
FLORENCE LAW 2018

Director's Report



The Gonzaga Law in Florence program continued its renaissance in 2018, a renaissance that began in 2016 when the Law School expanded its commitments to this already storied program. These commitments include a dedicated human rights curriculum, an international mediation program, an annual human rights conference, and increased collaboration with the University Center for Global Engagement, the traditional Gonzaga in Florence program, and the Center for Civil and Human Rights.

Law students and faculty enjoying historic Piazza del Campo in the ancient Tuscan city of Siena.

Please enjoy this detailed report on the 2018 Gonzaga Law in Florence program. Also please view our new promotional Florence video: <https://youtu.be/AuddgNVzmdA>.

Human Rights Curriculum

The Gonzaga Law in Florence program has always addressed human rights issues. But in 2016, the Law Faculty authorized the Director to design the Florence law curriculum to focus more explicitly on international human rights. The goals of this human rights curriculum are to align the Florence program even further with our social justice mission and programs, such as the Center for Civil and Human Rights; to showcase the historical role of Florence, the birthplace of the renaissance, in contributing to human rights; and to expose students to the intersections of law and other disciplines in human rights.

With 30 students from Gonzaga, Creighton, and the University of Nevada Las Vegas, the 2018 Florence program offered law students four human rights-themed course offerings:

Comparative Criminal Law: Taught by program Director Brooks Holland, this course explored criminal law and procedure in Italy, other European countries, and international tribunals to introduce students to comparative legal methods.

International Human Rights: Professor Jason Gillmer taught International Human Rights. This course is regularly taught in Florence, and a natural fit for Professor Gillmer as the Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights. Addressing diverse human rights issues from around the globe, this course supplied a particularly valuable foundation to prepare students for the international human rights conference that Gonzaga hosted during the Florence program. This course also included a non-law student from Gonzaga's Graduate Global Leadership program, a result of the Florence program's effort to expand its multi-disciplinary reach and impact.



The 2018 Florence law faculty

Comparative Women's Rights: Professor Mary Pat Treuthart, our most experienced Florence teacher, taught Comparative Women's Rights. Professor Treuthart has taught this course numerous times, drawing on her strong background in and commitment to the rights of women. Professor Treuthart's global expertise in this area permitted students to explore this subject through a uniquely valuable lens.

International Rights of the Child: Professor Kim Hai Pearson joined the Florence faculty for the first time in 2018 to teach International Rights of the Child. Although new to the Florence program, Professor Pearson brought significant global expertise as a teacher and scholar with her to Italy, and she was a welcome addition to the Florence law faculty!



Law and undergraduate students visiting the famous Corsini winery in Tuscany.

International Mediation Program

In 2017, Gonzaga Law in Florence partnered with the University of Florence School of Law (UniFi) to establish the Florence International Mediation Program. This two-day program includes a mediation seminar, an all-day mediation competition, and inter-cultural events and activities.

This program has several objectives. First, to expose students to the history, objectives, and methods of mediation as an increasingly important mode of dispute resolution in Europe and the United States. Second, to provide Gonzaga and UniFi students with a competitive opportunity to practice mediation methods. And third, to give these future lawyers a valuable cross-cultural professional and social experience. In the process, students earn an additional academic credit.

The 2018 program began with an afternoon seminar on mediation values and methods, which all Florence students attended. The seminar was led by Dr. Johanna Hawari-Bourjeily, the Director of Professional Mediation at the University of St. Joseph in Beirut, and Avv. Pietro Galizzi, the Head of Legal and Regulatory Affairs at Eni Oil & Gas. The first program day also included inter-cultural social activities for all students.



Gonzaga and UniFi co-directors with seminar guest speakers



Students competing

At the mediation competition on day two, twenty Gonzaga students competed against twenty Florence students in teams of four. The competition was judged by distinguished lawyers and mediators, including two Gonzaga Law alumni who traveled to Florence for the competition. The students had prepared for several weeks with Professors Treuhart and Pearson, and we also were very pleased to include a guest instructor, Dr. Ilaria Forestieri, an Italian lawyer and scholar of mediation and commercial law. Thanks to this great instructional squad, one of our Gonzaga

teams took first prize in the competition, and a second team won an award for most creative solutions. All of the students acquitted themselves very well, impressing the judges with their preparation, skill, and professionalism. The program concluded with a festive awards gala for faculty, students, judges, and mediators.

The mediation program has established a wonderful relationship between Gonzaga and UniFi, and we look forward to extending this relationship to other institutions. For 2019, we hope to bring University of St. Joseph more formally into the program.



The winning Gonzaga team with their UniFi counterparts at the gala

Human Rights Conference

Starting in 2017, Gonzaga Law in Florence partnered with the University and Robert F. Kennedy Human Rights Italia to host the Gonzaga Law International Human Rights Conference at the Robert F. Kennedy International House of Human Rights. The goal of this program was to gather judicial officers, lawyers, academics, and activists from around the world in one program to engage critical human rights issues. The inaugural conference, *Human Rights in Uncertain Times*, was a great success, and Gonzaga's Journal of International Law recently published articles from the 2017 conference in a dedicated symposium volume: <http://blogs.law.gonzaga.edu/gjil/florence-symposium-articles/>.



This year, the conference theme was *Equal Justice as a Human Right*. With speakers from the United States, Italy, Spain, Ukraine, Egypt, and the Philippines, the 2018 conference offered faculty, students, alumni, and other guests a rich opportunity to address equality issues, including race and gender justice, economic and resource justice, and migration and human trafficking. Especially noteworthy for 2018 was a new partnership with the Center for Civil and Human Rights, which enabled the conference to host Judge Mary Murguia as the inaugural Center keynote speaker. Judge Murguia presented on immigration law and human rights in the federal courts. Complementing Judge Murguia's keynote presentation was Judge Raul Pangalangan of the International Criminal Court, who gave the Gonzaga Law in Florence keynote, addressing the topic of the judicialization of human rights. Both judges participated in a judicial roundtable with the audience to close the program.



In addition to offering a rigorous academic program, the conference permitted participants and attendees, including students and alumni, the opportunity to socialize and network at different events. The conference culminated in a dinner at a wonderful Florence restaurant, L'Ortone.



A promotional video of the 2018 conference can be viewed here: <https://youtu.be/lbvYBPzNW8A>.

For the future, we envision the Gonzaga Law Human Rights Conference serving as a global hub for scholarship, student enrichment, and professional engagement in the field of human rights. Planning has already begun for the third edition of the conference in 2019, which will address the theme, *Freedom of Expression as a Human Right*.

Cultural Enrichment

The Gonzaga Law in Florence program has always been a culturally enriching experience, and the 2018 program followed in this tradition. For example, students began the program by visiting the Galleria dell'Accademia, where they witnessed Michelangelo's famous Statute of David, the Rapine di Sabine, and other historic works.

Always a special highlight of the Florence program, students visited the Galleria degli Uffizi, a world-famous collection of Byzantine and Renaissance art. The Uffizi collection includes a such notable artists and works as Botticelli's Birth of Venus, Carravaggio's Shield of

Medusa, numerous works by Leonardo Da Vinci, and

Artemisia's compelling depiction of

Judith Slaying Holofernes. Students were guided in this tour by Florence Professor Mercedes Carrara, whose knowledge of these works, and facility for sharing their stories, is unrivaled.



Students at the Uffizi with Professor Mercedes Carrara

The Florence program took students well beyond the walls of Firenze. Faculty and students traveled to the medieval city of Siena, where students were able to explore its unique history,

architecture, art, and cuisine. Faculty also invited students to Cinque Terre in the Liguria region of Italy, famous for its coastal hikes, beaches, seafood, and pesto. Our students were typically intrepid themselves, using Florence as a

springboard for further international travel.

Florence students visited Morocco, Sicily, Greece, Spain, France, England, and other locales.

Truly a global experience for our students!



Students dine al fuori in Siena



International Criminal Court Fellowship

Gonzaga Law in Florence fundamentally seeks to prepare students for real-world experiences in international law and human rights. The 2018 Florence law program presented a new and exciting opportunity for realizing this goal with a two-week student fellowship in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court (ICC) immediately following the Florence program. Gonzaga is extremely proud to be the first United States law school to have participated in this new fellowship program at the ICC, and the Center for Civil and Human Rights partnered with the Florence program to sponsor our students as Center Fellows at the ICC.

On June 18, 2018, the Center Fellows arrived at The Hague to begin their fellowship. The students worked on the Burundi investigation, reviewing and summarizing evidence for ICC prosecutors: <https://www.icc-cpi.int/burundi>. Students also received training on applying for international law jobs, including conducting mock interviews with experienced ICC attorneys. The exit assessment from the students' supervising attorney at the ICC was extremely positive, observing that our students were "very hard-working, thorough, and detailed."

The ICC fellowship presents a special opportunity for Gonzaga students to extend the practical value of the Florence law program. The ICC fellowship was a pilot program, which the Office of the Prosecutor is assessing for renewal in 2019. With the strong performance of Gonzaga's Center Fellows in 2018, if the ICC renews the program, we are confident that the Office of the Prosecutor will invite Gonzaga students to participate on an ongoing basis.



The 2018 Center for Civil and Human Rights Fellows at the International Criminal Court

Future Opportunities

The Gonzaga Law in Florence program is establishing itself as a hub for the Law School and University to offer students, faculty, and alumni unique opportunities for global engagement and professional and personal development. The Law School will continue to explore future global engagement opportunities that build on the Florence hub. Current opportunities include:

Florence Pre-Law Program

Starting in summer 2019, the Law School will support a pre-law track that the University is adopting for undergraduate students enrolled in Gonzaga in Florence. One law faculty member thus will teach a second undergraduate course along with a law course. The Florence law program also will include pre-law students in appropriate aspects of the law program experience, such as the human rights conference. The Law School should benefit from this opportunity to demonstrate the value of a Gonzaga legal education to self-identified pre-law students with an interest in global programs.

Wine Law Program

The Tuscany region is well known for its wine culture and industry. A significant number of Gonzaga alumni also are invested in the domestic wine industry. Dean Rooksby has envisioned an opportunity to bridge these communities through a Wine Law Program. The program will offer alumni a unique cultural and CLE experience in Tuscany immediately following the human rights conference, presenting a vehicle to expand our intellectual property and business law offerings in Florence. This annual experience in Florence will be connected to local experiences with Gonzaga alumni's domestic wine industry and community. Dean Rooksby will deliver more information to faculty and staff as the details of the Wine Law Program are finalized.

Expanded Mediation Program

We are actively exploring opportunities to build on the success of our international mediation program with UniFi. For instance, in 2018, a Gonzaga student from the Graduate Global Leadership Program competed in the mediation program and was a member of the winning team. We hope to negotiate a formal pipeline agreement with Global Leadership so that the Florence law program can become one of Global Leadership's required study abroad experiences. Gonzaga and UniFi further hope to bring additional schools into the program and connect the competition more to global programs like the Paris and Vienna competitions. The Director of the mediation program at the University of St. Joseph in Beirut has expressed her interest in pursuing this relationship.

Distinguished Visiting Professor

Currently, only full-time Gonzaga law faculty may teach in the Florence law program. To complement Gonzaga's experienced and talented internal Florence law faculty, we will propose that the Florence program also recruit notable external law faculty to teach in the Florence program. With the reputation the Florence law program has earned, we anticipate that it will attract high-profile academics with no budget impact. A more detailed proposal to the faculty is forthcoming.