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Curriculum for the
Continuing Education Master's Programme in Medical Law
at the University of Innsbruck

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§ 1 Qualification profile

- (1) The continuing education master's programme serves to impart in-depth, scientifically sound and application-oriented knowledge in the field of medical law.
- (2) Graduates are able to recognise and analyse problems in medical law and develop appropriate solutions. Graduates understand the interrelationships between the legal and health care systems and can apply the knowledge they have acquired in their everyday work.
- (3) Graduates of the continuing education master's programme are able to solve problems related to medical law in an innovative, scientifically sound, theory-and method-based manner. This competence enables them to work on relevant problems in their respective professional fields, such as hospital management, social insurance institutions, the private insurance sector or in legal practice in an innovative, research-led, scientifically sound and practice-orientated manner.

§ 2 Admission

- (1) Persons who have completed a relevant diploma programme, a relevant bachelor's programme or another equivalent degree programme at a recognised domestic or foreign post-secondary educational institution and have at least two years of relevant professional experience may be admitted to the continuing education master's programme.
- (2) In any case, subject-relevant study programmes are
 1. a diploma or bachelor's programme in law or economic law,
 2. a study programme in human or dental medicine or
 3. another study programme at a post-secondary educational institution, provided that this was a prerequisite for the profession practised by the applicant in the health care

sector.

- (3) In any case, relevant professional experience shall be deemed to be work in the health care sector or the exercise of a profession for which the completion of a degree programme referred to in para 2 (1) and (2) is required.
- (4) A maximum of 30 persons may be admitted to the continuing education master's programme. If more people apply, a pre-selection of the applicants to be admitted will be made by the programme management according to objective criteria, in particular relevant professional experience, previous education, motivation and a balanced composition of the group of participants according to professional groups and completed studies.
- (5) Participants who have been admitted to the continuing education master's programme and have paid the course fee shall be admitted to the University of Innsbruck as continuing education students by the Rectorate.

§ 3 Scope and duration

The continuing education master's programme covers 90 ECTS-Credits. One ECTS-Credit corresponds to a workload of 25 hours. The continuing education programme is offered part-time and covers four semesters.

§ 4 Types of courses

- (1) Courses without continuous performance evaluation:

Lectures (VO) are courses held in lecture format. They introduce the research areas, methods and schools of thought for a given subject. No maximum number of participants.

- (2) Courses with continuous performance evaluation:

1. Working groups (AG) serve to treat a topic in collective fashion, examining the theories, methods and techniques of an area using group work. No maximum number of participants.
2. Lectures with practical elements (VU) focus on the practical treatment of concrete scientific tasks that are discussed during the lecture parts of the course. No maximum number of participants.

§ 5 Compulsory modules

- (1) Depending on the study programme completed within the meaning of § 2 para. 1, one of the compulsory modules 1a or 1b must be completed as an introduction. If a participant has not completed at least 3 semester hours of previous legal training at an Austrian university or university of applied sciences that corresponds to module 1a or is deemed equivalent, he or she must complete module 1a. Otherwise module 1b must be completed. The decision on this is made by the programme director.

1a.	Compulsory Module: Introduction to Law	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Introduction to Law for Non-Jurists	3	7.5
	Total	3	7.5
	Learning Outcomes: Students can apply their acquired knowledge of the core areas of public law and private law as well as legal protection options in these areas of law. They have also gained an insight into legal working methods and are able to apply these.		
	Prerequisite/s: none		

1b.	Compulsory Module: Introduction to Medicine and the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
	VU Introduction to Medicine and Health Care for Students not coming from a Medical Profession	3	7.5
	Total	3	7.5
Learning Outcomes: Students are able to assess specific processes in the light of medical law issues in the health care sector and have basic knowledge of medicine and everyday procedures in the health care sector. They are able to use the basics of medical terminology.			
Prerequisite/s: none			

(2) Further compulsory modules covering 70.5 ECTS-Credits are to be passed:

2.	Framework Conditions of the Health Care System Compulsory Module: International, European and Public Law	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Health Care in Public International and European Law	2	5
b.	VO Health Care and Public Law	1	2.5
	Total	3	7.5
Learning Outcomes: Students have in-depth knowledge of the international, European and public law requirements for medical law regulations. They will be able to critically reflect on this knowledge and apply it to legal issues in the context of medical law.			
Prerequisite/s: none			

3.	Compulsory Module: Law for Health Professions	h	ECTS-Credits
	VO Law for Health Professions	3	7.5
	Total	3	7.5
Learning Outcomes: Students are able to apply and critically reflect on the knowledge they have acquired regarding the requirements for the various professions in the health care sector, the rights and obligations of those practising these professions and the disciplinary law relating to them and find solutions to legal problems in the health care sector.			
Prerequisite/s: none			

4.	Compulsory Module: Employment Law for Health Professions	h	ECTS-Credits
	VO Employment Law for Health Professions	3	7.5
	Total	3	7.5
	Learning Outcomes: Students are able to resolve employment law conflicts through knowledge of the rights and obligations of employees and employers in the health care sector. They are familiar with the main employment law issues relating to gender aspects in hospitals on the one hand and in surgeries, sanatoriums etc. on the other.		
	Prerequisite/s: none		

5.	Compulsory Module: Organisation Law in the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Company Law for Health Care Providers	1	2.5
b.	VO Law for Medical Institutions and Medical Service Providers	2	5
	Total	3	7.5
	Learning Outcomes: Students are able to apply qualified knowledge of the framework conditions in public and private law for the provision of health care services to medical law issues and critically examine them and understand the advantages and disadvantages of the different organisational forms in which medical services can be provided.		
	Prerequisite/s: none		

6.	Compulsory Module: Social and Private Health and Accident Insurance Law	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Social Security Law	2	5
b.	VO Private Insurance Law	1	2.5
	Total	3	7.5
	Learning Outcomes: Students can apply qualified knowledge of the social health and accident insurance system in Austria and the relationship between social insurance institutions and their contractual partners. They are able to analyse and find solutions to related legal issues based on the legal framework of private health insurance and the relevant insurance contract law. In addition, they are able to critically reflect on the relationship between social and private insurance law and the functions of both types of insurance in the financing of health care.		
	Prerequisite/s: none		

7.	Compulsory Module: Rights and Obligations of Patients	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Patients under Civil Law	2	5
b.	VO Patients under Public Law	1	2.5
	Total	3	7.5
Learning Outcomes: Students can apply in-depth knowledge of the relationship between patients and health care providers and the resulting rights and obligations. They are able to apply and critically analyse knowledge of how and to what extent civil and public law protects the interests of patients, especially when they are particularly worthy of protection, to complex situations.			
Prerequisite/s: none			

8.	Compulsory Module: Liability Risks in the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Treatment Contract and Liability	2	5
b.	VO Criminal Law and the Medical Professions	1	2.5
	Total	3	7.5
Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to assess liability risks in civil and criminal law, in particular the conditions under which providers of health care services, medicinal products and medical devices are contractually or tortiously liable for damages and the extent to which they can also be prosecuted under criminal law.			
Prerequisite/s: none			

9.	Compulsory Module: Dispute Resolution in the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Judicial Dispute Resolution in the Health Care Sector	2	5
b.	VO Out-of-Court Dispute Resolution in the Health Care Sector	1	2.5
	Total	3	7.5
Learning Outcomes: Students are able to apply the knowledge they have acquired about how a legal dispute in the health care sector works in terms of procedural law and what role the various players play in it to medical law cases. They understand the special forms of out-of-court dispute resolution in the health care sector and their role in the context of the legal protection system as a whole. They are able to critically reflect on their acquired knowledge of the various types of dispute resolution and apply it independently to medical law cases.			
Prerequisite/s: none			

10.	Compulsory Module: Law and Ethics in Medical Research	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Intellectual Property Law	1	2.5
b.	VO Pharmaceutical Law	1	2.5
c.	VO Ethics in Medicine	1	2.5
	Total	3	7.5
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students are able to critically reflect on and apply the principles of intellectual property law, insofar as they are relevant to medical research or the development of medicinal products or medical devices. They are able to analyse and solve related legal issues based on the legal framework for the development of medicinal products. Students are also able to recognise the ethical limits of medical action and research and critically reflect on their impact on legal issues.</p>			
Prerequisite/s: none			

11.	Compulsory Module: Preparation of the Master's Thesis	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	Preparation of the Master's Thesis Agreement on the topic, scope and form of the Master's Thesis on the basis of a brief description of the content (synopsis) as well as agreement on the work processes and the progress of the study programme; planning of a corresponding time frame for the completion of the Master's Thesis	-	1
b.	AG Legal Work	1	2
	Total	1	3
<p>Learning Outcomes: Students are able to independently apply theoretical and methodological instruments of law to a scientific issue of medical law. They can justify the results of their work in a comprehensible and understandable manner. They are familiar with the rules of good scientific practice and can apply them.</p>			
Prerequisite/s: none			

§ 6 Master's Thesis

- (1) A Master's Thesis covering 12 ECTS-Credits is to be written in the continuing education master's programme.
- (2) The Master's Thesis serves to demonstrate the ability to work on a topic of medical law independently and in a scientifically justifiable manner in terms of content and methodology.
- (3) The topic for the Master's Thesis must be chosen from one or more of the compulsory modules listed in paragraph 5 number 2. The participant is authorised to propose the topic for the Master's Thesis.
- (4) Participants must propose a supervisor to the programme director from among the available course instructors or persons suitable for the supervision and assessment of a Master's Thesis, as well as the topic for the Master's Thesis as agreed on with the supervisor. This proposal can be submitted to the course management from the end of the first semester at the earliest. It is deemed to have

been accepted if the course management expressly agrees to it or does not prohibit it within one month.

- (5) Participants are entitled to write the Master's Thesis in a foreign language if the supervisor agrees to it.
- (6) The completed Master's Thesis must be accompanied by an affidavit confirming that the rules of good scientific practice have been followed.

§ 7 Examination regulations

- (1) A module is completed by the positive evaluation of its courses.
- (2) In the case of courses without continuous performance evaluation, the assessment is based on a single examination at the end of the course.
- (3) In the case of courses with continuing performance evaluation, the assessment is based on at least two written, oral and/or practical contributions of the participants.
- (4) Before the start of the semester, the course instructor has to inform the students in an appropriate manner about the objectives, contents and methods in their courses as well as about the contents, methods and assessment criteria of the course examinations.
- (5) Positive evaluation of compulsory modules 1a and 1b and the AG Legal Work reads “participated with success”, negative evaluation reads “participated without success”.

§ 8 Academic degree

The graduates of the Continuing Education Master's Programme in Medical Law will be awarded the academic degree “Master of Laws”, abbreviated “LL.M.” after positive evaluation of all prescribed examinations as well as the Master's Thesis.

§ 9 Coming into force

This curriculum comes into force on the first day of the month following its publication in the University of Innsbruck Bulletin.

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