

INSTITUT FÜR AUSLÄNDISCHES  
UND INTERNATIONALES  
PRIVAT- UND WIRTSCHAFTSRECHT



UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG  
ZUKUNFT  
SEIT 1386

**ERASMUS PROGRAMME AT THE LAW FACULTY  
OF THE RUPRECHT-KARLS-UNIVERSITY OF  
HEIDELBERG**

# **INFORMATION FOR ERASMUS INCOMING STUDENTS**

PRINT VERSION  
DECEMBER 2022



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## **LAW COURSES IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The Faculty of Law regularly offers courses in English language.

Therefore please take note of the section "Europarecht, Völkerrecht, Internationales und Ausländisches Recht" (European Union Law, International Law, Comparative Law), in the online course catalogue ("LSF") or in the annotated course catalogue, which is regularly published in print about two weeks before the start of lectures.

Depending on the semester, additional courses may be offered.

<https://www.jura.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/lehrveranstaltungen.html>

## **LEGAL LANGUAGE COURSES AND FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES**

The **Law Faculty** regularly offers the following **law and foreign language courses** in the respective foreign language.

Depending on the semester, additional courses may be offered. Therefore please take note of the section "**Rechts- und Fremdsprachenausbildung**" (Law and Foreign Language Training), in the online course catalogue ("LSF") or in the annotated course catalogue, which is regularly published in print about two weeks before the start of lectures.

<https://www.jura.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/lehrveranstaltungen.html>

You can find an overview of the law and foreign language education at the Law Faculty at:

[https://www.jura.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/internationales/fremdsprachige\\_veranstaltungen.html](https://www.jura.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/internationales/fremdsprachige_veranstaltungen.html)

Information on language courses in foreign languages offered at the "Zentrales Sprachlabor" can be found in the LSF in the section "Courses For Students of All Faculties" and from there "**Zentrales Sprachlabor (ZSL)**". You can also take a look at the website of the ZSL:

[www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/index.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/index.html)

## **LEGAL LANGUAGE COURSES OF THE LAW FACULTY**

### **INTRODUCTION TO FRENCH LAW**

#### **Introduction to French Law and Legal Language – Civil Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of French
- The course is generally offered in the winter semester.

In the winter term, the lecture gives an overview of the general part of the Civil Code (*droit civil*). The fundamental notions of the French Civil Code will be introduced, such as the definition of French Civil Law, the Code civil, civil jurisdictions or civil marriage in France. Fundamental decisions of the French Court of Cassation will be also discussed. An exercise on the French methodology of the "*fiche d'arrêt*" will be offered.

During the winter term, the introduction to French Civil Law concentrates on the following topics: Introduction to French Civil Law; the sources of law system in France (hierarchy of norms, the French Constitution, the types of legislation, International and European Law); the civil procedure in France (with a case study); subjective rights; the individualisation of people in private law; the civil union; separation and divorce.

#### **Introduction to French Law – Civil Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of French
- The course is generally offered in the summer semester.

The introduction to French Civil Law presents the fundamental notions of the civil law system based on legal codes, statues and law cases. This lecture aims at studying the definition of civil law, its different branches, its evolution, and its attributions in France.

During the summer term, the introduction to French civil law focuses on the contract law (*droit des obligations*). The following topics will be addressed by a comparative law approach: introduction to French contract law, the notion of contract, the forms of contract, the conclusion of a contract, the effects of a contract, the extinction of a contract and civil liability.

### **Introduction to French Law – Public Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of French
- The course is generally offered in the winter semester.

In the winter term, the lecture gives an overview of the French Constitutional Law. The fundamental notions of the French public law will be introduced, such as the definition of French public law, the Constitution, administrative jurisdictions or types of law in France. Fundamental French decisions of the Council of State and the Constitutional Council will be also discussed. An exercise on the French methodology of the *fiche d'arrêt* will be offered.

During the winter term, the introduction to French Public Law concentrates on the following topics: Introduction to French public law; the sources of law system in France (hierarchy of norms, the French Constitution, the types of legislation, International and European Law...); executive branch I: *le Président de la République*; Executive branch II: the government; the legislative branch: the French Parliament; the creation of an Act in France.

### **Introduction to French Law – Public Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of French
- The course is generally offered in the summer semester.

The introduction to French Public Law presents the fundamental notions of public law system based on legal codes, statues and law cases. This lecture aims at studying the definition of public law, its different branches, its evolution and the institutions, which constitute it and act for it.

During the summer semester, the introduction to French public law focuses on administrative law. The following topics will be covered: introduction to French



Administrative Law, the organization of the administration in France, regional and local authorities, public service, administrative police, administrative contracts and procedures.

## **INTRODUCTION TO ANGLO-AMERICAN LAW**

After each semester, an examination can be taken with regard to the contents covered in the respective semester. A final examination can be taken after two semesters after attending the courses on US-American law (public law and civil law).

### **Introduction to Anglo-American Law – Civil Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of English

The course is aimed at students in the middle of their studies. Regular reading of the materials before the course and their discussion in the course are required.

The contents in detail (subject to change):

Part I: Introduction to the Common and USA Law System, as well as Tort, Criminal and Contract Law

Part II: Personal & Real Property; Bailment; Wills and Trust

### **Introduction to Anglo-American Law and Legal Language – Public Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of English, basic knowledge of the US-American constitutional law („separation of powers“ und „federalism“); German constitutional law or a different constitutional system

The contents in detail (subject to change):

Part I: Separation of powers and federalism; Case Law

Part II: Individual Rights and Liberties; focus on Due Process and Equal Protection; Case Law

Part III: Individual Rights and Liberties; Focus on the Freedom of Speech and the Freedom of Religion; Case Law

## **FURTHER LEGAL LANGUAGE COURSES**

### **Comparative Constitutional Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of English (preferably C1)

The course focuses on key elements of constitutionalism in a comparative perspective, with emphasis on the maintenance of the rule of law and the protection of human rights in a multi-level constitutional system.

The following topics will be covered: Constitutional models; the legitimacy of comparative constitutionalism; constitutional justice: models and institutions; the horizontal separation of powers: the relationship between the different branches of government; forms of government; sovereignty and its limits: the relationship between domestic law and international law; European Union law and domestic law: Cooperation and Frictions; the Rule of Law and its Different Meanings; Constitutional Guarantees of Democracy; the Tests for Limiting Human Rights; Religious Freedom in a Multicultural Context; States of Exception, Combating Terrorism; Constitutionalization of International Law; the Role of European Institutions in Maintaining the Rule of Law in Member States.

### **Introduction to Italian Civil Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: basic knowledge of the Italian language

The course introduces the basic concepts and legal institutions of Italian civil law and provides knowledge of Italian legal terminology. After an introduction to the Italian legal system and sources of law, the course provides an overview of the function, meaning and essential contents of the following areas of law: family and inheritance law, property law, law of obligations and property liability.

### **Introduction to Italian Company Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: basic knowledge of the Italian language

The aim of the course is to familiarize the participants with the main features of Italian company law and Italian legal terminology. The first part of the course will deal with the contract of partnership in general, its deviations from the general contract law, as well as the legal regulations regarding partnerships. In the second part of the course, the law of the Italian joint-stock company will be discussed, as well as the most important differences between the joint-stock company and the limited liability company.

### **Introduction to Portuguese and Brazilian Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Basic knowledge of Portuguese
- Course is generally offered in the winter semester

The first part of the course will deal with Brazilian and Portuguese constitutional law, including state organization law, fundamental rights and current political events and developments in constitutional law. In the second part, issues of Brazilian and Portuguese private law will be discussed, in particular the basic concepts and legal institutions of the General Part, the Law of Obligations, the Law of Property, Family Law and the Law of Succession of both legal systems. The corresponding terminology is covered in both parts.

### **Introduction to Spanish Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Requirements: Good knowledge of the Spanish language

The course provides an overview of the basic concepts and terminology of Spanish civil law and other Spanish-language civil laws. In the first part of the course, an introduction to the Ibero-American history of codification will be presented. In the second part, individual legal institutions and basic concepts of Spanish civil law will be covered with special attention to the most important differences to the German Civil Code (BGB).

### **Introduction to Turkish Private Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits
- Basic knowledge of the Turkish language is preferred but not required.
- The course is generally offered every semester as a block course at the end of the lecture period.

The aim of the course is to familiarise the participants with the main features of the Turkish legal system and legal terminology. After an introduction to the Turkish legal system, the basic concepts and legal institutions of civil law will be discussed. The focus of this course is not only on the family, inheritance and property law, this course focusses on the general part of the new Turkish law of obligations. Turkish company law is also dealt with on the basis of the new Commercial Code. The knowledge of Turkish law is not only of theoretical importance, but there are also many opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills acquired directly in practice. Students who have successfully completed the course are in a position to advise third parties in the field of Turkish law. In addition, the programme offers the opportunity to prepare students who wish to participate in an Erasmus programme with a partner university in Turkey for such study abroad.

## **Introduction to Arab Law**

- 2 SWS = 3 ECTS credits

- The course is generally offered each semester as a block course at the end of the lecture period.

The lecture will provide an introduction to the Arabic language and Arabic legal terminology. The modern codifications of the Arab countries and current developments will be dealt with, but also the historical background in order to present a clear picture of the special features of Arab law. The following questions will be answered through legal comparison: What are the similarities and differences between Arab countries? To what extent is the law there influenced by Islam? What are the points of conflict with the West? What are the future prospects of Arab law in the increasingly globalised world? The following topics will be covered: Introduction to the Arabic language; the legislation of Arab countries and Islamic law; constitutional law, fundamental rights and freedoms; international law; family law; inheritance law; the recognised religious law of non-Muslim religious communities; criminal law.

### **Note:**

Further introductions to foreign legal systems and their legal language may take place. For this, see the section "**Legal and foreign language training**" of the current LSF at:

<https://www.jura.uni-heidelberg.de/studium/lehrveranstaltungen.html>

## **GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG**

The following institutions of Heidelberg University offer **language courses** for foreign and ERASMUS students:

### **INTERNATIONAL SUMMER COURSE**

The "International Summer Course" is held annually in August. Within the International Summer Course, various courses with different content focuses and levels are offered for the German language. Language lessons take place in the mornings. In the afternoons, participants can choose from subject and level-specific courses, as well as study groups, lectures, concerts, cultural and social events. German students help with leisure activities.

The course fee is 730,- € (as of 2022). Registration is no longer possible after the last registration deadline or when the maximum number of participants (500) has been reached. For further information, please see: [https://www.zuv.uni-heidelberg.de/international/ferienkurs/index\\_en.html](https://www.zuv.uni-heidelberg.de/international/ferienkurs/index_en.html).

### **INTERNATIONAL STUDY CENTRE (MAX-WEBER-HOUSE)**

The International Study Center (Max Weber House) regularly organizes the following **German language courses**. For further information, please see: [https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e\\_index.html](https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e_index.html).

### **Preparatory German Courses for Exchange Students**

4-week intensive course = 8 ECTS credits

- for the summer semester in march/april
- for the winter semester in september

Further information is available at:

[https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e\\_courses.html#Austauschstudierende](https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e_courses.html#Austauschstudierende)

### **German Language Courses for Exchange and Master's students**

4 or 8 SWS (hours per week) = 6 or 12 ECTS credits

- in the winter semester: middle of october - begin of february
- in the summer semester: middle of april - end of july

Further information is available at:

[https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e\\_courses.html#Austauschstudierende](https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e_courses.html#Austauschstudierende)

### **German for Law Students**

4 SWS (hours per week) = 8 ECTS credits

Further information is available at:

[https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e\\_courses\\_sbk.html](https://isz.uni-heidelberg.de/e_courses_sbk.html)

### **CENTRAL LANGUAGE LABORATORY (ZSL)**

The Central Language Laboratory (ZSL) offers various language courses at different levels for foreign languages. Regularly, a course lasts 4 SWS (basic and intermediate level = 4 ECTS credits; advanced level = 5 ECTS credits). For further information, please see: [www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/index.html](http://www.uni-heidelberg.de/zsl/index.html)