

LL.M. Public Law and Democracy

— PARIS —

A one of its kind LL.M. program on the theory and practice of law and democracy. The LL.M. will offer the highest quality of teaching in small group seminars provided by leading French and international scholars.

The program will benefit from a partnership with Institut Michel Villey, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University leading research center in jurisprudence and constitutional law.



Dual Expertise

The program is taught by Paris-Panthéon Assas academics and invited professors with highly regarded international reputations



Worldwide Recognition

Awarded by Paris-Panthéon-Assas University, France's first law university



Taught in English

All classes within the LL.M. program are taught in English



Career Opportunities

Students are equipped with a diverse set of skills and knowledge of several legal systems

TEACHING – The LL.M. is a year-long, full time, program –

The curriculum is based on ten courses (24h each), for a **total of 240 hours**. All courses are mandatory. There are no optional courses.

FACULTY: Law and political science professors and lecturers from Panthéon-Assas University. Visiting faculty from major universities worldwide (Oxford, LSE, Penn Law...).

UNIT 1: Theories of justice and political power

- Theories of democracy (ancient and modern)
- Introduction to political thought
- Reading seminar in political philosophy
- Foundations of public law

UNIT 2: Constitutionalism

- Political and constitutional history
- Comparative constitutional law
- Constitutional theory
- International Law and democracy

UNIT 3: Democracy & governance

- Contemporary Governance and democratic practice
- Current problems of democratic societies

CHAIR OF DEMOCRACY

A short course or series of lectures delivered every year by an expert or personality of international standing.

FACULTY



Prof. Paul DALY
Professor of Public Law
(University Research Chair in
Administrative Law Governance)
University of Ottawa

*Teaching subject: Foundations of
Public Law*



Vanessa MACDONNELL
Associate Professor at the
University of Ottawa Faculty of Law
and Co-Director of the uOttawa
Public Law Centre

*Teaching subject: Comparative
constitutional Law*



Prof. David WOMERSLEY
Thomas Warton Professor of
English Literature; Professorial
Fellow, St Catherine's College

*Teaching subject: Political &
Constitutional History*



Dr. Mélanie HEARD
Doctor in political science and
Executive Director of the Institute
for Democracy in Health (IPDS)

*Teaching subject: Contemporary
Governance & Democratic Practice*

GOALS

To provide international students with a set of courses at the crossroads of public law, legal theory and the theory of democracy. The aim is to foster a new generation of scholars and leaders in the field of law and democratic government, and provide them with the theoretical baggage and the skills to approach modern problems of democratic governance and democratic reform.

CAREER AND PROSPECTS

- International students aiming at acquiring a professional expertise in the field of democratic practice and democratic engineering. They will later work for NGOs, governmental bodies;
- International organizations;
- Students wishing to embrace an academic career and to read for a PhD.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

ADMISSION IS OPEN:

- to foreign students with at least a second year of U.S. law school (as part of an exchange between their university and Paris-Panthéon-Assas University);
- to students having completed a JD or any other legal degree in their home country with at least 4 years of studies, amounting to 240 ECTS credits.
- Exceptionally, to students with a degree amounting to 180 ECTS credits if this is justified by the legal curriculum in their country of origin.

Every year, the LL.M. will also be accessible to a maximum of 5 French students having already completed a "M2" degree, amounting to 300 ECTS credits.

Admission will be based on written applications. If the admission panel thinks it necessary, an oral examination will be possible.

TUITION FEES

- €10,000 (including university fees)
- Exchange students (American universities): €5,000



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DEAN OF THE LL.M.

Prof. Denis BARANGER
Professor of Public Law
Director of Studies of the LL.M. course
Paris-Panthéon-Assas University

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY

www.assas-universite.fr/en | www.assas-international.com

Founded in the 13th century in the heart of Paris, Paris-Panthéon-Assas University is France's first law university (Le Figaro Étudiant 2025), and the second-oldest faculty of law in the world.

Key facts:

- 2,200 teachers-researchers
- 23,000 students (including 4,000 international students)
- 17 sites and 4 international campuses: Dubai, Mauritius, Paris and Singapore

Assas International was created by Paris-Panthéon-Assas University in 2011 to develop and promote its international programmes.



CONTACT

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SCAN
FOR FULL
PROGRAMME
DETAILS



Ian GOOD

LL.M. Public Law and Democracy 2025 - Paris

"The LL.M. in Public Law and Democracy is a phenomenal and one-of-a-kind program that provides the opportunity to engage deeply with foundations of law and democratic governments. The program is taught by excellent scholars and professors at the cutting edge of their respective fields and provide both a breadth and depth to the overall program. The other students are also highly accomplished and provided for strong academic discussion during and outside of class. Ultimately, I fully recommend the program to anyone considering it."



Johannes ACHTEN

LL.M. Public Law and Democracy 2025 - Paris

"When I came across the Public Law and Democracy LL.M., I immediately knew this was what I had been looking for: a diverse curriculum exploring political theory and comparative constitutional law, professors and students from different backgrounds, all coming together at an established institution like Paris-Panthéon-Assas. The program lived up to my expectations. I am convinced that the Public Law and Democracy LL.M. provides a strong foundation for many future paths—whether in international or national institutions, legal practice, or academia."



Joana ZGHAIB

LL.M. Public Law and Democracy 2024 - Paris

"There is no better place to explore Public Law and Democracy than at Paris-Panthéon-Assas Université. The LL.M., offered with the Institut Michel Villey, provides a unique blend of public law, legal theory, and the study of democracy. As a practicing lawyer, I realized how much more there was to learn, and this program opened numerous doors for me, especially in international law. The connections I made and the community we built are a source of pride. This LL.M. has been more than an academic pursuit, and I encourage you to join this exceptional journey."

APPLICATION: October 2026 Intake

Application Deadline: 30 September 2026

APPLICATION PORTAL

candidatures.u-paris2.fr/en

PARIS CAMPUS

Recruitment team

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