

# Semester Abroad and Dual Degree Programs with Nova Southeastern University, Shepard Broad College of Law

In spring 2008, the Law Faculty of Roma Tre University established an exchange program with [Nova Southeastern University](#), Shepard Broad College of Law in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Under its auspices, qualified, selected Roma Tre students can study abroad for a single semester or obtain a dual degree in law, in the only US-Italy dual degree program in operation between law schools in these two countries.

## **Nova Southeastern University (NSU)**

Located on a beautiful 125 hectare campus in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and with an overall student population of more than 26,000 students, Nova Southeastern University, or NSU, or simply Nova, as it is sometimes also called, is the largest independent institution of higher education in Florida and the 6th largest independent institution nationally.

NSU awards associate, bachelor, master, educational specialist, doctoral, and first-professional degrees. It has Undergraduate, Graduate and Professional Schools including, Law, Medicine, Psychology, Education and Business.

## **The Shepard Broad College of Law**

The Shepard Broad College of Law, (or NSU Law,) founded in 1974, is the law school of Nova Southeastern University. It is housed in Leo Goodwin Sr. Hall, located on NSU's main campus in Davie, Florida and is named after University founder Shepard Broad. With a wireless environment, laptop computers, and interactive digital video technology, the NSU Law Center has consistently been recognized as one of the most technologically advanced law schools in the country, and offers more than 140 rich and diverse courses and programs.

Courses are taught by a highly visible and accomplished faculty made up of primarily teacher-practitioners. The law faculty is composed of full-time faculty as well as practicing attorneys, scholars, and judges. More than 1,000 students from around the country and world are enrolled in its full-time day and part-time evening programs. Students come to NSU Law after having completed approximately four years of undergraduate studies at colleges around the country.

## **Location**

NSU is located in sunny South Florida, with quick and easy access to the vibrant cities of Fort Lauderdale and Miami. Its location allows for weekend getaways to explore the Florida Keys, Naples, and Orlando. NSU students have the opportunity to enjoy Florida's culture, entertainment, sports, and attractions.

## **Application and Selection Process at Roma Tre**

In early spring, a presentation about the NSU Law Semester Abroad and Dual Degree programs is given at Roma Tre; the presentation date will be published on the University and Faculty websites.

In late February or early March, a special "mini -course" in law, approximately two weeks long, taught entirely in English by an NSU Law faculty member will be held at Roma Tre. From this course, students will be selected for both the semester abroad and the dual degree programs based on their performance, including class participation and a written final exam.

To qualify for the course and participate as a candidate for the Dual Degree program, Roma Tre law students must have completed at least 180 credits by May 1 of the current academic year. , Those who reasonably anticipate having obtained 180 CFUs by August 1 of the current academic year may participate as a candidate for the Semester Abroad program. Students who have not reached (or do not reasonably anticipate reaching) 180 CFUs by those dates are encouraged to participate as auditors, with a view toward building their knowledge and legal English skills.

To participate in the mini-course and thus compete to be selected as a participant in either the NSU Law Semester Abroad or Dual Degree programs, complete the application that is linked on the web page that led you to this document and send it to [lawschool@uniroma3.it](mailto:lawschool@uniroma3.it).

Up to five students will be chosen for each academic year for the semester abroad and up to three for the dual degree program. Winners will be announced in due time so that students attending the Dual degree, which begins mid-August, can obtain visas and arrange for travel to Fort Lauderdale.

### Level of English Proficiency

Law school courses are highly interactive, using the Socratic Method in teaching and requiring written work and spoken English in class participation. Thus, studying law is an extremely engaging and challenging experience even for students whose native language is English. A typical student taking three courses in the semester is expected to study at least 60 hours per week.

A strong level of English is an absolute pre-requisite for courses in US law schools. A standardized test score demonstrating English level ability is required for the dual degree program. To be eligible for the program, students must:

“Complete the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 600 on the paper-based test, 100 on the Internet-based test, or 250 on the computer-based test. NSU Law will also accept scores from the IELTS examination, for which a minimum score of 7.0 is required, or the Cambridge test, with a score yet to be determined. (This minimum score will be announced shortly and this form will be modified accordingly – stay tuned!)”

Students must therefore assure they have such scores in time to present with their application materials.

### Participation Logistics

After being selected to participate in the NSU Law exchange program, students will receive all documentation necessary from NSU Law staff. This comprehensive material will address a myriad of issues including student visas, health insurance, registration and housing. All students need to show proof of economic means to support themselves during their stay.

### Financial Considerations

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

**APPROXIMATE COST OF ATTENDANCE:** The following costs are published for all Nova students, showing estimated costs for an **entire academic year (fall/winter)**. Therefore, estimates for one semester should be roughly half of the figures shown. The “**tuition**,” on line one, is **waived** for Roma Tre students and therefore is **not** applicable to our dual-degree or semester-abroad students. Loan fees also do not apply.

#### 2023 – 2024 COST OF ATTENDANCE SHEPARD BROAD COLLEGE OF LAW DAY STUDENT – 1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR

##### FALL/WINTER (08/21/23 – 05/05/24)

Tuition	\$46,339.00
Loan Fees	\$218.00
Institutional Fees (Registration, Student Services, Technology Fees)	\$1,200.00
Housing and Food	\$27,441.00
Books and Supplies	\$1,178.00
Transportation	\$4,878.00
Personal Expenses	\$3,033.00
Health Insurance	\$2,270.00
One-Time Seat Deposit (Nonrefundable)	\$500.00
Materials Fee (One Time Charge)	\$190.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$87,247.00</b>

## HEALTH INSURANCE

The cost of health insurance can be broken down on a semester basis as shown on NSU's [student health insurance page](#).

Fall: **\$949.00** : August 1 – December 31 (This one will apply to our Dual Degree students in Phase I. )

Winter: **\$943.00**: January 1 – May (This will apply to single semester Study Abroad students as well as Phase II returning students.)

## ADDITIONAL COSTS

Last, the following fees apply to graduating students in their last semester (including Phase II students):

\$100 for their degree

\$180 plus tax to rent their regalia if they walk at graduation

## PROGRAM DATES

### \*For Semester Abroad:

See NSU Law's website for the exact dates when the semesters at NSU begin.

### For Dual Degree:

The Dual Degree program begins **only** with the **Fall** semester, which runs from mid-August to late December. See NSU Law's website for exact dates.

Students must arrive at NSU about a week before courses begin to attend mandatory Orientation.

After the completion of the first Fall semester at NSU Law, in what is known as Phase I of the Dual Degree program, Roma Tre students return to Rome to complete their course work and thesis, earning their *Laurea in Giurisprudenza*. Then they may return to NSU Law in Winter semester to complete the first year courses and study for an additional two or three semesters thereafter to earn the J.D. in Phase II of the Dual Degree program.

## TRANSFER CREDITS

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

For further information on the exchange programs contact the Program Coordinator, Dr. Sirio Zolea at [sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it](mailto:sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it) For further information on NSU Law consult the website at <http://nsulaw.nova.edu/index.cfm>

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

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