



FACULTY OF LAW ♦ GRADUATE DIVISION

**UNIVERSITY RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAMME (UROP)
APPLICATION FORM for AY2008/2009**

Notes to Student:

- Please read carefully the attached "Rules on University Research Opportunities Programme".
- If you intend to conduct a UROP Research Paper for Semester 1, please submit the completed Application Form to Ms Zanariah / Ms Normah at the Graduate Division (Federal Building) by **Monday, 25 August 2008**. If you intend to conduct a UROP Research Paper for Semester 2, the deadline for submission of this Application Form is **Monday, 26 January 2009**. However, Semester 2 applicants are encouraged to decide early and to consult the supervisor before the year-end vacation; and if possible, to submit this Form by the end of December 2008.

A. FOR OFFICIAL USE

Subject: Directed Research (4 credits)

- Subject Code: LL5396 (LLM / Specialist LLM)
 LLD5396 (Graduate Diploma in Singapore Law)
 LL5397 (LLM / Specialist LLM)
 LLD5397 (Graduate Diploma in Singapore Law)

Approved Not Approved

Vice-Dean, Graduate & Research Studies

B. THIS PORTION IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE STUDENT

Name: _____

Matriculation Card No: _____ Academic Year: _____

Your Enrolled Programme: (please tick in the appropriate box; NYU@NUS students please tick specialisation as well)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> LLM by Coursework | <input type="checkbox"/> LLM (Corporate & Financial Services Law) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LLM (Intellectual Property & Technology Law) | <input type="checkbox"/> LLM (International & Comparative Law) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> LLM (Maritime Law) | <input type="checkbox"/> LLM (Asian Legal Studies) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NYU@NUS | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Diploma in Maritime Law & Arbitration | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Diploma in Singapore Law |

Proposed Topic

Proposed Supervisor

Name of Supervisor: _____

Proposed number of weekly contact hours with supervisor: _____

Period during which research will be done: _____ to _____

C. THIS PORTION IS TO BE SIGNED BY THE STUDENT

~ Plagiarism Warning ~

1. No student shall represent the work of another person as his/her own in any academic assignment, thesis or project even if the material so represented constitutes only a part of the work submitted.
2. No student shall contribute any work to another student if he/she knows or should know that the latter may submit the work in part or whole as his/her own.
3. Receipt of payment in whatever form for work contributed shall raise a presumption that the student had such knowledge referred to in 2. above.
4. Any student found to have committed or aided or abetted the offence of plagiarism may be subject to the following penalties depending on the severity of his/her involvement in the offence.
 - a) The student shall receive no mark for the relevant academic assignment, thesis or project;
 - b) The student shall fail the subject, course or programme of study, with or without a mark given for that subject, course or programme of study; and
 - c) The student shall be treated as having committed a disciplinary offence under Section 1 of Statute 25 (Discipline) of the National University of Singapore.

DECLARATION BY STUDENT

- 1) I hereby declare that I have not previously done a dissertation in this area, whether as a substantial dissertation in Directed Research/UROP, or in partial fulfilment of a course requirement, or otherwise.
- 2) I confirm that I have read and understood the Rules on UROP and the above "Plagiarism Warning" and Attachment 1: Plagiarism Notice (see below).

Signature of Student: _____

Name of Student: _____

Date: _____

D. THIS PORTION IS TO BE SIGNED BY THE SUPERVISOR (S)

I / We agree to supervise the above student in the University Research Opportunities Programme.

This dissertation will be submitted by: _____ (specific date)

Expected number of weekly contact hours with student: _____

Signature of Supervisor

Date

Signature of Co-Supervisor

Date

- END -



Guidelines on Directed Research as a 4-credit Subject

1. General

- (a) Graduate students in the LLM, Specialists LLM, Graduate Diploma in Singapore Law and Higher Degrees in Law programmes may undertake to write a directed research paper to account for 4 credits, in lieu of 4 credits of subjects.
- (b) No student without the permission from the Dean shall undertake more than one Directed Research paper in each programme.
- (c) Students will not be allowed to do Directed Research in a subject where they have already done a substantial dissertation, whether as Directed Research or in partial fulfilment of another subject, whether or not they have passed that dissertation or subject. No student will be permitted to do Directed Research in a subject which he/she has read, whether he has passed or failed the subject, unless the topic in the Directed Research has not been substantially covered in the subject.
- (d) Directed Research can only be undertaken with the approval of the supervisor(s). Students are requested to contact the Vice-Dean (Research & Graduate Studies) for advice first if they propose to undertake Directed Research.

2. Supervisors

- (a) All students wishing to undertake such Directed Research must be supervised by a staff member.
- (b) For information on research interests of each academic staff member, please refer to the Faculty of Law's website at: <http://law.nus.edu.sg>
- (c) Students must first discuss their proposed topic and the time frame within which the Directed Research is to be carried out with their supervisor and obtain the supervisor's approval.
- (d) Students must complete the UROP Application Form, have it approved and signed by the supervisor and return it to the Graduate Division (Federal Building) by the given deadline.

3. Word Limit

The word limit shall not exceed 8,000 words (excluding footnotes, appendices, bibliography, maps, charts, statistical tables, graphs and illustrations).

4. Contact Hours with Supervisor(s)

Once the topic for Directed Research proposed by the student has been formally approved by the supervisor, the student should see the supervisor to arrange for weekly meetings.

5. Period of Directed Research & Deadline for Submission of Dissertation

- (a) The research paper is due, at the very latest, on the last business day before the start of the Reading Week. Hence the due dates are Friday, 14 November 2008 (for Semester 1) and Friday 17 April 2009 (for Semester 2). Any student who is intending to submit earlier is to inform both the Vice-Dean (Graduate Studies) and the supervisor(s).
- (b) In case of late submission, the supervisor **shall have the discretion to reject the dissertation, or impose any other penalty**, with the consent of the Dean, unless in the opinion of the supervisor, there are extenuating circumstances to account for the delay.

6. Format of Directed Research

- (a) Each student is to hand in an electronic copy and **3 hardcopies** (one hard-bound copy for the library and 2 ring-bound copies for grading) of the dissertation to the Graduate Division (Federal Building).
- (b) The front cover of the bound copy shall contain the following information:
 - Title of Dissertation
 - Name of Student
 - The words "Faculty of Law, National University of Singapore"
- (c) The cover page of all copies should duplicate the above information and additionally include the following: "University Research Opportunities Programme Directed Research Dissertation in part fulfilment of the requirements for the [Name of Graduate Programme Enrolled In]"
- (d) Dissertations should be double-spaced with font sizes between 11 – 12 points (serifed fonts) for main body text and 9 – 10 points for footnotes. Footnotes should appear at the end of each page and not as endnotes.
- (e) In addition to the text, the Dissertation should contain the following:
 - Table of Contents
 - Appendices
 - Bibliography
- (f) In addition to the printed copies, the student should also hand in an electronic copy on CD-ROM, preferably in a PC compatible format, in one of the more popular wordprocessing formats like MS Word. The label on the CD-ROM should contain the following information:
 - Faculty of Law, NUS
 - UROP DR [Year]
 - Name of Student
 - Name of Graduate Programme Enrolled In
 - Title of Dissertation
 - Filename (filename of dissertation on CD-ROM)
 - Format (MS Word etc)
- (g) Please note that marked copies of dissertations will not be returned to students.

7. Marking/Grading Criteria

While supervisors may have specific criteria, the following factors will generally be taken into account in the assessment:

- (a) Research
 - Quantity of Research
 - Quality (Depth and Breadth) of Research
- (b) Writing and Communication
 - Grammar
 - Sentence Structure
 - Sequence of Thought
 - Logic
 - Organisation
 - Style
- (c) Thesis and Argument
 - Definition
 - Development
 - Coherence
 - Conclusion
 - Independent Thinking, Originality and Creativity

8. Plagiarism

A student found to have plagiarised in the directed research paper shall be given a "FAIL" grade. All students are advised to note the attached Plagiarism Notice (Attachment 1).

Attachment 1: Plagiarism Notice

1. Over the course of your candidature at the Faculty of Law, you will be called upon to present work for assessment. This may take the form of written papers (including theses, thesis proposals, directed research papers and assignments), tests and examinations. For some of you, this will be an activity with which you might be familiar. For others, this may be quite new.
2. This notice serves as a reminder that above all, intellectual and academic integrity must be preserved. The Faculty of Law and the National University of Singapore view instances of plagiarism very seriously.

Plagiarism may be defined as:

**“The wrongful appropriation and publication of the ideas, or the expression of the ideas (literary, artistic, musical, mechanical, etc.) of another, as one’s own”
(Modified from the Oxford English Dictionary, 2nd Ed)**

3. Please note that should you be found engaging in plagiarism, this may result in your expulsion from your course of study at the National University of Singapore.
4. Having said this, we acknowledge that it is sometimes not clear what constitutes plagiarism in a given context. The rule of thumb is:

You have the obligation to make clear to the assessor which is your own work, and which is the work of others. Otherwise, your assessor is entitled to assume that everything being presented for assessment is being presented as entirely your own work.

5. This is a minimum standard. In addition, we hope that the following guidelines will provide you with some assistance.

Guideline 1: When using the ideas of others in work presented for assessment, such ideas should be appropriately credited and acknowledged (for instance, in the footnotes), so that it is clear that the idea being presented is that of another person and not the candidate's own.

Guideline 2: When using phrases or paragraphs from the published works of others in work presented for assessment, care should be taken to ensure that such phrases or paragraphs should be sufficiently delineated (for example, by being marked out within quotation marks), so that it is clear that such phrases or paragraphs are not the candidate's own work. Otherwise, it shall be assumed that the candidate intended to pass off another person's work as his or her own work.

Guideline 3: The amount of detail required when referencing and acknowledging a source will vary according to the type of paper one is doing.

- **Exams will require less detail in referencing and acknowledgement. The name of the author and if possible, the name of the work, should be sufficient.**
- **Papers written other than under exam conditions will require a full citation of the source. While a particular style of citation is not prescribed, the citation should provide enough information for the reader to locate the source.**

Guideline 4: Research materials obtained from the internet or other electronic resources should be treated in the same way as research materials obtained from traditional sources.

7. Please read these guidelines carefully and we trust they will be of some use. Please note that the guidelines are not exhaustive and you will be called upon to exercise your discretion on a case-by-case basis.
8. If you have any doubts about whether something constitutes plagiarism, you should consult with your course convenors, research supervisors or the Vice-Dean of the Graduate Division.