

Course Content: Legal English

1. Most Common International Contracts

- International Sales Contracts
- Distribution Agreements
- Franchise Agreements
- Agency Agreements
- Brokerage or Mediation Contracts

Study of the most common clauses and specific vocabulary used in these contracts

2. Introduction to the US Legal System and Brief Reference to the UK Legal System

- Federal and State Law
- Sources of Law
- Court System
- Key Principles
- Brief reference to the UK Legal System

Examination of one of the latest relevant pieces of Federal Legislation to get acquainted with the language and the structure of these acts

3. Company Law and Most Common Contracts for a Company Operating in the USA

- Primary Business Structures (Sole Proprietorship, Partnership, Limited Liability Company, Corporation) and other common forms
- Most common contracts:





- Foundational Contracts
- Employment and Contractor Agreements
- Commercial and Operational Contracts
- Intellectual Property & Technology

4. Structure and Interpretation of Contracts

- Common Structure
- Main clauses in contracts:
 - Confidentiality / Non-Disclosure Clause
 - Payment Terms Clause
 - Termination Clause
 - Governing Law & Jurisdiction Clause
 - Dispute Resolution Clause
 - Force Majeure Clause
 - Indemnification Clause
 - Limitation of Liability Clause
 - Insurance Obligations
 - Entire Agreement Clause
 - Assignment Clause

Review and interpretation of different clauses in some of the most common contracts

5. Legal Remedies in the US

- Compensatory Damages (Expectation, Consequential and Incidental Damages)
 - Reliance Damages
 - Restitution
 - Liquidated Damages
 - Nominal Damages
 - Punitive Damages





- Equitable Remedies (Non-Monetary):
 - Specific Performance
 - Rescission
 - Reformation
 - Injunction

6. Principal Stages of a U.S. Legal Proceeding

- Pre-Litigation
- Pleadings
- Discovery
- Pre-Trial Motions
- Trial
- Post-Trial Motions
- Appeal

7. Judicial Language

- Key figures in the US Legal Process
- Most used Latin phrases and institutions
- Rules and Restrictions
- Formalities and oral arguments

Reviewing some examples of oral hearings before the US Supreme Court or other Higher Courts and recreation of an oral argument in class, with the students taking the role of the different parts

8. Legal Writing

- Writing an e-mail: layout and most commonly used sentences and vocabulary
- Drafting a clause in a contract

Legal Writing Clinic to end the course

