

Columbia Law School

National Security Law Seminar

June 9-13, 2025



Columbia Law School invites applications to its National Security Law Seminar, a one-week program taught on the iconic Columbia University campus in the City of New York.

The program offers a comparative understanding of U.S. legal institutions, policies, and practices related to the national security field. It is designed for professionals trained outside the United States, including lawyers, policy makers, military personnel, police officers, cybersecurity experts and others.

The National Security Law Seminar offers 16 hours of non-credit classroom instruction presented by Prof. Bobby Chesney, Dean of the University of Texas at Austin, with participation by others including staff from the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Academic Program

Monday, June 9: Organization and Processes of U.S. National Security

Key U.S. government agencies, their legal sources of authority, and the legal tools they employ.

Tuesday, June 10: Surveillance and Cybersecurity Law

Issues arising under both U.S. law and international law.

Wednesday, June 11: Use of Military Force – Session I

Issues arising under international law, including international humanitarian law.

Thursday, June 12: Use of Military Force – Session II

Current and possible future issues, including counterterrorism, arising under domestic U.S. law.

Friday, June 13: Keynote and Reception

Keynote and reception hosted by [Columbia Law School's National Security Law Program](#).

Key Points

Dates: June 9-13, 2025. Group and individual applications now accepted on a rolling basis.

Structure: 16 hours of classroom instruction, with a Keynote and Closing Reception hosted by [Columbia Law School's National Security Law Program](#).

Fees: The program fee is \$2,500 with on-campus housing, and \$2,000 without housing. Affiliates of Columbia Law School partner institutions qualify for special discounts.

Credential: Official Statement of Participation from Columbia Law School.

Information: For additional information, please write to IntlPrograms@law.columbia.edu. Those wishing to attend from a partner institution should first contact their group organizing.



Robert (Bobby) Chesney

Bobby Chesney is Dean of the University of Texas at Austin School of Law, where he holds the James A. Baker III Chair in the Rule of Law and World Affairs.

Dean Chesney's scholarship focuses on U.S. national security and cybersecurity. He is a frequent contributor to many policy-oriented publications and forums, and a co-founder of www.lawfareblog.com.

His free eCasebook, "Cybersecurity Law, Policy, and Institutions", can be accessed [here](#).

In 2021, Dean Chesney served on the Cybersecurity Advisory Committee for the U.S. government's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. Earlier, he worked at the Justice Department with the Detention Policy Task Force.

He also previously served as an associate member of the Intelligence Science Board and as a member of the Advanced Technology Board, both of which were advisory to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. He has been a member of the American Law Institute since 2007.

Dean Chesney is a magna cum laude graduate of both Texas Christian University and Harvard Law School. After law school he clerked for the Honorable Lewis A. Kaplan of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and the Honorable Robert D. Sack of the United States Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit.

[Learn More](#)

[Apply Now](#)

