

# MASTERS OF ADVANCED STUDIES

**LLM IN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS**

**MASTER IN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW**



- One-year full-time programmes in Geneva, Switzerland
- Master of Advanced Studies (60 ECTS)
- Diverse student body (40+ nationalities represented last year)
- Intimate learning environment (around 40 students per class)
- Privileged access to world-renowned professors, practitioners and experts
- Knowledgeable teaching assistants to support students in their learning
- Emphasis on practical experience through professionalising activities
- Internships as part of the programme
- Ideally located in the heart of the International Geneva

**GENEVA  
ACADEMY**

Académie de droit international  
humanitaire et de droits humains  
Academy of International  
Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

A JOINT CENTRE OF



INSTITUT DE HAUTES  
ÉTUDES INTERNATIONALES  
ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT  
GRADUATE INSTITUTE  
OF INTERNATIONAL AND  
DEVELOPMENT STUDIES



**UNIVERSITÉ  
DE GENÈVE**  
FACULTY OF LAW

## WHO WE ARE

The Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, established in 2007 as a joint centre of the Faculty of Law of the University of Geneva and the Geneva Graduate Institute, has acquired a global reputation for excellent teaching and research, attracting exceptional students to its master's programmes.

Located in the heart of Geneva, an international city and humanitarian hub, we are able to interact closely with international organisations, NGOs, experts, governments and the private sector. We also actively participate in global discussions on international humanitarian law, human rights, international criminal law and transitional justice.

### EXCEPTIONAL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

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- Our full-time Master of Advanced Studies programmes (60 ECTS) are organised around small and intimate learning communities of around 40 students each year
- In-depth discussions and exchanges between students and faculty members
- Professionalising activities and events
- Internships with carefully selected institutions and organisations
- As an international humanitarian law and human rights hub, Geneva offers a broad range of conferences and public events featuring key experts and topics, as well as providing access to leading actors in the field



### CAREER PERSPECTIVES

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Our alumni can be found globally, working in humanitarian or human rights hubs such as Geneva, in the field or working for organisations in their countries of origin. Their initial roles typically include positions in law, human rights, research. They typically work for:

- International organisations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross or United Nations agencies (OHCHR, UNHCR, IOM or UNIDIR)
- NGOs active in promoting, advocating and protecting international humanitarian law, human rights, peace and justice
- Civil society organisations
- Governments and ministries of foreign affairs
- Entities such as the International Criminal Court or the Council of Europe
- Academic institutions

### ADMISSIONS

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Candidates should have:

- A full degree in law or an equivalent degree
- A strong academic record
- An interest in the subject areas of the programme
- Proficiency in English (level C1)

Professional experience in a field related to the programme is an asset.

## OUR PROGRAMMES

### LLM – MASTER OF ADVANCED STUDIES IN INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS

This one-year full-time LLM – Master of Advanced Studies (60 ECTS) - in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights is one of the most innovative and intellectually challenging programmes in armed conflict offered today.

With a focus on armed conflicts, this Master in Advanced Studies is designed for law students seeking to deepen their expertise in the intersection of international humanitarian law, human rights law, and conflict-related legal issues. It combines rigorous theoretical frameworks with practical training, equipping students with the skills to navigate complex legal challenges in both conflict and post-conflict settings.

The programme allows students to tailor their studies according to their particular interests, with core courses providing a firm grounding in public international law, international humanitarian law, international human rights law, international refugee law and international criminal law, and optional courses allowing students to explore cutting-edge issues.

Students will gain access to world-renowned professors and leading experts in their respective fields. Through extracurricular activities, they will benefit from direct connections with leading actors such as the International Committee of the Red Cross, and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.



### MASTER OF ADVANCED STUDIES IN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE, HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

This one-year full-time Master of Advanced Studies (60 ECTS) in transitional justice, human rights and the rule of law is one of the very few programmes dedicated to transitional justice and human rights worldwide.

Designed for law students and focused on post-conflict human rights violations, this Master in Advanced Studies equips students to consider and understand the holistic nature of transitional justice, namely the mutual dependence of each pillar (truth, justice, reparation and guarantee of non-recurrence).

With core courses providing a firm grounding in human rights, transitional and criminal justice and optional courses exploring cutting-edge issues, students can tailor their studies according to their particular interests. Combining theoretical and practice-oriented perspectives, students will gain understanding of processes and mechanisms related to transitional justice, accountability mechanisms and justice reform in post-conflict situations and countries in transitions.

Students will gain access to world-renowned professors and leading experts in their respective fields and through extracurricular activities will benefit from direct connections with leading actors. They will explore the relationship between state duties, victims' rights, and the strategic goals of societal transformation. As transitional justice is an evolving field, the program covers various processes, strategies, and dilemmas faced when designing and implementing these initiatives.

### INTERNSHIPS, MOOT COURTS, STUDY TRIPS AND MORE

Both programmes include practical activities that aim to put students on the right professional path through:

- Professionalising activities (one to one coaching, guidance, soft skill training, discussions)
- Participation in the Jean-Pictet Competition
- Involvement in practical and interdisciplinary labs: International Law through filmmaking  
IHL in Focus lab

The study plan also includes:

- An internship with one of our 50 partners
- Student organised study trip

## KEY DATES

Applications open: 4 November 2024

Applications close: 15 January 2025

## TUITION FEES

Tuition fees: CHF 18,000

Limited number of scholarships available

## HOW TO APPLY

The online application is divided into five steps:

1. Decide whether to apply (1) without a scholarship, (2) with a full scholarship; (3) with a partial scholarship (only available for the LLM in International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights)
2. Complete the application form
3. Attach the required documents
4. Submit your application
5. Pay the 100 Swiss Francs admission fee

Please note that you must choose to apply with or without scholarship. Successful applicants who applied without requesting a scholarship cannot subsequently be considered for a scholarship.

The documents to provide with your application are:

- Your curriculum vitae in English
- A cover letter explaining your interest in and potential contribution to the programme (under two pages)
- Two letters of recommendation in English. They need to be recent (not older than six months) and should be an original pdf or (if you only have a physical copy) a clear scan (not a photograph)
- Colour copies of relevant degrees and diplomas (with an officially certified translation when not in English or French).
- Colour copies of official records of university examinations taken and grades obtained (with an officially certified translation when not in English or French).
- If you are currently enrolled in a university programme, an attestation by the relevant university of your current enrolment with an official record of the latest university examinations taken and grades obtained
- Language tests – TOEFL or IELTS
- A colour copy of your passport



If you apply for a scholarship (partial or full), you will also have to provide:

- Proof of your current income (e.g. salary statement, bank statement, tax declaration, employer's letter) – if such proof is not available, please explain why
- Proof of your family's financial situation (e.g. salary statement, bank statement) – if such proof is not available, please explain why
- Proof, if applicable, of any financial support you currently receive (e.g. letter from parents, sponsors, scholarship donor)

## MORE INFO

If you would like more information about our programmes, please contact our education office:

[masters-inquiries@geneva-academy.ch](mailto:masters-inquiries@geneva-academy.ch)

You can also join one of our online information sessions:

29 November - session with alumni

13 December - session on admission + Q&A