

University of Regensburg (UR)

Courses Taught in English at the Faculty of Law

Course Program for Exchange Students



Universität Regensburg

FACULTY OF LAW & INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

Introduction

The Faculty of Law at the University of Regensburg was founded in 1967 and it is one of twelve faculties of the University of Regensburg.

Currently, the faculty consists of 20 chairs and has approximately 2,500 undergraduate (state examination and LL.B.), PhD and LL.M. students. It offers an extensive and excellent law program with an outstanding service during the entire study period.

The study of law provides in-depth knowledge in the most important areas of law. The focus of the education is on civil law, criminal law and public law. One deals with all aspects of social coexistence in which legal rules are applied. Those who study law train their eye for the economic, social and political contexts that shape our society. In addition to scientific methodology, special attention is also paid to the practical application of the law. The standard period of study is ten semesters. The university education is completed by the First Law Examination, which consists of a state examination (Erste Juristische Staatsprüfung) and a university examination (Juristische Universitätsprüfung).

Course Offer in Law:

All full degree programs in Law are taught in German, as the faculty prepares students mainly for the German state examination for law. For this reason, almost all courses are taught in German. However, in order to increase the qualification of UR's students as well as the attractiveness to exchange students, **several courses taught in English** have been established over recent years. **This program is directed at advanced bachelor students as well as master students.**

In addition to several core courses, the faculty takes great efforts to invite international guest professors and scientists for individual block seminars to our university and offers independent study options in order to provide exchange students a sufficient number of ECTS for a semester in Regensburg.

Course Offer outside of the Faculty of Law:

Students may also take courses from other areas/faculties at UR for their elective modules at home. In the past, students of law have often taken courses from history, business, or political science to add to their course list.

Furthermore, students are welcome to improve their German language skills by participating in the program offered by UR's **German as a Foreign Language Unit**.

Language Requirements:

Students wishing to take courses from the English-taught course program must have English knowledge on level B2 (according to CEFR) or better.

Intensive Language Course in German:

For all students who come to UR and have no or only very limited knowledge of German, we recommend participation in our pre-semester intensive language course (ILC). It takes place 5 weeks prior to the beginning of the regular semester and comprises 120hrs of German instruction as well as orientation on campus and the city, and extra-curricular activities.

Categories of Courses

To sum up, exchange students coming within an exchange program in Law may choose from the following categories of courses:

- **Courses from the Faculty of Law**
- **Courses from other departments and faculties like European Studies, Politics, History, or any other department that offers courses which are accepted as electives by our partner institutions.**
- **Courses from the “German as a Foreign Language Unit”**
 - Pre-semester Intensive Language Course
 - German language courses during the semester
- **Special Courses for International Exchange Students with a Focus in German and European Studies and Culture e.g.:**
 - Perspectives on German Culture
 - Intercultural Communication
 - Sociological and Political Perspectives on Modern Germany
 - Courses from International Politics
- **Independent Studies**

The chair for Public and International Law (Prof. Uerpmann-Wittzack), and the chair of Public Law and Policy, especially European, International and Comparative Law (Prof. Graser) offer independent studies for exchange students. The number of ECTS awarded for these independent studies may vary between 8 ECTS and 12 ECTS depending on the workload and final assessment of the project. Interested students need to contact the professors individually and arrange for a topic.

Students are free to combine courses according to their needs unless the home university requires differently.

Course offer – Winter Semester

Course Title	Credits	Responsible Instructor
Introduction to European Law- Lecture	5 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Graser
International Labour Law - Lecture	4 ECTS	Elena Sychenko (chair: Prof. Dr. Graser)
Contract Drafting – Block seminar	4 ECTS	Dr. Walz (chair: Prof. Dr. Fritzsche)
Arbitration Law - Lecture	2 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Herresthal
EU Fundamental Rights- Lecture	2 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Kingreen
Law of International Relations- Lecture	4 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Uerpmann-Witzack
European and Comparative Law - Seminar	12 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Arnold
Climate Change Law and Litigation – Lecture	4 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Rike Krämer-Hoppe
Introduction to the Anglo-American Legal System – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: B2) *	4 ECTS	Language Center
Introduction to the Common Law System - Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: C1) *	4 ECTS	Language Center
Aspects of English Criminal and Civil Law (required language level: C1) *	8 ECTS	Language Center
Independent Studies in Public Law	12 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Uerpmann-Witzack /Prof. Graser

*** Students interested in taking these courses, are required to pass an English language placement test prior to enrolment. It is possible to sign up for these courses only with the required language level.**

Course offer – Summer Semester

Course Title	Credits	Responsible Instructor
European Convention on Human Rights – Lecture	4 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Uerpmann-Witzack
Transnational Human Rights Protection - Lecture	4 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Graser
Comparative Law and Legal Law - Lecture	4 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Graser
European and Comparative Law - Seminar	12 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Arnold
Aspects of English Criminal and Civil Law (required language level: C1) *	8 ECTS	Language Center
Introduction to the Anglo-American Legal System – seminar with integrated language course (required language level: B2) *	4 ECTS	Language Center
Introduction to the Common Law System - seminar with integrated language course (required language level: C1) *	4 ECTS	Language Center
Independent Studies in Public Law	12 ECTS	Prof. Dr. Uerpmann-Witzack /Prof. Graser

**** Students interested in taking these courses, are required to pass an English language placement test prior to enrolment. It is possible to sign up for these courses only with the required language level.***

I. Course Descriptions – Winter Semester:

Introduction to European Law- Lecture

This lecture features the complete mandatory range of this fascinating, dynamic, and important legal area. Starting point will be the inner constitution of the European Union, which will lead to an understanding of the most basic provisions, rules and mechanisms of the European contracts and the different areas of politics within the EU. To ensure the best possible preparation for succeeding in written examinations, the law of the European Union will be presented embedded in actual, recent cases that might be subject to assessment during the exams in this very form. This approach also trains to cope with problems that may arise at the boundary point of EU law and national law.

Course Type: lecture
Credits: 5 ECTS
Assessment: Prof. Dr. Graser
Contact: lehrstuhl.graser@ur.de

International Labour Law – Lecture

The course introduces students to the norms and institutions of International Labor Law. It does not require any prior knowledge of the field and is open to students with a background in law, international relations, political science or related areas. While being a lecture, it is taught in an interactive format.

Course Type: lecture
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: Elena Sychenko (chair: Prof. Dr. Graser)
Contact: lehrstuhl.graser@ur.de

Contract Drafting – Block Seminar

Students who plan to work in a major law firm should know that an essential part of contracts there is drafted and negotiated in the English language. The course will prepare students for that kind of work and will provide decision guidance for students thinking about taking up work in that field. The course does not intend to improve English language skills. The aim is to show how contracts, based on German law, are to be drafted in the English language. The course will be held partly in English and partly in German. Medium to good knowledge of English and German is sufficient.

There will be a balance between practical exercises and theory.

Registration: Students interested are asked to register via the address below. Please give the number of your semester and a provisional assessment of your English and German language skills:

Notar Dr. Robert Walz, Sonnenstraße 9, 80331 München
Tel: 089 746137-0
Fax: 089 746137-20
rw@notare-walz-vollrath.de

All students interested will get a letter or e-mail three weeks in advance of the course together with materials.

Course Type: (block) seminar
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: Dr. Walz (chair: Prof. Dr. Fritzsche)
Contact: fritzsche.lehrstuhl@ur.de

Arbitration Law – Lecture

Arbitration is the preferred method of dispute resolution in (international) corporate litigation. This is especially true for cross-border situations and for corporate disputes. The lecture covers the basic knowledge of arbitration law, including the advantages and disadvantages of arbitration, the legal bases of arbitration (e.g. Chapter 10 German Code on Civil Procedure, New York Convention, IBA Guidelines, UNICTRAL Model Law) and arbitration institutions (e.g. ICC, DIS). Moreover, the lecture presents the drafting of an arbitration clause, the arbitration process as well as the acceptance, repeal or enforcement of an arbitration award. The lecture and the examples given will especially focus on arbitration in corporate disputes.

The lecture is held in English and addressed to students in the 5th semester or higher. References to books and cases are given during the lecture.

Registration via email (sekretariat.herresthal@jura.uni-regensburg.de).

Assessment: Oral exam at the end of the semester

Course Type: lecture

Credits: 2 ECTS

Assessment: Prof. Dr. Herresthal

Contact: sekretariat.herresthal@jura.uni-regensburg.de

EU Fundamental Rights – Lecture

The course deals with European fundamental freedoms and rights. At the same time, it is a narrative about the development of the European Union. It describes its path from an economic community characterized by the internal market to a political union which also sees itself as a community based on constitutional values. Accordingly, it begins with the dismantling of customs barriers between the member states in the 1960s and ends with the case law of the European Court of Justice on social benefit rights based on Citizenship of the Union and Anti-Discrimination Law.

Course Type: lecture

Credits: 2 ECTS

Assessment: Prof. Dr. Kingreen

Contact: Secretariat of Prof. Dr. Kingreen: petra.bettinger@jura.uni-regensburg.de

Law of International Relations – Lecture

The course deals with core issues of public international law such as the law of diplomatic relations, prohibited use of force and self-defense, peace keeping and peace making within the United Nations, the law of armed conflicts, immunities, and dispute settlement through international courts. Recent state practice will play an important role. A tutorial complements the course. In the tutorial, special focus will be laid on the sources of international law, the law of treaties and the law of state responsibility. You may attend the course without previous knowledge.

Course materials will be distributed in class; a pdf version will be available in Regensburg's e-learning platform "GRIPS". If coronavirus restrictions persist, the course will be taught online.

Exchange students have to register for the exam in a list provided by the professor; please do so in the very first lesson. Please check the course materials in GRIPS for further details once you are in Regensburg.

Assessment: For students who attend both the lecture and the tutorial: 75-minute final exam. For students who attend the lecture by itself: 60-minute final exam. Sample tests will be available in GRIPS.

Course Type: lecture
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: Prof. Dr. Uerpmann-Wittzack
Contact: lehrstuhl.uerpmann-wittzack@ur.de

European and Comparative Law – Seminar

This course consists of two parts. During the first part of the semester students will prepare a research paper. During the second part of the semester, the actual seminar will take place as block. All participants will then present their topics and discuss the results in class.

Pre-knowledge of Constitutional Law is a class requirement, pre-knowledge of European Law is desirable. Registration: Please contact Prof. Arnold as soon as possible via email in order to sign up and receive a topic for your paper (rainer.arnold@ur.de). Please include your name, home university, current semester (at home), and information on your previous knowledge in Constitutional Law/EU Law. A second registration via the e-learning platform GRIPS needs to be done by the end of April.

Assessment: Seminar paper comprising about 25 pages with footnotes and bibliography. Abstract to be handed in 3 weeks after the topic has been agreed on. Oral presentation of the research findings and class discussion during the seminar. Maximum no. of participants: 12

Course Type: seminar
Credits: 12 ECTS
Assessment: Prof. Dr. Arnold
Contact: rainer.arnold@ur.de

Climate Change Law and Litigation – Lecture

This course deals with the core issues of Climate Change law. It is split into two parts. In the first part, a basic overview of climate change law with a focus on international responses to the climate crisis is offered. In the second part climate litigation and therefore national responses to the climate crisis in courts are analyzed. In this part, groups of students will present cases from different jurisdictions all over the world. Exam: Presentation of one case.

Course Type: Lecture
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: Prof. Dr. Krämer-Hoppe
Contact: rike.kraemer-hoppe@ur.de

Introduction to the Anglo-American Legal System – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: B2)

- Introduction to history and fundamental features of the Anglo-American legal system
- Comparison of legal systems of UK and Germany
- Focus on legal vocabulary

Course Type: language course
Credits: 4 ECTS
Assessment: Language Center / Geraldine Paul
Contact: info.englisch@ur.de / geraldine.paul@ur.de

Introduction to the to the Common Law System – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: C1)

- Introduction to principal features of the Anglo-American legal system
- Comparison of common law and civil law legal systems
- Particular emphasis on correct use of legal terminology
- Development of communication skills and intercultural competence
- Discussions on controversial aspects of administration of justice
- Training of listening comprehension with audio and video recordings of legal professionals
- Analysis and summarizing of landmark legal cases

Course Type: language course

Credits: 4 ECTS

Assessment: Language Center / Geraldine Paul

Contact: info.englisch@ur.de / geraldine.paul@ur.de

Aspects of English Criminal and Civil Law – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: C1)

This course is primarily intended for German students going abroad to a country practicing common law but is also open to exchange students from abroad wishing to learn the basics of English criminal and civil law.

- Introduction to Substantive Law, including aspects of contracts, torts, and Criminal Law
Introduction to Common Law Finding, citing and analyzing judicial precedents
- Solving hypothetical legal problem questions
- Discussions on contentious legal defenses and tort law reform
- Training of advocacy through moot court

Course Type: language course

Credits: 8 ECTS

Assessment: Language Center / Geraldine Paul

Contact: info.englisch@ur.de / geraldine.paul@ur.de

Independent Studies in Public and International Law / Public Law and Policy

The chair for Public and International Law (Prof. Uerpmann-Witzack), and the chair of Public Law and Policy, especially European, International and Comparative Law (Prof. Graser) offer independent studies for exchange students. The number of ECTS awarded for these independent studies may vary between 8 ECTS and 12 ECTS depending on the workload and final assessment of the project. Interested students need to contact the professors individually and arrange for a topic.

Contact: lehrstuhl.graser@ur.de / lehrstuhl.uerpmann-witzack@ur.de

II. Course Descriptions – Summer Semester:

European Convention on Human Rights – Lecture

The European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) binds Germany and 45 other member States of the Council of Europe, from Azerbaijan to Cyprus, from Iceland to Turkey, and from Portugal to Finland. Its implementation is monitored by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. The course deals with European human rights theory, with selected human rights such as freedom from torture, freedom of expression or the protection of private life, and with the functioning of the European Court. Although the ECHR and the Strasbourg Court do not belong to the European Union (EU), interactions with EU law and with the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights in particular, will also be addressed.

Course Type: lecture

Credits: 4 ECTS

Assessment: Prof. Dr. Uerpmann-Wittzack

Contact: lehrstuhl.uerpmann-wittzack@ur.de

Transnational Human Rights Protection – Lecture

The course deals with established structures and current developments in the field of human rights. National human rights provisions will be used as a point of reference. But the course will mainly look at transnational law and focus on both, the global and regional systems of human rights protection. In addition, it will also deal with mechanisms of human rights protection that transcend the national context but are not part of the global or regional systems.

Course Type: lecture

Credits: 4 ECTS

Assessment: Prof. Dr. Graser

Contact: lehrstuhl.graser@ur.de

Comparative Law and Legal Law – Lecture

The course will be offered in both, German, and English. We are developing a new format for this bilingual offer, which is, however, still “under construction”. English speakers will not need any German; but since part of the reading material is in English, German speakers will need a sufficient passive knowledge of English.

Comparative law and legal transfers are of great practical importance. Almost all legal reforms nowadays are based, a.o. on comparative research. Frequently, there are veritable “legal transplants” from other legal system to another. This considerable practical significance is reflected in the vast amount of research devoted to comparative law. In education, however, this field has played but a minor role. Nonetheless, when dealing with foreign law (for example, in the context of studying abroad), some basic knowledge of comparative law is no doubt helpful.

This is where the course comes in. Drawing on examples from different legal systems and sectors, it will review the fields of application of comparative law, define its goals, explain its approaches, and address frequent errors. The course is open to all law students. It may be particularly useful for those who will soon be studying abroad or who are currently in Regensburg as exchange students.

Furthermore, for those who are interested, the course also offers the opportunity to study the topic somewhat more intensively. Thus, in the second part of the lecture, individual topics are dealt with in

depth, especially from the area of legal transfer, and there is also the possibility to write independent papers (in addition to the regular course work and with the possibility of earning additional ECTS).

The course comprises a total of two SWS (4 ECTS) but can be divided: Those who are only interested in an introduction to comparative law can limit themselves to attending the first half of the course - corresponding to one SWS (2 ECTS). If required, corresponding examinations are offered for the acquisition of ECTS - in the form of oral or written examinations.

Course Type: lecture

Credits: 4 ECTS

Assessment: Prof. Dr. Graser

Contact: lehrstuhl.graser@ur.de

Aspects of English Criminal and Civil Law – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: C1)

This course is primarily intended for German students going abroad to a country practicing common law but is also open to exchange students from abroad wishing to learn the basics of English criminal and civil law.

- Introduction to Substantive Law, including aspects of contracts, torts, and Criminal Law
Introduction to Common Law Finding, citing and analyzing judicial precedents
- Solving hypothetical legal problem questions
- Discussions on contentious legal defenses and tort law reform
- Training of advocacy through moot court

Course Type: language course

Credits: 8 ECTS

Assessment: Language Center / Geraldine Paul

Contact: info.englisch@ur.de / geraldine.paul@ur.de

Introduction to the Anglo-American Legal System – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: B2)

- Introduction to history and fundamental features of the Anglo-American legal system
- Comparison of legal systems of UK and Germany
- Focus on legal vocabulary

Course Type: language course

Credits: 4 ECTS

Assessment: Language Center / Geraldine Paul

Contact: info.englisch@ur.de / geraldine.paul@ur.de

Introduction to the to the Common Law System – Seminar with integrated language course (required language level: C1)

- Introduction to principal features of the Anglo-American legal system
- Comparison of common law and civil law legal systems
- Particular emphasis on correct use of legal terminology
- Development of communication skills and intercultural competence
- Discussions on controversial aspects of administration of justice
- Training of listening comprehension with audio and video recordings of legal professionals

- Analysis and summarizing of landmark legal cases

Course Type: language course

Credits: 4 ECTS

Assessment: Language Center / Geraldine Paul

Contact: info.englisch@ur.de / geraldine.paul@ur.de

Independent Studies in Public and International Law / Public Law and Policy

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Contact: lehrstuhl.graser@ur.de / lehrstuhl.uerpmann-witzack@ur.de

Further Information:

Information on all courses can be accessed via the **course catalogue**:

<https://www.uni-regensburg.de/studies/course-catalog/home/index.html>



Please see our **orientation guide** for incoming students for further information on German language courses, housing, insurance, orientation programs, etc.:

<https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/exchange-students>



Contact:

Main Contact for Incoming Students:

Christine Betzner (Ms.)

UR International Office

International.exchange-student@ur.de

Phone: +49 -941 943 2306

UR International homepage:

<https://www.uni-regensburg.de/international/incomings/austausch/index.html> (German version)

<https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/incomings/exchange-programs/index.html>

(English version)

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