Policy on Exchange Agreements

Appropriate and high-quality study abroad programs contribute greatly to the educational experiences of students in an increasingly globalized legal market. The College of Law currently offers four exchange programs, with Erasmus University and Groningen Universities in the Netherlands, with Griffith University in Australia, and with Southwest University of Political Science and Law in China. More details on each of these exchanges are available on the individual program webpages on this website. Each exchange was carefully chosen by the College of Law as providing an educational program at least equivalent to that offered by the College. Thus, for example, all four programs offer much or all of their instruction in English, and with a quality of instruction and other facilities at the same level as those offered by the College of Law. The exchange programs were also selected because their curricula complement rather than duplicating courses and other educational opportunities at the College of Law.

The primary objectives of the exchange programs for College of Law students are; (1) to expose students to an in-depth study of the legal system of one or more foreign systems and (2) to give students opportunities to deepen their knowledge of comparative and international law through the taking of courses that may not be regularly offered at the College of Law. Students may also benefit from making professional or academic contacts at the universities and countries in question. An in-depth knowledge of foreign legal culture and rules is often essential for modern, globalized legal practice. Further, students are encouraged to pursue exchange programs that mesh with their academic and professional interests. Thus, for example, students with a deep interest in the law of the European Union are encouraged to pursue opportunities for study at Groningen and Erasmus Universities, while students with an interest in the legal systems of Asia and Oceania are encouraged to study at Griffith or Southwest Universities.

The College of Law also recognizes that incoming exchange students from our foreign partner universities enrich the educational experience of College of Law students by providing new perspectives on legal problems and by exposing students to foreign legal practices and cultures. The College strives for balance over time between the quantity of incoming and outgoing exchange students from its programs.