



LAW
GRADUATE UNIVERSITY
STUDY PROGRAMME CURRICULUM

Mostar, April 2023

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1. INTRODUCTION

The curriculum of an graduate university study programme Law is the result of the regular review process, which began with the Decision of the Senate at the session held on 26 February 2022 (No. 01-993-1 / 22). The regular revision procedure was carried out according to the *Rulebook on the procedure of adopting new and revisions of existing study programmes* (No. 01-993-1 / 22). It stipulates that the Committee coordinates a revised curriculum. The Committee also includes student representatives and external users, and the scientific-teaching/artistic-teaching council of the organizational unit submits their proposal to the University Senate for adoption.

In order to involve all stakeholders in the process of improving the study programme, a public hearing was held on 5. 4. 2023.

The conclusions of the public debate were taken into account during the development of the curriculum.

In addition to the conclusions of the public debate, the recommendations of the Expert Committee from the last institutional accreditation in 2020 were taken into account. The recommendations include practical work outside the University (where applicable), application of legal and internal acts on the minimum share of pre-examination obligations in the final grade of all courses, and the application of modern teaching methods with the student at the centre of the teaching process.

Also, during the development of the curriculum, all strategic tasks in the strategic area of education from the *University Development Strategy 2018. – 2023.*, which relate to the curriculum and teaching process, were carried out (more in the chapter "3.1. Link to the University Development Strategy").

In addition, when making decisions on the type of changes, all relevant statistical data and survey results collected and conducted in the period since the last revision/adoption of the study programme were analysed.

Taking into account all the above, the following changes have been made in this revised curriculum in comparison to the existing one:

- existing two separate modules were combined into one unique curriculum;
- the number of compulsory subjects was increased by one per semester, and a larger number of elective subjects were introduced, which enable students to acquire specialized knowledge in narrower legal fields of their choice;
- equalization of ECTS credits in accordance with the workload of students;
- modernized the names, contents and literature of individual courses.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE STUDY PROGRAMME

Study programme:	Law
Cycle:	2nd (graduate)
Type:	University study programme
Scientific area:	Social Sciences
Scientific field:	Law
Academic title:	Master of Law
EQF qualification level:	7
Duration of the study programme:	1 year
ECTS:	60 ECTS
Language:	Croatian
Mode of study:	full-time and part-time
Awarding institution:	University of Mostar
Institution administering study programme:	University of Mostar, Faculty of Law
Study programme objectives:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Education of law students in accordance with the Bologna process and global standards for the education of lawyers. - To enable students to acquire knowledge about methods and theories of law in various legal branches. - Train students for independent research work and application of acquired knowledge and skills in practical dealing with complex issues of the legal profession.
Study programme competencies:	<p>Master of Laws will be equipped with knowledge and skills that are very necessary for highly professional performance of complex legal tasks in the judiciary, state administration, local self-government, economy and other social services.</p> <p>Specific competences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) mastering the appropriate methods and techniques of legal practice for the independent performance of complex legal tasks in the judiciary, lawyers, defence attorneys, notaries, ombudsman institutions, state administration (government agencies and companies, pension funds, etc.), local and regional self-government, diplomatic and consular services, companies, trade unions, various social associations and other legal entities that require highly qualified legal experts in their work; b) independent management of administrative proceedings and processing of all legal acts and performance of other complex legal tasks in the bodies of state administration, local and regional self-government; c) legal assistance to parties, assistance to courts and other bodies in all legal matters.

	Employment opportunities exist in all public and private institutions that deal directly or indirectly with complex legal issues that require high expertise and professionalism.
Study programme learning outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Propose multiple models for solving complex legal problems while highlighting legal and factual arguments in their favour (IU-PFPM-1). - Analyse existing legal protection and aspects of legal regulation (IU-PFPM-2). - Apply legal terminology during written/oral expression (IU-PFPM-3). - Critically evaluate the procedures for exercising certain rights (IU-PFPM-4). - Assess the quality of national regulation and its compliance with European law (IU-PFPM-5). - Assess the direction of development of the legal system (IU-PFPM-6). - Analyse the degree of protection of individual human rights (IU-PFPM-7). - Determine the effect of political relations on the process of creating rights (IU-PFPM-8). - Develop the ability of alternative dispute resolution (IU-PFPM-9). - Conduct legal research (IU-PFPM-10).
Opportunities after graduation:	Possibilities of continuing related studies in the 3rd cycle.
Accreditation:	The University of Mostar received a Decision on Institutional Reaccreditation on 14 January 2020 from the competent Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the HNŽ on the recommendation of the Agency for Development of Higher Education and Quality Assurance of BiH, after which the University was registered in the State Register of Accredited Higher Education Institutions.

3. BASIC CHARACTERISTICS OF THE STUDY PROGRAMME

3.1. Connection with the Development strategy of the University of Mostar

In the *Development Strategy of the University of Mostar 2018 - 2023* in the strategic field of education, several strategic goals are related to the curriculum and its elements.

Objective 1 defines that the University, in cooperation with stakeholders, will develop, approve, implement and continuously monitor and improve study programmes at all levels. The following tasks arise from clearly defined learning outcomes related to labour market needs, following the European Qualifications Framework (EQF):

- Task 1: clearly define the objectives and anticipated learning outcomes of each study programme and harmonize the content of the study programme with them, following the appropriate level of the European Qualifications Framework and the qualification standard
- Task 2: Introduce a transparent and consistent process of revision and improvement of study programmes with the participation of students and other stakeholders
- Task 5: ensure realistic allocation of ECTS credits, through a defined system of ECTS coordination at all study levels
- Task 6: improve the interdisciplinarity of all study programmes by enabling elective courses at the university level.

Objective 3 refers to the development of a wide network of teaching bases, including organizations from different fields of activity, to establish cooperation that will enable the connection of practice, science, art, and higher education. The following tasks arise from it:

- Task 2: increase the number of hours and the share of teaching practice in the study programmes and the share of ECTS credits acquired by it
- Task 3: increase the number of bachelor/master papers related to the topic and content.

3.2. Compliance with the achievements of a certain scientific/artistic area and labour market and connection with the standards of occupations/qualifications

Objectives, competencies, and learning outcomes at the level of the study programme are defined in a way that is in line with the achievements of a particular scientific/artistic area and labour market and related to the standards of occupations/qualifications. To harmonize with the achievements of the scientific/artistic area, the representatives of teachers in the Committee for the development of the revised curriculum and other teachers who participated in the development of syllabi for each course took into account current achievements and trends in the scientific field of social sciences, in the area of law, branches of the theory of law and the state, the history of the state and law, civil law, criminal law, constitutional law, administrative law, family law, labor and social law, financial law, criminal procedural law, civil procedural law, commercial law and company law, international public law, international private law, and other branches of law.

Also, student representatives and external users were appointed to the Committee for the development of the revised curriculum to harmonize with the labour market. Public hearing was organized with the participation of experts from practice and economics (judiciary, legal profession, police agencies), and their suggestions were taken into account in the development of the curriculum. Since no occupational standard or qualification standard has been defined at any level in BiH, the following documents have been taken into account:

- Decision on the standard classification of occupations in the FBiH (Official Gazette of the FBiH, Vol. XI, No. 40, No. 8, 2004), which lists occupations under the category "Gender 2. Experts and Scientists" states occupation 242 Legal professionals: 2421 legal representatives, 2422 judges, 2429 legal experts not elsewhere classified.

In addition to the above document, the following documents were also considered:

- Rulebook on the classification of scientific areas, fields and branches
- <https://www.sum.ba/sum/dokumenti/dokumenti-SUM>

Jobs/competencies/learning outcomes from all the above documents are implemented in the competencies and learning outcomes at the level of the study programme listed in chapter "2. General information about the study programme". They are realised in core courses, in order to ensure that all students achieve them with the acquired qualification. The coverage of these learning outcomes at the level of the study programme with the learning outcomes at the level of core courses is presented in the chapter "3.12. Matrix of learning outcomes".

3.3. Comparability with the study programmes in the country and abroad

The curriculum is comparable to the:

- study programmes in B&H: at the University of Sarajevo, the University of Banja Luka and the University of Tuzla.
- study programmes abroad: at the University of Zagreb, University of Split, University of Belgrade, University of Podgorica, University of Maribor

Comparability is reflected exclusively in the competencies and learning outcomes at the level of study programmes and in the duration of studies (with the difference of law faculties in the Republic of Croatia and others that have an integrated study of Law), while the study programme retains its specifics mainly through the structure, course names, and ECTS credits.

3.4. Openness to student mobility

Student mobility is defined by the *Rulebook on international mobility*, which refers to administrative support for students, student mobility documents, insurance, method of application, the procedure for recognizing mobility and information package. The unique recognition methodology is defined at the university level by the Senate Decision on the adoption of a single form for the *Decision on recognition of courses, ECTS credits, grades, and professional practice during student mobility*, which is recorded in the diploma supplement. Students can find information on mobility programmes and accompanying forms on the University's website and through the vice dean for scientific research and international cooperation, that forwards information from the International Relations Office to student representatives.

3.5. Conditions for enrolment in the study programme and transfer from other study programmes

The *Rulebook on study of the University of Mostar* defines the right to enrol in undergraduate, graduate, and integrated study programmes, which is done through a public competition. The Senate, at the proposal of the scientific-teaching / artistic-teaching council of the organizational unit, and with

the consent of the Governing Board of the University and the competent Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of HNŽ, announces a public tender. It is published on the website and bulletin board Faculty of Law, which contains information on the conditions for enrolment, entrance examination, tuition fees, criteria for selecting candidates, and other information.

Graduate studies in Law can be enrolled by persons who have completed undergraduate studies in Law with 240 ECTS credits.

When transferring from other study programmes, a request is submitted to the dean of Faculty of Law, and the appropriate committee decides on the possibilities and conditions for enrolment

The dean makes decisions on the recognition of exams based on the opinion of the aforementioned committee.

3.6. Conditions for enrolment in the next semester and year of study and graduation

Conditions for enrolment in the next semester and higher year of study are defined by the *Rulebook on study* of the University of Mostar and the Decisions of the Scientific and Teaching Council of the Faculty of Law on enrollment conditions.

The study programme ends with writing and defending a Master's thesis that carries 6 ECTS credits.

The manner and procedure of defending the Master's thesis and the methodology of its preparation are defined in the Decision of the Scientific and Teaching Council of the Faculty of Law on the creation and defence of the Master's thesis.

3.7. Organization of study programme

The study programme is organized through two semesters in the academic year, and classes are conducted according to the schedule of classes through weeks.

The syllabus of each course defines the amount and type of classes that part-time students are required to attend and alternatively, the workload for the part of classes that they are not required to attend.

Also, the syllabus of each course defines the maximum number of hours of online teaching according to the type of teaching.

3.8. Structure of the study programme

The structure of the study programme is reflected in the number of hours of each type of teaching and teaching in total, the number of hours of practice, and the number of hours of independent student work in the total student workload of 60 ECTS credits, or $60 \times 30 = 1800$ hours of work.

According to the *Rulebook on the procedure for adopting new and revisions of existing study programmes* (No. 01-993-1/22), only core courses are listed in the curriculum, while electives are adopted in the annual study programme for each academic year. Therefore, the table will show the number of hours of each type of teaching and teaching in total, the number of hours of practice, and the number of hours of independent work only in core courses. In relation to the total number of ECTS credits, a sum of ECTS credits acquired in elective courses is 9, and the student can choose a total of 8 elective courses.

Besides core and elective courses at the level of the study programme and at the level of Faculty of Law, i.e., in addition to 30 ECTS credits per semester, a student can choose university elective courses from the list adopted by the Senate each academic year, which are recorded in diploma supplement. The purpose of elective courses at the study programme level is a more detailed elaboration of learning outcomes already acquired in core courses but following student preferences. The purpose of university elective courses is to acquire competencies not provided by the study programme, but that can help students achieve competitiveness in the market and contribute to building one's personality through education.

Structure of the study programme including certain types of teaching, practice and independent work

Year of study:1									
Winter semester									
Course code	Course title	Hours of teaching			I. Teaching, in total	II. Hours of practice	III. Independent work	Workload hours, in total (I.+II.+III.)	ECTS
		l	t	S					
PFPM101	The Right of Consumer Protection	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	5
PFPM102	European Administrative Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	5
PFPM103	International and European Tax Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	5
PFPM104	Bankruptcy Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	5
PFPM105	Theoretical Challenges of Civil Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	5
In total		225	75	0	300	0	450	750	25
ECTS for core courses									25
ECTS for elective courses									5
ECTS IN TOTAL									30

Year of study:1									
Summer semester									
Course code	Course title	Hours of teaching			I. Teaching, in total	II. Hours of practice	III. Independent work	Workload hours, in total (I.+II.+III.)	ECTS
		l	t	S					
PFPM206	Political History of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia in the 19th Century	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	4
PFPM207	International Humanitarian Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	4
PFPM208	European Labour and Social Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	4
PFPM209	Arbitration Law	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	4
PFPM210	Political Systems	45	15	0	60	0	90	150	4
	Master's Thesis	0	0	0	0	0	180	180	6
In total		225	75	0	300	0	450	750	26
ECTS for core courses									26
ECTS for elective courses									4
ECTS IN TOTAL									30

3.9. The optimal number of enrolled students concerning space, equipment, and number of teachers

Enrolment quotas before the beginning of each academic year are adopted by the Governing Board of the University, at the proposal of the Senate, and with the consent of the competent ministry.

Students can study as full-time or part-time students. Full-time students are those who study according to the programme with a full teaching schedule. Full-time students pay their costs by themselves. Part-time students are students who attend the study programme in addition to work or other activities.

3.10. Resources required to conduct the study programme

Teachers from the University and teachers from reference higher education institutions in academic ranks from the relevant scientific area, field, and branch participate in the implementation of the study programme. Data on the structure of teaching staff by rank and education, gender and age structure, scientific research productivity, mobility, and project activities of teaching staff are regularly monitored through the bodies from the quality assurance system. These data are processed at the level of the study programme and organizational unit, and are published in annual reports.

Regarding the physical resources for conducting study programs, the Faculty of Law has classrooms with modern audio-visual equipment, classrooms equipped with multimedia equipment, classrooms with interactive projectors, IT equipment, a library equipped with computers and Internet access for independent research and study. In the building of the Faculty of Law there is also a special classroom equipped as a modern courtroom for conducting simulated trials and other practical exercises in the field of law. The Faculty of Law has sufficient modern equipment to ensure optimal conditions for carrying out the proposed study program

3.11. Study programme quality assurance system

The purpose, goal, structure, operation and areas of evaluation of the quality assurance system of the University of Mostar are defined by the *Rulebook on the structure and operation of the quality assurance system of the University of Mostar*.

According to the *Rulebook*, the quality assurance system at the University of Mostar consists of permanent bodies of the quality assurance system at the university level: the Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee and the Quality Assurance and Improvement Office. The Faculty of Law is operated by the Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee, which consists of the Vice-Dean for Academic Affairs, the Quality Coordinator, the representative of the teaching staff, the student representative, and the representative of the administrative and technical staff. The Quality Coordinator of Faculty of Law is also a member of the Quality Assurance and Improvement Committee. The *Rulebook* defines the competencies and activities of each body from the quality assurance system. Bodies from the quality assurance system carry out regular activities defined by the *University Quality Assurance Manual at the University of Mostar*, which relate to conducting surveys and monitoring and data processing. Based on the implemented activities, annual reports are prepared at the level of the study programme, organizational unit, and the University.

3.12. Matrix of learning outcomes

IU-study programe	IU- PFPM- 1	IU- PFPM- 2	IU- PFPM- 3	IU- PFPM- 4	IU- PFPM- 5	IU- PFPM- 6	IU- PFPM- 7	IU- PFPM- 8	IU- PFPM- 9	IU- PFPM- 10
IU-course										
PFPM101		x		x	x					x
PFPM102		x		x	x	x				
PFPM103										
PFPM104	x	x	x	x	x					x
PFPM105		x	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
PFPM206	x					x		x		
PFPM207		x				x	x	x		
PFPM208		x			x	x	x		x	
PFPM209										
PFPM210	x							x		
PFPM211	x	x	x							x

4. STUDY PLAN

Year of study: 1.							
Winter semester							
Course code	Course title	Course status	Teaching hours			Hours of practice	ECTS
			l	t	s		
PFPM101	The Right of Consumer Protection	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM102	European Administrative Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM103	International and European Tax Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM104	Bankruptcy Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM105	Theoretical Challenges of Civil Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
ECTS for core courses							25
ECTS for elective courses							5
ECTS IN TOTAL							30

Year of study: 1.							
Summer semester							
Course code	Course title	Course status	Teaching hours			Hours of practice	ECTS
			l	T	s		
PFPM206	Political History of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia in the 19th Century	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM207	International Humanitarian Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM208	European Labour and Social Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM209	Arbitration Law	core	45	15	0	0	5
PFPM210	Political Systems	core	45	15	0	0	5
	Master's Thesis	core	0	0	0	0	6
ECTS for core courses							26
ECTS for elective courses							4
ECTS IN TOTAL							30