學）

Legal Education  
for Tomorrow's  
Professionals



## THE

## PROGRAMME

# Master of Laws in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution (LLMArbDR)

Dispute resolution is not only carried in the courtroom through litigation, but also by arbitration and mediation, which are increasingly popular and well-respected alternative dispute resolution (ADR) techniques.

The LLMArbDR programme is designed to meet Hong Kong's needs for arbitration and dispute resolution expertise in a variety of fields and to maintain and improve Hong Kong's position as one of the leading arbitration and dispute resolution centres in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to make use of the special links between Hong Kong and Chinese mainland in this respect. The programme offers a unique blend of academic and practical training in a broad range of dispute resolution methods, with emphases on domestic and international arbitration, as well as on mediation and negotiation. The LLMArbDR programme provides substantial leadership in its area and is taught by highly qualified and experienced professionals.

### Professional Recognition

Upon completion of the LLMArbDR programme and subject to fulfilling certain requirements, graduates are eligible to apply for professional recognition both within and outside of Hong Kong, including:

- ▶ Membership of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (MCIArb);
- ▶ Associateship of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (AHKIArb);
- ▶ Fellowship of the Hong Kong Institute of Arbitrators (FHKIArb);
- ▶ Accredited General Mediator of the Hong Kong Mediation Accreditation Association Limited (HKMAAL) (subject to completing Stage 2 and Stage 3 requirements as stipulated by the HKMAAL Mediation Accreditation Committee);
- ▶ CPD points awarded by the Law Society of Hong Kong.

### Programme Structure

The programme is currently taught in the combined evening mode. Exempt students<sup>^</sup> are required to complete 30 credit units and non-exempt students are required to complete 33 credit units.

The programme can be completed in one year with a full-time study load or two and one half years with a part-time study load. Students who have qualified for certain exemptions may complete the programme in one to two years.

Taught courses of the programme include Legal Concepts, Commercial Contracts, Procedure and Proof, Dispute Resolution in Theory and Practice, Mediation Practice, Arbitration Law, Arbitration Practice and Award Writing, and International Arbitration. Students are also required to take elective(s).

To obtain the master's degree, students are required to perform independent scholarly research and prepare a dissertation or its equivalent.

<sup>^</sup> Students holding a law degree from Hong Kong or other common law jurisdiction, or the Postgraduate Certificate in Hong Kong Law (PGCHKL) at City University of Hong Kong, or equivalent are exempted from Commercial Contracts and Legal Concepts.

### Intermediate Award of Postgraduate Diploma (PGD)

This programme is a linked programme. Students who have successfully completed all required taught courses with a CGPA of 2.85 or above and elected not to pursue the dissertation or its equivalent for the master's degree are eligible for the intermediate award of Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) in Arbitration and Dispute Resolution.

## Cooperation with Overseas Universities

The School signed unprecedented cooperation agreements with the University Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Université de Fribourg to jointly organize collaborative programmes. Selected students will study at the partner universities and obtain one postgraduate degree from CityU and one from the partner university, where the designated study-loads at the institutions are successfully discharged. For further details, please visit <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/slwc/current-students/overseas-study-opportunities/global-gatewayr>.

## Goff Arbitration Lecture

The Goff Lecture series was inaugurated by the Law School in 1990. Lord Goff of Chieveley, then Lord of Appeal, initiated the series. He has been followed by an illustrious list of some of the world's most renowned experts in the field.

## Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot is a competition for law students. Students from all countries are eligible and the Finals take place in Vienna, Austria. The Moot involves a dispute arising out of a contract of sale of goods between two countries that are parties to the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. The School hosts the annual Willem C. Vis (East) International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Hong Kong.

## Admission Requirements

To be eligible for consideration for admission, an applicant must have a university degree from a recognized university or equivalent qualifications (e.g. AHKIArb).

Applicants whose employment or professional activities involve arbitration or other forms of dispute resolution may be preferred, where qualifications are otherwise equal, but in all cases admission will be based on merit.

Applicants who graduated from an institution where the medium of instruction is not English must fulfill the programme specific English language proficiency requirement.

Details are available from <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/slwc/prospective-students/postgraduate-programmes/LLMArbDR>.

## Continuing Education Fund (CEF)

The LLMArbDR programme has been included in the list of reimbursable courses for CEF purposes. For application details, please refer to <https://www.wfsfaa.gov.hk/cef>.

## Fellowships Scheme

Fellowship awards are available for local students admitted to this programme under the Fellowships Scheme supported by the HKSAR Government. Local students admitted to the programme will be invited to submit applications for the fellowships. Details are available from <https://www.cityu.edu.hk/pg/taught-postgraduate-programmes/fellowships-scheme>.



# STUDENT TESTIMONY



**Sandra CHAKRABARTY**

LLMArbDR Graduate 2019

“ Being taught by incredibly diverse and experienced practitioners has given me a great advantage and insight into the alternative dispute resolution industry, not just in Hong Kong, but globally as well. ”

“ The programme is very practicable and is taught by recognised international practitioners who are knowledgeable in their respective fields. ”



**Jiayu CHEN**

LLMArbDR Graduate 2019



**Rosana LO**

LLMArbDR Graduate 2019

“ Studying at the City University of Hong Kong was one of the most pleasurable learning experiences in my academic life. ”

“ Besides learning the nuances beneath the predominant systems of arbitration laws and rules in print, the lecturers backed their teachings with real-life cases they conducted themselves in their professional practices. This renders the course exceptionally valuable. ”



**Kennis CHEUNG**

LLMArbDR Graduate 2020



**Megan FANNING**

LLMArbDR Graduate 2020

“ I chose to study LLMArbDR at CityU as it offers a good balance of both theoretical and practical skills. ”

“ I am especially grateful for the opportunity to participate in the joint-master's programme between CityU and one of the renowned universities in France Paris. ”



**Jiale REN**

LLMArbDR Graduate 2020

## CONTACT US / LLMArbDR Programme Team

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