

PhD in Law

FACULTY OF LAW

Overview and specifics

NUMBER 3-325-1-0

LEVEL Graduate

TYPE Doctorat en droit (LL. D.)

CREDITS 90 credits

PROGRAM TYPE Dissertation or thesis track

-  **Admission in fall**
-  **Candidates may be admitted without a research supervisor, but it is strongly recommended that they have the support of a professor before submitting their application.**
-  **Day course**
-  **Offered at the Montréal**
-  **Full-time**
-  **Half-time**

Resource persons

PROGRAM INFORMATION

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Demande d'information pour ce programme d'études en droit
<https://droit.umontreal.ca/faculte/nous-joindre/>

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Info Droit 514-343-6124
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Description

The doctoral degree is essentially an in-depth fundamental research program. The educational activities are aimed at developing students' thesis projects, and, within the Faculty, students benefit from the skills of specialists from all major areas of law. Co-supervision by two professors is quite common, as it provides complementary expertise. Students admitted to the program receive quality supervision in a stimulating environment; they have access to a high-calibre library, major computer resources, and financial support from the institution and other granting agencies.

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Doctoral candidates must complete the mandatory courses, as well as comprehensive written and oral exams, before writing a thesis on the subject of their choice.

The writing of the thesis will develop the student's ability to design and execute a large-scale research project, which will positively contribute to the development of the legal discipline. It will also foster the student's capacity to share research results in a clear, logical and persuasive manner.

Objectives

The PhD in Law provides training in legal research. The purpose of the thesis is to develop students' ability to design and conduct a major research project that makes an original contribution to the development of the legal discipline.

The goal of the program is to train jurists:

- who have knowledge of the fundamental elements of the various areas of law;
- who have developed an integrated approach to legal issues and their solutions;
- who have mastered the skills specific to the legal methodology, including conducting the legal characterization of concrete situations; identifying, consulting and updating documentation; and mastering oral and written argued discourse;
- who are autonomous, adaptable to change and able to take charge of their own continuing legal education;
- who can identify the relationships between the law and society and integrate them into the process of legal conflict resolution;
- who employ a critical process that takes into account the plurality of conceptual approaches within and about the law;
- who are aware of their social responsibilities, as intellectuals and professionals, respect a code of ethics that is in line with these responsibilities and are aware of extrajudicial approaches to conflict resolution.

General option

The objective of the PhD in Law, General option, is to develop students' ability to share their research results in a clear, logical and persuasive manner.

Innovation, Science, Technology and Law option

The general objective of the option is to enable students to acquire specialized knowledge and expertise regarding the role of law in the promotion, governance, and regulation of innovation, science and new technologies in a comparative law perspective that is attuned to emerging economies.

Strengths

Several of its characteristics, including the number of professors, students and programs, make the Faculty of Law the largest in both Quebec and Canada. The Faculty has some 60 tenured professors who, with the support of several legal practitioners, teach approximately 1,300 students enrolled in a bachelor's, master's or PhD program, of which nearly one third are in graduate studies.

The Faculty offers complete and varied legal training, so that students may practise law or pursue a career for which knowledge of the law is a major asset. Over a hundred years old, this education and research community has made significant contributions to the evolution of the law and its recognition as an academic discipline. Located in a stand-alone pavilion housing a complete library and a computer lab, its priorities are concerned with the challenges that future jurists will face.

Career prospects

Professions

- Law professor
- Researcher
- Public and business policy analyst
- Project manager
- Political advisor
- Consultant
- Compliance manager

Employers

- Université de Montréal
- Professional firms
- Corporate legal departments
- Public service
- Crown corporations
- Government agencies

Students interested in pursuing a career as a lawyer must have a bachelor's degree in Quebec civil law from one of the six law schools that offer it, and then complete the training given by the École du Barreau du Québec.

The Chambre des notaires du Québec requires as qualifying training that future notaries have first earned a bachelor's degree in law from one of the six law schools that offer the bachelor's degree in Quebec civil law. Following that, they must complete a master's degree in notarial law.

Regulations

Studies in this program are governed by the educational regulations of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and the following provisions:

1. Admission requirements

To be admitted as a regular student to the LLD program, candidates must:

- Meet the general admission requirements (section XI) of the "Règlement pédagogique de la Faculté des études supérieures et postdoctorales" (educational regulations of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies).
- Have an LLM from Université de Montréal or a degree deemed equivalent.
- Have obtained a grade-point average at the graduate level of at least 3.3 out of 4.3 or the equivalent.

Students must have satisfactory knowledge of French and English.

1.1 Additional documents to submit with your application

- A comprehensive curriculum vitae.
- Two letters of recommendation from respondents (preferably university professors, including the candidate's master's thesis supervisor) who know the candidate personally and who can directly assess their research abilities by referring, ideally, to specific work produced by the candidate that the respondents were able to assess formally or informally.
- A two-page (maximum) submission outlining the candidate's educational and professional goals in applying to the doctoral program, demonstrating their motivation to undertake a large-scale research program and explaining all the circumstances that may have affected their past academic performance.
- A four-page (maximum) submission briefly describing their research project (even in an embryonic state).
- A copy of a major research paper (100 pages minimum, excluding appendices) previously produced by the candidate (e.g., a master's thesis). Please email this document to the PhD technician.

2. Status

Students must be registered as full-time. In some cases, the dean may allow a student to register as half-time (in exceptional cases).

3. Duration of program

The minimum duration of the program is six full-time sessions. The maximum duration of the program is 15 sessions or 18 sessions if you began your studies as half-time.

4. PhD Comprehensive Examination

As part of the PhD in Law, students must take the written and oral components of the comprehensive exam by the end of the fourth session of the program, excluding preparatory or "on leave" sessions. However, according to the "Règlement pédagogique de la Faculté des études supérieures et postdoctorales" (educational regulations of the Faculty of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies) (132A), if by the sixth session they have not done so, the dean may exceptionally grant them an extension of one session (maximum) upon presentation of a reasoned request before the deadline.

Application deadlines

Before submitting an application, check the application periods for the chosen session.

Fall

- **Fall 2021:** From January 1st, 2020 to February 1st, 2021

Programs of origin

Several Université de Montréal students in this program came from the following programs:

PROGRAMS	TYPE	CREDITS	NUMBER	PERIOD	ENROLLMENT CAPACITY
Law	Master's Degree	45 credits	2-325-1-7	Jour	
Law	Master's Degree	45 credits	2-325-1-0	Jour	

Program structure (3-325-1-0)

Version 06 (A17)

The doctorate program consists of 90 credits.

The PhD in Law has the following options:

- General (segment 70);
- Innovation, Science, Technology and Law (segment 71).

Legend: CR: Credit, SC: Schedule, D: Day, E: Evening

SEGMENT 70 GENERAL OPTION

Number of credits: 87 mandatory credits, of which 81 are for research and a thesis, and 3 credits from optional courses.

Students who have completed their legal education entirely abroad must take the course on the Quebec and Canadian legal systems (3 credits) or an equivalent course.

Block 70A

Mandatory – 6 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7001	PhD General Seminar	3.0D
DRT 7002	DRT 7002 Thesis Seminar	3.0D

Block 70B

Optional – 3 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC	COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7003A	Theoretical and Legal Methodology	1.0D	DRT 7003F	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0
DRT 7003B	Theoretical and Legal Methodology	1.0D	DRT 7003H	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0D
DRT 7003C	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0	DRT 7003J	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0E

Block 70C

Mandatory – 81 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC	COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7009	Developing a Research Problem	6.0	DRT 7011	Thesis	69.0
DRT 7010	Developing a Thesis Project	6.0	DRT 7700	PhD Comprehensive Examination	0.0

SEGMENT 71 INNOVATION, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND LAW OPTION

Number of credits: 78 mandatory credits, of which 66 are for research and a thesis, 9 to 12 credits from optional courses and a maximum of 3 credits from elective courses.

Students who have not studied law in Canada must take a complementary course in document retrieval. This is a non-credit course.

In addition, the program offers language courses to help students improve their knowledge of oral and written French.

Block 71A

Mandatory – 12 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC	COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7001	PhD General Seminar	3.0D	DRT 7022	Reg.: Technological Innovations: Legal and Social Issues	3.0D
DRT 7021	Advanced Legal Methodology	3.0D	DRT 7023	School: Innovation, Science, Technology and Law	3.0

Block 71B

Optional – maximum of 3 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC	COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7003A	Theoretical and Legal Methodology	1.0D	DRT 7003F	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0
DRT 7003B	Theoretical and Legal Methodology	1.0D	DRT 7003H	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0D
DRT 7003C	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0	DRT 7003J	Theoretical and Legal Methodology Seminars	1.0E

Block 71C – Field of specialization

Optional – minimum 3 credits, maximum 4 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC	COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7024	Digital Law	1.0	DRT 7027	Law, Innovation and Health	1.0
DRT 7025	Reg.: Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development	1.0	DRT 7028	Special Projects in Law	1.0
DRT 7026	Natural Resources Law	1.0	DRT 7029	Intellectual Property Law	1.0D

Block 71D – Conceptualization and integration

Optional – minimum 6 credits, maximum 9 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7009	Developing a Research Problem	6.0
DRT 7032	Directed Readings – Comparative Law	3.0

Block 71E

Elective – maximum of 3 credits

With the permission of the dean or their representative, students may take a maximum of 3 credits from elective courses, chosen from the Master's in Law degree of Université de Montréal's Faculty of Law, or a master's degree at HEC Montréal or École polytechnique of Université de Montréal.

Block 71F – Research

Mandatory – 66 credits

COURSE	TITLE	CR SC
DRT 7010	Developing a Thesis Project	6.0
DRT 7033	Thesis	60.0
DRT 7700	PhD Comprehensive Examination	0.0

Programs to explore

Applicants interested in this program also applied to the following programs:

PROGRAMS	TYPE	CREDITS	NUMBER	PERIOD
Business Law - with thesis track	Master's Degree	45 credits	2-327-1-1	Jour
Criminology	Doctorate	90 credits	3-065-1-0	Jour
International Law - with dissertation track	Master's Degree	45 credits	2-326-1-2	Jour
Notarial Law	Master's Degree	54 credits	2-330-1-1	Jour
Political Science	Doctorate	90 credits	3-245-1-0	Jour

Research expertise at a glance

Research centres

- Centre de recherche en droit public (CRDP)
- Centre de droit des affaires et du commerce international (CDACI)

Research chairs

- Canada Research Chair in Collaborative Culture in Health Law and Policy
- Université de Montréal's Notarial Chair
- Université de Montréal's Chaire Jean-Louis Baudouin en droit civil
- L. R. Wilson Chair in Information Technology and E-Commerce Law
- Chair in Governance and Business Law
- Jean Monnet Chair in European Union Law
- LexUM Chair on Legal Information

Research group

Visit the following website: <https://droitumontreal.ca/en/research/research-units/> : <http://droit.umontreal.ca/recherche/groupe-de-recherche/>

Find out more : <https://droit.umontreal.ca/en/research/>

Professors

Consult the list of the department's faculty members and their specializations : <https://droit.umontreal.ca/en/faculty/the-team/>

Directory of theses and dissertations

Visit Papyrus, Université de Montréal's institutional repository, to search for research projects by our faculty and researchers as well as theses and dissertations by our students : <https://papyrus.bib.umontreal.ca/xmlui/?locale-attribute=en>

Research news

Read the latest research news from UdeM : <http://nouvelles.umontreal.ca/en/>