

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS LAW (IBL) – MASTER

VU  **VRIJE
UNIVERSITEIT
AMSTERDAM**

LOOKING FURTHER

International Business Law Master – General Information

- The International Business Law (**IBL**) Master's programme focuses on rules and practices that are relevant for international business transactions
- You will study the main legal areas and the interaction between the actors involved in transactions
- You will develop skills to anticipate, analyze and address legal problems that may arise in international business
- The programme focuses on private law

International Business Law Master – General Information

- Supervision by the Programme Board (Dr. R. Mellenbergh and Ms. I. Ciobanasu LLM)
- Education Committee: two elected student members, plus two lecturers (Dr. C. Kaupa and Dr. M. Zilinsky)
- Advisory Board, including a partner of the Dutch law firm De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek, a professor from Oxford University, the legal director of Euronext Brussels and an alumna

International Business Law Master – General Information

- International classes – in English
- Classes given by academics and legal practitioners
- Selective admission

International Business Law Master – General Information

- Small scale master programme with an international group of students
- Classes with an interactive character (i.e., writing papers, oral presentations) and a separate (mandatory) Research Seminar
- Unique location, right in the heart of the business district of Amsterdam (many international law firms and banks are located nearby VU University Amsterdam)
- One year programme

Programme structure: choice between two profiles

Compulsory courses (in total 36 ECTS):

- International Contract Law (12 EC)
- International Company Law (6 EC)
- Research Seminar (6 ECTS)
- Master Thesis (12 ECTS)

1. Profile *Regulatory* (24 ECTS)

2. Profile *Transactions* (24 ECTS)

Total of required credits: 60 ECTS (minimum)

Profile Regulatory

- **Compulsory courses (18 EC) – three of the four courses:**
 - International Trade and Investment Law (6 ECTS)
 - EU Internal Market Law (6 ECTS)
 - Competition Law (6 EC)
 - International Business and Internet Law: Privacy, Security and Contracting (6 ECTS)
- **Optional course (6 ECTS):**
 - One of the courses from the other profile

Profile Transactions

- **Compulsory courses (18 EC) – three of the four courses:**
 - International Arbitration (6 EC)
 - Private International Law (6 ECTS)
 - International Intellectual Property Law (6 ECTS)
 - International Tax Law (6 ECTS)
- **Optional course (6 ECTS):**
 - One of the courses from the other profile

Choice of profile

- Deadline to decide on the profile: mid-September
- Courses from the other profile remain optional courses
- It is not allowed to choose both profiles

Master Thesis

- Choice of topic
- Approach the supervisor/discussion of topic with supervisor (December 2016)
- Submission of the Master's thesis design (signed by student and supervisor) – February 2017
- Draft Introduction, Table of contents, Bibliography: discuss with supervisor – March/April 2017
- Draft thesis – end of May 2017
- Early June 2017 – submission of the Master thesis
- Mid-June: oral defense of the Master thesis
- **Graduation Ceremony** – beginning of July 2017

Internships

- Possible preferably from mid June till September (preferably NOT during the period in which the Master thesis must be written)
- Students must arrange such internship themselves, although some companies file requests with the IBL Programme Board (offers will be published on Blackboard)
- 6 EC:
 - The company and the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam (i.e., the IBL Programme Board) must sign an agreement in relation to the internship
 - Specific requirements must be met (i.e., a minimum number of hours, a positive review of the supervisor/company, and a written report by the student)

Career prospects

- Professional business lawyer at an international law firm/own practice
- In-house legal counsel of a company (multinationals, accounting, banks, or investment firms)
- Legal professional for governmental institutions, central banks or international organizations, NGO's
- Ph.D. candidate

Career prospects

- *Keuzegids Masters 2016* (the guide for prospective master students in the Netherlands):

IBL of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam is the best master in the field of international business law in the Netherlands

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