# Quarter Abroad Program with University of Washington School of Law

As of Spring Semester, 2010, the Law Faculty of Roma Tre University has established a semester study abroad exchange with University of Washington School of Law in Seattle, Washington.

**The Law School**
The University of Washington School of Law aspires to be the best public law school in the nation and one of the world's most respected centers for interdisciplinary legal studies. Founded in 1899 in just two rooms and only 34 students, including Japanese student, and three women; its first graduating class in 1901 had just a dozen laureates. The Law School has been kept intentionally small, selecting fewer than 200 entering students from some 2500 applicants a year. Innovative, student-focused learning environment prepares students to become leaders for the global common good. With a strong foundation in legal theory, students gain the skills necessary for success in the changing legal profession and an awareness of their ethical and public service responsibilities.

**Location**
Seattle is the center of the Seattle–Tacoma–Bellevue metropolitan statistical area, the 15th largest in the United States, and the largest in the northwestern United States. Seattle is the county seat of King County and is the major economic, cultural and educational center in the region. The 2010 census found that Seattle is home to 630,320 residents within a metropolitan area of some 3.4 million inhabitants. The Port of Seattle and Seattle–Tacoma International Airport are major gateways to Asia, Alaska, and the rest of the world. Located in one of the premier IP-producing regions in the world, it's no surprise that UW Law offers a graduate program in Intellectual Property. Scientists, computer programmers, aerospace engineers, medical researchers, singers and writers all work in the Seattle area, developing things they hope will change the world.

**Selection Process at Roma Tre**
To compete in the selection for the quarter abroad program at University of Washington School of Law, complete the application form found on the same web page that opened this link and send it to sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it. A merit-based 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 winter. Up to two students will be selected to participate, and they may choose to attend UW in either the fall, winter or spring quarter of the following academic year.* The names of the candidates selected to participate will be announced soon so that those wishing to attend UW the following fall quarter can meet UW's application deadline.

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

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

A strong level of English is an absolute pre-requisite as courses in US law schools are highly interactive, using the Socratic Method in teaching and requiring written work and spoken English in class participation. Studying law is an extremely engaging and challenging experience. An ordinary student taking a full load of three or four courses in the quarter is expected to study at least 60 hours per week.

***Quarter Calendar**
Note that UW follows a quarter calendar, rather than semester calendar. This means that the period spent abroad at UW is slightly less than law schools on a semester system. It also provides three terms to choose from rather than just two, as follows:
Autumn quarter (late Sept. – late Dec.)
Winter quarter (Jan. – mid March)
Spring quarter (late March – mid June)

**Application procedure and Additional Information**
After being selected to participate in the University of Washington exchange program by the Roma Tre Selection Commission, participants must fill out a UW application for admissions, available online at UW's website, which also gives extensive information about the exchange program, including course enrollment and registration, housing, insurance and visa information.

**Financial Considerations**
Students selected to participate in the exchange will do so pursuant "reciprocal tuition waiver": participants pay regular tuition due to Roma Tre University for the quarter they attend UW Law School instead of paying UW's tuition fees. Students studying at UW may be charged for some (non-tuition) fees by UW. These and all other costs, including air fare, are the student's responsibility. For purposes of budgeting, students should consider the following:

**Transfer Credit**
In analogy to Erasmus exchange programs, exams taken at UW School may be co-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.
For further information on the exchange program contact the Program Coordinator, Prof. Sirio Zolea at sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it