



**Universität  
Zürich<sup>UZH</sup>**

**Faculty of Law**

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**Information brochure**

# **Double Degree Master's Programs**



**Fall Semester 2023**

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# 1 Double Degree Master's Programs

## 1.1 Aim and content

The Master's programs conducted jointly with the partner faculties offer students the opportunity to broaden and deepen their knowledge of the Swiss legal system, the legal system of the country of the respective partner faculty, and of international law. Familiarity with foreign legal systems is an important objective of the program.

After a standard study period of two years, the academic degree of Master of Law UZH of RWF UZH as well as the corresponding degree of the partner university is awarded for a successful completion of the Double Degree program.

## 1.2 Partner faculties

The Faculty of Law of the University of Zurich (RWF UZH) offers Double Degree Master's programs in cooperation with the following nine partner faculties:

- King's College London, The Dickson Poon School of Law (United Kingdom)
- Maastricht University, Faculty of Law (The Netherlands)
- University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Law School (The Netherlands)
- Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Faculty of Law (Belgium)
- Université de Strasbourg, Faculté de Droit, Économie, Gestion et Sciences Politiques et Sociales (France)
- The University of Hong Kong, Faculty of Law (People's Republic of China)
- Doshisha University, Graduate School of Law (Japan)
- University of California, Berkeley Law (USA)
- University of Johannesburg, Johannesburg Law School (South Africa)

## 2 Admission requirements

### 2.1 General admission requirements

To participate in the Double Degree Master's program at RWF UZH, applicants must be enrolled at the University of Zurich as their home university. In addition, students must successfully pass the application procedure at RWF UZH. There is no entitlement to a study place, even at partner universities without study place restrictions or without the requirement of language certificates.

### 2.2 Special admission requirements of the partner faculties

#### 2.2.1 King's College London, The Dickson Poon School of Law

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 5;
  - One of the following [language certificates](#):<sup>1</sup>
    - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 7.0 overall with a minimum of 6.5 in all skills
    - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL iBT**): minimum requirement 100 overall with a minimum of 25 in writing and 23 in all other skills
    - Cambridge Certificate in English (**CPE** or **CAE**): 185 overall and minimum 176 in all skills
    - Pearson Test of Academic English (**PTE**): minimum requirement 69 overall with a minimum of 62 in all skills
- ➔ Limitation of study places: max. 30 places

<sup>1</sup> **IMPORTANT:** the language certificates may not be older than 2 years at the time of the start of the studies at King's College; i.e. the language certificates may not be older than 1 year at the time of application at RWF UZH.

### 2.2.2 Maastricht University, Faculty of Law

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 4.7;
- No language certificate necessary, but advantageous
- ➔ No limitation of study places in general, but max. 5 study places for the study program „Forensics, Criminology and Law“

### 2.2.3 University of Amsterdam, Amsterdam Law School

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 4.7;
- One of the following [language certificates](#):<sup>2</sup>
  - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 7.0 overall, with a minimum of 6.5 in all skills
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL iBT**): minimum requirement 100 overall with a minimum of 24 in reading and writing, 22 in listening and 25 speaking
  - University of Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (**CPE**)
  - University of Cambridge Advanced Certificate in English (**CAE**): minimum 190 points
- ➔ No limitation of study places

<sup>2</sup> **IMPORTANT:** the language certificates may not be older than 2 years at the time of the start of the studies at the University of Amsterdam; i.e. the language certificates may not be older than 1 year at the time of application at RWF UZH

### 2.2.4 Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Faculty of Law

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 4.7;
  - One of the following [language certificates](#):
    - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 7.0 overall
    - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL**): minimum requirement 600 points in the paper-based test, 250 in the computer-based test or 100 points in the internet-based test
    - Cambridge Certificate in English (**CPE** or **CAE**)
- ➔ Limitation of study places: max. 15 places

### 2.2.5 Université de Strasbourg, Faculté de Droit, des Sciences Politiques et de Gestion

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 4.7;
  - One of the following [language certificates](#) is required for the Master's programs in French:
    - Diplôme d'études en langue française (**DELFL**): minimum requirement level B2
    - Diplôme du test de connaissance du français (**TCF**): minimum requirement level B2
    - For the Master's program in English an English language certificate level C1 is required
- ➔ Limitation of study places: max. 6 places
- 4 study places for the Master's program in French
  - 2 study places for the Master's program in English
- The English Master's program Human Rights Law in a Changing World offered by the University of Strasbourg can only be taken in combination with the English Master's program International and Comparative Law offered by the University of Zurich.

### **2.2.6 The University of Hong Kong, Faculty of Law**

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 5;
- One of the following [language certificates](#):
  - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 7.0 overall with a minimum of 6.5 in all skills
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL**): minimum requirement 593 points in the paper-based test or 97 points in the internet-based test

→ Limitation of study places: max. 5 places

### **2.2.7 Doshisha University, Graduate School of Law**

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 4.7;
- One of the following language certificates:
  - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 6.5 overall
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL**): minimum 85 points in the internet-based test

→ Limitation of study places: max. 5 places

### **2.2.8 University of California, Berkeley Law**

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 5;
- One of the following [language certificates](#):
  - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 7.0 overall
  - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL**): minimum requirement 600 points in the paper-based test or 100 points in the internet-based test

→ Limitation of study places: max. 5 places



### **2.2.9 University of Johannesburg, Faculty of Law**

- Bachelor's degree with minimum grade 4.7;
  - One of the following [language certificates](#):
    - International English Language Testing System (**IELTS**): minimum requirement 7.0 overall
    - Test of English as a Foreign Language (**TOEFL**): minimum requirement 110 overall
- ➔ No limitation of study places

## **3 Application procedure**

### **3.1 First step: Admission/enrollment at UZH**

In order to be able to apply to RWF UZH for a place in the Double Degree Master's program, students must first be admitted to a Master's program of RWF UZH. The Admissions Office of the University of Zurich is responsible for this step.

For the study program offered in English evidence of sufficient knowledge of English must be provided upon registration with UZH. For further information regarding application and admission to UZH, please visit this [website](#).

#### **3.1.1 Students of RWF UZH**

Applicants who are already studying at RWF UZH in the Bachelor's degree program and wish to continue with a Double Degree Master's program must submit a request for a change of study program to their desired Double Degree Master's program during the online registration for the next semester in the student portal. At this point, they choose both the desired partner university as well as the study program at RWF UZH.

The online registration period of UZH for fall semester takes place from **15 May – 31 May**.

#### **3.1.2 Students from another university**

Applicants with a law degree from another university must go through the regular application/enrollment process for admission to a Master's program at RWF UZH.

For information on admission to the Master's program, please contact the [UZH Admissions Office](#).

The application period at UZH for fall semester takes place from **1 January – 30 April**.

### **3.2 Second step: Application for a study place in a Double Degree program at RWF UZH**

After (conditional) admission to the Master's program at UZH, applicants must submit a complete online application incl. all relevant documents to the Student Center of RWF UZH for the allocation of a study place in a Double Degree Master's program.

Applicants may apply for up to three partner universities, prioritizing their choice. The application portal can be found [on our website](#) at the top right under "Apply now".

The following mandatory application documents must be submitted online:

- Complete application form for the allocation of a place on a Double Degree Master's program;
- Letter of motivation in the respective language of instruction of the partner faculty, for each desired partner faculty;
- Curriculum vitae (with photo) in the respective language of instruction of the desired partner faculty;
- Copy of the Bachelor's degree (or Transcript of Records if the Bachelor's degree has not yet been awarded);
- Copy of the Admissions Office's letter regarding the (conditional) admission to the Master's program;
- Copy of the passport or identity card;
- Proof of language skills (copy of online test results is sufficient for the application, copy of language certificate can be submitted later), exception: Maastricht University

The following documents are optional:

- Proof of other relevant (i.e. legal) qualifications, e.g. work references, recommendation letters

The RWF UZH application period for the Double Degree Master's programs is **1 July – 15 August**.

- ➔ Exception: Applicants with foreign previous education from countries requiring a visa are recommended to apply from **1 July – 31 July**.

### **3.3 Allocation of study places**

The respective Steering Committee of the Faculty of Law selects students on the basis of the written applications and individual selection interviews. In case of sufficient qualification, the individual selection interview may not be necessary.

Study places are allocated based on the following criteria:

- average grade of Bachelor's degree or previous academic achievements;
- knowledge of the language of instruction;
- the student's motivation to study presented in the letter of motivation and during the interview; and
- additional relevant qualifications for the Double Degree Master's program (e.g. work references, legal internships)

The minimum requirements are as follows:

- minimum average grade of 4.7 (or deviating requirements of the partner faculties); and
- Bachelor of Law degree within 5 years

The selection interview may be a decisive factor for the allocation of a study place. The provisional dates of the selection interviews are published in advance on the Internet. The invitations to the individual selection interviews are sent by e-mail.

Applicants who cannot be assigned a study place at a partner faculty of the Double Degree Master's program will be transferred to the desired regular Master's program or exmatriculated upon request after completion of the selection process.

For applicants who had aimed for a Master of Law in English, a transfer to a Master's program in German is only possible if sufficient German language skills can be proven.

If the study place is allocated to the second or third priority, the transfer to the respective study program will be arranged.

The final decision on the allocation of study places in a Double Degree Master's program will be communicated to the applicants by e-mail by the beginning of October at the latest.

Please note:

With the allocation of a study place to one of the Double Degree partner faculties, the enrollment in the Double Degree Master's program becomes definite.

The allocation of a place in a Double Degree Master's program by RWF UZH is subject to admission by the respective partner faculties. Applicants nominated for the Double Degree program undergo a further registration process at the partner universities, which, however, does not constitute an additional application procedure.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Exception: [LL.M. in Public International Law](#) and [LL.M. in International Trade and Investment Law](#) at the University of Amsterdam. Students interested in these two study programs must undergo an additional application procedure at UvA.

## **4 Study program at RWF UZH**

### **4.1 Duration and start of studies**

The Double Degree Master's Program generally lasts for four semesters. Students spend two semesters each at RWF UZH and at the partner faculty (exception: study program at the Berkeley School of Law).

The start of studies at RWF UZH is always in fall semester. It is not possible to start the program in spring semester. Master's modules can be booked prior to the start of the Double Degree Master's program, but the duration of studies is always at least 4 semesters, regardless of how many Master's modules have already been completed.

### **4.2 Course content**

The study program at RWF UZH comprises study achievements in the amount of 60 ECTS credits according to the Study Regulations for the Double Degree Master's programs (StudO DD RWF).

Students at RWF UZH can choose between the two following study programs:

- Study program Rechtswissenschaft (language: German and English)
- Study program International and Comparative Law (language: exclusively English)

Each study program at a partner faculty is determined by the relevant regulations of the faculty in question. Coursework completed at the partner faculties is taken into account in the UZH degree by means of a general transfer of 30 ECTS credits. For information on the different study programs of the partner universities, please consult the websites of the respective partner universities. In addition, you will find a flyer with a useful overview

of the study program for each partner university on our website under [Partner Faculties](#).

### **4.3 Language**

Classes and exams at RWF UZH take place in German and English or exclusively in English. Classes and exams at the partner faculties take place primarily in the language of instruction of the faculty in question.

### **4.4 Enrollment and study fees**

Students are principally regularly enrolled at RWF UZH during the whole program (at least four semesters). The tuition fees of RWF UZH are cancelled for the semesters spent at the partner faculty. The tuition fees at the partner faculty are determined by the relevant agreement of RWF UZH with the partner faculty. For more information on tuition fees at the partner faculties please also refer to the flyers on our website.

### **4.5 Application for the Master's degree**

Double Degree students can apply for their UZH Master's degree in the fourth semester if they have successfully completed their study program in Zurich and at the partner university according to the StudO DD RWF.

The date of conferral of the RWF UZH Master's diplomas depends on the awarding of diplomas by the partner faculties. Depending on the partner faculty, delays can occur.

All relevant information concerning the graduation process (including deadlines) can be found here:

<https://www.ius.uzh.ch/en/studies/general/graduation.html>

## **5 Website**

This brochure does not claim to be complete. Please also consult our [website on the Double Degree Master's programs](#). The website contains further useful information and is updated regularly.

## **6 Contact information**

If you have any questions about the Double Degree Master's programs, please contact:

Study Dean's Office  
Student Center  
University of Zurich  
Rämistrasse 74/2  
CH-8001 Zurich, Switzerland

[Contact form](#)

Consultation hours:  
Wednesday, 9.00-12.00 (online)