

JSW SCHOOL OF LAW'S THIRD UNDERGRADUATE SUMMER SCHOOL

June 9 – June 22, 2025 Pangbisa, Paro, Bhutan

The JSW School of Law (https://jswlaw.bt/) is very pleased to announce the Third Annual Undergraduate Summer School Program at its spectacular new green campus just outside of Paro, Bhutan. Students are invited to apply for the program. Accepted students will have a choice of two out of three courses taught by highly respected legal academics from leading law schools in Asia. The courses will be taught intensively over a two-week period.

Highlights

- Highly topical and engaging courses taught by skilled and experienced legal academicians.
- A pristine Himalayan setting, the highest law school in the world.
- Interaction with International and Bhutanese law students in the classroom, residences, and on field trips.
- Special exposure to unique aspects of Bhutanese society and its legal system through field trips to Thimphu, the capital city, and Punakha, the previous seat of government.

In Partnership with:



Centre for Asian Legal Studies Faculty of Law



Summer School Overview

Courses

Program Details

Constitutionalism in Asia

Dr Jaclyn Neo, Centre for Asian Legal Studies at the National University of Singapore (NUS) Faculty of Law Professor Aparna Aparna Chandra, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

Crime Victims: National and International Justice

Professor Sam Garkawe, Law School of OP Jindal Global University, India

Comparative International Arbitration Law Professor Harisankar K. Sathyapalan, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

The Program will admit a maximum of 30 students. Students must enrol in two of the three courses offered. The timetable is designed so that students enrolling in two courses will spend around 5 hours in class per teaching day with ample breaks in between. Students have a field trip on Fridays and a free day on Saturday. Each course is taught using the seminar method, in classes of 2 to 3 hours' duration and totaling 23 class contact hours. They are assessed by continuous modes such as reading reflection papers, student presentations of readings, class participation, and a final take-home exam to be completed a few weeks after the summer school has ended.

Upon satisfactory completion, students will be awarded a certificate detailing the courses they have taken and the grades received. The certificate will be signed by representatives of the JSW School of Law, the National Law School of India and the National University of Singapore.



Constitutionalism in Asia

This course explores the meaning and scope of constitutionalism through the lens of the unique historical, political, and social contexts of jurisdictions in Asia. It identifies key claims in constitutionalism as a doctrine of limited government and explores the potentially problematic implications of judicial review and separation of powers as primary modes of limiting governmental power in socially and politically unstable jurisdictions. Accordingly, it interrogates common characterisations of Asian jurisdictions as 'authoritarian' and 'autocratic', which tends to employ liberal constitutionalism as the dominant frame of reference for evaluation. The course thus challenges students to consider ways to build a constitutionalist government contextually, so as to better realize the aspirations and needs of the people on the ground.

Crime Victims: National and International Justice

This Course will focus on crime victims, who in the past have been considered 'the forgotten persons' in the criminal justice system, particularly in adversarial systems derived from English law and in international criminal courts. Since the 1960s advocacy on behalf of crime victims has been responsible for a considerable number of changes in both domestic and international criminal justice systems, some of which are accepted as being well overdue, whereas others have been more controversial. The victim inspired changes to national and international justice systems will be described, compared and critically assessed primarily in three important areas: protection, participation and reparation. The course will be particularly examining these changes in the context of the adversarial criminal justice system; international criminal courts with a focus on the International Criminal Court; and national restorative justice mechanisms, such as mediation and family conferencing. The possible applicability of the victim reforms studied in this course to the Indian justice system will be evaluated throughout.

Comparative International Arbitration Law

This course addresses the theoretical foundations of international commercial arbitration from a comparative perspective. It begins with the doctrinal debates surrounding the juridical nature of international commercial arbitration. The course then moves onto questions relating to the legal framework, including the different applicable laws in an arbitration setting, such as the lex arbitri and the law governing arbitration agreements. The course will significantly examine the relationship between national courts and arbitral tribunals at the gateway of arbitration and the post-award stage. Among other things, the course considers some of the contemporary topics in this area of law, including the interactions between commercial and investment arbitration and the sociological aspects of international arbitration. Emphasis will be on the discussion of court decisions, international instruments (including institutional rules and soft law), and selected academic literature. Brief lectures will be delivered to provide an overview and summarise the different modules of the course.

Course Instructors

Professor Dr Jaclyn Neo



Dr Jaclyn Neo is an Associate Professor and the Director of the Centre for Asian Legal Studies at the National University of Singapore (NUS) Faculty of Law. A graduate of the NUS Faculty of Law (LLB) and Yale Law School

(LLM and JSD), Jaclyn is a prize-winning scholar who has been a recipient of multiple academic scholarships and competitive research grants. Most recently, her co-authored article won the International Journal of Constitutional Law's Best Article Prize in 2023. Jaclyn has held several visiting positions, including at the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs, the University of Münster, Melbourne Law School, the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity; and The University of Texas-Austin School of Law. She currently sits on the international advisory board of the North-Rhein Westphalia (Germany) Academy of International Affairs. She is an executive committee member of the International Society of Public Law (ICON-S) and sits on the editorial boards of the Journal of Law and Religion, the Asian Journal of Comparative Law, Suprema (Revista de Estudos Constitucionais) and the ICONnect blog.

Professor Aparna Chandra



Professor Aparna Aparna Chandra is a constitutional lawyer with an expertise in Indian constitutional law among other areas. She has previously worked at the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal

and the National Law University, Delhi where she founded the Centre for Constitutional Law, Policy and Governance. She has assisted the Law Commission of India in various reports and has been appointed as amicus curiae by the Delhi High Court in matters involving the interface between constitutional and criminal laws.

Aparna researches and writes on constitutional law, human rights, gender and the law, and judicial process reform. Her current research focuses on rights adjudication by courts, gender and the law, and empirical legal studies. In collaboration with the Centre for Reproductive Rights, New York, she undertook a study on legal barriers to accessing safe abortion services in India. She was also part of a European Research Council funded project by the Israel Democracy Institute on fundamental rights adjudication in various jurisdictions around the world. She is also a national co-convenor of the Indian Feminist Judgments Project.



Professor Sam Garkawe

Sam Garkawe is a Visiting Professor at the Law School of OP Jindal Global University, India, and a former Associate Professor at the School of Law and Justice, Southern Cross University, Australia. He

holds Masters of Law degrees from both London and Sydney Universities. He has published widely in the field of Victimology, concentrating on issues such as: the role of victims in international criminal justice mechanisms (for example, the International Criminal Court); the position of victims in adversarial systems of justice; and the desirability of an International Convention in support of victims. Sam is a life member of the World Society of Victimology and has served in various capacities for that United Nations affiliated organisation.

Course Instructors

Professor Dr. Harisankar K Sathyapalan



Harisankar is an Associate Professor of Law and the Undergraduate Chair at the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru. He received his Ph.D. from the Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore, and holds an LL.M. from the Indian

Law Institute, New Delhi. Before joining NLSIU, he was an Assistant Professor at the School of Legal Studies, Cochin University of Science & Technology. His academic career also includes tenures at National Law University, Jodhpur, and the Hidayatullah National Law University, Raipur, India. Harisankar has been a visiting research scholar at the International Institute for the Unification of International Private Law (UNIDROIT) Rome and a recipient of The Hague Academy of International Law scholarship. He teaches and researches in the areas of international economic law, maritime law and international arbitration.





Applying for the Summer School

Who Can Apply?

To apply, students must meet the following:

- Students must have completed their second year or higher of an undergraduate law degree (LLB or JD) as of June 17, 2024.
- Students must have a sufficient command of the English language for studying the required readings and participating in classroom discussions.

How to Apply?

To apply for the summer school and to obtain more information on the application procedure, fees and transportation, visit www.jswlaw.bt.

Deadline

- Application deadline: March 30, 2025.
- Selection results will be communicated to applicants on a rolling basis but no later than April 15, 2025.
- Payment of fees, which are non-refundable, is due no later than April 30, 2025.

Fees

- Nu.75000 (includes tuition, a suite with shared bath, and meals on campus for two-week program)
- The above fee structure also includes two trips (one to Thimphu and one to be determined later) outside Paro, and entry fees to sites, pick-up and drop-off at Paro International Airport, transportation for planned travel and field trips)

*Some partial scholarships are available to students on a need basis in Bhutan and SAARC countries.

Contact US

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