

2026 Summer Program in The Hague: International Criminal Law & International Legal Approches to Terrorism



Celebrating the 20th Edition!

Program dates: May 26th - June 19th, 2026

The Summer Law Program in The Hague offers students an opportunity to engage with Hague-based practitioners and experts to explore critical issues in international criminal law and international legal approaches to terrorism.

This Program is the product of collaboration between the War Crimes Research Office (WCRO) of WCL — established to promote the development and enforcement of international criminal and humanitarian law — and the T.M.C. Asser Institute, one of the most prominent research institutes of international law in Europe.

In addition to AUWCL faculty members, you will hear from judges, prosecutors, and other staff from the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the International Criminal Court (ICC), the UN International Residual Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals (MICT), the Special Tribunal for Lebanon (STL), the Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC), the Dutch Court of Appeal (DCA), and other organizations. Past guest lecturers have included:

- **Judge Kimberly Prost** - International Criminal Court (ICC)
- **Judge Guénaél Mettraux** - Kosovo Specialist Chambers (KSC)
- **Dr. Katharine Fortin** - Associate Professor of Public International Law and Human Rights, Utrecht University
- **Laurel Baig** - Senior Appeals Counsel, International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT)

Connect with the WCRO!



Courses (6 credits)

International Criminal Law In Search of Accountability provides an introduction to international criminal law and explores the various ways in which national, international, and so-called “hybrid” criminal courts and tribunals have attempted to enforce criminal responsibility for serious violations of human rights and humanitarian law. The course also examines the role of states, their obligations under international law, and the obstacles they face in bringing to justice those responsible for international crimes.

International Legal Approaches to Terrorism in the 21st Century examines counter-terrorism measures from an international and comparative law perspective and considers the interrelationship between these measures and the obligations of states under international human rights and humanitarian law. The course explores the status of different international players under international law and addresses questions in counterterrorism.

Activities & Networking Opportunities

The program includes visits to international tribunals and legal institutions where students have an opportunity to learn about the institutions making history in these areas of the law today. The program also includes a career panel with WCL alumni and other practitioners now working in the Hague who can serve as valuable resources to the students in their job and internship searches. The Asser Institute will offer intercultural sessions with their staff to introduce students to Asser and life in Hague. The WCRO and Asser have research assistant opportunities available after the program. In addition, program staff can work with students on individual basis in support of their career goal.



“This program was life-changing. When people asked how it was, I just repeated that I have never felt smarter, more inspired, and more grounded. I can’t wait to finish law school and start practicing in this area”-
2025 Hague Program Alumna.

**Applications currently
open!**

For full details on eligibility, registration, tuition, and more, please visit wcl.american.edu/hague
Questions? Contact hagueprogram@wcl.american.edu