



The International Program at Bucerius Law School

I About Bucerius Law School

Bucerius Law School, the first private law school in Germany, was founded in 2000 as an initiative of the Ebelin and Gerd Bucerius ZEIT-Stiftung (Foundation). The main objective is to offer an academically accomplished, practice-oriented legal education with a focus on international business law. The philosophy of Bucerius Law School is not only to offer future jurists a well-rounded education in legal matters but to produce personalities with an in depth understanding of international legal, economic, and political contexts as well. Thus, students at Bucerius Law School are required to take courses in business administration and to participate in a diverse, obligatory general studies program as well as in foreign language courses. Furthermore, they also gain insights into legal practice through mandatory internships.

Students at Bucerius Law School receive the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) after three and a half years of successful fulfillment of credits. The mandatory semester abroad counts directly towards their LL.B. After receiving the LL.B., Bucerius students are prepared for the first of two standardized state exams in law (the state exams serve a function similar to that of the bar exam in the U.S.).

In the transnational practice for which we prepare our students, they will regularly encounter problems that involve more than one legal system. With this in consideration, a very important part of the legal education at Bucerius Law School is an integrated, mandatory semester abroad after two years of study. Hence, as an important pillar of their education - in addition to the German legal system - all students at Bucerius Law School gain insight into at least one other legal system.

On the job market, the international experience of our students has proven to be one important hallmark of their legal education, well noticed, received and supported by future employers such as international law firms and companies. Three of the leading German and international law firms - Clifford Chance, Gleiss Lutz and Latham & Watkins LLP - chose explicitly to support the students especially for their semester abroad, awarding fellowships for the study abroad period.

In addition, the mandatory study abroad term has become one of the most important reasons students name in choosing Bucerius Law School for their legal education.

II Internationalization at Bucerius Law School

1. Mandatory semester abroad for Bucerius Students

As described above, Bucerius students spend a mandatory semester abroad after two years of study. Each fall trimester, the third-year Bucerius students go on their semester abroad. They are able to choose from 79 partner institutions in 26 countries.

2. International Students

Each fall from September to December, when one class of Bucerius students spends a semester abroad, Bucerius Law School organizes the *Program in International and Comparative Business Law* for students from our partner law schools. The so called International Program is taught in English and is open mainly to second and third year law students from our partner institutions. This program is tailored primarily to law students wishing to broaden and extend their understanding of the forces shaping international business law, as well as gain insights into the day-to-day practice of international commercial law from experienced professionals working in the field.

Realized for the first time in 2002, the Bucerius International Program offers students from our partner law schools a unique opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of German, European, international, and comparative business law. Each fall, approximately 75 students from our 79 partner institutions all over the world come to study in Hamburg, making the program itself an exercise in internationalism and exchange of legal and cultural perspectives from different countries. About half of our partner law schools are located in the US. Among them are 13 of the 20 best ranked US-law schools such as Columbia Law School, Georgetown Law Center, Cornell Law School, University of Michigan, NYU, Duke University, Emory University, Northwestern University, University of Texas, University of Pennsylvania, University of Virginia, Boston University, University of Minnesota.

Bucerius Law School is inspected by the American Bar Association and the exchange program of our American partner law schools with Bucerius Law School is approved by the (ABA).

Through the exchange program, Bucerius students, along with our guest students participating in the International Program, are able to build up a strong international network during the course of their studies. With more than 350 former international students this network has grown to become a professional asset.

3. The International Program's Curriculum

The curriculum of the International Program is carefully designed to fit the needs of our international students. Courses offered include (among others): The Law of the WTO, The Law of the European Union, European Contract Law, Mergers & Acquisitions, Comparative Intellectual Property, Comparative Tort Law, Comparative Constitutional Law, International Commercial Transactions, International Commercial Arbitration, Ethics and the Law and our mandatory German Law Survey Course. Moreover, Bucerius' American partner universities are able to confer ABA credits for courses taken in the International Program.

4. Looking Into The Future: New perspectives

Our young school has sparked attention not only in Germany but also in the US and China. The first three Bucerius cohorts have excelled in the German State Examination, the German Bar Exam. These results have increased the school's reputation considerably on the national and international level. Furthermore, more than 350 international students have taken part in the International Exchange Program. This has increased the international awareness of Bucerius Law School as being a successful way of improving German legal education. Consequently, the demand from law schools and faculties around the world to engage in a partnership with Bucerius has strongly increased. Bucerius Law School is proud to have become a sought-after partner law school around the world, especially taking into consideration the short time since Bucerius' establishment. Bucerius Law School carefully selects its partner institutions based on the academic curriculum offered.

III. Our Global Network of Partner Institutions

USA

American University (Washington, D.C.)
Boston College School of Law (Boston, MA)
Boston University (Boston, MA)
Brooklyn Law School (Brooklyn, NY)
Cardozo School of Law (New York, NY)
Chicago-Kent College of Law (Chicago, IL)
Columbia Law School (New York, NY)
Cornell Law School (Ithaca, NY)
Duke Law (Durham, NC)
Emory University School of Law (Atlanta, GA)
Fordham Law School (New York, NY)
Georgetown University (Washington, DC)
Indiana University School of Law (Bloomington, IN)
New York University
Northwestern University (Chicago, IL)
Santa Clara University (Santa Clara, CA)
Seattle University (Seattle, WA)
Tulane University (New Orleans, LA)
University of California Hastings College of the Law (San Francisco, CA)
The University of Iowa College of Law (Iowa City, IA)
University of Maryland

University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)
University of Minnesota (Minnesota, MN)
University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law (Sacramento, CA)
University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, PA)
University of Texas at Austin (Austin, TX)
University of Virginia (Charlottesville, VA)
Washington & Lee University (Lexington, VA)
Willamette University (Salem, OR)

Canada

Dalhousie University (Halifax, Nova Scotia)
Universite Laval
York University, Osgoode Hall Law School (Toronto)

United Kingdom

University of Edinburgh
University of Exeter
Norwich Law School, University of East Anglia
Queen Mary, University of London
University of Sheffield
Cambridge University - Gonville & Caius College
Cambridge University - Queens' College
Cambridge University - Trinity College
Oxford University - Brasenose College

France

Université de Bourgogne (Dijon)
Université de Paris 1 - Panthéon-Sorbonne
Université de Montesquieu-Bordeaux 4 (Pessac)
Université Lumière - Lyon 2 (Lyon)

The Netherlands

Universiteit Maastricht
Katholieke Universiteit Nijmegen
Universiteit Utrecht

Spain

ESADE (Barcelona)
Universidad Cardenal Herrera (Valencia)
Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Universidad de Salamanca

Argentina

Universidad Torcuato di Tella (Buenos Aires)

Universidad de Buenos Aires

Australia

University of Queensland

University of Sydney

China

Fudan University

University of Hong Kong

Italy

LUISS Guido Carli - Roma

Universia degli Studi di Foggia

Other countries

Haifa University (Israel)

Tel Aviv University (Israel)

National Law School of India University (India)

Victoria University Wellington (New Zealand)

Universidad Peruana de Ciencias aplicadas (Peru)

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (Mexico)

Universidad de los Andes (Colombia)

Fundacao Amando Alvares Penteado (Sao Paulo)

St. Petersburg State University (Russia)

National University of Singapore

Hanyang University (South Korea)

University of Cape Town (South Africa)

Stellenbosch University (South Africa)

Lund University (Sweden)

University of Athens (Greece)

Ghent University (Belgium)

Universitaet St. Gallen (Switzerland)

Istanbul Bilgi University (Turkey)

Waseda Law School (Japan)