The sixth annual Summer Institute Program is designed for international faculty, with courses to help you integrate law and economics into teaching and research.
Study the Field of Law and Economics at Its Birthplace

The University of Chicago is the birthplace of law and economics, and it continues to be the most influential source of scholarship and innovation in the field. At the University of Chicago, Nobel Laureate economists Gary Becker, Ronald Coase, George Stigler, and Milton Friedman worked together with brilliant legal minds like Richard Posner to change the foundation of legal thought in the United States, transforming entire fields of law over the past 50 years.

The Summer Institute in Law and Economics, now in its sixth year, has created a network of well over 300 scholars from around the world who are committed to improving law and policy in their own countries, and who are collaborating to bring economic analysis to the forefront of legal scholarship. The Summer Institute provides legal scholars with the tools and training to bring law and economics into their own classroom and research.

Whether you have already participated in the Summer Institute or are exploring this exciting opportunity for the first time, we invite you to Chicago to learn advanced skills in law and economics.

“The most exciting ideas in the field of law and economics continue to originate at the University of Chicago Law School.”

Thomas J. Miles, Dean and Clifton R. Musser Professor of Law at the University of Chicago Law School

CURRICULUM

The program for the 2017 Summer Institute will have four subject units and several special lectures. Each unit will include five two-hour lectures, all in English. Required reading materials in English will be distributed about 30 days in advance of the Summer Institute.

2017 Subject Units

New Frontiers in the Economic Analysis of Private Law
Omri Ben-Shahar

Economic Analysis of International Law
Adam Chilton

Economic Analysis of the Internet
Randal Picker

Public Choice and the Law: Economic Analysis of Lawmaking
Saul Levmore

Scholars Colloquium
In addition to lectures from University of Chicago faculty, the participants present their own scholarly work to each other and to the UChicago faculty in an academic conference setting. This experience allows the scholars to get valuable feedback and direction on their own work, and to contribute to the other participants’ work.
THE FACULTY

Omri Ben-Shahar is an expert in contracts and consumer law. He holds both a PhD in economics and an SJD from Harvard. He is the Kearney Director of the Coase-Sandor Institute for Law and Economics. Professor Ben-Shahar is the academic director of the Summer Institute.

Adam Chilton has research interests that lie at the intersection of international law, comparative law, and empirical legal studies. He holds a JD and a PhD in political science from Harvard.

Saul Levmore writes across many fields of law, including torts, restitution, public choice, and risk regulation. He holds both a JD and a PhD in economics from Yale. Levmore served as dean of the Law School from 2001 to 2009.

Randal Picker studies intellectual property, antitrust, competition policy, and regulated industries. He holds both an MA in economics and a JD from the University of Chicago. He is the coauthor of Game Theory and the Law.

“Many of our participants are key figures in law reform in their own countries, and many of the program’s alumni have already shared with us ideas and initiatives for legal change.”

Omri Ben-Shahar, academic director of the Summer Institute in Law and Economics

SOCIAL EVENTS

The Summer Institute in Law and Economics offers scholars opportunities to explore Chicago, while building relationships with talented scholars from around the world. Past Summer Scholars have attended a formal banquet at the faculty club and a baseball game, biked along Lake Michigan, and visited the Art Institute of Chicago. They capped their experience with a traditional American backyard barbecue.

The Summer Institute presents the Distinguished Lecture Series, featuring some of the University’s world-renowned faculty presenting their cutting-edge ideas. Lecturers have included Martha Nussbaum, Richard Posner, Richard Epstein, and William Landes.

Scholars enjoy Chicago’s picturesque lakefront.
COST AND LODGING

The fee for the Summer Institute is $3,000, which includes lodging, two meals (breakfast and lunch) per day, all organized social activities, some dinners, and food during class breaks. Participants will be housed in modern University of Chicago student residence halls in Hyde Park, Chicago, conveniently located near the Law School.

A nonrefundable deposit of $500 is required upon acceptance to the Summer Institute.

Many universities reimburse fees for participation and travel to educational events and conferences. Check with your academic department to see if the Summer Institute qualifies.

Travel costs are the responsibility of each participant and the participant’s academic department. The Law School does not reimburse travel or offer travel assistance.

APPLYING FOR THE PROGRAM

Who Should Apply

The University of Chicago invites legal scholars from Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America to apply to the two-week program. Professors, assistant professors, lecturers, and postdoctoral fellows are encouraged to apply. Policymakers and judges, as well as researchers from other disciplines—including economics, finance, and political science—are also encouraged to apply.

Applicants must have sufficient command of the English language to complete the required readings and participate in rigorous classroom discussion. All courses and materials will be offered in English without translation.

Necessary documentation for the visa application process for travel to the United States will be provided upon acceptance to the institute by the Coase-Sandor Institute for Law and Economics.

How to Apply

Applications should be made online at www.law.uchicago.edu/lawecon/summerinstitute. We ask applicants to provide statements outlining their background in law and economics, current research interest, and reasons for interest in attending the Summer Institute. Applicants must provide a current CV in English detailing educational background, employment history, and a list of publications.

Deadline:
Applications must be submitted online by January 16, 2017.

Notification:
Admission notices will be sent to applicants no later than January 31, 2017.