

# Program Description for the Master of Laws(LLM)

# University of the Faroe Islands (Fróðskaparsetur Føroya)

# **Commencing autumn semester 2023**

Foreword to students by the Study Board

Dear students

The program description contains the rules and regulations for your program. It is therefore of great importance that you read and understand the program description. Along with course descriptions and the overall rules and regulations of the University of the Faroe Islands, the curriculum is an important tool at your disposal. That way you will know your rights and your obligations.

According to the regulations for the Study Board, the board receives the proposed program from the Program Leader for consideration and approval after the Program Leader has heard and received responses from relevant parties. When the proposal has been considered by the Study Board and the board is assured that relevant parties have been heard, the Study Board approves the curriculum and passes it to the Dean for implementation.

The Study Board is responsible for ensuring that the different parts of the program are coherent. Furthermore, amendments of individual courses or subject areas should be limited so they still fit with the purpose of the program. The board must further ensure that teaching and examination requirements are appropriate for the purpose of the program.

This program description has been approved By the Study Board of the Faculty of History and Social Sciences (date inserted)

On behalf of the Study Board

Tróndur Møller Sandoy, Assistant professor, chairman

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# 1. Introduction

On the basis of a gradual development founded on individual courses being offered from around the year 2000 and onwards, the establishment in the fall of 2013 of a MA in Law (Master of Arts in Law), the Faculty of History and Social Science introduced a master-level professional degree program in law (Master of Laws; LLM) in the autumn of 2022. This new master's degree was designed to follow completion of a bachelor's program in law (Bachelor of Law; BL) that was launched in 2019. According to a decision made by on the 14th of March 2022, the Danish Ministry of Justice determined that the LLM, if completed on top of a recognized bachelor-level degree in law (such as the BL) would entitle its holder to enjoy all of the rights and privileges accorded to the holder of a Danish five-year bachelor-master level degree sequence in law and would constitute the necessary academic credential required to practice law in the Faroe Islands and in Denmark.

This document contains the program description for the Master of Laws. The program description is authorized in accordance with Act of Faroese Parliament No. 58 from 9th of June 2008 on the University of the Faroe Islands, and Administrative Regulation No. 97 from 17th of June 2021 on educational programs at the University of the Faroe Islands.

The program description contains provisions on the content of the law program, rules and procedures for how the different courses are to be carried out, and provisions pertaining to the student's rights and duties. The program description does not contain full course descriptions for individual courses, nor the general rules and regulations of the University. These are to be found on the University's website.

The program is under the general jurisdiction of the Study Board of the Faculty of History and Social Sciences which reports to the Dean.

# 2. Degree title

Upon completion of the program, graduates will be awarded the degree entitled *Embætisprógv i lóg* (abbreviated *Emb.L.*) that carries the English language title *Master of Laws* (abbreviated *LLM*).

# 3. Cycle/Level

"2nd Cycle" according to the QF-EHEA, and level 7 according to the EQF-LLL.

# 4. ECTS credits

The LLM consists of 120 ECTS credits, of which 100 credits are awarded for successfully completed course work and 20 credits for completion of a Master's thesis.

1 ECTS amounts to 25-30 clock-hours of student work. One year of full time studies accounts for 60 ECTS credits, the equivalent of 1500-1800 hours of work. This includes all relevant academic activities.

# 5. Admission requirements

Admission to the LLM-program is offered every second year, beginning in the fall semester of 2022. Intake is limited to a maximum of 20 students.

Admission to the program is conditioned upon applicants having completed a bachelor-level degree in law from a recognized University in the Kingdom of Denmark.

Students who have been awarded the BL degree from the University of the Faroe Islands are given first priority for admission to the LLM and will be granted access on the condition that they have passed their bachelor studies.

In addition, applicants from other universities in the Kingdom of Denmark can be admitted. Requirement for admission is good competences in the Faroese, Danish and English languages. In addition to certification of their bachelor's degrees in law and their academic record (and such further relevant documents as may be required), these applicants must also submit a motivation letter of 1 (minimum) to 2 (maximum) A4 pages explaining their reasons for applying for this program. Applicants with this background must also attend a 6-hour entrance exam and may, in addition, be called in for a personal interview. (These are the same requirements that applicants for bachelor studies in law at the University of the Faroe Islands must meet.) The purpose of these requirements and processes is to offer the limited number of study places to applicants that have the necessary competence to complete LLM-studies on time and to flourish in the program.

As the LLM certificate attests to the student having completed a Faroese legal education, and as the studies build upon a foundation that other students have acquired during their BL studies at the University of the Faroe Islands that include a number of signature courses, applicants with bachelor degrees from other universities may be asked to meet additional requirements. Such requirements will depend upon the composition of their bachelor's degree and may result in applicants, once admitted, being required to take certain additional obligatory courses that BL students have already taken. These requirements will be assessed on a case-to-case basis, very much dependent upon the applicant's academic background.

#### 6. Purpose

The purpose of this program is to provide, in the Faroe Islands, the full legal education constituting the academic qualification required to practice law in the Faroe Islands and in Denmark. Currently within the Kingdom of Denmark this is a five-year legal education that, in conformity with the Bologna process, divides into three years of study at the bachelor's level and two years of study at the master's level.

The program strikes a balance between two approaches that often have been seen as opposites. This is the balance between on the one side seeing legal education as the teaching of legal doctrine and practical knowledge of the law, and on the other hand a more prudential vision of legal education as the education of academics and advisors to policymakers and statesmen, in short cultivation of the intellect with law at the center of attention. This program does not excessively favor any one side in this balance, as both approaches must be considered important for the development of competent lawyers and jurists. It is fair, however, to say that the cultivation of the intellect has gotten a higher priority than usually in law programs in this part of the World. In addition to philosophical conviction, this follows from a reflection upon what kind of lawyer is best suited for a small polity with scarcity of human resources and finding itself in a transitional phase. Thus, theoretical courses are given a relatively high priority for the purpose of developing an independent and creative jurist for the different professional roles related to governance, administration and legal counselling in the Faroese social and political context.

From a pedagogical perspective the above-mentioned objective is sought by a higher emphasis than usual on the learning of skills rather than one-sided focus on knowledge and competences. The same is the case with the dominant emphasis on student centered learning and multiple items approach to examinations and assessments.

The program thus aims at a high-quality legal education, including courses and subject areas commonly recognized as essential to professional legal education but within a curriculum adapted to the Faroese context, with most teaching in Faroese, special attention to matters of law and governance in a small polity, and supported by the development of Faroese teaching materials and the development of Faroese as a legal language.

In addition, the degree programs on law (BL, MA, and LLM) open some basic law teaching to the interested general public, for the continuing education and professional enhancement of those working in legal services or public administration who are not enrolled in any of the degree programs, and service courses for other programs within the university (such as history, political science, and public health).

#### 7. Generic and subject specific competences

Figure 1. Description of generic and subject specific competences

Generic Competences					
Analytical thinking	Ability for abstract and analytical thinking, and synthesis of ideas.				
Reflective skills	Ability to evaluate law and the legal system reflectively.				
Constructive and analytical skills	Ability to construct, analyze, and criticize legal arguments.				
Insight into own Iearning	Capacity to identify and structure one's own learning processes.				
Oral and written communication in native and foreign languages	Ability to present and formulate legal arguments well-reasoned in a clear and correct language in Faroese, English and Danish.				
Contextualiziation of	Ability to take context into account when communicating legal				
communication	information and problems to an audience of non-jurists.				
Subject Specific Competences					
Law and juridical method	Ability to understand legal method, legal thinking and the social responsibility of jurists.				
Concrete application of legal knowledge	Ability to apply the relevant and correct legal method to a concrete case.				
Counselling	Ability to offer legal advice.				
Drafting laws and other regulatory instruments	Ability to draft statutes and regulatory instruments.				
Solve legal disputes	Ability to solve concrete legal disputes, including capacity to identify relevant legal facts from a wide source of legal and factual materials.				
Working and co- operation skills	Capacity to work independently and in co-operation with others to organize and prepare legal assignments and to come up with concrete solutions to a case.				
Law in small societies	Ability to comprehend the context-specific institutional framework and the boundaries of law in small societies.				

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# 8. Complete list of program learning outcomes

# Upon completion of this program the student is able to:

• Describe the Faroese legal system and its institutions.

- Explain and assess law in general, and identify the specific challenges for legal interpretation in a small polity in interaction with a larger state-institutional arrangement.
- Explain and discuss the importance of legal theory for legal interpretation, and how different theories can justify different interpretive strategies.
- Trace back legal doctrine to its normative foundations and explain how law in a broad sense is developed and justified.
- Describe and assess the challenges a jurist faces in situations with a scarcity of law and un-coordinated law, as is often seen in small jurisdictions.
- Explain and analyze law in complex dogmatic fields.
- Analyze a legal problem in a Master's level (LLM) thesis.

# 9. General provisions concerning the program

#### 9.1 Structure

The program has a 2-year duration and consists of 120 ECTS credits. Each academic year is divided into two semesters, 30 ECTS credits each. Altogether there are four semesters. Most courses give 10 ECTS credits, but in certain cases courses may count for a greater or smaller number of credits. However, the total number of ECTS credits for each semester will in all cases add up to 30.

The courses on the program are divided into three main categories:

- 1) dogmatic public law courses;
- 2) dogmatic private law courses;
- 3) methodological courses.

The four semesters are organised as follows:

1st semester: Obligatory courses are: Tax Law and Legisprudence (the theory and practice of legislation). In addition the students must choose an elective course from a specified list (bound option).

2nd semester: Obligatory courses are EU-Law and Private International Law. Students are again required to choose an elective course from a specified list (bound option).

3rd semester: Meaning and doctrine, and the first part of the master's thesis are obligatory components. In addition, students are required to select one optional course from a specified list (bound option).

4th semester: Faroese Constitutional Law II, and second part of the master's thesis are obligatory. In addition, students are required to select an elective course.

Availability of optional courses is limited due to the limited number of students. However, the number of electives will always exceed by at least one course (10 ECTS) the number of courses the students need to choose.

A Master's thesis (LLM-thesis that counts for 20 ECTS credits) is required for the degree. Students may choose their own topics, but the topic must be approved by the beginning of the third semester. Students must, in their theses, demonstrate a high level of knowledge and comprehension of law and jurisprudence, and of relevant academic skills. The thesis is to be submitted in two parts, the first at the end of the third semester, and the second at the end of the fourth semester. Details are to be found in section 9.4, below, in the course description and course catalog, both accessible on the University web site.

Figure 2. Order of progression

Semesters						
1.	Tax Law 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	Legisprudence 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	10 ECTS (Bound option)			
2.	Private International Law 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	EU-Law 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	10 ECTS (Bound option)			
3.	Meaning and Doctrine 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	LLM-thesis, first part 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	10 ECTS (Bound option)			
4.	Faroese Constitutional Law II 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	LLM-thesis, second part 10 ECTS (Obligatory)	10 ECTS (Bound option)			
Total ECTS	120					

#### 9.2 Content and progression.

The content of the courses in the program are described in detail in the course descriptions, syllabi, and reading lists that are available under the program on the University's website.

The course descriptions and the Course Catalog specify further details.

Information about the reading list, or suggested readings, are included in the syllabus for each course. Information will also be given on textbooks and other materials (required and optional) for students.

The requirements for the progress of studies in LLM-program is less crucial than in the Bachelor's program but a certain sequence of courses, as described below, will follow from the fact that the LLM-program is a full time study with an intake every other year. Thus, the chronology is determined by the sequence the first time the program is offered.

As is described in figure 2 above, each semester requires 20 ECTS of obligatory and 10 ECTS of electives. There will usually be offered two or more electives each semester. Electives often will depend upon the availability of external teachers and requests from other faculties for service courses in particular fields, but student interest will also be consulted. This is one of the reasons that it will not be possible to issue a reliable plan of their chronology many semesters in advance.

Availability every semester of elective courses is limited due to i.a. the limited number of students. However, as a rule the number of electives will always exceed by at least one course (10 ECTS) the number of courses the student needs to choose at any time. No elective will be repeated any oftener than every forth semester in order to keep the electives available to as many students as possible. The electives will consist of courses from, but not necessarily limited to, this evolving list:

- Public Employment Law.
- Child Law.
- Consumer Law.
- Building and Planning Law.
- Finance Law.
- Fisheries Law.
- Health Law.
- Divorce Law.
- Church Law.
- Faroese Collective Labor Law.
- Faroese Municipal Law.
- Banking Law.
- Social Security Law.
- Law of the Sea.
- Bankruptcy Law.
- Insurance Law.
- Intellectual property law.
- Human Rights Law.

#### 9.2.1 Content of obligatory courses individual semesters.

#### 9.2.1.1 First semester.

The first semester has as obligatory courses Tax Law and Legisprudence.

Tax Law is a dogmatic course the purpose of which is to provide students with insight into important sources of tax law and acquire fundamental skills to assess opportunities and solutions in tax law. The content covers among other topics the sources and basic principles in tax law, how the duty of taxation is administered, personal based tax liability, including international double taxation, asset-based tax liability, and tax deduction and capital gains tax.

The course Legisprudence is a methodological course. The course makes legislation the center of scientific attention by going through the theory of legislation but also by focusing on the techniques and standards for good legislation. The background of the course is the realization that both generally, but especially in a small polity situated in a somewhat unique context with a relative scarcity of resources, it is important to cultivate methodological thinking about legislation.

#### 9.2.1.2 Second semester.

The second semester has EU-Law and Private International Law as obligatory courses.

EU-law is a primarily a dogmatic course that also touches upon certain contextual and methodological questions, such as the historical and political context behind the EU-co-operation, and the connected struggle of a new court to establish a new legal system. The main objective is, on the other hand, to give the students an insight into EU law and EU institutions with a particular emphasis on areas of EU-law that are most relevant for the Faroe Islands as a trading partner of the EU. Especially important are the four freedoms and the particular agreements entered into between the EU and the Faroe Islands.

Private International Law is a dogmatic course on matters of private law in international context. The emphasis is on classical topics as jurisdiction, choice of law, recognition and enforcement. Further, the course aims at encouraging reflections on implications of various private international law solutions and to compare solutions from various jurisdictions as a framework of critically assessing one's own. Especial emphasis will be on the general part while the special part will mainly consist in Private International Law related to family matters and contracts in the area of business law.

#### 9.2.1.3 Third semester.

In the third semester the course Meaning and Doctrine and first part of the LLM-thesis, counting for 10 ECTS of overall 20 ECTS, are obligatory.

Meaning and Doctrine is basically a course on how to get from authoritatively established – especially parliamentary laws and executive regulations – to law as applied by adjudicative institutions. In this connection, the course focuses on how to develop criteria and decisional norms to operationalize different types of legal norms and how this challenge is different in relation to different types of legal norms, unwritten norms included.

At the end of third semester the first half of the LLM-thesis must be submitted and must have achieved the mark passed.

#### 9.2.1.4 Fourth semester.

In the fourth semester the course Faroese Constitutional Law II and second part of LLM-thesis, counting for 10 ECTS each, are obligatory.

Faroese Constitutional Law II is a course that covers the part of Faroese Constitutional Law that primarily relates to the rules on the governmental apparatus. The focus is especially on the internal Faroese governmental norms to be found in the Instrument of Government Act (Stýrisskipanarlógin), while the analogous rules in the Danish constitution regulating the Danish governmental system is also covered to some extent. The course is a succession to Faroese Constitutional Law I on the BL, which covers mainly the human rights provisions of the Danish constitution and the constitutional status of the home rule system; besides that the courses are independent of each other.

#### 9.3 Learning and teaching methods

The learning and teaching methods are dependent upon, and to some extent integrated into, the assessment methods mentioned below under 9.5.

Learning at the LLM is less dominated by traditional teaching methods, such as monologues and lectures by the teacher(s). Rather the emphasis is to a relatively high degree on studentcentered learning with critical dialogue between teacher and students in groups, often based upon classroom assignments and smaller home assignments. The same applies to the overall continuous assessment and formative assessment approach. This teaching approach focuses on cultivating the students' skills to a higher degree than traditional emphasis on abstract knowledge and comprehension. Learning skills can be understood to be aimed at "learning how" rather than simply at "learning about".

#### 9.4 Internships

The LLM program does not have internships.

#### 9.5 LLM-thesis

The LLM-thesis (20 ECTS credits) must be an individual project in essay form of a maximum of 40 pages (96.000 characters, spaces and footnotes included) on a topic approved by the

Program Leader. The thesis must be written under the direction of a supervisor chosen by the Program Leader. A maximum of 10 hours of supervision is offered to each student. Normally, the LLM-thesis will be written in Faroese, accompanied by an abstract in English.

The topic for the LLM-thesis must be approved at the the begininng of the student's third semester of study at the latest. The thesis will be submitted in two parts.

The first part is to be delivered no later than the end of the third semester. This first deliverance must consist of the problem statement, a preliminary bibliography and substantive parts that quantitatively represent at least half of the thesis. The first submission will only be graded pass/fail, and the student will be allowed to proceed to the delivery of the second part if the first part is passed according to the assessment of the thesis supervisor and the external examiner.

The second delivery will consist of the full thesis that must be submitted no later than at 12.00 o'clock the 15th of May of the fourth and last semester. If this date comes down on a Saturday or Sunday, the deadline will be postponed to the same time on the following Monday.

If the student for some reason does not progress from third to fourth semester on time, the student and the Program Leader may make an agreement on a different deadline for submitting the thesis.

Students that fail to submit their thesis on time will automatically be registered for a new deadline. The new deadline will be three months after the original deadline. The student will at the same time be ordered to submit a modified problem statement to the Program Leader for approval. If this second attempt also fails, the student will get a third attempt according to the same procedure. If the student again fails to submit or to pass the third attempt, s/he will normally be deregistered from the program and will not graduate.

To support the students during their thesis preparation, thesis seminars are offered during the third semester. The aim is to provide students with general knowledge and guidance in the formulation of problem statements, research, methodology, writing techniques etc.

Further details on the LLM-thesis will be found in the relevant course description.

#### 9.6 Assessment methods (formative and summative assessment)

The assessment model for the LLM-program moves, just as the BL program, away from the traditional 100% final exam in favor of a number of smaller exams and/or projects in various formats: essays, multiple-choice exams, oral exams, take-home exams, active participation in discussions etc.

The purpose of this multiple-item assessment approach is (a) to help the students in planning their work and study time for better use of every teaching week, (b) to allow for forms of assessment appropriate to the course materials and the objectives and learning outcomes of the course (e.g. the development of particular skills), (c) to improve the integration of

assessment with the teaching, and (d) to allow each student to monitor her/his own progress in the courses, rather than receiving a surprise at the end of the semester.

Grades are awarded according to the 7-point scale or in rare cases on a pass/fail basis.

#### 9.7 Examinations

#### 9.7.1 General rules on examinations

As mentioned in Section 9.6 above, the LLM courses are typically assessed according to the multiple-items approach. This means that students complete, in each course, a number of assessed items of various kinds, and variously weighted, spread out over the period of the course. Perhaps the most important point of this form of assessment, in line with the student centered learning approach, is to allow the student to follow along with the progress of his/her own studies and to know in what areas s/he is strong and in what areas weak. The term "examination" is used in these rules, recalling the day when all assessment was by a 100% final examination. As it will be construed here, being "registered for an examination" means being registered for completing all the various assessment items for a given course. For each course, students are provided with advance information about the kind and weight of each assessed item, and of examination dates and times or submission deadlines for things like essays, home-examinations of the like. Generally this information is provided in the course description and, depending on context, the syllabus for the course. In short, an attempt is made to give the student all of the advance information that s/he needs to prepare for each assessed item.

LLM degree students will be automatically registered for examinations (assessment items) connected to obligatory courses. When a student chooses to register for an elective, s/he will automatically be "registered for the relevant examination" attached to the course.

Students that have been on leave are responsible for registering to the relevant courses at the student office of the Faculty, and they will then be automatically registered for the assessment items connected with those courses.

Assessment—usually of multiple items, as stated above— will be conducted for each individual course, and include items of one or more of the forms on the list below (although further variation is possible):

- a) Oral exams.
- b) Written exams.
- c) Written assignments (e.g. home assignments, essays, synopses etc.) that constitute a partial element in a larger examination.
- d) Oral exams on basis of a written assignment.
- e) Examination of the thesis.

The evaluation of the assessed items for each course will be based upon the learning outcomes explained in the relevant course description.

To repeat: the type and weight of each assessed item will be announced well in advance and information provided that will guide the student in preparing for each item.

#### 9.7.2 Exams and progression of studies

As the program is designed for full-time study, students are expected to graduate on time. In order to progress from the first year of study to the next (i.e. from second to third semester), students can only be lacking in having passed one 10 ECTS course from either the first or second semester. The information below is subject to revision according to the availability of elective courses, the sequence of which will vary. Students should expect, in general, multiple-item assessment.

Semester	Course	Medium of	Medium for re-	Censoring	Grading	ECTS
		assessment	take of		Scale	credits
			assessed item			
	Tax Law	Oral	Oral	External	7-point	10
1.	Legisprudence	Written	Written	Internal	7-point	10
	Elective 1.	Depends on	Depends on	Depends on	7-point	10
		course.	course.	course.		
	EU-Law	Written	Written	Internal	7-point	10
2.	Private	Written	Written	Internal	7-point	10
	International					
	Law					
	Elective 2.	Depends on	Depends on	Depends on	7-point	10
		course.	course.	course.		
	Meaning and	Combined	Combined	External	7-point	10
3.	Doctrine	written and	written and oral			
		oral				
	LLM-thesis	Written	Written	External	pass/fail*	10
	First part.					
	Elective 3.	Depends on	Same.	Depends on	7-point	10
		course.		course.		
	Faroese	Written	Written	External	7-point	10
4.	Constitutional					
	Law II					
	LLM-thesis	Written	Written	External	7-point	10
	Second part.					
	Elective 4	Depends on	Depends on	Depends on	7-point	10
		course.	course.	course.		

#### Figure 3. Succession of exams

\* Upon successful completion of the LLM thesis, the work will be assessed as whole and the grade given will be entered for both Parts 1 and 2 of the thesis (i.e. the "pass" grade for Part 1) will be retroactively adjusted.

#### 9.7.3 Internal vs. external examination

A minimum of 1/3 (calculated in ECTS credits) of all course grades, must be approved by external examiners who will review the grading of all assessed items for each course.

#### 9.7.4 Grading scale

All course grades for LLM degree courses will be awarded on the 7-point grading scale with a score of at least 02 required to pass. The "pass/fail" basis is only applied for transfer of credits and for the Summer Academy on The Continental Shelf (SACS).

#### 9.7.5 Re-exam

Re-take of any assessed item has as a pre-condition that the student has submitted the original item and made an attempt to complete it successfully.

Re-take for health reasons is conditioned on the student delivering a doctor's notice to the student's office within one week after the time of examination.

Students who have failed an obligatory course, or a given elective course, three times, will not be able to continue the studies. If there are exceptional circumstances counting in favor of doing so, the Dean can dispensate from this rule on basis of a written application from the student. The Dean will, in any such case, consult with the Program Leader before making a decision.

A re-take for health reasons does not count as a re-take to make up for a failure.

Re-takes are to be held no later than 3 months after the date for completion of the original item.

#### 9.7.5.1 Deregistering from exams

In order to be counted as active, students must complete the various assessed items for any given course at the times specified. The general rule must be stated differently for courses where multiple-item assessment is employed. If a student believes that s/he will not be able to complete the assessed work successfully for a given course, s/he may deregister from the course no later than 14 days after the beginning of the course. Deregistration from courses is done in e-mail to the office at the faculty. Students that do not deregister from courses but who also fail to complete the assessed items, are recorded as not attending and will thereby lose one of the three allowable attempts. We note that deregistration from courses that are taught only every second year will have especially serious consequences and are liable to greatly delay a student's completion of the degree studies. Thus, deregistration should be avoided except in

the most extreme cases. Students in difficulties should turn to the Program Leader or to the Student Counselor in trying to find rational, practical solutions.

#### 9.7.6 Special needs

If the student has limited capacities, physically or mentally, this will be taken into account as potential grounds for special treatment within the frame of Act of Faroese parliament no 58 from 9th of June 2008 on the Faroese University. More information on this will be available at the student guidance at the Faculty of History and Social Science.

#### 9.8 Language of teaching and materials

Language of teaching and instruction is predominantly Faroese. Teaching in Danish is also possible, depending upon staffing. English and Danish may also be used in certain parts of certain courses. Only one full course (10 ECTS) is taught in English. Teaching materials are, depending upon the topic, will be in Faroese, the Scandinavian languages and English.

#### 9.9 Transfer of credits

Students may be granted permission by the Study Board to apply credits from another institution to his/her Faroese LLM-degree on the condition that the relevant courses do not form part of a degree program already completed or intended to be completed. Certain courses in the LLM degree program may not be replaced except by a course that is essentially the same in substance and in weight in the judgment of the Program Leader, although taken elsewhere.

Applications for credit transfers into the LLM degree program will be evaluated on a case-tocase basis. The prospects for approval will depend upon the resemblance between the courses taken abroad and those at Fróðskaparsetrið for which they are substituted. Courses replacing methodological and other courses central to the identity of the program at the University of the Faroe Islands – meaning especially the obligatory courses in the LLM-program – are less likely to be accepted than (other) dogmatic courses.

All transfer applications must be submitted to the student office that will submit applications to the Program leader. The Program leader, and, depending on circumstances, other relevant academic staff will submit the application to the Study Board. Further details are to be found in the guideline on transferral of credits on the university's webpage.

#### 9.10 Leave of absence

Students may petition for a leave of absence of up to two semesters total, contiguous or noncontiguous. In such a case, the student must apply at the student's office at the Faculty of History and Social Science, and must also come to an agreement with the Program Leader on a schedule for continuing and completing the degree program.

Failure to complete the degree within three years from the time of entering the program will result in removal from the program.

#### 9.11 Special needs (illness, disabilities and others)

The university can provide support for students with disabilities, illness or similar. If students feel they need such support for completing the program they are to contact the student counselor.

#### 9.12 Study abroad

Students can only spend the second semester of the program abroad. This entails that a maximum of 30 ECTS can be earned abroad . This is however conditioned upon them finding appropriate courses in EU-law and Private International Law, approved by the Program Leader. Before going abroad to study, students need to apply to the Study Board for preapproval of the courses they will take during their stay abroad. The Student Counselor and the International Office can provide advice and guidance for students wishing to study abroad.

#### 9.13 Class participation

It is considered vital to the teaching of legal and forensic skills that students be able to interact robustly with the teachers, and with one another, in class. A law school class is a dialogic community. Therefore, LLM degree students will be required to attend classes in real time.

In order to pass the exams, it is expected that students attend at least 75% of every class. The student must keep in mind that the obligatory courses in the LLM degree program are offered only in every second year.

Remote attendance by electronic means may sometimes be accepted, provided that the technology enables "face-to-face" interaction with all participants (students and teachers) in real time. It will be the responsibility of the University to provide adequate media for distance participation, if and when this option is offered to students.

#### 9.14 Student activity

It is expected that students attend classes on a regular basis. In addition it is expected that students are prepared for classes, partake in discussions and presentations and take responsibility for their own learning.

#### 9.15 Evaluation of the program and courses

Courses are evaluated by the students in a quantitative manner, and individually, according to standard procedures applicable within all programs at the University. A common oral review, with participation of students and Program Leader representing all programs, is conducted annually by the Student Council.

It is important that students participate in these different forms of evaluations so that the results can provide information for the on-going evaluation and re-evaluation of the study

programs. Thus, it is a responsibility on the part of every student to be aware and reflective about how s/he experiences being a student in the University's programs of study.

#### 9.16 Complaints regarding examination results

In accordance with chapter 6a of Law of Faroese Parliament no. 58 of 9th of June 2008 on University of the Faroe Islands, as amended by law no. 51 of 8th of May 2012, a student may submit a written complaint concerning a grade within 2 weeks from the time when s/he was notified of that grade. See also information on this on the web site of University of the Faroe Islands.

In the present context, this will be construed as applying to final course grades, as opposed to grades for individual items of multiple assessment. The latter may be reviewed at the same time as the final course grade. But students who object to the grade they have received for an individual assessment item, are advised to register their dissatisfaction with the relevant teachers and examiners as early as possible.

Complaints concerning final course grades must be addressed to the Dean and handed in at the office at the Faculty of History and Social Sciences. Complaints must be in writing and supplied with reasons.

#### 9.17 Academic integrity

The students must respect commonly held standards on academic integrity such as honesty, reliability and accountability.

In the context of studies these standards means, among other things, that the University expects students to take very seriously the ban against plagiarism and the ban against submitting assignments that (in part or whole) have been written, without acknowledgment, by other people or by text-generation systems, chatbots or the like.

Breaches of these standards will be met with reactions proportionate the seriousness of misconduct.

#### 9.18 Graduation requirements

Students can only be awarded a LLM degree on the condition that all courses have been passed with the grade of 02 or higher.

Students that have not graduated at the latest in the spring semester in the third year after their entrance to the program, will be deregistered from the program.

Departure from these rules may, on a case-to-case basis, be granted students with disabilities and in other special circumstances.

#### 9.19 Amendments

Amendments to the program may be proposed by the Program Leader and the Study Board and approved by the Study Board.

When amendments are initiated to this program description, the students must be informed about to what extent their studies are regulated by the amended program description rather than the former program description. Included in this the students must be informed about the deadlines for finishing studies according to the old program description. If the students do not succeed finishing studies within the deadline, they must apply for permission to have the part of the program following the former program description transferred before s/he can follow the new program description. In that case the general procedures on transferal of credits will be followed (see 9.9).