

Semester Abroad Program with Shanghai International Studies University (SISU) Law School

As of Fall Semester, 2014, the Law Faculty of Roma Tre University has established a semester study abroad exchange with [Shanghai International Studies University \(SISU\) Law School](#) in Shanghai, China.

The Law School

Founded in 1994 by Shanghai International Studies University, one of the “211” National Project universities in China, SISU Law School has a reputation for its innovative academic program, characterized by an international vision in which students are trained in the English language to become globally competent legal professionals. In 2012, the Shanghai City Government started to sponsor SISU Law’s Foreign-Related Legal Professionals Program to meet the demand of the booming financial, service and trade sectors in Shanghai. SISU Law School’s faculty members are known for both their expertise in Chinese laws and their international educational background; they are accessible to each student inside and outside of the classroom.

Location

Located on Dalian West Road near the Hongkou Park in downtown Shanghai, SISU offers Roma Tre law students a chance to internationalize their legal education in the economic capital of China, one of the largest cities in the world. Shanghai is also home to many large multinational corporations and law firms doing business in China, offering many exciting opportunities for law students. Shanghai is a beautiful and unique city: it’s difficult to find another city in the world that is at once modern yet so brimming with traditional Chinese culture. Shanghai was the city that most saw the impact of western culture on Chinese traditions at the beginning of the last century, and remains – at the start of this new century – a reflection of a rapidly-changing China.

Selection Process at Roma Tre

The application form (found on the same web page that opened this link) for the semester abroad at SISU Law School should be completed and sent to lawschool@uniroma3.it and to sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it by **February 20**. A competitive selection process, based on the evaluation of academic and other credentials (see below) and a personal interview with the Roma Tre Law Faculty Selection Commission will occur in late February. Up to five students will be chosen during each academic year, who may attend SISU Law School in either the Fall or Spring semester of the following academic year. Winners will be announced in early March so that students can apply for the Roma Tre International Mobility awards, which, of course, they are encouraged to do, and can meet SISU’s May 1 deadline for the Fall Semester.

The selection of candidates will take into account the following criteria:

- a) English language skills
- b) Chinese language skills and/or Chinese studies in law or in other disciplines
- c) Results in ‘Studying Law at Roma Tre’ courses and seminars
- d) Results in other law courses and seminars taught in English at Roma Tre or at other academic institutions
- e) Overall average in the student’s curriculum and timeliness (whether the candidate is *in corso*).
- f) Personal motivation and experience.

Application procedure

Law students applying to study law and other courses at SISU must use the same application used by SISU for its Chinese Language Program, found at [this link](#). The information found in that application is all valid also for law students, with the exception of:

- 1) the application deadline, which is May 1 for both Spring and Fall semesters, so as to leave more time for students visa and booking of accommodation, and
- 2) the application fee is waived.

In addition to this application, SISU needs the following supporting documentation:

- 1) A letter of permission/recommendation from the Studying Law at Roma Tre Coordinator for this exchange program, indicating the student’s exchange status;
- 2) *SISU Application Form (Non-Degree Programs)*, available at [this link](#).

- 3) Photocopy of high school diploma.
- 4) Academic transcript from Roma Tre Law.
- 5) Photocopy of passport.
- 6) 4 passport photos (5cm x 4cm).

For any questions regarding the application procedure students may contact anyone listed at: [Office of International Student Affairs, Shanghai International Studies University](#)

Language requirements

The minimum score requirements for the TOEFL are:

- 600 on the paper-based exam
- 250 on the computer-based exam
- 100 on the internet-based exam.

The TOEFL can be waived upon the consent of SISU, and equivalent exam scores on other tests may be accepted, including successful completion of a Studying-Law-at-Roma-Tre course.

Application deadline to SISU: May 1

Calendar – Approximate Fall Semester Dates:

The Fall semester usually begins in the first Monday after September 1st and ends usually in early January of the following year, lasting usually 18 weeks including two weeks for exams.

Approximate Spring Semester Dates:

The Spring semester usually begins in late February (10-15 days after the Chinese Spring Festival) and ends in late June, lasting also 16-18 weeks including two weeks for exams.

Course Enrollment/Registration:

The Registration of law courses in English for visiting exchange students takes place by completing Enclosures B and C attached to the Roma Tre/SISU Agreement (posted at the same link where you opened this document) and sending them to liyingsisu@gmail.com or 1815@shisu.edu.cn.

For the Chinese Language Program courses and non-law courses in English, visiting exchange students may have their course introduction upon their arrival at SISU before their registration. For more information they may contact anyone listed at <http://oisa.shisu.edu.cn/Default.aspx?tabid=536>

Course Load for Exchange Students

Visiting exchange students for the Chinese Law Studies program (the Chinese law courses in English) should register at least for The Introduction to Chinese Legal System, and other law (and non-law) courses of their choice.

A full list and description of these courses is found at the link entitled “SISU Courses” at the same link where you downloaded this document.

Students who take basic Chinese language courses, which take place in the morning, may take law courses and other courses in the afternoons.

Housing

Exchange students are eligible to apply for a space in the [SISU guesthouse or hotel](#). When students decide to go to SISU, they are advised to apply for a space asap.

Students may also seek off-campus residence by themselves. But they need to register for it in the [SISU Office of International Students Affairs](#) at the [Registration Form for Off-campus Housing](#).

Visa information

All relevant information is available at [this link](#).

Health Insurance Requirements

Students should purchase their health insurance in Italy. SISU requires only accident insurance, which is 300 RMB each semester and can be bought upon student registration through the SISU Office of International Students Affairs.

Financial Considerations

Students selected to participate in the exchange are in effect the winners of a “reciprocal tuition waiver” scholarship: participants pay regular tuition due to Roma Tre University for the semester they attend SISU Law School instead of paying SISU’s tuition fees. Students studying at SISU may be charged for some (non-tuition) fees by SISU. These and all other costs, including air fare, are the student’s responsibility. For purposes of budgeting, students should consider the following:

Estimated cost of living per semester

Room: 70-75 RMB/Day for a shared double room and 100-140 RMB/Day for a single room,

For more information of accommodation please visit [this link](#).

Books: 250 RMB for Chinese Language Program

Accident Insurance: 300 RMB /Semester

Transfer Credit

In analogy to Erasmus exchange programs, exams taken at SISU may be validated by Roma Tre as substituting regular exams of the law curriculum, or as extra-curriculum activity (*soprannumerari*), only if they receive prior approval by the relevant Roma Tre professors.

In the SISU credit system, a semester-long course, 2 hours each week, will count as 2 credits; these courses will transfer into Roma Tre as 4 CFU’s each.

For further information on the exchange program contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Rebecca Spitzmiller at sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it