

## **Study Plan for the Bachelor's Single-Subject Program in Law and Master's Single-Subject Program in Law**

of October 16, 2014

*The Faculty of Law,*

based on Article 44 of the University of Bern Bylaws of June 7, 2011 (Universitätsstatut, UniSt) and the Regulations Concerning the Bachelor's and Master's Degree Programs and Evaluations of Students' Work at the Faculty of Law of the University of Bern of June 21, 2007 (Study Regulations RW [RSL RW]),

*issues the following Study Plan:*

### **I. General Provisions**

LAW STUDIES

**Art. 1** This Study Plan applies to students, who study law in a single-subject program pursuant to RSL RW 2007 and implements the study objectives for the Bachelor's and Master's degree programs pursuant to Articles 10, 13, and 20 RSL RW.

STUDY PROGRAMS

**Art. 2** <sup>1</sup> This Study Plan governs the following study programs at the Faculty of Law:

- a* the Bachelor's study program in law (single-subject study program, 180 ECTS credits),
- b* the Master's study program in law (single-subject study program, 90 ECTS credits).

<sup>2</sup> The Minor study programs are governed by a separate Study Plan.

TITLES

**Art. 3** <sup>1</sup> Upon the successful completion of the programs referred to in Articles 2(1)(a) and (b), the following titles may be attained:

- a* Bachelor of Law, University of Bern (B Law),
- b* Master of Law, University of Bern (M Law), with the option of a special qualification.

### **II. Bachelor's Degree Program (single-subject study program of 180 ECTS credits)**

ADMISSION

**Art. 4** Regarding admission to the Bachelor's degree program, Articles 4(1) and (2) RSL RW apply.

## COMPOSITION OF STUDIES

**Art. 5** <sup>1</sup> The Bachelor's study program is divided into the introductory study period (54 ECTS credits) and the main study period (126 ECTS credits).

<sup>2</sup> The introductory study period consists of the following modules:

- a* Private Law I module,
- b* Criminal Law I module,
- c* Public Law I module.

<sup>3</sup> The main study period consists of the following components:

- a* Private Law II and III module,
- b* Criminal Law II and III module,
- c* Public Law II and III module,
- d* Economic Law I and II module,
- e* the Foundational module,
- f* the seminar requirement (Art. 16 RSL RW),
- g* the Introduction to Technical Basics of Legal Work,
- h* the Bachelor's thesis (Art. 15 RSL RW).

<sup>4</sup> The descriptions of the individual courses and modules and their corresponding evaluations of students' work, as well as the allocation of the ECTS credits can be found in Annex 1.

## EVALUATIONS OF STUDENTS' WORK

**Art. 6** <sup>1</sup> The modules pursuant to Articles 5(2)(a) to (c) each conclude with a two-hour written examination pursuant to Article 12 RSL RW.

<sup>2</sup> The Introduction to Technical Basics of Legal Work (Art. 5(3)(g)) is fulfilled by attending a workshop pursuant to Article 16a RSL RW.

<sup>3</sup> The modules pursuant to Articles 5(3)(a) to (d) each conclude with a four- or five-hour written examination pursuant to Article 17 RSL RW.

<sup>4</sup> The seminar requirement pursuant to Article 5(3)(f) is generally fulfilled by an oral presentation and a written assignment.

<sup>5</sup> The Bachelor's thesis pursuant to Article 15 RSL RW consists of a problem set from the fields of private or economic law and a problem set from the fields of public law or criminal law.

FOUNDATIONAL MODULES

**Art. 7** There are six thematic blocks to choose from in the Foundational module pursuant to Article 5(3)(e) (see Annex 1). The students must take one from the fall semester (A1, B1, C1) and one from the spring semester (A2, B2, C2); students can choose the blocks freely. Each block is comprised of 4 weekly classroom hours per semester of classes and 1 weekly classroom hour of exercises. It is recommended to attend the Foundational modules during the third and fourth semester. The blocks selected will be examined individually in a two-hour written examination immediately after the course ends. The average of the two grades determines the final grade pursuant to Article 17(1)(e) RSL RW. Any quarter mark is rounded up to the next higher half grade pursuant Article 31 RSL RW.

WORKSHOP

**Art. 8** The evaluation of students' work for the Introduction to Technical Basics of Legal Work is carried out within the framework of a workshop (Art. 16a RSL RW).

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

**Art. 9** The Bachelor's degree is awarded pursuant to Article 19 RSL RW.

**III. Master's Degree Program (single-subject study program of 90 ECTS credits)**

ADMISSION

**Art. 10** Regarding admission to the Master's degree program, Article 21 RSL RW applies.

COMPOSITION OF STUDIES

**Art. 11** <sup>1</sup> The Master's study program consists of elective courses. Elective courses are independent courses in the field of law pursuant to the Annex of the Study Plan as well as courses taught in other faculties if approved by the Dean upon request.

<sup>2</sup> Courses taught in other Faculties and approved by the Dean (para. 1) can be taken as elective courses and can be recognized for the Master's degree up to a maximum of 15 ECTS credits.

<sup>3</sup> Students must complete a minimum of 70 ECTS credits and a maximum of 80 ECTS credits of elective courses and complete all related examinations and other graded work. Taking one seminar, one Moot Court/Competition, or one Legal Clinic pursuant to Article 22(4) RSL RW is mandatory.

<sup>4</sup> In addition to the 90 ECTS credits required for the Master's degree, additional courses can be taken; they will be listed in the Diploma Supplement.

<sup>5</sup> The Master's thesis pursuant to Article 23 RSL RW is mandatory.

<sup>6</sup> The descriptions of individual courses and modules can be found in Annex 2.

FORMAT OF EVALUATIONS OF STUDENTS' WORK

**Art. 12** Evaluations of students' work, pursuant to Article 25 RSL RW, can be carried out in the following forms:

- a as written or oral examinations of 2 hours or 20 minutes, respectively;

- b* as a seminar requirement with an oral presentation and a written assignment;
- c* as oral presentations and written assignments during the semester;
- d* when participating in a Moot Court/Competition or a Legal Clinic, in accordance with the lecturers' specifications.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

**Art. 13** <sup>1</sup> The Master's degree can be earned with one of the following special qualifications: Private Law, Criminal Law and Criminology, Law of Public Administration, Economic Law, as well as International and European Law (Art. 24 RSL RW).

<sup>2</sup> The description of individual courses for the special qualifications can be found in Annex 3.

MASTER'S DEGREE

**Art. 14** The Master's degree is awarded pursuant to Article 27 RSL RW.

**IV. Transitional and Final Provisions**

AMENDMENTS TO THE STUDY PLAN

**Art. 15** Amendments to the Study Plan are subject to approval by the Executive Board of the University. Exceptions to this are amendments to the Annex, which are within the competence of the Faculty.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

**Art. 16** <sup>1</sup> This Study Plan replaces the Study Plan for the Bachelor's Single-Subject Program in Law and Master's Single-Subject Program in Law of June 21, 2007, and enters into force on August 1, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> The second sentence of Article 11(3) does not apply to students who are already enrolled in the Master's degree program when this Study Plan enters into force.

Bern, October 16, 2014

On behalf of the Faculty of Law  
The Dean: Prof. Dr. Markus Müller:

*Approved by the Executive Board of the University:*

Bern, January 6, 2015,

The Rector: Prof. Dr. Martin Täuber