

**Master of Laws
Advanced Studies Programmes**



**Universiteit
Leiden**
The Netherlands

**COURSE AND EXAMINATION
REGULATIONS**

Valid from 1 September 2024

**Academic Year
2024-2025**

Leiden Law School
Leiden University

**MASTER OF LAWS
ADVANCED STUDIES PROGRAMMES
COURSE AND EXAMINATION REGULATIONS
LEIDEN LAW SCHOOL**

These Master of Laws Advanced Studies Course and Examination Regulations (the “**Rules**”) apply to the teaching and examinations of all Master of Advanced Studies Programmes of Leiden University Law School (the “**Programmes**”).

The Rules have been approved by the Faculty Board of Leiden Law School and by the Board of Leiden University and are applicable as of 1 September 2024.

Only Dutch law and the rules and regulations of Leiden Law School and Leiden University are applicable to the Programmes and to the legal relationship between students and Leiden University, and to the legal relationship between any institution with which Leiden University holds a contractual arrangement concerning participation in one or more of the Programmes. Only the relevant Dutch legal authority is authorised to act in the case of any disputes.

The official place of education is Leiden and The Hague.

Leiden University wants to create a safe environment for everyone: staff, students and guests. In order to create and maintain such an environment, the Code of Conduct International Students in Higher Education and Code of Conduct on Digital Teaching (as defined below) were established to provide guidelines relating to proper standards of behavior for staff, students and guests and what to do when one of these guidelines is breached.

Article 1

Terms and Definitions

- 1.1 Academic Board: the Director, Academic Coordinator, and Programme Coordinator together. The Academic Board is chaired by the Director or their nominee. It deals with particular aspects of the academic strategy for the Programme.
- 1.2 Academic Coordinator: the person responsible for the day to day running of the Programme on the academic level.
- 1.3 Assessments: the testing of the knowledge, the understanding and the form in which the insight and the skills of the Student in relation to a particular course are tested, as well as the appraisal of the outcome of those skills as designated by the allocated Examiner(s). The Assessment is conducted according to the method determined by the Board of Examiners to assure the quality of the Assessment. An Assessment can consist of more than one test. Assessments can be Exams and Practical assessments or any combination thereof.
- 1.4 Code of Conduct International Students in Higher Education: the code that sets out standards for Dutch higher education institutions in their dealings with international students;
http://www.vsnul.nl/files/documenten/Domeinen/Accountability/Codes/Code_of_Conduct_International_Students.pdf
- 1.5 Code of Conduct on Digital Teaching; the code that provides guidelines for teaching and learning in digital environments, remote environments or any form of teaching that is primarily dependent on

IT Services; <https://www.organisatiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/reglementen/algemeen/gedragscode-remote-teaching>

- 1.6 Degree: the Master of Laws Advanced Studies Degree as accredited by the NVAO and resulting from successful completion of all designated courses within the relevant Programme
- 1.7 Digital Learning Environment: a digital environment such as Brightspace in which students can work together, communicate and learn.
- 1.8 Director: the person directly responsible for the Programme continuity, curriculum and development.
- 1.9 ECTS: European Credit Transfer System.
- 1.10 ECTS study points: number of study points for each course according to the ECTS whereby 1 ECTS study point in principle equals 28 hours of study.
- 1.11 Exams: the exams which are specifically linked to the Programmes, and each course within the Programmes.
- 1.12 Examiner: the person appointed by the Board of Examiners to conduct Exams.
- 1.13 Board of Examiners: the commission for the Programmes as established and appointed by the Faculty Board. In accordance with the relevant legal provisions, the Board of Examiners is responsible for upholding the tasks, powers and measures as defined in the “Regulations from the Board of Examiners, Master of Laws: Advanced Studies Programmes, Leiden Law School”.
- 1.14 Final paper or Thesis: the work submitted by a student to qualify as a Practical assessments as defined under Article 1.17.
- 1.15 NVAO: Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatie Organisatie, i.e., the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders.
- 1.16 PAC: Programme Advisory Committee / Opleidingscommissie. The PAC advises on educational matters of the Programmes. The PAC consists of two members of the academic staff and two student members.
- 1.17 Practical assessments:
- the writing of a thesis/final paper at the end of the programme constituting a separate course component;
 - the writing of a paper;
 - the results of carrying out a research project or assignment;
 - the result of an oral presentation;
 - the undertaking and completing of an internship (Air and Space Law programme only); or
 - taking part in another educational activity/course which is specifically aimed at acquiring certain skills.
- Practical assessments can take place orally or in written form, online or offline, or any combination of these methods.
- 1.18 The Programmes are Master of Laws Advanced Studies in:
- Air and Space Law;

- European and International Business Law;
 - Public International Law;
 - International Civil and Commercial Law;
 - Law & Digital Technologies;
 - European and International Human Rights Law;
 - International Children's Rights;
 - Law and Finance and
 - International dispute settlement and Arbitration.
- 1.19 Programme Coordinator: the person responsible for the day to day running of the Programme on the management level.
- 1.20 Prospectus: the digital study guide or prospectus, containing specific information regarding the programmes. <https://studiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en>
- 1.21 Quality Assurance Coordinator: the overall coordinator for the quality assurance for all Programmes. The Quality Assurance Coordinator acts as secretary for the QAS.
- 1.22 QAS Committee: Quality Assurance Steering Committee / Onderwijs Bestuur for the Programmes. The QAS is responsible for upholding the quality of the Programmes. The QAS consists of the relevant member of the Faculty Board or the person designated to that purpose as the chairperson, the Directors, the Head of the Office for International Education and the Quality Assurance Coordinator.
- 1.23 Register: Leiden University Register of Study Programmes. The Register records all the University's degree programmes maintained under the supervision of the Executive Board, as referred to in Article 7 of the Executive and Management Regulation (*Bestuurs- en Beheersreglement*).
- 1.24 Student: the person who is registered with Leiden University to follow the Programme and is permitted to take the Exams for the Programme of which they are registered.
- 1.25 Working Day: Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays and the compulsory closure days specified by the Executive Board;

SECTION A: Programme and Entry Requirements

Article 2

Entry and Admission to the Programmes

2.1 Entry and Admission per September 2024 or February 2025

2.1.1 Applicants must have:

- a full degree in Law offering access to legal practice in the country where it was obtained from a recognised University / Law School, or a degree in a related field of study for the programme applied for;
- two letters of recommendation from current or previous professors and/or employers;
- show a keen interest in the subject-matters covered by the Programme, illustrated by a letter of motivation;
- documented evidence of relevant (work) experience (if applicable); and
- proven English-language proficiency test no older than two years at the time of application, validated through a TOEFL test (100 Internet-based) or IELTS test (7.0) or Cambridge CPE/CAE 185 with the correct band scores of 20/6.0/169 or higher for all band scores (with the exception of writing which must have a band score of /6.5/22/176 or higher). This test may occasionally be complemented by a telephone or video interview.

This language requirement does not apply to students who have:

- An English taught International Baccalaureate diploma or an IB with English A;
- A diploma of secondary or higher education taught in English and completed in Australia, Canada, Ireland, Malta, New Zealand, Singapore, the United Kingdom, the United States or South Africa; or
- A diploma from a university programme taught in English at a Dutch research university.

2.1.3 An application to a Programme will be considered when an applicant has completed all the required entry requirements as mentioned under “entry requirements” on the website <https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/law/education/advanced-masters-programmes#admission-requirements> (General and Programme Specific Requirements)

2.1.4 Meeting the admission requirements does not necessarily guarantee an admission offer. Students are selected on the basis of overall merit and on a diversified body of students.

Article 3

Aim of the Programmes

The aim of the Programmes, the learning outcomes and the end qualifications are described in the NVAO accreditation reports for each individual Programme. See appendix 1.

Article 4

General Programme Information and Quality Assurance

4.1 Each Programme consists of 60 ECTS study points.

4.2 The Programmes have an intake 1 September each year.
Air & Space Law also has an intake on 1 February each year.

The educational courses of the Programme follow the uniform semester classification of Leiden University.

- 4.3 All courses are taught in English.
- 4.4 The Programmes are accredited by the NVAO and conform to the quality standards and levels set for national and international degree programmes. The Programmes also meet the educational and quality requirements set out by the Leiden University Register of Study Programmes, Framework Document.
- 4.5 The duties and rules set by the Board of Examiners establish the rules concerning the performance of its tasks and responsibilities and the measures it can take in this respect.
- 4.6 The QAS Committee advises the Faculty Board on matters of quality assurance.
- 4.7 Educational programme/Curriculum:
- 4.7.1 The Programmes consist of compulsory courses plus the Final thesis with a total of 60 ECTS study points. These courses are compulsory for graduation and are mentioned in the Prospectus. In the Prospectus the courses (including the ECTS study points and the course level), semester taken, course descriptions, the form the courses take along with the details of Assessment are defined.
- 4.7.2 Courses can have practical exercises. These are included in the descriptions in the Prospectus, indicated as such and include the specific nature of the practical exercises and the nature and scope of any activities. Practical exercises are concluded with a Practical assessment.
- 4.7.3 To the extent necessitated by extraordinary circumstances such as those related to the public health situation in the Netherlands, the arrangements for Assessments as stated in the Prospectus maybe deviated from. If the examination of a course unit is comprised of more than one Exam or Practical assessment, deviating from the Prospectus can also have an impact on the extent to which the results of these separate assessments count towards the grade for the examination.
- 4.7.4 If as a result of extraordinary circumstances such the public health situation it is not possible to offer Exams in the form and at the point in time set out in Prospectus, changes will be announced in good time via the Digital Learning Environment or using some other adequate means. Students will be notified of this decision as soon as possible and no later than five days before the Exam or Practical Assessment is scheduled.
- 4.7.5 Participation in courses can only take place when Students are fully registered for the course and under the condition that the courses have not reached full capacity.
- 4.7.6 At their request, a student will be allowed to take one course free of charge from another Programme, provided both the Director of the student's own Programme and the Director of the receiving Programme have agreed thereto. Reasons not to allow a student to take the free course requested may include, but are not limited to, any of the following: the free course requested impinges on the attendance rules of the student's own Programme, the students' record of academic performance, and limited capacity in the requested course.
- 4.8 By signing the Code of Conduct International Students in Higher Education of the Association of Universities in the Netherlands, Leiden University offers international students insight in the quality of its study programmes, student recruitment, and selection procedures.

Article 5

Class Attendance, Distribution of Recordings and Study Materials

- 5.1 Attendance and active class participation is mandatory for all classes. In the event that a Student is absent for twenty percent or more of the classes within a course, the Student may be denied to take the Exam(s) or Practical Assessment(s), including the retake, for the course. In this case the Student will be notified by the Academic or Programme Coordinator that they have failed the course and will need to retake the entire course in the following academic year.
- 5.2 If the number of classes within a course is equal to or less than four, the Student may not be absent for more than one class.
- 5.3 In special circumstances, the Examiner, in consultation with the Academic Board, may decide, in cases of non-attendance that the Student concerned may take the exam. Students need to submit relevant evidence for their absence.
- 5.4 Students are not permitted to make audio, video recordings or take photographs of lectures or education-related meetings including inspection and feedback session without the explicit prior permission of the relevant lecturer. Should such permission be granted, Students are only permitted to use the recordings for their own use. All forms of distribution or publication of the recordings are prohibited, unless with permission of the University.
- 5.5 Students are prohibited from all forms of distribution or publication of study materials. The materials are for Students' own use only.

Article 6

Study Support and Guidance

- 6.1 The Programme Coordinator registers the individual study results for Students and monitors study progress.
- 6.2 Upon request the Programme Coordinator will supply Students with an overview of their individual results. Students can view and inspect their results in the student progress system, via their personal ULCN uSis accounts, at any time.
- 6.3 If, according to the Programme Coordinator, a Student will encounter a substantial delay in the study progression, the Programme Director will inform the Student about the possibility of receiving study support and for drawing up an individual study plan.
- 6.4 The Programme is responsible for providing an introduction to the Programme and study guidance within the Programme.

Article 7

Functional Disabilities or Chronic Illness

- 7.1 Where possible, Students with a disability or a chronic medical condition should be offered the opportunity to study in accordance with the limitations resulting from their disability or chronic medical condition. The provision of education for Students with limitations, as much as is

reasonable, should be adapted to incorporate the restrictions brought about by any functional impairment. These adjustments may not affect the quality or level of difficulty of a course or the examination programme itself. See also Article 8.14.

- 7.2. Students with a disability should declare this and provide the relevant medical documents where necessary (in English) before the start of their study period.

SECTION B: Grading and Assessment

Article 8

Examinations

- 8.1 In accordance with Article 7.10 and 7.12c of the Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek (WHW, Act on Higher Education and Academic Research) Assessments must be carried out by at least one examiner appointed by the Board of Examiners for that purpose. An Assessment is carried out in accordance with the procedure determined by the Board of Examiners in relation to the quality assurance of the examination. An Assessment, Exam and Practical Assessment may consist of multiple (partial) tests.
- 8.2 Exams can take place orally or in written form, online or offline, or any combination of these methods. Exams will be held at the end of each course.
- 8.3 Exams must be of the correct level, and test the required research and educational content.
- 8.4 Each Student studying full time is permitted to one retake per course in an academic year in the case of a failed course. Students studying part time are entitled to one retake per course in their two year registration period.
- 8.5 Exams and their delivery will be notified to Students at the beginning of each course. Retake Exam dates will be announced with a minimum of five days between the inspection and feedback session and the retake and with consultation between the Programme Coordinator and the course lecturer and a review of the Students' schedule.
- 8.6 If a course component contains a Practical assessment, Students may only sit the Exam if they have (successfully) completed the Practical assessment, unless the Programme informs the Student in advance of the necessity for a Practical assessment to take place after an Exam or unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.
- 8.7 If the grade for a course is made up of several Assessment components it is possible to apply a minimum passing grade to each Assessment component. This should be notified to Students via the Prospectus.
- 8.8 No Student shall be excused from taking any scheduled form of Assessment, except for valid reasons for which prior written permission is obtained from the Examiner and a Member of the Academic Board.
- 8.9 Students are informed at the beginning of each course about the assessment method(s) for the course, including any percentage weighting of different Assessments to determine the final course grade.
- 8.10 A Student is considered to have failed a course when the rounded and weighted average of the grades obtained for all required Assessments of the course is less than 6. If after the retake of the failed assessment component(s) the rounded and weighted average grade for the course is still less than 6 the Student will have failed the course.
- 8.11 Failure of two or more courses may lead to deregistration of the Student from the Programme as provided for under article 21.1.

- 8.12 In the case of open-book Exams, only those materials as indicated in advance by the lecturer are admitted into the Exam. Should the materials contain any notes apart from duly authorised brief marginal notes, the materials may not be used for the Exam. It is the responsibility of the Student to bring a clean copy of the materials to the Exam.
- 8.13 No extensions or automatic retakes will be given for any form of Assessment except in the case of mitigating circumstances. Extensions or automatic retakes need permission from the Examiner and a Member of Academic Board - in such circumstances they need to be requested by the Student, as soon as possible, and wherever possible in advance of the Assessment. This request needs to be made to the relevant Examiner and a Member of the Academic Board.
- 8.14 After each Exam, feedback on the Exam will be offered, as a group feedback session or in exceptional cases with students individually.
- 8.14.1 During an inspection and feedback session, any questions that a Student may have regarding the Exam are to be brought up. After the session has been closed no later opportunity for discussion of the Exam is available, with exception of the appeal meant in section D.
- 8.14.2 Any copies of Exam questions and Exam answers must be returned to the lecturer or authorised person immediately after the inspection and feedback session.
- 8.15 Students with a disability or chronic medical condition may take Exams as much as possible in a manner that has been adjusted to accommodate by their personal disability or medical condition. If necessary, the Board of Examiners reserves the right to ask for expert advice provided for in the Protocol on Studying with a Disability of Leiden University, and help in enabling it to make any decision regarding allowances.
- 8.16 The Board of Examiners has a legal duty to ensure quality assurance of the Assessments in any Programme.
- 8.17 The Faculty Board is responsible for the practical organisation of the Exams and ensures, if necessary by means of invigilation, that the Exams proceed properly. If remote invigilation is used, Students will be informed of this at least ten days in advance. This is done according to the Remote Invigilation Protocol.
- 8.18 Online Exams
- 8.18.1 In the event that due to a technical fault, an online Exam cannot proceed or continue once it has started, the Board of Examiners will decide whether a replacement Exam must be held.
- 8.18.2 In Exams where the University does not provide laptops, Students must ensure that they have the required hardware and software and properly functioning internet connection that is required for an online Exam. If a Student does not have the required hardware and software or a properly functioning internet connection, they are responsible for the consequences this may have.
- 8.18.3 If a Student experiences technical problems during an Exam, they should report this immediately according to the instructions provided prior to the Exam. If the Student does

not comply with these instructions, they will not be entitled to claim an additional or replacement Exam in accordance with Article 8.19.4.

- 8.18.4 If a Student experiences technical problems during an Exam, they will be given 30 minutes in addition to the time originally scheduled for the Exam. In that event, or if the technical problems exceed 30 minutes, upon receipt of the grade for the Exam after correction by the Examiner, the student concerned will irrespective of the grade received, have the choice to take the Retake as first Exam. In that case, the Student's participation and grade obtained in the first Exam, during which technical problems occurred, will be annulled.
- 8.18.4 The work of a Student that is submitted directly to the lecturer or Examiner following the report of technical problem, may be accepted for correction, provided:
- a. shortly before or immediately after the end of the time for the Exam, the Student approached the lecturer or Examiner;
 - b. they attached their work; and
 - c. it is sufficiently plausible that a technical problem had occurred.
- 8.18.5 Students who claim that a technical problem is the cause of a missing answer will be referred to the Board of Examiners.
- 8.19 If the Examiner sees no reason to correct a Student's work, they will refer the student to the Board of Examiners.
- 8.20 Work that is accepted for correction will be checked for plagiarism.
- 8.21 If online proctoring is used, this is done in accordance with a Proctoring Protocol.

Article 9

Types of Assessment

The various forms of Assessments, Exams and Practical assessments are described in the Prospectus and the Regulations from the Board of Examiners Master of Laws: Advanced Studies Programmes, Leiden Law School.

The procedure during Exams and the guidelines and instructions, as referred to in Article 7.12b, paragraph 1 under b of the WHW, for assessing and establishing the results of examinations and examinations are described in the 'Rules and Guidelines of the Board of Examiners.

Article 10

Grading and Assessment

- 10.1 Courses are graded in accordance with the general grading scheme as used by the Leiden Law School. On a scale from 1 to 10 the formal designation of the grades is as follows:
- 10** outstanding
 - 9** excellent
 - 8** very good

7 good
6 pass
5 or less fail

10.2 Half grades are allowed, i.e., 0.5, starting from 6.0, i.e., 6.5 etc.

10.3 The standard for rounding up and down of grades is as follows:

≤ 5.49 becomes a failing grade

5.5 – 5.99 becomes 6.0

6.00 – 6.24 = 6.0

6.25 – 6.74 = 6.5

6.75 – 6.99 = 7.0

7.00 – 7.24 = 7.0

7.25 – 7.74 = 7.5

7.75 – 7.99 = 8.0

8.00 – 8.24 = 8.0

8.25 – 8.74 = 8.5

8.75 – 8.99 = 9.0

9.00 – 9.24 = 9.0

9.25 – 9.74 = 9.5

9.75 – 10 = 10

10.4 The Exam/Assessment components are considered to be successfully completed if the result is 6.0 or higher. Individual exam/assessment components may not be rounded, only the final combined course grade is rounded.

10.5 After a lecturer or Examiner has submitted a grade to the Programme Coordinator, the Examiner may change the grade if it was incorrect as a result of an arithmetical, administrative, or other such operation error and as a result of a re-evaluation of a Student's work during an inspection and feedback session.

10.6 An inspection and feedback session must take place within a period of two weeks from the release of the grades, and in any case before the retake takes place. Students are entitled to inspect their graded Exam following the publication of the results at the inspection and feedback session.

10.7 The final grade following the inspection and feedback session must be delivered within two weeks after the inspection and feedback session has taken place. This constitutes the final grade awarded and therefore cannot be altered.

10.8 The student's average grade for the Programme is determined by the weighted average of the rounded grades obtained for each of the compulsory courses on the basis of the number of ECTS study points of each course. The final average grade for the programme is not rounded to a whole or half grade but it remains the actual average grade.

Article 11

Delivery of Grades

Grades shall be released and communicated to students a maximum of fifteen Working Days after the Assessment date or the date of submission of any written work, unless there are mitigating circumstances (no later than 21 Working Days), of which the Students will be notified in writing by the Programme Coordinator.

Article 12

Retake Assessments

- 12.1 Only one retake may be granted to a student per course. It will be up to the discretion of the relevant lecturer or Examiner to decide the method of the retake. The grade obtained in the retake assessment will replace the grade of the failed Assessment and will be included in the weighting of the grade for the course.
- 12.2 No retake will be granted to a student who has obtained a rounded and weighted average grade for the course of 6 or higher.
- 12.3 No retake will be allowed if a Student has not taken the scheduled Exam and handed in written proof of a conscientious effort to provide a correct answer to the questions asked. This is without prejudice to justified reasons of health, family or any other *force majeure* that could prevent the student from attending class or from participating in the assessment.
- 12.4 Where a student does not achieve the necessary ECTS study points for obtaining the Degree and where this is due to having failed a single course, not being a core courses of a Programme as defined in the Prospectus, the Board of Examiners may grant the Student upon their written request with reasons the possibility to make up for the missing ECTS study points through a written assignment.
- 12.5 In the case of failure of a retake assessment of a core course as defined in the relevant Prospectus, Students wishing an opportunity to obtain a passing grade for that course, to reregister for the following academic year and retake the core course again. In the case of reregistration a Student is required to pay tuition fees proportionally pursuant to Article 19.3. In special cases the Board of Examiners may grant a Student permission to have a second retake for a core course in the same academic year should there be sufficient extenuating circumstances with all valid documentation.
- 12.6 In the event of failure of a core course, Students may not undertake the writing of a Thesis until the core course has been passed, unless permission is granted by the Board of Examiners. Only under special circumstances will such a request be granted. The request needs to be put before the Board of Examiners in writing by the Student concerned, expressing exactly why they did not pass the core course and the motivation for the request.

Article 13

Validity of Examination Results

- 13.1 The validity of passed Exams and exemptions granted is in principle unlimited. The Board of Examiners may decide that an Exam or exemption loses its validity if this was achieved or acquired more than three years ago and the knowledge, understanding and/or skills that was examined or exempted have clearly become out of date.

- 13.2 The term stated in Article 13.1 will commence on 1 September of the academic year subsequent to the year in which the Exam was passed or an exemption was provided.

Article 14

Thesis

- 14.1 The Thesis must address and analyse a subject falling within the scope of the Programme for which the Student is enrolled and as defined by the Programme. The subject of the Thesis needs to be approved in writing by the Academic Board or by the relevant thesis supervisor if the Programme so allows.
- 14.2 The Academic Board shall notify Students via mail or email of the thesis requirements and procedure applicable.
- 14.3 A description of the expectations, the scope of the Thesis and other regulations pertaining to the Thesis can be found in the "Guidelines Master Thesis - Leiden Law School".

Article 15

Degree

- 15.1 A Student shall be awarded the Degree upon completion of all Programme requirements.
- 15.1.1 All courses that form part of the Programme curriculum, including the Thesis, must be passed in order to qualify for the Degree. A total of 60 ECTS study points needs to be obtained in order to meet the Degree requirements. Exemptions or the transfer of credits from previous academic achievements are not permitted.
- 15.1.2 With the approval of the Board of Examiners, one failed course may be substituted by taking a replacement course either from the same Programme (where there are additional courses offered), or from another Programme of at least the same level and ECTS study points value. Core courses may not be substituted.
- 15.2 The course and credit requirements for the completion of each Programme shall be determined in advance and made available to the Students prior to the commencement of the academic year.
- 15.3 In circumstances of *force majeure*, with permission of the Board of Examiners, the Academic Board reserves the right to change such requirements during the course of an academic year. Such changes, however, may not have a retroactive effect.
- 15.4 It is not possible to obtain the Degree by combining several registration periods for single courses. Students need to be registered as full-time or part-time Students and the single courses taken must fall under the validity period as per Article 13.
- 15.5 All Students, at the time of obtaining their Degree, must be registered as Degree seeking students.
- 15.6 A diploma will be awarded when the Board of Examiners has received proof that the Student has satisfactorily completed all Exams.

- 15.7 The Board of Examiners is entitled to set an (additional) investigation or perform an additional test as to whether the Student has acquired the correct knowledge, insight and skills. The investigation covers in any case the assessment of the Board of Examiners on the validity of passed Exams and acquired exemptions as referred to in Article 13.1.
- 15.8 Diplomas will be issued at the graduation ceremony or after the ceremony as soon as the Student has officially successfully completed the Programme.
- 15.9 Only one diploma will be issued per person per Programme. Mention is made on the diploma that education has been provided by Leiden University.
- 15.10 A diploma supplement issued according to the European standard format for diploma supplements – in English – will be added to the diploma.

Article 16

Awarding of the Degree

- 16.1 Students who have successfully passed all exams and other forms of assessment will be awarded the degree of Master of Laws (LL.M): Advanced Studies.
- 16.2 The Degree awarded will be mentioned on the diploma.
- 16.3 The Degree granted gives access to continuation with a PhD, in accordance with the Leiden University PhD Regulations.
- 16.4 The Degree may be awarded with the distinctions *Cum Laude* (With Honours) or *Summa Cum Laude*.
- 16.4.1 Without prejudice to Article 16.7, the diploma and the diploma supplement will include the '*cum laude*' distinction if all the following conditions are met:
- All components have been completed with a minimum grade of 6;
 - The weighted average for all courses (final rounded grades only) and the Thesis (final rounded grade only) of the Programme is 8 or higher;
 - The grade for the Thesis is 8 or higher;
 - The Exams were passed within the nominal study duration; and
 - The Student has completed the Programme with no retake assessments for any of the courses.
- 16.4.2 Without prejudice to the provision of 16.7, the diploma and diploma supplement will include the '*summa cum laude*' distinction if all the following conditions are met:
- All components were completed with a minimum grade of 6.
 - The weighted average for all courses (final rounded grades only) and Thesis (final rounded grade only) of the Programme is 9 or higher;
 - The Thesis is graded 9 or higher;
 - The Exams were passed within the nominal study duration; and
 - The Student has completed the programme with no retake assessments for any of the courses.
- 16.5 The distinction is determined on the basis of the weighted average of all the components of the 60 ECTS study points of the Programme.

- 16.6 The weighted average of all grades is determined by multiplying the number of ECTS study points of each course by the highest grade awarded for the course, then adding these up, and finally dividing the result by the number of ECTS study points obtained.
- 16.7 If a student has been subject to disciplinary measures as a result of -misconduct, fraud or plagiarism or other serious misconduct in the course of his or her studies, they will not be awarded a distinction, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

SECTION C: Degree Administration

Article 17

Modes of Study

- 17.1 Unless otherwise agreed, a Student shall be enrolled as a full-time student.
- 17.2 A Student may be enrolled as a part-time student (which includes blended learning) subject to the approval of the relevant Academic Board.
- 17.3 A Student may not after 1 November transfer from full-time to part-time status nor from face to face to blended learning, or *vice versa* once registered as a degree seeking Student.

Article 18

Duration of Study

- 18.1 A full-time Student must complete the coursework and Thesis within one academic year.
- 18.2 A part-time Student must complete the coursework and Thesis within two years.
- 18.3 In special circumstances, the relevant Academic Board may agree to allow an extension for submission of academic work. In such a case, the Student is not eligible to graduate *Cum Laude* or *Summa Cum Laude*. Should such an extension run into a subsequent academic year, the student is liable to pay tuition fees proportionally.
- 18.4 A blended learning student may be granted a maximum of two extension requests during the two-year Programme.
- 18.5 At the discretion of the relevant Academic Board(s), registration for single courses from one or more of the Programmes is possible. However, Students who wish to obtain the Degree need to register either as a part- or fulltime Student for the Degree. Single course registration does not entitle Students to obtain the Degree qualification.

Article 19

Tuition Fee

- 19.1 Each Student is personally liable for payment of their tuition fees before the commencement of the academic year of each Programme. The tuition fee is payable to Leiden University in accordance with the terms and conditions determined by Leiden University.
- 19.2 A Student shall not receive the Degree without payment of the full tuition fee prior to graduation.
- 19.3 Tuition fees, either in full or in instalments as arranged with Leiden University, are payable for the entire academic year in which any extended period of registration falls; Students are eligible for a pro-rata refund when they follow the de-registration procedure for the extended period of registration. This refund only applies to the part of the academic year *following* de-registration. Tuition fees are due for any period in which the Students receive academic support from Leiden University.

- 19.4 A Student who has been expelled from the Programme does not qualify for any refund of tuition fees.
- 19.5 In circumstances where a Student transfers to another Programme, full tuition fees are payable for each semester of study with the initial Programme, even if only part of the semester was attended. In this instance the tuition fee can be made payable on a semester basis, but never for less than one semester. The tuition fee as set for the relevant Programme and academic year applies. Tuition fees for the subsequent Programme are payable from the date the transfer is agreed by the Academic Boards of both Programmes concerned, until the completion of the Degree. If registration continues into a subsequent academic year, the rules for extension apply, pursuant to Article 18.4.

Article 20

Withdrawal

- 20.1 If a Student wishes to withdraw from the Programme, they shall inform the Academic Board in writing.
- 20.2 After withdrawal from the Programme, any refund of the tuition fees paid for and/or any part of the remainder of the academic year yet to be paid for, are/is up to the discretion of the relevant Academic Board, and can be made only after completion of the deregistration process of Leiden University.
- 20.3 A Student who withdraws from the Programme must immediately pay all outstanding amounts due and payable to the University for courses already taken either entirely or partially. A Student who withdraws without paying outstanding amounts in full, is not eligible to receive a transcript, or to be considered for readmission to a Programme until all prior financial obligations have been met in full.
- 20.4 A student who has formally withdrawn from the Programme and paid the tuition fees due for the relevant period of registration may request a transcript listing the subjects and academic credits obtained for all courses they have completed prior to the date of withdrawal. Such a transcript will only be issued if all outstanding tuition fees have been paid in full.
- 20.5 A Student who withdraws from the Programme and wishes to be readmitted to the same Programme, may request a transfer of academic credits obtained, provided the registration date after readmission is no later than three years from the initial registration date of the relevant Programme.

Article 21

Programme Deregistration and Expulsion

- 21.1 The Board of Examiners may, at the proposal of the Academic Board, discontinue a student's registration with the Programme in the case of academic failure pursuant to Article 8.11.
- 21.2 The Academic Board may expel a Student in the case of non-payment or misconduct. Expulsion is effective as of the date of the Academic Board's decision, of which the Student shall be notified in writing.

- 21.3 A student who has been expelled is not eligible to attend classes, take exams, receive any course materials, receive academic supervision, nor receive the Degree. Additionally, all services of Leiden University shall be withheld.
- 21.4 A student who has been expelled from the programme and paid the tuition fees due for the relevant period of registration may request a transcript listing the subjects and academic credits obtained for all courses the student has completed prior to the date of expulsion. Such a transcript will only be issued if all outstanding tuition fees have been paid in full.

Article 22

Misconduct

- 22.1 Misconduct by a Student during an Assessment may result in the imposition of the following sanctions, whether or not in combination, to the Student:
- a. giving an official warning;
 - b. declaring the result of the examination or the written assignment invalid and receiving a failing grade for a particular course;
 - c. excluding the student from participation in the examination for which the fraud or another irregularity was established for a maximum of one year;
 - d. excluding the student from participation in one or more other examinations for a maximum of one year;
 - e. expulsion of the student from the Programme.
- 22.2 Misconduct includes, *inter alia*:
- 22.2.1 Fraud, cheating, collusion and similar misbehaviour.
 - 22.2.2 Plagiarism, i.e., reproducing and submitting for any Assessment the work of another person, whether in whole or in part and with or without the knowledge of the other person, without proper attribution to the other person. Leiden University's policy regarding plagiarism applies as per <https://www.organisatiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en/regulations/general/plagiarism>
 - 22.2.3 The submission of any work already submitted for assessment as part of another course within the Programme or at any other university, college or school.
 - 22.2.4 Failing to comply with any specific "Course and Examination Regulations" for the Programmes of which Students have received a copy at the start of the Programme.
 - 22.2.5 Acting, or assisting another person to act dishonestly in connection with any form of Assessment.
 - 22.2.6 Acting disorderly, whether or not under the influence of alcohol and/or abusive substances, in or around the Leiden Law School.
 - 22.2.7 Intimidating, harassing or threatening, in any form, fellow students, administrative or academic staff.
 - 22.2.8 Making use of artificial intelligence (AI) in violation of the applicable University, Faculty or Programme-specific rules and regulation on the use of AI in coursework and Assessments.

- 22.3 A decision on the appropriate sanction to be imposed in case of misconduct will be made by the Examiner and a Member of the Academic Board, or the Board of Examiners depending on the severity of the misconduct, the repeated occurrence of misconduct, and the nature of the sanction to be imposed. The Academic Board can at any time decide to refer a case of misconduct, irrespective of the severity or repeated occurrence of the misconduct, to the Board of Examiners.
- 22.4 The Examiner and/or the Academic Board must report misconduct or a serious suspicion of misconduct to the Board of Examiners at all times, including any sanction imposed by the Examiner and a Member of the Academic Board under Article 22.3.
- 22.5 In accordance with Article 7.12b (3) of the of the Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek (WHW, Act on Higher Education and Academic Research), the Board of Examiners establishes rules concerning the performance of its tasks and responsibilities and the measures it can take in the event of misconduct.

SECTION D: COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS

Article 23

Complaints

- 23.1 Only an Examiner can grade course work. A complaint concerning the assessment of course work, or any decision of (a Member of) the Academic Board in relation to an assessment, may be settled by the Board of Examiners.
- 23.2 If the complaint cannot be resolved in a satisfactory manner for both parties, the Student may submit a complaint to the Leiden University's Board of Appeal for Examinations (College van Beroep voor de Examens, "CBE"). The previous sentence notwithstanding, a Student is always allowed within a six-week time frame to appeal the decision of the Examiner or the Board of Examiners directly to the CBE.
- 23.3. *Procedure of complaints and disputes*
- 23.3.1 A Student may submit a complaint to the Board of Examiners from the beginning of the Student's registration as a Student until two months after the Student has ceased to be registered. The complaint must be submitted within six weeks after the release of the decision in question.
- 23.3.2 At the discretion of the Board of Examiners, an appeal may be heard in person or in writing.
- 23.3.3 The Board of Examiners, prior to and when conducting an appeal hearing, may investigate the matter at stake in such manner as it judges fair and lawful.
- 23.3.4 At an appeal hearing, the Student may:
- a. appear in person, with or without the assistance of another person; or
 - b. be represented, whether or not the Student is present, by another person;
 - c. present, or have presented on their behalf, evidence in support of their case.
- 23.3.5 If a Student does not appear, either in person or by a representative, at an appeal hearing on the day, and at the time and place agreed upon, the Board of Examiners may exercise its powers in the absence of the Student.
- 23.3.6 After considering any evidence and representations presented by or on behalf of the Student and the relevant Programme at the appeal hearing, the Board of Examiners must:
- a. confirm, modify, or set aside the decision of the Director at the hearing;
 - b. confirm, modify or set aside any recommendation that the Student has failed a course;
 - c. confirm, modify or set aside any written reprimand given to the Student;
 - d. confirm, modify, or set aside any existing order for the suspension or termination of enrolment of the Student.

23.3.7 The Board of Examiners shall provide written notice to the Student of the decision made at the appeal hearing to confirm, modify, or set aside any decision, reprimand or order made and also shall, in that notice, clarify the reasons for its decision.

23.3.8 The decision of the Board of Examiners shall be communicated to the Student within three weeks after the meeting of the Board of Examiners.

23.3.9 Appeals to be addressed to the Board of Examiners must be directed to:

Advanced Master Board of Examiners
Master of Laws Advanced Studies Programmes
Leiden Law School, Dean's Office
PO Box 9520, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

Or alternatively by email:
AdvancedMasterBoardOfExaminers@LAW.leidenuniv.nl

Article 24

Appeals

24.1 Students may lodge appeals at the CBE if they disagree with:

- a decision made by a Programme, such as a refusal of admission to Assessments or Exams; or
- a decision made by Examiners or the Board of Examiners concerning, for instance, exemptions, assessments, plagiarism or fraud.

24.2 Appeals against a decision of an Examiner or the Board of Examiners must be made by submitting a written complaint to the CBE, stating the decision of the Examiner or Board of Examiners and arguments for disagreement with this decision. The written complaint must be submitted within six weeks after the release of the decision in question.

24.3. Appeals to be addressed to the CBE must be directed to:

Leiden University's Board of Appeals for Examinations
Leiden University
PO Box 9500, 2300 RA Leiden
The Netherlands

SECTION E: FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 25

Modifications/Amendments

- 25.1 Changes to these Rules can only be made in the event of strict necessity. Modifications shall not affect Students interests disproportionately or have an influence on any decision which the Board of Examiners has taken in respect of a Student.
- 25.2 Modifications to these Rules may only be done with the approval and consent of the Faculty Board, and the consent of the Faculty Council, after consultation with the Programme Advisory Committee (Opleidingscommissie) and the QAS Committee.
- 25.3 Modifications to these Rules which having been agreed for an academic year, must remain relevant for the rest of the academic year in which they were published, with exception of Article 25.2.

Article 26

Disclosure

The Programme must ensure appropriate disclosure of these Rules and of any directives which have been adopted by the Board of Examiners, as well as any modifications made.

Article 27

Exceptions due to Force Majeure

Any and all obligations of the University and her staff following from this OER or any other rules and regulations, may be waived in the event of a crisis as defined in Article 1 of the Leiden University Regulations on Crisis Management Coordination, or other force majeure circumstances. In these circumstances, the University will take best efforts to timely announce any material change in the execution of the said obligations via Brightspace.

Article 28

Validity of Rules

The present rules are effective from 1 September 2024.

APPENDIX 1 The aim of the Programmes, the learning outcomes and the end qualifications as described in the NVAO accreditation reports for each individual Programme.

1. Public International Law Advanced

The Master of Laws programme in Advanced Studies in Public International Law (hereafter referred to as “the programme”) is an advanced level postgraduate programme in the field of Public International Law which combines training in the theoretical aspects of Public International Law and its specialised fields with practical professional skills. It is designed for students who wish to pursue a career in international organisations, governmental institutions, internationally operating law firms, non-governmental organisations, or within an academic setting.

The programme addresses the growing diversification and impact of public international law on regulation, adjudication and dispute settlement in a decentralised global legal order. In this way, it is related to the Leiden Law School’s research programme “Securing the Rule of Law in a World of Multi-level Jurisdiction”, as well as the research theme on “Interaction of Legal Systems”.

The programme combines in-depth coverage of general international law (*Capita Selecta*) and its specialised fields (e.g., International Institutional Law, International Dispute Settlement, International Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law) with specialised knowledge in two areas of specialisation which have seen rapid growth and transformation in the past decades: International Criminal Law (ICL) and Peace, Justice and Development (PJD). The ICL specialisation places particular emphasis on the law and procedure of international criminal courts and tribunals (e.g., International Criminal Court, *ad hoc* tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, hybrid courts) and legal skills required to practice in this field (e.g., advocacy and litigation). The PJD specialisation focuses on international peace and security, and its nexus to global justice, rule of law and sustainable development. Both specialisations are preceded by some common core courses and integrated by a final course on United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping which applies the knowledge acquired in the context of collective security and UN peace operations.

The market for positions in this field (e.g. as legal advisor, judicial clerk, policy officer or lecturer) is highly competitive. The programme is designed to provide an advanced and solid academic education (knowledge, transferable skills and critical approach), and to build bridges to legal practice. The programme aims to attract highly talented (international) students and to demonstrate excellence in terms of admission requirements, programme content, students’ academic skills and end qualifications, in order to facilitate a successful transition to the professional arena. It provides unique access to, and direct insights from legal practice, through its partial delivery in The Hague, the “City of Peace and Justice”, and its proximity to the expertise, practice and infrastructure of relevant international institutions, such as the International Court of Justice (ICJ), the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal, the International Criminal Court (ICC), the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and Rwanda (ICTR), the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), other organisations active in the field of Peace, Security and Justice (e.g., OSCE, non-governmental organisations (NGOs)), and member institutions of the Hague Academic Coalition.

In terms of content, the programme strikes a balance between general knowledge and theory in Public International Law, including its sources, subjects and principles, and its application in specialised fields. The programme covers synergies, differences and interaction between distinct bodies of law, the theory, practice and methods of key international institutions, and their broader normative or systemic context. Students obtain the capacity to thoroughly analyse and interpret legal sources, literature and complex cases; to carry out independent research and formulate an independent opinion on international legal questions, and to develop and formulate appropriate solutions to complex legal problems, based on the norms, practices and

methods of the respective field. The academic knowledge and skills obtained, including the capacity to apply adequate legal scientific research methods and tools, and the ability to present results (individually or as a group), prepare students for further academic research and continued learning (i.e., self-learning, life-long learning) in the framework of advanced professional settings.

1	Basic and overarching knowledge:
	The graduate has a profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, the foundation of general European and International Business Law including its sources, principles, and institutions and interrelation with specialised fields.
2	Specialist knowledge:
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, specific specialised fields of European and International Business Law and, in particular the respective field of specialisation, including the overlaps. Differences and interaction between these specialised fields. The graduate has a critical and profound understanding of the policy considerations underlying these bodies or law and their context (i.e., as appropriate, their comparative or international context).
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in general European and International Business Law, its specialised fields, by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by in-depth analysis and interpretation of legal sources, literature, and complex cases. The graduate is capable of posing critical questions, formulating an independent opinion on legal questions, and drawing well-founded conclusions. The graduate is able to provide innovative solutions to challenges in the field of European and International Business Law and, as appropriate, specialised fields, and to make and to make recommendations for further research.
4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will further improve their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of the programme is English. Therefore, English as a business and working language, using the specific vocabulary of European and International Business Law, and its specialised fields is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of European and International Business Law at an advanced postgraduate level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills to deeply engage with “the state of the art” in European and International Business Law, enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in law firms, companies, national and international courts and tribunals, international institutions, and (inter)national governmental bodies, international orientated non-government organisations or the foreign/diplomatic service. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying them to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, for example in a PhD programme.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>

	The graduate has developed a professional work ethic enabling them to work in an international and intercultural environment. The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, again notably within an international environment.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication.
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has developed skills for lifelong learning, ensuring that they are able to identify and independently cover their own gaps in their knowledge.

2. Air and Space Law

The Master of Laws programme in Advanced Studies in Air and Space Law (hereafter referred to as “the programme”) is an advanced level postgraduate programme in the field of air law and space law. The programme is aimed at educating students and young interested practitioners to become international legal practitioners in civil aviation authorities, telecommunication authorities, international and regional organizations and international operating law firms who wish to specialise in the area of Air and Space Law. In addition, the programme has been designed for recent international graduates in law who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level as well as engaging in a PhD.

The overall objective of the programme is to provide students with an advanced and thorough knowledge of the elements of Air and Space Law, and an overview of the nature and structure of related fields such as Public International Law, EU Law, Competition Law and Business Management. Air and Space Law is a distinct field of legal specialisation, where the law as a whole is applied to activities in, or related to, air space and outer space. Students need to learn not only the specifics of international air and space law in the narrow sense of the word, but also the multifold relationships with general law at the supranational, international, regional, in particular EU, and domestic levels. These interrelationships are highly complex and require proficiency in many (legal) skills, including legislative and case analysis and comparative methodology.

The programme aims at providing students with skills that enable them to thoroughly analyse and interpret legal sources, literature, and complex cases; to research and formulate an independent opinion on international legal questions; to clearly present their findings both orally and in writing to legal specialists as well as to non-lawyers; to actively participate in academic debate; and the professional application of advanced academic knowledge in the field of Air and Space Law.

The pleasant blend of international students from developed and developing countries makes for very interesting comparative analysis with respect to their countries’ development, and views, regarding Air and Space Law.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has a profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, Air and Space Law and, as appropriate, in related fields, including its sources, principles and system, mutual coherence and complementarity of other specialised fields such as public international law, trade law, EU law and telecommunications, including their overlaps and differences. The graduate has a critical understanding of the policy considerations underlying these bodies of law and, as appropriate, contexts of international relations and comparative contexts.
2	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching international legal questions in general Air and Space Law, its specialised fields, by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, and judging their validity and relevance by in-depth analysis and interpretation of legal sources, literature, and complex cases relating to questions of Air and Space Law. The graduate is able to pose critical questions, formulate an independent opinion on legal questions, draw well-founded conclusions and provide innovative solutions to challenges in Air and/or Space Law, and to make recommendations and suggestions for further research.
3	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will further improve their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of the programme is English; therefore English as a business and working language, using the specific vocabulary of Air and Space Law and its specialised fields, is extensively developed.
4	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of Air and/or Space Law at an advanced master's level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills to deeply engage with the "state of the art" in Air and Space Law, enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice (advocacy before international courts and tribunals; law firm practice; other similar institutions), European institutions, the (inter)national civil services, internationally oriented non-governmental organisations and government bodies. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying the graduate to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, e.g. in a PhD programme.
5	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate has developed a professional work ethic enabling them to work in an international and intercultural environment. The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, again notably within an international environment.
6	<i>Contribution to academic and professional debate</i>
	The graduate is capable of actively participating in, and contributing to, an academic and professional debate in Air and Space Law and, as appropriate, in related fields.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use advanced ICT skills for research and communications. This is particularly true in the blended learning variant.
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has developed skills for lifelong learning, ensuring that they are able to identify and independently cover their own gaps in their knowledge.

3. European and International Business Law

The Master of Laws programme in Advanced Studies in European and International Business Law (hereafter referred to as “the programme”) is an advanced level postgraduate programme in the field of European and international business law. It is designed for law graduates, who already are, or desire to become, legal practitioners in internationally operating law firms, companies or organisations, research institutions or in governments, or who wish to pursue further (post) academic research.

The programme addresses the practical effects of the co-existence of business law at different levels, e.g. of the regional trade law of the European Union with the global or near-global trade law of the World Trade Organization, as well as with national law in this field. In this way, it takes its cue from the Leiden Law School’s research programme “Securing the Rule of Law in a World of Multi-level Jurisdiction”.

The essence of the programme is on the impact of the law of the EU on government and enterprises in a global economy, and its repercussions on, and interaction with, other international institutions, in particular the World Trade Organization. Although EU Law nowadays touches on virtually all aspects of international commerce and its legal rules, some areas are more affected than others. The programme comprises those areas where the impact of the EU is the strongest.

The market for attractive positions, including academic positions, within the field of European and International Business Law is often competitive. The programme aspires to students obtaining an advanced and solid academic education (knowledge, transferable skills and critical approach), but simultaneously, to build bridges to the practice of European and International Business Law. The programme explicitly aims to attract highly talented (international) students and to demonstrate excellence in terms of admission, programme content, students’ academic skills and end qualifications, as well as create opportunities for a successful transition to the professional arena.

The programme therefore aims at striking a balance between theory and high-level professional practice. It demands that students are aware of the theoretical foundations of European and international law, have knowledge about the theory and practice of international business and know about key historical and current developments in the field. In terms of research skills and methodology, students obtain the capacity to apply respective knowledge, to formulate important research questions and to design and carry out appropriate research strategies, based on both quantitative and qualitative methodologies, in order to answer these questions. The academic knowledge and skills obtained in the programme, including the capacity to apply adequate legal scientific research methods and tools, and the ability to present academic results, also prepare students for continued academic education or research in the framework of advanced professional settings.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has a profound knowledge of, and insight into, the complex legal elements in European and International Business Law, and the fundamentals of the nature and structure of EU Law and international law.
2	<i>Specialist knowledge:</i>

	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, specialised fields of European and International Business Law and selected fields of International Trade Law.
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in European and International Business Law by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by thorough analysis and interpretation of legal sources, literature, and complex cases relating to questions of European and International Business Law. The graduate is able to critically read and analyse the case law of the European Court of Justice and the decision-making practices of EU institutions as well as of EU legislation. The graduate is able to pose critical questions, formulate an independent opinion, draw founded conclusions, provide innovative solutions to challenges in the field of European and International Business Law, and to make recommendations for further research.
4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will further improve their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of the programme is English. Therefore, English as a business and working language, using the specific vocabulary of European and International Business Law, is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or roles that require application of European and International Business Law at an advanced postgraduate level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in law firms, companies, national and international courts, international institutions, and (inter)national governmental bodies. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying them to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, for example in a PhD programme.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international environment.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication.
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of keeping up his or her knowledge and abilities in European and International Business Law by properly using and adapting the research skills and sources obtained from the programme.

4. Law & Digital Technologies

The Master's Programme of Advanced Studies in Law and Digital Technologies (hereafter referred to as the programme) is aimed, in particular, at lawyers who wish to specialise in the area of Law and Digital Technologies and who already are, or desire to become, national or international legal practitioners in international legal practice in private law firms, companies or governmental bodies. The programme is also for newly graduated, talented, lawyers who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level as well as engaging in a PhD. The programme taught in English is targeted at excellent international students with a bachelor of Laws degree or a master degree in Law, but also another relevant discipline. In the Netherlands there is not yet an advanced master Law and Digital Technologies, therefore the new programme is unique. Furthermore, sound academic knowledge in this field is becoming increasingly relevant, given that our society more and more depends on digital technologies and the use of these technologies raises fundamental legal and regulatory questions.

The programme objectives have been set in line with this orientation. No internationally accepted standards exist with regard to the required qualifications, aims and objectives of degree courses at a postgraduate level in the domain of Law and Digital Technologies, in particular. Therefore, the

programme goals have been set based on the academic and professional judgement of the programme staff, the requirements of the academic and professional field (e.g. prospective employers) as we know them, over fifteen years of academic and practical experience, and on-going assessments of programmes in this field.

1	Basic and overarching knowledge:
	The graduate has a profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, the foundation of Law and Digital Technologies, including its sources, principles, and institutions and interrelation with specialised fields.
2	Specialist knowledge:
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, specific specialised fields of Law and Digital Technologies and, in particular the respective field of specialisation, including the overlaps. Differences and interaction between these specialised fields. The graduate has a critical and profound understanding of the policy considerations underlying these bodies or law and their context (i.e., as appropriate, their comparative or international context).
3	Research abilities:
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in the field of Law and Digital Technologies, its specialised fields, by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by in-depth analysis and interpretation of legal sources, literature, and complex cases. The graduate is capable of posing critical questions, formulating an independent opinion on legal questions, and drawing well-founded conclusions. The graduate is able to provide innovative solutions to challenges in the field of Law and Digital Technologies and, as appropriate, specialised fields, and to make and to make recommendations for further research.
4	Presentation of knowledge:
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will further improve their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of the programme is English. Therefore, English as a business and working language, using the specific vocabulary of Law and Digital Technologies, and its specialised fields is extensively developed.
5	Application of knowledge:
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of Law and Digital Technologies at an advanced postgraduate level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills to deeply engage with “the state of the art” in Law and Digital Technologies, enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in law firms, companies, national and international courts and tribunals, international institutions, and (inter)national governmental bodies or international orientated non-government organisations. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying them to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, for example in a PhD programme.
6	Working environment:
	The graduate has developed a professional work ethic enabling them to work in an international and intercultural environment. The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, again notably within an international environment.

7	ICT skills:
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication.
8	Keeping up knowledge:
	The graduate has developed skills for lifelong learning, ensuring that they are able to identify and independently cover their own gaps in their knowledge.

5. European and International Human Rights Law

The Master's Programme of Advanced studies in *European and International Human Rights Law* (hereafter referred to as 'the programme' or 'the advanced master') is a small scale, English language programme aimed, in particular, at lawyers who wish to specialise in the area of European and international human rights law and who already are, or desire to become, legal professionals working within, among others, governmental bodies and public administration (both national and European); within national, regional and international non-governmental organisations dealing with human rights; within national human rights institutes and equality bodies; within the judiciary or *Ombudsman* institutions; within law firms and companies involved with human rights. The programme also fits newly graduated, talented, lawyers who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level as well as engaging in a PhD in the field of human rights law.

Knowledge of and education in the field of fundamental rights and freedoms is considered a fundamental tool to guarantee respect for the rights of all and to contribute significantly to promoting equality, preventing conflict and enhancing participation and democratic processes, with a view to developing systems of good governance. One of the basic ideas behind this programme is the notion that Leiden University with its century-long tradition in promoting individual rights and freedoms (*praesidium libertatis*) should make an effort to educate and train people from all over the world who would in various roles be able to contribute to the building and maintenance of a democratic state under the rule of law.

The programme objectives have been set in line with this orientation. No internationally accepted standards exist with regard to the required qualifications, aims and objectives of degree courses at a postgraduate level in the domain of European and International Human Rights Law, in particular. Therefore, the programme goals have been set based on the academic and professional judgement of the programme staff, the requirements of the academic and professional field (e.g. prospective employers) as we know them, over fifteen years of programme experience, and on-going assessments of programmes in this field.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, the characteristic features of the main human rights law systems at the regional and international level and the multi-layered nature of human rights law.
2	<i>Specialist knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into the working of different human rights law systems in their specific political, social and legal settings, including the ways in which the various legal mechanisms of human rights protection co-exist, overlap and may influence each

	other; their strengths and weaknesses; their possibilities and limitations in promoting the realization of human rights; and their implications for some central human rights issues in contemporary pluriform and globalizing societies
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in European and international human rights law by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by thorough analysis and interpretation of legal sources, academic literature, and complex cases relating to questions of European and international human rights law. The graduate is able to critically read and analyse human rights case law and other output by human rights bodies. The graduate is able to pose critical questions, formulate an independent opinion, draw founded conclusions, provide innovative solutions to challenges in the field of European and international human rights law, and to make recommendations and suggestions for further research.
4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting their findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will develop and work upon their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of study is English. Therefore, English as a professional and working language, using the specific vocabulary of European and international human rights law, is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of European and international human rights law at an advanced master's level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills enabling him/her to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within national governments and public administration (both national and European), within the judiciary or policy advisory bodies on the rule of law and human rights issues; within national, regional and international non-governmental organizations dealing with human rights; within national human rights institutes and equality bodies; within <i>Ombudsman</i> institutions; and within law firms specializing in human rights cases. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying him/her to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, e.g. in a PhD programme in the area of human rights law.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international and intercultural environment.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication and knows how to use: - general legal research databases such as Westlaw and LEXIS NEXIS; - domain-specific databases such as Hudoc, EurLex, the Inter-American human rights data base, the African human rights law document database, Interights database and - websites such as the website of the UN High Commissioner on Human Rights, the European Court of Human Rights, the Inter-American Court and Commission of Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and People's Rights.

8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of keeping up his or her knowledge and abilities in European and international human rights law by properly using and updating the research skills and sources taught in the programme.

6. International Civil and Commercial Law

The Master's Programme of Advanced Studies in International Civil and Commercial Law (hereafter referred to as the programme) is aimed, in particular, at lawyers who wish to specialise in the area of Civil and Commercial Law and who already are, or desire to become, international legal practitioners in international legal practice in private law firms, companies or governmental bodies. The programme is also for newly graduate, talented lawyers who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level as well as engaging in a PhD.

The programme objectives have been set in line with this orientation. No internationally accepted standards exist with regard to the required qualifications, aims and objectives of degree courses at a postgraduate level in the domain of International Civil and Commercial Law, in particular. Therefore, the programme goals have been set based on the academic and professional judgement of the programme staff, the requirements of the academic and professional field (e.g. prospective employers) as we know them, over fifteen years of programme experience, and ongoing assessments of programmes in this field.

Institutional and academic environment

The programme is embedded in the Institute for Private Law and the Department of Civil Law of Leiden Law School and is deeply rooted in the education and research culture of the Institute. Professor Eduard Maurits Meijers (1880-1954) was an eminent member of Leiden Law School and founding father of the New Dutch Civil Code which substituted both the old Civil Code and the old Commercial Code. The Dutch Civil Code – being a melting pot of many legal systems and legal figures from all over the world – served as an inspiration for the (re)codification of private law in many countries including China, Mongolia, Russia and other countries of the former Eastern block. The Leiden Institute for Private Law has contributed greatly to this (re)codification by inter alia providing education and the provision of scientific writings for the countries mentioned. The analysis and explanation of existing and future Civil and Commercial Law within its national and international setting has been and continues still to be of central significance to Leiden Law School, the Institute for Private Law in particular.

The Institute for Private Law consists of four Departments: Civil Law, Corporate Law, Notarial Law, and Children's Law. The Department of Company Law hosts the Centre for European Company Law that issues the European Company Law Journal.

The Institute for Private Law of Leiden Law School is well known for its top-level research and outstanding teaching staff. The Head of the Institute, Professor Henk Snijders, is the Dutch representative in the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (Uncitral). Professor Bob Wessels is an internationally acclaimed expert on international insolvency law and is closely connected with the American Law Institute (ALI), the International Insolvency Institute (III) and is honorary member of INSOL Europe. Within the Institute for Private Law there is a special chair for

Anglo-American Private Law. Professor John Cartwright (Oxford) has held this chair since 2007 and teaches English and comparative Contract Law. All of the aforementioned have been acting as visiting lecturers all over the world.

The members of the Institute for Private Law publish on a regular basis in high ranked law journals, a.o. the European Review of Private Law (ERPL), the Journal of International Banking Law and Regulation (JIBLR), the American Bankruptcy Law Journal. Some of them are editors or editors in chief of well known (Dutch) law journals, such as Weekblad voor Privaatrecht, Notariaat en Registratie (WPNR), Nederlands Tijdschrift voor Burgerlijk Recht (NTBR), Rechtsgeleerd Magazijn Themis (RM Themis), Maandblad voor Vermogensrecht (MvV) and Tijdschrift voor Arbitrage (TvA). Many of them also publish in domestic journals and books from countries outside of the Netherlands.

Members of the Institute are already participating in one of the already accredited Master of Laws: Advanced Studies Programmes that being European and International Business Law, teaching the Private International Law and Company Law components.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has a profound knowledge of, and insight into, the complex legal elements and the fundamentals of the nature and structure of all aspects of International Civil and Commercial Law.
2	<i>Specialist knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, special fields of International Civil and Commercial Law such as International Contract Law, International Property Law, International Tort Law and International Commercial Dispute Resolution.
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in International Civil and Commercial Law by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by thorough analysis and interpretation of legal sources, literature, and complex cases relating to questions of International Civil and Commercial Law. The graduate is able to critically read and analyse domain specific case law and the decision-making practices of institutions as well as of legislation. The graduate is able to pose critical questions, formulate an independent opinion, draw founded conclusions, provide innovative solutions to challenges in the field of International Civil and Commercial Law, and to make recommendations and suggestions for further research.
4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will develop and work upon their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of study is English. Therefore, English as a business and working language, using the specific vocabulary of International Civil and Commercial Law, is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of International Civil and Commercial Law at an advanced master's level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in law firms, companies, national and international courts, international institutions, and (inter)national governmental bodies. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying the master to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, e.g. in a PhD programme.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international environment.

7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication and knows how to use domain-specific databases such as the CISG (Convention on the International Sale of Goods) database of Pace Law School.
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of keeping up his or her knowledge and abilities in International Civil and Commercial Law by properly using and updating the research skills and sources taught in the programme.

7. International Children's Rights Law

The Master's Programme of *Advanced Studies in International Children's Rights* (hereafter referred to as 'the programme') is a small-scale, English language programme aimed, in particular, at legal professionals who wish to specialise in the area of children's rights and who already are, or desire to work for, among others, (i) governmental and inter-governmental bodies and public administration (both national and international); (ii) national, regional and international (non-governmental) organisations dealing with children's rights issues; (iii) the judiciary or national human rights institutions (e.g. ombudspersons) or (iv) law firms or companies involved with children and/or family matters. Substantively, the graduates will be prepared to work in various domains affecting children, including, but not limited to child protection, education, health care for children, child labour, children in armed conflict, children living on the street or children in the justice system. In a broader sense this programme complements careers in any human rights field, and suits those who, upon completion, would like to branch out to engage with other human rights concerns (such as women, refugees, domestic labour, disability). In addition, given the evident link between children's rights and the (post 2015) world development agenda, this programme places graduates in an ideal position to work for development bodies and institutes. The programme also fits newly graduated, talented lawyers who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level or engage in a PhD in the field of children's rights.

This is a programme whose time has come. In November 2014 the main treaty in this area - the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) - will reach its 25th anniversary. Also, there is an ever deepening consciousness at the international and domestic levels regarding the role that implementing children's rights can have in both the private and the public spheres of life. The UN Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) has now released no fewer than 17 General Comments on issues as diverse as the right of the child to be heard, the right to play, leisure and recreation or corporate social responsibility and children's rights. There is one UN Special Rapporteur and two UN Special Representatives whose work intersects with international children's rights as laid down in the CRC and its two substantive Optional Protocols and who have made a huge impact on the international understanding of their respective mandates.

Further there are significant developments at regional level. For example, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child has made measurable progress in reviewing state parties' reports, issuing findings on individual communications, and has issued one General Comment (on children imprisoned with their mothers). The same body will release in 2014 another General Comment on birth registration. At European level, the Council of Europe has pioneered Guidelines on Child Friendly Justice for Children, drawing in new insights on, among others, child victims and witnesses and drawn up its own Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of

Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (2007 Lanzarote Convention). In addition, the European Court of Human Rights has developed a growing body of case law in which the rights of children are recognized and developed further; the European Committee of Social Rights has issued a number of important children's rights decisions. In the European Union, children are specifically protected in the Charter of Fundamental Rights and it has developed a special agenda requiring further attention on matters pertaining to children, including the development of legal instruments (EU Directives) and case law of the European Court of Justice. In the Americas, the Inter-American Children's Institute is a specialised organisation in children's rights, forming part of the Organisation of American States. In addition, both the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, including the work of its Rapporteur on Children's Rights, have been instrumental in furthering children's rights implementation in the Americas. Last but not least the Association of South Eastern Asian States (ASEAN) is increasingly involved in promoting and protecting the rights of children by organising events and conferences for raising awareness in this sphere. Further, within ASEAN there is a Special Commission on the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Women and Children, which further attests to the special recognition of the need to promote children's rights.

In short, in the light of the above, the intellectual base of children's rights law has mushroomed and deserves dedicated consideration at an advanced level. This programme could further stimulate and support the developments in this area of law.

Further, knowledge of and education in the field of children's rights is considered a fundamental tool to guarantee respect for the rights of children and to contribute significantly to promoting equality, preventing conflict and enhancing children's participation, among others in democratic processes, with a view to developing systems of good governance in which children are recognised as citizens. One of the basic ideas behind this programme is the notion that Leiden University with its century-long tradition in promoting individual rights and freedoms (*praesidium libertatis*) should make an effort to educate and train people from all over the world who would in various roles be able to contribute to the building and maintenance of a democratic state under the rule of law, which includes unconditional respects for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of children.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has a profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, the foundations of general International Children's Rights including its sources, principles, and institutions and interrelation with specialised fields.
2	<i>Specialist knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and critical insight into, specific specialised fields of International Children's Rights and, in particular the respective fields of specialisation, including the overlaps. Differences and interaction between these specialised fields. The graduate has a critical and profound understanding of the policy considerations underlying these bodies of law and their context (i.e., as appropriate, their comparative or international context).
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in general International Children's Rights, its specialised fields, by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by in-depth analysis and interpretation of legal sources, literature, and complex cases. The graduate is capable of posing critical questions, formulating an independent opinion on legal questions, and drawing well-founded conclusions. The graduate is able to provide innovative solutions to challenges in the field of International Children's Rights and, as appropriate, specialised fields, and to make recommendations for further research.

4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will further improve their existing writing, reading and research skills as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of the programme is English. Therefore, English as a business and working language, using the specific vocabulary of International Children’s Rights, and its specialised fields is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of International Children’s Rights at an advanced postgraduate level. More specifically: a. The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills to deeply engage with “the state of the art” in International Children’s Rights, enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in law firms, the judiciary or policy advisory bodies on issues related to human rights or children, within national and international courts and tribunals, international institutions, (inter)national governmental bodies, national human rights institutes (e.g. ombudspersons), national, regional and international non-governmental organisations dealing with children’s rights; companies or the foreign/diplomatic service and within law firms specialising in human rights in general and children’s rights specifically, but also in related areas such as corporate social responsibility. b. The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying them to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, for example in a PhD programme.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate has developed a professional work ethic enabling them to work in an international and intercultural environment. The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, again notably within an international environment.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication.
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has developed skills for lifelong learning, ensuring that they are able to identify and independently cover their own gaps in their knowledge.

8. Law and Finance

The Master’s Programme of *Advanced Studies in Law & Finance* (hereinafter referred to as ‘the programme’) is a small-scale, English language programme aimed, in particular, at legal professionals who wish to specialise in the area of law and finance, or desire to work for, amongst others, (i) financial institutions, such as banks and investment firms; (ii) financial supervisory authorities (both national and international); (iii) other governmental and inter-governmental bodies and public administration (both national and international); (iv) law firms; (v) the judiciary and arbitration courts, or (vi) listed companies. In a broader sense, this programme complements careers in any field at the intersection of law and finance, and suits those who, upon completion, would like to branch out to engage with other law and finance-related issues (such as corporate finance, insolvency law, institutional investments). In addition, given the evident link between law and finance and the post Global Financial Crisis (“GFC”) world regulatory agenda, this programme places graduates in an ideal position to work for regulatory bodies. The programme also fits newly graduated, talented lawyers and non-lawyers who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level or engage in a PhD in the field of law and finance.

With the GFC of 2008 a dramatic overhaul of financial regulation has occurred worldwide. The general objective of these reforms is to reduce the chance and costs of future systemic financial crises in the most efficient manner. Also in the European Union the GFC has acted like a catalyst to financial sector reforms, both at legislative, regulatory and supervisory level. These European issues may not be considered in isolation; parallel developments take place in the US and Asia. Activities which had been unregulated for years, such as hedge funds and credit rating agencies, received new attention and the notion arose the risks these activities carry asked for regulatory intervention. Other activities which had already been regulated for decades, such as the banking business, could also count on particular attention. New EU legislative reforms tightened the reins on, *inter alia*, capital requirements and corporate governance of banks. All these developments pose new issues as regards their interaction with other fields of law, such as civil law, company law and insolvency law. In addition, these reforms take place at Union level, resulting in two distinct levels of legislation: the Union level and the national level. These two levels of law pose questions as regards the implementation into and the interaction with the laws of the Member States. Moreover, particularly financial legislation intertwines with economic and ethical issues. For instance, the legal capital requirements for banks and investment firms implemented with the Capital Requirements Directive IV and the Capital Requirements Regulation will have their influence on the balance sheet management, i.e. economics, of these financial institutions. On the other hand, governance in the financial sector and of financial institutions in particular pose ethical questions with regard to integrity, remuneration and shareholders' rights. Hence, one cannot fully understand the area of law and finance without having a high regard for the economic and ethical issues surrounding it.

An international programme which covers the field of law and finance is both vital and useful to correspond with current reality, a reality characterised by an increasingly interwoven relationship between financial regulation and the world of finance. Recent developments have led to a juridification of the financial sector on the one hand and a financialisation of society on the other. As a result, lawyers who operate in the field of finance have a need to know the economics behind the law, and simultaneously economists have a need to know the law behind the finance aspects. In the financial sector, economists and lawyers have to work closely together. Such practice promotes the need for establishing and maintaining a mutual understanding of both lawyers and economists with regard to each other's discipline. Also in other professions such increasing need occurs, such as in-house lawyers of listed companies. Therefore, the programme not only focuses on lawyers with demonstrable affinity with finance, but also on economists who wish to enhance their understanding of the legal world behind financial transactions, consisting of (international and European) financial law.

In short, in the light of the above, the intellectual base of financial law has mushroomed and deserves dedicated consideration at an advanced level. This programme is designed to further stimulate and support the developments in this area of law.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, the legal, regulatory, and economic elements of the main international and European instruments in the field of law and finance, as well as of the interrelation between these elements and instruments, respectively.

2	<i>Specialist knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, specific areas of law relating to the field of law and finance, such as banking law, capital markets legislation, (corporate) governance legislation, contract law, property law and private international law. The graduate is able to independently assess the strengths and weaknesses of the current legislative framework, from both a legal and economic standpoint. Further, the graduate is able to understand the relationship between national, international and European laws in the field of law and finance. The graduate also has in-depth knowledge of, and insight into, the roles and functions of the various actors (governments, banks, other financial institutions, financial supervisory authorities, capital markets, courts, etc.) in the field of law and finance. With respect to some areas, such as Governance in the Financial Sector, Banking & Finance Transactions and Capital Markets, students will also critically reflect on legal issues from a more multidisciplinary perspective, including e.g. insights from economics and ethics.
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in the field of law and finance by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by thorough analysis and interpretation of legal sources, academic literature, and complex cases relating to questions in the area of law and finance. The graduate is able to critically read and analyse relevant legislation documentation, case law and other documents by (European and supranational) bodies active in this field. The graduate is able to pose critical questions, formulate an independent opinion, draw founded conclusions, provide innovative solutions to challenges in the area of law and finance, and to make recommendations and suggestions for further research.
4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will develop and work upon their existing writing, reading and research skills, as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of study is English. Therefore, English as a professional and working language, using the specific vocabulary of the area of law and finance, is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of expertise in the area of law and finance at an advanced master's level. More specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in banks, other financial institutions, law firms, (listed) companies, judiciary, financial supervisory authorities, and (inter)national governmental bodies; b) The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying them to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, e.g. in a research master.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international, multicultural and multidisciplinary environment.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication and knows how to use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general legal research databases such as Westlaw, LEXIS NEXIS and SSRN; - the research database of EU Legal Information: EUR-Lex;

	- websites such as the website of the European Union, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision and the OICV-IOSCO.
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of keeping up his or her knowledge and abilities in the area of law and finance by properly using and updating the research skills and sources taught in the programme.

9. International Dispute Settlement and Arbitration

The Master of Advanced Studies in 'International Dispute Settlement and Arbitration' (IDSA) (hereafter referred to as 'the programme' or 'IDSA Adv. LLM.')

is a small-scale, English language programme. The programme is intended to fill the gap in existing educational offers, building further on the reputation and expertise of Leiden Law School and the Grotius Centre. It is intended for excellent international and Dutch students, who already have obtained a Master's degree in law or an equivalent thereof. Both students who have already had several years of experience in practice, as well as students who immediately wish to pursue a specialised Master's programme in international dispute settlement are targeted.

International dispute settlement has evolved to become an important and specialised field of teaching and research in international law and beyond. International Dispute Settlement can best be described as the international law regulating the principles and practice common to all international dispute settlement mechanisms and the specific rules of procedure governing particular forms of dispute settlement. The increased attention to international dispute settlement follows the rise in the number of procedures which enable states, international organisations and non-state actors to settle their international legal disputes. There is a spectacular rise in settling disputes through the specific modality of arbitration, while the docket of the International Court of Justice in The Hague is also well filled. The surge in resolving dispute through arbitration occurs in inter-state as well as public-private situations. In addition, and in parallel, non-legal dispute settlement methods and diplomatic methods, such as mediation, fact-finding, and conciliation have also witnessed an increased practice and academic attention in multidisciplinary settings.

With a view to capitalizing on the unique position of The Hague and the trends towards greater resort to peaceful dispute settlement mechanisms, specifically arbitration and judicial settlement, the Grotius Centre for International Legal Studies has decided to create a new advanced master programme in international dispute settlement and arbitration.

An international advanced programme in international dispute settlement and arbitration is useful and necessary to conform to the increased international attention given to international dispute settlement, and to respond to a growing demand of the field (both scholars and professionals). It will also strengthen the position of Leiden University in this particular field of expertise, for which it has built a strong reputation over the past years.

1	<i>Basic and overarching knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, the principles of international dispute settlement, and the specific procedures of the specific dispute settlement mechanisms.

2	<i>Specialist knowledge:</i>
	The graduate has profound knowledge of, and insight into, specific areas of law relating to international dispute settlement. The graduate is able to independently assess the strengths and weaknesses of the current mechanisms and the system as a whole, from both a legal standpoint. Further, the graduate is able to understand the relation between national and international dispute settlement mechanisms. The graduate also has in-depth knowledge of, and insight into, the roles and functions of the various actors (States, international organisations, foreign investors, companies, NGOs, judges, arbitrators) in international dispute settlement.
3	<i>Research abilities:</i>
	The graduate is capable of researching legal questions in the field of international dispute settlement by formulating coherent and concise problem statements, collecting and analysing data, judging their validity and relevance as well as by thorough analysis and interpretation of legal sources, academic literature, and complex cases relating to questions in the area of international dispute settlement. The graduate is able to critically read and analyse relevant international sources and case law. (S)he is able to pose critical questions, formulate an independent opinion, draw founded conclusions, provide innovative solutions to challenges in the area of international dispute settlement, and to make recommendations and suggestions for further research.
4	<i>Presentation of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of presenting his/her findings in a clear, readily understandable, methodical and logical manner, both orally and in writing, to both legal experts and non-lawyers alike. Students will develop and work upon their existing writing, reading and research skills, as well as their oral presentation skills. The language in all aspects of study is English. Therefore, English as a professional and working language, using the specific vocabulary of the area of international dispute settlement, is extensively developed.
5	<i>Application of knowledge:</i>
	The graduate is capable of applying the acquired knowledge, research and practical skills in professions or functions that require application of expertise in the area of international dispute settlement at an advanced master's level. More specifically: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The graduate possesses the legal knowledge, insight and skills enabling them to pursue a career at an advanced level as a legal professional within international legal practice in law firms, international organisations, courts and tribunals, State agencies, and Academia; - The graduate possesses legal knowledge, insight and skills qualifying them to pursue an academic career by conducting further academic research, e.g. in a research master.
6	<i>Working environment:</i>
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international, multicultural and multidisciplinary environment.
7	<i>ICT skills:</i>
	The graduate is able to use new, or to enhance existing, ICT skills in research and communication and knows how to use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - general legal research databases such as Westlaw, LEXIS NEXIS and SSRN; - websites such as the website of the International Court of Justice, the ICSID, the WTO, ITLOS, ...
8	<i>Keeping up knowledge:</i>

	The graduate is capable of keeping up his or her knowledge and abilities in the area of international dispute settlement by properly using and updating the research skills and sources taught in the programme.
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