Semester Abroad Program with Cardozo Law School

As of Spring Semester, 2010, the Law Faculty of Roma Tre University has established a semester study abroad exchange with Cardozo Law School in New York City.

The Law School
Founded in 1976 by Yeshiva University, one of the finest research universities in the United States, the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law has a national reputation for a top-caliber faculty and an innovative academic program that includes a wide range of exciting and practical opportunities. Cardozo's faculty is known for being widely-published legal scholars, most of whom have also practiced law. They are accessible, and invite ongoing dialogue with their students--inside and outside of the classroom.

Location
Located on lower Fifth Avenue in New York City's Greenwich Village, Cardozo offers Roma Tre law students a chance to internationalize their legal education in the midst of the world's capital of law, business, finance, and culture. Manhattan is home to many of the world's largest multinational corporations, brimming with professional and cultural energy and resources. Visiting students will be able to take advantage of the city's dynamism, attending lectures and symposia by leading figures in the legal, business, and political worlds; pursuing a rich variety of internship opportunities; and making the city's spirit their own.

Selection Process at Roma Tre
The application form (found on the same web page that opened this link) for the semester abroad at Cardozo Law School should be completed and sent to sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it. 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 winter. One or two students will be chosen for each academic year, who may attend Cardozo in either the fall or spring semester.
Winners 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 three courses in the semester (or quarter) is expected to study at least 60 hours per week.

Application procedure
After being selected to participate in the Cardozo exchange program by the Roma Tre Selection Commission, participants must fill out either a paper or an online Cardozo application for admissions.

The supporting documentation Cardozo needs:

- a letter of permission/recommendation from the exchange coordinator
- a transcript of grades
- a short personal statement stating why they would like to study at Cardozo
- TOEFL scores, if applicable. If they do not have TOEFL scores, please also include in the statement a paragraph detailing any experience they have studying or reading in English, and a verification from the exchange coordinator, attesting to the student's proficiency in English and that they will be able to undertake legal studies in English. Each case will be considered individually

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.

Application deadline to CARDOZO:
Fall semester: April 1
Spring semester: November 1

Calendar – Approximate Fall Semester Dates:
Suggested Arrival Date: mid-August, a few days before orientation begins
Orientation/Introduction to US Law begins: mid to late August
Courses in Session: until mid-December
Exam period: 10 days in mid to late December

Approximate Spring Semester Dates:
Suggested Arrival Date: mid-January, a few days before orientation begins
Orientation/Introduction to US Law begins: mid to late January
Courses in Session: until early May
Exam period: 10 days in mid to late May

Course Enrollment/Registration:
Registration for visiting exchange students takes place by fax (+1 212 790 0361) or by a pdf emailed to Brookdaleregistrar@yu.edu.

Information essential for registration is available. No username or password is required to access these materials; simply click on "Registration" to the right of the login area. There will be:

- A Guide to Registration
- Registration Instructions
- The Course List for LL.M. Students
- Detailed course descriptions with prerequisites for all courses
- Information on faculty, the academic calendar, the tentative final exam schedule and more.

Course Load for Exchange Students
Students should take a minimum of 10 credits and can take up to 14. Most students take between 11-13 credits. Exchange students should register for Introduction to US Law (2 credits) and for Advanced Workshop in Legal Research and Writing (1 credit). The choice of the courses that can be taken at the Cardozo will depend on the semester attended, the availability of places in the courses, and suitability of the courses for foreign students. Decisions on this point will be taken in agreement with the counselling tutors at Cardozo.

Housing
Exchange students are eligible to apply for a space in the Cardozo dormitories, but priority is given to full year students and often a space is not available. To apply for housing, see: www.cardozo.yu.edu/admissions and click "Housing Information." A Guide to Housing is provided to students to help secure their own housing arrangements.

Visa information
Cardozo's parent university's director of international student services, Elaine Thompson, works with admitted students to process their applications for a J-1 visitor visa. Information about applying for the visa is sent to students with their letters of admission. Though assistance is available through Cardozo, students are ultimately responsible for obtaining their own visas.

Health Insurance Requirements
J-1 exchange visitors are required to have health insurance to maintain their legal J-1 status in the US. Exchange students are invited to purchase insurance through Academic Health Plan: if they do not have sufficient coverage in the United States from their home country.

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 Cardozo

Law School instead of paying Cardozo's tuition fees. Students studying at Cardozo may be charged for some (non-tuition) fees by Cardozo. 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 Cardozo Law School 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.

For further information on the exchange program contact the Program Coordinator, Prof. Sirio Zolea at sirio.zolea@uniroma3.it For further information on Cardozo Law School and the courses that may be available please consult its website at http://www.cardozo.yu.edu/