



Master of Laws

in European and Comparative Law



Ghent University - Ghent - Flanders - Belgium

European Law in the Heart of Europe

Ghent

Ghent is a splendid historic and student city of about 350,000 inhabitants. It has a unique medieval centre but also prides itself on a vibrant economic and cultural life. It is located in the centre of the Flemish region, a largely autonomous region of Belgium. It is only half an hour away by train from the European decision making centres in Brussels.

Ghent University

Ghent University is one of the leading institutions of higher education and research in Belgium. It is an open pluralistic university operating within a broad international perspective. It offers high-quality, research-based education in all academic disciplines.

The official language for undergraduate teaching is Dutch; a number of graduate programmes are in English. Today the University has a staff of ± 900 professors who teach and supervise over 26,000 students and are engaged in research, together with about 2700 researchers. Ghent University is an active participant in international cooperation with respect to teaching and research within the context of bilateral and multilateral exchange programmes with universities from all continents. It has a large foreign student population, both from inside and outside the EU.

Ghent University Law School

The Law School is located in the historic centre of the city of Ghent. While occupying a number of historic buildings from the seventeenth and nineteenth centuries, it has modern teaching facilities including excellent libraries on domestic, foreign, European and international law, and well-equipped computer facilities. It presently offers professional degrees in law, criminology and notarial practice as well as postgraduate programmes in European law, the Economic analysis of law, business law, environmental law, port and maritime sciences and criminology. The official teaching language is Dutch, except for three English language postgraduate programmes, i.e. the Master programmes on the Economic Analysis of law, European Criminology and Criminal Justice Systems and the programme on European and Comparative Law.

The faculty consists of 59 professors and 96 researchers who in addition to teaching, are also extensively engaged in research and writing. Many of its members have an international reputation in their field of specialisation, participate in national and international research projects, are leading practitioners or are involved in government and policy making. In the LLM programme, several leading foreign professors with an international reputation reinforce the faculty for specific courses.

With a student population which exceeds 3400 students, it is presently the largest law school in Flanders and in Belgium. Many of its alumni play a prominent role within the legal system as government officials, judges, members of domestic and international law firms or as law professors at other Belgian and foreign universities. Presently, the Belgian Prime Minister and other prominent ministers of the Belgian federal government are Ghent Law School alumni, and so are members of the Court of Cassation, the Constitutional Court and the Council of State.



The programme

The LLM Programme in European and Comparative law is an advanced academic programme dedicated to the study of the legal environment of economic activity within the European Union. It is devoted to both European Union law and domestic law of the Member States of particular interest to them. It addresses itself to students who have obtained a law degree qualifying them for legal practice (or for the further training required to access it) and who thus master skills of legal research and argumentation. It is an international programme which welcomes graduate students from both EU and non EU-countries, with different native languages, different prior exposure to European law and different scientific interests and professional goals. It aims at combining academic excellence with practical relevance of its teaching.

The curriculum

The participants have the possibility of choosing their curriculum according to their personal interests. Three courses are compulsory, one of which is the Foreign Chair, alternating annually. The latter consists of an introduction to an important non-European legal system. The remaining courses can be chosen from a large list of courses that cater both to students with or without a background in European law.

Teaching is generally done interactively, requiring advance reading in preparation of the classes. Students are also required and guided to write an extensive LLM paper.

The academic year

The programme is divided into two semesters. The first semester starts mid September, and ends early February; the second semester begins mid February and ends early July. Most courses comprise 30 or 45 hours, or 3 hours per week per semester. Exams follow at the end of each semester.

Admission

Applicants who want to follow the programme with a view of obtaining an LLM degree should have a degree in law from their home country which gives general access to the exercise of legal professions (licentiaat, licencié, B.A., J.D.,...). As all classes are taught in English, non-native English speakers should give proof of a sufficient command of English. Non-native speakers from countries outside the EU must have passed the TOEFL test (at least 600 points for the paper TOEFL, 250 for the computer based test, 100 for internet TOEFL) or the IELTS test offered by the British Council (at least 6.0). Non-native speakers from EU countries may also elect to pass a test at the Ghent University Language Centre. Only a limited number of participants are admitted. The Application Board will select the applicants based on academic and/or professional merit. A number of exchange students from law schools with which Ghent University Law School has exchange agreements may also be admitted to one or more courses from the programme.

Tuition fee

The tuition fee is 4,250 EUR. This fee does not cover the personal expenses related to course materials or to specific events organised for the LLM students (e.g. visit to European institutions). A limited number of partial or full waivers of tuition may be granted, depending on the financial needs of the applicants. Ghent University Law School itself does not award financial aid for studying or living expenses but will provide further information on scholarship possibilities outside the University upon request or following application.

Deadline for applications: May 1. As a first selection round takes place in February; we welcome complete applications well in advance of the deadline.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about studying at Ghent University Law School and the LLM programme on Law in Europe in a comparative perspective, see <http://www.law.UGent.be/llm> ■ For further information about studying in Ghent and admission to Ghent University in general, see <http://www.ugent.be/en/prospectstud/regular/application.htm>
■ Further information can be obtained by sending the enclosed card to, International Relations Office, Universiteitstraat 4, 9000 Gent, Belgium
■ Further information can be obtained from Veronique.Christophe@UGent.be

List of courses

European Law

- European Institutional Law
- Law of the Internal Market
- Competition Law
- The Legal Framework of International Trade: EC and WTO
- Judicial Enforcement of EU Law
- External Relations of the EU
- EU Enlargement
- EU Neighbourhood Policy

Human rights Law

- Human Rights in Europe
- European and Comparative Discrimination Law

Private Law in general

- Economic Analysis of European Private Law

Tort and Contract Law

- Comparative Tort Law
- Comparative Contract Law

Procedural Law

- International and Comparative Civil Procedure in Europe
- International Commercial Arbitration

Commercial and Financial Law

- Comparative and European Company Law
- Comparative Corporate Governance
- Legal Aspects of Mergers and Acquisitions
- Comparative Private Banking Law
- International Commercial Transactions
- European Banking and Capital Market Law

Social Law

- International and European Labour and Employment Law
- International and European Social Security Law

Intellectual Property law

- Comparative Intellectual Property Law
- Transfrontier Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and International Licensing Agreements

Environmental Law

- European and Comparative Environmental Law
- International and European Biodiversity Law
- Comparative Environmental Liability Law
- International and European Environmental law

Transport Law

- Transport Law
- Maritime Transport Law
- Transport Insurance Law

Public International Law

- Contemporary Issues of Public International Law
- Law of the Sea

Media Law

- Comparative Media Law

Criminal Law and Criminology

- European Criminal Justice Systems
- European Criminal Policy
- Penal Systems in Europe
- Organised Crime in Europe
- Comparative Methodology in European Criminology

Compulsory Courses

- Globalisation and the Law (Foreign Chair)
- Skills for Lawyers
- European and Belgian law: the Basics
 - a) EU law: the Basics (compulsory for students who have not yet followed substantial EU Law courses)
 - b) Belgian law: the Basics (compulsory for students without a Belgian law degree)
- Comparative Law in a European Perspective

Please send me further information on the **LLM program in European and Comparative Law**.



Master of Laws Programme in European and Comparative Law

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