

Name of Organization Independent Clinical

I will be interning remotely this fall for the [REDACTED] located in [REDACTED]. Aspiring to pursue a legal career specializing in international arbitration, this opportunity will provide me invaluable, real-world experience working directly in the field. This sense is substantiated by the fact that [REDACTED] Arbitration Rules are among the most frequently used *ad hoc* regimes, with almost ¾ of all respondents invoking the legal framework. Staffed on matters managed directly by RCAP, I will contribute to the office's objectives of enhancing international trade and development in the Asia-Pacific region by strengthening predictability in international commercial transactions, providing bilateral and multilateral support to States regarding adoption and interpretation of [REDACTED] texts, participating in coordination with international and regional institutions active in trade law engagements, and promoting inter-State dialogue regarding cross-border dealings. The tasks I will work on include, among other things, contributing to the identification of legislative reform needs and technical assistance requirements in selected countries and sectors in the region; assisting with the collection and analysis of case law on [REDACTED] texts, national legislation, and legal developments; and preparing public resources for interested parties. Overall, I will be facilitating the harmonization and modernization of international trade law. I view this opportunity as a fantastic extension of the work I did this summer working for the U.S. Member on the United Nations International Law Commission (ILC) in Geneva, Switzerland. In that capacity, I contributed to the body's restatement of public international law, primarily in the space of State responsibility and immunities. This fall, I will be able to assist with *private* international law, engaging with the development of a global legal order as it relates to financial and commercial interests.

Statement of Interest

This internship opportunity is fundamentally different from any HLS offering. Working under attorneys actively engaged in shaping efficient global financial dispute resolution mechanisms is a coveted experience. The HLS clinical program choices fall short in giving me the type of hands-on participation that I seek regarding all stages of the arbitral process. Most significantly, no other clinical would enable me to work with an intergovernmental organization based in Asia.

Moreover, this experience represents an ideal blend of professional fields to complement my background and interests: diplomacy, international politics, institutional development, legislative reform, and legal analysis. The focus of this specific [REDACTED] office is also meaningful for me, as I have extensive experience examining the Asia-Pacific region at the [REDACTED] prior to attending HLS, and with the Republic of Palau and HLS Advocates for Human Rights during my IL year. I also have Chinese language proficiency, minored in Chinese during my undergraduate education, and was awarded the McDonald Prize in Korean Studies for best paper covering Korea. More personally, my interest in this area stems from my passion for the enforcement and legitimacy of supranational norms and rules. As the grandson of refugees from Nazi Germany, I have intimate connection to the pitfalls

of a system where domestic law is the only way to hold governments accountable. I hope to take the next step in being a multidisciplinary international law scholar to understand how to ensure modern commercial interactions are fair, non-exploitative, reliable, and acceptable to the diverse legal traditions of the world.

Finally, international arbitration is the field in which I intend to specialize my legal career. To assist with analysis of case law on [REDACTED] texts will provide me unique insight into the legal framework governing the majority of *ad hoc* proceedings. I will be able to gain direct access to the modelling of the same legal rules I will interact with as an attorney. I will also be able to understand the intangible aspects of international arbitration, such as the “preferences” and intentions of the rule drafters and the direction in which the field’s thought leaders believe international arbitration is heading. More principally, it has been my goal to help strengthen the institutionalization of Asia, which has lagged behind the West in adhering to global norms. Separately, this opportunity serves as the perfect complement to my academic profile, which includes my “Foundations of International Arbitration” course, as well as my other classes concentrating on international law, such as “Public International Law” and “Business and Human Rights.”

Academic Paper

Professor XX is the perfect faculty mentor for this engagement. He is an expert in the fields of international trade and international economic law. His scholarly contributions have been dedicated to analyzing the impact of emerging economies on global governance, trade remedies, and foreign investment. In 2021, Professor XX served as a Senior Advisor to the United States Trade Representative (USTR) while on leave from Harvard, and he formerly served as Director of Intellectual Property at the Office of the USTR. Professor [REDACTED] also has relevant subject matter expertise at the intersection of law and multilateral organizations, including the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the World Bank, and the World Trade Organization (WTO). Furthermore, he has direct experience handling trade law in Asia, serving as an economist and operations officer at World Bank in China. Because his specialization significantly aligns with my responsibilities at [REDACTED] Professor [REDACTED] stands uniquely positioned to provide practical advice, guidance, mentorship, and support during this upcoming semester. He fundamentally understands the theories of international trade law as well as its nuances in practice in Asia.

My academic paper will seek to cover choice of law disputes in international arbitration. I hope to conduct an analysis of how the invocation of different trade law regimes and arbitral bodies influences the outcome of award assignment in practice. I will also look to investigate whether the absence of compromissory clauses, or even reduced access to *ad hoc* proceedings, necessarily deters foreign investment, supply chain expansion, and cross-border transactions. I hope to scrutinize [REDACTED] relationship with domestic legal systems *vis-à-vis* settlements, award enforcement (specifically, appeals), and cross-border discovery. This section will substantively discuss the tensions between global institutions and particularized national legal systems. Finally, I will place attention on how Asian States and companies’ consent to international arbitration has promoted the region’s economic development and whether it will continue to support its growth.