

Course Outline

Virtual Exchange Spring Semester 2024

Foundations of Business Law

Number of ECTS-Credits: 5

Format of the course:

- synchronous online course (FIX timeslots)
- asynchronous online course (NO fix timeslots)
- mix of synchronous and asynchronous online course
- synchronous hybrid course (students can choose online OR on campus in FIX timeslots)
- asynchronous hybrid course (students can choose online OR on campus in NON-fix timeslots)
- mix of synchronous and asynchronous hybrid course
- other, namely:

Number of Students accepted

- Total number of students is limited to
- Total number of students is unlimited
- Total number of virtual exchange students is limited to
- Total number of virtual exchange students is unlimited

Responsible lecturer:

Link to lecturer's profile at FHNW: [Anja Nicol | FHNW](#)

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1. Course content

This module introduces students to the field of business law and gives them an understanding of the legal framework within which business decisions take place. At the end of the module, students are able to identify legal issues related to domestic and international business activities, and to analyze simple legal problems. Furthermore, students can search for and interpret relevant legal documents or materials, and communicate answers to basic legal problems both orally and in writing.

- Basics, Nature and Structure of Law
- Tort law
- Contract Law
- Methods of Payment / Credit Security
- Business Associations
- Employment Law
- Intellectual Property Law
- Cross-border legal issues and EU Law
- Dispute Resolution

2. Learning objectives

Knowledge and Understanding: Students ...

- Explain legal principles relating to private, public and international law, which form the basis of various types of business activities (Obj. 1.1)
- Identify legal problems in a business environment (Obj. 1.1)

Applying Knowledge and Understanding: Students ...

- Apply the basic legal principles to a simple example or case study (Obj. 1.1)
- Apply legal approach principles and reasoning for more complex cases (Obj. 1.1)

Making Judgements: Students ...

- Assess and analyze simple legal problems which arise in a business context, provide feasible solutions to those problems (Obj. 2.1)

Communications Skills: Students ...

- Communicate the answers effectively, both orally and in writing, using legal terminology in an accurate and precise manner (Obj. 3.1; Obj. 3.2)

Learning Skills: Students ...

- Deal with and interpret relevant legal documents or materials (Obj. 1.1)
- Solve written assignments independently (Obj. 1.1; Obj. 3.1)
- Apply critical thinking skills (Obj. 2.1)

3. Prior knowledge and entry requirements

- As this module requires participants to be able to discuss complex issues fluently, a good level of English is required min. B2/C1 (CEFR), IELTS 5.5, TOEFL iBT 46-59 or equivalent
- There are no further formal entry requirements for this course.

4. Course structure and dates

This course takes place once a week in a half-day session on Wednesday evening. During the period starting on 21 February, 2024, and ending on 29 May, 2024, there will be 12 scheduled half-day sessions, consisting of synchronous and asynchronous lectures. In addition to the scheduled sessions, this course contains self-study and group work for assignments.

Course days: Wednesday Evening, 17:30h – 21:15h

First course date: 21 February, 2024

5. Assessment

- Assessment with (online)presentation, report, groupwork, test etc. during semester
- Final written test on campus can be replaced for remote students with an additional assignment
- Final written test on campus can be replaced for remote students with oral testing

6. Literature

Required Reading:

Script and materials are provided online (Moodle)

Recommended Reading:

Rouiller, Nicolas (2015). International Business Law, Schulthess Verlag.

Miller & Jentz (2016). Business Law Today - The Essentials. 11 Ed. Cengage Advantage.

7. Grading

Pass-fail

According to swiss grading system (see below)

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|----------|-----------|-----------|------|--------------|------|---------|
| Mark | 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.0 | 4.5 | 4.0 | below 4 |
| In words | excellent | very good | good | satisfactory | pass | fail |