Public International Law is long on tradition but also bears acute relevance in today’s world. Its main functions are facilitation of the co-existence of independent states and communities, and the furtherance of international cooperation on shared interests. Both functions are of critical importance in an era of internationalisation and globalisation.

Programme outline
The Public International Law track introduces students to the core areas of general international law, including sources, international responsibility, international organisations, and human rights. There is ample room for elective courses, and the wide variety of electives allows you to design a programme to match your specific interests and ambitions. The programme concludes with a master’s thesis on an international law topic of your choice.

Amsterdam Law Practice
This master offers you a unique programme for experiential education, under the umbrella of the Amsterdam Law Practice (ALP). In the course Practicing International Law you will apply your knowledge of international law to current problems, engaging with professionals working in the field of international law.

In the Amsterdam International Law Clinic you will work on public interest cases for NGO’s and other clients under the guidance of our clinical staff. You also can participate in a moot court or an internship with one of our partner institutions.

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 *
• Principles and Foundations of International Law (12 EC)
• One elective (6 EC) chosen from:
  • International Dispute Settlement (6 EC)
  • International Organizations (6 EC)
  • International Responsibility (6 EC)
• Four electives (24 EC) chosen from a selection of courses. Some examples:
  • International Criminal Tribunals (6 EC)
  • Amsterdam International Law Clinic (6 EC)
  • International Criminal Law (6 EC)
  • International Dispute Settlement (6 EC)
  • International Human Rights Law (6 EC)
  • International Trade Law (6 EC)
  • International Investment Arbitration Moot (6 EC)
  • EU Foreign Relations Law (6 EC)
  • EU Migration Law: Forced and Unforced Migration to the EU (6 EC)
  • European Human Rights Law (6 EC)
  • International Environmental Law (6 EC)
  • International Law of Military Operations (6 EC)
  • International Refugee Law (6 EC)
  • Victims of War (6 EC)
More electives can be found at coursecatalogue.uva.nl, Public International Law.

Master’s thesis (12 EC)

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

International students: Admission to the Master’s programme is based on your prior academic credentials.

Students with a Dutch degree: students with a Bachelor of Laws degree from a Dutch university and students with a PPLE degree with a ‘major in law’ are eligible for admission.

Please visit the website for more detailed information on the entry requirements: uva.nl/llm-public-international-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

Our graduates can be found in international organizations, at international courts and tribunals, in national public service including the diplomatic service, at law firms (e.g. international criminal law, international trade and investment law, human rights advocacy), in the national judiciary, at NGOs, and doing academic or legal research.

Facts & Figures

Degree: LLM in International and European Law
Mode: full-time, part-time
Credits: 60 ECTS
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 Dr Rosanne van Alebeek, r.vanalebeek@uva.nl
For questions regarding applications, please contact: Education Desk Amsterdam Law School
Nieuwe Achtergracht 166, Amsterdam
T: +31 (0)20 525 3440
W: student.uva.nl/law/educationdesk

Max van Rij, student Public International Law

“I have always been fascinated by the emergence and growing importance of international organizations. In the course International Organization, I was able to learn more about different types of international organization, their legal personality, how they function on the international stage and, more specifically, the relationship between international organizations and their member States. I was also drawn to the course International Humanitarian Law due to my interest in armed conflicts. In this course you will find answers to questions such as: When can we speak of an international armed conflict? A non-international armed conflict? How should we deal with violent non-state actors? Are terrorist groups violent non-state actors? etc. Finally, the course International Refugee Law provided me with sound knowledge of the legal issues surrounding the Syrian refugee crisis (e.g. the EU-Turkey deal), and beyond.”

More information: uva.nl/llm-public-international-law