LL.M. Legal Theory

Faculty of Law of the Goethe University
in co-operation with the partner universities of the
European Academy of Legal Theory

Curriculum Structure

The curriculum consists of 10 main modules A-C and E1-7 (the master thesis is called module D). Modules A, B, and C are entirely compulsory. Out of the 7 elective modules 3 have to be attended successfully. The aim of the curriculum is that a student may stay at Frankfurt University entirely. Or she/he may in spring term attend modules in Stockholm, Bologna or Florence instead or (what is the aim of the curriculum) attend more or less the whole set of modules, thereby profiting most from the inner coherence and richness of the curriculum.

Notabene According to current developments in legal theory, additional free single elective courses may be integrated into the programme.

In terms of ECTS: the minimal requirement is 3 elective modules of 7 ECTS each, identical with 9 courses (3 special courses, 6 advanced seminars) of 21 ECTS in total.

Level/Types of Courses/Study Modules

→ A- and B-modules: compulsory main basic courses (jurisprudence historically & systematically; jurisprudence and internationalisation of law);

→ C-module: compulsory methodology (link between various approaches in A- and B-courses and reflection/re-consideration of the interdisciplinary context of legal theory) and additional research courses in preparation of the master thesis (research practice)

→ D-module: Master Thesis

→ E-modules: electives, deepening the basics of jurisprudence taught in A-C-courses, with a special focus on the philosophy of legal doctrine in various fields of law; each elective consists of 1 introductory course and 2 advanced seminars

Academic Year

→ Fall Term (Oct-Feb): Oct-Jan: course term Frankfurt (A1-3, B1-3, C 1-3, E1, E2, part of D)
Feb: mid-term module (bi-annually in Stockholm) (part of E3)

→ Spring Term (March-July): "mobility windows" at partner universities:
April-early May: course term in Frankfurt (E4, E5, E6); Bologna-EUI Florence (E7, late June/early July)

→ Summer Term (mid-June – mid-Sept, no courses):
optional at partner universities and other partners of the 3rd Term Network ("mobility window" for module D: independent research)

Disclaimer: In case of small numbers of participant, the variety of E-modules may be reduced.

Fall Term (30 ECTS)	
Module A Jurisprudence (9 ECTS)	
A1 History of Jurisprudence (3 ECTS)	
A2 Theories of Law (3 ECTS)	
A3 Moral & Political Philosophy of Law (3 ECTS)	
Module B Theory of Comparative Law, Global Law, and European Legal Integration (9 ECTS)	
B1 Theory of Comparative Law (3 ECTS)	
B2 Theory of Global Law (3 ECTS)	
B3 Theory of European Legal Integration (3 ECTS)	
Module C: Legal Methods – A Comprehensive Spectrum (5 ECTS)	
C1 Legal Methods (2 ECTS)	
C2 Legal Argumentation (2 ECTS)	
C3 Methodology in Legal Research (1 ECTS)	
Module D: Master Thesis – selection of topic and outline at end of fall term	
Module E: Electives (1 to be chosen = 7 ECTS)	
E1 (Frankfurt) *Law, History, and Culture*	**E2** (Frankfurt) *Law, Society, and Culture*
History of Law E1a/3 ECTS	Sociology of Law E2a/3 ECTS
Anthropology of Law E1b/2 ECTS	Legal Gender Studies: Theories & Cases E2b/2 ECTS
Law and Religion E1c/ 2 ECTS	Law and Literature: Theories & Examples E2c/2 ECTS

Spring Term (30 ECTS)				
Module E: Electives (2 to be chosen = 14 ECTS)				
E3 (Stockholm, Cracow) *Law, Science, and Technology*	**E4** (Frankfurt) *Formation of Normative Orders*	**E5** (Frankfurt) *Law and Economy*	**E6** (Frankfurt) *Global Law*	**E7** (Bologna, EUI Florence) *Law, Language and Reasoning*
Epistemology and Legal Informatics: Introduction to Methods, Ideas and Models E3a/3 ECTS	Global Legal Pluralism – Descriptive and Normative E4a/3 ECTS	Law and Economics E5a/3 ECTS	Philosophy of Global Law E6a/3 ECTS	Philosophy of Language and Legal Semiotics E7a/3 ECTS
Law & Information and Communication Technology E3b/2 ECTS	Human Rights and Democracy E4b/2 ECTS	Governance and Compliance E5b/2 ECTS	Advanced Seminar in Global Legal Theory E6b/2 ECTS	Formal Logic & Legal Argumen-tation (basic course) E7b/2 ECTS
Bioethics and Law E3c/2 ECTS	International Criminal Justice E4c/2 ECTS	History of Governance E5c/2 ECTS	Global Law in Practice E6c/2 ECTS	Formal Logic & Legal Arg. – (special course) E7c/2 ECTS
Module D: Master Thesis 16 ECTS (independent research & writing of thesis); at home, at one of the partner institutions or at 3rd term network institution (July-September)				