

DRDB1BA - Introduction

Introduction

Introduction

Law is the set of legal rules which organises life in society. The aim of law studies is to prepare students to be able to meet the legal challenges of today and tomorrow. With globalisation, sustainable development, the digital economy, energy transition, etc., legal practitioners must deal directly with the political, economic, social and cultural challenges facing contemporary society. For this reason, the bachelor's degree in law has two objectives:

- firstly, through law courses, it provides a comprehensive grounding in the main branches of law and gives students the ability to understand and use legal reasoning;
- secondly, through courses in the humanities and social sciences, it enables students to acquire a solid academic grounding in these different fields, which can contribute to a critical understanding of legal issues (including ethical, political and socio-economic issues).

The programme is therefore not limited to a study of legal rules, but also looks at the values which underlie them and how they are put into context.

For more than thirty years, the Saint-Louis campus in Brussels has offered the bachelor's degree in law as an evening programme. Classes are held in Brussels, Monday to Friday, from 5pm to 8pm (or 9pm), and sometimes on Saturday mornings. The programme entitles private-sector employees to paid [educational leave](#).

The teaching methodology combines traditional 'in-theatre' lectures with more practical classes which require student participation (including seminars, practical work, tutorials and access to digital legal resources), with an approach tailored to adult learners. The diploma gives unrestricted access to the evening and daytime programmes of the master's degree in law.

Your profile

The study of law requires special intellectual skills: the precise use of language, a capacity for reasoning, abstract thinking, analysing and summarising, and a critical mind. In-depth knowledge of ideas and concepts is essential.

A legal practitioner's approach involves defining and classifying concepts. Legal practitioners are expected to have a keen sense of justice and fairness. Extreme rigour in oral and written expression is absolutely essential.

DRDB1BA - Teaching profile

Learning outcomes

By the end of their bachelor's degree, students will have acquired:

I. General knowledge and interdisciplinary skills

- **A solid grounding in the humanities and social sciences so that they are able to decode legal phenomena in a comprehensively inter-disciplinary perspective.**

Examples: Philosophie et philosophie morale, Critique des sources de l'information et séminaires de sciences humaines, Sociologie, Psychologie, Histoire des institutions et du droit I et II, Économie, as well as all optional course units.

II. Specific legal knowledge

- **A command of the concepts, rules and principles of the majority of the branches of Belgian and European law, as well as a familiarisation with a few key concepts in branches of law studied in a master's programme, such as international private law, international public law and tax law.**

Examples: Fondements romains et éléments d'Histoire du droit privé, Droit constitutionnel I, II et III, Droit des biens, Droit pénal, Procédure pénale, Fondements institutionnels du droit européen, Droit des obligations, Droit des contrats et de la responsabilité civile, Droit du travail, Droit administratif, Droit des personnes, de la famille et des régimes matrimoniaux, Droit de l'entreprise, Droit judiciaire ; les unités d'enseignement optionnelles à composante juridique, le Stage d'observation de la pratique juridique; les Travaux pratiques sans casus.

- **A command of the secondary principles which connect the formal sources of law and an understanding of law as a 'system'.**

Examples: Sources et principe du droit, Droit constitutionnel I et II, Introduction critique à la pensée juridique contemporaine.

- **Critical analytical skills with respect to the law through a grounding in the theory and philosophy of law and an awareness of the relative and changing nature of legal remedies and the controversies which they can generate.**

Examples: Droit naturel, Introduction critique à la pensée juridique contemporaine, Séminaire de théorie du droit, Exercices pratiques de droit (travaux pratiques avec casus).

III. A grounding in the scientific method

- **A command of the methods and tools of legal documentary research (legislation, case law and doctrine) so as to be able to use them for personal academic work.**

Examples: Séminaire de méthodologie juridique, Critique des sources de l'information et séminaires de sciences humaines, Séminaire de théorie du droit

- **The ability to conduct independent academic research in compliance with scientific ethics.**

Examples: l'ensemble des travaux rédactionnels menés dans : les Séminaires de sciences humaines, le Séminaire de méthodologie juridique, le Séminaire de théorie du droit, les Exercices pratiques de droit (travaux pratiques avec casus)

IV. The skills required for analysis, reflection and argumentation based on concrete situations

- **The ability to analyse a situation (individual or group) by making use of legal and/or non-legal knowledge acquired elsewhere, identify possible solutions, evaluate their relevance and choose the most appropriate one.**
- **Critical thinking skills.**
- **The ability to construct a reasoned argument.**
- **The ability to elaborate independent, coherent and relevant thinking in a legal context, as well as creative/original thinking.**

Examples: Exercices pratiques de droit (travaux pratiques avec casus) en droit constitutionnel, en procédure pénale, en droit des obligations, en droit des contrats et de la responsabilité civile, en droit administratif, en droit des personnes, de la famille et des régimes matrimoniaux, ou encore, en Fondements institutionnels du droit européen.

V. High-level written and oral communication skills in French and a target language

- **The ability to communicate an idea and/or a legal argument in writing and orally, and to defend it convincingly.**

Examples: examens oraux et écrits de type « questions ouvertes », les Séminaires de sciences humaines, le Séminaire de méthodologie juridique, le Séminaire de théorie du droit, les Exercices pratiques de droit (travaux pratiques avec casus)

- **The ability to understand, study and render theoretical content in a language other than French (English and Dutch).**

Examples: Year 1: Langue anglaise et Langue néerlandaise; Year 2: Anglais juridique et Néerlandais juridique; Year 3: possibilité d'une UE optionnelle en anglais

Transferable skills

More broadly, in terms of transferable skills, at the end of the regular bilingual French-English bachelor's degree in law, students will have:

- **perfected their command of the French and English language, both spoken and written;**
- **developed a sense of autonomy in carrying out a variety of tasks (organisational skills, work planning, meeting deadlines, etc.);**
- **refined their personal ethics, both in the course /F5 8 Tf [8 Tf 1 0 a 620 -1 contacts with others (personal stance consistent with 0 -1 own values, sense of general interest, respect for others, etc.).**

Programme structure

The evening programme bachelor's degree in law is a first-cycle programme consisting of 180 credits spread over three years (60 credits in year 1, year 2 and year 3).

Common courses

This programme includes:

- courses of a legal nature, aimed at studying the various branches of law

Examples: Fondements romains et éléments d'Histoire du droit privé, Sources et principes du droit, Droit constitutionnel I, II et III, Droit des biens, Droit pénal, Procédure pénale, Fondements institutionnels du droit européen, Droit des obligations, Droit des contrats et de la responsabilité civile, Droit du travail, Droit administratif, Droit des personnes, de la famille et des régimes matrimoniaux, Droit de l'entreprise, Droit judiciaire, etc.

- courses in the humanities and social sciences, which contribute to a critical understanding of legal issues

Examples: Philosophie et philosophie morale, Critique des sources de l'information et séminaires de sciences humaines, Sociologie, Psychologie, Histoire des institutions et du droit I et II, etc.

Languages

Language learning is progressive:

- in year 1, students take an English language course and a Dutch language course in small groups, aimed at developing reading and listening comprehension and oral expression
- in year 2, students take a course in legal English and a course in legal Dutch, aimed at enabling students to consult legal documentation in the language studied
- in year 3, the optional course can be taken in English: EU Politics or Law and Tech Governance.

Optional courses

In year 3, students take an optional course unit.

Seminar on legal theory

Final assignment for the bachelor's degree.

DRDB1BA Programme

Detailed programme by subject

- Mandatory
 - ⊗ Optional
 - △ Not offered in 2023-2024
 - ⊖ Not offered in 2023-2024 but offered the following year
 - ⊕ Offered in 2023-2024 but not the following year
 - △ ⊕ Not offered in 2023-2024 or the following year
 - Activity with requisites
 - 🌐 Open to incoming exchange students
 - 🚫 Not open to incoming exchange students
 - (FR) Teaching language (FR, EN, ES, NL, DE, ...)
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				Year		
				1	2	3
○ BHDDR1121	History of institutions and law I (Middle Ages - Ancien Régime)	Serge Dauchy	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits]	x		
○ BHDDR1112	Sources and principles of law	Edouard Cruysmans Marie-Sophie de Clippele (coord.)	FR [q1+q2] [67.5h] [7 Credits]	x		
○ BHDDR1111	Roman Foundations and elements of history of Private Law	Annette Ruelle	FR [q2] [67.5h] [7 Credits]	x		
○ BHDDR1110	Constitutional Law I	Mathias El Berhoumi	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits]	x		
○ BHDDR1125	Criticism of information sources and seminar in humanities	Romain Landmeters Céline Rase Quentin Verreycken	FR [q1+q2] [45h] [4 Credits]	x		
○ BHDDR1130	Seminar of Legal Methodology	Thibaut Slingeneyer de Goeswin	FR [q1+q2] [15h] [4 Credits]	x		
○ BHDPO1220A	Constitutional Law II - + Exercises session with casus	François Tulkens (compensates Mathias El Berhoumi)	FR [q2] [30h+9h] [6 Credits]		x	
○ BHDDR1215	Criminal Law procedure + Exercises session with casus <i>Les étudiants suivent les deux UE de Droit constitutionnel II et Procédure pénale mais seulement un des deux TP avec casus associés. Les 2 crédits nécessaires à cet effet sont soustraits de l'UE dont les TP avec casus ne sont pas suivis.</i>	Christine Guillain (coord.) Olivia Nederlandt	FR [q2] [30h+9h] [6 Credits]			x
○ BHDDR1213	Law of Obligations + Exercises session with casus	Laurent Debroux (compensates Pierre Jadoul) Jean-François Germain (compensates)				

- BHDDR1111 - [Roman Foundations and elements of history of Private Law](#)
- BHDDR1361** "[Justice et politique](#)" has prerequisite(s) BHDDR1112 ET BHDDR1110
 - BHDDR1112 - [Sources and principles of law](#)
 - BHDDR1110 - [Constitutional Law I](#)
- BHDPO1315** "[EU politics](#)" has prerequisite(s) BHDDR1121
 - BHDDR1121 - [History of institutions and law I \(Middle Ages - Ancien Régime\)](#)
- BSPOL1210** "[Sociologie politique](#)" has prerequisite(s) BHDPO1125
 - BHDPO1125 - [Sociology](#)

The programme's courses and learning outcomes

For each UCLouvain training programme, a [reference framework of learning outcomes](#) specifies the the skills expected of every graduate on completion of the programme. Course unit descriptions specify targeted learning outcomes, as well as the unit's contribution to reference framework of learning outcomes.

Detailed programme per annual block

DRDB1BA - 1ST ANNUAL UNIT

- Mandatory
- ⊗ Optional
- △ Not offered in 2023-2024
- ⊖ Not offered in 2023-2024 but offered the following year
- ⊕ Offered in 2023-2024 but not the following year
- △ ⊕ Not offered in 2023-2024 or the following year
- Activity with requisites
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Click on the course title to see detailed informations (objectives, methods, evaluation...)

o Content:

o Joint courses

○ BHDDR1160	Philosophy and moral philosophy	Juliette Lafosse Jeanne-Marie Roux	FR [q1+q2] [90h] [10 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDDR1124	Psychology	Mauricio Garcia Penafiel	FR [q1] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDPO1125	Sociology	Abraham Franssen	FR [q1+q2] [45h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDDR1121	History of institutions and law I (Middle Ages - Ancien Régime)	Serge Dauchy	FR [q1] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDDR1112	Sources and principles of law	Edouard Cruysmans Marie-Sophie de Clippele (coord.)	FR [q1+q2] [67.5h] [7 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDDR1111	Roman Foundations and elements of history of Private Law	Annette Ruelle	FR [q2] [67.5h] [7 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDDR1110	Constitutional Law I	Mathias El Berhouni	FR [q2] [30h] [5 Credits] 🌐
○ BHDDR1125	Criticism of information sources and seminar in humanities	Romain Landmeters Céline Rase Quentin Verreycken	FR [q1+q2] [45h] [4 Credits] 🌐

○ BHDDR1130	Seminar of Legal Methodology	Thibaut Slingeneyer de Goeswin	FC [q1+q2] [15h] [4 Credits]
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○ Languages

○ BHDDR1140	
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⌘ BHDDR1361

Justice and Politics 🟡

Sébastien Van
Drooghenbroeck
(compensates
Xavier Delgrange)

DRDB1BA - Information

Access Requirements

Decree of 7 November 2013 defining the landscape of higher education and the academic organization of studies.

The admission requirements must be met prior to enrolment in the University.

In the event of the divergence between the different linguistic versions of the present conditions, the French version shall prevail.

SUMMARY

- [General access requirements](#)
- [Specific access requirements](#)
- [Access based on validation of professional experience](#)
- [Special requirements to access some programmes](#)

General access requirements

Except as otherwise provided by other specific legal provisions, admission to undergraduate courses leading to the award of a Bachelor's degree will be granted to students with one of the following qualifications :

1. A Certificate of Upper Secondary Education issued during or after the 1993-1994 academic year by an establishment offering full-time secondary education or an adult education centre in the French Community of Belgium and, as the case may be, approved if it was issued by an educational institution before 1 January 2008 or affixed with the seal of the French Community if it was issued after this date, or an equivalent certificate awarded by the Examination Board of the French Community during or after 1994;
2. A Certificate of Upper Secondary Education issued no later than the end of the 1992-1993 academic year, along with official documentation attesting to the student's ability to pursue higher education for students applying for a full-length undergraduate degree programme;
3. A diploma awarded by a higher education institution within the French Community that confers an academic degree issued under the above-mentioned Decree, or a diploma awarded by a university or institution dispensing full-time higher education in accordance with earlier legislation;
4. A higher education certificate or diploma awarded by an adult education centre;
5. A pass certificate for one of the [entrance examinations](https://uclouvain.be/fr/etudier/inscriptions/examens-admission.html) (https://uclouvain.be/fr/etudier/inscriptions/examens-admission.html) organized by higher education institutions or by an examination board of the French Community; this document gives admission to studies in the sectors, fields or programmes indicated therein;
6. A diploma, certificate of studies or other qualification similar to those mentioned above, issued by the Flemish Community of Belgium, the German Community of Belgium or the Royal Military Academy;
7. A diploma, certificate of studies or other qualification obtained abroad and deemed equivalent to the first four mentioned above by virtue of a law, decree, European directive or international convention;

Note:

Requests for equivalence must be submitted to the Equivalence department ([Service des équivalences](#)) of the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the French Community of Belgium in compliance with the official deadline.

The following two qualifications are automatically deemed equivalent to the Certificate of Upper Secondary Education (Certificat d'enseignement secondaire supérieur – CESS):

- European Baccalaureate issued by the Board of Governors of a European School,
- International Baccalaureate issued by the International Baccalaureate Office in Geneva.

8. Official documentation attesting to a student's ability to pursue higher education (diplôme d'aptitude à accéder à l'enseignement supérieur - DAES), issued by the Examination Board of the French Community.

Specific access requirements

- Access to bachelor programmes for candidates of nationality outside the European Union who are not assimilated to Belgian nationals is subject to the following criteria:
 - not have obtained a secondary education diploma for more than 3 years maximum. Example: for an admission application for the academic year 2023-2024, you must have obtained your diploma during the academic years 2020-2021, 2021-2022 ou 2022-2023. In the French Community of Belgium, the academic year runs from September 14 to September 13
 - not already hold an undergraduate degree
- Candidates, whatever their nationality, with a secondary school diploma **from a country outside the European Union**, must have obtained an average of 13/20 minimum or, failing that, have obtained this average, have passed one year of study in Belgium (for example special Maths / sciences). A non-successful year will not be taken into consideration.

Teaching method

Learning to practise law

Tutorials, seminars and practical work complement the knowledge acquired in lectures, and enable small groups to compare the general, abstract nature of the rule of law with real-life situations.

During practical exercises, students take part in mock trials, draw up pleadings, work on finding solutions to real cases, analyse various documents, etc.

The written work which students complete as part of their practical work teaches them to formulate a legal question, find solutions to it by carrying out documentary research and formulate their results appropriately.

In order to equip students as best as possible, expose them to situations and help them carry out practical work in the best possible conditions, the faculty provides them with:

- computer rooms providing access to legal databases;
- a courtroom for mock trials and moot court competitions;
- the law library, with thousands of references available.

Furthermore, our teaching methods are designed to make the most of the limited time available to adult students with professional and/or family lives.

Methodological assistance

The Saint-Louis - Bruxelles campus places great importance on educational support for all bachelor's programmes. The Academic Guidance Service (AGS) offers a range of activities and is available to meet students who wish to do so.

Evaluation
