



Master's 2020-2021

International Trade and Investment Law

Brexit, trade wars, China's Belt and Road Initiative, hotly debated trade and investment agreements, a proposed multilateral investment court – the rules that govern the global economy are changing at high speed. In the LLM programme International Trade and Investment Law, students learn to operate, analyse, and debate the international legal framework that sustains, ordains, and contains the global economy.

Background

The International Trade and Investment Law Master's track focuses on the legal rules that govern economic relations among states and, increasingly, regional integration organisations. Students discover and learn to critically analyse the rules of the Geneva-based World Trade Organization (WTO) and other trade agreements that keep markets open and have an impact on the domestic regulation of intellectual property rights, the services economy, product regulations, and food safety standards. Students also learn to operate within the legal framework for the treatment of foreign investors and the settlement of investor-state disputes and gain a critical understanding of its impact on domestic law and policy-making. The track includes discussion of alternatives for, and reform of, the current trade and investment regime.

Amsterdam Law Practice

This LLM track offers students the opportunity to practice their legal skills by taking advantage of the experiential education aspect of the courses that make up the Amsterdam Law Practice. After studying the key aspects of the international legal regimes governing trade and investment, students take part in practical

training devoted to trade or investment. Guided by lecturers with experience in international adjudication and rule-making, students assume the role of lawyers, diplomats, and adjudicators in simulated negotiations, arbitration, and trade disputes. For additional practical experience, students may also apply to represent the UvA at a Moot Court Competition or work on real cases at the *International Law Clinic*.

Study programme* (60 EC)

Compulsory courses (36 EC)

Foundational courses (12 EC)

- Foundations of International Economic Law (3 EC); and
- Principles and Foundations of International Law (9 EC)

Core courses (12 EC)

- International Investment Law (6 EC); and
- International Trade Law (6 EC)

Specialisation courses (6 EC)

- International Investment Arbitration (6 EC); or
- International Trade Law and Domestic Regulation (6 EC)

Law Practice courses (6 EC)

- International Investment Law Practicum (6 EC); or
- International Trade Law Practicum (6 EC); or
- An Amsterdam Law Practice course, e.g. Moot Court Competition (6 EC)

Thesis (12 EC)

- Supervised Master's thesis (12 EC)

Free electives (12 EC)

Two other electives chosen from a selection of courses. Examples:

- History and Theory of International Law (6 EC)
- International Dispute Settlement (6 EC)
- International Environmental Law (6 EC)
- ACIL Research Seminar (6 EC)
- EU Foreign Relations Law (6 EC)
- European Human Rights Law (6 EC)
- Foundations of EU Competition Law (6 EC)
- An untaken compulsory course (6 EC)

Extracurricular courses (in addition to the required 60 EC)

- EU Law Paper (4 EC)
- Legal English (6 EC)
- Study trip to Geneva-based international organisations and law firms in the spring (0 EC)

*The study programme in 2020-2021 may differ from the current programme. We refer prospective students to coursecatalogue.uva.nl (available from Mid-May).



Entry requirements

Students with a Dutch university level Bachelor's degree in Law and students with an academic degree comparable to a Dutch Bachelor of Law (LLB) are eligible for this Master's programme.

In case of having obtained another diploma, please check the entry requirements on our website:

uva.nl/llm-international-trade-and-investment-law under 'Application and admission'.

Applications will be assessed by the Board of Admissions.

English language proficiency: International students need to provide proof of their proficiency in the English language (e.g. TOEFL, IELTS or Cambridge certificate). Students who received their prior education in the Netherlands may be exempted from this test. Please visit the website for more detailed information about English language proficiency requirements.

Career prospects

The LLM in International Trade and Investment Law prepares students for careers at international law firms, governments and international organisations, or as legal advisors to companies and non-governmental organisations with an international focus. The Master's also provides graduates with a solid foundation for an academic career in international economic law.

Dao Khoi, LLM International Trade and Investment Law '19



Now there is a big shortage of experts for facilitation. I decided to attend the UvA because it is one of the highest-ranking universities in Europe. When it comes to trade and investment, the Dutch are famous for their trading history and for being the hub of international dispute settlement. The scope of some courses was wide, so hardcore studying was required. When it comes to skills, my legal writing skills were strengthened via multiple assignments and exams, and my time management was sharpened, too.

International Trade and Investment Law is a hot topic in developing countries in Asia, such as Vietnam, that want to bring their best products and services to the world market and also need foreign investment in infrastructure and technologies.

Facts & figures

Degree	LLM in International and European Law
Mode	full-time or part-time
Credits	60 ECTS
Statutory tuition fees (2019-2020)	full-time: € 2,083,- part-time: € 1,775,- For non-EEA students or for second degree programmes check our website
Language	English
Start	September
Application deadline	1 April: International students who need a visa or who plan to apply for UvA student housing 1 May: International students who do not need a visa or/and who do not plan to apply for UvA student housing 1 June: Dutch students

'Civiel effect'

Pursuant to the Covenant inzake het civiel effect, graduates who have completed the Master's in International Trade and Investment Law in addition to a full Bachelor's degree in Dutch Law can qualify for admission to the Dutch bar and judiciary (the so-called 'civiel effect' of the Master). For more information and how to qualify, see student.uva.nl/civieleffect (in Dutch).

Study association

The Amsterdam Student Association of International Law (ASA International Law) is the UvA's student-led association of law students and others with an interest in international law. It organises networking events, lectures and trips to international law institutions. Read more at asainternationallaw.com.

Contact

If you would like to know more about the content of the Master's in International Trade and Investment Law, please contact the programme coordinator, Dr Geraldo Vidigal.

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For questions regarding applications and admission requirements, please contact: Education Desk
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🌐 student.uva.nl/law/educationdesk

More information: uva.nl/llm-international-trade-and-investment-law