

Law Department Courses in English

All courses listed are open to guest students

FB 10 Courses in English	Nr.	Sem.	SWS¹	ECTS
<i>European Legal Studies</i>				
Harmonization of European Tort and Property Law, (SP1)	10.6160	WS	0,5	0,5
Introduction to German Law	10.6162	WS	2	2 or 6 ²
European Private Law I (Contracts), (SP1)	10.5611	WS	1	1 or 4
European Private Law II (Tort), (SP1 – starting 2025)	TBA	WS	1	1 or 4
International Sales of Goods (SP1 and 5)	10.616	WS	1	1 or 4
European Civil Procedure, (SP1)	10.519	WS	1	1 or 4
International Arbitration (SPB 1)	10.517	WS	1	1 or 4
International Arbitration (SPB 1)	10.517	WS	1	1 or 4
Introduction to Comparative Law (SP1 – starting 2025)	TBA			
<i>Digital Law</i>				
European and International Media Law (SPB 4)	10.6453	SoSe	2	2 or 6
European Copyright Law (SPB 3)	10.6434	SoSe	1	1 or 4
European Patent Law (SPB 3)	10.6411	SoSe	1	1 or 4
Introduction to German Law		SoSe	2	2 or 6
Date Protection – new in Summer 2025	TBA	SoSe		
EU Platform Regulation – new in Summer 2025	TBA	SoSe		
Modern Contracts: License & Data Sharing Agreements – new in Summer 2025	TBA	SoSe		
Liability for Algorithms – new in Summer 2025	TBA	SoSe		
<i>Additional Law Offerings</i>				
Animal Law	10.0011	WS	1	4
Current Issues of Business Law (SP 2, 3 und 4)	10.6223	WS	2	2 or 6
Lunch Talk on International Law (SP 5)	10.649	SoSe	2	2 or 6
Human Rights and Climate Change Litigation	10.0444	WS	2	2 or 6
<i>Fremdsprachliche Fachausbildung (FFA or Foreign Law Program)</i>				
Englisch UK: Common Law Methodology	10.863	WS	2	6
Englisch UK: Company Law	10.865	SoSe	2	6
Englisch UK: Fundamentals of British Constitutional Law	10.862	WS	2	6
Englisch UK: Fundamentals of English Private Law	10.864	WS	2	6
Englisch UK: Introduction to English Law	10.861	SoSe	4	8

¹ Semester Wochen Stunden = Semester hours per week

² These courses are available to German students without an exam. Guest students should discuss the possibility of an exam with the instructor to obtain the higher number ECTS points.

Englisch UK: Advanced Course (subject can change each year)	10.864	SoSe	2	6
Englisch USA: American Constitutional Law	10.823	WS	2	6
Englisch USA: American Private Law	10.825	WS	2	6
Englisch USA: Business Associations	10.822	SoSe	2	6
Englisch USA: Common Law Methodology	10.824	WS	2	6
Englisch USA: Introduction to U.S. Law	10.821	SoSe	4	8
Englisch USA: Advanced Course (subject can change each year)	10.823	SoSe	2	6
<i>Klausur als Nachweis der Fremdsprachenkompetenz i.S.v. §4 Abs. 1 Nr. 1 d) NJAG³</i>				
Englisch I: U.S. Constitutional Law (Fremdsprachenschein)	10.471	SoSe	2	6
Englisch II: Introduction to Common Law Legal Systems (Fremdsprachenschein)	10.371	WS	2	6
<i>Promotionsstudiengang, Ergänzungskurs (PhD studies)</i>				
Legal English Conversation Skills	10.803	WS	2	6
Legal English Presentation Skills	10.8032	SoSe	1	4

Course Descriptions

Sorted by how they appear in the list

Harmonization of European Tort and Property Law

Course Number	10.6160	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	0,5
Course Content	Participants will be given an overview of tort and property law from Europe's most influential legal systems. The first lecture will cover Tort Law in Europe, while the second lecture will cover Property Law in Europe.		

Introduction to German Law

Course Number	10.6162	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter and Summer	ECTS	2 or 6
Course Content	The lecture is primarily intended for students from abroad and is held in English. The main areas of German law (civil law, criminal law, public law) will be presented, basic structures will be outlined and, where appropriate, cases will be solved and comparisons with the participants' home jurisdictions will be discussed.		

³ These courses are taken by German law students for a language certificate. Guest students are welcome.

European Private Law I (Contracts)

Course Number	10.5611	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	1 or 4
Course Content	<p>The lecture deals with the basics of European private law, but above all with the current development of contract law in the European Union. In addition, the most important directives and case law are analyzed and the question of system formation within the framework of European private law is discussed.</p> <p>The focus is on general contract law. Both comparative law and Community law aspects are examined.</p>		

International Sales of Goods

Course Number	10.616	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	1 or 4
Course Content	<p>In the course, the regulations of the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods will be discussed.</p> <p>Special attention will be paid to the scope of application, the general part, the formation of the contract and the interpretation of the contract. Furthermore, the rights and obligations of the buyer and the seller will be discussed.</p> <p>The event will also include a presentation of the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods as the result of a unification process. This includes, in particular, the question of how the different legal traditions were brought together in a uniform law on sales. Also of interest will be the case law that has been handed down on the basis of the CISG.</p>		

European Civil Procedure

Course Number	10.519	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	1 or 4
Course Content	<p>Course Language: English, but only if there are visiting students in the course.</p> <p>Course Content: The course covers the European legal framework regulating cross-border litigation. Its main focus is on the Brussels Ibis Regulation and the question of jurisdiction. In addition to civil and commercial litigation, the course addresses the basics of cross-border insolvencies, international disputes related to family law and the law of succession, and international cooperation related to the service of documents and the taking of evidence.</p>		

International Arbitration

Course Number	10.517	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	1 or 4
Course Content	<p>The course provides a comprehensive overview of the law of (international) arbitration. Among other things, the fundamentals of arbitration, the particularities of arbitration proceedings in comparison to civil proceedings, legal assistance by state courts, the recognition and enforceability of arbitral awards, and much more will be covered.</p> <p>In addition, numerous insights into the practice of international arbitration are conveyed.</p>		

European and International Media Law

Course Number	10.6453	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	2 or 6
Course Content	<p>The course will first discuss the human rights underlying the protection of the media, especially Article 19 ICCPR and the related Recommendations and General Comments of the Human Rights Committee, as well as Article 10 ECHR and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights. The course will then deal with the EU's provisions on the regulation of audiovisual media services and on internet governance. The course book will be European and International Media Law (Cambridge University Press), written by the lecturer and the only course book on that subject-matter in English. The course will be held in English. In order to follow the course, an average knowledge of the English language on high school level will be sufficient. A specific English language certificate, such as TOEFL, is not necessary.</p>		

European Copyright Law

Course Number	10.6434	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	1 or 4
Course Content	<p>European copyright law influences large parts of domestic copyright law in the EU. The course will deal with EU legislation and case-law on copyright, such as the concept of a copyright-protected 'work', the limitations of copyright and the notion of related rights. The course will pay special attention to European provisions on copyright and related rights in the Digital Single Market, for example, concerning upload filters and the protection of press publications concerning online uses. The course book will be European and International Media Law (Cambridge University Press), written by the lecturer and the only course book on that subject-matter in English. The course will be held in English. In order to follow the course, an average knowledge of the English language on high school level will be sufficient. A specific English language certificate, such as TOEFL, is not necessary.</p>		

European Patent Law

Course Number	10.6411	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	1 or 4
Course Content	Introduction to Patent Law, in particular the new unitary patent system based on the European Patent Convention, Unitary Patent Regulation and Unitary Patent Court Agreement. General knowledge on IP-law is useful, but no previous course on patent law required. Max 25 participants.		

Animal Law

Course Number	10.0011	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	4
Course Content	<p>The course examines from a comparative perspective the way in which the law regulates the treatment of animals. The following aspects will be covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction - What is Animal Law? - The nature of animals - Relationship of humans and animals - Main theories in ethics/philosophy• History of animal related legislation and law• Animal related law in practice - Legislation relating to animals in different contexts - exemplary problems in contract, tort, liability, criminal law, administrative law• Elements of protection of animals in the legal system (impacts of WTO, EU and US legislation)• Justification – Meaning and significance of unnecessary suffering and reasonable cause• Law enforcement and effectiveness of present law - Is there a need for a global Animal Law?• Perspectives of moral and legal status of animals - From Animal Welfare to Animal Rights? <p>Notice: ECTS require: 75 % Attendance in classes and written (home) exam (Essay, 2000 words, graded on a pass/fail scale)</p>		

Current Issues of Business Law

Course Number	10.6223	Teaching Language	English
Semester	WS	ECTS	2 or 6
Course Content	Current problems are addressed, in particular in the areas of competition and antitrust law, banking law, corporate and capital market law, some of which are (or cannot be) dealt with only briefly or not at all in the lectures. In addition, important cases and leading decisions will be discussed and, where possible, the		

	fundamental legal norms and principles associated with them will be repeated and deepened. There will be the opportunity for extensive questions and discussions regarding the individual problem areas.
--	--

Lunch Talk on International Law

Course Number	10.649	Teaching Language	English / German
Semester		ECTS	2 or 6
Course Content	This is an informal course taking place over lunch that will cover topics to be determined by students and the instructor. The sessions will be held in English if there are ERASMUS students present.		

Human Rights and Climate Change Litigation

Course Number	10.0444	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	2 or 6
Course Content			

Englisch UK: Common Law Methodology (FFA)

Course Number	10.863	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	This course introduces students to the common law system with emphasis on the English legal system. It considers the legal profession, such as solicitors, barristers and judges, and the court system from the Magistrates' Court to the UK Supreme Court. Students will learn about the sources of law, to include Acts of Parliament and case law. The course introduces the adversarial system in criminal and civil law and considers the jury system within Crown Court trials. Students will learn about the role of the lawyers, judge and jury within the system and the importance of a burden and standard of proof. The course considers how cases are built and the role of evidence, witnesses as to fact and experts. Students will learn about the doctrine of precedent in common law legal systems and statutory interpretation. This is a foundation course that provides students with the background knowledge necessary to take the more advanced FFA UK courses.		

Englisch UK: Company Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.865	Teaching Language	English
----------------------	--------	--------------------------	---------

Semester	Summer	ECTS	6
Course Content	<p>Companies are legally created entities that play important roles economically, societally, and environmentally. This course explores the creation of different types of companies and other business structures and examines the governing laws. In particular, it looks at the vast Companies Act 2006, its legal background throughout the 20th Century and its core provisions. In the later part of the course, the often-contentious role of the company is looked at in a broader context. Human rights, criminality, fraud and environmental issues are all considered as areas where companies have been found to behave in illegal and irresponsible ways. To address this, corporate governance is explored as playing a vital role in good commercial practice.</p>		

Englisch UK: Fundamentals of British Constitutional Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.863	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	<p>This course introduces the fundamentals of British Constitutional law, including the sources of law in this area and the fundamental principles such as the rule of law and parliamentary sovereignty. The course considers the ‘unwritten’ nature of the constitution in the sense that there is no single codified document such as the GG in Germany or the Constitution in the US. Students will see how Acts of Parliament, common law (case law) and conventions play their part. The course introduces the voting system, how laws are made, the role and composition of Parliament, the Crown, the Government, its function and the various forms of scrutiny. The course also considers human rights aspects, devolution and judicial review. The UK’s relationship with the EU will also be considered with a particular emphasis on Brexit.</p>		

Englisch UK: Fundamentals of English Private Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.864	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	<p>This course focuses on the largely common law area of torts. Torts are civil wrongs that cause individuals to suffer loss or harm which results in legal liability for the person who commits these wrongs. As such, torts cover a wide range of situations from harm sustained by negligent medical practice, through to harm resulting from the publication of libellous information in the press. The most important tort of all is negligence as it forms the foundation of many other tortious actions. This course, therefore, explores the case law that governs the tort of negligence, and then moves on to consider the torts of nuisance, occupiers’ liability, and defamation. In addition, it explores the defences and remedies that are available to parties through the court system.</p>		

Englisch UK: Introduction to English Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.861	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	8
Course Content	This course considers several fields of English law such as criminal law, equity and trusts, property ownership (land law), contract law and the law of tort. Each field will be covered over the course of several sessions. Students will be introduced to the relevant statutes and cases which have developed the law and will learn how to understand and apply the law in the different fields. This will serve as a foundation for later FFA courses.		

Englisch UK: Vertiefungskurs (FFA)

Course Number	10.864	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	6
Course Content	Intellectual property is one of the most dynamic and exciting areas of law because of its attachment to technology and creative culture. This course considers two of the intellectual property regimes in the context of the UK: copyright and trademarks. It firstly looks at how we theorise the granting of property rights to intangible goods, and then moves on to look at copyright law as applied to literary, dramatic, artistic and musical works. In doing so, it explores the differing standards of originality in the UK and EU, and the ongoing legal tension in this area created by Brexit. In the second part of the course, the content moves to the ever-expanding area of trademarks. It covers the requirements for registration in relation to infringement claims but also explores how and why the law has developed to protect the vital role that trademarks play in commerce and advertising.		

Englisch USA: American Constitutional Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.823	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	Students attending this course will take a deep dive into various aspects of fundamental rights found in the U.S. Constitution. They will do so using several cases that were or are working their way through the U.S. court system. The cases will be introduced to students in the first session, and then be used to some extent throughout the course. More specifically, students will begin by looking at 2nd Amendment rights as they learn about the methods used by U.S. courts to interpret the U.S. Constitution. The course will then turn its attention to the First Amendment, which houses provisions dealing with freedom of speech and religious liberty, among others. From there students will explore how the Supreme Court has dealt with the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause. We will then finish up by looking at how courts can and have read rights into the Constitution.		

Englisch USA: American Private Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.825	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	This course will focus mostly on common law contract principles. In some semesters, basic common law torts concepts will also be discussed.		

Englisch USA: Business Associations (FFA)

Course Number	10.822	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	6
Course Content	This course will cover a variety of business law topics including: business associations types and employment law.		

Englisch USA: Common Law Methodology (FFA)

Course Number	10.824	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	This course introduces FFA Englisch USA participants to the common law legal system and method of analysis. Throughout the semester students will follow a personal injury case as it moves through the U.S judicial system. All materials for this course will be found in Courseware. ERASMUS students are strongly encouraged to take the course Englisch II: Introduction to Common Law Legal Systems (Fremdsprachenschein) as an alternative to this one.		

Englisch USA: Introduction to U.S. Law (FFA)

Course Number	10.821	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	8
Course Content	This course will provide students with an overview of several areas of American law. The first 1/3 of the course is devoted to U.S. Constitutional Law. The remainder of the course aims to expand legal English and basic knowledge in the following areas of law: business, criminal, tort, contract, property, employment, and family.		

Englisch USA: Vertiefungskurs (FFA)

Course Number	10.823	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	6

Course Content	The topic of the course will change depending on who is teaching it. Past courses have included: Law & Literature, Criminal Procedure and Advanced Tort Law.
-----------------------	--

Englisch I: U.S. Constitutional Law (Fremdsprachenschein)

Course Number	10.471	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	6
Course Content	The aim of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of the structure of American government and the individual rights enjoyed by people living in the United States. The course will be taught through the lens of current events, including how the German the press sometimes looks at these issues.		

Englisch II: Introduction to Common Law Legal Systems (Fremdsprachenschein)

Course Number	10.371	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Winter	ECTS	6
Course Content	This course offers an introduction to certain aspects of common law legal systems, with a strong focus on how the systems in England and the United States function. Participants will learn about the structure of these systems as well as the method of legal analysis used in them.		

Legal English Conversation Skills / Legal English Presentation Skills

Course Number	10.803	Teaching Language	English
Semester	Summer	ECTS	2 or 6
Course Content	<p>These two different courses will be offered in alternating years as part of the Department's doctoral degree program. The aim of these courses is to improve one's legal English usage. These courses will focus on the use of Legal English in variety of contexts, including various kinds of presentations and groups discussions. Course discussions and presentations will focus on current legal topics and topics of interest to participants. Participants will be expected to help lead at least one group discussion on a topic of their choice. Throughout the course participants will be provided with advice on how to improve their English communication skills, especially in a legal context.</p> <p>ERASMUS: This course is also open to ERASMUS students. Those ERASMUS students needing 6 ECTS points will be given an oral exam option at the end of the course.</p>		