Humboldt Master

of Laws LL.M.

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Humboldt Master of Laws LL.M.

Overview

The Faculty of Law at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin offers an LL.M. (Master of Laws) programme that provides a comprehensive understanding of German and European law, enriched with a global perspective. The programme combines a strong foundational curriculum with opportunities for specialised study, preparing graduates to navigate the complexities of legal systems in an interconnected world.
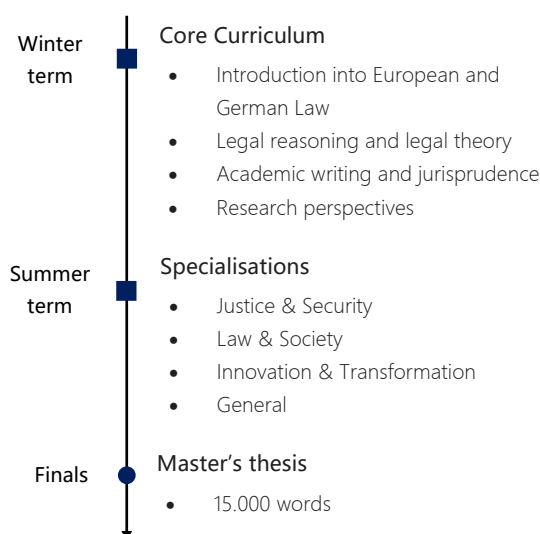
Target Group

Designed for graduates with a strong foundation in foreign law and at least one year of professional experience, the programme equips participants with advanced knowledge and skills tailored to their professional and academic aspirations. It fosters a deeper understanding of legal principles and their international dimensions, enabling participants to engage critically with complex legal issues.

Specialisations

Justice & Security	Law & Society	Innovation & Transformation	General

Curriculum

Running full-time from October to July, the programme starts with a Core Curriculum that provides a strong foundation, introducing European and German law with an international perspective. Building on this, students can choose specialised tracks in Justice & Security, Law & Society, or Innovation & Transformation, gaining in-depth, research-based expertise to excel in academia or legal practice in today's global legal landscape.

Winter term

Core Curriculum
- Introduction into European and German Law
- Legal reasoning and legal theory
- Academic writing and jurisprudence
- Research perspectives

Summer term

Specialisations
- Justice & Security
- Law & Society
- Innovation & Transformation
- General

Finals

Master's thesis
- 15.000 words

Key Facts

Degree
Master in Laws LL.M.

Standard Period
2 Semesters I 60 ECTS

Study Type
Postgraduate I full-time

Teaching Language
Completely in English

Semester Start
Winter term I October

Admission Requirements
- Professional degree I 240 ECTS
- (applicable from degree) Knowledge in foreign law [120 ECTS]
- Practical work experience of at least one year
- English skills B2

Application
- opens 2nd May – ends 31st May

Tuition fees
- 15.000 € plus Semester fee (ca. 300€)
- Scholarships & (partial) tuition-waivers

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Winter term
Core Curriculum

Introduction into European and German Law

To introduce the students to the fundamental principles of European and German law. The module covers the multi-level structure of the European and German legal system in its international context and compares it to other legal systems. The acquired basic knowledge is deepened in the core areas of private, public and criminal law.

Academic writing and jurisprudence

The module introduces students with theories of jurisprudence, with interdisciplinary approaches and with the standards of writing academic papers in preparation for the Master thesis; the standards customary in German jurisprudence are followed for this purpose.

Legal reasoning and legal theory

The module introduces students to the fundamentals of legal reasoning and legal theory. Students are familiarized with the main theories of law and with the methodology of legal decision-making.

Research perspectives

The module introduces students to research perspectives in the specializations offered as part of the program. Students are guided in finding topics for their Master thesis and preparing research proposals.

Summer term
Specialisations

Justice & Security

The module is concerned with current global challenges to justice and security, such as war, terrorism, climate change, societies in transition and authoritarian rule. It explores the existing legal frameworks and also asks how the law can respond to these current challenges. In addition to more theoretical and doctrinal perspectives, the module incorporates historical angles and practitioner views.

Innovation & Transformation

The module is dedicated to the legal framework of innovation in times of global challenges. The lectures and seminars address the different fields of technology law, intellectual property, data protection and other areas of law in their function as a factor of technical and social transformation.

Law & Society

The module is concerned with current legal challenges in the context of law and society as a field of interdisciplinary legal studies. Doctrinal legal research is complemented by social sciences, critically reflecting the opaque separation of knowledge by different academic disciplines. By this interdisciplinary approach, functions and interdependencies of law are examined in an integrative and methodologically reflected way.

General

The module allows students to combine courses from the various specialisations and take an individual selection of in-depth courses.

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WHY study at Humboldt?

Berlin, Germany's vibrant capital, offers a unique and enriching environment for students. As a major cultural, political, and academic hub, Berlin provides a dynamic and stimulating backdrop for higher education, particularly at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, one of the country's most prestigious institutions.

Academic Excellence

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, founded in 1810, is renowned for its academic excellence and innovative research, consistently ranking among the top German universities. Students benefit from interdisciplinary learning, with opportunities to engage in cutting-edge projects. The faculty includes leading scholars who are pioneers in their fields.

World-Class Facilities

Berlin is home to top educational and research facilities. Humboldt students have access to the Berlin State Library, one of Germany's largest, and state-of-the-art laboratories, lecture halls, and research centers, providing an ideal environment for academic and professional development.

Practical Experience

Humboldt-Universität emphasizes practical knowledge application. Law students, for instance, benefit from courses taught by esteemed professors and practicing professionals, ensuring a blend of theoretical and real-world insights. Many professors are active in legal professions, offering invaluable networking opportunities.

International Environment

Berlin is a truly international city, attracting students globally. Humboldt reflects this diversity with numerous exchange programs and international partnerships. The Faculty of Law hosts visiting professors and participates in global legal forums, preparing students for careers in an interconnected world.

Specialized Institutes and Research Centers

Humboldt's Faculty of Law features specialized institutes like the Institute for European Constitutional Law, the Law & Society-Institute or the Franz von Liszt-Institute for International Criminal Justice providing students opportunities to specialize in various legal fields under renowned experts, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of complex legal issues.

Cultural and Professional Opportunities

Berlin's rich history and vibrant cultural scene offer endless opportunities for personal growth. The city hosts numerous international organizations, government institutions, and multinational corporations, offering excellent internships and job prospects. Networking events and career fairs help students advance their careers.

Quality of Life

Berlin offers a high quality of life with numerous parks, recreational areas, and an efficient public transportation system. The cost of living is relatively affordable compared to other major European capitals, making it an attractive destination for students.