



# MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM - MASTER OF LAWS MANDATORY-ELECTIVE CURRICULUM

Faculty of Law, Comenius University in Bratislava offers an accredited two-year Master's degree study programme in English, focused mainly on **European Union Law and International Law**.

The graduate will be able to analytically and synthetically consider all legal fields with a theoretical, philosophical and ethical basis, especially with broad knowledge of European Union law and international law. The graduate will be fully applicable in practice, especially in multinational law offices and multinational business corporations, international governmental and non-governmental organizations as well as central governmental authorities.

For more information, please, follow the website <https://www.flaw.uniba.sk/en/study/masters-degree-programme-in-english/> or contact [michaela.krescankova@flaw.uniba.sk](mailto:michaela.krescankova@flaw.uniba.sk).

Choose from over 20 mandatory elective courses and 15 elective courses!

Join international moot court competitions or internships!

Get knowledge and experience for work in multinational companies and international organizations.

Duration:  
2 years full-time

Number of students:  
max. 100

Number of ECTS credits:  
120

**COMENIUS  
UNIVERSITY IN  
BRATISLAVA  
FACULTY OF LAW**

Šafárikovo nám. č. 6  
P.O.BOX 313

810 00 Bratislava

<https://www.flaw.uniba.sk>

## Company Law

### Mandatory-Elective Course

1<sup>st</sup> semester / winter term

3 ECTS

The aim of the course is to bring students closer to the field of company law in the context of European Union legislation. This course should also provide students with a reasonable excursion to fundamental changes and transformations in society. The conclusion of the subject matrix should be devoted to the application of rights in the law of commercial companies.

- Consolidation of knowledge of company law in the context of European Union legislation
- Business Company and its Legal Basis I
- Business Company and its Legal Basis II
- Establishment of the company
- Company financing I
- Company Financing II
- Major changes and transformations in Company I
- Major changes and transformations in company II
- Application of company law rights I
- Application of company rights II

## International Relations

### Mandatory-Elective Course

1<sup>st</sup> semester / winter term

3 ECTS

The aim of the course is to familiarize students with the main concepts, theory and models of international relations, especially with regard to relevant diplomatic studies, and to allow students to critically examine them.

- International Relations Theory
- Historical aspects of international relations
- Global Westphalian system
- The Cold War
- Deepening the Cold War in the 1960s
- The current international security environment
- US Foreign Policy
- Russia and its place in the world
- Islam and international relations
- China and India as actors of international relations
- Middle East - Epicenter of Conflicts
- International Terrorism
- Basic Strategic Trends of the 21st Century
- Current issues of international relations

## History of Private Law

### Mandatory-Elective Course

1<sup>st</sup> semester / winter term

2 ECTS

Students within the subject should get a basic overview of the historical development of private law in major European and selected non-European jurisdictions.

- Introduction to the Study of the History of Private Law - Basic Concepts, Periods and Concepts
- Private Law of the Oriental States
- Private law of Ancient Greece
- Overview of the development of Roman private law from the pre-Classical to the Justinian period
- Development of feudal private law
- Ius commune and its reception in Europe
- Canon law as a modifying and unifying factor of private law
- The era of civilization codification
- The development of common law in England
- Institutions of Material Rights in a Historical Perspective
- The development of obligations in the historical perspective
- Development of commercial law
- Prerequisites, methods and forms of harmonization of private law in the European Union

## History of Public Law

### Mandatory-Elective Course

1<sup>st</sup> semester / winter term

2 ECTS

The aim of the course is to provide students with an overview of the historical development of public law industries and institutes in the main European and selected non-European jurisdictions.

- Introduction to the Study of the History of Public Law - Basic Concepts, Periods and Concepts
- Constitutional and Administrative Law of Old Oriental States
- The Constitutional and Administrative Law of the Greek States
- The development of constitutional and administrative law in ancient Rome
- Criminal Law of the Ancient States
- Constitutional and administrative law of feudal states
- Criminal Law of Feudal and Modern States
- The constitutional and administrative law of the new states
- Conditions for the formation and development of the parliamentary form of government
- The Origin and Concept of Human Rights
- Forms of government in Western Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries
- Forms of government in Central and Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries
- Totalitarian forms of government

<p><b>Private Comparative Law</b></p>	<p><b>Mandatory-Elective Course</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> semester / summer term</b></p> <p><b>3 ECTS</b></p> <p><b>Students within the subject are required to gain a basic overview of comparative law methods and to obtain a basic overview of private law institutes in the core jurisdictions of the Western Civilization Circle - in the Continental and Anglo-American legal family.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Introduction to comparative law study</li> <li>▪ Mandatory law in a general comparative perspective</li> <li>▪ Contract law - the requirement of a two-way consent</li> <li>▪ Contract law - additional requirements needed to create a contract as a commitment title</li> <li>▪ Circumstances excluding the existence of a contract or performance under the contract</li> <li>▪ Unwarranted enrichment</li> <li>▪ Civil law of torture - the conditions of a responsible relationship</li> <li>▪ Objective and adjective accountability in torture</li> <li>▪ The legal concept of things and ownership</li> <li>▪ Types of material rights</li> <li>▪ Family law in a comparative perspective</li> <li>▪ The law of law in a comparative perspective</li> <li>▪ Right to the protection of personality in a comparative perspective</li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Comparative Law</b></p>	<p><b>Mandatory-Elective Course</b></p> <p><b>2<sup>nd</sup> semester / summer term</b></p> <p><b>3 ECTS</b></p> <p><b>The aim of the subject is to provide students with a basic overview of key sectors and public law institutions in a comparative perspective in selected European and American jurisdictions.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Overview of the concepts of the rule of law, the division of power and the typologies of the institutes</li> <li>▪ Representative and electoral systems</li> <li>▪ Comparison of the concept of the monarchy and the republic with emphasis on the authority of the head of state</li> <li>▪ Parliamentary forms of government - Overview, United Kingdom, Spain, Eastern Europe</li> <li>▪ Presidential Government Forms - Overview, United States of America, Latin America</li> <li>▪ Mixed Government Forms - Overview, France, Germany, Russia</li> <li>▪ Unitary and composite states</li> <li>▪ Fundamental rights</li> <li>▪ Constitutional power control</li> <li>▪ Comparison of core administrative models</li> <li>▪ Comparison of basic social security models</li> <li>▪ Criminal Material Law - Basic overview, definition of crime and liability</li> <li>▪ Criminal procedural law - Inquisitive / contradictory model</li> </ul>

## Corporate Governance

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester / summer term**

**3 ECTS**

**Students will be familiar with the issues of relationships between shareholders (investors), members of corporate bodies, management, and other stakeholders.**

- What are the costs of managing and how to deal with them?
- How does the capital market work and how does it affect corporate governance?
- What is the role of institutional investors in corporate governance?
- What is the role of statutory bodies in corporate governance?
- How do other actors influence the functioning of the company?
- What is the goal of the corporation, in what interest does the corporation have to do its business?
- What is the role of company law in protecting corporate creditors?
- What is the role of company takeover and how does business law affect the takeover of companies I?
- What is the role of company take-over and how does business law affect the takeover of companies II?
- What models of corporate governance are our legal order, EU law, or foreign regulation?
- The Importance and Criticism of Property Separation of Companies and Their Owners I
- The Importance and Criticism of Property Separation of Companies and Their Owners II
- Is company law regulation effective in controlling corporate governance?
- What is the impact of the implementation of legal institutes on EU companies' flexibility and transparency in EU company law and their internal control mechanisms?

## Humanitarian Law and International Criminal Law

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester / summer term**

**3 ECTS**

**Student will gain an overview of international criminal law and will be able to orientate himself in the basic principles and principles of international criminal law, criminal prosecution of international crimes, proceedings before international tribunals and courts, the concepts of international justice and the protection of victims, as well as the foundations of international humanitarian law and the law of armed conflicts.**

- Introduction, ICL Concept and Subject, ICL History
- The sources of ICL, Humanitarian law
- The Right to Armed Conflict, the Rome Statute
- The Nuremberg Tribunal
- ICTY, ICTR, ICC, Hybrid tribunals
- ICC Jurisdiction
- Genocide (case of Akayes)
- Crimes against the humanity (Blaskic case, Tadic case)
- War crimes (Tadic case)
- The Crime of Aggression (Kampala Conference)
- The principle of complementarity (the Tadic case, the Lubang case)
- Cooperation between States and the ICC (Milosevic case, Pinochet case)
- Procedure before the ICC
- Simulated litigation

## Negotiation

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester / summer term**

**3 ECTS**

Upon completion of the course the student will be familiar with the basic concepts of negotiation - bilateral negotiations, multilateral negotiations, coalitions, management of the negotiation process, evaluation of interests of third parties, etc.

- Negotiating Skills - Cognitive Skills
- Negotiating Skills - Communicational Skills
- Negotiation Skills - Strategic Skills
- Negotiating Skills - Relationship Skills
- Analysis of structure of negotiation differences, mediation, etc.
- The nature of the bilateral and multilateral negotiations I
- The nature of the bilateral and multilateral negotiations II
- Use of conflicting and consensual methods in negotiation
- Analysis of parties in the negotiation, their personality, motivation and interests
- Preparation for negotiations, positioning and alternatives; Their changes during the negotiations
- Coalitions in multilateral negotiations
- Creating Values and Building a Consensus in Negotiation
- Use of Agents in Negotiation I
- Use of Agents in Negotiation II

## International Negotiation

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

**2<sup>nd</sup> semester / summer term**

**3 ECTS**

Upon completion of the course the student will be able to orientate in the system of management and performance of foreign service and service in international institutions. The space is mainly devoted to the acquisition of practical skills for its performance, especially in the field of diplomatic contacts, negotiation and diplomatic correspondence.

- Diplomatic service and foreign policy management
- Diplomatic contacts
- Types and categories of diplomatic interviews, preparation for interview, art interview, interview techniques, non-verbal communication, interview record, verbal speech and its rules, principles of diplomatic expression, simulation of conversation
- Intelligence - information acquisition and processing, internal information system, types of information processed, information resources, operational and analytical information, periodicity of information processed
- Diplomatic post, diplomatic courier
- Diplomatic correspondence - diplomatic language, written form of diplomatic communication, writing technique for contractual documents
- Negotiation Process, Methods and Styles of Diplomatic Negotiation, Negotiation Concept, Tactics, General Principles of Negotiation
- Legal Standards and Organizational Rules for Implementation of International Negotiation, Conference Practice and Procedure
- Two-way vs. Multilateral negotiations
- Preparation for negotiation, program preparation, documentation
- Rules of procedure, delegation assembly, compromise, logistics
- Agreement as a result of negotiation
- International treaties and their preparation, initialing, signature and ratification, transmission of instruments of ratification, registration of treaties
- Particularities of the negotiations in the EU

## Alternative Dispute Resolution

### Mandatory-Elective Course

3<sup>rd</sup> semester / winter term

3 ECTS

Student acquires basic orientation in alternative methods of dispute resolution focusing on arbitration as the most recognized out-of-court dispute resolution method. The purpose of the subject is to clarify in particular the legal aspects related to arbitration and business dispute resolution in the international environment, as well as to the issue of investment arbitrations.

- Alternative methods of dispute resolution, mediation
- Basic terms and legal bases of arbitration, forms of arbitration, ad hoc arbitration proceedings and institutional arbitration
- New York Convention, UNCITRAL Model Draft of the Arbitration Act, Arbitration Treaty, Arbitration
- The law governing arbitration and arbitration proceedings; The law applicable to the merits of the dispute
- Appointment, objection and removal / removal of arbitrators, independence and impartiality of the arbitrators
- Arbitration and the role of national courts; Meaning of place of arbitration, judgment in arbitration: form, content, type and service, cancellation and review of arbitration judgments
- Basic terms and legal bases of international investment law, investor, host state, international investment, expropriation
- Standards for the treatment of international investment
- Methods of resolving international investment disputes and forms of international investment arbitration proceedings
- ICSID convention
- Conditions for resolving an investment dispute in the form of international investment arbitration, consent to international investment arbitrage
- Most-favored-nation clause, overriding clause and jurisdiction
- Damage, damages, interim measures and costs in international investment arbitration
- Cancellation, review and enforceability of arbitration awards in international investment arbitration

## International Treaty Law

### Mandatory-Elective Course

3<sup>rd</sup> semester / winter term

3 ECTS

The aim of the subject is to deepen students' knowledge of general public international law institutes and to extend them to specific areas. Students will acquire basic orientation in international law regarding territory and international spaces, jurisdiction, contracts, protection of human rights, diplomatic, consular and multilateral relations, international security and humanitarian law.

- The term international treaty, international treaty in international. European and national law
- Principles of international contract law, types of international treaties, structure of an international treaty
- Concluding international treaties
- Reservations, changes and adjustments to the international treaty
- Validity and effect of a valid international treaty
- Interpretation of international treaties
- The succession of states in relation to international treaties
- Invalidity, termination and interruption of the implementation of international treaties, rules on the procedure for nullity of the contract, withdrawal or termination of the contract
- Settlement of disputes in connection with proceedings for nullity of the contract, withdrawal or termination of the contract
- Liability of international law entities for violations of international treaties and enforcement of international treaties
- The status of international treaties in the Slovak legal order
- Application of the international treaty by national authorities
- Checking the constitutionality of international treaties
- Consequences of EU membership for Member States' international contractual obligations

## Law of International Trade

### Mandatory-Elective Course

3<sup>rd</sup> semester / winter term

4 ECTS

Provide a review of the legal framework for international business transactions.

- Introduction to international trade law
- Lex mercatoria
- INCOTERMS, UNIDROIT
- Principles of European Contract Law
- E-commerce
- International Purchase of Goods I
- International Purchase of Goods II
- International Carriage of Goods I
- International transport of goods II
- Financing of international business transactions
- Insurance in International Trade I
- Insurance in International Trade II
- Agents and distributor

## Economic and Monetary Union

### Mandatory-Elective Course

3<sup>rd</sup> semester / winter term

4 ECTS

The course graduate should have the ability to evaluate newly adopted / intended policies in the context of the underlying principles of economic and monetary union. In practice, the course should be useful for students who see their careers in national or European institutions.

- The pillars of economic and monetary union - the single market, the customs union, the monetary union
- Single market - economic concept
- Single market - legal concept
- Tax harmonization I
- Tax harmonization II
- Budgetary Cohesion in the Single Market
- Customs union - economic concept
- Customs union - legal concept
- Preparatory phase of the Customs Union
- Monetary Union - Economic Concept
- Monetary Union - Legal Concept
- Coordination in the monetary union I
- Budget Coordination in the Monetary Union II
- Future trends in the EU

## Mergers and Acquisitions

### Mandatory-Elective Course

3<sup>rd</sup> semester / winter term

3 ECTS

Students will get an overview of current trends in the area of mergers and acquisitions of companies in the current conditions of the business environment. The student understands the whole process of merger and acquisition of a business company, starting with finding the right acquisition target, ending the successful completion of the whole process.

- Basic theories of mergers and acquisitions, goals and benefits
- Selection of the acquisition goal and due diligence
- Negotiation - negotiations on the conditions and preparation of the contractual documentation
- "Private equity" in M & A - M & A financing
- The issue of "leveraged buyout" - indebted redemption of a trading company
- Impact of transactions on shareholders, statutory bodies and creditors and their involvement in the contracting process
- "Hostile takeovers - violent takeover" and protection against violent takeover by other companies
- Regulatory context of mergers and acquisitions of companies
- Compatibility aspects of mergers and acquisitions of commercial companies
- The issue of cross-border mergers I
- The issue of cross-border mergers II
- Case study - Analysis of a practical example of a merger as a M & A transaction
- Case study - Analysis of a practical example of acquisition as M & A transactions

## Immigration and Asylum Law

### Mandatory-Elective Course

3<sup>rd</sup> semester / winter term

3 ECTS

Students will obtain comprehensive information on immigration and asylum law and a wider view of migration issues and its legislation in the field of international law and European law.

- Asylum - legislative framework
- Relationship between international instruments in the field of asylum policy
- Asylum - refugee law in the light of international jurisprudence
- Additional protection
- Entry of aliens to the territory of I
- Entry of aliens to the territory II
- Schengen
- Status and Functions of UNHCR in Asylum Procedures
- Visa policy and stays in the EU I
- Visa policy and stays in the EU II
- Expulsion
- Retention of aliens
- Status of aliens / EU citizens and their family members in EU Member States in the field of social security I
- Status of aliens / EU citizens and their family members in EU Member States in the field of social security law II

## Intellectual Property Law

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

4<sup>th</sup> semester / summer term

3 ECTS

Students will acquire systematic theoretical and practical knowledge of intellectual property law with special emphasis on business transactions, including knowledge of basic types of PDVs that may be the subject of business activity and international organizations involved in the creation, adoption, examination of standards and the extension of PDP transfer arrangements, registration of IPRs and participation in PDV transfers, Liability for IPR violations.

- Protection of intellectual property in general
- Intellectual Property Protection Strategies I
- Intellectual Property Protection Strategies II
- Technology partnership and joint research I
- Technology partnership and joint research II
- Technology Transfer I
- Technology transfer II
- Types of Licenses I
- Types of licenses II
- Spin-offs / spin-outs / start-up / curve cutout
- Enforceability of intellectual property rights
- Research and innovation I
- Research and innovation II
- Framework programs and implications for EU funding for intellectual property rights

## WTO Law and Practice

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

4<sup>th</sup> semester / summer term

3 ECTS

The student gains basic orientation in the legal regulation and practice of the World Trade Organization. The objective is to clarify the key aspects of the multilateral trading system and the WTO dispute settlement system. The subject deals with the theoretical and practical aspects of WTO law, in particular through the analysis of key trade disputes addressed within the WTO Dispute Settlement System.

- International Labor Distribution, Structure of the World Economy
- International trade, international movement of capital
- Foreign trade policy of the state (key principles, methods, tools)
- International Economic Integration I (EU, NAFTA)
- International Economic Integration II (MERCOSUR, ASEAN, CETA ...)
- WTO - history, role, membership, organizational structure
- Sources of WTO law, WTO in the context of international law
- WTO Dispute Settlement System - Principles, Bodies, Procedures, Challenges
- Principles and rules of the multilateral trading system
- Principles of non-discrimination
- Market access rules
- Liberalization of trade and other social values
- Rules against unfair practices in international trade
- Rules for the harmonization of national legislation

## International Taxation and Private Sphere

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

**4<sup>th</sup> semester / summer term**

**3 ECTS**

**Students will gain insight into the issue of international taxation and will also become acquainted with the basic sources of international tax law.**

- Principles of international taxation
- Introduction to double taxation treaties
- Different approaches to the creation of double taxation treaties (OECD Model, UN Model, National Models)
- Solution of case studies - determination of residence, issues of double residence, application of contracts with respect to personal companies
- Case study solutions - business income tax
- Case study solution - taxation of income from immovable property, sale of immovable property, sale of shares of companies owning immovable property
- Case study solutions - taxing international transport, selling property in the form of aircraft and ships
- Case Study Case - Taxation of Income from Investments
- Case study solutions - Taxation of income of individuals
- The issue of non-discrimination
- Fight against tax evasion - Exchange of information
- Combating tax evasion - Providing assistance in tax collection
- Introduction to Tax Planning and Barriers - Rules Against Aggressive Tax Planning

## International Taxation and Incomes of State Budget

**Mandatory-Elective Course**

**4<sup>th</sup> semester / summer term**

**3 ECTS**

**Student will get an overview of the field of international taxation, its importance for public budgets and relevant sources of law. Students will be able to orient themselves in the structure of international double tax treaties and will be able to apply them in practical situations.**

- Introduction - The Importance of Taxes on Public Budgets
- International element of income tax
- Basic concepts of accounting and their relation to tax law
- Basic principles of taxation on direct and indirect taxes
- Double taxation as a barrier to trade
- Introduction to double taxation treaties
- Model agreements to prevent double taxation
- Methods of avoiding double taxation (determination of residence, company profits, property transfer gains, interest, royalties, dividends)
- Abuse of law, anti-abuse tools
- International cooperation (exchange of information, tax advice)
- Transfer pricing
- Transfer pricing methods
- Aggressive tax planning
- Criminal Law Aggressive Tax Planning