Master of Laws (LL.M.)
in Cross-Cultural
Business Practice
Program 2013 - 2014
Fribourg University
Law Faculty
Today, international business is multi-cultural. Globalization drives economic actors across national borders and obliges them to develop business solutions abroad. With direct investments, joint-ventures, franchising or distributorship agreements, as well as with many other contractual arrangements, corporations seek to expand their business horizons. Nonetheless, the legal and cultural differences that divide countries and regions represent a major challenge to international transactions. In order to effectively advise and support their clients, lawyers need to understand the legal and cultural background of their clients’ foreign partners.

With a strong emphasis on international business law, international contracts and compliance, the Fribourg Law Faculty LLM programs are committed to provide high level practical legal education constantly adapted to the employers’ needs thus offering students a clear advantage in their career.

«My main aim was to successfully work in the interaction between Business and Law and today, I can say that the challenge has been taken up!»

Jeyamathy Wickramasingam, Switzerland
Class of 2012-2013
Established more than 250 years ago, Fribourg Law Faculty is at the top of Switzerland’s legal education. Its high level and selective programs, its practice-oriented training, as well as its internationally reputed teaching staff have built an uncontested reputation at national and international level, providing one of the best value degrees for companies and law offices in Switzerland and abroad.

The Fribourg Law Faculty is part of a strategic network of professionals and partnerships throughout the world so that you can benefit from the expertise of the best teachers that currently exist worldwide. Benefits from the ideas and resources exchanged through such alliances are particularly useful in teaching and research.

Located in one of Europe's most important industrial and business hubs, the Fribourg Law Faculty students have open opportunities to study and practice in multinational companies at the same time.

Situated in the heart of Switzerland and Europe, Fribourg is on the linguistic border between the French and German speaking parts of the country. This privileged geographical location makes Fribourg a natural bridge between different languages and cultures. Studying at the University of Fribourg offers a unique opportunity for students to learn several languages.

«This professional experience enabled me to apply legal theory and skills, which I highly elaborated during my LLM studies with its enriching courses offered.»

Mine Ekim, Turkey
Class of 2012-2013, Internship at Harmonic Inc.
The Fribourg Law LLM programs in International Business Law, International Contracts and Arbitration, and Compliance are intended to provide both recent law graduates and practicing lawyers an advanced legal education with a strong emphasis on practice. The curriculum has been specifically designed to give students a clear competitive edge in their careers by providing them with the knowledge and skills most widely sought by international law employers.

Professors of international renown, recognized leaders authorities in their fields, will help you gain the knowledge and skills you need to become a highly valued asset in the eyes of both current and prospective future employers.

The curriculum of the Fribourg Law LLM Programs was developed in close consultation with the legal departments of major Swiss companies and multinational corporations, together with leading international law firms.

Courses are designed to prepare students to demonstrate the practical knowledge and hands-on skills that companies and law firms truly seek when hiring new talent.

With a focus on core lawyering skills, your studies at Fribourg Law will furnish you with the tools you need for a seamless transition from the classroom to law practice.

Partnerships between the Fribourg Law Faculty and a wide range of Swiss and multinational companies open numerous opportunities for legal internships, where you can gain valuable practical experience by putting your learning to work.
Alberto Alemanno, Haute Ecole de Commerce, Paris
Martin Anderson, Baker & McKenzie, Geneva
Catherine Barnard, University of Cambridge
Barbara Boldt, EPFL, Lausanne
Michael Joaquim Bonell, University of Rome I «La Sapienza»
Erdem Büyüksagis, Fribourg University Law Faculty
Mustafa Fadlullah Cerrahoglu, Cerrahoglu Law Firm, Istanbul
Thomas Cottier, Bern University Law School
Madalina Diaconu, Neuchâtel University Law School
Dominique Aloys Dreyer, former Swiss Ambassador to China & India
Dominique J. E. Dreyer, Hartmann & Dreyer, Fribourg
Marwan Issa El-Khoury, Issa El-Khoury Law Office, Beirut
Erdem Ercüment, Erdem & Erdem Law Firm, Istanbul
Diego P. Fernandez Arroyo, Sciences Po, Paris
Gerhard Fiolka, Fribourg University Law Faculty
Marcel Fontaine, Université de Louvain la Neuve Christiana Fountoulakis, Fribourg University Law Faculty
Charles Gustafson, Georgetown University Law Center, Washington D.C.
Anne-Catherine Hahn, Baker & McKenzie, Zurich
Henrik Horn, Research Institute of Industrial Economics, Stockholm
Geraint Howells, Manchester University
Stephanie Jarrett, Baker & McKenzie, Geneva
Alison Jones, King’s College, London
Carsten Jungmann, Bucerius Law School, Hamburg
Daniel Kraus, Neuchâtel University Law School
Matthias Lehmann, Martin Luther University, Halle-Wittenberg
Mark Livschitz, Baker & McKenzie, Zurich
Juan Marchetti, World Trade Organization, Geneva
Petros Mavroidis, Neuchâtel University Law School and European Institute, Florence
Dr. Kirtikumar Mehta, former Cartels Director at EC Competition General Directorate
Marcel Niggli, Dean of Fribourg University Law Faculty
Hiroshi Oda, UCL Faculty of Laws, London
Emilia Onyema, School of African and Oriental Studies, London
Bettina Palazzo, Palazzo & Palazzo Consulting, Lausanne
Georgios Petrochilos, Freshfields, Bruckhaus, Deringer LLP, Paris
Pascal Pichonnaz, Fribourg University Law Faculty
Michelle Reed, PPG Industries, Rolle
Francisco Reyes, Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá
Thomas Robinson, Swisscom user observatory research lab, Bern
Rafael Rodriguez, KBA-NotaSys SA, Lausanne
Isabelle Romy, Fribourg University Law Faculty and EPFL, Lausanne
Moussa Samb, Université Cheikh Anta Diop, Dakar
Geoffrey Samuel, University of Kent
Michael E. Schneider, Lalive Partners, Geneva
Aladar Sebeni, Institute for International Business Law, Fribourg
Laurent Sigismondi, Novartis International AG
Pierre Tercier, Fribourg University Law Faculty
Henri Torrione, Fribourg University Law Faculty
Franz Werro, Fribourg University Law Faculty and Georgetown University Law Center
Jean-Claude Werz, AXA Winterthour
Mingjie Zhang, Zhong Lun Law Firm, Shanghai
Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS)

The Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) helps those who already possess fundamental lawyering skills develop and update, in a limited time, the specific knowledge in the areas of international contract law and arbitration, and compliance.

CAS students must earn at least 10 ECTS credits, as follows:

- 8 ECTS credits (4 to 6 modules) by completing exams
- 2 ECTS credits by preparing a Certificate Thesis.

Tuition fees amount to CHF 8'000.- and are payable in equal installments before each module. The fee for supplementary units is CHF 500.-* per ECTS credit.

A 10% discount applies if tuition fees are paid in a single installment before the commencement of the first unit.

*1 CHF is equivalent approximately to EUR 0.80, USD 1.13, or GBP 0.67

Master of Laws (LLM)

LLM programs enable you to acquire the necessary capabilities to become a successful practitioner in the fields of international business law, contracts and arbitration, and compliance. In addition to a solid theoretical basis, the programs provide you with practical insight, allowing you to practice immediately following your studies.

LLM students must earn at least 60 ECTS credits, out of which:

- 50 ECTS credits by completing exams and practical activity (internships, study trips etc.)
- 10 ECTS credits by preparing a Master’s Thesis

The tuition fees for the core modules of the LLM Programs are of CHF 18'500.-. The fee for supplementary units is CHF 500.- per ECTS credit. Payment is due upon commencement of the unit.

*1 CHF is approximately equivalent to EUR 0.80, USD 1.13 or GBP 0.67.

Cumulative discounts of up to 15% on tuition fees may be obtained for early registration and/ or early payment. For details, please consult our website.
Curriculum

International Business Law (LLM)

- courses presenting a detailed overview of key areas of business law, from contract law in an international context, to private international law, anti-trust law, tax law, EU institutional law, EU internal market law, WTO law and intellectual property law;
- specialized courses on law and business in the world’s fastest growing economies – in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America;
- cross-disciplinary courses in economics and business anthropology;
- participation in legal clinics and moot courts
- business negotiation training, legal drafting; and other skills-oriented courses and seminars.

Contracts and Arbitration (LLM, CAS)

- a comparative introduction to contracts in civil law and common law jurisdictions;
- graduate level courses on International Arbitration and Private International Law
- seminars on key international instruments, including the UNIDROIT Principles for International Commercial Contracts, the Vienna Convention for the International Sales of Goods; the Principles of European Contract Law and the INCOTERMS;
- intensive courses on specific contract types of particular importance in international commerce, including construction contracts, agency and distributorship agreements, joint venture and consortium agreements, consumer contracts, insurance contracts, professional sports contracts, mergers and acquisition agreements, secured transactions, trusts and wealth planning structures, etc.
- specialized courses on law and business in the world’s fastest growing economies - in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America;
- legal clinics and moot courts;
- business negotiation training, legal drafting and other skills-oriented courses and seminars.

Compliance (LLM, CAS)

- an introductory course on compliance and compliance systems;
- graduate level courses on the main areas of compliance law, including the regulatory regimes governing taxation, antitrust issues, labor relations, banking, environmental production, trade and commerce, customs clearance, corruption and money laundering, and risk management;
- specialized courses on law and business in the world’s fastest growing economies - in Asia, Africa, the Middle East, and Latin America;
- legal clinics and moot courts;
- business negotiation training, legal drafting and other skills-oriented courses and seminars.

For further details, please download the Fribourg Law LLM/CAS program structure on our website.
Entry Requirements

The LLM programs were designed to meet the demands of experienced lawyers and recent law graduates of proven ability.

The Certificate of Advanced Studies is designed for lawyers practicing in independent law firms or in the legal departments of multinational corporations or other companies operating internationally, or in non-governmental or international organizations.

The programs are also open to graduates with university degrees other than law who have practical experience in the relevant field.

“As employers were impressed with my international business law exposure, the program enabled me to secure employment at top-11 national accounting firm and then a Wall Street corporate financing firm.”

Chad Yazzie, USA
Class of 2010-2011
Program Directors

Prof. Dr. Franz Werro
Fribourg University Law Faculty
Georgetown University Law Center

Prof. Dr. Pascal Pichonnaz
Fribourg University Law Faculty

Prof. Dr. Marc Amstutz
Fribourg University Law Faculty

Prof. Dr. Thomas Cottier
Bern University Law School

Prof. Dr. Dorothea Herren
Bern University Law School

Prof. Dr. Evelyne Clerc
Neuchâtel University Law School

Prof. Dr. Petros Mavroidis
Neuchâtel University Law School
European University Institute (Florence)
Columbia University Law School (New York)
Advisory Board

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Prof. Richard Buxbaum, International Law, Berkeley Law, UC Berkeley
Dr. Dominique Dreyer, Former Swiss Ambassador to India & China
Prof. Anwar Fazal, Chairperson of Taiping Peace Initiative, Director of the Right Livelihood College, University Sains Malaysia
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Prof. Jan-Anders Månson, Vice-Président of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne
Prof. Stephen P. Marks, Health & Human Rights Law, Harvard School of Public Health, Director of the François-Xavier Bagnoud Center for Health & Human Rights, Harvard School of Public Health
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Prof. Carrie Menkel-Meadow, Dispute Resolution & Civil Procedure, Georgetown University Law Center
Dr. Zhang Mingjie, Boss & Young Attorneys at Law, Shanghai & Beijing
Prof. Laura Nader, Social & Cultural Anthropology, Berkeley University
Prof. Jan Paulsson, Dundee University Law School, co-Head of the international arbitration group at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, President of the Administrative Tribunals of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, President of the Commercial Council for Commercial Arbitration
Prof. Miguel Poiares Maduro, European Law, European University Institute
Prof. Ruth Sefton-Green, Private Law, Comparative Law, Paris I-Sorbonne University
Prof. em. Pierre Tercier, Law of Obligations, Fribourg University Law School, Honorary President of the International Court of Arbitration, ICC, Paris
Prof. em. Roland von Büren, Commercial Law, Competition Law, Intellectual Property Law, Bern University Law School
Pfor. Hans-Peter Walter, Private & Economic Law, Bern University Law School
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