

Note:

The following curriculum is a consolidated version. It is legally non-binding and for informational purposes only.

The legally binding versions are found in the University of Innsbruck Bulletins (in German).

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Based on §25 para. 1 no. 10 of the Universities Act 2002 – UG, BGB1. I No. 120/2002, in the current version, and §38 of the “Study Law Regulations” part of the statutes, re-disclosed in the University of Innsbruck bulletin of 3 February 2006, Issue 16, No. 90, in the current version, the following is decreed:

Curriculum for the
Continuing Education Programme of “Medical Law”
at the University of Innsbruck

§ 1 Qualification Profile

- (1) The continuing education programme aims at acquiring in-depth, scientifically sound and practice-oriented knowledge in the area of Medical Law.
- (2) Graduates are able to recognize medical-law related problems, to analyse them and to find suitable approaches for solving them. Graduates understand the relations of law and health care and can apply their acquired knowledge in their work practice.
- (3) Graduates of the continuing education programme are able to solve medical-law related problems in an innovative, scientifically founded way based on theory and methodology. This competence enables them to deal with specific problems in their respective work environments, e.g. hospital management, social insurance associations, in the private health insurance sector or in lawyer offices, in an innovative and practical way, based on research and science.

§ 2 Admission

- (1) Persons, who have completed a subject-related diploma programme, BA study programme or any other equivalent study programme at an approved post-secondary educational institution at home or abroad, can apply for the continuing education programme.
- (2) In any case the following study programmes count as subject-related study programme:
 1. a passed diploma or bachelor study programme of Law or Business Law at an Austrian University,
 2. a Human Medicine or Dentistry study programme or
 3. another study programme passed at a post-secondary educational institution, if it was required for the applicant’s current profession in the health sector and this profession has been pursued for at least three years.

- (3) A maximum of 30 persons can be admitted to the continuing education programme. Should more persons apply, the programme management makes a preliminary selection of the applicants based on objective criteria, especially considering specific professional practice, prior education, motivation and the different professional groups and study programmes passed to get a balanced mixture of the course participants. The rectorate makes the decision on the admission based on the suggestions of the head of the continuing education programme.
- (4) Participants who have been admitted to the continuing education programme and have paid their tuition fee have to be admitted as extraordinary students at the University of Innsbruck by the rectorate.

§ 3 Duration and Scope

The continuing education programme covers 75 ECTS-credits. One ECTS-credit corresponds to a work load of 25 hours. The continuing education programme is offered as part-time programme and covers a total of 30 semester hours over a duration of four semesters.

§ 4 Compulsory Modules

- (1) Depending on the study programme passed in terms of §2 para. 1 alternatively one of the compulsory modules 1a or 1b must be passed as introduction. If a participant has passed no prior legal education of at least 3 semester hours at an Austrian University or College of Higher Education that corresponds to or is equivalent to module 1a then module 1a must be passed. In any other case module 1b must be passed.

1a.	Compulsory Module: Introduction to Law	h	ECTS-Credits
	VO Introduction to Law for Non-Jurists	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students that have passed the module know the public-law principles of the Austrian legal system, understand the principles and most important contents of the Austrian private law and know about available possibilities for legal protection. They have an understanding of the juridical way of working and are able to use it.		
	Prerequisites: none		

1b.	Compulsory Module: Introduction to Medical Science and the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
	VO Introduction to Medical Science and the Health Care Sector for Non-Health Professionals	3	6
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students that have passed the module know every day routines of the health care system and understand the specific processes against the background of medical-law related questions.		
	Prerequisites: none		

(2) Moreover the following compulsory modules must be passed by all participants:

2.	Compulsory Module: International, European and Public Law Framework for the Health Care System	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO International and European Law Framework for the Health Care System	2	4
b.	VO Public Law Framework for the Health Care System	1	2
	Total	3	6
<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module know about the international, European and public law framework determining medical law regulations and know the consequences for the legal framework as related to medical law.</p>			
<p>Prerequisites: none</p>			

3.	Compulsory Module: Law for Health Professions	h	ECTS-Credits
	VO Law for Health Professions	3	6
	Total	3	6
<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module know the requirements for the different health care professions, the rights and duties of the professionals as well as the respective disciplinary law.</p>			
<p>Prerequisites: none</p>			

4.	Compulsory Module: Employment Law for Health Professions	h	ECTS-Credits
	VO Employment Law for Health Professions	3	6
	Total	3	6
<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module know the rights and duties of employees and employers in the health care sector and know how to solve employment law-related conflicts. They are familiar with the most important problem situations of employment law in consideration of gender aspects in hospitals on the one hand, as well as surgeries, sanatoria etc. on the other hand.</p>			
<p>Prerequisites: none</p>			

5.	Compulsory Module: Organisation Law in the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Business Law for Medical Services	1	2
b.	VO Hospital and Sanitary Law	2	4
	Total	3	6

	<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module know the public and private law framework for offering services in the health care sector and have a grasp of the advantages and disadvantages of the different organisational forms that can accommodate medical services.</p>
	<p>Prerequisites: none</p>

6.	Compulsory Module: Law of Social and Private Health and Accident Insurance	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Social Insurance Law	2	4
b.	VO Private Insurance Law	1	2
	Total	3	6
	<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module understand the system of social health and accident insurance in Austria and the relationships of the social insurance carriers and their contract partners. They also know the legal framework of private health insurance and the relevant insurance contract law. They are moreover familiar with the relationship of social and private insurance law and their respective contribution to financing health care.</p>		
	<p>Prerequisites: none</p>		

7.	Compulsory Module: Rights and Duties of Patients	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Patients in Civil Law	2	4
b.	VO Patients in Public Law	1	2
	Total	3	6
	<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module understand the relationship between patients and the providers of health services and the resulting rights and duties. They know in how far the civil law and public law protects the interest of the patients, especially if they need protection.</p>		
	<p>Prerequisites: none</p>		

8.	Compulsory Module: Liability Risks in the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Medical Malpractice Liability	2	4
b.	VO Criminal Responsibility of Medical Professions	1	2
	Total	3	6
	<p>Objective: Students that have passed the module know the liability risks in civil and criminal law. They know in which circumstances providers of health services, pharmaceutical products and medical devices can be contractually or tortiously obliged to pay compensation and also to which extent they can be prosecuted.</p>		
	<p>Prerequisites: none</p>		

9.	Compulsory Module: Settlement of Disputes in the Health Care Sector	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO In-Court Settlement of Disputes in the Health Care Sector	2	4
b.	VO Out-of-Court Settlement of Disputes in the Health Care Sector	1	2
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students that have passed the module understand the procedural course of action of a law suit in the health care sector and the roles assumed by the different players. They also know the special forms of out-of-court settlement of disputes in the health care sector and understand their importance in the context of the legal protection system on the whole.		
	Prerequisites: none		

10.	Compulsory Module: Law and Ethics in Medical Research	h	ECTS-Credits
a.	VO Intellectual Property Rights	1	2
b.	VO Pharmaceutical Law	1	2
c.	VO Ethics in Medical Science	1	2
	Total	3	6
	Objective: Students that have passed the module understand the basic principles of the intellectual property law as far as it relates to medical research or the development of pharmaceutical products or medical devices. They know the legal framework for the development of pharmaceutical products. They understand the ethic limits of medical action and research and understand its consequences for legal questions.		
	Prerequisites: none		

- (3) Lectures (VO) are courses that introduce the subject matter in consideration of the course objective with presentations. The subject matter is dealt with in a practical way.

§ 5 Master-Thesis

- (1) Within the scope of the continuing education programme a written master thesis amounting to 15 ECTS-credits must be written.
- (2) The Master Thesis is a written project thesis that serves as proof that the writer is able to independently deal with a specific theme relating to medical law in a scientific and methodologically appropriate way and in a defined period of time.
- (3) The theme for the Master Thesis must be selected from one or several compulsory modules listed in §4 para. 2. Participants have the right to suggest the theme for their Master Thesis.
- (4) The programme participants have to suggest a supervisor from the available programme lecturers to the head of the continuing education programme, as well as a theme for the Master Thesis, which has been selected in accordance with the supervisor. This suggestion can be made to the programme management starting from the end of the first semester at the earliest. The suggestion is deemed to be accepted if the head of the continuing education programme expressly accepts it or does not ban the theme within a month.
- (5) Participants can write their Master Thesis in a foreign language, if the supervisor agrees to it.

§ 6 Examination Regulations

- (1) Modules covering one course only, are passed with the positive evaluation of the course examinations. Course examinations are exams that demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired in the respective courses. They are evaluated with a single exam at the end of the course. The course lecturer must determine and announce the exam method (written or oral) at the start of the course.
- (2) Modules covering more than one course are evaluated by an overall examination. Overall examinations are exams that demonstrate the knowledge and skills acquired in more than one subject or in more than one course of a module. They are written exams.

§ 7 Academic Degree

Graduates of the continuing education programme of “Medical Law” receive the academic degree of “Master of Laws (Medical Law)”, abbreviated “LL.M” if all required exams and the Master Thesis have been positively evaluated.

§ 8 Coming into Force

The Curriculum comes into force one month after publication.

For the Curriculum Committee:

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For the Senate:

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