



## Faculty of Law

# Doctoral studies in the Faculty of Law

### General information

The doctorate degree at the Faculty of Law is divided into the General Doctorate, the Doctoral Program of the Faculty of Law, and the Doctoral Program in Biomedical Ethics and Law. In addition, doctoral students at the Faculty of Law can also apply for the Doctoral Program Asia and Europe. The regulations for this program are being worked out at present. In addition to writing a dissertation, 12 ECTS credits of course work must be completed for the General Doctorate and 30 ECTS credits for the Doctoral Programs.

For admission to doctoral studies, candidates must have a Master of Law degree or a Licentiate in Law from a Swiss university or an equivalent degree from a law faculty in another country.

Persons interested in doctoral studies need first of all a member of the teaching staff who agrees to serve as doctoral advisor (PhD supervisor) and to support the candidate's application for admission to doctoral studies. The names of the members of the teaching staff can be found at the Faculty of Law website.

### Information on the different doctoral studies

#### General Doctorate

Persons having the required academic degree are admitted to the General Doctorate if a member of the teaching staff has agreed to serve as the doctoral advisor (PhD supervisor). If your academic degree is from a foreign university, there can be further requirements and conditions.

The General Doctorate is governed by the *Promotionsverordnung (PVO)* (doctoral degree regulations). The required course work comprises two doctoral colloquia, 6 ECTS credits each (total 12 credits), which are conducted in German or in a foreign language.

Usually, a single advisor (PhD supervisor) is assigned for the General Doctorate, but an additional advisor may be called in at the doctoral student's request. Together with a "Confirmation for Doctoral Students", applications for admission to the General Doctorate can be submitted to the Admissions Office of the University of Zurich for the spring or fall semester.

#### Doctoral Program of the Faculty of Law

The required course work for the Doctoral Program of the Faculty of Law (RWF) comprises two doctoral colloquiums (6 ECTS credits each) and elective modules from the compulsory elective pool totaling 18 ECTS credits. The program is very open in structure, so that the study foci can be tailored to the individual needs. The modules are conducted in German or in a foreign language. PhD supervision is provided by a doctorate conferral committee of at least two persons.

For admission to the RWF Doctoral Program written applications with application documents are submitted to the admissions committee. A personal interview may be conducted as required. You may apply for the spring or fall semester.

## Doctoral Program in Biomedical Ethics and Law (PhD BmEL)

The Doctoral Program Biomedical Ethics and Law (PhD BmEL) is offered by the Faculty of Law (Law Track) and the Faculty of Medicine (Medical Track). The required course work comprises compulsory modules and modules from elective categories. The structuring is flexible, so that part-time studies are possible. As the compulsory modules are taught in German and English, very good knowledge of German and solid knowledge of English are required. PhD supervision is provided by a doctorate conferral committee of at least two persons.

For admission to the program, written applications with application documents are submitted to the PhD Program Commission BmEL RWF, which also conducts a personal interview. Applications are accepted for the spring or fall semester.

### Degree conferred

The academic doctoral degree conferred by the Faculty of Law is Doctor of Law (Dr. iur.). Along with the degree, the Faculty issues a Diploma Supplement in German and English describing the course of study and including an academic record.

### Important

- Please consult our Doctoral Programs regulations, available at [www.ius.uzh.ch/faculty/rsjur.html](http://www.ius.uzh.ch/faculty/rsjur.html)
- A list of members of the teaching staff is available at [www.ius.uzh.ch/faculty/organisation/chairs.html](http://www.ius.uzh.ch/faculty/organisation/chairs.html)

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