

Course Information

Accelerated Route to Fellowship in International Arbitration
1-2 & 4 December 2026 | Singapore | In-person



ACCREDITED
CPD
ACTIVITY

Public CPD Points

Day 1 – 6 (TBC)

Day 2 – 6 (TBC)

Practice area: Alternative Dispute Resolution

Training Level: Advanced

What is the aim of the course

To provide a fast-track route to Fellowship through the International Arbitration Pathway.

Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to apply to become a Ciarb Fellow which is the only globally recognised fellowship qualification for arbitration.

On payment of a regular subscription fee, you will be entitled to use the title FCIArb after your name.

The Accelerated Route to Fellowship has been designed for busy professionals who have substantial knowledge and experience in International Arbitration.

The aim of the course is to assess whether the candidate has the knowledge required to apply the principles and procedure of the UNCITRAL Model Law and Arbitration Rules and is capable of writing a reasoned and enforceable International Arbitration Award. This is an intensive in-person course with opportunities for role play, peer learning and feedback from experienced arbitrators.

Candidates must evaluate their personal suitability to undertake the course, appreciating that the assessments are intensive and that they will be assessed against standard benchmarks.

This course focuses on the process, practice and procedures in International Arbitration which is an essential requirement for qualification as a Fellow and for those who aim to practice as an International Arbitrator.

What are the learning outcomes?

On successful completion of this course, candidates will be able to:

- Identify and explain in depth all the key elements of the International Arbitration process;
- Evaluate issues and apply the principles of the UNCITRAL Model Law appropriately;
- Demonstrate practical skill in carrying out the tasks required in preparing for and progressing an International Arbitration;
- Demonstrate skill in controlling an International Arbitration, communicating effectively with the parties, applying the UNCITRAL Arbitration Rules and adopting appropriate procedures;
- Be eligible to apply for Fellowship of Ciarb.

What is covered within the syllabus?

- Arbitration agreements;
- The legal framework: the importance of the seat, the New York Convention, procedural laws, and procedural rules;
- Types of Arbitration: ad-hoc, institutional, documents only, time limited;
- Commencement of the Arbitration, terms of reference;
- Obligations of the Tribunal, responsibilities, and obligations of the parties;
- An Arbitrator's jurisdiction and powers;
- Challenges to jurisdiction, conflicts of interest;
- Managing the Arbitration process: communications, preliminary meeting, interlocutory matters, dealing with factual and opinion evidence and disclosure of documents;
- Security for costs;
- Presenting the claim and the defence: alternative methods;
- Preparation for and procedure at a typical hearing, contrasting common law and civil law jurisdictions;
- Essentials of an enforceable Award;
- Costs and interest; alternative approaches in different jurisdictions.

How is the course delivered?

This is an assessment course as opposed to a teaching module. Learning will be based on private study prior to the oral assessment workshop, reinforced by tutor input and peer discussion during the workshop. The course is delivered over a period of three days, with in-person assessment workshops on the first two days (1 to 2 December). On the third day of the course (4 December), candidates will be given 48 consecutive hours within a 5-day window to submit their answers online for the final assessment.

A pre-course assessment will be released on 23 November and due for submission before the commencement of the course.

How will I be assessed?

Assessment of this course is split into three parts, all of which must be passed:

- Assessment 1 – An interactive 2 full-day assessment in a series of workshops, where situations will be presented to candidates in groups for their consideration and role playing. Candidate's knowledge, judgment and communication skills are assessed by oral exercises.
- Assessment 2 – Written exercises before and during the 2-day workshops:
 - one written exercise on arbitration law to be submitted before the assessment workshops (10%)
 - one written exercise on arbitration law to be submitted during the workshops (20%)
 - two written exercises to be submitted on procedure during the workshops (10% each)
 - one written exercise to be completed overnight (30%)
 - one final written exercise (20%)
- Assessment 3 – Final examination for this course is a 48-hour open book examination which can be done within a 5-day window. (70%)

Details of the assessment are as follows:

- Assessment 1 – Oral Exercises: This assessment is on a pass or fail basis. Candidates must pass all the workshop sessions. Candidates who fail the workshop will be required to re-sit this assessment.
- Assessment 2 – Written Exercises: Candidates must achieve a minimum overall mark of 55% to pass this assessment.
- Assessment 3 – Final examination: This assessment is completed via LearnADR, Ciarb's online learning platform. Candidates will be given 48 consecutive hours within a 5-day

window to submit their decision online. Candidates must achieve 70% to pass the assessment.

Candidates are permitted to use any materials they wish throughout the workshops.

Results are dispatched to candidates approximately twelve weeks from the date of the submission of the assessment.

What are the entry requirements?

Candidates must submit evidence to show:

- They have a minimum of 5 years of practical experience of international arbitration either as a representative or an international arbitrator;
- They have substantial knowledge of the framework of international arbitration;
- They can recognise and evaluate evidence;
- They can evaluate and apply the principles and procedures of an international arbitration;
- They can noticeably demonstrate practical skill in the carrying out of tasks required in preparing for and progressing an international arbitration.

We highly recommend that *non-lawyers* first complete the Module 2 Law of Obligations Exemption Test prior to commencement course. Access to the exemption test will be given free of charge.

What is the course fees and what does it include?

Ciarb Members:	S\$3,200
Members of Reciprocating organisations (AIMA, APIEx, SCL and SIAC)	S\$3,400
Non-members:	S\$3,700

The fee includes registration on the course, study materials, tutorials, coursework assessment fee, and award writing exam (GBP408). Lunch and refreshments throughout the duration of the course will be provided. For a copy of the course schedule, please email us at secretariat@ciarb.org.sg.

What happens when I register for the course?

In order to be considered for the course, please submit your full CV during registration. Upon successful registration on the course, candidates will receive confirmation that they are booked on the course. Joining instructions and course materials will be sent to candidates prior to the course start date by email on the condition that full payment has been received.

Candidates will be provided with an electronic copy of a Workbook to assist them with their studies together with a suggested reading list. It is recommended that candidates are familiar with the UNCITRAL Model Law and Arbitration Rules and the substantive law in their respective jurisdiction together with the relevant Act(s) and Scheme(s) and important case decisions (where applicable). Candidates should also refer to the recognised standard arbitration textbooks (for example *Redfern and Hunter on International Arbitration*) to supplement their study in their respective jurisdiction.

What is Ciarb's policy on cancellation of courses?

Ciarb reserves the right to cancel or change the date, venue or content of course and the names of speakers, lecturers and tutors. Candidates will be provided with adequate notice of any change. If the Institute has to cancel a course, candidates will be provided with a full refund or the opportunity to transfer their registration to the next course. Should a candidate wish to cancel his or her registration of a course, notification must be received in writing to secretariat@ciarb.org.sg at least two weeks before course commencement. If a candidate fails to give such notice, the Ciarb may apply a cancellation charge of 50% of the course fee or such other amount as it may in its sole discretion determine.

What is the Attendance Policy?

Participants who wish to obtain CPD Points must comply strictly with the Attendance Policy set out in the CPD Guidelines. For this activity, participants are reminded to sign in on arrival and sign out at the conclusion of each day of the event in the manner required by the organiser. Participants must not be absent from each day of the event for more than 15 minutes. Participants who do not comply with the Attendance Policy on any particular day of the event will not be able to obtain CPD Points for that day. Please refer to <http://www.sileCPDcentre.sg> for more information.

What is my next step when I complete the course?

On successful completion of this course, candidates will:

- ✓ be eligible to claim CPD points.
- ✓ be eligible to apply for Member grade of Ciarb and take advantage of a range of educational and professional benefits.
- ✓ be eligible for a Peer Interview for Fellowship.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"The Accelerated Route to Fellowship exceeded all my expectations. The in-person format allowed for invaluable interactive sessions and real-time feedback from leading arbitration experts. The content and materials were comprehensive and cutting-edge and strengthened my grasp of the theory and practice of arbitration. I highly recommend the course to anyone looking to elevate their arbitration expertise."

Course Director



Chou Sean Yu
Director, Ciarb Singapore Branch
Managing Partner, WongPartnership

Chou Sean Yu is the Managing Partner of WongPartnership and Head of the Firm's Litigation and Dispute Resolution Group. He is also the Head of the Banking & Financial Disputes Practice and a Partner in the International Arbitration, Financial Services Regulatory, and Malaysia Practices.

Sean Yu's main practice areas are banking & trade finance disputes, insolvency & restructuring, corporate fraud, investigations & asset recovery, financial services regulatory, commercial & corporate disputes, shareholder litigation, tort & contractual claims and domestic & international arbitration.

Sean Yu frequently sits as an arbitrator and is on the Panel of Arbitrators of the Singapore International Arbitration Centre, the Asian International Arbitration Centre, the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board, the Maldives International Arbitration Centre, the Japan Commercial Arbitration Association, the Hainan International Arbitration Court and the Russian Arbitration Center at the Russian Institute of Modern Arbitration. He is a member of the LCIA Court. He is also a Chartered Arbitrator of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a former Chairman of the Board of its Singapore Branch.

Sean Yu is appointed to the Specialist Mediator Panel of the Singapore International Mediation Centre.

Sean Yu graduated with First Class Honours from the University of Bristol and is admitted to the English Bar (Middle Temple) and to the Singapore Bar. He was a Justices' Law Clerk with the Singapore Supreme Court before entering into private practice.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"Conducted in-person, the ARF was a very engaging and interactive experience! The course instructors were knowledgeable and shared many practical pointers which were well received."

"The in-person ARF course brought together a vibrant and diverse mix of experienced arbitration practitioners from around the region, and it was lovely to see some familiar faces and to make new connections. The expert instructors offered much insight and facilitated robust discussions on points of both academic and practical interest. It was an intense but thoroughly enjoyable course, and I would highly recommend it to anyone keen on international arbitration and on joining this lively community."

Faculty Member

	Steven Lim Arbitrator and Barrister 39 Essex Chambers Steven is an arbitrator and barrister. He has over 120 appointments as presiding, sole, co-arbitrator and emergency arbitrator, seated in Singapore, England, USA, India, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam. He has extensive experience with ICC, SIAC, ICDR, SCMA, KCAB, UNCITRAL Rules, and ad hoc cases involving Indo-Pacific jurisdictions and farther afield, and is on the SIAC, HKIAC, ICDR, KCAB, JCAA, CIETAC and SHAC panels, amongst many others. Steven is recommended as "the perfect arbitrator", "he is always on top of his cases and has a very good judgment and excellent manner", "he manages cases very well, instilled confidence in the parties and demonstrates confidence, competence and ability in dealing with cases", "is thorough in his preparation, inquisitive in his questioning and rigorous in his analysis", "has a remarkable talent for dissecting intricate legal matters and identifying key issues", "he skilfully navigates complex legal issues", "his strength lies in his exceptional analytical abilities", "he possesses a very sharp mind", "his awards are well-reasoned and clear", "a fair-minded and extremely capable arbitrator", "all the representatives and parties came away thinking they got a very good and fair hearing", "an outstanding up-and-coming superstar with a nice and sensible manner" He is a member of the English and Singapore bars.
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STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"The Accelerated Route to Fellowship course gave an excellent overview of the arbitral process and the key skills required of an arbitrator. The numerous hands-on sessions were especially beneficial. As someone who has not sat as arbitrator previously, going through this course gave me greater confidence to take on my first appointment."

Faculty Member



Brenda Horrigan **Independent Arbitrator**

Brenda Horrigan is an internationally recognised arbitration practitioner with over 30 years of extensive global experience, having worked from the US, Paris, Moscow, Shanghai, Sydney and now Singapore. She has her own practice as an independent arbitrator.

Brenda is a past president of the Australian Centre for International Commercial Arbitration (ACICA) and remains a member of its Board. She is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and has acted as arbitrator and/or counsel under a variety of rules, including SIAC, HKIAC, LCIA, ICC, KCAB International, JCAA, SCC, NZDRC, CIETAC, UNCITRAL and ICSID.

Brenda has taught international arbitration as a Global Adjunct Professor of Law at New York University's Shanghai campus and as a guest lecturer at the University of New South Wales, Australian National University, City University of Hong Kong and Hong Kong University. She regularly speaks at conferences and seminars on arbitration and is consistently ranked in *Chambers* and *Who's Who: Legal* (now *Lexology*) as a leading arbitration practitioner.

Faculty Member



Ben Olbourne
Barrister & Arbitrator
39 Essex Chambers

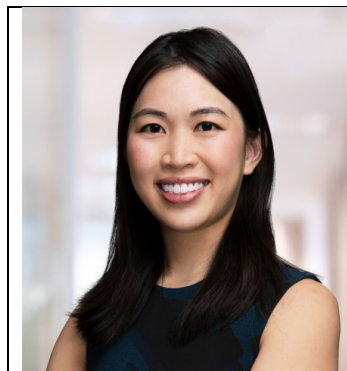
Ben is an experienced advocate and arbitrator across a broad range of international commercial disputes. His recent work has been principally in the general commercial, international trade and commodities, construction (infrastructure and vessels), insurance, energy, financial instruments, and shipping/carriage of goods sectors. Most of his work is cross-jurisdictional and involves questions of foreign and private international law.

As arbitrator, he has been appointed as sole, wing and chair in more than 50 references under ICC, LCIA, SIAC, LMAA, SCMA rules among others with seats including Singapore, London, HK, Perth, Ho Chi Minh, Hyderabad, New Delhi, Paris and Moscow. His crowning achievement is to be a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and a member of its Teaching Faculty.

STUDENT TESTIMONIAL

"I found the CiArb Accelerated Route to Fellowship course to be a valuable and rewarding experience. The syllabus was well-designed and substantive, with interactive and engaging workshop sessions focusing on practical issues. The course has certainly given me a strong understanding of the process, practice, and procedures in International Arbitration."

Faculty Member



Yi-Jun Kang
Associate, Morrison Foerster

Yi-Jun Kang is an experienced advocate specializing in complex cross-border commercial litigation and international arbitration. She represents conglomerates, private equity firms, and global businesses in high-stakes disputes across a broad range of

	sectors, including technology, IP, renewable energy, construction, shareholder, and private equity matters. Yi-Jun has extensive experience in international arbitration, acting in proceedings under the SIAC, HKIAC, ICC, LCIA, and UNCITRAL rules, with seats in Singapore, Hong Kong, Tokyo, and London. She is known for her strategic approach, clear advocacy, and ability to navigate complex, multi-jurisdictional disputes. She has also served as an arbitrator in SIAC proceedings. Widely recognized as one of the region's leading young arbitration practitioners, Yi-Jun was named a Rising Star by <i>Asian Legal Business</i> in 2024-2026, a Future Star in Singapore International Arbitration by <i>Benchmark Litigation Asia-Pacific</i> 2026, and an International Arbitration Lawyer of the Year (Nominee) by <i>Law.com International's Asian Legal Awards</i> 2025.
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To register for the course, please click: [Register Now](#)

For more information, please visit our [website](#) and/or contact Ciarb Secretariat at secretariat@ciarb.org.sg.