

Regulations governing the CAS and DAS Study Programs in International Law and Economics

May 26, 2016

*In application of Art. 2 (1) (d) and Art. 29 (a) of the Act governing the University of Bern of 5 September 1996 (Universitätsgesetz, UniG), and in addition to Art. 4, 43 and 77 to 80 of the Statute of the University of Bern of 7 June 2011 (Universitätsstatut, UniSt); the Weiterbildungsreglement der Universität Bern of 10 December 2013 (Weiterbildungsreglement, WBR);
after consideration by the Weiterbildungskommission;
the Faculty of Law at the University of Bern adopts:*

Subject

Art. 1 ¹ These regulations govern the Diploma of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (DAS ILE), and the Certificate of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (CAS ILE) within the framework of the general study program in international law and economics at the World Trade Institute (WTI).

² The program is interdisciplinary and emphasizes the rules, regulations, and institutions, both domestic and international, that govern foreign trade, investment, and the operations of multinational enterprise and other stakeholders in the global economy.

Governing Body

Art. 2 The continuing education programs of the CAS and DAS in international law and economics are carried out by the Academic Program Committee under the responsibility of the WTI. The structure of the program itself is subject to periodic and at least annual review by the Academic Program Committee of the WTI. The Academic Program Committee includes inter alia the WTI Managing Director, the Director of Studies, the CAS and DAS academic program coordinator, and academic program coordinators for other WTI programs.

Cooperation

Art. 3 Cooperation with institutions outside of the University of Bern is subject to separate cooperation agreements entered into by the Board of Directors (Universitätsleitung) of the University of Bern.

Target group

Art. 4 The diploma and certificate study programs in International Law and Economics are offered for:

- a managers in public and private institutions,
- b experts in public and private institutions,
- c service providers in public and private institutions,
- d consultants for public and private institutions,
- e other students interested in pursuing a career in the specialty.

Aims	<p>Art. 5¹ DAS ILE The DAS ILE provides knowledge of the contemporary legal framework and the relevant underlying socio-economic and political economy concepts for a set of topics as referenced in Art. 1. In this regard, the curriculum shall equip the DAS ILE students with the necessary analytical tools and knowledge of governing doctrines.</p> <p>² CAS ILE The CAS ILE programme with specialization offers an introduction to the contemporary legal framework and the relevant underlying socio-economic and political economy concepts for a specific topic as referenced in Art. 1.</p>
Scope and Structure	<p>Art. 6¹ DAS ILE with specialization The DAS ILE with specialization is a non-consecutive diploma of 30 ECTS. The DAS program consists of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a A minimum of 22 ECTS are obtained in course work. The course work is composed of weekly modules, advanced topic seminars, and research papers. A DAS ILE student shall complete 4-6 core courses, weekly modules, and advanced topic seminars. b 8 ECTS are awarded for a DAS ILE diploma paper. c Subject to the approval from the WTI and based on the student's area of focus, students may define an area of specialization that will be defined in the diploma supplement given upon successful completion of the DAS program. <p>² CAS ILE with specialization The CAS ILE with specialization is a non-consecutive certificate of 12 ECTS. The CAS program consists of the following elements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a A minimum of 8 ECTS must be obtained in course work, research papers, and advanced topic seminars. b 4 ECTS are awarded for a CAS ILE certificate paper. c Subject to the approval of the WTI and based on the student's area of focus, students may define an area of specialization that will be recognized in the certificate supplement given upon successful completion of the CAS program. This also allows students to complete more than one CAS at the WTI with a different focus of study for each CAS completed.
Content	<p>Art. 7¹ DAS ILE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Students acquire thorough specialised knowledge in international law and economics with emphasis on the topics identified in Art. 1. b Approved courses of study are defined in the DAS ILE study plan. c With prior approval from the DAS academic program coordinator, the student may substitute related courses from other faculties pertaining to the program. In all cases, prior to commencing studies, the student must obtain approval for the planned selection of courses from the DAS academic program coordinator. d Courses that were already taken for a previous degree or title may not be part of the selection.

²CAS ILE

- a Students acquire specialised knowledge in one specific area of international economic regulation with an interdisciplinary focus.
- b The CAS ILE is awarded with a specialization, and approved courses of study, also known as specialization modules, are defined in the CAS ILE study plan.
- c With prior approval from the CAS academic program coordinator, the student may substitute related courses from other faculties pertaining to the program. In all cases, prior to commencing studies for a particular module, the student must obtain approval for the planned selection of courses from the CAS academic program coordinator.
- d Courses that were already taken for a previous degree or title may not be part of the selection.

Teaching

Art. 8 ¹ The teaching staff is comprised of leading international experts from academia, private practice, international organisations, government and civil society organisations, as well as WTI staff with relevant experience and knowledge of the subject matter.

² The course work shall involve attendance and participation in courses, individual reading and studies, regular written and/or oral submissions and the preparation and submission of a written piece of research (diploma/certificate paper).

Language

Art. 9 The language of instruction as well as the language of all written work is English, including all assessments and the diploma/certificate paper. Written assignments will be monitored to ensure academic integrity.

Admission

Art. 10 ¹ Admission to the CAS/DAS tracks is based on the evaluation of a complete application, made by the CAS/DAS Admissions Committee, which is appointed by the Academic Program Committee. Applications for the CAS are accepted on a rolling basis, with periods open 3 to 6 months before start of scheduled CAS offerings. When possible, Diploma admissions will be set to coincide with MILE and doctoral admissions. Applicants will be notified of admission within 6 weeks of the closing date for applications. Decisions on financial matters, including fees and waivers, will be notified within 8 weeks. The WTI's Academic Program Committee may revise these dates.

² Applicants must demonstrate outstanding academic ability and provide credible references bearing witness to their research abilities.

³ Applicants must have completed an undergraduate degree (or equivalent, depending on the educational system of the respective country), ideally in a field related to the focus of the program, such as law, economics, finance, commerce, international relations, or political science.

⁴ Applicants should possess at least one year of professional experience in a related field (lawyer, diplomat, export industry representative, trade economist, civil servant, etc.). Exceptions to this rule may be granted upon reviewing individual applications.

⁵ Applicants must demonstrate an excellent command of written and spoken English. Students whose first language is not English are required to provide TOEFL or EELTS test results. Exceptions may be

granted on further examination, particularly where students have obtained their previous degree from a program conducted entirely in English.

Number of participants

Art. 11 A suitable number of students for the operation of CAS and DAS study programmes will be determined by the WTI's Operational Management. WTI's Academic Program Committee will decide on the selection of participants in each CAS and DAS based on the candidate's qualifications and on the evaluation made by CAS/DAS Admissions Committee.

Requirements

Art. 12 ¹ Full attendance of classes is compulsory.

² Dispensations and other exemptions to this rule are subject to approval by the academic program coordinator and are not subject to appeal.

³ DAS and CAS students must secure a passing grade in their final grade average of courses taken in order to qualify for the CAS or DAS.

⁴ DAS students must submit and secure a passing grade for their final diploma paper in order to qualify for the DAS.

⁵ CAS students must submit and secure a passing grade for their final certificate paper in order to qualify for the CAS.

Assessment

Art. 13 ¹ All courses are assessed, and all need to be awarded a passing grade in order for credit to be granted.

² Assessments can take the form of written assessments, oral assessments, or research papers, and may factor in class participation.

³ Should a student receive a failing grade for his/her course assessment the student will be given the opportunity to take the exam again one time only.

⁴ In cases where a CAS certificate paper or DAS diploma paper is awarded an insufficient grade, the student will be granted only one additional attempt to submit another paper focusing on a different subject.

⁵ Declaration of Authorship: All final certificate and diploma papers must include the following statement at the end of the paper along with the date and personal signature of the student:

"I hereby declare that I have written this work independently and that it is my own unaided work. The ideas and opinions expressed in this paper are made independently, represent my own views and are based on my own research. I have used no other sources than the ones I have specified. All sections that include direct or indirect sources have been properly acknowledged as references. I am aware that this thesis can be examined for the use of unauthorized aid and whether the thesis as a whole or parts incorporated in it may be deemed as plagiarism. I understand that failing to meet these requirements will result in a failing grade of '0' and that the Senate (pursuant to UniG Art. 36, para. 1, section r. of 5. September 1996 and Art. 69 of the UniSt of 7. June 2011) has the right to withdraw the conferred title. For the purposes of assessment and compliance concerning plagiarism, I grant the University of Bern the right to enter my work into a database where it shall also remain after examination, to enable comparison with future theses submitted. I understand that my thesis will be made available in the World Trade Institute library".

⁶In cases where academic fraud is committed, the assessment shall be graded with a grade of 0. The highest academic standards apply to the CAS and DAS ILE programs, as set down in the Regulations concerning scientific integrity of 27 March 2007 / 30 April 2007 of the University of Bern; the Factsheet concerning Plagiarism, June 2012; the Guidelines of the University Board of Directors concerning the procedure for dealing with plagiarism, 28 August 2007 / 3 July 2012, as subsequently amended. In the event of more than one instance of academic fraud by a student, he or she will be expelled from the program. The Academic Program Committee may take further measures.

⁷ All weekly modules, seminars and the certificate or diploma paper, including the amount of ECTS points awarded, are listed in the CAS/DAS Study Plan.

Grading

Art. 14 ¹ The CAS and DAS study programs in International Law and Economics are graded on a scale from 1-100 where grades 50 and above are considered a passing grade and are rated as follows:

50–69 is rite (pass)

70–79 is cum laude (pass with honours)

80–89 is magna cum laude (pass with high honours)

90–100 is summa cum laude (pass with highest honours).

² Grades of 49 and below are awarded fail.

³ Students are provided with a transcript of grades that displays the individual grade awarded for each class and a final average of all grades awarded. The final average takes into account the different ECTS value of each grade.

Length of studies

Art. 15 ¹ Generally, the maximum length of studies is set as follows:

a DAS ILE up to 3 years

b CAS ILE up to 2 years

² An extension may be granted by the WTI's CAS/DAS Academic Program Coordinator. Failure to complete without extension may result in exclusion from the program.

Degree

Art. 16 ¹ The CAS and DAS requirements are considered fulfilled if the relevant conditions of Art. 12, Art. 13, and Art. 14 are met.

² The CAS and DAS are awarded and signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Law at the University of Bern, Switzerland, if all the requirements of the respective program have been fulfilled and will read:

a Diploma of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (DAS ILE Unibe)

b Certificate of Advanced Studies in International Law and Economics (CAS ILE Unibe) with specialization. The certificate shall note the specific specialization, as spelled out in the study plan.

³ A transcript of grades is provided to detail the student's performance and also notes the concentration of study.

⁴ The Titles of DAS ILE und CAS ILE do not allow students access to consecutive study programs or doctoral programs at the University of Bern.

⁵ Participants who do not fulfil the DAS or CAS requirements as detailed in these regulations can be given a confirmation of participation in place of the certificate or diploma.

Status

Art. 17 ¹ Students in the CAS and DAS programs shall be matriculated at the University of Bern and shall enjoy all the rights and privileges available to students of University of Bern.

² The matriculation fees are included in the tuition fees and shall be paid by the World Trade Institute directly to University of Bern.

Funding

Art. 18 ¹ The programs are funded with student fees. Other financial contributions are possible.

² The income from the programs is subject to the overhead fee for further education programmes at the University of Bern, subject to any agreement between the University of Bern and the WTI governing such overheads.

Fees

Art. 19 ¹ The cost of tuition is subject to amendment by decision of the WTI and is to be set at:

- a DAS CHF 9'000 – 12'000 –
- b CAS CHF 4'000 – 8'000 –

² The WTI may adjust the tuition fees to ensure that the continuing education programs can be carried out while covering costs and remaining economically competitive.

³ The tuition fees cover all teaching fees, assessment fees, supervision fees as well as the costs of the required course material, but does not include the cost of books or additional photocopies.

⁴ Where the student is to receive financial aid, the cost of tuition may be subject to reduction at the discretion of the WTI.

⁵ No diplomas or certificates, or any accompanying supplements will be provided to a student with outstanding fees.

⁶ In the event that a registered DAS or CAS student withdraws from the program prior to the beginning of the program, he or she shall be required to pay a forfeiture fee of 50% of the program's tuition.

⁷ In the event that a registered DAS or CAS student withdraws from the program after the beginning of the program, he or she shall be required to pay the full tuition fee of the program.

Organisation

Art. 20 ¹ The WTI's Academic Program Committee is responsible for planning the program curricula, while the CAS and DAS academic program coordinator is responsible for the supervision of the programs and students and the liaison with visiting professors. The Office of Administration of the World Trade Institute is responsible for the enrolment of new students, assistance with immigration and housing, the procedural modalities regarding the allocation of scholarships and financial aid, the operational implementation and planning of the program such as scheduling, as well as the formalities related to the collection of fees and student graduation.

² The WTI's Academic Program Committee is responsible for developing and conceptualizing the academic program as a whole, the curricula, and the course contents, as well as for reviewing the program on an annual basis. The office of administration of the WTI is responsible for executing the administrative aspects of the program as spelled out in Art. 20.1.

Appeals

Art. 21 ¹ The first point of contact for students is the CAS/DAS academic program coordinator. If possible, differences of opinion will be handled via meetings between the coordinator, faculty, and students, in a non-contentious setting. Decisions are then taken by the Academic Program Committee

² Where decisions taken by the Academic Program Committee or the CAS/DAS program coordinator affect the participant disadvantageously in their legal position, the participant may appeal the decision within 30 days of notification to the Dean of the Law Faculty.

³ The rulings of the Law Faculty, respectively the Dean of the Law Faculty, (to grant or not grant academic titles, in accordance with paragraph 2), pursuant to these regulations and to enact the implemented provisions within them, may be appealed within 30 days of notification to the appeals committee (Rekurskommission) of the University of Bern.

⁴ Appeals decisions taken by the appeals committee can be appealed to the administrative court (Verwaltungsgericht) of the Canton of Bern.

⁵ Appeals based on the complaint of inadequacy of the results of performance assessments and examinations are inadmissible (Art. 76 para. 4 UniG).

Adoption

Art. 22 The present Regulations were adopted by the Faculty of Law on May 26, 2016 and the Senat on October 18, 2016.

Entry into Force

Art. 23 The present Regulations shall enter into force on November 15, 2016.

Adopted by the faculty of Law:

Bern, 5/26/2016

The Dean



Prof. Dr. Peter V. Kunz

Adopted by the Senate:

Bern, 10/18/2016

The Rector



Prof. Dr. Christian Leumann