Faculty of Law

# Subject-specific study and examination regulations\*

for the Continuing Education Master's Programme Humboldt Master of Laws

<sup>\*</sup> Only the German version of this document is legally binding. This English translation is provided for your convenience only.

## Subject-specific study and examination regulations

## for the Continuing Education Master's Programme "Humboldt Master of Laws"

Pursuant to § 17 (1) No. 3 of the Constitution of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in the version dated 24 October 2013 (Official Gazette of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin No. 47/2013), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Law adopted the following Study Regulations on 17 October 2024\*:

§ 1 Scope of Application

§ 2 Commencement of Studies

- § 3 Objectives of the Program
- § 4 Modules of the Program
- § 5 Entry into Force

**Appendix 1:** Module Descriptions **Appendix 2:** Ideal Study Plan

#### § 1 Scope of Application

These Study Regulations contain the subject-specific provisions for the Master's program *Humboldt Master of Laws*. They apply in conjunction with the subject-specific Examination Regulations for the *Humboldt Master of Laws* program and the Interdisciplinary Statute for the Regulation of Admission, Studies, and Examinations (ZSP-HU), as amended.

#### § 2 Commencement of Studies

The program can be commenced in the winter semester.

#### § 3 Objectives of the Program

- (1) The program aims to convey research-based foundational knowledge in the field of German and European law, as well as in-depth and specialized knowledge in the respective areas of concentration. It is intended to develop the ability to apply and further develop this knowledge independently.
- (2) The language of instruction and examination is English.
- (3) Successful completion of the program provides an additional qualification for professional work in law firms, companies, public administration, or academia, both domestically and internationally.

#### § 4 Modules of the Program

The *Humboldt Master of Laws* program consists of the following modules, totaling 60 credit points (CP):

#### (a) Compulsory Area (45 CP)

LLM 1: Introduction to European and German Law (10 CP)

LLM 2a: Legal Theory and Legal Reasoning (5 CP) LLM 2b: Academic Writing and Jurisprudence (10 CP)

LLM 3: Research Perspectives in Justice & Security, Law & Society, Innovation & Transformation (5 CP)

LLM 5: Master Thesis (15 CP)

#### (b) Elective Specialization Area (15 CP)

LLM 4a: Profile: Justice & Security (15 CP) LLM 4b: Profile: Law & Society (15 CP)

LLM 4c: Profile: Innovation & Transformation (15

CP)
LLM 4d: Profile: General (15 CP)

In the elective areas LLM 4a, 4b, and 4c, students must take at least three courses from the respective profile. A fourth course may be selected from any profile.

To complete the elective area LLM 4d, students must take four courses chosen freely from profiles LLM 4a-c, but no more than two courses per profile.

#### § 5 Entry into Force

These Study Regulations shall enter into force on the day following their publication in the Official Bulletin of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin.

<sup>\*</sup> The university administration confirmed the study regulations on March 20, 2025.

#### **Appendix 1: Module descriptions**

A total student workload of 25 hours in attendance and self-study is assumed for one credit point.

#### LLM 1: Introduction to European and German Law

Credit Points: 10 Total workload: 250 hours

#### Learning objectives:

The module introduces 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.

#### The students shall:

- Learn about the legal institutions, sources and actors at the different levels of the European and German legal system
- Become familiar with the fundamental principles of European and German private, public and criminal law
- Understand the European and German social model and historical roots reflected in the legal principles
- Be able to evaluate and critically analyze the legal principles of European and German law in a comparative perspective.

Prerequisites: None Credit Points and Teaching format Hours per week, Topics, content workload in hours prerequisite for granting Lecture (L) 1 SWS 1 credit point, Basic course European and German Law: A Multi-level participation 25 hours System in an International Context 15 hours presence in class, 10 hours preparation Lecture (L) 1 SWS 1 credit point, Basic course 25 hours participation Comparative Law 15 hours presence in 10 hours preparation Lecture (L) 1 SWS 2 credit points, In-depth course participation European and German Private Law 50 hours 15 hours presence in class, 35 hours preparation Lecture (L) 2 credit points, 1 SWS In-depth course participation European and German Public Law 50 hours 15 hours presence in class, 35 hours preparation Lecture (L) 2 credit points, 1 SWS In-depth course 50 hours participation European and German Criminal Law 15 hours presence in class, 35 hours preparation

Final exam	50 hours 120 minutes written exam or 20 minutes oral exam and prepa- ration	2 credit points, pass	
Duration of the module	∑ 1 Semester		☐ 2 Semester
Start of the mo- dule			☐ Summer semester

LLM 2a: Legal theory and legal reasoning	LL	M 2a:	Legal	theory	and legal	reasoning
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Credit Points: 5 Total workload: 125 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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.

- Improved their critical thinking in a legal context based on knowledge of fundamentals of legal theory
- Are able to reflect on theories of legal decision-making
- Are able to apply different methods of legal reasoning

Are able to apply different methods of legal reasoning					
Prerequisites: No	Prerequisites: None				
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content		
Seminar (SE)	1 SWS 50 hours 15 hours presence in class, 35 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Basic course Legal reasoning and methodology of legal decision-marking		
Seminar (SE)	1 SWS 50 hours 15 hours presence in class, 35 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Basic course Legal theory I: Main theories of law		
Final exam	25 hours  60 minutes written exam, 10 minutes oral exam or short essay, 3 pages / up to 5.000 characters without spaces	1 credit point, pass			
Duration of the module	☐ 1 Semester		2 Semester		
Start of the mo- dule	⊠ Winter semester		☐ Summer semester		

LLM 2b: Academic writing and jurisprudence	LLM	2b: /	Academic	writing	and '	iurisprudence
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Credit Points: 10 Total workload: 250 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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.

- Are familiarized with theories of jurisprudence

<ul> <li>And are able</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Are able to comply with standards of academic writing customary in Germany</li> <li>And are able to competently select a topic for an academic paper, to research effectively and to structure arguments logically.</li> </ul>				
Prerequisites: Nor	ne				
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content		
Seminar (SE)	1 SWS 50 hours 15 hours presence in class, 35 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Basic course Legal theory II: Theories of jurisprudence and interdisciplinary approaches		
Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 200 hours 25 hours presence in class, 175 hours prepara- tion and special task	8 credit points, participation (1 credit point), preparation (2 credit points) and long paper (5 credit points, maximum of 50,000 characters - without spaces)	In-depth seminar Academic Writing		
Final exam	None				
Duration of the module	∑ 1 Semester		2 Semester		
Start of the module	⊠ Winter semester		☐ Summer semester		

### **LLM 3: Research perspectives in Justice & Security, Law & Society, In- novation & Transformation**Credit Points: 5 Total workload: 125 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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.

- Become familiar with the basics of the program's specialization areas (Justice & Security, Law & Society, Innovation & Transformation)
- Can recognize and evaluate research perspectives in these areas
- Are able to develop topic proposals that are suitable for a Master thesis.

Prerequisites: Nor	Prerequisites: None					
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content			
Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Seminar Research perspectives in all profiles: - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation			
Seminar (SE)	1 SWS 75 hours 15 hours presence in class, 60 hours prepara- tion and special task	3 credit points, participation (1 credit point), preparation (1 credit points) and thesis outline (1 credit points, maximum of 4,500 characters - without spaces)	In-depth methodical exercise Coaching in methods for research proposal			
Final exam	None					
Duration of the module	∑ 1 Semester		2 Semester			
Start of the mo- dule			☐ Summer semester			

### LLM 4a: Profile: Justice & Security Credit Points: 15 Total workload: 375 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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.

The lectures and seminars cover a variety of fields, including international criminal law, international peace and security law, international humanitarian law, transitional justice, and human rights law.

- Become familiar with international criminal law, international peace and security law, international humanitarian law and other relevant areas of law
- Can recognize and critically evaluate their impact on justice and security
- Understand the interplay of legal sources, institutions and actors at the international, European and national level.

Prerequisites: None				
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Justice & Security	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Justice & Security	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Justice & Security	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation	

Colloquium (CO)	1 SWS 75 hours 15 hours presence in class, 60 hours prepara- tion and special task	3 credit points - participation (1 credit point), preparation (1 credit point) and oral presentation (1 credit point, 10 to 20 minutes)	Colloquium Colloquium with oral presentation
Final exam	100 hours  240 minutes written exam or 30 minutes of oral exam and preparation	4 credit points, pass	
Duration of the module	☑ 1 Semester		☐ 2 Semester
Start of the mo- dule	☐ Winter semester		⊠ Summer semester

**LLM 4b: Profile: Law & Society**Credit Points: 15
Total workload: 375 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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.

The lectures and seminars cover a variety of fields, including interdisciplinary research on law (theories, methods and challenges), law in societies and law in history, law-making and adjudication in fields such as migration law, law beyond borders, including the role of human rights in different legal contexts, such as asylum and refugee law. In addition to more theoretical and doctrinal perspectives, the module incorporates historical angles and practitioner views.

- Become familiar with the different research areas of law & society, including international human rights and refugee law, European migration law and other relevant areas of law
- Can recognize and critically evaluate their impact on law and society
- Understand the interplay of legal sources, institutions and actors at the international, European and national level.

Prerequisites: None				
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from this profile - Law & Society	
Lecture (L) or Seminar SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Law & Society	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Law & Society	
Lecture (VL) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation	

Colloquium (CO)	1 SWS 75 hours 15 hours presence in class, 60 hours prepara- tion and special task	3 credit points - participation (1 credit point), preparation (1 credit point) and oral presentation (1 credit point, 10 to 20 minutes)	Colloquium Colloquium with oral presentation
Final exam	100 hours  240 minutes written exam or 30 minutes oral exam and preparation	4 credit points, pass	
Duration of the module	☑ 1 Semester		☐ 2 Semester
Start of the mo- dule	☐ Winter semester		Summer semester

#### **LLM 4c: Profile: Innovation & Transformation**

Credit Points: 15 Total workload: 375 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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.

- Become familiar with different fields of technology law, intellectual property, data protection and other areas of law
- Can recognize and critically evaluate their impact on innovation and transformation
- Understand the interplay of legal sources, institutions and actors at the international, European and national level.

Prerequisites: None				
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Innovation & Transformation	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Innovation & Transformation	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profile - Innovation & Transformation	
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation	
Colloquium (CO)	1 SWS 75 hours 15 hours presence in class, 60 hours prepara- tion and special task	3 credit points - participation (1 credit point), preparation (1 credit point) and oral presentation (1 credit point, 10 to 20 minutes)	Colloquium Colloquium with oral presentation	

Final exam	100 hours  240 minutes written exam or 30 minutes oral exam and preparation	4 credit points, pass	
Duration of the module	∑ 1 Semester		☐ 2 Semester
Start of the module	☐ Winter semester		Summer semester

#### LLM 4d: Profile: General

Credit Points: 15 Total workload: 375 hours

#### Learning objectives:

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

- Become familiar with different fields of of law
- Understand the interplay of legal sources, institutions and actors at the international, European and national level in the respective areas of law.

Prerequisites: None			
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation
Lecture (VL) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation
Lecture (L) or Seminar (SE)	2 SWS 50 hours 25 hours presence in class, 25 hours prepara- tion	2 credit points, participation	Specialization course from the profiles - Justice & Security - Law & Society - Innovation & Transformation
Colloquium (CO)	1 SWS 75 hours 15 hours presence in class, 60 hours prepara- tion and special task	3 credit points - participation (1 credit point), preparation (1 credit point) and oral presentation (1 credit point, 10 to 20 minutes)	Colloquium Colloquium with oral presentation

Final exam	100 hours  240 minutes written exam or 30 minutes oral exam and preparation	4 credit points, pass	
Duration of the module	□ 1 Semester		☐ 2 Semester
Start of the mo- dule	☐ Winter semester		Summer semester

 $\boxtimes$  Summer semester

LLM 5: Master Ti	hesis		Credit Points: 15 Total workload: 375 hours
<b>Learning objecti</b> Students learn to		arch on a chosen topi	c, to prepare a master thesis and to defend it.
<ul> <li>can write an</li> </ul>	it independent research d edit an independentl and discuss their main	y structured legal tex	
Prerequisites: Nor Recommendation:		f the module: LLM 2	Legal reasoning and academic writing
Teaching format	Hours per week, workload in hours	Credit Points and prerequisite for granting	Topics, content
Master Thesis	375 hours  325 hours preparation of master thesis (maximum of 100,000 characters - without spaces) in a processing time of 16 weeks  50 hours preparation and holding of oral defense (20 minutes), English	15 credit points, (13 credit points master thesis, 2 credit points oral defense) pass	Master's thesis and defense are weighted at a ratio of 9:1
Duration of the	□ 1 Semester		☐ 2 Semester

module

dule

Start of the mo-

 $\hfill\square$  Winter semester

#### Appendix 2: Ideal study plan

Module- No.	Module Name	1st Semester	2nd Semester
LLM 1	Introduction into European and German Law	5 SWS 10 LP	
LLM 2a	Legal theory and legal reasoning	2 SWS 5 LP	
LLM 2b	Academic writing and jurisprudence	3 SWS 10 LP	
LLM 3	Research perspectives in Justice & Security, Law & Society, Innovation & Transformation	3 SWS 5 LP	
LLM 4a LLM 4b LLM 4c LLM 4d	One of the following profiles: Profile: Justice & Security (15 LP) Profile: Law & Society (15 LP) Profile: Innovation & Transformation (15 LP) Profile: General (15 LP)		9 SWS 15 LP
LLM 5	Master Thesis		15 LP
SWS/LP sum per Semester		13 SWS 30 LP	9 SWS 30 LP

# Subject-Specific Examination Regulations

## for the Continuing Education Master's Programme "Humboldt Master of Laws"

Pursuant to § 17 (1) No. 3 of the Constitution of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in the version dated 24 October 2013 (Official Gazette of Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin No. 47/2013), the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Law adopted the following Examination Regulations on 17 October 2024\*:

- § 1 Scope of Application
- § 2 Standard Period of Study
- § 3 Examination Board
- § 4 Master's Thesis
- § 5 Final Grade
- § 6 Completion of Studies
- § 7 Academic Degree
- § 8 Entry into Force

Appendix: Overview of Examinations

#### § 1 Scope of Application

These examination regulations contain the subject-specific rules for the Master's program "Humboldt Master of Laws." They apply in conjunction with the subject-specific study regulations for the Master's program "Humboldt Master of Laws" and the Inter-disciplinary Statute for the Regulation of Admission, Studies, and Examinations (ZSP-HU) in its respective applicable version.

#### § 2 Standard Period of Study

The postgraduate Master's program "Humboldt Master of Laws" has a standard period of study of two semesters.

#### § 3 Examination Board

The Examination Board of the Faculty of Law is responsible for examination matters related to the postgraduate Master's program "Humboldt Master of Laws."

#### § 4 Master's Thesis

- (1) The processing time for the Master's thesis is 16 weeks from the assignment of the topic. The thesis should not exceed 100,000 characters (excluding spaces).
- (2) Master's theses that have been passed must be defended. The defense will last 20 minutes.

#### § 5 Final Grade

- (1) The final grade for the postgraduate Master's program "Humboldt Master of Laws" is calculated based on the grades of the module examinations and the grade of the Master's thesis, weighted according to the performance points assigned for the modules and the Master's thesis as specified in the
- (2) Module examinations that are not graded or are merely marked as "passed" in the context of credit recognition due to non-comparable grading systems, as well as the performance points assigned to the corresponding modules, will not be considered in the calculations according to paragraph 1.

#### § 6 Degree Completion

For a Master's degree, a total of 300 performance points are required, including the first professional university degree. However, in individual cases, this requirement can be adjusted based on the qualification of the students.

#### § 7 Academic Degree

Those who successfully complete the postgraduate Master's program "Humboldt Master of Laws" will be awarded the academic degree "Master of Laws" (abbreviated LL.M.).

#### § 8 Entry into Force

These examination regulations will enter into force the day after their publication in the Official Bulletin of Humboldt University of Berlin.

<sup>\*</sup> The university administration confirmed the examination regulations on March 20, 2025.

#### **Appendix: Overview of examinations**

No.	Module name	Credit Points	Admission requirements for the examination	Type of examination, duration, scope, language of examination	Grading	
Mandato	Mandatory modules <sup>2</sup>					
LLM 1	Introduction into European and German Law	10	None	Written exam, 120 min or oral exam, 20 min, English	yes	
LLM 2a	Legal theory and legal reasoning	5	None	Written exam, 60 min or oral exam, 10 min or short essay, 3 pages / up to 5.000 characters without spaces English	yes	
LLM 2b	Academic writing and jurisprudence	10	None	There is no final exam for this module	no	
LLM 3	Research perspectives in Justice & Security, Law & Society, Innovation & Transformation	5	None	There is no final exam for this module	no	
LLM 5	Master Thesis	15	None	Master thesis with a maximum of 100,000 characters – without spaces- in a processing time of 16 weeks and 20 min oral defense, English	yes	
One of th	One of the following profiles:					
LLM 4a	Profile: Justice & Security	15	None	Written exam, 240 min or oral exam, 30 min, English	yes	
LLM 4b	Profile: Law & Society	15	None	Written exam, 240 min or oral exam, 30 min, English	yes	
LLM 4c	Profile: Innovation & Transformation	15	None	Written exam, 240 min or oral exam, 30 min, English	yes	
LLM 4d	Profile: General	15	None	Written exam, 240 min or oral exam, 30 min, English	yes	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> In the mandatory modules section, all modules must be completed.