

# Western Law

## Exchange Program Fact Sheet 2013 - 2014

### Top 5 Reasons to apply for a Western Law Exchange

Our exchange program is one of the most active in Canada. Each year we welcome 30-40 visiting students from our partner law schools around the world.

- 1. Academic excellence** Western Law is one of Canada's leading law schools and boasts a number of professors with international reputations. This excellence is displayed in our courses, conferences and faculty research.
- 2. Student experience** Western Law has a diverse and collegial atmosphere where students study and socialize together. Our many student legal and recreational clubs contribute to the rich extra-curricular student life.
- 3. Innovative Programs** Our unique January Term courses are taught by visiting international scholars. During the Fall and Spring terms, visiting scholars—who are leaders in their field of study—teach special one week intensive courses. Our Community Legal Services clinic offers students an opportunity to gain valuable “hands-on” experience and exposure to a wide range of legal matters.
- 4. Location** London, Ontario is Canada's tenth largest city with close to 500,000 people in the metropolitan area. Located halfway between Toronto and Detroit, this thriving university town combines the affordability, charm and security of a mid-size community together with easy access to major urban centres such as Montreal, Chicago and New York.
- 5. Life in Canada** Canada is known for its open-mindedness, multiculturalism and dedication to human rights. Take advantage of our great Canadian wilderness and way of life. Hike and bike London's trails along the Thames River. Learn to ice skate and ski. Camp, canoe and backpack in numerous provincial parks. Enjoy the pristine sandy freshwater beaches of Lake Huron and Lake Erie.

### Who We Are

The University of Western Ontario (also known as Western University), established in 1878, is one of the most beautiful campuses in Canada. Western prides itself on having a strong sense of community and offers exceptional amenities. The Faculty of Law, established in 1959, offers a unique blend of academic study, practical experience and extracurricular academic activities.

- Program: 3-year Juris Doctor - JD degree
- Number of Western Law students: 515 with 175 admitted annually
- Grade average on admission: 83% (3.7 GPA)
- Average LSAT score: 82%
- Total number of Western students: approximately 35,000 undergraduate and graduate

## Application Requirements

- **Application deadline** for Full year or Fall term exchange participants is **April 15, 2013**.
- Applications for Winter term participants will be accepted until October 1, 2013.  
However, course selection may be limited for applications received after July 1.

## Program Dates 2013-2014

- *Note: These dates are provisional, pending approval by University Senate.*
- **Fall 2013:** September 3 – December 13, 2013
- **Winter 2014:** The Winter term consists of an intensive one month term in January followed by the Spring term. Students participating in the winter must enroll in both January and Spring terms.  
**January Term:** January 6 – January 31, 2014  
Study Week is February 3 – 7, 2014; No classes are held during this week.  
**Spring Term:** February 10 – April 30, 2014

## Acceptance Information

- **May 2013:** Letters of acceptance will be mailed to partner schools for distribution to students. Additional pre-arrival information will be provided to students via email.

## Course Selection

- **July 2013:** Course selection is completed by students via a web-based program.  
This includes choosing courses for the entire academic year (Fall, January & Spring Terms).

## Course Offerings

- The Faculty of Law offers over 100 courses each year.
- These courses fall within the following broad subject areas:

Business and Private Law	Public Law	Advocacy, Procedural, Specialty and Legal Theory
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Commercial &amp; Insolvency</li><li>▪ Common Law and Equity</li><li>▪ Corporate</li><li>▪ Insurance</li><li>▪ Intellectual Property &amp; Information Technology</li><li>▪ International Business</li><li>▪ Labour &amp; Employment</li><li>▪ Private International Law</li><li>▪ Property</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Administrative</li><li>▪ Constitutional &amp; Human Rights</li><li>▪ Criminal</li><li>▪ Family</li><li>▪ Public International Law</li><li>▪ Tax</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Alternative Dispute Resolution</li><li>▪ Competition/Anti-trust</li><li>▪ Ethics and Professionalism</li><li>▪ Law, Language and Literature</li><li>▪ Legal History</li><li>▪ Legal Theory</li><li>▪ Litigation/Advocacy</li><li>▪ Research</li></ul>

## Learning Expectations

- Course Load Requirement: 14 to 16 credit hours per term, 29 to 31 credit hours per year.
- Class Participation: expected in most courses, assessment varies by course and instructor.
- Examinations: a variety of formats including research papers, written final exams, and take-home exams.
- The exam schedule will be available in **July 2013** with the course selection materials.

## Language Requirements

Proof of proficiency in English will be required prior to acceptance for all students whose home school instruction is not in English. **Required** acceptable test scores are listed below. Other recognized language proficiency tests may also be considered.

- TOEFL: 90 – 92 with no individual score below 20
- IELTS: minimum 6.5

## Fees

Students will pay tuition to their home university. Some supplementary fees are required for visiting exchange students at Western Law.

*The fees listed below are approximate and may vary slightly pending budget approval.*

- \$191 – London Transit bus pass, including special late night bus service
- \$26 – Western 1 student card fee
- \$25 per term – Western Law student Legal Society fee

## Health Insurance

While in Canada and enrolled at Western, all exchange students are **required** to enroll in the University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP). Enrollment will be completed upon arrival. For information about UHIP and what is included in the coverage, please visit: [www.uhip.ca](http://www.uhip.ca)

The UHIP fees for 2012-13 were:

- \$228 for four month term / \$456 for eight month academic year

Please note that although this plan covers most doctor visits and hospital costs in Ontario, it does not include supplemental coverage for services such as prescription medications, dental care, eyeglasses nor for most out-of-country expenses. We **strongly recommend** that you review the health insurance plan details on the UHIP website and consider supplemental coverage in addition to the mandatory UHIP plan.

## Orientation

A **mandatory** orientation session is held at the beginning of each term for incoming exchange students and includes:

- welcome to Western Law,
- tour of the law school and university campus,
- special appointment at the Registrar's Office,
- introductory lectures on Canadian Law and legal citation,
- welcome reception and opportunity to meet your Western Law student "buddy", and
- additional events during the term such as Western's Homecoming football game or Mustang hockey game.

## Computer Facilities - [www.uwo.ca/its](http://www.uwo.ca/its)

- Western Law and the Western campus provide access to a high-speed wireless network.
- An "@uwo.ca" email address will be issued when application materials are complete.

## Housing

- Information about on-campus residence arrangements may be viewed at:  
[www.residenceatwestern.ca/exchange\\_students](http://www.residenceatwestern.ca/exchange_students)  
*NOTE: Residence policies are currently being reviewed and on-campus residence availability may not be guaranteed for visiting exchange students.*
- In the 2012-13 academic year, University residence accommodations for visiting exchange students were in the undergraduate residences. These residences include both traditional dormitory-style rooms and apartment-style suites, with most offering or requiring a meal plan. Please be aware that the University residences are primarily occupied by first-year undergraduate students (that is, most residents are 18-19 years of age).
- Western is located in a residential area with many housing options close to campus. Western's off-campus housing office provides a wide range of services, from listings for off-campus housing rentals to advice on rental agreements:  
[offcampus.uwo.ca/exchange\\_students](http://offcampus.uwo.ca/exchange_students)

## Student Activities

- Western Law student clubs, trips, pubs, and formal events  
[www.law.uwo.ca/support\\_services/student\\_legal\\_society](http://www.law.uwo.ca/support_services/student_legal_society)
- International Student activities and trips - [www.sdc.uwo.ca/int](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/int)
- Note that one formal outfit of clothing is recommended for some social events/ receptions and for court appearances (if enrolled in Litigation Practice or volunteering with Community Legal Services).

## On-Campus Facilities

- University Community Centre - <http://westernusc.ca/ucc-mall/>  
The facilities in Western's student centre include the campus bookstore and computer store, cafeterias and pubs, Student Health Services, pharmacy, post office, travel agency, movie theatre, grocery store, copy centre and banking machines.
- Western's Student Recreation Centre - [www.westernmustangs.ca](http://www.westernmustangs.ca)  
One of the largest university recreation centres in Canada, this facility includes a 50 metre swimming pool, five gymnasiums, five squash courts, a large fitness centre as well as classrooms and locker rooms. The Rec Centre is adjacent to the Thompson ice arena.

## Other helpful websites:

- Western University: [www.uwo.ca](http://www.uwo.ca)
- Accessibility at Western: [accessibility.uwo.ca](http://accessibility.uwo.ca)
- Western's International web portal: [international.uwo.ca](http://international.uwo.ca)
- Western's International Student Services: [www.sdc.uwo.ca/int](http://www.sdc.uwo.ca/int)
- Government of Canada's International Gateway: [www.canadainternational.gc.ca](http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca)
- City of London: [www.london.ca](http://www.london.ca)

## For more information, contact:

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Visit us on  at: [westernlawintl](http://westernlawintl)



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