NUJS Foreign Language Learning Program

(French, German, Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese and Communicative English)

As part of its long-standing commitment to academic excellence and global legal preparedness, NUJS undertook the initiative of offering learning programs in various foreign language courses to its students several years ago. The initiative was taken in collaboration with the Academy of Foreign Languages (AFL). These learning programs are offered to the students of NUJS across all the batches for free, and the entire cost is borne by the University. Hence care has been taken to ensure equitable access and encourage widespread participation among students from diverse backgrounds, while offering these foreign language learning courses. The programme forms an integral part of the University's broader educational vision, aimed at equipping law students with linguistic proficiency, cultural awareness, and professional versatility in an increasingly interconnected legal landscape.

NUJS began offering the Foreign Language Learning Courses since the academic year 2021.

The programme currently offers instruction in Communicative English, French, German, Spanish, Chinese (Mandarin), and Japanese, accommodating learners at varying levels of proficiency. Designed to complement legal education, these courses emphasise practical language use, professional communication, and cultural literacy—skills that are of growing relevance across legal practice, academia, and policy-oriented careers.

In contemporary legal practice, lawyers routinely engage with cross-border transactions, international arbitration, foreign investment regimes, multinational corporations, and international institutions. Within this context, foreign language proficiency significantly enhances a lawyer's ability to communicate effectively, negotiate with cultural sensitivity, and engage meaningfully with diverse legal systems. Exposure to foreign languages also strengthens comparative legal understanding, enabling students to approach legal problems with broader analytical and contextual perspectives.

For law students aspiring to undertake careers in international law, arbitration, corporate and commercial practice, intellectual property, trade law, diplomacy, human rights, and academia, language skills offer a tangible professional advantage. Proficiency in widely used international languages facilitates access to foreign legal materials, treaties, case law, and scholarly literature in their original form, thereby enriching research capabilities and academic engagement. It also enhances students' preparedness for international internships, exchange programmes, postgraduate studies abroad, and collaborations with global institutions.

Pedagogically, the courses adopt an interactive and application-oriented approach, focusing on the development of listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills within real-world and professional contexts. The University's sustained collaboration with AFL ensures structured

curricula, experienced instructors, and consistent language learning standards, tailored specifically to the needs of university students pursuing professional degrees such as law.

By integrating foreign language learning into campus life, the University seeks to nurture legal professionals who are not only technically proficient but also globally aware, culturally sensitive, and adaptable to the evolving demands of the legal profession. The programme reflects the University's recognition that effective legal practice today requires engagement beyond national boundaries, supported by strong communication skills and intercultural competence.

The Foreign Language Courses are coordinated by Dr. Sujata Roy, Faculty Coordinator, who oversees the foreign language learning framework and implementation of the programme in collaboration with AFL, with support from a Student Coordinator, Ms Quilin Talukdar for student-related coordination.

For further information regarding the Foreign Language Courses, including schedules, levels, and enrolment procedures, students may contact: foreignlanguage@nujs.edu