

Note:

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Curriculum for the Continuing Education Programme of
„Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law“
at the University of Innsbruck

§ 1. Qualification Profile

- (1) Recent developments – internationalisation, Europeanisation, digitisation, etc. – pose new challenges in particular for the legal professions of lawyers and notaries, but also non-jurists increasingly need general legal competences, specific business law skills and a basic knowledge of economic processes and contexts in their everyday work. Additional knowledge and competences in specific areas of law are also required, just as economic knowledge and foreign-language and communicative skills. In terms of efficient further education, this knowledge and skills are best acquired part-time while working.
- (2) In the face of these new challenges, in cooperation with relevant institutions the University of Innsbruck offers a continuing education course on the international level of a Master study programme that does justice to the scientific and practical requirements of law profession with economic relevance: “Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law” since the winter semester 2009/10.
- (3) According to the initial situation, the qualification profile of the Continuing Education Programme in Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law is based on the fact that in today’s professional life not only jurists, but also non-jurists are increasingly confronted with questions of business law. The continuing education programme is therefore intended to impart knowledge of business law to people working in business, administration and organisation and, while working, impart knowledge and skills that go beyond a relevant bachelor's, master's or diploma degree and that have become essential with regard to the

requirements of modern professional practice. It is by no means just about getting current specialist knowledge, but essentially about acquiring the ability to familiarise oneself quickly and competently with future changes and innovations, based on a well-founded knowledge of structure and methodology and the ability to apply them appropriately and successfully. The Continuing Education Programme Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law aims at competent and flexible jurists for whom innovations are not a hurdle but a challenge.

- (4) For realizing this fundamental educational objective, the modules of the course range from an extended and in-depth education in the areas of European Law, company and business law, tax law and financial criminal law, private foundation law, employment law, intellectual property law, competition law, banking and insurance law, capital market law and stock exchange act, public procurement law, international civil law and e-commerce law, law for trade and industrial facilities to legal English and economic principles.

§ 2. Admission

- (1) Precondition for being admitted is the completion of a law study programme at a university, which corresponds to the employment law according to §6a NO and §3 RAO.
- (2) Moreover, persons can be admitted who have completed a social or economic diploma or master’s programme acc. to §54 par. 1 no. 7 Universities Act and who have at least three years of relevant professional experience for this continuing education programme.
- (3) The minimum number of participants for the Continuing Education Programme Business Law – Corporate Law is 15 persons, the maximum number of participants is 25.
- (4) Should more than 25 persons apply for the continuing education course, the selection of the participants for the course is made based on objective criteria by the head of the course: relevant professional practice, prior education, motivation, balanced mixture of participants, etc.

§ 3. Duration and Structure

- (1) The continuing education course of “Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law” has a duration of four semesters. The first semester is the basic level; the second to fourth semester is the advanced level. The total continuing education course covers 90 ECTS-Credits. 74 ECTS- Credits are allocated to the modules (37 semester hours, hereinafter referred to as “SSt”), 20 ECTS-Credits (10 SSt) of which are allocated to the basic level and 54 ECTS-Credits (27 SSt) of which are allocated to the advanced level. The Master’s thesis which is scheduled to be written in the advanced level covers 16 ECTS-Credits.
- (2) The basic level (first semester) covers the following compulsory modules :

Name of the module	h	ECTS-Credits
Business and Company Law	2	4
European Law	2	4
Fundamentals of Business Law	1	2
Tax and Revenue Law	3	6
Accounting I	2	4
Total	10	20

- (3) The advanced level (second to fourth semester) covers the following compulsory modules:

Name of the module	h	ECTS-Credits
Accounting II	2	4
Intellectual Property Law	1	2
Private Foundations Law	1	2
International Private Law, E-Commerce Law	2	4
Real Property Law	2	4
Labour Law	1	2
English Legal Terminology	1	2
Insurance and Banking Law	2	4
Competition Law	4	8
Formation and Reorganisation of Businesses	4	8
Mergers and Acquisitions	3	6
Businesses in Crisis	3	6
Rhetoric, Conduct of Negotiations, Communication	1	2
Total	27	54

- (4) The modules and their courses take place in the sequence of the respective semesters and are part-time. If possible courses are scheduled on Fridays and Saturdays.

§4. Modules

- (1) All modules are compulsory. They cover one to three courses
- (2) The heads of the course should provide or disclose learning materials for the students, so that they can prepare for the course.
- (3) The following compulsory modules must be passed in the basic level:

First semester

1.	Module: Business and Company Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Business and Company Law Company and corporate forms, mergers, minorities, individual rights and creditor protection	2	4	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
	Learning Objective of the Module: Acquisition of in-depth knowledge of the basic principles of business and corporate law in special consideration of minorities, individual rights and creditor protection.			

2.	Module: European Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO European Law - System and Methods Sources of law, methods, relationship European law – national law, single European market	2	4	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
	Learning Objective of the Module: Gaining of the essential competence for the application of the law, institutional, material and methodical.			

3.	Module: Fundamentals of Business Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Fundamentals of Business Law Goals, instruments and principles of economic law; business law as private and public law. Overview of the main areas of business law: competition law, commercial crime, economic supervision, and economic governance law.	1	2	oral
	Total	1	2	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Insight into the functionality and instrumentality of the private and public business law.				

4.	Module: Tax and Revenue Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
a.	VO Tax Law	2	4	oral
b.	VO Financial Criminal Law Introduction to the Material and Formal Financial Criminal Law	1	2	oral
	Total	3	6	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Knowledge of the tax and financial criminal-law-relevant determinants for the drafting of contracts and business activities.				

5.	Module: Accounting I	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Introduction to External Accounting Accounting, balancing, balance sheet analysis, case and calculating examples	2	4	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Ability to adequately evaluate and apply data of external accounting.				

(4) The advanced level covers the following compulsory modules:

Second semester

6.	Module: Accounting II	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Introduction to Internal Accounting Investment and financing; cost accounting and controlling; business valuation	2	4	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Ability to adequately evaluate and apply data of internal accounting.				

7.	Module: Intellectual Property Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Intellectual Property as Personal and Exploitation Rights Copyright law, patent law, design protection law, trademark law	1	2	oral
	Total	1	2	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Ability to efficiently use intellectual property rights in contract and registration matters.				

8.	Module: Private Foundations Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Private Foundations Law Introduction to Private Foundations Law	1	2	oral
	Total	1	2	oral
Learning Objectives of the Module: Gaining the ability to apply the legal conditions for private foundations in an optimal way..				

9.	Module: International Private Law, E-Commerce Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO International Private Law, E-Commerce Law International private law, European conflict of laws, UN sales law, private law cases involving a foreign element, e-commerce law	2	4	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Overview of the respective legal conditions. Ability to devise legal relations with an international dimension adequately.				

10.	Module: Real Property Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Real Property Law Residential property law, developer contract law, commercial premises law	2	4	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
Learning Objective of the Module: Ability to efficiently use the central legal framework for the development and management of real property.				

11.	Module: Labour Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Companies and Labour Law Important questions of employment relationships and business transfers.	1	2	oral
	Total	1	2	oral
Learning Objectives of the Module: Profound knowledge of labour law as a boundary and design element for companies				

12.	Module: English Legal Terminology	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO English Legal Terminology Terminology, communication, writing	1	2	oral
	Total	1	2	oral
	Learning Objective of the Module: Insight into the complexity of the banking, insurance and capital market law. Gaining the ability to devise respective legal actions in an optimal way.			

Third semester

13.	Module: Insurance and Banking Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
a.	VO Insurance Contract Law and Bank Contract Law Insurance contract act, banking act	1	2	oral
b.	VO Insurance and Banking Supervision, Capital Markets and Stock Exchange Law	1	2	oral
	Total	2	4	oral
	Learning Objective of the Module: Insight into the complexity of the banking, insurance and capital market law. Gaining the ability to devise respective legal actions in an optimal way.			

14.	Module: Competition Law	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
a.	VO Law against Unfair Competition Unfair competition act and ancillary laws	1	2	oral
b.	VO National and European Antitrust Law Cartel ban, abuse of market power, merger control, right to secure market transparency	2	4	oral
c.	VO Public Procurement Law	1	2	oral
	Total	4	8	oral
	Learning Objective of the Module: Understanding of the competition law as instrument for protecting competitors, consumers and the competition as such. Gaining the ability to consider the competition law for designing contracts and making business in an optimal way.			

15.	Module: Formation and Reorganisation of Businesses	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
a.	VO Regulatory Framework Determined by Civil Law, Business and Corporate Law	2	4	oral
b.	VO Regulatory Framework Determined by Tax Law	1	2	oral
c.	VO Regulatory Framework Determined by Commercial Law Trade and industrial facilities law	1	2	oral
	Total	4	8	oral
	Learning Objective of the Module: Gaining the ability to taking the relevant legal framework for founding and restructuring of businesses in consideration in an optimal way.			

Fourth semester

16.	Module: Mergers and Acquisitions	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
a.	VO Acquisition and Mergers of Businesses: Framework Determined by Civil, Business and Corporate Law	2	4	oral
b.	VO Acquisition and Mergers of Businesses: Framework Determined by Tax Law	1	2	oral
	Total	3	6	oral
Learning Objectives of the Module: Gaining the ability to take the relevant legal framework for acquiring and merging businesses in consideration in an optimal way.				
17.	Module: Businesses in Crisis	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
a.	VO Insolvency Law, Right to Appeal against a Debtor's Transactions and Business Restructuring Law	2	4	oral
b.	VO Special Aspects of Business Law Partner loans that replace proprietary capital, liability of managers and partners	1	2	oral
	Total	3	6	oral
Learning Objectives of the Module: Control of the instruments required for restructuring or liquidation of businesses.				
18.	Module: Rhetoric, Conduct of Negotiations, Communication	h	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
	VO Rhetoric, Conduct of Negotiations, Communication Language, style and argumentation	1	2	oral
	Total	1	2	oral
Learning Objectives of the Module: Ability of efficiently use language, style and argumentation in the business law practice of consulting, organisation and negotiation.				

§ 5. Master's Thesis

- (1) Each participant of the continuing education course has to write a Master' thesis during the advanced levels. The thesis amounts to 16 ECTS-Credits.
- (2) The Master's thesis is a written project thesis that serves as proof that the writer is able to deal with relevant practical tasks in a scientific way. The topic of the Master's thesis must be selected from one or several modules listed in § 4 Para 3 and 4.
- (3) The participants of the continuing education course have to suggest a supervisor from the course lecturers and a topic for the Master's thesis, which has been selected in accordance with the lecturer, to the head of the continuing education course. This suggestion can be proposed to the head of the continuing education course from the end of the first semester to the start of the fourth semester at the latest. The suggestion is deemed to be accepted if the head of the continuing education course expressly accepts it or does not ban the topic within a month.

§ 6. Examination Regulations

- (1) A module examination must be passed for each module. The performance is assessed by course examinations in every course.
- (2) All examinations are oral.
- (3) For repeating examinations the regulations of §77 of the Universities Act 2002 apply analogously.
- (4) If all modules have been successfully passed and the Master's thesis has been positively evaluated, the "Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law" continuing education course has been passed.

§ 7. Academic Degree

Graduates of the continuing education course of "Business Law – Corporate and Contract Law" receive the academic degree of "Master of Business Law", abbreviated "MBL".

§ 8. Coming into Force

The Curriculum comes into force one month after publication.

Appendix: Overview

Name of Modules and Courses	SSt	ECTS-Credits	Type of exam
<u>First semester</u>			
Module 1: Business and Company Law	2	4	
VO Business and Company Law	2	4	oral
Module 2: European Law	2	4	
VO European Law - System and Methods	2	4	oral
Module 3: Fundamentals of Business Law	1	2	
VO Fundamentals of Business Law	1	2	oral
Module 4: Tax and Revenue Law	3	6	
VO Tax Law	2	4	oral
VO Financial Criminal Law	1	2	oral
Module 5: Accounting I	2	4	
VO Introduction to External Accounting	2	4	oral
Total first semester	10	20	
<u>Second semester</u>			
Module 6: Accounting II	2	4	
VO Introduction to Internal Accounting	2	4	oral
Module 7: Intellectual Property Law	1	2	
VO Intellectual Property as Personal and Exploitation Rights	1	2	oral
Module 8: Private Foundations Law	1	2	
VO Introduction to Private Foundations Law	1	2	oral
Module 9: International Private Law, E-Commerce Law	2	4	
VO International Private Law, E-Commerce Law	2	4	oral
Module 10: Real Property Law	2	4	
VO Real Property Law	2	4	oral
Module 11: Labour Law	1	2	
VO Companies and Labour Law	1	2	oral
Module 12: English Legal Terminology	1	2	
VO English Legal Terminology	1	2	oral
Total second semester	10	20	
<u>Third semester</u>			
Module 13: Insurance and Banking Law	2	4	
VO Insurance Contract Law and Bank Contract Law	1	2	oral
VO Insurance and Banking Supervision, Capital Markets and Stock Exchange Law	1	2	oral

Module 14: Competition Law	4	8	
VO Law against Unfair Competition	1	2	oral
VO National and European Antitrust Law	2	4	oral
VO Public Procurement Law	1	2	oral
Module 15: Formation and Reorganisation of Businesses	4	8	
VO Regulatory Framework Determined by Civil Law, Business and Corporate Law	2	4	oral
VO Regulatory Framework Determined by Tax Law	1	2	oral
VO Regulatory Framework Determined by Commercial Law	1	2	oral
Total third semester	10	20	
<u>Fourth semester</u>			
Module 16: Mergers and Acquisitions	3	6	
VO Acquisition and Mergers of Businesses: Framework Determined by Civil, Business and Corporate Law	2	4	oral
VO Acquisition and Mergers of Businesses: Framework Determined by Tax Law	1	2	oral
Module 17: Businesses in Crisis	3	6	
VO Insolvency Law, Right to Appeal against a Debtor's Transactions and Business Restructuring Law	2	4	oral
VO Special Aspects of Business Law	1	2	oral
Module 18: Rhetoric, Negotiation, Communication	1	2	
VO Rhetoric, Negotiation, Communication	1	2	oral
Total fourth semester	7	14	
Master's Thesis		16	
Total	37	90	