

The Durham Law School International Arbitration Summer School Programme 21 - 25 July, 2025



Durham
University
Durham Law School

All talks take place in the Hogan Lovells Lecture Theatre
at Durham Law School, Palatine Centre, Stockton Road,
Durham DH1 3LE, UK.

Monday 21st July

Fundamentals of Commercial Arbitration

- 9:00am - 9:30am - Refreshments served in the Common Room
- 9:30am – 10:00am: Introduction to The Programme
Instructor(s): John Fellas
- 10.15am - 11:30am: Why Parties Select International Arbitration. This session will focus explaining what international arbitration is and explaining why parties may choose arbitration for their international commercial contracts.
Instructor(s): John Fellas; Christian Leathley
- 11.45am - 12:45pm: The Legal Basis for International Arbitration. This session will focus on the legal basis for arbitration.
Instructor(s): John Fellas; Wendy Miles
- 12:45pm - 2:30pm: Buffet style lunch served in the Common Room
- 2:30pm – 3.45 pm: The Law and Rules That Govern International Commercial Arbitration. This session will focus on the law and rules that governs international arbitration: the New York Convention, domestic law, arbitration rules, and soft law instruments governing the arbitral process
Instructor(s): TBD
- 3:45pm - 4pm - Refreshments served in the Common Room
- 4:00pm – 5.00 pm: How to Draft an Arbitration Clause
Instructor(s): John Fellas; TBD

Tuesday 22nd July

Fundamentals of Commercial Arbitration

- 9:00am - 9:30am - Refreshments served in the Common Room
- 9:30am – 10.30 am: Enforcement of Arbitration Agreements. This session will focus on the enforcement of arbitration agreements and in the courts, including the allocation of responsibility between courts and arbitrators, kompetenz-kompetenz and separability in leading arbitration jurisdictions around the world.
Instructor(s): John Fellas; Wendy Miles
- 10:45 am – 12.00 pm: Enforcement of Arbitration Awards. This session will focus on the enforcement of arbitration awards including the distinction between enforcement and set aside, the various defenses to enforcement and the standards for set aside.
Instructor(s): TBD
- 12:00pm - 2:30pm: Buffet style lunch served in the Common Room
- 2:30pm – 4:30pm: The Arbitration Process. This session will discuss in detail how a dispute unfolds from the beginning of the dispute to the issuance of an award. It will include a discussion of preliminary relief, the commencement of arbitration proceeding, emergency arbitrators, the preliminary conference, the submission of memorials, witness statements and expert reports, the taking of evidence, and the hearings.
Instructor(s): John Fellas; Wendy Miles
- 4:30pm: Refreshments served in the Common Room and closing remarks

Wednesday 23rd July

Fundamentals of Treaty-Based Arbitration

- 9am - 9:30am - Refreshments served in the Common Room

- 9:30am - 11:30am: Introduction to Treaty-Based Arbitration.

This session will introduce the theoretical basis of treaty-based arbitration, the various institutions, and mechanisms for dispute settlement

Instructor(s): Charles T. Kotuby Jr.; Christian Leathley

- 12:00pm - 2:00pm: Served lunch at Collingwood College

- 2:15pm - 2:30pm - Refreshments served in the Common Room

- 2:30pm - 4:30pm: Issues of Jurisdiction in Treaty-Based Arbitration.

This session will cover the definition of “investment,” issues of temporal jurisdiction, treaty structuring and issues of corruption as a matter of jurisdiction and admissibility

Instructor(s): Charles T. Kotuby Jr., Carmen Martinez Lopez

- 4:30pm: Refreshments served in the Common Room and closing remarks

Thursday 24th July

Treaty-Based Arbitration and Damages

- 9:00am - 9:30am - Refreshments served in the Common Room

- 9:30am - 11:30am: Expropriation and the Fair and Equitable Treatment Standard.

This session will address the primary substantive protections of investment treaties and their jurisprudential development over the past few years.

Instructor(s): Charles T. Kotuby Jr., Carmen Martinez Lopez

- 12pm: 2:30pm - Buffet style lunch served in the Common Room

- 2:30pm - 3:45pm: Damages in Commercial and Investment Arbitration.

With the assistance of leading forensic economists, this session will address issues of reparation and compensation, strategic considerations of valuation dates and how various breaches and businesses implicate different quantum models.

Instructor(s): Wendy Miles; Min Shi

- 3:45 - 4:00pm - Refreshments served in the Common Room

- 4:00pm-5:30pm: Third-Party Funding in Commercial and Investment Arbitration

Instructor(s): Susan Dunn, Christiane Deniger, Ayse Yazir, Professor Can Eken

- 6:30pm - 9:30pm: The Gala Dinner will be held in the evening at St Chad's College, Durham City, and will begin with a drinks reception from 6.30pm in the courtyard and grounds.

Friday 25th July

Practical Arbitration Skills

- 9:00am - 9:30am: Refreshments served in the Common Room
- 9:30am – 11:00am: Best Practices in Written Advocacy: Pleadings, Witness Statements and Expert Reports.

This session will highlight best practice in written advocacy, seeking to bridge the divide between different legal traditions

Instructor(s): Christian Leathley; John Fellas, Wendy Miles KC, Charles Kotuby, TBD.

- 11:15am – 12:45pm: A Fireside Chat with Sir Robin Knowles - INVITED BUT CONFIRMATION AWAITED

Sir Robin Knowles gave one of the leading judgments on setting aside an arbitral award in *The Central Republic of Nigeria -v- Process & Industrial Developments Limited* on 23rd October, 2023 [Nigeria v P&ID judgment](#).

- 1pm - 2:30pm Buffet style lunch served in the Common Room
- 2:30pm – 4:00pm: Best Practices in Oral Advocacy: Opening and Closing Statements, Cross-Examination.

This session will address best practices in cross examination statements and include participant discussion and hands-on workshops.

Instructor(s): Christian Leathley; John Fellas, Wendy Miles KC, Charles Kotuby, TBD.

- 4pm: Refreshments served in the Common Room and closing remarks