

MASTER'S DEGREE

BUSINESS LAW CLINICAL EDUCATION « ECLA »



INTRODUCTION

The Business Law Clinical Education master's degree is a specialist course in private law. It is aimed at students who will go on to practice business law as in-house legal advisers and lawyers. After completing the course, students will have developed their knowledge of private law (civil, criminal and procedural) and have acquired solid skills in various branches of business law (insolvency procedures, taxation, banking, etc.). The concept of clinical education is based on the structure of medical studies. Medical students do not learn medicine purely through books but also practice medicine on patients in hospitals. When they graduate, young doctors already have solid practical experience. In the same way, the ECLA Master's degree is founded on the belief that expertise in law encompasses practical experience which complements theoretical study.

Clinical education involves simulations that enables students to apply theoretical knowledge to real cases. In addition to classic teaching methods such as lectures and tutorials, the ECLA master's degree is characterized by innovative teaching that focuses on practice: talks from practitioners (lawyers), simulations and moot courts, analysis of cases and internships. Additionally, to provide students with international opportunities, a bilingual English and French course on European Union Law is also offered, as well as a course on common law for contract law and liability. All courses and tutorials are compulsory. There are approximately twenty hours of study per week.

OBJECTIVES

The business law clinical education program is designed to train practitioners working in legal advice and litigation, who will then have both high-level academic expertise and significant practical experience. The clinical education program is based on practical experience in law. Students will therefore be recognized not only for their broad academic knowledge but also for their legal expertise. Using concrete cases, introduced by legal professionals and private individuals, students will provide appropriate and precise answers.

The ECLA master's degree is designed to be vocational. It therefore stands as good preparation for the entrance exams to French law schools (CRFPA) and the French National School for the Judiciary (ENM). After completing the course, students will have consolidated their basic knowledge of private law studied in previous years: in civil law, criminal law and procedural law (civil and criminal procedure). Revision of fundamental concepts encountered during the degree is based on advanced practical exercises.

This means that graduates will have received the best possible training for the entrance exam for the Centre Régional de Formation Professionnelle des Avocats (Pre-CAPA). Studying specialist subjects should enable students to tackle professional practice and then progress in the branch that best corresponds to their ambitions. The aim of the master's degree is to enable students to familiarize themselves with the common subjects frequently encountered in the business world: company law, taxation, securities, ECHR law, contract negotiation, asset law, bankruptcy law, banking and credit law, private international law, intellectual property law, business criminal law and European Union law.



ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- **The course is aimed at students with a bachelor's degree in law (access in the first year of the master's degree) or 60 ECTS in a master's degree (access in second year of the master's degree) in law, preferably with an emphasis in private law.**

SKILLS AND EXPERTISES

Theoretical knowledge is of course important. The ECLA master's degree focuses more, however, on developing skills in organization, reasoning and methodology, rather than a purely technical approach to law. Essays on new and original legal issues and simulations require students to go beyond a purely academic approach to the subjects taught.

The master's degree aims above all to pass on the practical expertise required of legal practitioners. Asking the right question is more important than having an answer to every question. A clinical education in law should also enable students to think about their future careers, by observing role models at the university and during placements. Interaction with legal practitioners is encouraged.

The master's degree encourages development of the human, social and interpersonal skills required of a legal professional or lawyer: listening, using critical thinking and persuasion. In order to help build students' confidence, the master's degree also encourages participation in extra-curricular activities outside law, and teamwork. The question of ethics and deontology is also addressed.



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KEY FIGURES

90,9%
of students graduated
in 2017.

**Course launched
in 2015**

Source: OVIE (Unîmes Student Life
and Employment Observatory)