

Information about the Doctoral Program in Law

1. Academic program information:

The doctoral program in **law** is offered by the University of Ljubljana's **Faculty of Law**.

Program duration: **3 years**.

Number of ECTS credits: **180**.

Students that fulfill all of the obligations required by this academic program receive the title **PhD** (*doktor znanosti*).

2. Basic goals of the program and general skills acquired in the program

The basic goal of the doctoral program is to offer specialized studies to graduates with a Bologna second-cycle (master's) degree that wish to learn more about their selected area of expertise. The emphasis is thus on individual doctoral students' research. The doctoral program in law has traditionally been oriented toward theoretical exploration of law and analysis of legislation and case law, and students gain practical experience by taking the State Bar Examination. As mentioned above, the goal of the doctoral program is primarily to study a selected legal issue, reference, or institute in greater depth, in which the selected issues can also be studied using an interdisciplinary approach – that is, from the perspective of other social sciences or even technical disciplines – if they involve complex topics and issues. The final result of the doctoral program is the doctoral dissertation, which must possess all the properties of a scholarly monograph in terms of methods, approaches, and content.

With regard to the program's basic goals, the general skills acquired include the following:

- Specialized legal expertise in the selected doctoral dissertation topic;
- In-depth theoretical study of areas connected with the selected doctoral dissertation topic;
- Encouraging the system of values underlying all the processes of legal reasoning;
- Using various research methods;
- Capacity to use various interpretative methods to interpret legal texts;
- Using legal syllogism and argumentation;
- Capacity for efficient oral and written expression and communication regarding legal issues;
- Capacity to conduct basic research and find legal sources;
- Encouraging socially responsible thinking and a critical attitude towards social developments;
- Promoting the highest ethical standards of the legal profession.

3. Admission requirements and selection criteria for limited enrollment

The Faculty of Law will offer 200 enrollment slots in the full-time doctoral program each year.

Anyone that has completed the following is eligible to enroll in the doctoral program:

- a) A second-cycle degree program (Bologna master's degree),
- b) A university undergraduate program adopted before 11 June 2004,
- c) A higher professional degree program (adopted before 11 June 2004) and a specialization program. These students must meet the academic requirements of a maximum of 35 ECTS credits in the second-cycle (master's) degree program in law before enrollment. The academic requirements (selection of courses) for these students are defined by the faculty's Academic Affairs Committee, which takes into account the students' area of expertise (i.e., the type of program they have completed);
- d) An academic program for professions governed by EU directives or any other uniform master's program worth 300 ECTS credits.

In selecting students for enrollment, the following shall be taken into account:

- Second-cycle (master's) degree performance (grade-point average and master's thesis grade): 30%,
- Elective (oral) exam performance: 70%.

Based on the number of suitable students and advisors, the doctoral studies committee defines the enrollment slots for individual tracks.

Students that have completed a master's program and received a master's degree are entitled to up to 60 ECTS credits for the first year of the doctoral program and can enroll in the second year if they prepare and submit a dissertation proposal. Students that were enrolled in a master's program but did not complete it by receiving a master's degree can transfer credits in place of the courses in the first year of doctoral studies. Credit transfers are decided upon by the doctoral studies committee.

4. Criteria for recognizing expertise and skills acquired before enrollment in this program

Students' expertise and skills acquired in various forms of non-formal education before enrolling in the doctoral program can be **recognized** by the faculty. In doing so, the Faculty of Law shall take into account the Rules on the Procedure and Criteria for Recognizing Informally Acquired Expertise and Skills, adopted by the University of Ljubljana.

5. Conditions for advancing to the next year

In order to advance from the first to second year of the doctoral program, students must collect at least 45 ECTS credits and submit a doctoral dissertation proposal.

In order to advance from the second to the third year of the doctoral program, students must fulfill all of the first-year requirements in the amount of 60 ECTS credits, collect a total of 10 ECTS credits in the first and second doctoral seminars, and receive approval of their doctoral dissertation topic from the Senate of the University of Ljubljana.

6. Conditions for completing the program

In order to complete the doctoral program in law, students must pass all of the exams in core and elective courses, complete both doctoral seminars, publish at least one scholarly article in a Slovenian or foreign journal, and pass their dissertation defense, thus collecting a total of 180 ECTS credits.

Students must publish their articles in a journal defined by the academic affairs committee. A statement by the journal editor confirming that an article has been accepted for publication also qualifies as publication. An evaluation committee appointed by the academic affairs committee assesses whether the publication meets the criteria of a scholarly article.

The doctoral dissertation is an independent work written by a student that writes it under the guidance of a qualified instructor holding a faculty rank and defends it orally after receiving a passing grade.

7. Transfers between academic programs

Students enrolled in a third-cycle (doctoral) program in law can transfer to this doctoral program. Transfer of credits is decided upon by the academic affairs committee based on the student's application. In its decision, the committee also decides whether there are any deficiencies in coursework.

8. Assessment methods

Examination and grading methods are defined in each teaching unit's curriculum. Grading of exams and other forms of examination is performed using a 1–10 grading scale: 6–10 (pass) and 1–5 (fail). The relevant provisions of the Statute of the University of Ljubljana and the Rules of the Faculty of Law are taken into account.

The doctoral seminar is graded “pass” or “fail.”

The doctoral dissertation is graded with the following grades: “fail,” “pass,” and “cum laude.”

9. Program course outline and planned course coordinators

The program is designed to consist of lectures, doctoral seminars, and individual student research work directed and assisted by the advisor. Classroom instruction is planned primarily for the first year; in the second year, the doctoral seminar is the only remaining form of classroom instruction provided, and in the third year only individual research and defense of the doctoral dissertation are planned.

First Year

	No.	ECTS credits	ECTS credits (%)	Semester
Required core courses	1	10	16.66	First
Required module courses	3 or 4	30	50	First and second
Elective courses	2	10	16.66	First and second
Individual research	1	10	16.66	First and second

Second Year

	No.	ECTS credits	ECTS credits (%)	Semester
First doctoral seminar	1	5	8.33	Third
Second doctoral seminar	1	5	8.33	Fourth
Individual research	1	50	83.33	Third and fourth

Third Year

	No.	ECTS credits	ECTS credits (%)	Semester
Individual research	1	60	100	Fifth and sixth

According to the methodology described above, doctoral students can enroll in the following courses:

	MAIN LECTURER	CLASSIFICATION OF TEACHING UNITS	ECTS credits
Obligatory general subjects			

Theory of law and methodology of scientific work	Marijan Pavčnik, Albin Igličar	Obligatory general subject for all study modules	10
Obligatory subjects of doctoral study modules			
Civil law			
Selected chapters in civil law I	Ada Polajnar Pavčnik	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Selected chapters in civil law II	Miha Juhart	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Selected chapters in civil procedural law	Aleš Galič, Dragica Wedam Lukić	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Labor law			
Labor law	Polonca Končar	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Social security law	Grega Strban	Obligatory subject of the module	10
International labor law and social law	Polonca Končar, Grega Strban	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Economic analysis of law			
Selected chapters of commercial law I	Klemen Podobnik	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Economics	Jože Mencinger, Franjo Štiblar	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Economic analysis of law	Katra Zajc	Obligatory subject of the module	10
European law			
EU commercial and civil law	Peter Grilc	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Legal protection in the EU	Peter Grilc	Obligatory subject of the module	10
European public law	Matej Accetto	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Commercial law			
Selected chapters of commercial law I	Klemen Podobnik	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Selected chapters of commercial law II	Peter Grilc	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Selected chapters of civil procedural law	Aleš Galič, Dragica Wedam Lukić	Obligatory subject of the module	10

Criminal law			
Criminal procedure: national and comparative legal aspects	Katja Šugman, Zvonko Fišer	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Criminal procedure: national and comparative legal aspects	Vid Jakulin, Damijan Korošec, Katja Filipčič	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Optional subject from the field of criminal law I		Optional subject of the module	5
Optional subject from the field of criminal law II		Optional subject of the module	5
International law			
International law	Mirjam Škrk	Obligatory subject of the module	10
International law and the EU	Mirjam Škrk	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Peaceful settlement of international disputes	Mirjam Škrk	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Legal history			
Theory and methods of legal history	Vlado Simič	Obligatory subject of the module	10
European legal history	Vlado Simič, Katja Škrubej	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Legal history of the selected period	Vlado Simič, Katja Škrubej	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Roman law			
Roman property law in relation to modern laws	Janez Kranjc	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Continuity and reception of Roman law	Marko Kambič	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Analysis of passages of Roman legal texts	Janez Kranjc, Marko Kambič	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Theory of the state and law			
Sociology of law	Albin Igličar	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Theory of the state	Miroslav Cerar	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Theory of law	Marijan Pavčnik	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Administrative law			
Public administration	Gorazd Trpin, Bojan Bugarič	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Administrative law	Rajko Pirnat, Mitja Horvat	Obligatory subject of the module	10

Administrative procedure and administrative trial	Erik Kerševan, Mitja Horvat	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Constitutional law			
Constitutional law	Franc Grad, Igor Kaučič	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Comparative and European constitutional law	Grad Franc, Kaučič Igor	Obligatory subject of the module	10
Human rights law	Ciril Ribičič, Igor Kaučič	Obligatory subject of the module	5
Constitutional procedural law	Igor Kaučič, Ciril Ribičič	Obligatory subject of the module	5
OPTIONAL SUBJECTS	MAIN LECTURER	FIELD	
Reading glossatorial and post-glossatorial works	Janez Kranjc	Legal history	5
Criminal law of evidence	Katja Šugman	Criminal law	5
Labor economics	Jože Mencinger	Labor law	5
Social security economics	Tine Stanovnik	Labor law	5
European civil procedural law	Aleš Galič, Dragica Wedam Lukić	Civil law	5
European labor and social security law	Polonca Končar, Grega Strban	European law	5
European contract law	Damjan Možina	Civil law	5
European administrative law	Bojan Bugarič	European law	5
Criminal commercial law	Vid Jakulin	Criminal law	5
Public services and EU law	Bojan Bugarič	Administrative law	5
EU criminal law	Katja Šugman	Criminal law	5
Criminology	Katja Filipčič	Criminal law	5
Local self-government	Ciril Ribičič, Franc Grad	Constitutional law	5
International organizations	Mirjam Škrk	International law	5
International criminal law	Damijan Korošec, Matjaž Ambrož	Criminal law	5
Juvenile criminal law	Katja Filipčič	Criminal law	5
Direct democracy	Igor Kaučič	Constitutional law	5
Responsibility of public officials	Igor Kaučič, Ciril Ribičič	Constitutional law	5
Parliamentary law	Franc Grad	Constitutional law	5
Legal elements in Roman literary and philosophical texts	Janez Kranjc	Roman law	5
Legal aspects of penal sanctions implementation	Matjaž Ambrož	Criminal law	5
Law and biomedicine	Viktorija Žnidaršič Skubic	Civil law	5
Law and sports	Peter Grilc	Commercial law	5

Intellectual property law	Klemen Podobnik	Commercial law	5
Civil servants law	Bojan Bugarič	Administrative law	5
International sales law	Damjan Možina	Civil law	5
International treaty law	Mirjam Škrk	International law	5
Offence law	Katja Filipčič	Criminal law	5
Environmental law	Senko Pličanič	Administrative law	5
Regulated markets law	Peter Grilc	Commercial law	5
Securities law	Miha Juhart	Commercial law	5
Overview of Roman criminal law	Marko Kambič, Janez Kranjc	Roman law	5
Comparative civil law	Miha Juhart	Civil law	5
Comparative EU and USA competition law	Klemen Podobnik	European law	5
Comparative law: selected chapters	Miro Cerar	Theory of the state and law	5
Psychology and criminal law	Katja Šugman	Criminal law	5
Development of public administration	Rajko Pirnat	Administrative law	5
Development of Roman state with basic Roman public law	Marko Kambič	Roman law	5
Development trends in European commercial law	Peter Grilc, Klemen Podobnik	European law	5
Common EU foreign and security policy	Mirjam Škrk	European law	5
Ancient Oriental laws	Katja Škrubej	Legal history	5
Ancient Greek law	Vlado Simič	Legal history	5
Education law: civil law aspects	Barbara Novak	Civil law	5
Constitutional procedural guarantee in civil proceedings	Aleš Galič, Dragica Wedam Lukić	Civil law	5
Constitutional revision procedure and legislative procedure	Igor Kaučič, Albin Igličar	Constitutional law	5
Introduction to administrative science	Gorazd Trpin	Administrative law	5
Protection of socio-economic rights	Polonca Končar, Grega Strban	Labor law	5
Electoral law	Franc Grad	Constitutional law	5
History of legal political thought	Aleš Novak	Theory of the state and law	5

10. Available elective courses and student mobility

The doctoral program in law provides a wide variety of elective courses. The Faculty of Law has established contacts with a number of universities abroad (35 throughout Europe) and provides its students the opportunity to fulfill part of their academic requirements abroad as part of a student exchange program.

Students may also fulfill part of their academic requirements at **another faculty** of the University of Ljubljana or any other university in Slovenia or abroad as part of student exchange programs.

11. Brief description of individual courses

Descriptions of all program courses are available at ***www.pf.uni-lj.si***.

Check out our website!