European Private Law challenges students to learn how to apply, advance and rethink the law of business and consumer transactions in an international setting. The programme brings together comparative private law with EU law topics ranging from the digital consumer to international trade, the civil consequences of human rights violations, cross-border bankruptcy and corporate restructuring.

Programme outline
Who is liable when a defective smartphone explodes? Should a company’s shareholders who are also creditors of the same company enjoy creditor protection in case of insolvency? In this programme, vital private law questions are consistently addressed from an international and/or European perspective. Through a combination of foundational core courses and cutting-edge electives, students are invited to engage critically with private law rules and doctrines and the driving forces behind their Europeanisation and globalization.

Amsterdam Law Practice
In this master you will be offered a tailor-made programme for experiential education, under the umbrella of the Amsterdam Law Practice (ALP).

European Private Law in Practice provides students with an opportunity to learn about the EU’s private law-making process in an interactive manner. By asking students to formulate amendments to a legislative proposal in the field of European Private Law, discuss them and lobby for their inclusion. The course gives students practical insight into the roles of and interactions between the EU’s law-making institutions and other relevant actors. In combination with its focus on the specific characteristics of private law, the course’s interactive set up will strengthen your problem-solving, research, analytical, communication and cooperation skills.

In the Amsterdam Law Practice you will work with fellow students towards the solution of actual problems. You learn by doing, in an educational setting that prepares you to be a lawyer that makes a difference.

Study programme*

Private Law in a European and International Context (6 EC)
European Contract Law (9 EC)
European Private Law in Practice (3 EC)
European Company Law (6 EC)

Mandatory electives (24 EC) chosen from:
Comparative Law (6 EC)
Consumer Rights in the Digital Single Market (6 EC)
Finance, Security and Insolvency (6 EC)
Human Rights in Private Law (6 EC)
EU Private International Law (6 EC)
European Tort Law (6 EC)
Making markets beyond the state: between private law and international economic law (6 EC)
Private Law and Justice (6 EC)

Master’s thesis (12 EC)

* The study programme in 2019-2020 may differ from the current programme.
Entry Requirements

International students: Students with an academic degree comparable to a Dutch Bachelor of Law (LLB) are eligible for this Master’s programme. Applications are assessed by the Admissions Board.

Students with a Dutch degree: Students with a university Bachelor's degree in Law and PPLE. Applications are assessed by the Admissions Board.

Please visit the website for more detailed information on the entry requirements: uva.nl/llm-european-private-law under 'Application and admission'

English Language proficiency:
Both Dutch and international students need to provide proof of English proficiency (TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge certificate). Dutch students are exempted if they passed English for their vwo diploma (sufficient mark, 6 or higher) or possess a vwo certificate in English. Please visit the website for more detailed information about the entry requirements.

Career Prospects

European Private Law graduates typically work at internationally oriented (medium and large-sized) law firms, with a growing number finding their place as compliance or in-house lawyers for banks and other larger companies. In recent years, our graduates have gone on to seek a career at European Union institutions, national public institutions responsible for private law legislation, adjudication bodies and in academic research.

Facts & Figures

Degree: LLM in European Private Law
Mode: full-time, part-time
Credits: 60 ECTS Credits
Tuition fees: (2018-19): € 2,060.– (EEA), € 14,740.– (non-EEA)
Start: September (February)
Application deadline for the September semester: 1 April 2019 (non-EEA students), 1 May (EEA students), 1 August (Dutch students)

Practical Information

Would you like to know more about the content of this Master’s programme? Please contact the coordinator, Ms Candida Leone, c.leone@uva.nl
For questions regarding applications, please contact: Education Desk Amsterdam Law School
Nieuwe Achtergracht 166, Amsterdam T: +31 (0)20 525 3340
W: student.uva.nl/law/educationdesk

“...When I came to Amsterdam to study at the Amsterdam Law School, I already had a lot of interest in insolvency law. During my studies in Germany, I had already been introduced to the basic concepts of German insolvency law, but the LLM in European Private Law offered me a completely new, international perspective. In my opinion, today’s world needs lawyers who are able to approach legal issues with a truly international mindset. They are indispensable to any law firm that operates in a globalized economic environment. The Master’s in European Private Law offers the chance to acquire the knowledge that makes you a truly European lawyer. When it came time to say goodbye to Amsterdam, the knowledge I had gained during this Master’s was invaluable to my future employers. No matter what country you are working in, with today’s ever closer economic ties around the entire globe, there are not many places left for lawyers without a high degree of proficiency in Legal English.”

More information: www.uva.nl/llm-european-private-law