

Temple-Tsinghua

Rule of Law Program

The Temple-Tsinghua joint Master of Laws (LL.M.) program, based at Tsinghua University in Beijing, is the longest-established, degree-granting, rule-of-law capacity building program in China. We provide capacity building to judges, prosecutors, government officials and attorneys over the course of a fifteen-month program that provides in-depth exposure to the key aspects of a system of rule-of-law. Graduating approximately forty students a year for nearly fifteen years, the Temple-Tsinghua joint LL.M. program is making one of the largest contributions to building human resources capacity for successful administration of rule of law in China.



Dr. Sha Lijin, Professor and Vice Dean
China University of Political Science and Law
Temple-Tsinghua joint LL.M. program, Class of '01

"A country's development needs very strong support from its legal system. We have a lot to learn from developed countries that have good rule of law. By getting the chance to be trained in the Temple-Tsinghua rule of law program, Chinese students learn about the Anglo-American legal system, and then may apply what we've learned to the Chinese legal system. The Temple-Tsinghua program has given so many Chinese people a chance to understand rule of law in the Anglo-American legal system. It is like fresh air to the Chinese legal system. In the work of Temple-Tsinghua graduates, the rule of law can be reflected better and better with the help of this program."



Liu Xiaoyu, Lawyer
Civil and Commercial (Non-litigation)
Qiancheng Law Firm
Temple-Tsinghua joint LL.M. program, Class of '10

"Rule of law is the goal of every lawyer and judge. As a lawyer, you represent the legal interests of your client; as a judge, you issue a judgment fairly to each party. That's the value of rule of law in China. If every legal professional plays their role right, that's how we'll achieve rule of law in China. After graduation from the Temple-Tsinghua program, we are able to help ourselves and our country to improve. As an individual lawyer, what I can do is perform my duty and protect my client, and that's the way I contribute to implementing the rule of law in China."



Wang Zhengzhi, Senior Partner
Beijing Globe-Law Law Firm / Focus-IP
IP Consulting, LLC
Temple-Tsinghua joint LL.M. program, Class of '03

"With globalization, the only way for China is to adopt rule of law. People here realize the importance, the significance—we rely on the law. The Temple-Tsinghua program is still the only rule of law program recognized by the Ministry of Education in China, and it trains a lot of lawyers, law professors and government officials. The way we learn in the Temple-Tsinghua program affects our thinking. For example, we studied *Brown v. Board of Education* in our constitutional law course. The case says that education rights for everybody should be equal. That's not happening here in China. *Brown* makes us think about the reality of education here in China, and that helps us a lot. After we graduate, we use our skills, and the theory we've learned, in our work. I can see the changes."



Zhang Lingjie, District Court Judge
Suijiatun District Court, Shenyang, Liaoning
Temple-Tsinghua joint LL.M. program, Class of '13
(graduation forthcoming)

"Studying in the Temple-Tsinghua program, one aspect that impressed me a lot was learning about the structure of American government, the three branches that restrain each other. The way the judicial, legislative and executive branches all restrain and balance each other is instructive. The legal system in China developed later than in America. Nowadays, the Chinese government recognizes that rule of law is important, especially as the economy becomes more global. Chinese businesses in foreign countries have to obey the law. Domestically, if the government obeys the law, and if businesses obey the law, our market economy will be more orderly, and our economic development will be healthier. Before studying in the Temple-Tsinghua program, I was working as a judge for seven years, but I never thought seriously about the question, 'What is justice?' A professor in the Temple-Tsinghua program asked that question, and now I really think about it. The Temple-Tsinghua program has really broadened my thinking and given me new skills for analyzing and applying the law in practice. I will write better judgments than I did before."

