In 1951, McGill University established the Institute of Air & Space Law (IASL) to provide graduate legal education for students from around the world.

In the ensuing half century, IASL has educated more than 900 students, who today occupy positions in some of the most senior positions in law firms, corporations, governmental and intergovernmental institutions in more than 120 countries around the world.
Montreal

• The McGill University Law Faculty is committed to the transsystemic study of law in a bilingual civil law province set in a common law country.

• The world’s principal intergovernmental aviation agency, the International Air Transport Organisation (ICAO) and International Air Transport Association (IATA), the Canadian Space Agency, Air Canada, and several aerospace manufacturers (including Bombardier, the third largest in the world) are headquartered in Montreal, facilitating the presence of experienced practitioners in the IASL classrooms.

• The IASL courses are taught by some of the world’s most accomplished experts holding doctoral degrees in law and having extensive practical experience.
Graduate Degrees:

- **Doctor of Civil Law (D.C.L.)** is granted when candidate’s doctoral thesis is adjudged as an original contribution to legal scholarship. Candidate must follow a program of at least three years’ residence;

- **Master of Laws (LL.M.)** is a 45-credit programme with a minimum duration of three academic terms (full-time);

- **Graduate Certificate in Air & Space Law** is awarded after at least one term (4 months) of residence and on completion of a minimum of 15 credits of course work.
Courses in McGill University’s Institute of Air & Space Law

- **First Term Courses**
  - **ASPL 636** Private International Air Law* (3 credits)
  - **ASPL 633** Public International Air Law* (3 credits)
  - **ASPL 637** Space Law: General Principles* (3 credits)
  - **ASPL 632** Comparative Air Law (3 credits)
  - **CMPL 641** Theoretical Approaches to Law** (4 credits)

- **Second Term Courses**
  - **ASPL 613** Government Regulation of Air Transport (3 credits)
  - **ASPL 638** Law of Space Applications (3 credits)
  - **ASPL 639** Government Regulation of Space Activities (3 credits)
  - **ASPL 614** Airline Business and Law (3 credits)

Courses marked * are compulsory in the LL.M. and Graduate Certificate programs. Course marked ** is compulsory in the D.C.L. program.
Air Law Courses (Fall Semester)

- **Private International Air Law** addresses the unification of private international air law through the adoption of international conventions. It examines in particular the liability of the air carrier towards passengers and shippers under the Warsaw Convention, as amended and supplemented by several other international legal instruments, including the Montreal Convention of 1999.

- **Public International Air Law** examines the relevant principles and rules of international law that affect the use of air space and aeronautics. The following topics are reviewed: sources of international air law; the law-making processes affecting the regime of air space and international air navigational and air transport. The study will include the legal regime of the national and international air space, concept of civil and state aircraft, certification and licensing by international standards, exchange of traffic rights, aircraft accident investigation, the regulation of safety, security, air navigation, airports, and the environment, as well as dispute resolution. A case study of the relevant international aviation organizations and their law-making functions also will be presented. The course also addresses the exchange of traffic rights in bilateral and multilateral air transport agreements.

- **Comparative Air Law** provides transsystemic and comparative approaches to air law. Selected problems of private law not codified by international conventions are addressed, including product liability, government liability for certification and inspection of aircraft, air traffic liability, and aviation insurance. The course also examines the basic framework of several conventions, such as the Rome Convention on surface damage done by aircraft, the Geneva Convention on recognition of rights in aircraft, and the aircraft protocol to the Cape Town Convention on international interests in mobile equipment. Civil and common law systems are compared.
Air Law Courses (Winter Semester)

- **Government Regulation of Air Transport** focuses on the domestic and international economic regulation of air transport, although it also canvasses the relation between economic regulation on the one hand and safety and security regulation on the other. It will draw principally on examples from North America and Europe. Key themes include: Why do Governments regulate or deregulate markets for air transport? How do the economics of the aviation sector intersect with regulatory paradigms? What are the legal regimes governing key dimensions of the aviation business, such as airline alliances, investment, bankruptcy, computer reservation systems, and airport slots? What is the relation between sectoral regulation and competition law? What is the mix of private and public ownership of air transport enterprises? What are legal constraints upon aviation enterprises, on the one hand, and regulatory authorities on the other? What are the instrumentalities used by Governments as the means for regulating civil aviation? What is the nature of bilateral air transport agreements? What multilateral regimes govern the supply of aviation services?

- **Airline Business & Law** provides an interdisciplinary examination of the business and legal issues confronting airlines in such areas as economics, pricing, securities, bankruptcy, pricing, marketing, distribution, alliances, joint-ventures and competition. It examines the practical and legal dimensions of the regulatory and financial challenges of “starting up” a new airline, purchasing and leasing aircraft, and expanding its operations. Tax implications of aircraft finance also are explored.
Space Law Courses Offered

- **General Principles of Space Law** examine the role of international law in the regulation of outer space activities. The course covers the following topics: current and potential future uses of outer space; the law-making process relating to space activities and the international institutions that are involved in this process; the legal regime of outer space and celestial bodies including the exploitation of their natural resources; the legal status of spacecraft including their registration; liability for damage caused by space activities; assistance to astronauts and spacecraft in distress; settlement of space-related disputes etc.

- **Law of Space Applications** deal with the international legal aspects of various space applications. In particular, the course examines the international law related to satellite telecommunications, the role therein of various international organizations as well as broadcasting by satellite, navigational services, remote sensing by satellites, space stations, space travel, etc. Certain specific aspects of international law will be discussed as they relate to international technology transfers, military uses of outer space, trade in space products, satellite telecommunications and launch services.

- **Government Regulation of Space Activities** look at national public and private law and regulatory regimes governing space activities, particularly those that are carried out by private entities for commercial purposes.

- **Complementary courses** are available on public international law, international trade law, law of international organizations, communications law.
Workshops, Seminars & Conferences

The Institute of Air & Space Law, organized the following workshops, seminars and conferences during 2006-2007:

• Conference on *Air Navigation: Flying Through Congested Skies*, sponsored by the International Civil Aviation Organization and McGill University’s Institute of Air & Space Law at ICAO Headquarters in Montreal. The conference was attended by approximately 175 registrants.

• The *Air & Space Law Seminar* held at the University of Macau, and attended by 75 registrants; and the *International Conference on Contemporary Issues in Air & Space Law*, also held in Macau, China, and attended by 125 registrants.

• The *Workshop on Space Security Index* – March 15-16, held at the Faculty of Law of McGill University, with 50 international participants.

• The *Worldwide Conference on Aviation Safety, Security And The Environment*, co-sponsored by ICAO, held in Montreal, and attended by 325 registrants.
Workshops, Seminars and Conferences in 2008

• In cooperation with Project Ploughshares, organized the *Space Security Index Workshop* held in March 2008 in Montreal with approximately 50 international participants;

• In cooperation with the American Bar Association, the IASL held a major Conference on *Air & Space Law: A Global Perspective* in September 2008 in Montreal, attracting more than 200 registrants from 35 countries;

• In cooperation with the Airports Authority of India and the University of Petroleum Studies, the IASL an international *Workshop and Conference* in New Delhi, India, attended by approximately 150 of delegates from around the world;

• The IASL European Alumni(ae) met in Lisbon, Portugal, attracting approximately 50 graduates;
Events Planned for 2009

- Space Security Index
- World Congress on Space Debris
- Conference on Air & Space Law
The Centre for Research on Air & Space Law

• Produces interdisciplinary research;

• Publishes books and periodicals.

• Has a history of 30 years of the *Annals of Air & Space Law*, a highly respected and valuable compendium of important research.

• Has produced research:
  – on behalf of the Canadian External Affairs in the field of arms control and military uses of outer space,
  – for the Canadian Department of Communications in the field of regulatory aspects of radio frequency management,
  – for the Canadian Space Agency, in the field of Space and International Trade.

McGill’s Nahum Gelber law library hosts an invaluable and unique collection of official documents and manuscripts, which are available no where else in the world. The Institute carried out analyses, submitted reports with recommendations, organized symposia, and produced several publications on issues related to outer space.
McGill First Runner Up at Space Moot World Finals

IASL students Andrew Williams, Michael Taylor and Susan Trepszynski won the North American Competition, and placed First Runner Up award at the Manfred Lachs Moot Space Law Court World Finals Competition in Valencia, Spain.
Financial support for our graduate students at the Institute of Air & Space Law has been significantly improved with the recent contribution of the Boeing company, establishing the Boeing Fellowships at the IASL, which will fund up to five graduate students annually. Boeing provides philanthropy and grants to numerous universities throughout the world, particularly in the discipline of engineering. This is the first time Boeing has made a grant to a law faculty.

Boeing Fellowships are awarded annually on the basis of academic merit to support and recognize outstanding graduate students in the Master’s or Doctoral program at the Institute of Air & Space Law. Up to three or four Boeing Fellows may be designated in any year, and are renewable based on successful academic progress. Recipients will be awarded a Fellowship in the range of $18,000 (LL.M.) to $20,000 (D.C.L.), and are expected to contribute to ongoing research projects at the IASL, under supervision of faculty members of the Institute.
welcome to the institute of AIR & SPACE LAW Postgraduate Law Degrees and Certificate Programs