

## Information on the Double Degree Studies Programme LUC-Leiden Law School

(including the list of updated courses with effect from academic year 2021-2022; version June 2021)

### Introduction

The Liberal Arts & Sciences (LA&S) programme offered by Leiden University College (LUC) The Hague is very appealing to students who want to work in the world of international justice. The major International Justice gives students ample opportunity to study international law in its context, but it will not lead towards obtaining 'civiel effect': an LA&S bachelor degree does not give access to programmes which would eventually permit them to practice law, for example, as an attorney/barrister/solicitor (advocaat), judge or prosecutor in The Netherlands. In order to be admitted to these programmes, students need to have studied the Dutch domestic legal system, which is not part of LA&S.

Furthermore, many LL.M. programmes worldwide require applicants to have obtained an LL.B. degree. Moreover, the entry requirements for many legal jobs within international and regional organisations, such as the United Nations and the European Union, as well as at international courts and tribunals, include that candidates need to have a degree that qualifies them to enrol at the bar in one of the organisation's member States.

For students who are interested in pursuing these career paths, the only option used to be to pursue an LL.B. degree, subsequent to their LUC studies. To help these students to get the benefits of an LA&S education and set the first step on their path towards 'civiel effect', the Leiden Law School (LLS) and LUC have established the Double Degree Studies. This will allow successful students to apply for a wider range of master programmes and jobs.

This document is structured as follows: (1) the organization of the programme (including enrolment requirements, monitoring of enrolled students and application of rules and regulations / BSA); (2) courses and exemptions; (3) registration of results (including application for exemptions).

### 1. Organization of the Double Degree Studies

*Goal* -- The Double Degree Studies are designed to allow students to pursue two degrees at the same time: a B.A. degree in Liberal Arts & Sciences (with a major International Justice) and an LL.B. degree.

*For whom* -- The Double Degree Studies are open to LUC students who are majoring in International Justice, with a minimum 3.5 GPA as well as excellent academic standing (at the very least, no failed courses). The LL.B. programme is only offered in Dutch and all LL.B. students (including Dutch students) have to pass a language test as part of their degree. There is no nationality requirement.

*Application* -- First of all, students need to apply and be admitted to LUC. Students are selected through the competitive admission process of LUC (Chapter 5 LUC OER). Students admitted at the LLS shall have a prior education at the VWO diploma level.

The LA&S degree is considered the primary degree, which students have to follow fulltime (Article 2.4 LUC OER). This means the Double Degree Studies are only accessible to students who are registered at LUC. During their first year at LUC, interested students take Inleiding Bestuursrecht as a trial course to test their suitability. In order to register for this trial course, students have to email their name and student number to the DDS Coordinator, Dr. D. Piqani (d.piqani@law.leidenuniv.nl) **by 30 November**.

If this course is completed satisfactorily, students are eligible to apply for the DDS programme and register for the LL.B. programme (part-time) in order to start, if selected, in September of their second year at LUC. More information on the selection/registration procedure of the students will be provided by the DDS Coordinator.

Should the student not enrol for the LL.B. programme, then her/his grade for Inleiding Bestuursrecht cannot be added as an elective or extra-curricular course to their LUC transcript, unless s/he declares in writing that s/he will not (either at that point in time or in the future) register for the LL.B. programme.

In order to participate in the Double Degree Studies, LUC students which have been admitted to LLS have to submit the following documents to the LUC Double Degree Studies Coordinator:

- (1) a motivation letter;
- (2) a CV;
- (3) a transcript of LUC grades;
- (4) the transcript of the trial course which they have completed at LLS and,
- (5) a recommendation letter (by the academic advisor or any other lecturer),

The deadline for the submission of these documents is **30 June** of the academic year.

They will be notified of the outcome of their application **by 15 July**. In order to continue their participation students have to study 'nominally' (no study delays) and maintain a minimum GPA of 3.5.

*Scheduling* -- Students wishing to enrol in the Double Degree Studies should be able to organize their work well, work independently and be able to work in two very different educational environments at the same time. Selected students will be enrolled in the LL.B. programme as part-time students, and attend evening classes in order to avoid scheduling conflicts with LUC courses.

*Rules*-- For each programme its own Rules and Regulations apply, in particular, the BSA requirements (45 EC for LUC; 30 EC for part-time study LLS).

*Discontinuation* -- Students can at any time discontinue their participation in the Double Degree Studies: courses which they have passed at LLS can count towards their elective space at LUC up to 30EC max. If a student decides to discontinue s/he should inform the coordinator of the programme, her/his study advisor at LUC and her/his study advisor at LLS. Also s/he should not forget to deregister from the LLS programme.

*Information* -- The current overall DDS coordinator is Dr. Darinka Piqani. Any study plan issues can be addressed to the study advisors.

*List of participating students* -- In September of each year, the LUC course administration will compile a list of all double degree students and communicate this list to the Board of Examiners, the LLS and LUC study advisors.

## **2. Mandatory courses and exemptions**

The Double Degree Studies programme works with exemptions that reduce the overall study load. All first-year programme requirements at LUC apply; exemptions are only given within the major and elective space (including first year electives). The following tables list all mandatory courses, as well as the exemptions given in the respective programmes, with the equivalent courses in the other programme listed.

### **Requirements of the International Justice major in combination with DDS**

#### 1. IJ requirement: Three 100-levels as compulsory component of the IJ major

Based on the IJ major overview, the following three 100-level LUC courses (see left side of Table 1) are compulsory courses for the International Justice major at LUC. Students enrolled in the Double Degree

Programme are entitled to get exempted for two of these courses based on specific courses taken in the LLB programme as shown on Table 1.

Courses with an \* and in italics, can be exempted based on the course in the other programme (at most two out of three for the LUC programme).

Table 1

LUC course	LL.B. course for exemption
<i>Intro Socio-Legal studies*</i>	Oriëntatievak: Grondslagen van het recht (year 1, sem 2)
<i>Sovereignty &amp; Statehood*</i>	Beginselen van de Democratische Rechtsstaat (year 1, sem 1)
Principles of Public International Law	<i>Inleiding Internationaal Publiekrecht (year 1, sem 1)*</i>

**Example 1:** A student who is enrolled in the Double Degree Studies would not take the LUC course Intro Socio-Legal Studies. Instead, s/he would receive an exemption for that course at LUC, based on taking the LL.B course 'Oriëntatievak: Grondslagen van het recht'.

**Example 2:** A student who is enrolled in the Double Degree Studies would not take the LL.B. course 'Inleiding Internationaal Publiekrecht'. Instead, s/he would receive an exemption for that course in the LL.B. programme, based on taking the LUC course 'Principles of Public international law'.

**Please note that these exemptions work only one way:** for example, DDS students can be exempted for the LL.B course 'Inleiding Internationaal Publiekrecht' based on the LUC course Principles of Public International Law, but no exemption is given for the LUC course Principles of Public International Law based on the LL.B course 'Inleiding Internationaal Publiekrecht'.

Thus, based on this table of exemptions, DDS students may obtain 10 EC in the compulsory component of the major based on exemptions from the specific courses in the LLB programme.

## 2. JJ requirement: Methodology courses

Courses with an \* are exempted based on the other programme.

Table 2

LUC Course	LL.B. Course
Legal Methods Lab <u>or</u> Research Design (International Justice)	<i>Methoden en technieken van de Rechtswetenschap (year 1, sem 2)*</i>
<i>Advocacy &amp; Litigation *</i>	Moot Court (year 2, sem 2)

**Example:** A student who is enrolled in the Double Degree Studies would not take the LL.B. course 'Methoden en technieken van de rechtswetenschap'. Instead, s/he would receive an exemption for that course at LL.B., based on taking the LUC course 'Legal Methods Lab' or 'Research Design'.

Please note that these exemptions work *only one way*, as indicated on the table.

### 3. Four 300-levels and capstone

Courses with an \* are exempted based on the other programme

Table 3

LUC Course	LL.B. Course
Comparative Legal and Economic Integration	<i>Europees Recht (year 2, sem 1)*</i>
Transitional Justice	<i>Three electives (combined with 200-levels) *</i>
Global Security and Collective Action	
Vulnerability, Gender and the Ethics of Care	
Digital Technology and International Law	
International Criminal Law	
Law, Governance and Development	
Making Human Rights Work	
Foreign Relations Law	
Feminist Philosophy	
Capstone on legal topic	<i>Bachelorscriptie (year 3, sem 2)*</i>

Please note that these exemptions work *only one way*, as indicated on the table. Thus, for example, a student who is enrolled in the Double Degree Studies would not take the LLB course 'Europees Recht'. Instead, s/he would receive an exemption for that course at LL.B., based on taking the LUC course 'Comparative Legal and Economic Integration'.

### 4. Five other courses at 200 or 300 level

Courses with an \* are exempted based on the other programme

Table 4

LUC Course	LL.B. course
Structure and Functioning of the EU	<i>Inleiding Europees Recht*</i>
Law, Culture and Society	<i>Three Electives (combined with 300 levels)*</i>
Gender, Media and conflict	
Constitutions and Constitutionalism	

Gender and Development	
Political and Economic Foundations of Law	
International Humanitarian Law	
International & Regional Human Rights	
International Environmental Law	
Security and Rights	
Anthropology of Gender and Sexuality	
International Dispute Settlement	

Please note that these exemptions work only one way, as indicated on the table. Thus, for example, a student who is enrolled in the Double Degree Studies would not take the LLB course 'Inleiding Europees Recht'. Instead, s/he would receive an exemption for that course at LL.B., based on taking the LUC course 'Structure and Functioning of the EU'.

#### Elective Space LUC

Table 5

At most 45 EC of these courses count towards the LUC degree, at most 15 EC can be at 100-level.	Onderneming en Recht (10 EC)
	Bestuursrecht
	Rechtseconomie
	Arbeidsrecht / Personen- en familierecht
	Moot Court
	Materieel strafrecht (10 EC)
	Staatsrecht
	Leiden Law Practices (LLP)
	*Not obligatory for part time students
	*Please note that no ECTS can be obtained from this course
	Inleiding Recht
Beginselen van de Democratische Rechtsstaat	
Inleiding Burgerlijk Recht (10 EC)	
Inleiding Strafrecht	

	Inleiding Bestuursrecht
	Oriëntatievak: Grondslagen van het Recht / Oriëntatievak: Entrepreneurship and Management
	Romeins recht
	Belastingrecht
	Verbintenissenrecht (10 EC)
	Goederenrecht
	Burgerlijk Procesrecht
	Strafprocesrecht (10 EC)
	Bestuursprocesrecht
	Vergelijkend en Internationaal Privaatrecht / Rechtsfilosofie II

*For example:* a student who is enrolled in the Double Degree Studies would not take the LUC course 'Elective I'. Instead, s/he would receive an exemption for that course in the LUC programme, based on taking the LL.B. course 'Inleiding bestuursrecht'.

**Students in the Double Degree Studies can use LLS courses to fill their electives: up to 45 EC in total, starting with the 30 EC elective space and expanding, if need be, with the 15 EC first year electives.**

Per degree the break down looks like this:

	LUC	Exempted based on LLB courses
First year programme	45 EC	
First year electives	15 EC /20 EC	10 EC
Major	80EC /85 EC	15 EC
Elective space	30 EC	30EC
Global citizenship	10 EC	
<b>Total</b>	<b>180 EC</b>	<b>55EC</b>
<i>of which in LUC programme</i>	<i>125 EC</i>	

If the student manages to meet the LUC graduation requirements including all the LL.B. exemptions, there are 70 EC left in the LL.B. programme which are not exempted in the LUC programme or cannot be exempted based on LUC courses. This would mean at least one additional year to complete the LL.B., unless the student has managed to take additional courses during the first three years.

### 3. Registration of Results

Double Degree students register at both programmes. Courses can count towards only one of the two degrees. This means that courses are registered at one of the programmes. Exemptions at the LL.B. programme are given on basis of similar courses at LUC. At LUC no exemptions can be given (for most courses) as there are no counterparts for the courses taken at the LLS. This means that:

- For the three courses in table 1 and 2, an exemption will be given.
- For the other courses LUC creates ‘Elective’ (‘keuzevak’) as a course unit in uSis. Students in the LL.B. are then exempted from this course.
- No course title or level is listed besides ‘keuzevak’, and no result is registered. Only the EC’s are there to show how many credits were exempted. The student should make sure that in year 2 and 3 no more than 15 EC are exempted at 100-level (Article 3.2.7 LUC OER)
- Since no grade is recorded for exemptions, exemptions cannot count towards the GPA. Depending on the way the elective space is used (see above), this means that a student in the Double Degree Studies will have a GPA calculated not over 120 ECs (the second and third year), but over 75 (if all compulsory 100-levels for the major are completed in year one and 45 EC is used for Law electives) or at most 90 (if all electives in year 1 are used for Law courses).
- If students want to include LL.B. courses as external courses in the LUC programme (i.e. listed with title, level, EC’s and result) these courses cannot be used towards the LL.B. degree. If a student does this, and changes his/her mind later on, they will have to take additional courses in the LL.B. and this may not always be possible. Students have to decide very early on.