Advanced Studies in International Human Rights
LLM and Master of Studies in Law
Postgraduate Fellowship at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

The University of Colorado Law School and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights have partnered to establish a postgraduate fellowship at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington, D.C. Students who successfully complete the LLM or the MSL in the Advanced Study in International Human Rights Program will be eligible to apply. The Inter-American Commission, an agency of the Organization of American States, is the primary international mechanism overseeing compliance with human rights in the Western Hemisphere.

Join us at the University of Colorado Law School in Boulder

The University of Colorado Law School is a vibrant and diverse community of students and scholars dedicated to the vigorous pursuit of ideas, critical analysis, and civic engagement. Located in Boulder, Colorado, the law school is home to more than 550 law students from a variety of locations in the United States and around the world. Consistently ranked among the best public law schools in the United States, the University of Colorado Law School is part of a top-tier research university that engages students and faculty in a comprehensive range of academic disciplines.

LLM and MSL students are also part of the broader University of Colorado Boulder campus, which is recognized internationally for many of its degree and research programs. With more than 3,000 international students from 100 countries, we welcome students from around the world.

Boulder enjoys over 300 days of sunshine per year and a continental climate. In 2016, it was ranked as the healthiest and most active city in America (Niche). In 2017, it was ranked the happiest city in the United States (National Geographic) and as the No. 1 college town in the country (American Institute for Economic Research). Home to approximately 100,000 residents, Boulder is an industry leader in food, technology, entrepreneurship, and outdoor sports.

ADVANCED STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS

The Advanced Studies in International Human Rights Program at the University of Colorado Law School provides a cutting-edge approach to learning the theory and practice of international human rights law and policy from a global perspective. Our program offers academics, practitioners, professionals, and students advanced theoretical grounding in international law and the international human rights system while allowing for the curricular flexibility to pursue an individualized course of study that accommodates participants’ own academic and professional goals in international law and human rights.

The program offers two degrees. The LLM degree in international law and human rights is available to those who have a first degree in law. The Master of Studies in Law (MSL) degree in international human rights is available to those who have a bachelor’s degree and/or an advanced degree from an accredited university. The LLM and the MSL are both one-year degree programs, and English proficiency is required.

Participants will take core courses in international law, international human rights, and legal research and writing. Elective courses are available in indigenous peoples law and policy; the United Nations and regional human rights systems; business and human rights; international environmental law; international trade; and other topics.

In addition to these traditional courses, participants will also benefit from a variety of innovative seminars, short courses, and lectures from visiting human rights experts from around the world. This includes a seminar led by Dean James Anaya, a former United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples (2008–14), which will include guest lecturers from an extensive global network of international law and human rights scholars and practitioners.
Program Leadership

S. James Anaya, Dean and Charles Inglis Thomson Professor of Law

Dean Anaya spearheaded the creation of the Advanced Studies in International Human Rights program at the University of Colorado Law School. This innovative program aligns with Dean Anaya’s professional experience as a human rights scholar and practitioner. In addition to his teaching and scholarship, Dean Anaya has litigated major cases involving the human rights of indigenous peoples in domestic and international tribunals, including the Supreme Court of the United States, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, and the Caribbean Court of Justice. Among his noteworthy activities, Dean Anaya served as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples from 2008 to 2014. He was on the law faculty at the University of Arizona from 1999 to 2016 after serving for 11 years on the faculty at the University of Iowa. He has been a visiting professor at Harvard University, the University of Toronto, and the University of Tulsa, and an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico. He received his bachelor’s degree from the University of New Mexico and a law degree from Harvard Law School. Students benefit directly from Dean Anaya’s expertise and will have the opportunity to enroll in his Human Rights Colloquium Seminar, which will feature human rights experts from around the world.

Anna Spain Bradley, Faculty Director and Associate Professor of Law

Anna Spain Bradley, an associate professor of law at the University of Colorado Law School, is the inaugural faculty director of the Advanced Studies in International Human Rights program. She also serves as the assistant vice provost for faculty development and diversity at the University of Colorado Boulder. A recognized scholar of international law, Spain Bradley specializes in international human rights, international dispute resolution, and peace and security. As a former attorney-adviser at the U.S. Department of State, Spain Bradley has practiced international arbitration, international investment law, and international negotiation. She continues to serve as legal counsel to countries before international courts and tribunals. Spain Bradley received her JD from Harvard Law School and is an elected member of the American Society of International Law’s executive council, a former term member of the Council on Foreign Relations, and a founding member of Mediators Beyond Borders International. In addition to teaching several courses, Spain Bradley will direct the program’s academics.

Jimmy J. Ilseng, Director of International Programs

Jimmy Ilseng is the program director of the Advanced Studies in International Human Rights program. With more than a decade of experience serving international students, scholars, and professionals, including service as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer, coordinating Fulbright and Hubert H. Humphrey fellowship programs at Vanderbilt University, and managing international programs at the University of Texas School of Law, Ilseng also serves as the director of international programs at the University of Colorado Law School.

Sample Curriculum

Subject to change

Core courses

- International Law
- International Human Rights Law
- Legal Writing and Research
- Human Rights Seminar with Dean Anaya

Elective courses

- Business and Human Rights
- Cultural Property
- Human Rights and Social Sciences
- Human Rights and the African Union
- Human Rights and Women’s Rights
- Indigenous Peoples in International Law
- Inter-American Human Rights System
- International Dispute Resolution
- International Environmental Law
- International Legal Theory
- International Trade Law
- U.S. National Security and Foreign Policy Seminar
Advanced Studies in International Human Rights
University of Colorado Law School
Boulder, Colorado, USA

colorado.edu/law/academics/degrees

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