St. Thomas University School of Law

LL.M./J.S.D. in Intercultural Human Rights

Miami - Florida
I welcome you to St. Thomas University. In the Catholic tradition, our university has developed a rich history of working towards fostering respect for the dignity of the human person in our world. We are proud to have facilitated a number of initiatives designed to foster human rights and social justice. Central to our mission is our Law School’s preeminent Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

As I admire your commitment to human rights, I very much appreciate your interest in our law school. The law school you choose to study human rights will significantly impact the type of lawyer, advocate and leader you will become. St. Thomas University School of Law is an academic institution which champions social justice and human dignity, and it evidences such dedication in its teaching, scholarship, leadership and diversity.

Princeton Review has described St. Thomas Law as “a highly-regarded student-centered law school where diversity is cherished, [and] a commitment to human rights and international law flourishes…” Our globally recognized Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights encapsulates this commitment. Since 2001, we have welcomed a talented student body from every corner of the world and the United States—all sharing the goal of making this a better world.

I invite you to become part of this unique program and caring community, where faculty and students truly make a difference in advancing ethics, human dignity and justice for all.

David A. Armstrong, J.D.
President, St. Thomas University

Tamara F. Lawson
Dean, St. Thomas University School of Law

“There is a growing awareness of the sublime dignity of human persons, who stand above all things and whose rights and duties are universal and inviolable.”

Committed to intercultural dialogue, we aim to contribute to establishing legal orders that allow for the flourishing of all human beings as they are created in the image of God. We look forward to you joining this quest.

Tamara F. Lawson
Dean, St. Thomas University School of Law

“There is a growing awareness of the sublime dignity of human persons, who stand above all things and whose rights and duties are universal and inviolable.”

Because of our faculty of international acclaim and the School’s globally diverse student body, the LL.M. and J.S.D. programs are at the cutting edge of research, study, and advocacy.
HUMAN DIGNITY IS INVOLABLE

These words are easily spoken – and so tough to make a reality. Human rights laws, in particular, remain dry parchment unless they are promoted, created and applied by selfless warriors for the respect of others, most importantly, the vulnerable and the oppressed. These advocates urgently require the proper arms to succeed – the intellectual arsenal necessary to win the fight of hearts and minds in the battle for justice. St. Thomas University School of Law offers its unique contribution to this struggle in its distinctive LL.M. and J.S.D. Programs in Intercultural Human Rights. Its Catholic identity makes it an apt place to work in the vineyard for social justice. It searches for a common ground of values that would allow every person on this planet to reach for her ultimate potential. To this end, top experts in the field are flown in from all over the globe – leaving their desks at eminent universities such as Oxford, Yale, Milan, Florence and Berlin, or distinguished NGOs such as Human Rights Watch to teach the essentials of human rights law in their fields of expertise.

ALL HUMANS ARE BORN FREE AND EQUAL

Our goal should be to respect this universal tenet and interact with each other in a spirit of brotherhood. The battle for human rights and dignity for all is one we cannot afford to lose. We at St. Thomas Law set out to turn the tide of this battle towards the rule of law, peace, dialogue amongst cultures and civilizations, races and ethnicities. We celebrate diversity and foster its power for prosperity, both spiritual and material. We stand up for equal rights and freedoms, for political and social justice. We empower you through a unique academic program that lays the foundation for your successful career in international law and human rights. We designed a master’s program with you in mind. At its end, you will never be the same. You will be a true Master in the field. Take pride in being part of a most challenging academic endeavor and become a wise and compassionate leader for life.
The Program

Master of Laws (LL.M.) Program in Intercultural Human Rights

Do you have an interest in intercultural human rights? Then, without a doubt, this program is for you. Whether you are a lawyer, a government official, a teacher, a human rights activist, or a business person, this unique LL.M. program surpasses expectations because of its structure, content, eminent faculty, and staff.

The LL.M. program at St. Thomas University School of Law is designed to offer in-depth instruction on the critical issue of our time: the protection of human dignity across political, social, economic and cultural lines. All persons with a commitment to this goal are encouraged to pursue this advanced degree in one of the most dynamic fields of international law: intercultural human rights.

The program is designed to allow students to develop the ability to evaluate the major theories, concepts and practices in international human rights law and policy, as well as to conduct effective research and advocacy in the field in a practical and interactive way.

Students will graduate from the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights after the successful completion of 24 academic credits, which includes all required and elective courses. Honors graduates of the LL.M. program are eligible to apply for admission into the highly selective J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

“...The LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights has prepared me well to meet the challenges of my job at the Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (NIALS). Officially commissioned in March 1979 as Nigeria’s apex institution for research in law, the Institute focuses on enhancing national development. The policy-oriented jurisprudence approach I learned at St. Thomas has been an amazingly effective tool in my professional career.”

Fatima Waziri, LL.M.’07 (Nigeria)
Research Fellow and Head of Public Law Department
The Nigerian Institute of Advanced Legal Studies

Doctor of the Science of Law (J.S.D.) Program in Intercultural Human Rights

The J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights provides a premier opportunity for new and experienced scholars to make a lasting contribution to the dynamic and action-oriented field of human rights. J.S.D. candidates conduct research on a pressing issue of their choice, analyze it in a comprehensive, interdisciplinary way, and offer solutions to the problem at hand.

This doctoral program is an intensive research-based academic endeavor that seeks to contribute an innovative perspective, knowledge, academic insight and guidance in the field of human rights.

J.S.D. candidates will graduate after submitting a publishable manuscript of no less than 75,000 words on a chosen dissertation topic, passing an oral defense, and publication of their thesis. All candidates are expected to complete the program requirements during a minimum period of two (2) years, and a maximum of five (5) years.

The best theses may be published in the series entitled Studies in Intercultural Human Rights at the top-of-the-line publishing house, BRILL/Martinus Nijhoff in the Netherlands.

“The J.S.D. program at Saint Thomas University School of Law represents the pinnacle of legal scholarship and research in the field of human rights. This challenging academic program provides for the most exacting standards and faculty oversight and produces serious scholars with a proven publication record.”

Mark Kielsgard, LL.M.’04, J.S.D.’10 (U.S.A.)
Assistant Professor of Law
City University of Hong Kong School of Law
A True “Master’s” Program

Since 2001, the Graduate Program in Intercultural Rights at St. Thomas University has set a high standard for LL.M programs across the country with its dynamic curriculum, expert global faculty, co- and extra-curricular activities, and vast opportunities for scholarly research for human rights professionals. The J.S.D. program, introduced in 2005, has further cemented St. Thomas University Law School’s reputation as a school of distinction with a focus on fostering scholarly research and publications. Each year, the program continues to grow as it solidifies its tradition of excellence with the accomplishments of students and alumni in the field of human rights across the world’s political and cultural divides.

OUR DISTINCT COURSES
- International Law
- International Criminal Law
- International Economic Law
- Humanitarian Law
- Human Rights and Religion
- Human Rights and Terrorism
- Introduction to Human Rights Law
- Immigration Law
- Human Rights Lawyering
- Human Rights and the Environment
- Women’s Rights and Rights of the Child
- Human Trafficking Law and Policy
- Civil & Political Rights
- Economic, Social & Cultural Rights

PUBLICATIONS & BOOKS
- Intercultural Human Rights Law Review
- Studies in Intercultural Human Rights
- BRILL/Martinus Nijhoff Publishers

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS
- Intercultural Human Rights Law Review
- International Law Society
- International Moot Court

SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS
The Graduate Program organizes academic events featuring global experts, including, in the past, symposia on the rights of indigenous peoples, human rights in Haiti, the impact of social media, domestic servitude, and immigration detention, as well as interdisciplinary workshops on human trafficking, public health and policy-oriented jurisprudence.

SCHOLARSHIPS
- Institutional Merit Scholarships
- Professor Dr. Amy Ronner and Dr. Michael Pacin Therapeutic Jurisprudence Essay Award
- Professors John and June Mary Makdisi Human Rights Scholarship
- Siegfried Wiessner Intercultural Human Rights Essay Award
- Arya Laghaie Indigenous Peoples’ Rights Scholarship
- Crouch-Kielsgard Human Rights Scholarship
- Vitore Marku Right to Health Award

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION
- Susan J. Ferrell Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition

NETWORKS & RELATIONSHIPS
- Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace
- Human Trafficking Academy
- Human Rights Institute
- American Society of International Law
- International Law Association
- Center for Justice and International Law
- Human Rights Watch
- U.S. Southern Command
- Coalition of Immokalee Workers
- Western Shoshone Defense Project
- Port-de-Paix Partnership, Haiti
- International Law Students Association
- National Legal Center of Mongolia
- United Nations Volunteers

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How To Apply

ADMISSION:
Students admitted to the LL.M. degree program must hold a Juris Doctorate (J.D.) degree or equivalent foreign qualifications. In exceptional cases, admission may be granted to students holding a bachelor’s degree or its foreign equivalent, who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to advancing the cause of human dignity and human rights.

Students enrolled in the LL.M. degree program who do not hold a law degree face no particular disadvantage, as the program is centered on the special field of international law, an area distinct from domestic law. This program does not intend to qualify students to engage in the practice of law or sit for any bar examination in the United States.

Students may apply for full-time or part-time admission to complete the full array of mandatory and elective courses. Full-time students generally complete all requirements within one academic year. Part-time students are required to complete the course within a four-year period.

TUITION:
A degree program that leads you to mastering and implementing issues of human rights law and policy across cultures is priceless. Still, it is a significant investment in a person’s future and potential. St. Thomas University is a not-for-profit, private institution providing exceptional, but affordable instruction. Tuition and fees for its unique LL.M. program are considerably lower than those to be paid for similar degrees at other institutions in the United States. Financial aid and scholarships are available. For details, see our website at www.stu.edu/humanrights.

“The Honorable Fausto Pocar, Judge, ICTY
Judge, International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) since 1999; President, ICTY (2005 - 2008). Member, Appeals Chamber of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda since 2000; Member, Human Rights Committee of the United Nations (1984 - 2000); Committee Chairman, Human Rights Committee of the United Nations (1991 - 1992); Member, Italian delegation to the UN General Assembly and to the UN Commission of Human Rights. Professor of International Law, University of Milan, Italy
Course: International Criminal Law.

We challenge you to excel!

LL.M. Admission At A Glance

An LL.M. application file is ready for review when it includes:
• A Completed and Signed LL.M. Application Form
• A Current Resume (Curriculum Vitae)
• A Personal Statement
• Official transcripts from all colleges/university and/or certified and translated foreign diplomas or certificates sent directly to St. Thomas University School of Law, LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights
• Two recommendation letters, preferably one from a present employer and one from a professor
• Two passport size photos [optional at this stage]
• Interview in person or conference call
• $50 Non-Refundable Application Fee

“An impressive number of experts and students from all over the globe are teaching in the Intercultural Human Rights Graduate Program and the University is host to a large number of students from around the world. So, this particular program offers the great opportunity to build up interesting professional relationships and to gain an unforgettable experience in international and intercultural dialogue.”

Vanessa Kirch, LL.M. ’11, J.S.D. Candidate (Germany)
Innovative LL.M. Courses and Curriculum

“Travel the Road to Success Today!”

- International Criminal Law
- Human Rights Law
- Human Rights and Religion
- Human Rights and the Environment
- International Economic Law and Human Rights
- International Law
- International Humanitarian Law
- The Protection of Refugees
- Regional Systems of Human Rights Protection:
  1. The Inter-American System
  2. The African System
  3. The European System
- Human Rights and Terrorism
- Human Rights and Religion
- The Covenant on Civil & Political Rights: Scope of the Rights and the Role of the Human Rights Committee

“...this LL.M. put in perspective the many obstacles that the poor and most vulnerable face when they seek justice. It also exposes the flaws of the international human rights legal system. It reinvigorated my commitment to improving the quality of life of millions of people throughout the world through advocacy and litigation and it allowed me to meet the most wonderful colleagues. The faculty was amazing and truly inspiring. All of their lessons are invaluable!”

Victoria Mesa ’04
(Colombia)
Attorney at Law
Florida Legal Services, Inc.
Migrant Farmworker Justice Project

Professor Dr. Toni Pfanner, ICRC

Former Head of the Legal Division of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and Editor-in-Chief of the International Review of the Red Cross. He teaches international humanitarian law and humanitarian action at the Universities of Lausanne and Fribourg, the Federal Polytechnical School in Lausanne and the Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights in Geneva (Switzerland). On the operational side, he served as delegate in Jerusalem (Israel and occupied territories) and headed ICRC delegations in Iraq, Chad and the regional delegations in South Africa and Indonesia. He was also special representative and director of the International Tracing Service in Bad Arolsen (Germany) for the victims of Nazi persecution. Course: Humanitarian Law.
Much More Than An LL.M. Degree

St. Thomas University School of Law and its Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights offer an exceptional opportunity for our J.D. students. J.D. students can take LL.M. classes as elective courses. After completion of their J.D. program they may transfer into the LL.M. program, have up to 12 of their LL.M. elective credits recognized in the LL.M. Program, and thus save considerable time and money.

**Edward Tapanes**, J.D. ’02, LL.M. ’04 (U.S.A.)
Criminal Law Attorney

“It is an extraordinary opportunity to be able to earn the LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights in an accelerated time. This combined education has empowered me to be successful as a government attorney and now in my private law firm.”

**Jessica Madsen**, J.D. ’09, LL.M. ’10 (U.S.A.)
Graduate Fellow, Human Trafficking Academy

“I came to St. Thomas because of its reputation as a school on the leading edge of human rights and social justice—and it truly is. After earning my J.D. at St. Thomas, I continued my education with the LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights. I worked at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and my experience was extraordinary. I hope to go back to Africa and work with children affected by armed conflict.”

**Brian M. Knowles**, J.D. ’03, LL.M. ’04 (U.S.A.)
Managing Shareholder Attorney

“The LL.M. program in Intercultural Human Rights is world class, composed of outstanding leadership and faculty. As a solo practitioner located outside of Charleston, South Carolina, United States of America, the program provided me with a global perspective of legal issues and inspired me to sit for the Qualified Lawyers Transfer Test to become a licensed solicitor in England and Wales. Thank you St. Thomas University School of Law!”

**Two Degrees, Save Time and Money**

Spice up your law degree with a:

**Professor Nicholas Rostow**, Ph.D.

**CERTIFICATE IN INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS**
As a J.D. student at St. Thomas School of Law, you can take 10 credits from among the required courses of the LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights as electives, and graduate with a Certificate in Intercultural Human Rights.
Academic Pursuits Outside The Classroom

LL.M. candidates are conveniently positioned to get involved in a number of co– and extra-curricular activities. These opportunities add a strong practical component to the classroom teachings. Membership in the Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is open to all LL.M. students. A select number of the students will hold prestigious leadership positions on the organization’s editorial board. Other opportunities that LL.M. students are eligible to participate in include domestic and international moot court competitions.

**INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW**

The Intercultural Human Rights Law Review is an annual scholarly journal which explores new perspectives, suggests solutions, and provides commentary on issues in the burgeoning field of intercultural human rights. The journal continues to grow and has become an acclaimed resource for decision-makers, students, and practitioners worldwide.

**INTERNATIONAL MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS**

LL.M. students may compete in external international moot court competitions, including the world’s largest moot, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the International Criminal Law Moot Court Competition, and the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition.

**SUSAN J. FERRELL INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS MOOT COURT COMPETITION**

St. Thomas University School of Law hosts the annual Susan J. Ferrell Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition. Since 2005, law students from universities in the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, Asia and Africa have gathered in Miami, Florida to compete in this international moot court competition, focused on addressing and advocating issues in intercultural human rights. The Ferrell Competition promotes awareness and knowledge of human rights law, provides practical experience preparing and arguing cases with international legal issues before international and domestic courts, and provides a venue for fruitful dialogue on cutting-edge international issues.

“**The LL.M. program is well designed, with knowledge, skills, and attitude components. The Program exceeded my expectations as I was coached by leading experts and decision makers from the most prominent international, intergovernmental, and non-governmental institutions. In the end, I knew I had found the right place.**”

Abadir M. Ibrahim, LL.M.’10, J.S.D. Candidate (Ethiopia)

Susan Jane Ferrell (August 5, 1957 – Oklahoma City, April 19, 1995)

The annual Intercultural Human Rights Moot Court Competition is named in her memory and honor. An attorney for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Susan tragically lost her life in the Oklahoma City terrorist bombing in 1995. Susan was devoted to human rights, peace, and justice globally. Her particular attention was focused on the art, culture and rights of indigenous peoples. Susan was the inspiration for the tradition of Tribal Sovereignty Symposia hosted by St. Thomas University School of Law, since 1994. Susan co-led the organization of the first such conference entitled “Tribal Sovereignty: Back to the Future?” in December, 1994. Her path-breaking work on “Indian Housing: The Fourth Decade” was published posthumously in the St. Thomas Law Review and it has impacted decisions on culturally sensitive architecture of federal housing for indigenous people. The first Susan J. Ferrell Keynote Address was given by Cheyenne Peace Chief Lawrence Hart at the Tribal Sovereignty Symposium in March 1997.
Developing Notable Scholars and World Leaders

General J.S.D. Admission Requirements

Honors graduates from our LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights are invited to apply for the J.S.D. In rare cases of highest scholarly achievement and promise, LL.M. graduates from other institutions may be admitted as well, subject to certain conditions.

Candidates for the J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights must submit:

- A Completed and Signed J.S.D. Application Form
- LL.M. Transcript
- A Writing Sample (e.g. LL.M. thesis, seminar paper)
- A Description of the chosen Topic—including an Outline, with an articulation of the topic’s novelty; an initial Bibliography; and a Timeline for the stages and places of research, and completion of the manuscript
- A Letter of Acceptance of Candidate and Topic by Supervising Faculty Member
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- $100 Non-Refundable Application Fee

The completed application will be submitted for decision to the J.S.D. Admissions Committee consisting of the Directors of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights and other members of the St. Thomas University School of Law faculty who hold a J.S.D., S.J.D., or Ph.D. degree or their foreign equivalent. Applicants with the strongest academic records, original proposals and the highest promise of achievement are admitted to the Program.

Tuition

Tuition and fees for the J.S.D. program remain under $10,000 per academic year. This is an exceptional value for such a prestigious advanced professional degree. The program administrators recognize the commitment, the dedication, and the hard work necessary for candidates to complete their scholarly effort, and thus they have kept the program affordable.
A Gateway to Human Rights Advocacy

Welcome to Miami!

Another key feature of the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights is its location in Miami, Florida. South Florida is a cultural melting pot, with robust international communities. It serves as an ideal backdrop to welcome some of the world’s leading scholars and practitioners in human rights. Miami is a global hub in its own right, and students can benefit immensely from its array of intercultural diversity which complements the academic components of the program. Many cultural attractions await the students, including sporting events at the highest level (The Miami Heat; The Miami Dolphins; The Florida Marlins; and The Florida Panthers), as well as unique natural habitats like the Everglades, the sun, the sand, and the beaches.

Miami: an exquisite backdrop of natural beauty, culture, sports, and entertainment

Campus Life

Students may choose to live on campus in any of the residential housing facilities. On-campus housing allows students to be only a few minutes away from classes, to have dining meal plans, and to have access to school facilities and resources at their fingertips. Some students choose to live off campus in a number of South Florida’s surrounding neighborhoods and cities.

Let St. Thomas be your Home Away From Home!

Professor Viviana Krsticevic

World Class Faculty

The Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights has a faculty of worldwide distinction.

Professor W. Michael Reisman, Ph.D., Myres S. McDougal Professor of Law, Yale Law School.

Professor Dr. iur. Eckart Klein, Professor Emeritus of Public Law, International Law and European Law, University of Potsdam, Germany; Former Member, United Nations Human Rights Committee.

The Honorable Fausto Pocar, Professor of International Law, University of Milan, Italy. Judge to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY), serving as its President from November 2005 to November 2008, The Hague.

Professor Dr. Francesco Francioni, Emeritus Professor and Co-Director, Academy of European Law, European University Institute, Florence, Italy. Former Member, United Nations Human Rights Committee.

Professor Dr. Toni Pfanner, Editor of the International Review of the Red Cross, Geneva. Former Chief Legal Advisor to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Faculty, UN/UNITAR International Law Fellowship Programme at The Hague.

Professor Dr. iur. Martin Nettesheim, Professor of Public Law, European Law and International Law, University of Tübingen, Germany.

Professor Federico Lenzерини, Professor of Law, University of Siena, Italy, and Consultant to UNESCO, Paris.

Professor Nora V. Demleitner, Dean and Professor of Law, Hofstra University School of Law.

Professor Viviana Krsticевич, Executive Director, Center for Justice and International Law, Washington, D.C.

Professor Pierre-Michel Fontaine, Ph.D., Chief of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Democratic Republic of Congo; Former Principal Officer, International Protection, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Former Program Manager, Peace, Security, United Nations Staff College.

Professor Keith D. Nunes, Program Coordinator, M.A. in Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Nathan Weiss College of Graduate Studies, Kean University, New Jersey. Visiting Research Professor of Law.

Professor Dr. iur. Siegfried Wiessner, Founder and Director, LL.M./J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights, St. Thomas University School of Law.

Professor Dr. Francesco Francioni

Professor Emeritus of International Law and Human Rights and Co-Director of the Academy of European Law, European University Institute, Florence, Italy. Former Professore Ordinario and Director of the International Peace Studies Center, Faculty of Law, University of Siena; Visiting Professor at Oxford, Université de Paris II, University of Texas, Cornell, Tulane, Munich, Toronto and Alexandria, Egypt. Former President of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee; former President of the Italian Society of International Law; Member of the Italian Delegation to many international diplomatic conferences. Member, American Law Institute, International Law Association. Author of many books and articles on cultural human rights, access to justice, biotechnology, Antarctica, space law, international environmental law, the privatization of war and various other aspects of human rights. Course: Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.
World Class Faculty

Our professors are all leaders in their respective fields. They include eminent scholars, top United Nations experts, judges, practitioners and chief legal advisors.

Professor Dr. iur. Roza Pati, Executive Director, LL.M./J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights. Former Member of Parliament and Secretary of State for Youth and Women, in the Government of Albania

Msgr. Andrew Anderson, J.C.D., Associate Director for Student Affairs, Adjunct Professor of Law, St. Thomas University School of Law

Professor Alfredo Garcia, Dean and Professor of Law, St. Thomas University School of Law

Professor Alfred R. Light, Ph.D., Professor of Law, St. Thomas University School of Law

Professor Gordon Butler, Professor of Law, St. Thomas University School of Law

Professor Stephen J. Powell, Director, International Trade Law Programs, Fredric G. Levin College of Law, University of Florida

Professor Jonathan Cohen, Ph.D., Director, Hebrew Union College - University of Cincinnati Center for the Study of Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems

Professor Denise Wallace, J.S.D., Vice President of Legal Affairs & General Counsel, Dillard University, New Orleans

Professor Christof Heyns, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Pretoria, South Africa

Professor David J. Padilla, J.D., M.A., LL.M., M.P.A., Visiting Professor, University of Pretoria, Assistant Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (1980-2001)

Professor Dr. iur. Martin Scheinin, Professor of Constitutional and International Law, European University Institute, Florence. Member, UN Human Rights Committee; UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Counterterrorism

Professor Domingo Acevedo, Ph.D., Deputy Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, IACHR (1993-1998), thereafter Special Consultant to the IACHR

Professor Nora V. Demleitner
Dean and Roy Steinhauser Professor of Law, Washington & Lee University School of Law. Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan Law School, the University of Freiburg, Germany, and Sant’Anna Institute of Advanced Research in Pisa, Italy. Visiting Researcher at Max-Planck-Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Germany. Editor of the Federal Sentencing Reporter. Member, Executive Editorial Board, American Journal of Comparative Law. Named three times as one of Long Island’s Top 50 Most Influential Women in Business by The Long Island Business News; elected Member of the American Law Institute; and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Course: Women’s Rights and Rights of the Child.

Professor Guy S. Goodwin-Gill, DPhil
Guy Goodwin-Gill is the Professor of International Refugee Law at Oxford University, a barrister, and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. He also served as Professor of Asylum Law, University of Amsterdam, Professor of Law at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada, and as Senior Legal Research Officer and variously Legal Adviser to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in London, Sydney, and Geneva. He has written the standard treatise on The Refugee in International Law, now in third edition with Oxford University Press, as well as many other books and articles in the field.
The goal of a world order of human dignity unites many perspectives of justice around the globe. It is central to Catholic ideas of a just order.

Congenial with this goal, an intellectual framework of problem-and policy-oriented inquiry regarding particular social problems has been developed at the Yale Law School. It would define the problem in terms of conflicting claims, claimants, their perspectives and bases of power, review past trends in decision in light of their conditioning factors, predict future decisions, appraise those decisions and recommend alternatives in light of the goal of maximizing access by all to all the values of human dignity.

Professor Wiessner has worked closely with the “Dean” of this New Haven School, Professor Michael Reisman, since his days as a student at Yale in the early 1980s. They have coauthored the casebook INTERNATIONAL LAW IN CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVE (2004), used in this program, and The New Haven School: A Brief Introduction, 32 YALE J. INT’L L. 571 (2007). Professor Reisman has been the key mentor to this program and has lectured here at various times since its beginning. The New Haven School has been meeting annually since 2009 at the City University School of Law in Hong Kong. For a recent summary of its key elements, see Siegfried Wiessner, The New Haven School of Jurisprudence: A Universal Toolkit for Understanding and Shaping the Law, 18 ASIA-PACIFIC L. REV. 45 (2010). Many books and articles written in the LL.M. and J.S.D program have been utilizing this fruitful interdisciplinary approach. It is the signature methodology for our Nijhoff book series STUDIES IN INTERCULTURAL HUMAN RIGHTS.

Under a European Union grant, in March 2013, our Graduate Program organized a two-week spring school from the New Haven perspective on “Public Health, Human Trafficking and the Law” with faculties and students of medicine and law from the Technical University of Dresden, Germany; the Romanian-American University at Bucharest, Romania; Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic; and the University of Siena, Italy. It resulted in the Siena Principles on Human Trafficking, Public Health and the Law, facilitated by Professor Roza Pati.
Your Career in Human Rights

The Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights has been in the business of developing leaders since 2001. Many LL.M. graduates return to their home nations to implement principles and theories learned during the program. Other graduates hold positions in government, non-profit organizations, private firms and businesses, academia, and a host of other career placements.

Advisors - Community Leaders - Lawyers - Professors - Authors - Government Officials - Activists - Judges

“I have been practicing Immigration Law since graduating from the LL.M. Program. I represent immigrants before immigration courts and other officials, as well as in centers of detention. I am working constantly with refugees and aliens who are trying to reunite with their families. A client’s success is a source of immense happiness. The LL.M. program taught me how important it is to make people aware of Human Rights and the issues that necessitate them.”

Madhurima Boyapati Paturi ’06 (India)
Immigration Law Attorney

“Drawing on the knowledge received in Professor Pati’s class in Human Trafficking Law, I received the honor of being the first prosecutor to charge a person for Human Trafficking in Egypt—in a case of Asian sex slaves traditionally treated not as victims, but prosecuted as prostitutes.”

Omar Mekky ’10 (Egypt)
Regional Legal Advisor, MENA
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

“Ten years after graduating, I am still amazed on how the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights changed me personally and professionally. Every day, I utilize the knowledge and skills I gained when advocating on behalf of vulnerable immigrants victims of violent crimes, whether it be through representation of individuals in immigration proceedings or through efforts seeking systemic policy change at the local, national and international levels.”

Ana Isabel Vallejo ’02 (Puerto Rico)
Co-Director, VIDA Legal Assistance

CAREER SERVICES AND RESOURCES

As a student, your goal may be to find temporary or permanent employment in the United States and beyond after earning your degree. The Career Services Office at St. Thomas University School of Law strives to keep students and alumni well informed about the wide variety of career paths available. The Office is committed to helping students realize their professional legal goals, providing career counseling, and teaching the tools necessary to conduct effective job searches. All students are encouraged to make an appointment early in their law school career to discuss future plans, goals and strategies.

Professor Denise Wallace, J.S.D.

Professor Siegfried Wiessner, the Director of the Program, has taken a leadership role in this field. In 1999, he published the first article analyzing the rights and status of indigenous peoples worldwide (Rights and Status of Indigenous Peoples: A Global Comparative and International Legal Analysis, 12 Harvard Human Rights Journal 57 (1999)). In 2000, he served as facilitator of the Geneva revision of the United Nations Draft Principles and Guidelines on the Protection of the Heritage of Indigenous People. He has published and lectured widely in this field and has supervised pertinent LL.M. and J.S.D. theses.

In 2008, Professor Wiessner was appointed Chair of the International Law Association (ILA)’s Committee on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a global expert committee of 30 members. Aided by his Rapporteur, Professor Federico Lenzerini, the Committee presented two extensive reports to the ILA biennial conferences in The Hague (2010) and Sofia, Bulgaria (2012). On August 30, 2012, in a historic decision, the ILA Plenary Assembly adopted the Committee’s conclusions as Resolution No. 5/2012 on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. This resolution, evidence of international law, breaks new ground as it introduces the concept of collective human rights and recognizes, specifically, indigenous peoples’ rights to cultural integrity, autonomy, and their lands as well as the principle of free, prior and informed consent and rights to reparations and redress under customary international law. As legal authority, it will impact indigenous peoples’ lives in an ever more substantive way.

I am confident that this expert commentary will reduce confusion and contention over the content and normative status of the provisions of the UN Declaration and of indigenous peoples’ rights in general. It will be a hallmark of the work of the International Law Association in the new environment of the values-based international law of the 21st century.

S. James Anaya, UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
The Human Trafficking Academy started as a project funded by the U.S. Department of Justice. Founded and directed by Professor Roza Pati, the Academy is a forum for outreach, research and training of legal and non-legal professionals in the field of human trafficking law and policy. It is a distinctive focus of our program on the global struggle against trafficking in human beings, modern-day slavery.

Dr. Roza Pati is a world-renowned expert and prolific scholar, who has been working on the problématique of human trafficking, in various capacities, since the mid 1990s. Her lectures, presentations, research and scholarship focus on issues of state duties in combating human trafficking, the human rights approach to trafficking vis-à-vis the criminal law approach, issues of prevention and the necessity of addressing the root causes of trafficking in order to reduce vulnerability, human trafficking as organized crime, as well as the role of academia, the business sector, and religion as part of civil society’s effective struggle against human trafficking.

More information at www.humantraffickingacademy.org

“The slavery of modern days is the factual equivalent of the old slavery’s absolute, control, sanctioned by the law, of one person over another. The text of the law has deleted the initial treatment of human beings as items of personal property in the original words of our Constitution. The social context still reflects the legacy of slavery, in many respects. The eradication of that legacy is a task we face, day to day, in our interactions one on one, as well as in broader societal processes.”

Professor Roza Pati
Our Global Intercultural Spirit

The Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights at St. Thomas University School of Law has developed an exceptional cadre of skilled ambassadors for human rights from across the world. All students and alumni are part of a rich legacy, advocating for human dignity and human rights using a unique and innovative intellectual framework.

Professor Roza Pati (center) and her students from the Human Trafficking Law and Policy class warmly greet and welcome anti-human trafficking advocates, government officials, representatives from national and international non-governmental organizations, as well as prosecutors from the Republic of Moldova.
In July 2012, Professor Roza Pati had the distinct honor to be appointed by Pope Benedict XVI a member of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace. The Council, a key Vatican body dedicated to the promotion of social justice, has as its main goal advocating peace and justice around the world consistent with the Gospel and the Church’s social teaching. This appointment was a deserved recognition of the many years of Professor Pati’s contributions to human rights and social justice, to peace, democracy and rule of law, from the early 90s in her birthplace of Albania to date in her adopted homeland, the United States. “This is a significant appointment and a recognition of the global impact Professor Pati has had through her writings and her speeches around the world on human rights issues such as human trafficking, a recognition of her status as a leader in global human rights,” said Douglas Ray, then Dean of St. Thomas University School of Law.

At that time, St. Thomas University President Reverend Monsignor Franklyn M. Casale stated:

“I am extremely proud of Professor Pati. She has demonstrated to be a leader in so many areas of social justice.”

The mission of the LL.M./J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights is in line with the objectives of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, and it aims at educating the new generation of leaders dedicated to deepening the social doctrine of the Church by working for justice and peace, for the full development of human beings and of all peoples, for human rights and a world order of human dignity.
The Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights fosters and promotes a tradition of academic scholarship. In partnership with BRILL/Martinus Nijhoff Publishers, it has developed the series *Studies in Intercultural Human Rights*, which showcases unique perspectives on specific human rights topics. *Studies in Intercultural Human Rights* offers pathbreaking research in the dynamic field of intercultural human rights.

**Due Process and International Terrorism: An International Legal Analysis**

by Roza Pati

This book was published as Volume 1 of the *Studies in Intercultural Human Rights*. Comments in distinguished reviews include:

“A testament to the strength and flexibility of international law to deal with the assault on rights in times of emergency… An outstanding appraisal of the legality of the use of military tribunals to try civilians… An important contribution to the literature on terrorism and international law… An invaluable resource for academics, lawyers and students…”

**American Journal of International Law**

“Her conclusions, frustrating as some may find them, are all accurate, and highlight the wide latitude signatories of international agreements have in the interpretation of international law… Pati’s study is rigorous and never shoots from the hip… Her book contains a useful account of the American struggle to maintain standards of due process. That account could make a fine contribution to any course of legal study on terrorism…”

**The Yale Journal of International Law**

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**Other Publications in This Series:**


**Volume 3:** Qerim Qerimi, *Development in International Law: A Policy-Oriented Inquiry* (2012)

**Volume 4:** Silvia Borelli & Federico Lenzerini (Eds.), *Cultural Heritage, Cultural Rights, Cultural Diversity* (2012)


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*Editor-in-Chief:* Siegfried Wiessner, St. Thomas University.

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A Great Program, A Great Fit

Set yourself apart, earn a competitive advantage with an LL.M. or J.S.D. Degree

Graduation Requirements

LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights
- Completion of 24 academic credits of the LL.M. course of study.
- Twelve credits are earned through required courses.
- The other twelve credits may be earned by choosing among a wide variety of elective human rights courses as well as from selected courses of the general J.D. curriculum. Both doctrinal and skills courses, including internships, are available.

Minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0. Graduation with honors depends on achievement of cumulative grade point average for
summa cum laude (with highest honors); magna cum laude (with great honors), and
cum laude (with honors) for honors designation. Students graduating with honors are eligible to apply for the J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

J.S.D. Program in Intercultural Human Rights

Submission of a publishable manuscript of no less than 75,000 words on the candidate’s chosen topic (the dissertation) to his or her supervisor.

Successful rigorosum (thesis dissertation defense) and satisfactory grade point average (determined in equal parts by the supervisor’s grade, the grade from a second evaluator, and the rigorosum) and publication of thesis.
Our Alumni

“The LL.M. and J.S.D. programs in Intercultural Rights have been fundamental in my work in internet governance. The knowledge that I acquired helped me to apply human rights principles to matters of internet control. The journey has been an adventure. I applied these principles at the U.N. Internet Governance Forum, in Vilnius, Lithuania, where I advocated freedom of expression for Internet communications.”

Roy Balleste, LL.M. ‘03, J.S.D. ’12 (U.S.A.) (Puerto Rico/ U.S.A.)
Professor and Director
St. Thomas School of Law Library

“This LL.M program has truly been an eye-opening experience. Whatever I had seen in the past, whatever I thought I knew was put into a completely different perspective. Learning from professors, who come from all over the world and are top experts in their field, has been extremely inspiring. Not only are we learning about human rights in theory, but we are also receiving first-hand information on what kind of work we may be doing in the future. The best part, however, is having classmates from all over the world. We all come from different backgrounds, cultures, religions and legal systems, and are constantly learning from each other. A learning experience more rewarding and enlightening than I could have ever imagined.”

Sari Latomaa ‘14 (Finland)
J.S.D. Candidate

““The LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights offers a way of engaging the world, acquiring additional knowledge and skills to articulate political and human rights discourses. It has sharpened my own analytical approaches to thinking about a range of intellectual, political and social issues, including many of the demands made by women’s rights and minority rights groups. Learning the strategies to effectuate these rights and combining them with the intellectual activism creates a catalyst for social change.”

Dr. Carole Boyce Davies ’03 (Trinidad/U.S.A.)
Professor, Africana Studies
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York

“This program is unparalleled in its diversity, quality of education, and sincere commitment to the furtherance of human rights.”

Danielle N. Boaz ‘07
Assistant Professor
Law, Politics, and Society Department
Drake University

“In my opinion, this program has truly been an eye-opening experience. Whatever I had seen in the past, whatever I thought I knew was put into a completely different perspective. Learning from professors, who come from all over the world and are top experts in their field, has been extremely inspiring. Not only are we learning about human rights in theory, but we are also receiving first-hand information on what kind of work we may be doing in the future. The best part, however, is having classmates from all over the world. We all come from different backgrounds, cultures, religions and legal systems, and are constantly learning from each other. A learning experience more rewarding and enlightening than I could have ever imagined.”

Sari Latomaa ‘14 (Finland)
J.S.D. Candidate

““What attracted me about the program was really the faculty. The idea I would have these professors from all over the world and experts in their area, people who worked at the United Nations or might still be working at the United Nations. I thought, ‘Oh, my God! I have to do it!’

Alexandra Rengel LL.M. ‘04, J.S.D. ’12,
Professor and Attorney
Mercado & Rengel, SL, Madrid

“I love this program because it gives me a clear perspective of the role of government in the protection and promotion of human rights. My experience has inspired me to come up with creative ways to promote changes in Haiti in areas of human rights such as domestic servitude, the right to health and due process. I believe that the program gives me the necessary tools to be able to make a real difference in Haiti and worldwide.”

Nadine Gedeon ‘12
Attorney, Haiti

“In my opinion, this program is unparalleled in its diversity, quality of education, and sincere commitment to the furtherance of human rights.”

Danielle N. Boaz ‘07
Assistant Professor
Law, Politics, and Society Department
Drake University

“The LL.M. Program in Intercultural Human Rights has shaped my career in many ways. Its impact has been colossal. I was involved in the advisory proceedings before the International Court of Justice in the case of Accordance with International Law of the Unilateral Declaration of Independence in Respect of Kosovo. My work was the fruit of the tremendous knowledge I gained in this remarkable LL.M. program, its academic quality and richness.”

Qerim Qerimi, LL.M. ’05, J.S.D. ’11 (Kosovo)
Chief Political Advisor
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

“St. Thomas University • LL.M./J.S.D. in Intercultural Human Rights”
A significant number of LL.M. and J.S.D. students are international applicants who make the commitment to leave their home nations to pursue a degree of prestige and distinction in the United States. All international applicants are warmly encouraged to apply for admission to the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights as they add distinct diversity, multiculturalism, and new perspectives to both classroom and non-classroom relationships.

International students benefit from a network of alumni from their home regions and other parts of the world. All international students are served by the knowledgeable and highly competent staff at the Office of International Student and Scholar Services. International applicants are, however, solely responsible for obtaining the appropriate information concerning U.S. immigration requirements in order to pursue their studies in the United States. U.S. immigration authorities require that international students show proof that adequate resources are available to meet their educational and living expenses. The Financial Statement must be completed and returned with the necessary documentation before an I-20 form can be issued. All foreign diplomas and transcripts must be submitted in the original or in certified/notarized copy. (non-English materials must be translated and evaluated).

Vera Narvaez-Lanuza ’11 (Nicaragua)

“The LL.M. in Intercultural Human Rights and its excellent professors have not just taught me about human rights and the noble vocation to fight for human dignity, but also has given me the foundation of its methodology of problem solving in the international sphere — Policy-Oriented Jurisprudence (POJ). The LL.M. program is so rich in its content and in its students’ diversity. I am delighted to have classmates from all around the world, whose cultures and legal systems bring to the program a unique learning experience!”

Ms. Haydee Gonzalez

Ms. Haydee Gonzalez is the Administrative Assistant to the Graduate Program in Intercultural Human Rights.

A consummate professional, warm-hearted and always ready to help, she personifies commitment and devotion to service, human rights and human dignity. She is Cuban-born, and a mother of three wonderful children.

Ms. Gonzalez provides administrative support for all functions of the program, including interaction with students from the stages of inquiry and application to acceptance, student accommodation on- and off-campus, education and graduation; accommodation of faculty; as well as record-keeping and interdepartmental coordination.

Inquiries, forms and correspondence about the program can be directed to:
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Miami Gardens, FL 33054, U.S.A.
Tel: (1) 305 474 2447 / Fax: (1) 305 474 2413
humanrights@stu.edu

Professor Dr. Federico Lenzerini

Professor of International Law, University of Siena, Faculty of Law; Rapporteur of the Committee on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of the International Law Association; Member of the Biotechnology Committee of the International Law Association; Member of the Italian Society of International Law; Member of the Inter-University Centre for the Research on Human Rights and Immigration Law (CIRDUIS), University of Siena; National Rapporteur (Italy) for the Programme “Mapping International Law in Europe” of the European Society of International Law.
“This one-year in-depth study of human rights included top-level instruction in all areas of public international law knowledge that helps me tremendously in my present practice. I also greatly appreciate the program’s most welcoming response to arguments presented in class by students from radically different cultures.”

Gunbileg Boldbaatar ’05
(Mongolia)
Secretary, National Legal Center of Mongolia

“Whether working for the International Office of Migration (IOM), Office on Counter-Trafficking and with the High Ministerial Round Table on Combating Human Trafficking in Vienna, or for the Parliamentarians for Global Action — I am fully prepared for the job due to the comprehensive knowledge acquired through the outstanding LL.M. program, its special expertise in the field of human trafficking, human rights, and exceptional extracurricular activities. Thanks St. Thomas!”

Leyla Nikjou ’10
(Austria)
Programme Associate, Parliamentarians for Global Action, New York

“This LL.M. program is one that establishes a superior benchmark for human rights programs, old and new. It is a benchmark to which the Ethiopian Institute of Human Rights owes a significant debt.”

Kalkidan Negash Obse ’08
(Ethiopia)
Director, Institute of Human Rights & Head of Legal Affairs Department, Addis Ababa University

“The LL.M. program first allowed me to introduce the human rights dimension in my work as a researcher and professor. Thereafter, it also helped me to make real my dream to work for the United Nations in the advancement of peace, development, and human rights worldwide. Now, I embrace and value diversity and intercultural dialogue in my daily work.”

Mireya Peña Guzmán ’03
(Colombia)
Human Rights Officer
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva

For more information on the LL.M./J.S.D. Program, contact:
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