Universiteit Leiden

Course and Examination Regulations

Master of Laws

Advanced Studies Programmes 2026-2027

Valid from 1 September 2026

These course and examination regulations (henceforth OER) have been drawn up in accordance with the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act [*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek* (*WHW*)] (henceforth the Act) and the following Leiden University regulations:

- Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document
- Academic Calendar
- Regulations for Student Registration, Tuition Fees and Examination Fees
- Regulations for Admission to Master's
- Online Proctoring Protocol

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.

Contents

1. General Provisions
2. Description of the Programme
3. Curriculum
4. Examinations, Final Examinations and Further Education
5. Admission to the Programme, Tuition Fee, Withdrawal and Expulsion
6. Study Guidance, Study Advice and Evaluations
7. Evaluation of the Programme
8. Final Provisions
9. Complaints and appeals

Appendices

- Enrolment protocol
- Prospectus
- Appendix 1 Learning Outcomes and Programme End Qualifications

Classified as Internal | Intern

Chapter 1 General provisions

Article 1.1 Scope of the regulations

These regulations apply to the courses and examinations of the so-called Master of Advanced Studies Programmes of Leiden University Law School, hereinafter referred to as "the programmes".

The programmes are instituted in the Faculty of Law (hereinafter referred to as: the faculty) of Leiden University, known internationally as the Leiden Law School. The programmes are taught in Leiden and The Hague.

Article 1.2 Definitions

In these regulations the following definitions apply:

1.	Academic Board:	The Programme Director, Academic Coordinator, and Programme Coordinator together. The Academic Board is chaired by the Programme Director or their nominee. It deals with particular aspects of the academic strategy for the Programme;
2.	Academic Coordinator:	The person responsible for the day-to-day running of the Programme on the academic level;
3.	Board of Admissions:	The Board established by the Faculty Board that has the duty of determining, with the application of the entry requirements referred to in Article 7.30b, (1) and (3) of the Act and the University Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes, which applicants can be admitted to this Master's programme;[1]
4.	Board of Examiners:	The Board of Examiners for the programme, established and appointed by the Faculty Board in accordance with Article 7.12a of the Act;
5.	Calendar days:	A period of 24 hours beginning at midnight and indicated by a date on the calendar, including all days, such as working days, weekends, recognized public holidays and mandatory closing days.
6.	Class	A period of time, such as a lecture or a seminar, which is part of the curriculum of a course
7.	Component:	One of the courses or practical assignments of the programme, as referred to in Article 7.3 of the Act. The

[1] The Board of Admissions acts under the responsibility of and on behalf of the Faculty Board, cf. Article (5.0-5.2).

		study load of each component is expressed in whole credits. Each component is concluded with an examination;
8.	Course Coordinator	The main lecturer responsible for a course in a programme.
9.	Credit: component	The unit in European Credits that expresses the study load of a as referred to in the Act. According to the ECTS, one credit equals 28 hours of study;
10.	Degree:	The Master of Laws Advanced Studies Degree as accredited by the NVAO (see Article 1,2 (22)) and resulting from successful completion of all designated within the relevant Programme;
11.	Degree classification:	Further degree classification by the Board of Examiners;
12.	Digital teaching environment:	A digital environment, such as Brightspace, in which Students can work together, communicate and learn;
13.	ECTS:	European Credit (Transfer System);
14.	Enrolment protocol:	The enrolment protocol containing specific and binding information concerning enrolment in components, examinations, and final examinations, established by the Executive Board. The enrolment protocol constitutes an integral part of these regulations and is included as an Appendix;
15.	Examination (*tentamen*):	An inspection of the knowledge, understanding and skills of The Student with respect to a particular component, and an assessment thereof (in accordance with Article 7.10 of the Act). The assessment can take place in written form, orally as well as digitally, or a combination of these methods. An examination may consist of several constituent examinations. Credits are only awarded for examinations passed. The inspection is conducted according to the method determined by the Board of the Examiners to assure the quality of examination and final examinations;[2]
16.	Examiner:	The person appointed by the Board of Examiners to conduct examinations, in accordance with Article 7.12c of the Act;
17.	Final examination (*examen*):	The aggregate of examinations [*tentamens*] linked to all components of the programme, including, when the Board of Examiners has so decided, an additional examination assessed by the board, as referred to in Article 7.10 (2) of the Act;
18.	First/second reader:	The first or second examiner to read and assess the thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment. The first reader/reviewer is also the supervisor (see Article 6.3);

[2] Examination Rules and Regulations master's degree programmes Leiden Law School

19. Language of instruction:	The language of a programme, in which lectures and tutorials are given and examinations and final examinations are held;
20. Leiden Reg. of Study Programmes:	Registers of the programmes offered by Leiden University, maintained under the supervision of the Executive Board, as referred to in Article 7 of the Management and Administration Regulations;
21. Level:	The level of a component according to the abstract structure as defined in the Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document;[3]
22. Nominal duration of study:	The study load in years of study as established in the Central Register of Higher Education Programmes;
23. NVAO:	Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatie Organisatie, i.e., the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders;
24. Office for International Education:	The office in the faculty where Advanced Master Students can go for information. This office also registers Advanced Master Students for their courses;
25. PAC:	Programme Advisory Committee. The PAC advises on educational matters of the Programmes. The PAC consists of two members of the academic staff and two Student members;
26. Portfolio:	A monitoring and assessment file with which Students (1) demonstrate that they have achieved a sufficient level of academic education to be awarded the degree; (2) record their personal process of academic learning during the programme; and (3) receive appropriate supervision and study advice;
27. Practical assignment:	A practical assignment that contributes to an examination or final examination, as referred to in Article 7.13 (2) (j) of the Act, and takes one of the following forms: - writing a thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment, - writing a paper or creating an artistic work, - carrying out a research assignment, - an oral presentation, - participating in fieldwork or an excursion, - completing an internship, or - participating in another educational activity aimed at acquiring particular skills;
28. Programme:	The programme to which these Course and Examination

[3] Leiden Register of Study Programmes Framework Document

	Regulations relate: a coherent set of (course) components, aimed at achieving clearly defined objectives relating to the knowledge, understanding and skills that a graduate of the programme is expected to have acquired. Each programme is concluded with a final examination;
29. Programme Coordinator:	The person responsible for the day-to-day running of the Programme on the management level;
30. Programme Director:	The person directly responsible for the Programme continuity, curriculum and development;
31. Prospectus:	The digital prospectus containing specific and binding information about the programme; the Prospectus constitutes an integral part of these regulations, as an appendix;
32. QAS Committee:	Quality Assurance Steering Committee/Educational Board (*Onderwijsbestuur)* 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;
33. Student:	A person enrolled at Leiden University in order to follow the courses, and/or sit the examinations and final examinations of the programme;
34. The Act:	The Higher Education and Research Act [*Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek*; WHW];
35. Thesis:	Final exercise in one of the assessment forms as indicated under [practical assignment], constituting a (course) component;
36. Working day:	Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays and the compulsory closure days specified by the Executive Board;

Any other terms have the meaning as given to them by the Act.

Article 1.3 Codes of Conduct

1.3.1 The Leiden University Code of Conduct on Standards of Behaviour between Lecturers and Students[4] is applicable. The aim of this code is to create a framework for a good, safe and stimulating work and study environment within Leiden University, in which lecturers and Students respect each other and in which mutual acceptance and trust are important values.

[4] Leiden University Code of Conduct on Standards of Behavior between Lecturers and Students

1.3.2 The Code of Conduct on Remote Teaching applies;[5] this provides guidelines for teaching and learning in digital environments, remote environments or any form of teaching that is primarily dependent on Information Technology services.

1.3.3 The Leiden University Regulations on Information Communication Technology (ICT) and Internet Use[6] are also applicable. These regulations define what is considered appropriate use of ICT and internet and how usage checks will be made. They also explain which conduct is not tolerated and the consequences that apply.

1.3.4 The Faculty Code of Conduct also applies to the teaching in the study programmes.

1.3.5. The Code of Conduct for International Students in Higher Education applies. The code sets out standards for Dutch higher education institutions in their dealings with international students.[7]

[5] Code of Conduct on Remote Teaching
[6] Leiden University Regulations on ICT and Internet Use
[7] https://www.internationalstudy.nl/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Code-of-Conduct-HE-2024.pdf

Chapter 2 Description of the programme

Article 2.1 Objectives of the programme

The objectives of the Programmes are described in the NVAO accreditation reports for each individual Programme. See Appendix 1.

Article 2.2 Programmes

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;
- International Law and Finance;
- International Dispute Settlement and Arbitration.

Article 2.3 Learning outcomes

The learning outcomes and the end qualifications are described in the NVAO accreditation reports for each individual Programme. See Appendix 1.

Article 2.4 Structure of the programme

2.4.1 The programmes are offered both full-time and part-time. The nominal duration of the full-time programme is one academic year (part time 2 academic years) (see Articles 7.5 and 7.5a of the Higher Education and Research Act [WHW]).

2.4.2 Both the full-time and part-time variants are offered during the daytime. Lectures and seminars may also be held between 17:00 and 19:00.

2.4.3 A Student may not 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 after 1 November.

Article 2.5 Study load

The full course load of the programme is 60 ECTS credits.

Article 2.6 Start of the programme; uniform structure of the Academic Year; duration of study

2.6.1 The Programmes have an intake 1 September each year. Air & Space Law also has an intake on 1 February each year. In terms of the courses, the programme is based on the university semester system and comprises 42 teaching weeks.

2.6.2 A full-time Student must complete the programme within one academic year. A part-time Student must complete the programme within two academic years.

Article 2.7 Final examinations

The programme ends with the final examination for the master's degree (cf. Article 1.2 (16) above).

Article 2.8 Language of instruction

All courses are taught in English.

Article 2.9 Quality

2.9.1 The programme is accredited by the Accreditation Organisation of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO) and complies with the applicable national and international quality requirements, and with the quality standards for education as set out in the framework document Leiden University Register of Study Programmes.

2.9.2 The QAS Committee advises the Faculty Board on matters of quality assurance.

Chapter 3 Curriculum

Article 3.0 Exceptions due to *force majeure* situations

If it is not possible, due to a crisis or other *force majeure* circumstances, to provide, or take part in, components as set out in the OER or the Prospectus, changes will be announced by the authorised body in due time. Such changes will be announced in any case in Brightspace, or alternatively a statement will be made in Brightspace regarding which other medium will be used to communicate about this. A crisis is understood to mean a crisis as defined in Article 1 of the Leiden University Regulations on Crisis Management Coordination.

Article 3.1 Compulsory components

3.1.1 The programme includes compulsory components[8] worth a total study load of 60 ECTS credits. These compulsory components also include the pre-defined components from which students are obliged to choose.[9]

3.1.2 The Prospectus further specifies the actual structure of the programme, the study load (in credits), level,[10] content, method of examination and the structure of the curriculum components.

Article 3.2 *Not applicable.*

Article 3.3 Practical assignments

3.3.1 For each component, the Prospectus specifies which practical assignments are included, the nature and scope of the student's workload for these practical assignments and whether participation in these is a condition of admission to (other parts of) the examination. The Board of Examiners may exempt students from a practical assignment, in which case the Board can choose to apply alternative conditions.

3.3.2 The Prospectus specifies the scope and study load of the thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment, including the requirements that the thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment must meet. (Cf. Article 6.3)

Article 3.4 Taking part in components and sitting examinations

3.4.1 Taking part in components

3.4.1.1 The Programme Coordinator will register a Student for all components such as lecture, tutorials, practical assignment and examinations.

3.4.1.2 *Not applicable.*

[8] The information can be found in the Prospectus.
[9] The last sentence refers to the so-called compulsory optional courses and/or specialisation courses. The information can be found in the Prospectus.
[10] In accordance with the 'abstract structure', as described in the Framework Document of the Leiden University Register of Study Programmes.

3.4.1.3 *Not applicable.*

3.4.1.4 *Not applicable.*

3.4.1.5 At their request, a student will be allowed to take one course free of charge from another programme, provided both the Programme Director of the student's own programme and the Programme 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.

3.4.2 Sitting examinations and constituent examinations

3.4.2.1 In order to sit the examination or constituent examination, the Programme Coordinator is required to register the student before the start of the examination or constituent examination.

3.4.2.2 In order to take the resit of the same component in the current academic year, the Programme Coordinator is required to register the student before the start of the examination or constituent examination. This term also applies for the situation referred to in Article 4.6.2.

Article 3.5 Distribution of study materials and class attendance

3.5.1 Students are not permitted to take photographs, or make audio or video recordings, or use transcription/translation software of lectures, examinations or education-related meetings, including the feedback sessions after examinations (including examination assignments and model answers), without the explicit prior permission of the relevant lecturer. Should such permission be granted, students are only legally permitted to use the photograph or recording for their own use; all forms of distribution or publication of the photograph or recording are prohibited. A student has no independent control over these materials, unless the University has explicitly granted this to the student.

3.5.2 Students are prohibited from all forms of distribution or publication of study materials. The materials are for students' own use only.

3.5.3 Students are prohibited from infringing the intellectual property rights of the University, third parties or the person with whom licensing agreements were made.

3.5.4 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 examination(s) or practical assignment(s), including the resit, 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. 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.

3.5.5 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 examination. Students need to submit relevant evidence for their absence.

Chapter 4 Examinations, Final Examinations[11] and Further Education

Article 4.0 Exceptions due to force majeure situations

If it is not possible, due to a crisis or other *force majeure* circumstances, to offer examinations and final examinations in the form and at the point in time set out in the OER or the Prospectus, changes will be announced by the authorised body in due time. Such changes will be announced in any case in Brightspace, or alternatively a statement will be made in Brightspace regarding which other medium will be used to communicate about this. A crisis is understood to mean a crisis as defined in Article 1 of the Leiden University Regulations on Crisis Management Coordination.If the examination of a course unit is comprised of more than one examination or practical assignment, 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.

Article 4.1 Frequency of examinations

4.1.1 Examinations are held twice during the academic year for each component offered in that academic year. The Board of Examiners determines the manner of resit for practical assignments.

In accordance with Article 7.10 and 7.12c of the Act, examinations must be carried out by at least one examiner appointed by the Board of Examiners for that purpose. An examination is carried out in accordance with the procedure determined by the Board of Examiners in relation to the quality assurance of the examination. An examination and practical assignment may consist of multiple(constituent) examinations and/or practical assignment.
Students studying part time are entitled to one retake per course in their two-year registration period.

4.1.2 The Faculty Board is responsible for the practical organisation of the examinations and final examinations and ensures, if necessary, by means of invigilation, that the examinations proceed properly. If online proctoring is used, this is done according to the Online Proctoring Protocol.

4.1.3 If a component includes a practical assignment, students may only sit the examination as referred to in Article 4.1.1 if they have passed the practical assignment, unless the Programme informs the Student in advance of the necessity for a practical assignment to take place after an examination or unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise. (cf. Articles 3.3 and 4.6.6)

4.1.4.1 If the grade for a component results from several constituent examinations,[12] it is possible to vary from the number of examinations as referred to in article 4.1.1, on the condition that the student is at least given the opportunity to successfully complete the component by means of a representative resit test. Where applicable, this is stated in the Prospectus.

[11] For the implementation modalities and further regulation of the present topics, see the document 'Rules and Regulations for Examinations and Final Examinations of Bachelor's Programmes at Leiden Law School', which can be found on the Faculty's Student website (Organisation > Regulations).
[12] The exact proportion/rate, the (contents of the) re-examination, and the validity of the result of partial examinations, are regulated in the course descriptions in the Prospectus.

4.1.4.2 If the grade for a component results from several constituent examinations it is possible to apply a minimum passing grade to each separate examination. This should be notified to students via the Prospectus.

4.1.5 The dates of examinations will be notified to students at the beginning of each course. Resit examination dates will be announced either directly to the student or on the Digital teaching environment with a minimum of five days between the inspection and feedback session and the resit and after consultation between the Programme Coordinator and the course lecturer and a review of the Students' schedule.

4.1.6.1 *Not applicable.*

4.1.6.2 *Not applicable.*

4.1.7 At a student's request the Board of Examiners may in exceptional circumstances diverge from the provisions of article 4.1.1 and allow an additional resit.[13]

4.1.8 *Not applicable.*

4.1.9 *Not applicable.*

4.1.10 *Not applicable.*

4.1.11 *Not applicable.*

4.1.12 *Not applicable.*

4.1.13 *Not applicable.*

4.1.14 *Not applicable.*

4.1.15 No student shall be excused from taking any scheduled examination or practical assignment, except for valid reasons for which prior written permission is obtained from the examiner and a member of the Academic Board.

4.1.16 No extensions or second resits will be given for any examination or practical assignment except in the case of mitigating circumstances. Extensions or second resits need permission from the examiner and a member of the Academic Board - in such circumstances they need to be requested by the student, as soon as possible, and wherever possible in advance of the examination or practical assignment. This request needs to be made to the relevant examiner and a member of the Academic Board.

4.1.17 Students are informed at the beginning of each course about the assessment form for the course, including any percentage weighting of different constituent examinations to determine the final course grade.

4.1.18 A student is considered to have failed a course when the rounded and weighted average of the grades obtained for all required examinations and practical assignments of the course is less than 6. If after the resit of the failed examination and/or practical assignment the rounded and weighted average grade for the course is still less than 6 the student will have failed the course.

4.1.19 Failure of two or more courses may lead to deregistration of the student from the programme as provided for under article 5.0-5.5.

[13] For further information please refer to the document 'Examination Rules and Regulations master's degree programmes Leiden Law School'.

4.1.20 Only one resit may be granted to a student per course. It will be up to the discretion of the relevant Examiner to decide the method of the resit. The grade obtained in the resit will replace the grade of the failed examination or practical assignment and will be included in the weighting of the grade for the course.

4.1.21 No resit will be granted to a student who has obtained a rounded and weighted average grade for the course of 6 or higher.

4.1.22 No resit will be allowed if a student has not taken the scheduled examination 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.

4.1.23 Where a student does not achieve the necessary ECTS for obtaining the Degree and where this is due to having failed a single course, not being a core course of a Programme as defined in the Prospectus, the Board of Examiners may grant the student upon their substantiated written request the possibility to make up for the missing ECTS through a written assignment.

4.1.24 In the case of failure of a resit of a core course as defined in the relevant Prospectus, students wishing an opportunity to obtain a passing grade for that course, need to re-enroll for the following academic year and retake **the entire course and** examination. In the case of a re-enrolment a student is required to pay tuition fees proportionally pursuant to Article 5.0-5.5.3. In special cases, where there are validly documented extenuating circumstances, the Board of Examiners may grant a student permission to have a second resit for a core course in the same academic year.

4.1.25 In the case 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 why they did not pass the core course and the motivation for the request.

Article 4.2 Obligatory sequence

4.2.1 The Prospectus specifies the sequence in which examinations must be taken. Students may only sit examinations that are subject to a compulsory sequence once they have passed the examinations for one or more other components. (See also Article 3.4.2)

4.2.2 For the components and their attendant examinations which must be completed in a given sequence, the Board of Examiners may in special cases, and following a substantiated written request by the student, agree to an alternative sequence.

Article 4.3 Form of examination

4.3.1 The Prospectus and the Regulations from the Board of Examiners Master of Laws: Advanced Studies Programmes states whether the examination or constituent examinations for a

component take the form of a written, digital or oral examination, or a combination of these.[14] Established forms of examinations may only be modified in exceptional cases by the Board of Examiners, in consultation with the examiner. Any changes must meet the learning objectives of the course component.

4.3.2 The procedure during examinations and the guidelines and instructions, as referred to in Article 7.12b (1) (b) of the Act, for assessing and establishing the results of examinations and final examinations are described in the 'Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners'.

4.3.3 Students with a disability or chronic illness may take examinations in a manner that has been adjusted to accommodate their particular disability as much as possible. These adjustments may not affect the quality or level of difficulty of an examination. If necessary, the Board of Examiners will seek expert advice, as provided for in the Protocol on Studying with a Disability,[15] before reaching a decision. (See also Article 6.5)

4.3.4 In special cases, the Board of Examiners may, at the request of the student and within the scope of the(se) Course and Examination Regulations, permit a student to sit an examination in another manner than specified in the Prospectus.

4.3.5 Examinations are held in the languages of instruction for this programme that are specified in the Course and Examination Regulations (see Article 2.8). At the request of the student, the Board of Examiners may permit a student to sit an examination in another language.

4.3.6 *Not applicable.*

Article 4.4 Oral examinations

4.4.1 Students take oral examinations individually, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.

4.4.2 Oral examinations are public, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise owing to special circumstances, or unless the student has reservations.

Article 4.5 Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners

4.5.1 In accordance with Article 7.12b (3) of the Act, the Board of Examiners establishes rules concerning the performance of its tasks and responsibilities and the measures it can take in the event of fraud.[16]

4.5.2 The Board of Examiners is responsible for ensuring that the right of students to appeal against decisions of the Board of Examiners or the examiners is guaranteed.

Article 4.6 Assessment and grading

4.6.1 The examiner determines the grade as soon as possible after an oral examination has been conducted. The student receives a message about the grade via the University study progress system.

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[14] The examination of the course components stated in the Prospectus can also take the form of a group assessment. An individual assessment is provided in the event of a presentation, study, report or other form of course activity that is carried out as part of a group.

[15] Protocol on Studying with a Disability

[16] The Board of Examiners has set out rules and regulations. These are included in the 'Rules and Regulations of the Board of Examiners of the degree programme Master of Laws: Advanced Studies Programmes'. These include any measures to be taken in the event of academic fraud, including plagiarism. Leiden University's and the Leiden Law School's definitions and policies surrounding plagiarism can be found on the university website.

4.6.2 The examiner determines the grade of any written or other form of examination or constituent examination within fifteen working days of the day on which the examination or constituent examination was held. The result is notified to the student within the same fifteen working days. The final grade is recorded in the University study progress system, and the student receives a message about it via that system. The student will be informed of the result at least five working days before the next opportunity to resit the relevant examination. If this deadline is not met, the resit can be postponed.

4.6.3 If the examiner is unable to comply with the term of fifteen working days and five working days respectively, as specified Article 4.6.2, the student is notified accordingly in a measure sent to the Student's e-mail address before this term expires. This message includes the (latest) date as by which the Student will be informed of the result.

4.6.4 The final combined examination grade must be expressed as a whole (x.0) or half (x.5) number between 1.0 and 10.0. (inclusive). The result cannot be expressed as a (fractional) number between 5.0 and 6.0. If a final grade for an examination is composed of several partial grades, the grades for these partial examination components may not be rounded.

4.6.5 The examination is considered to be a pass if the result of the final combined examination grade is 6.0 or higher.

4.6.6 The successful completion of a practical assignment may qualify as the successful completion of an examination in the sense of Article 7.10 of the Act.[17]

4.6.7 Together with the written or electronic notification of examination results, students are also informed of their right to inspect their graded examination papers, as referred to in Article 4.8, as well as of the appeals procedure as informed by the Programme Coordinator.

4.6.8 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

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

1.00 – 1.24 = 1.0
1.25 – 1.74 = 1.5
1.75 – 2.24 = 2.0
2.25 – 2.74 = 2.5
2.75 – 3.24 = 3.0
3.25 – 3.74 = 3.5
3.75 – 4.24 = 4.0
4.25 – 4.74 = 4.5
4.75 – 5.49 = 5.0
5.50 – 6.24 = 6.0
6.25 – 6.74 = 6.5
6.75 – 7.24 = 7.0
7.25 – 7.74 = 7.5
7.75 – 8.24 = 8.0
8.25 – 8.74 = 8.5
8.75 – 9.24 = 9.0

[17] This implies that a practical exercise can be both a condition to participate in the (final) examination (cf. Article 3.3 and 1.2 (m) as well as an examination (final or part) in its own right (cf. Article 1.2 (k)).

9.25 – 9.74 = 9.5
9.75 – 10 = 10

4.6.9 After an 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 operational error.

Article 4.7 Period of validity of examinations

4.7.1 The validity of passed examinations and exemptions granted is in principle unlimited. The Board of Examiners can decide that an examination loses its validity if this was achieved or acquired more than three years ago and the knowledge, understanding and/or skills that was or were examined or exempted has or have clearly become out of date.[18] (see also Articles 4.10.2.1 and 4.10.2.2)

Article 4.8 Inspection and feedback session

4.8.1 Students are entitled to inspect, and receive feedback on, their graded examination script no later than thirty calendar days following the publication of the results of any written or digital examination, and in any case before the resit takes place. Feedback on the examination will be offered as a group feedback session or in exceptional cases with students individually.

4.8.2 During the period referred to in Article 4.8.1, students may inspect the examination questions and assignments, as well as the grading schemes used to grade the examinations. Any copies of examination questions and examination answers must be returned to the lecturer or authorised person immediately after the inspection and feedback session.

4.8.3 The time and manner of the inspection and feedback session on the examination are specified in the Prospectus or the digital teaching environment.

4.8.4 *Not applicable.*

4.8.5 The examiner determines where and when the inspection of the examination paper and the feedback session will take place. Access to the examination script may coincide with the feedback session.

4.8.6 During the feedback session, any questions that a student may have regarding the examination are to be brought up. After the session has been closed no later opportunity for discussion of the examination is available. Students who are unable to attend the feedback session due to demonstrable circumstances beyond their control are granted another opportunity, if possible within the period referred to in Article 4.8.1.

4.8.7 After an examiner has submitted a grade to the Programme Coordinator, the examiner may change the grade if it was adapted as a result of a re-evaluation of a student's work during an inspection and feedback session.

4.8.8 The final grade following the inspection and feedback session must be delivered within two weeks after the inspection and feedback session has taken place, or, in the case of two separate

[18]This provision is based on the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (WHW) and on what is contained in the model Course and Examination Regulations (CER) in relation to this: "The Faculty Board may limit the validity of an examination pass, subject to the authority of the Board of Examiners to extend the period of validity in individual cases. The period of validity of an examination pass may only be limited if the examined knowledge, understanding or skills are demonstrably outdated."

sessions, when the last session has taken place. This constitutes the final grade awarded and therefore cannot be altered.

4.8. 9. If the examiner sees no reason to correct a student's work, a student may submit an appeal to the Board of Examiners.

Article 4.9 ***Not applicable.***

Article 4.10 Final examination

4.10.1 The Board of Examiners awards a degree certificate when there is sufficient proof that the final examination has been passed.

4.10.2.1 As part of the final examination, the Board of Examiners is entitled to set an additional investigation into the knowledge, understanding and skills of the student and to assess the result.

4.10.2.2 The investigation covers in any case the assessment of the Board of Examiners on the validity of passed examinations and acquired exemptions as referred to in Article 4.7.1.

4.10.3 The degree is only conferred once the Executive Board has declared that all procedural requirements (including the requirement to pay tuition fees) have been met. One degree certificate is awarded for each programme. It is recorded on the diploma that the (specialisation of the) programme was delivered by Leiden University.

4.10.4 *Not applicable.*

4.10.5 *Not applicable.*

4.10.6 *Not applicable.*

4.10.7 A supplement in English that conforms to the standard European Diploma Supplement format, including the grading table applicable for the degree programme, is attached to the degree certificate. In addition to the degree certificate, students are issued with a translation of the degree certificate and a certificate in Latin.

Article 4.11 The degree

4.11.1 Students who have successfully passed the final examination of the programme are awarded the degree title of Master of Laws (LL.M.): Advanced Studies.

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.

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 Advanced Master programme only, of at least the same level and ECTS study points value. Core courses may not be substituted.

4.11.2 The degree certificate specifies which degree has been awarded.

4.11.3 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.

4.11.4 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.

4.11.5 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 4.7.

4.11.6 All students, at the time of obtaining their degree, must be registered as degree seeking Students.

4.11.7 Degree certificates will be issued at the graduation ceremony or after the ceremony as soon as the student has officially successfully completed the programme.

4.11.8 Only one degree certificate will be issued per person per programme. Mention is made on the degree certificate that education has been provided by Leiden University.

Article 4.12 Degree classification

4.12.1 The student is awarded a degree classification for the final examination.

4.12.2 The degree classification is determined on the basis of the weighted average of all (course) examinations that belong to the final examination, with the exception of the (course) examinations/components for which an exemption was granted and course components for which the Student only obtained a proof of attendance. The final average grade for the programme is not rounded to a whole or half grade but remains the actual average grade.

4.12.3 The weighted average of all grades is determined by multiplying the number of ECTS credits for each component by the grade awarded for this component, adding these together and then dividing the result by the total number of credits earned.

4.12.4 Without prejudice to that contained in Article 4.12.6 and Article 4.12.7, the designation 'cum laude' will be added on the degree certificate and on the diploma supplement if the following conditions have been met:

- all components have been completed with a minimum grade of 6;
- the weighted average of all course components is 8.0 or higher;
- a minimum grade of 8.0 was achieved for the thesis;
- the examination was passed within the nominal duration of study (full-time 1 academic year, part-time 2 academic years) and;
- the student has completed the programme without taking resits for any of the courses.

The Board of Examiners sets corresponding conditions for part-time programmes, proportionate to the nominal duration of the study programme.

4.12.5 Without prejudice to that contained in Article 4.12.6 and Article 4.12.7, the designation 'summa cum laude' will be added on the certificate and on the diploma if the following conditions have been met:

- all components have been completed with a minimum grade of 6;
- the weighted average of all course components is a 9.0 or higher;
- a minimum grade of 9.0 was achieved for the thesis;
- the examination was passed within the nominal duration of study (full-time 1 year, part-time 2 years) and;
- the student has completed the programme without taking resits for any of the courses.

The Board of Examiners sets corresponding conditions for part-time programmes, proportionate to the nominal duration of the study programme.

4.12.6 The Board of Examiners may also decide to award a distinction in other, exceptional cases, on the condition that the weighted average mark does not differ by more than 0.5 from the grades stipulated in the fourth and in the fifth paragraphs above. Examples include such aspects as the development of the student throughout their study programme, possible exceptional performances on the part of the student in completing the thesis/final paper/final report/final programme assignment, or other relevant exceptional circumstances.

4.12.7 If the student has been subject to disciplinary measures as a result of irregularity, fraud or plagiarism, as set out in the Rules and Regulations, the Student will not be awarded a distinction, unless the Board of Examiners decides otherwise.[19]

Article 4.13 Further education

The degree awarded grants the holder access to a PhD programme.

[19] A note will be made in the Student's digital file of any occurrence of fraud or other disciplinary measures pursuant to Article 4.5 and the 'Examination Rules and Regulations Master's Programmes Leiden Law School' of the Board of Examiners.

Chapter 5 Admission to the Programme, tuition fee, withdrawal and expulsion

Editorial comment: the admission requirements 2026-2027 are included under Article 5.0-(5.1-5.4) The requirements for admission in academic year 2027-2028 are included under Article 5.1-5.4.

Article 5.0-5.1 Confirmation of Admission

5.0-5.1.1 The Faculty Board provides confirmation of admission if the Student fulfils the entry requirements specified in Article 5.0-5.2. If the Executive Board has determined a maximum number of students for the programme, a confirmation of admission will be issued if the Student meets the entry requirements and this maximum number is not exceeded.

5.0-5.1.2 Confirmation of admission must be requested according to the rules set out in the Regulations for Admission to the Master's programmes.[20]

Article 5.0-5.2 Admission to the programme

5.0-5.2.1 Applicants must have:

- A full degree in law offering access to legal practice in the country where it was obtained, or an equivalent degree from a recognised research university/law school;
- or a degree at an equivalent level in a relevant discipline with a sufficient background in law; and
- evidence of excellent academic performance;
- 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 or practical 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 speaking and 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:

- if you completed your education in the USA, UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Canada (except French-taught programmes in Canada) Singapore, South-Africa or Malta, or if you obtained an English-taught International Baccalaureate™, or if you completed an English-taught bachelor's degree at a Dutch research university.

  Exemptions are *not* issued for Dutch pre-university (VWO) diplomas, or for English-taught degrees obtained at a Dutch university of applied sciences (HBO).

5.0-5.2.2 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

[20] The Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes of Leiden University

https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/en/law/education/advanced-masters-programmes#admission-requirements (General and Programme Specific Requirements).

5.0-5.2.3 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 5.0-5.3 ***Not applicable.***

Article 5.0-5.4 ***Not applicable.***

Admission to the programme 2027-2028

Article 5.1 Confirmation of Admission

5.1.1 The Faculty Board provides confirmation of admission if the Student fulfils the entry requirements specified in Article 5.0-5.2. If the Executive Board has determined a maximum number of students for the programme, a confirmation of admission will be issued if the Student meets the entry requirements and this maximum number is not exceeded.

5.1.2 Confirmation of admission must be requested according to the rules set out in the Regulations for Admission to the Master's programmes.[21]

Article 5.2 Admission to the programme

5.2.1 Applicants must have:

Diploma requirements:

- A full degree in law offering access to legal practice in the country where it was obtained, or an equivalent degree from a recognised university/law school.
- At the discretion of the Admission Board, students may also be admitted with a degree at an equivalent level in a relevant discipline with a sufficient background in law.
- Evidence of excellent academic performance throughout the studies, as evidenced, amongst others, by the grades obtained throughout the studies.

Language requirements:

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 speaking and 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:

- if you completed your education in the USA, UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Canada (except French-taught programmes in Canada) Singapore, South-Africa or Malta, or if you obtained an English-taught International Baccalaureate™, or if you completed an English-taught bachelor's degree at a Dutch research university.

[21] The Regulations for Admission to Master's Programmes of Leiden University

Exemptions are *not* issued for Dutch pre-university (VWO) diplomas, or for English-taught degrees obtained at a Dutch university of applied sciences (HBO).

Programme specific requirements:

Advanced Master in Air and Space Law - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in the field of Air and Space Law, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation and demonstrated by past professional and/or academic experience including extracurricular activities.
- Documented evidence of at least 6 months of relevant (work) experience in the field of Air and/or Space Law or connected fields, i.e. employment or internship at a law firm, or voluntary work, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor.

Advanced Master in European and International Business Law - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in the field of European integration and, more specifically, EU business law and its interaction with international business law, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation and demonstrated by past professional and/or academic experience including extracurricular activities.
- Documented evidence of at least 6 months of relevant (work) experience in the field of EIBL study or connected fields, i.e. employment or internship at a law firm, or voluntary work, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience. Applicants are encouraged to submit their curriculum vitae using the Europass CV format.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor.

Advanced Master in European and International Human Rights Law - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in the field of European and international human rights law, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation and demonstrated by past professional and/or academic experience including extracurricular activities.
- Documented evidence of at least 6 months of relevant (work) experience in the field of human rights law or connected fields, i.e. employment or internship at a law firm, or voluntary work, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.

- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor.
- An account of the applicant's academic and professional trajectory, as clearly and convincingly articulated in a letter of motivation.
  Please note that the motivation letter (approx. two A4-pages) is a crucial part of your application. It should include: (i) a clear explanation of your specific interest in European and international human rights law; (ii) details of your educational/academic and/or professional focuses on, or specialization in, human rights (law); (iii) an indication of what you hope to gain from (specific courses on or features of) our programme; (iv) an indication of how you hope to contribute to a diverse and dynamic classroom; (v) an indication of your career plans after completion of the programme.

Advanced Master in International Civil and Commercial Law - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in the field of international civil and commercial law, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation and demonstrated by past professional and/or academic experience including extracurricular activities.
- Documented evidence of at least 6 months of relevant (work) experience in the field of international civil and commercial law or connected fields, i.e. employment or internship at a law firm, or voluntary work, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.
- A thesis/extended essay or equivalent piece of independent legal research is highly desirable. The application should outline the subject and context (academic or professional) of any relevant piece of written work.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to add their (preliminary) English language test result to their application when it is first submitted.

Advanced Master in International Children's Rights - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in international children's rights, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation.
- An online interview may be part of the selection process.
- Documented evidence of relevant work experience (including internships, externships, full/part-time employment and voluntary work) amounting to at least 6 months. Participation in university clinical programmes may be taken into account for the purpose of meeting the 6-month work experience requirement. The work experience should be illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor.

Advanced Master in International Dispute Settlement and Arbitration Law - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in the field of international dispute settlement and arbitration, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation and demonstrated by past professional and/or academic experience including extracurricular activities.
- Documented evidence of at least 6 months of relevant (work) experience in the field of litigation, international dispute settlement and arbitration or connected fields of law, i.e. employment or internship at a law firm, or voluntary work, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor.

Advanced Master in International Finance Law - Programme specific requirements

- A keen interest in the financial sector and financial law, illustrated by way of a letter of motivation.
- Documented evidence of relevant (work) experience, e.g. employment, internship or voluntary work at a law firm or as an in-inhouse legal counsel of a financial institution or supervisory authority, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Please clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and/or professional ability. At least one letter must be written by an academic staff member, for example a lecturer or academic supervisor. Idieally, another letter is written by a current or former employer, internship supervisor or other professional reference.
- An online interview may be part of the selection process.
- Applicants are strongly *encouraged* to add their (preliminary) English language test result when first submitting their application.

Advanced Master in Law and Digital Technologies - Programme specific requirements

- Sufficient academic or professional background in the area of law and digital technologies.
- A compelling account of the applicant's academic and professional trajectory, as set out in the motivation letter. This letter should include: (i) a well-defined explanation of what the applicant seeks to gain from the programme; (ii) substantiated interest in the area of law and digital technologies; (iii) evidence of intercultural skills and the ability to contribute unique perspectives to the academic environment; and (iv) a statement of career ambitions following completion of the programme.
- Documented evidence of relevant (work) experience, illustrated by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience.
- Two letters of recommendation attesting to good academic and professional ability. Preferably one letter is written by an academic staff member and one letter is from a relevant (work) experience.
- Applicants are strongly encouraged to add their (preliminary) language test results to their application when it is first submitted.

- An interview may form part of the admissions process.

Advanced Master in Public International Law - Programme specific requirements

- Consistently strong academic performance, evidenced by high grades throughout the applicant's prior university studies; and
- Successful completion of a minimum of 120 ECTS in law courses. A shortfall of no more than 20 ECTS may be compensated by relevant extracurricular legal experience in the form of, e.g., relevant work experience, internships, participation in international moot court competitions or comparable activities. Given the nature of the programme as an Advanced LLM, the requirement of 120 ECTS in law courses may be waived in exceptional circumstances, where an applicant demonstrates extensive high-level experience in international legal and/or diplomatic environments for a prolonged period of time; and
- Successful completion of sufficient undergraduate or graduate international law coursework amounting to at least 10 ECTS or equivalent, evidenced by university transcripts; and
- Prior relevant work experience (including internships, externships, full/part-time employment and voluntary work) amounting to at least 6 months, evidenced by way of a detailed curriculum vitae. Clearly indicate in your CV the duration of your (work) experience (full start DD/MM/YYYY and end date DD/MM/YYYY), and the time/appointment in (fractions of) FTE (Full-time Equivalent) for each experience. Participation in university clinical programmes may be taken into account for the purposes of meeting the 6 month work experience requirement; and
- A demonstrated interest in public international law and related subject-areas covered by the programme, illustrated by very positive letters of reference, a strong motivation letter and participation in directly relevant extra-curricular activities (e.g. internationally recognized moot court competitions); and
- A compelling account of the applicant's academic and professional trajectory, as set out in the motivation letter. This should include: (i) a well-defined explanation of what the applicant seeks to gain from the programme; (ii) evidence of intercultural skills and the ability to contribute unique perspectives to the academic environment; (iii) an indication of their intended Advanced LLM thesis topic; and (iv) a statement of career ambitions following completion of the programme.

5.2.2 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).

5.2.3 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 5.3 ***Not applicable.***

Article 5.4 ***Not applicable.***

Article 5.5 Tuition fee

5.5.1 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.

5.5.2 Students shall not receive the Degree without payment of the full tuition fee prior to graduation.

5.5.3 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 deregistration 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.

5.5.4 A Student who has been expelled from the Programme does not qualify for any refund of tuition fees.

Article 5.6 Withdrawals

5.6.1 If a student wishes to withdraw from the Programme, they shall inform the Academic Board in writing.

5.6.2 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.

5.6.3 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.

5.6.4 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 has completed prior to the date of withdrawal. Such a transcript will only be issued if all outstanding tuition fees have been paid in full.

5.6.5 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 5.7 Programme deregistration and expulsion

5.7.1 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 4.1.11.

5.7.2 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.

5.7.3 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.

5.7.4 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.

Chapter 6 Student counselling and study advice

Article 6.1 Study progress administration

6.1.1 The Programme Coordinator and Faculty Board[22] keep records of individual student results.

6.1.2 Students may inspect their results in the student progress system at any time.[23]

Article 6.2 Introduction and Student counselling

6.2.1. The programme is responsible for an introduction to the programme and for student counselling.

6.2.2. 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.

Article 6.3 Supervision of the master's thesis

6.3.1 Together with the first reader/supervisor, the student draws up a plan for the thesis. The first reader/reviewer is also the supervisor. as referred to in Article 3.3.2. This plan is based on the study load set for this particular course component in the Prospectus.

6.3.2 The planning referred to in Article 6.3.1 includes details on the manner and frequency of thesis supervision.

6.3.3. 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.

6.3.4. The Academic Board shall notify students via mail or email of the thesis requirements and procedure applicable.

6.3.5. 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 6.4 *Not applicable.*

Article 6.5 Disability or chronic medical condition

6.5.1. Students suffering from a disability or a chronic illness, where possible, are offered the opportunity to adjust their study programmes to compensate for any limitations, as reasonably practicable. These adjustments will be made as much as possible in accordance with the limitations resulting from their disability or illness but may not affect the quality of level of difficulty of a course unit or the examination programme.[24]

[22] This means: The Office for International Education (BIO).
[23] Via uSis Students can see their study results throughout the whole year.
[24] Protocol on Studying with a Disability

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

Article 6.6 ***Not applicable.***

Chapter 7 Evaluation of the programme

Article 7.1 Evaluation of the programme

The programme is evaluated, among other ways, through:

- the annual course evaluations of the master course components;
- the programme exit-survey completed by students who have newly graduated;
- the alumni-survey completed by graduates;
- the annual programme reports;
- *in the context of accreditation:* by noting critical points of self-reflection, the mid-term review and the institutional review;
- ad hoc (project) evaluations carried out by Faculty Board.

Chapter 8 Final provisions

Article 8.1 Amendments

8.1.1 Amendments to these regulations are implemented by decision of the Faculty Board with the prior consent of the Faculty Council [*Faculteitsraad*] after consultation with the Programme Committee [*Opleidingscommissie*] and the QAS Committee [*Opleidingsbestuur]* (depending on the topics concerned).[25]

8.1.2 Amendments to these regulations that apply to a particular academic year must be adopted prior to the start of that year and published in the prescribed manner, unless an earlier implementation of an amendment to the regulations is strictly necessary and, in all reasonableness, does not harm students' interests.

8.1.3 Any amendment to the regulations may not adversely affect any prior decision pertaining to students taken by the Board of Examiners on the basis of these regulations.

Article 8.2 Publication

The Office for International Education ensure publication of these regulations, of the Examination Rules and Regulations set by the Board of Examiners, and of any amendment to these documents via the Prospectus and/or the university website.[26]

Article 8.3 Period of applicability OER and transitional arrangements

8.3.1 The Course and Examination Regulations apply for the period of one academic year.

8.3.2 In the event one or more course components that constitute part of the compulsory course components (cf. Article 3.1.1) at the time of the enrolment of the Student for the programme are no longer offered, a transitional arrangement can be established for these course components. Where necessary, the exam commission will designate replacement course components.[27]

Article 8.4 Effect

These regulations will enter into effect on 1 September 2026.

[25] In accordance with the powers of the Faculty Council and the Programme Committee as outlined in articles 9.38 and 9.18 respectively of the Act.
[26] All mentioned rules and regulations are published on the faculty website.
[27] If necessary, course components are designated that are offered by a different institution. Transitional arrangements can be consulted via: https://www.student.universiteitleiden.nl/.

Chapter 9 Complaints and appeals

Article 9.1 Complaints

9.1.1 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.

9.1.2 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**")[28]. 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.

Article 9.2 Procedure for complaints and disputes

9.2.1 A student may submit an appeal against decisions regarding examination(s) or other topics that regard the responsibilities of the Board of Examiners to this Board from the beginning of the student's registration as a student until two months after the student has ceased to be registered. The appeal must be submitted within six weeks after the release of the decision in question.

9.2.2 At the discretion of the Board of Examiners, an appeal as mentioned in the previous paragraph may be issued and substantiated in person or in writing.

9.2.3 The Board of Examiners, prior to and when conducting an appeal hearing with the student who has submitted the appeal, may investigate the matter at stake in such manner as it judges fair and lawful.

9.2.4 At an appeal hearing as referred to in 9.2.3, 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.

9.2.5 If a student does not appear, either in person or by a representative, at an appeal hearing as referred to in the previous paragraphs 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.

9.2.6 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;

[28] https://www.organisatiegids.universiteitleiden.nl/en/university-committees/examination-appeals-board.

d. confirm, modify, or set aside any existing order for the suspension or termination of enrolment of the student.

9.2.7 The Board of Examiners shall provide written notice to the student of the decision made at the 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.

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

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

AdvancedMasterBoardOfExaminers@LAW.leidenuniv.nl

Article 9.3 Appeals to the Higher Central Examination Appeals Board

9.3.1 Students may lodge appeals at the Examination Appeals Board (Dutch: College van Beroep voor de Examens (CBE)) if they disagree with:

- a decision made by a Programme, such as a refusal of admission or an assessments; or
- a decision made by examiners or the Board of Examiners concerning, for instance, exemptions, assessments, plagiarism, fraud, deregistration or expulsion.

9.3.2 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.

9.3.3 Appeals to be addressed to the CBE must be directed to:

CBE@bb.leidenuniv.nl

THE END

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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 European and International Business Law, 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 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	*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.

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	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 Air and Space Law and its specialised fields, is extensively developed.
4	*Application of knowledge:*
	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	*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.
6	*Contribution to academic and professional debate*
	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	*ICT skills*:
	The graduate is able to use advanced ICT skills for research and communications. This is particularly true in the blended learning variant.
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.

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	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*
	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	*Specialist knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 European and International Business Law, is extensively developed.
5	*Application of knowledge:*
	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	*Working environment:*
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, 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 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	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*
	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	*Specialist knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*Presentation of knowledge:*
	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	*Application of knowledge:*
	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 Ombudsman 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	*Working environment:*
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international and intercultural environment.
7	*ICT skills*:
	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	*Keeping up knowledge:*
	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 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 law firms, companies, governmental bodies, or supranational or international organizations. The programme is also suitable for newly graduated, talented lawyers, who wish to pursue advanced studies at a postgraduate level or wish to prepare for a PhD trajectory.

The programme's aims and objectives reflect the target audiences and have been set up accordingly. in line with this orientation. The programme's learning objectives and desired outcomes have been set in consultation with the programme staff and are based on (i) their academic and professional judgement, (ii) the requirements of the academic and professional field (such as prospective

employers) as we have come to known those over fifteen years of programme experience, and (iii) ongoing assessments of (similar) programmes in this field.

Institutional and academic environment

The programme is embedded in the Institute for Private Law at Leiden University's Law School.

The Institute for Private Law consists of four Departments: Civil Law, Corporate Law, Notarial Law, and Children's Law. Both the Department of Civil Law and Corporate Law contribute materially to the programme, in terms of lecturers and academic knowledge and other resources. Its members also contribute to various other Advanced Master programmes such as European and International Business Law, and the programme attracts lecturers from other Leiden Law School departments such as International Arbitration. On top, the programme attracts a variety of academic and private practice professionals from around the world who act as guest lecturers and maintains good relationships with institutions such as the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague and the European Commission, paying annual visits thereto.

The programme is deeply connected to and rooted in the academic education and research culture of the Institute for Private Law in particular, and Leiden Law School in general (being the oldest law school in the Netherlands with its 450 years of history). The analysis and explanation of existing and future Civil and Commercial Law within national and international settings have been, and continue to be, of central significance to Leiden Law School, the Institute for Private Law in particular.

As an example of Leiden Law School's eminent role in this field serves that Professor Eduard Maurits Meijers (1880-1954) was a founding father of the New Dutch Civil Code which substituted both the old Civil Code and the old Commercial Code. This New Dutch Civil Code subsequently served as an inspiration for the (re)codification of private law in many countries including China, Mongolia, Russia and various countries in Central and Eastern Europe after the fall of the Berlin wall. The Institute for Private Law has contributed greatly to these by providing education and scientific writings for these countries.

A special chair in Anglo American Private Law exists within the Institute, held by Professor Ewan McKendrick KC (Hon) who is also the programme's director.

The Institute for Private Law is well known for its top-level research and outstanding teaching staff Many of the Institute's members publish (or contribute to) academic books and publish on a regular basis in high ranked international law journals, such as the *European Review of Private Law* (ERPL),

the *Journal of International Banking Law and Regulation* (JIBLR), and the *American Bankruptcy Law Journal*. In addition, they contribute frequently to Dutch law journals and some of the Institute's staff areeditors, or editors in chief, of these 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), *Tijdschrift voor Arbitrage* (TvA), and *Computerrecht*. The Corporate Law Department hosts the Centre for European Company Law that issues the *European Company Law Journal*.

1	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*
	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	*Specialist knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 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	*Application of knowledge:*

	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	*Working environment:*
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, 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 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	*Keeping up knowledge:*
	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 recognizes 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	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*
	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	*Specialist knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 International Children's Rights, 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 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	*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.

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	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*
	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	*Specialist knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 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	*Application of knowledge:*
	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: 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	*Working environment:*
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international, multicultural and multidisciplinary environment.
7	*ICT skills*:
	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, 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	*Keeping up knowledge:*
	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	*Basic and overarching knowledge:*

	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	*Specialist knowledge:*
	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	*Research abilities:*
	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	*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 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	*Application of knowledge:*
	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: - 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	*Working environment:*
	The graduate is capable of working both independently and in a team, notably within an international, multicultural and multidisciplinary environment.
7	*ICT skills*:
	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, LEXIS NEXIS and SSRN; - websites such as the website of the International Court of Justice, the ICSID, the WTO, ITLOS, …
8	*Keeping up knowledge:*
	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.