The IBL Master programme is conferred upon students who satisfactorily achieve a minimum of 60 European Credits (EC); one academic year. You can choose between two specializations: Business Relations or Regulation of Business.

The 2014-2015 IBL Master programme consists of:
• The compulsory courses of the chosen specialization (either Business Relations or Regulation of Business) (30 EC)
• Optional courses (choose from the list of optional courses described below) (in total 12 EC)
• A compulsory research seminar (6 EC)
• A Master thesis (12 EC)

You can find a calendar for the IBL Master programme on www.vu.nl/en: click on the Master programme under ‘Programmes’, and then go to ‘Study programme’.

Please check via VuNet the Academic and Examination Regulations for more information about the compositions and the aim of the IBL Master programme.
### Inhoudsopgave

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IBL Spec. Business Relations

Opleidingsdelen:

- IBL Spec. Business Relations Compulsory
- IBL Spec. Business Relations Optional

IBL Spec. Business Relations Compulsory

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IBL Spec. Business Relations Optional

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M IBL Spec. Regulations

Opleidingsdelen:

- IBL, Spec. Reg of Business Compulsory
- IBL, Spec. Reg of Business Optional
Doel vak
The course provides an introduction to European competition law. By the end of the course, students will be able to analyze and discuss European competition law on a highly advanced level.
Inhoud vak
The course deals with all central aspects of competition law: horizontal agreements, the abuse of a dominant position, and merger control. Additionally, the course will address important economic aspects of competition law and draw comparisons to the US-American system.

Toetsvorm
Take home examination, presentation and assignment

Literatuur
To be announced on Blackboard

Overige informatie
IBL
Degree programme objectives International Business Law

The Master’s graduate has thorough knowledge and understanding of the main areas of international business law.

The Master’s graduate understands the relationships between the main areas of international business law and recognizes which legal issues are involved and how these influence each other.

The Master’s graduate knows who the actors of the international business law environment are and how they interact with each other, while acknowledging legal and cultural differences. The Master’s graduate understands the role of governments and the horizontal economic relationships between them, the vertical relationship between them and private business and, finally, the horizontal relationships between private companies. Consequently, the graduate discerns the legal position of various parties and understands how the conduct of these parties can influence legal positions.

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The Master’s graduate ‘translates’ practical problems into legally manageable problems.

The Master’s graduate can analyse and assess scholarly literature, case law and legal and policy documents and critically reflect upon them.

The Master’s graduate shows evidence of an independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge.

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The Master's graduate should have the ability to present orally and/or in writing the setup, research methodology, theoretical foundations and findings of their research to both experts and non-experts. The Master's graduate has a good command of English legal terms which are used within international business law.

The Master's graduate has a self-critical attitude that enables them to independently acquire new knowledge and to improve their analytical, research and communicative skills.

RECHTSGELEERDHEID
The following course objectives are only available in Dutch:

Eindtermen master Rechtsgeleerdheid

De afgestudeerde master beschikt over een academisch werk- en denkniveau;

heeft diepgaande en specialistische kennis van en inzicht in minimaal één deelgebied van het recht

heeft inzicht in de samenhang tussen verschillende onderdelen van het recht, met inbegrip van het nationale en internationale recht

De afgestudeerde master beschikt over de volgende (juridische) vaardigheden:

Analytische vaardigheden:

de juridische en maatschappelijke aspecten van een vraagstuk in hun onderlinge samenhang beoordelen en daarover kritisch nadenken/oordelen

zich inzicht verschaffen in de problemen die zich bij rechtsvorming op het gekozen deelgebied voordoen en een bijdrage leveren aan oplossing daarvan

een probleem vanuit verschillende deelgebieden op een integratieve manier benaderen

literatuur en juridische bronnen diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en kritisch beschouwen (waar relevant ook in de Engelse taal, waar relevant ook op nieuwe rechtsgebieden)

rechtsregels afleiden uit concrete gevallen (inductie)

Probleemoplossende vaardigheden:

complexe casus diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en zelfstandig juridische oplossingen aandragen

complexe juridische problemen onderkennen, analyseren en oplossen

Onderzoeks- en presentatievaardigheden:

schriftelijk presenteren van een wetenschappelijk juridisch betoog
EU Internal Market Law

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<tr>
<td>Coördinator</td>
<td>prof. dr. G.T. Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinator</td>
<td>prof. dr. G.T. Davies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Docent(en)</td>
<td>prof. dr. G.T. Davies, C. Kaupa</td>
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<td>Hoorcollege</td>
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**Doel vak**
This course focusses on a critical analysis of the free movement case law of the European Court of Justice. The emphasis is on understanding 
1. how this relates to the written law of the Treaties, and to national law and institutions, 2. How it has developed over time, and the internal logic of that development, 3. what the social, legal and economic consequences of that case law have been, 4. which theories and ideas have been used to criticise and understand it, and whether these provide an adequate explanation, and 5. how the law can/should develop in the light of the current situation in the EU. These goals are primarily achieved by reading the judgments themselves, and a certain amount of academic literature, and discussing them in the light of the points above. This contributes in particular to the goals selected from the lists above.

**Inhoud vak**
The EU law providing for the free movement of goods, persons, services, companies and capital between the Member States of the EU. This includes the law relating to EU citizens and their family members.

**Toetsvorm**
Written exam

**Literatuur**
Chalmers, Davies and Monti, EU Law, (CUP, 3rd edn, 2014)

**Overige informatie**
IBL
Degree programme objectives International Business Law

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complexe casus diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en zelfstandig juridische oplossingen aandragen

complexe juridische problemen onderkennen, analyseren en oplossen

Onderzoeks- en presentatievaardigheden:

met argumenten onderbouwde mening formuleren over een complex juridisch probleem of een nieuwe ontwikkeling

actief deelnemen aan een wetenschappelijk debat op het deelgebied dat het masterprogramma beslaat

Financial Markets

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<td>Coördinator</td>
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Doel vak

This course addresses the main aspects concerning the regulation of financial markets, institutions and actors. The course analyzes the activities performed by governments, public regulators, lobby groups, financial firms and corporations in respect of financial markets' activities. Hence, it may be useful for students aiming to work in both the public sector (e.g., financial supervision agencies) and the private sector (e.g., law firms, financial industry or lobby groups). The course will also be of interest to students pursuing an academic career in the area of capital markets law.

At the end of the course the student will have substantial knowledge on:

a) the structure, rationale, functioning, risks and relevance of financial markets;

b) the role of public actors (e.g., financial supervisors) and private actors (e.g. financial industry, investors) in shaping the financial system;

c) how financial rules affect businesses, individuals and society at large;

d) the interactions between public and private financial market actors at the international, European and national levels; and

e) the main academic discussions on core financial markets' aspects

The course will enable the student to provide solutions to practical legal problems that regulators, law firms, financial firms and corporations may encounter in respect of financial markets' issues.
As part of the course the students write a short paper and present it before their fellow students. This contributes to the development of the students’ research and communication skills.

**Inhoud vak**
The course consists of 7 lectures:

Lecture 1. Introduction and basic concepts on financial markets and institutions
Lecture 2. The objectives of financial regulation and supervision
Lecture 3. The regulation of listed firms
Lecture 4. The regulation of trading in securities
Lecture 5. The regulation of clearing and settlement
Lecture 6. The regulation of financial derivatives
Lecture 7. The regulation of financial supervision authorities

**Toetsvorm**
Written exam, paper, presentation and participation

**Literatuur**
Readings distributed by the course coordinator

**Overige informatie**

**OBJECTIVES**

The Master’s graduate has thorough knowledge and understanding of the main areas of international business law.

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The Master’s graduate possesses analytical skills to apply acquired knowledge and insights to concrete problems in the area of IBL.

The Master’s graduate ‘translates’ practical problems into legally manageable problems.

The Master’s graduate can analyse and assess scholarly literature, case law and legal and policy documents and critically reflect upon them.

The Master’s graduate shows evidence of an independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge.

The Master’s graduate possesses the necessary knowledge of research methodologies in international law and the necessary research skills to independently prepare and carry out a jurisprudential study of some size. The Master’s graduate can critically assess the value of research.
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### International Arbitration

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<tr>
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**Doel vak**  
The objectives of this course are to promote academic education and to encourage critical and independent thinking. Upon completion of the course, the student will be able to practice professionally in the field of arbitration. To this effect, the course discusses realistic problems so that students will be able to resolve such legal problems on a sound theoretical and pragmatic basis.

**Inhoud vak**  
The focus of the course is on commercial arbitration. There will be some discussion of procedural aspects of international investment arbitration. Students are expected to be familiar with basic concepts of private international law.

The course focuses on a combination of practical and theoretical issues. While some elements are taught on a structured, theoretical setting (i.e. the workings of a typical international arbitration law), other components of the course are taught on the basis of practical, real-life, examples (such as drafting appropriate arbitration clauses).

**Toetsvorm**  
Written exam and paper
OBJECTIVES

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International Company Law

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<td>mr. dr. B.H.A. van Leeuwen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examinator</td>
<td>mr. dr. B.H.A. van Leeuwen</td>
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<tr>
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**Doel vak**
This course is intended for students from abroad as well as for national students of the law faculty. Companies play an important role in economies. The globalization of social, political and economic activity has increased the attention for systems of company regulation around the world. The credit crunch caused new regulatory attention for issues of governance of companies and for issues relating to investors. Aspects of company law and securities law within EU countries and the Anglo-American countries will be compared. The objective of this course is to broaden the perspective on company law and to explain the differences in legal approaches to aspects of company law. Through assignments, the students will also have the possibility to compare aspects of their company law with (other) major legal systems.

**Inhoud vak**
Different approaches across the world in company law
Basics of European company law
The rights and obligations of shareholders
The duties and responsibilities of directors; corporate social responsibility
The internal governance of companies
Investor and creditor protection through reporting
Regulation of financial markets
Non-commercial organizations/social economy

**Toetsvorm**
To be decided.

**Literatuur**
Literature is not available yet.

**Overige informatie**
English language courses, literature, assignments and tentamination.

**OBJECTIVES**
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**International Contract Law**

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</tbody>
</table>
Doel vak

In brief, the course aims to enable the participants:
(1) to get acquainted with the basic terminology and concepts of international contract law in general, in relation to certain important international commercial contracts in practice;
(2) to enhance the knowledge of contract laws around the world and of the international framework (PICC; PECL/DCFR; CISG; EU proposal on a Common European Sales Law);
(3) to discover similarities and differences in the outcome of a specific case when applying different contract laws;
(4) to learn when, why and how to deviate from the applicable national non-mandatory contract law;
(5) to learn about commonly used boilerplate clauses in international commercial contracts and their importance in international contract law.

Inhoud vak
- Introduction to important contract laws of the world
- Offer & Acceptance, Battle of Forms
- Pre Contractual Negotiations & Letters of Intent
- Content & Interpretation of Contracts
- Remedies for Non-Performance
- Supervening Effects
- Sale of Goods
- Mergers & Acquisitions
- Agency
- Construction Contracts
- Legal English - Drafting Commercial Contracts in Practice

Toetsvorm
Written exam and papers

Literatuur
- Additional course material will be put on Blackboard, such as commonly used clauses in international commercial contracts (boilerplates) and references to international instruments such as PICC, PECL/DCFR, CISG and to additional literature on international contract law.

Overige informatie
OBJECTIVES

The Master's graduate has thorough knowledge and understanding of the main areas of international business law.

The Master's graduate understands the relationships between the main
areas of international business law and recognizes which legal issues are involved and how these influence each other.

The Master’s graduate knows who the actors of the international business law environment are and how they interact with each other, while acknowledging legal and cultural differences. The Master’s graduate understands the role of governments and the horizontal economic relationships between them, the vertical relationship between them and private business and, finally, the horizontal relationships between private companies. Consequently, the graduate discerns the legal position of various parties and understands how the conduct of these parties can influence legal positions.

The Master’s graduate possesses analytical skills to apply acquired knowledge and insights to concrete problems in the area of IBL.

The Master’s graduate ‘translates’ practical problems into legally manageable problems.

The Master’s graduate can analyse and assess scholarly literature, case law and legal and policy documents and critically reflect upon them.

The Master’s graduate shows evidence of an independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge.

The Master’s graduate possesses the necessary knowledge of research methodologies in international law and the necessary research skills to independently prepare and carry out a jurisprudential study of some size. The Master’s graduate can critically assess the value of research findings, draw conclusions from them and relate research results to theoretical debates within the domain and adjust them when necessary.

The Master’s graduate should be able to analyse complex issues in relation to international business and make useful legal recommendations. A Master’s graduate can formulate an independent and well-substantiated opinion on complex legal issues and take a substantiated position within the existing debates on various international business law topics.

The Master’s graduate should have the ability to present orally and/or in writing the setup, research methodology, theoretical foundations and findings of their research to both experts and non-experts. The Master’s graduate has a good command of English legal terms which are used within international business law.

The Master’s graduate has a self-critical attitude that enables them to independently acquire new knowledge and to improve their analytical, research and communicative skills.

**International Intellectual Property Law**

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6-10-2015 - Pagina 14 van 25
Doel vak
The course provides an overview of the international legal framework for
the protection of intellectual property (IP).
Participants will obtain a general understanding of the role of IP
protection in international trade, underlying policy considerations and
the current debate on imbalances in the international protection system.
Participants will acquire the ability to identify and solve problems
arising from the international nature of intellectual property, and the
ability to assess the current IP system critically in the light of
social, cultural and economic needs in developing and developed
countries.

Inhoud vak
The course focuses on the principles and minimum standards of protection
established in the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and
Artistic Works, the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial
Property and, in particular, the Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of
Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS). The following issues will be dealt
with in particular:
• IP protection and public health;
• the balance between IP protection and freedom to create;
• the regulation of market access in the pharmaceutical industry;
• further current topics on the international IP agenda.

International intellectual property registration systems constitute an
additional topic of the course. The Madrid System for the International
Registration of Marks and the Patent Cooperation Treaty will be
discussed.

Toetsvorm
Written exam and presentation

Literatuur
WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook - Policy, Law and Use,
2nd edition, Geneva, 2004
WIPO Publication No. 489(E),
ISBN 92-805-1291-7

In addition to this general overview of the international framework of
protection, academic articles on specific topics of international IP law
will be made available to the students as reading assignments during the
course.

Overige informatie
CAPACITY
A maximum number of 40 students may participate in this course.

OBJECTIVES
The following course objectives are only available in Dutch:
Eindtermen master Rechtsgeleerdheid
De afgestudeerde master beschikt over een academisch werk- en
denkniveau;
heeft diepgaande en specialistische kennis van en inzicht in minimaal
eén deelgebied van het recht
heeft inzicht in de samenhang tussen verschillende onderdelen van het
recht, met inbegrip van het nationale en internationale recht
De afgestudeerde master beschikt over de volgende (juridische)
vaardigheden:
Analytische vaardigheden:
de juridische en maatschappelijke aspecten van een vraagstuk in hun
onderlinge samenhang beoordelen en daarover kritisch nadenken/oordelen
zelf inzicht verschaffen in de problemen die zich bij rechtsvorming op
het gekozen deelgebied voordoen en een bijdrage leveren aan oplossing
daarvan
een probleem vanuit verschillende deelgebieden op een integratieve
manier benaderen
literatuur en juridische bronnen diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren
en kritisch beschouwen (waar relevant ook in de Engelse taal, waar
relevant ook op nieuwe rechtsgebieden)
rechtsregels afleiden uit concrete gevallen (inductie)
Probleemoplossende vaardigheden:
complexe casus diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en zelfstandig
juridische oplossingen aandragen
complexe juridische problemen onderkennen, analyseren en oplossen
Onderzoeks- en presentatievaardigheden:
individueel een rechtswetenschappelijk onderzoek op academisch niveau
voorbereiden en uitvoeren (probleemstelling formuleren en afbakenen,
informatie verzamelen, gegevens interpreteren, conclusies trekken,
evalueren en aanbevelingen en suggesties doen voor verder onderzoek)
met argumenten onderbouwde mening formuleren over een complex juridisch
probleem of een nieuwe ontwikkeling
actief deelnemen aan een wetenschappelijk debat op het deelgebied dat
het masterprogramma beslaat

The following course objectives of the Masterprogramme of International
BBussines Law
The Master’s graduate has thorough knowledge and understanding of the
main areas of international business law.
The Master’s graduate understands the relationships between the main
areas of international business law and recognizes which legal issues
are involved and how these influence each other.
The Master’s graduate knows who the actors of the international business
law environment are and how they interact with each other, while
acknowledging legal and cultural differences. The Master’s graduate
understands the role of governments and the horizontal economic
relationships between them, the vertical relationship between them and
private business and, finally, the horizontal relationships between
private companies. Consequently, the graduate discerns the legal
position of various parties and understands how the conduct of these
parties can influence legal positions.
The Master’s graduate possesses analytical skills to apply acquired
knowledge and insights to concrete problems in the area of IBL.
The Master’s graduate ‘translates’ practical problems into legally
manageable problems.
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law and legal and policy documents and critically reflect upon them.
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International Tax Law

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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Docent(en)</td>
<td>prof. dr. mr. F.P.G. Potgens, mr. drs. B.B. de Mik, mr. R.R. van der Heide, I. Kunst, mr. dr. R.A. Wolf</td>
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**Doel vak**
The student will acquire a structured understanding of the concepts and principles of international tax law. He/she will know:

- what to look for when dealing with international tax situations;
- the right questions to ask;
- the different approaches of national tax systems; and
- how to apply tax treaties.

Perhaps most importantly, the student will obtain an overview of the framework of international tax law. This will provide him/her with the background knowledge and the confidence to pursue specific enquiries independently.

**Inhoud vak**
This course discusses the principles and mechanisms of international (direct) taxation of companies, the contents and effects of EU corporate tax directives and the impact of EU case-law on the tax systems of EU Member States. The emphasis is on concepts rather than on technical details. The perspective is multilateral (mainly OECD and EU) rather...
then domestic, although examples of approaches and systems of various OECD Member States will be given. Furthermore, there will be a course on VAT and custom duties in relation to international trade.

**Toetsvorm**

Written exam

**Literatuur**


**Overige informatie**

**OBJECTIVES**

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**International Trade and Investment Law**
Doel vak
The course focuses on the needs of the international business practitioners. Students successfully completing the course should be able to understand relevant principles and rules of the world trading and investment system, and solve legal problems in these fields.

Inhoud vak
WTO-purposes and Membership, Single Undertaking: Agreements, Understandings, Doha Round problems
Principles of trade liberalization, Market access, MFN and NT / concept of ‘like’ product, How do GATT and GATS commitments differ?
World Trading System vs Regionalism, The emergence of comprehensive regional trade and investment agreements, FTAs and CUs
Exceptions to MFN/NT, General/Security exceptions, Safeguard measures, BoP measures, GSP schedules
Non-tariff barriers to trade: SPS and TBT
International Investment Law, Development of FDI, Definition Sources of FDI Law, Structure of BITs, Fair and equitable treatment, Expropriation, Compensation, Full protection and security

Toetsvorm
Assignments

Literatuur
Materials on BlackBoard
Case law referred to in classes in http://www.worldtradelaw.net/.

Overige informatie
This course may only be followed bij students of the International Business Law master programme.

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Master’s Thesis - International Business Law

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<td>I.C. Ciobanu LLM</td>
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Doel vak

The goal of the master thesis is for students to complete an independent research project on a substantial scholarly topic in the field of international business law and within the curriculum taught during the VU IBL programme. This is the most significant research paper a master student produces while at the Faculty of Law of VU University Amsterdam. The thesis is intended to draw upon the master student’s unique curriculum and intellectual experiences encountered while at VU University Amsterdam.
Inhoud vak
The final thesis requires every student to independently conduct research and write on a topic in one or more interconnected areas of international business law and to give a formal oral presentation (colloquium) to the members of a special committee. The Master’s thesis can take different forms, varying from theory-based analyses to historical analyses of legal concepts and institutions, to pragmatic approaches to research or meta-theoretical reflections. The topic of the final thesis as well as the theories and the methodologies used in it are linked to (a) the topics, theories and methodologies discussed in the courses chosen and (b) the research projects being conducted by the lecturers. Students are encouraged to work on questions that assist the further development of ongoing research. Lecturers make suggestions for thesis topics based on their own research interests and invite students to attend conferences and various seminars in their fields of expertise.

Toetsvorm
Paper and presentation

Literatuur
By indication.

Overige informatie
MORE INFORMATION
Ioana Ciobanasu - coordinator IBL - i.c.ciobanasu@vu.nl
Agnieszka Machnicka - director IBL - a.a.machnicka@vu.nl
Rik Mellenbergh - director IBL - r.mellenbergh@vu.nl

OBJECTIVES
The Master’s graduate has thorough knowledge and understanding of the main areas of international business law.

The Master’s graduate understands the relationships between the main areas of international business law and recognizes which legal issues are involved and how these influence each other.

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Private International Commercial Law

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<tr>
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Doel vak
The main goal of this course is to equip students with the knowledge and skills to apply private international law rules in international commercial trade practice.

Inhoud vak
This course deals with aspects of private international law that may be relevant whenever cross-border commercial disputes are to be resolved. Students will first be familiarised with general principles of private international law. Subsequently, they will be introduced to how to resolve the question of jurisdiction in international contracts, and how parties to a contract may prevent themselves from being sued in a foreign jurisdiction. The course further deals with issues of choice of law. In particular, it will examine which law governs an international commercial contract, having regard to the rules of the Rome I
Regulation. Issues regarding recognition and enforcement of foreign court judgements and legal issues regarding insolvency conclude the topics that are focussed on in this course.

**Toetsvorm**
Written exam and paper

**Literatuur**
Texts and documents available on Blackboard
G. Van Calster, European Private International Law, Hart Publishing 2013

**Overige informatie**
The course Private International Commercial Law may not be followed with the Dutch course Internationaal Privaatrecht.

**Research Seminar - International Business Law**

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**Doel vak**
Students attending this course will be able to:

1. Recognize and apply different methodologies and methods in law, with application to the field of international business law
2. (Critically) read and analyse law and scholarly legal writings
3. Differentiate between authoritative and non-authoritative sources
4. Use critical analysis in their own writings
5. Identify a research area of interest, a research topic / problem in that area and possible legal research question(s)
6. Explain the significance, background, objectives and rationale of the research topic
7. Identify and apply the relevant methodology and method(s) most suitable to the research question and sub-questions
8. Write a research proposal in preparation to the master thesis
9. Present skilfully in front of an audience written academic work

**Inhoud vak**
The course is designed around the central objective of this course, i.e. to prepare the students for academic level of reading, writing and oral presentations suitable for a master's level. The course has a double mandate:

A theoretical part: to teach students the relevant legal methodologies and methods applicable in the field of international business law as taught in the programme
A practical part: to refine the students’ academic skills with reference to (critical) reading (law and scholarly work), writing (essays, problem questions and dissertations) and oral presentation skills in preparation for the master thesis

Toetsvorm
Presentation, assignment and research proposal following a template.

Literatuur
The reading materials will be provided via Blackboard.


Overige informatie
OBJECTIVES

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