40 Graduate Students Enroll In Law School

Forty students, 30 of them from 16 foreign countries, are enrolled in graduate programs in the Law School this fall.

Nearly all of the graduate students are here on fellowships or special grants. Prof. Alfred F. Conard, director of graduate studies, points out that "a graduate law student is in his 20th year of formal education, with a minimum age of about 25. Two or three years must be added if the student has had military training. Among the American graduate law students at Michigan this year, the median age is 28 and the modal age 29."

Prof. B. J. George, Jr., who works closely with the foreign students, notes that this group includes nine law teachers, one law librarian, seven government lawyers, two judges, and nine private attorneys. Seventeen of the foreign students hold Law School fellowships; one has an ICA grant; four are on international exchange programs; two are sent by their own governments; and four are here on their own resources.

"As is evident from the positions which they now hold, all of these people have completed their law training in their home countries and have moved on to positions of professional responsibility," Professor George explains. "Their wide variety of experience and training make a rich contribution to the seminar and course work in the Law School, and we make every effort to put our American and undergraduate students in close contact with these visitors."

International studies attract more of the American graduate students than any other area, with trade regulation, including anti-trust law, as a second major field. Professor Conard points out that most law schools offer little or no work in the international area, while the Michigan Law School has numerous offerings, which have been greatly aided by the $500,000 gift from the Ford Foundation to promote international studies. In the area of trade regulation, also, Michigan offers an unusual choice of courses and seminars.

Among the foreign graduate students, the major fields of interest can be roughly classified as commercial law, constitutional law, international law, and criminal law and procedure.

"It is in these fields that we provide the bulk of our special seminar work," Professor George says. "Some of it is of a comparative nature specially designed for graduate students and interested seniors."

The countries from which these students come are: Iraq, India, West Germany, Philippines, England, Canada, Australia, Yugoslavia, Israel, Norway, United Arab Republic, China, Japan, Italy, Turkey, Korea.

The American graduate students come from the law schools of Utah, Iowa, New York University, Georgetown, Cornell, Wayne, Detroit College of Law, and the University of Cincinnati.

Many of the graduate students are enrolled in this seminar in international law taught by Prof. W. W. Bishop.