

The English version of the curriculum for the “PhD Program in Italian Law/Dottorato di ricerca in materie giuridiche” of the University of Innsbruck and the Università degli Studi di Padova is not legally binding and is for informational purposes only. The curriculum stands as it was published in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin on 14 May 2012, issue 26, No 273.

Decision of the Curriculum Committee of the Faculty of Law, University of Innsbruck of 28 March 2012, approved by Senate Resolution on 17 April 2012:

On the basis of the Mutual Agreement concluded on 6 September 2011 (Prot.No 45572) between the University of Innsbruck and the Università degli Studi di Padova on the organisation of a common study program PhD Program in Italian Law/Dottorato di ricerca in materie giuridiche;

On the basis of § 25 Para 1 No 10 University Act 2002, BGBl I (Federal Law Gazette I) 2002/120, most recently amended by Federal Law BGBl I 2011/13, and § 32 of the articles regarding university studies, restated in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, most recently amended by the University of Innsbruck Bulletin of 4 May 2011, Issue 19, No 360, the following decree is enacted:

**Curriculum for the Common Study Program  
PhD Program in Italian Law/Dottorato di ricerca in materie giuridiche  
at the University of Innsbruck Faculty of Law and the Università degli studi di Padova**

**§ 1 Description of the common study program**

(1) The common study program is organised in the form of a double degree program (§ 51 Para 2 No 27 University Act 2002) by the University of Innsbruck, Faculty of Law and the Università degli Studi di Padova as a doctoral school of law.

(2) For a successful completion of the program every student has to obtain 180 ECTS credits. The writing of the thesis thereby equals 110 ECTS credits (30 of those in Padova); 40 ECTS credits have to be obtained at the University of Innsbruck, 30 at the Università degli studi di Padova.

(3) Students have to attend at least one year at the University of Padova following a doctoral school of law.

**§ 2 Qualification Profile and Objectives**

(1) The PhD Program in Italian Law forms part of the group of law studies (§ 54 Para 1 No 6 Universities Act 2002).

(2) The PhD Program in Italian Law aims at educating researchers and excellent candidates for high profile careers. The fact that this particular program is studied at two different Universities teaching in two different languages contributes to the achievement of excellent linguistic and intercultural competences. The common study program shall provide the participants with the ability to do independent and methodologically correct research. This is proven by the submission of a piece of individual research, the PhD thesis. PhD students shall gain in depth knowledge of the disciplines which are relevant to the topic of their theses, especially in regard to the core legal subjects as well as several related disciplines. They shall also become acquainted with the current publications in these particular fields. Besides that the PhD Program in Italian Law serves to develop important other qualifications such as the ability of in depth theoretical reflexion, self-organized studying, scientific discourse, interdisciplinary and international dialogue, presentation of research and the transfer of knowledge. Graduates of the PhD Program in Italian Law will have developed a thorough understanding of the occupational profile of an independent researcher in academia, in practice, in business and the public sector, as well as the ability to publish and the ability to understand problems of ethical relevance and their effects on society.

(3) Among others the activities of the graduates of the common study program are: becoming aware of current research findings, developing new and independent solutions to current legal topics as well as being able to publish and present these solutions. Graduates are qualified not only for the classical legal professions but also for other high profile careers at the University or other research and educational institutions, in the diplomatic service, in European and other international organisations, in national and international corporations as well as in politics.

(4) Graduates of the common study program have the ability to find elaborate solutions to complex legal questions applying a methodologically correct and creative approach. This requires an outstanding knowledge of the law as well as the competence to apply this knowledge in practice.

(5) Moreover, graduates of the common study program are able to present their solutions and other legal topics to members of the legal profession as well as to others and to discuss and analyse them critically.

### **§ 3 Duration**

The PhD Program in Law equals 180 ECTS credits. This corresponds to a length of study of three years (six semesters).

### **§ 4 Admission Requirements**

(1) Admission to the common study program is granted by the Rector's office.

(2) Admission requires the completion of a thematically relevant Diploma or Master Program at a University or a University of Applied Sciences (“Fachhochschule“) or other, equivalent studies at an acknowledged Austrian or foreign post-secondary educational institution. In cases where only minor requirements for recognition are missing, the Rector’s office may require additional examinations during the PhD Program

(3) The admission procedure is subject to a separate regulation issued by the Rector’s office.

## § 5 Courses and Number of Participants

(1) **Lectures (VO)** present an in depth analysis of relevant legal topics, their systematics as well as their relevant contents. The students are encouraged to ask questions and participate to discussions.

(2) The following are courses with continuing performance assessment:

1. **Seminars (SE)** focus on the discussion of specific legal questions. Students are required to discuss and present legal topics and their solutions. Maximum number of participants: 15

2. **Practical Training (PR):** Especially qualified lecturers provide an in depth view of the practitioner. Maximum number of participants: 45

## § 6 Procedure of Admission to Courses with a Limited Number of Participants

In course units with a maximum number of participants, places are first allocated to students for who the non-admission would lead to a longer duration of study.

## § 7 Modules

(1) The following mandatory modules have to be accomplished at the University of Innsbruck in the amount of 40 ECTS credits:

1.	Mandatory Module: Research and Theoretical Core Competences	HPS	ECTS credits
a.	Lecture (VO) Theory of Law and Methodology	2	5
b.	Lecture (VO) Comparative Law	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Educational Objective of the Module:</b> After the successful completion of this module students have an excellent knowledge in legal theory, methodology and comparative law		
	<b>Application Requirement(s):</b> None		

2.	Mandatory Module: Core Competences for the Legal Profession	HPS	ECTS credits
	Students have to choose 2 different lectures equalling 5 ECTS credits from among one or more of the following fields:		
a.	Practical Course (PR) Communication, Presentation and Negotiation Skills	2	2,5
b.	Lecture (VO) Legal Ethics	2	2,5
c.	Lecture (VO) Foreign Legal Terminology	2	2,5
d.	Seminar (SE) Equal Treatment and Gender	2	2,5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Educational Objective of the Module:</b> After the successful completion of this module students have achieved the core competences which are essential in their later professional life.		
	<b>Application Requirement(s):</b> None		

3.	Mandatory Module: Research and Core Competences in fields other than the field of thesis topic	HPS	ECTS credits
a.	Lecture (VO) from a field other than the field of law the thesis deals with	2	5
b.	Seminar (SE) from a field other than the field of law the thesis deals with	2	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Educational Objective of the Module:</b> After the successful completion of this module students have an excellent and high level knowledge of the studied fields, which enables them to publish in legal journals as well as to use that knowledge in practice.		
	<b>Application Requirement(s):</b> None		

4.	Mandatory Module: Research and Core Competences in drafting the thesis concept	HPS	ECTS credits
a.	Presentation of thesis topic and thesis concept	-	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>Educational Objective of the Module:</b> After successful completion of this module students have gained the necessary research skills by having drafted and presented their thesis concept.		
	<b>Application Requirement(s):</b> None		

5.	Mandatory Module: Thesis Defence (“Rigorosum”)	HPS	ECTS credits
	Defence of the PhD thesis in an oral exam in front of a board of examiners	-	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10</b>
	<b>Educational Objective of the Module:</b> Presentation and Analysis of the findings of the PhD thesis.		
	<b>Application Requirement(s):</b> positive assessment of all other modules including the ECTS credits obtained in Padova as well as the Phd thesis.		

(2) 30 additional ECTS credits have to be obtained at the Università degli Studi di Padova according to the Appendix. Furthermore, from the 110 ECTS credits allocated to the writing

of the PhD thesis 30 have to be achieved under the responsibility of the Università degli Studi di Padova.

### **§ 8 PhD Thesis (“Dissertation”)**

(1) The common study program requires the writing of a PhD thesis (“Dissertation”) equalling 110 ECTS points. Other than the diploma or master thesis the PhD thesis requires participants to prove that they are able to independently and correctly foster a research topic.

(2) The topic of the PhD thesis must be chosen from one or more of the following subjects: Roman Private Law; Italian Constitutional Law including Italian Theory of Constitutions and Theory of States; Italian Private Law including the Italian Private International Law; Italian Civil Procedure; Italian Commercial Law, Italian Law of Negotiable Instruments and Principles of Italian Intellectual Property Law; Italian Criminal Law; Italian Criminal Procedure and Principles of the Italian Penal System and Principles of Criminology; Italian Administrative Law and elected Fields of Special Administrative Rules and Administrative Theory; Italian Labour and Employment Law and Principles of Italian Social Law; European Law; Public International Law and Principles of the Law of International Organisations; Italian Revenue Law; Italian Business Law.

(3) The PhD student has to name a team of at least two supervisors and, from among those, one responsible main supervisor. The team must consist of at least one supervisor coming from the University of Innsbruck and one supervisor coming from the Università degli Studi di Padova. It is possible to choose a professor teaching a related subject as a supervisor, but not as the main supervisor. In special cases it can be justified to choose only one supervisor.

(4) Before the start of the thesis the PhD student has to inform the Dean of Studies in writing about the topic of the PhD thesis and the names of the supervisors. This suggestion counts as accepted, if the Dean of Studies does not issue a negative statement within a month.

### **§ 9 Examination regulations**

(1) Course performance is evaluated in the following ways (except the performance required in § 7 No 4 and § 7 No 6):

(2) Lectures are evaluated in a final examination. The examination mode (written and/or oral) has to be announced by the lecturer beforehand.

(3) Courses with continuing performance assessment are evaluated on the basis of regular oral and/or written participation during the course. The lecturer has to announce the criteria and methods of evaluation beforehand.

(4) Evaluation of the performance required in § 7 No 4 are evaluated by the main supervisor of the PhD thesis.

(5) Performance regarding § 7 No 5 is evaluated in the form of an oral exam in front of a committee of at least three examiners consisting of the main supervisor and at least one

examiner from the University of Innsbruck and at least one examiner from the Università degli studi di Padova.

### **§ 10 Academic Degree**

The University of Innsbruck awards graduates of the common study program with the academic degree of a “Doctor of Philosophy“ or “PhD“ in brief.

### **§ 11 Entry into force**

This curriculum comes into force on 1 October 2012.

For the Curriculum Commission:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Andreas Scheil

For the Senate:

Univ.-Prof. Dr. Ivo Hajnal

## Appendix

Courses or other ways to obtain the 30 ECTS credits required at the Università degli Studi di Padova according to the individual agreement (other than the writing of the PhD thesis); the performance is evaluated by the main supervisor on the basis of a performance report of the student. Positive performance leads to a “successfully attended”; negative performance to a “not successfully attended”.

Padova		
	ECTS credits	Type
Participation in a cycle of seminars of a doctoral school of law in the field chosen as the topic(s) of the PhD thesis.	10	mandatory module
Active participation in the academic discussion by presenting research findings in seminars or conferences on legal topics at the Università degli Studi di Padova and/or other University institutions in Italy.	10	mandatory module
Active participation in the academic discussion by presenting research findings in seminars or conferences on legal topics at the Università degli Studi di Padova and/or other University institutions in Italy.	10	optional module
Attendance of seminars or conferences on legal topics at the Università degli Studi di Padova and/or other University institutions in Italy.	5	optional module
Attendance of seminars or conferences on legal topics at the Università degli Studi di Padova and/or other University institutions in Italy.	5	optional module
In addition 30 ECTS credits are dedicated to the part of the PhD thesis written under the responsibility of the Università degli Studi di Padova (§ 1 Para 2)		