

## SHORT FACTS

- **AWARD** LL.M. Master of Laws in Legal Theory
- **DURATION** 2 semesters (LL.M.)
- **WORK LOAD** 60 ECTS
- **LANGUAGE** English
- **FEES** EUR 7.200  
(prospective students can apply for a waiver of parts of the tuition; for detailed information on short term mobility window options please consult the programme website)
- **START** Every year in Frankfurt/Main in October
- **APPLICATION** Please, apply online or use the application form available at the programme website
- **DEADLINES** 15th June; available places are limited; in exceptional cases and subject to the number of remaining places, prospective students can also try to apply until mid-August

## CONTACT/APPLICATIONS

L.Schulz@jur.uni-frankfurt.de

Goethe-Universität  
Fachbereich Rechtswissenschaft/Faculty of Law  
Postgraduate Master Programme of Legal Theory  
Theodor-Adorno-Platz 4 / RuW 05  
60323 Frankfurt am Main

[www.legaltheory.eu](http://www.legaltheory.eu)



This programme is carried out by a university consortium of the European Academy of Legal Theory (EALT) lead by the Goethe University of Frankfurt. Further partner universities are: University of Bologna, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Jagiellonian University of Cracow, University of Lucerne, Stockholm University, University of Glasgow. A wider range of additional centers of excellence in legal theory, legal philosophy, sociology of law and legal history are participating in the Academy's Research Network and offering the possibility to visit and make use of their research facilities during the Masters course. Within the framework of the Academy's European Graduate Network in Legal Theory graduates of this master's course also have the opportunity to pursue their graduate studies in legal theory as PhD candidates in the "Globalisation and Legal Theory" Programme.

## GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT



One of the top international research universities with a notable position in international rankings, offers a wide variety of academic programmes, a diverse group of research institutes, and a focus on interdisciplinary approaches to problem solving. The university is named after Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, the Frankfurt-born polymath renowned for his exceptional contributions to literature, science, and philosophy.

Founded in 1914 thanks to citizens' funding and inspired by the legacy of the European Enlightenment, Goethe University stands out as a pioneering "citizens' university", as it is administratively autonomous. It has been characterized by openness and public participation. Most recently, it has become a center of interdisciplinary reflection on normativity.

Goethe University has been internationally renowned for hosting the Frankfurt School in social sciences and such outstanding scholars as Jürgen Habermas. The centre of reflection on normativity is embedded in several institutions on the new open-minded Westend campus: the law faculty and research institutions such as the Cluster of Excellence on "The Formation of Normative Orders" and the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History, located on the Frankfurt campus and cooperating in the LL.M.

## For further information:

- [www.uni-frankfurt.de](http://www.uni-frankfurt.de)
- [www.rg.mpg.de](http://www.rg.mpg.de)
- [www.legaltheory.eu](http://www.legaltheory.eu)
- [www.normativeorders.net](http://www.normativeorders.net)
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goethe\\_University](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goethe_University)

Disclaimer: The development of this master's course is supported by the European Commission (Lifelong Learning Programme, Erasmus Multilateral Projects). This presentation reflects the views of the author only and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained in it.



## Legal Theory



## Postgraduate Master Programme

LL.M. – MASTER OF LAWS



[www.legaltheory.eu](http://www.legaltheory.eu)

# Legal Theory

## Postgraduate Master Programme

LL.M. – MASTER OF LAWS



### PROGRAMME CONTENT AND OBJECTIVES

Participants will become acquainted with the fundamental mechanisms and structures inherent to law as well as its cultural, socio-economic, ethical, political and historical contexts. They will familiarize themselves with the pluralistic complex of legal systems on state, supranational and international levels, above all as they are integrated in Europe, and will learn to recognize and solve the corresponding contemporary legal problems at these junctions. Courses in legal theory, social and political philosophy of law, internationalisation of legal systems

(e.g. "global law"), legal history, legal sociology, and legal research and information management are constituting the main pillars of the programme. Optional modules, also available during short term "mobility windows" at other partner universities and optional study track combinations give further insights into the relationship between law and globalisation, technology or science. The composition of the thesis may take place during the summer months (at home, at one of the EALT consortium universities or at one of the other centers of excellence within the EALT research network, depending on the choice of study track).

### TARGET GROUP

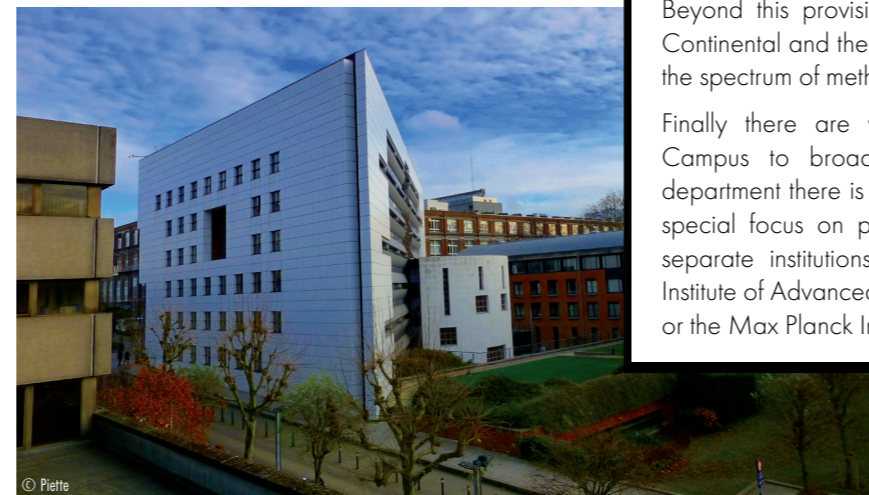
With its understanding of legal theory as applied legal theory, the programme is aimed at those representatives of the public and private sector (incl. international organizations and NGOs) with an interest in the fundamentals of law and its practical relevance in their field of activity. Besides it is also generally open to those legal practitioners who wish to become more familiar with this particular area of research. Taking classical legal theory, the programme aims at graduates who have acquired a qualification in corresponding academic disciplines and wish to prepare for PhD studies or a post doc research qualification in law or related subjects.

### ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission requires a basic law degree or a university degree in a subject related to legal theory (e.g. arts, culture, or socio-economic studies), obtained after a workload of min. 180 ECTS (6 semesters) and a related work experience of normally 1 year (research time may also be accepted under particular circumstances) during or after the completion of the basic university degree/subsequent university degrees, and that was not part of the formal requirements of these former degree programmes completed prior to the admission into this legal theory programme. Applicants whose first language is not English and who have not yet completed a full university degree programme in the English language must include evidence of English language proficiency.

### QUALIFICATION PROFILE

The LL.M. Legal Theory at Goethe University Frankfurt/Main is offered together with European partner universities under the roof of the European Academy of Legal Theory. Graduates of the programme will acquire key skills being increasingly important for those engaged in practical legal work and those involved in practical and academic legal research, i.e. critical thinking combined with interdisciplinary reflections of essential legal questions and paradigms and intercultural skills. Graduates of this programme will therefore be attractive to a wide range of employers including: research at universities or non-university associated research institutions, in public administration, in legal departments of international companies, international organizations, in NGOs as well as in the traditional legal professions.



### STUDY TRACK AND MOBILITY WINDOWS

There are several separate tracks of study, one local track wholly completed in Frankfurt and several options for international short-term mobility windows at another partner university.

These windows consist in short conferences and workshops or in winter and summer schools, as at Bruno, Palermo or Glasgow University. For LL.M. students there is generally no tuition for the academic part of such schools. They only pay for travel and accommodation and sometimes for social events.

The optional/elective modules E3, E6, E7 (see course list) take place abroad from Frankfurt (at Stockholm, Brussels, and Florence).

For preparing the obligatory modules (especially A being the basic and most demanding module), there is a preparatory week in the first week of Oct. It is obligatory for any student being not sufficiently prepared to attend the advanced legal theory classes.

The second preparatory school "Global Legal Skills: Legal Writing" in mid-Oct. provides students with basic skills of scientific work. Beyond this provision, students get familiar with essentials of the Continental and the Anglo-American approach to law preparing for the spectrum of methods that is subject of module C.

Finally there are various occasions on the Frankfurt Westend Campus to broaden the legal education. Next to the law department there is also a renowned philosophy department with a special focus on practical philosophy. Most important are some separate institutions concerned with normative issues as the an Institute of Advanced Studies on the Formations of Normative Orders or the Max Planck Institute for European Legal History.

### COURSE LIST

#### Compulsory General Modules

<b>Module A</b> Jurisprudence (incl. History of Jurisprudence, Theories of Law, Moral and Political Philosophy of Law)	Semester 1	9 ECTS
<b>Module B</b> Theory of Comparative and Global Law (incl. Theory of Comparative Law and European Legal Integration, Theory of Global Law)	Semester 1	9 ECTS

#### Compulsory Research Module

<b>Module C</b> Methodology and Research in Legal Theory (incl. Methodology of Legal Theory and Legal Research)	Semester 1	5 ECTS
---	------------	--------

#### Optional Special Modules (E-Modules, one in Semester 1 and two in Semester 2)

Law, History, and Culture	Semester 1	7 ECTS
Law, Society, and Culture	Semester 1	7 ECTS
Law, Science and Technology	Semester 1	7 ECTS
Formation of Normative Orders	Semester 2	7 ECTS
Law and Economy	Semester 2	7 ECTS
Global Law	Semester 2	7 ECTS
Law, Language and Reasoning	Semester 2	7 ECTS

<b>Master Thesis (Module D)</b>	Semester 2	16 ECTS
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>60 ECTS</b>

In addition elective modules can be replaced by equivalent local modules offered for the EALT Master at multiple degree partner universities (e.g. Asian Legal Studies in cultural comparison).



«The new master's course of the European Academy of Legal Theory intends to build bridges: firstly between countries, university customs, national cultures and legal traditions; secondly, between the study of positive law and the study of legal theory, and thirdly, between the various branches of the theory of law which are sometimes artificially distinguished. Building these bridges means avoiding the separation of knowledge into different branches, going beyond national borders, in harmony with the former ideal of a 'universitas' of knowledge and competence. With its long-standing activities and the new master programme, the Academy contributes to the development of a long-term ideal of a true European law faculty.» Prof. Lorenz Schulz, Programme Director