

SCHOOL OF LAW - DUBAI BRANCH (SLDB)

HISTORY

In September 2008, Prof. René Chamussy, SJ, Rector of USJ, inaugurated the School of Law - Dubai Branch (SLDB), following approval from the University Board. The ceremony was attended by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Prime Minister and Vice President of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai. Since its establishment, the School has offered a prestigious Bachelor of Law program to students in the United Arab Emirates. The program equips them to become leaders in the legal profession, combining rigorous academic standards with a curriculum specifically designed for the Emirati and GCC legal frameworks, while reflecting the values of the Faculty of Law and Political Science in Beirut.

After more than ten years in Dubai, SLDB introduced the Master of Laws in Business Law. This program provides students with advanced training in the most sought-after areas of business law.

MISSION

Established in Dubai in 2008, the Saint Joseph University Dubai upholds the mission of its main campus by placing knowledge at the service of the community. The University nurtures graduates who think critically and creatively, embrace lifelong learning, uphold personal integrity, and demonstrate social responsibility, while maintaining strong connections with their alumni.

Dedicated to advancing higher education as a public service, the University actively contributes to the national agenda of Emiratization. It strives to be a leading reference for excellence in education, research, and training—particularly in law, legal education, and translation—serving the United Arab Emirates while maintaining a strong regional and international presence.

ADMINISTRATION

Dean: Marie-Claude NAJM KOBEH

Vice Dean: Rita WAKED

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Academic Support Officer: Mary MATAR

FACULTY

Professors

Nisrine ABIAD, Antoine EID, Youmna ZEIN HAYEK, Nagib HAGE CHAHINE*.

* Holder of the French Agrégation in Law

Associate Professors

Ali GALADARI, Khalil GHOSN, Ahmad HIJAL, Jassem ALHOSANI, Rizk ZOGHEIB.

Assistant Professors

Rita WAKED, Myrna SAAD, Nathalie SABBAGH, Melissa MOUZANNAR, Nada (El) KHOURY.

Lecturers

Suzanne ABDALLAH, Carole IBRAHIM, Maysaa NASR, Khalid ZAHER, Hassan ARAB, Christina YEPREMIAN, Khalil MECHANTAF, Anthony MRAD, Bachar ATTIEH, Mounir EL HAYEK, Larissa REDAELLI, Gabriel KHOURY, Salim SADER, Youssef BAKHACHE, Michele KHOURY (El), Gordon BLANKE, Souhair NADDE, Dania FAHS, Georges ATTIEH.

DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED

Bachelor of Law

Master of Laws in Business Law

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

- Serving in the judiciary;
- Pursuing postgraduate studies in the United Kingdom at the most prestigious international universities such as Oxford University, University of Leeds, London Business School;
- Practicing law in leading law firms across the country;
- Working as legal consultants and researchers in ministries and government departments;
- Working as legal advisors to banks, as well as international and local companies.

TUITION FEES

Bachelor of Law: 966 AED

Master of Laws in Business Law: 1,837.5 AED

SPECIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE INTERNAL REGULATIONS OF STUDY

I- Credits

Each program offered by the University requires the completion of a specified number of credits. For example, to obtain a Bachelor's degree, students must complete 240 European credits (equivalent to 120 US credits). The total number of credits includes those for language courses offered by the University (Arabic, French and English), as well as credits for core and elective courses. Students are expected to allocate an average of 23.5 to 26.5 hours of study for each credit.

Students may register for a maximum of 60 new ECTS credits per year.

II- Semesters

The academic year consists of two semesters of 14 to 16 weeks each.

III- Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for theoretical sessions, supervised work, and practical work. The total absence rate in any course shall not exceed 20% of the teaching hours.

In the event of a conflict between attending a failed course and a new course, priority will be given to the new course if it includes practical work. To be graded in the failed course, students must, under the supervision of the course instructor, complete all assignments, conduct research, and take exams. If no conflict arises, students must attend the lectures and participate in the supervised work of both courses.

IV- Grading System

Students are graded according to the following:

- a) The exam grade is out of twenty points.
- b) The weighting coefficient for each course is determined based on the number of credits allocated to that course.
- c) For courses that include supervised work, the final grade consists of 50% for the "supervised work" grade and 50% for the final exam grade.
- d) All courses, except those that include supervised work follow the graded assignment (TPC) system. The final grade for these courses consists of 25% of the practical work grade and 75% for the final exam.
- e) The final grade of language courses consists of 50% for the practical work grade and 50% for the final exam grade.

V- Exam sessions

- a) An exam session is held at the end of each semester (January for the first semester; June for the second semester).
- b) A second session is held at the end of each semester (February for the first semester; September-October for the second semester).

c) Students are required to attend all exam sessions. If students miss both final exam sessions for a specific course, they will be considered to have failed that course. This absence will not be compensated by rescheduling the exam, except in the following cases (which must be supported by official documentation, accepted by the Vice Dean or the Head of the Program):

- Death of a parent, sibling, spouse, or child
- The students' illness involving a serious and/or contagious disease, as confirmed by medical reports
- *Force Majeure* circumstances

VI- Validation and Allocation of Credits

Students will fail a course if their final grade, including the final exam and practical work, is below 10/20. To earn credits for the failed course, students must re-register and validate it.

Students' GPA is calculated at the end of each academic year based on the courses in which they are registered, including any retake exams, if applicable. The minimum GPA required for academic progression is 2.0. Students whose GPA falls below 2.0 at the end of their second year will be placed on academic probation and must achieve the required GPA during the following year of probation. If their GPA remains below 2.0 at the end of the third year, students will be required to re-register for and successfully complete previously taken courses to raise their GPA. During this period, they will not be permitted to register for new courses.

VII- Prerequisite Courses

Registration for a course may require the prior completion of one or more courses within the same study program.

VIII- Fraud and Attempted Fraud

Any attempt at fraud will result in the cancellation of the exam by the Vice Dean and a score of zero, whether or not a make-up session is allowed. It may even lead to referral to the Institution's Disciplinary Board.