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what specialisation for 21st century legal professionals?

Master of Law (MLaw)

GENERAL OUTLINE

Objectives

The Master of Law seeks to broaden, develop and supplement knowledge acquired in the Bachelor's degree. The Master of Law programme is designed to allow you to orient your studies according to your interests and professional ambitions. You can therefore opt for a "general" Master's, i.e. without subject area, freely compiling your programme from available Master's courses, or combine your Master's degree with one or two subject areas focusing on any of the following fields: Business Law, Criminal Law, Environmental Climate Law, International and Comparative Law, International Tax Law and Policy, Labour Law and Social Security, Legal Theory, Litigation Law, Private and Tax Law of Estates, Public Law.

Career prospects

University studies develop a great many transverse skills such as: oral and written communication, critical, analytical and summarising faculties, abilities in research, and so on. This panoply of skills, combined with specialist knowledge acquired in the course of studies, is excellent preparation for a wide range of employment opportunities.

The Master of Law paves the way to training as a barrister or notary and prepares students to enter various legal professions available in public administration, the courts, private companies and international organisations.

Other career prospects can be considered, for example in culture, politics or business.

Alumni testimonials and other information: unil.ch/perspectives/unil-et-apres

GENERAL INFORMATION

Organiser

School of Law, Faculty of Law, Criminal Justice and Public Administration:
www.unil.ch/ecolededroit

Degree awarded

Master of Law (MLaw)
One or two subject areas may be chosen: Business Law, Criminal Law, Environmental and Climate Law, International and Comparative Law, International Tax Law and Policy, Labour Law and Social Security, Legal Theory, Litigation Law, Private and Tax Law of Estates, Public Law

ECTS credits

90

Duration

3 semesters

Teaching language

Courses are mainly taught in French. Recommended level: C1. A few specific courses are given in English or German. See the course content on the School website:
www.unil.ch/ecolededroit

Contact

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Regulations and additional information concerning the course

www.unil.ch/ecolededroit
Updated study plans:
www.unil.ch/ecolededroit

EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

Description

The Master of Law programme corresponds to 90 ECTS credits, distributed as follows:

- Module 1 : 69 credits for the courses;
- Module 2 : 6 credits for personal work or seminar;
- Module 3 : 15 credits for the Master's thesis.

To obtain a Master of Law with one or more subject areas, you must complete the courses, worth 30 ECTS credits, specific to these subject areas, and validate personal work and the Master's thesis in the subject area.

SYLLABUS

- * Compulsory course to obtain the subject area
 - ** Compulsory free choice course to obtain the subject area
- Refer to the "study plan" page on the School's website to view the list of free-choice courses eligible for each subject area.

Business Law

- * Advanced Contract Law
- * International Economic Law
- * Mergers, Acquisitions and Takeover Bid Regulations

Criminal Law

- * Economic Criminal Law/DPA
- * Criminal Procedure/DPA
- * International Mutual Judicial Assistance in Criminal Matters

Environmental and Climate Law

- * Environmental Law
- * Law of Energy and the Energy Transition
- * Environment and Human Rights
- * Criminal Law and Environment

International and Comparative Law

- ** Comparative Constitutional Law
- ** Law of Switzerland-EU Relations
- ** International Economic Law
- ** International Humanitarian Law
- ** International Commercial Arbitration
- ** International Commercial Litigation
- ** International Human Rights Law
- ** International Law and Its Relations with Domestic Legal Systems

International Tax Law and Policy

- * Advanced Issues in International and European Tax Law
- * International and European Tax Law
- * International Tax Policy

Labour Law and Social Security

- * Social Insurance Law
- * Labour Law
- * Vocational Pension Schemes

Legal Theory

- * Common Foundations of European Law
- * Philosophy of Law II (offered every other year)
- * General Principles of Private Law

Litigation Law

- * Civil Procedure
- * Administrative Procedure and Jurisdiction
- * Criminal Procedure/DPA

Private and Tax Law of Estates

- * Real Estate Law
- * Tax Law of Estates
- * Matrimonial and Inheritance Planning

Public Law

- ** Territorial Development and Building Policy
- ** Advanced Administrative Law
- ** Comparative Constitutional Law (offered every other year)
- ** Administrative Procedure & Jurisdiction
- ** Energy and Energy Transition Law
- ** Environmental Law
- ** Law of Public Markets (offered every other year)

General (no specific subject area)

Refer to the general list of courses in the study plan available on the School's website

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Admission requirements

Candidates must be holders of a Bachelor of Law. The Equivalences Commission decides upon whether to accept holders of a diploma in foreign law, subject to the candidate's formal admissibility to the Master's degree.

Enrolment and final dates

It is possible to start the Master of Law degree in either the autumn or the spring semesters. Applications must be submitted to the Admissions Department (www.unil.ch/immat) before the deadline:

Autumn semester: 30 April

Spring semester: 30 November

Candidates needing a visa to study in Switzerland must apply for enrolment at least two months prior to the deadlines indicated above.

Start of courses

Autumn semester: mid-September

Spring semester: mid-February

Academic calendar: www.unil.ch/central/calendar

Part-time Master's degree

Under certain conditions, a Master programme can be followed part-time.
www.unil.ch/formations/master-temps-partiel

Timetables

www.unil.ch/ecolededroit

Mobility

You may complete one semester (max. 30 credits) in German-speaking Switzerland or abroad.

General information on studies and guidance

www.unil.ch/soc

Accommodation and financial assistance

www.unil.ch/sasme

International

www.unil.ch/international

Version: March 2023
Subject to changes
Only the official texts should be considered binding.

www.unil.ch/masters

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