

International Moots or ILP+ *the choice is yours*

This document deals with how to apply for the module International Legal Processes (ILP) and how to “audition” for [some international moot competitions](#)¹ which NUS participates in.

Just International Moots or ILP+?

There are very few experiences in Law School like taking part in an international moot competition. It’s not everyone’s cup of tea but those who commit themselves to the effort usually come away having learnt a lot about themselves, about teamwork and about the craft of legal argument.

ILP gives a limited number of students advanced training in analysis, persuasive writing and oral advocacy to prepare them to represent NUS in international mooting competitions. It is also excellent training for anyone interested in working in litigation or arbitration.

Students need not undergo ILP in order to be considered for certain international moots (see below). We understand that some students may not wish (or may think they don’t need) the preparation/constraints of ILP but may want very much to be considered for these moots. There are therefore 2 tracks for anyone who wishes to be considered for these moots.

Candidates in both tracks will undergo a similar set of assessment/audition tasks to determine whether they should be fielded for moots and to allocate them to different teams.

In a nutshell:

[Apply for ILP](#) if you’re interested in a structured and rigorous programme that prepares you for moots/advocacy AND you also want to try out for moots.

[Apply for the “direct intake” path](#) if you ONLY want to try out for moots.

¹ NUS has a wide range of pathways and programmes (apart from ILP) under which students can participate in international moots, including the Young Mooters’ Programme (a partially-funded, not-for-academic-credit scheme administered under the Mooting and Debating Club), and moots that are directly auditioned and constituted by individual coach-professors. This paper should NOT be taken as the sole/exclusive way to represent NUS in an international moot. For other alternatives, check out the MDC’s site and/or look out for announcements by coach-professors.

Which Moots?

In AY 20-24 the two tracks outlined in this document will be used to select students to participate in some or all of the following international moot competitions. Which ones we actually participate in may depend on student interest and coaching resources.

a	Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition	International Rounds: Washington, DC – 30 March to 6 April
b	Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot	Vienna – 22-28 March 2024.
c	Willem C Vis East International Commercial Arbitration Moot	Hong Kong – 10-17 March 2024
d	Jean Pictet International Humanitarian Law Moot Competition	Usually in late February/Early March. Venue to be Announced (always somewhere interesting)
e	ICC IHL Moot Competition	Usually in late May/early June. The Hague.
f	Oxford Intellectual Property Moot Competition	Usually in mid March. Oxford.
g	Monroe E Price Media Law Moot Competition	Usually in March. Not yet accounted whether it will be in person. If in person. Oxford

The course convener and coaches reserve the right to reduce the intake of ILP and/or to change the moot competitions in which NUS participates.

The ILP Track

1. How many Students in ILP?

ILP enrollment is CAPPED to ensure that ILP students get substantial, direct access to the teachers and alumni who run this course.

The current CAP for AY 2023-24 is 24 students; however if there is substantial interest, the convenors may (at their discretion) choose to increase the intake.

2. When is ILP?

ILP is run over an intensive 4-week period, at the end of which teams are selected. Deadline for application is 24 July 2023. See below for application process.

Plan your other commitments so you can dedicate the necessary time to the course and to your participation in an international moot. **You are strongly advised against:**

- **taking any other intensive course during the ILP period;**
- **committing to significant roles/other activities that will badly affect your ability to devote time/energy/attention to your work as a moot team member.**

To be assigned to a moot team, students **MUST** be registered NUS Law students and should plan to be physically in Singapore during Semester 2, in order to participate in a moot representing NUS. Having said that, **students planning to go on exchange can still apply for ILP**; but priority for ILP slots will be given to students who can take on a moot in Semester 2.

Important Pre-Semester Dates:

July 17 Applications open.

July 24 Applications close.

Week of July 24 ILP Interviews conducted via Zoom (if necessary).

Any time View the optional PIL crash course on “PIL for International Moots”. Link here:
<https://bit.ly/3yMuVrg>

School starts on August 14 2023

Week 1 Evening sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; and full-day “round robin practice moots” on Saturday.

Week 2 Evening sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday; half-day “round robin practice moots” on Saturday PLUS Meet the Seniors Session in PM.

Week 3 Self-learning on formatting. More information will be released in due course.

Week 4 Memorial to be submitted by Monday. Optional consultation sessions with tutors.

Week 4 Full-day selection rounds on Saturday.

3. **Who can Apply for ILP?**

- (i) LLB students who have completed the core syllabus (i.e., Law 3, Law 4 and GLB 3)).
- (ii) LLM students who have not qualified to practice law in any jurisdiction.

NB: (a) Some mooting competitions may not be available to LLM students because of sponsor or competition stipulations.

(b) ILP is a very competitive and demanding course, and students in the specialised LLM programmes have found it extremely difficult to do ILP and also meet the requirements of their LLM programme. Students whose first language is not English have also found the course extremely demanding. Generally, taking ILP and being on a moot team are viewed as among the most demanding experiences one could take on as a Law Student.

4. **Who Teaches ILP?**

Assoc Prof Eleanor Wong is the course convener. She will be joined by Adjunct Asst Prof Chen Zhida and Mr. Tiong Teck Wee. Zhida and Teck Wee are former mooters and experienced tutors. The two Saturday round-robin mini-moots will be judged by members from the NUS "moot alumni" – many of whom are leading practitioners.

5. **What Type of Law will the In-Class Exercises Use?**

The classes in ILP will revolve around a hypothetical problem involving a hypothetical dispute between two states on issues of public international law.

6. **ILP Application Deadline.** Students should apply by sending Zhida and Teck Wee an email **no earlier than Monday, 17 July 2023 and no later than Monday 24 July 2023** at lawcz@nus.edu.sg and teckwee.tiong@wongpartnership.com. The email should include a single attachment containing the following:

- a. Your Curriculum Vitae (CV), which should include the following:
 - (1) your personal particulars and contact information;
 - (2) educational qualifications, including your subjects in law school and your grades;
 - (3) if you are from NUS, the name of your tutor in each subject;
 - (4) any mooting, debating, acting or public speaking experience;
 - (5) any relevant work experience (e.g., attachment with law firm);
 - (6) any special awards or honours;

- (7) extra-curricular activities in law school;
 - (8) any student exchange experience, and if so, the details;
 - (9) any previous degrees obtained, and if so, the details;
 - (0) languages, and level of fluency in reading, writing and speaking; and
 - (1) your photo (scanned).
- b. A Personal Statement of no more than 500 words on:
- (1) why you want to take the ILP course and be on an NUS moot team
 - (2) the skills, personal attributes and experience which will make you a valuable member of an NUS moot team
 - (3) the moot or moots you are most interested in, and why
 - (4) some personal information about yourself which will give me an insight into your personality (e.g., family background, passions, goals, interests, hobbies, etc.)
- c. [Optional] If you have taken part in moots, and wish us to view your past performance, please reduce it to a common video format (e.g., .avi, .wmv, .mov, or .m4v), upload it to a convenient file transfer service such as Dropbox or Google Drive, and provide me with a link to the file for downloading. Do not attempt to email the file to me; it will kill both our mailboxes.

7. Interviews. Students will be short-listed for ILP based upon the information in their application. Candidates may be scheduled for interviews during the week of 24 July 2023. You will be informed if interviews are necessary. The proposed schedule for interviews will be published soon after all applications are in.

8. Late Arrivals. ILP starts out at a very fast pace and involves work in teams from the first week. Therefore, students will not be admitted into the course if they are unable to attend classes from Day 1; which is 14 August 2023.

9. On-Line Registration. Students will not be able to register for ILP during on-line subject registration. During on-line subject registration they should register for 20 credits of subjects for Semester 1 without including ILP. If they are then admitted into ILP, they will be asked on Add-Drop Day during week 2 or 3 to 'drop' one of their other subjects and 'add' ILP.

10. Credit for Participation in International Moots. Students who are selected for most of the teams will receive 4 credits in Semester 2 for their work with the moot team.

11. Advice on other electives. In addition to ILP, students will be at an advantage for certain moots if they have taken certain other elective subjects. We generally prefer to have at least 2 or 3 of the students on a particular moot team who have studied subjects relevant for that moot. The recommended subjects for the particular moots are as follows:

- a. Jessup - Public International Law / Human Rights Law
- b. Vis – Intl Sale of Goods / Intl Commercial Arbitration
/ Conflict of Laws / Intl Commercial Litigation
- c. IP Moot – Law of IP or Foundations in IP Law
- d. Price Media Moot – Privacy Law; Free Speech
- e. Jean Pictet/ICC Moot – PIL/International Humanitarian Law

If you have any questions before applying, please contact Zhida or Teck Wee via email at lawcz@nus.edu.sg and teckwee.tiong@wongpartnership.com.

The Moots Only Track

1. Who can register?

Anyone who meets requirements to apply for ILP (including unsuccessful ILP applicants and persons who have taken ILP in a previous year) may register for the “moots only” track. There is no cap on participants in this track.

If you are interested in registering but are not sure whether you qualify (or wish to register even though you do not qualify), please contact Zhida and Teck Wee ASAP and certainly WELL BEFORE THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE.

2. What’s expected?

Participants in this track will be expected to submit a memorial and to argue one round (on one side of the dispute). The memorial and oral round requirements (deadline, no. of words, time, format etc) that apply to ILP students will also apply to direct-intake participants. The fact pattern will be released to participants on the same schedule as it is released to ILP students.

However, direct-track participants will not have access to the practice sessions/coaching/consultation that is part of the ILP module.

Direct-track participants will get NO module credit for “auditioning” for ILP. However, once the teams are chosen, all team members (regardless of which track they started out on) will get the same module credit.

NB: If you have previously participated in a moot for academic credit, you will not be eligible to receive academic credit for a second moot that covers substantially the same subject matter.²

3. Registration Deadline

Students should register for the direct track by sending Zhida and Teck Wee an email no earlier than 24 July 2023 and no later than 14 August 2023 [at lawcz@nus.edu.sg](mailto:lawcz@nus.edu.sg) and teckwee.tiong@wongpartnership.com.

The email should include the same information as set out in [¶6 ILP Application Deadline](#) above, including the Personal Statement.

² This rule is imposed by Academic Affairs and has been in effect since AY 2016-2017. If you would nonetheless want to “repeat” a moot for no-credit, you can so indicate (there will be an opportunity for students to register their “moot preferences” during the ILP “audition” process).