

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Master's Thesis in International Commercial Arbitration Law**  
**Examensarbete i internationell kommersiell skiljedomsrätt**

**15.0 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**15.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	JU679M
<b>Valid from:</b>	Spring 2017
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2015-02-16
<b>Changed:</b>	2016-09-14
<b>Department</b>	Department of Law
<b>Main field:</b>	International Commercial Arbitration
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1E - Second cycle, contains degree project for Master of Arts/Master of Science (60 credits)

## Decision

Approved by the Education Committee (delegation) on 16 February 2015. Revised by decision of the Education Committee (delegation) on 14 September 2016.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

Students must be accepted to the Master of Laws Programme in International Commercial Arbitration Law and have satisfactorily completed the requirements in the programme's first course International Commercial Arbitration Law and have been admitted to the course on Advanced International Arbitration Law.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
0100	Master Thesis in International Commercial Arbitration Law	15

## Course content

This course is the final course in the Master of Laws Programme in International Commercial Arbitration Law. During this course the students will author an independent, qualified research project (thesis). Students will concurrently take the course in Advanced International Arbitration Law.

The course's instruction aims to prepare and support students work on their master theses by focusing for example on the requirements for academic writing, handling and choice of methodology, selection choice of research inquiries, requirement of scholarly legal study, as well as the prerequisite for legal analysis and argumentation within the area of international arbitration. Students shall plan an author a thesis within an appropriate and limited subject area within international arbitration law. Students shall also orally present their research and will also comment on another student's thesis (act as an opponent).

The Master thesis project is to be completed independently and individually and submitted as a single paper; it may not be divided into different essays. The subject for the thesis may be multi-disciplinary.

The course further develops and deepens the student's knowledge, both in terms of subject and methodology, beyond the preceding courses in the Master programme.

## Learning outcomes

After successful completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding of international arbitration law, and considerably advanced knowledge and understanding of the subject in International Arbitration law addressed in the master thesis, including insights in the relevant research and legal development issues; including insights in the relevant research and legal development issues;
- demonstrate the ability to systematically and independently identify, formulate and limit research questions within international arbitration law, as well as to use appropriate methods to plan and carry out the thesis work within set time limits;
- demonstrate deeper knowledge as well as the ability to integrate and apply relevant scholarly methods, and make assessments within the subject area considering relevant scientific, social and ethical aspects even with limited information;
- identify his/her need for additional knowledge and take responsibility for the development of his/her knowledge,
- display the ability to clearly in oral and written format report and discuss his/her conclusions and the knowledge and arguments that form the basis for these conclusions.

### **Education**

Instruction occurs in the form of supervision, lectures, seminars, group tutorials and workshops. A supervisor will be assign at the start of the course.

During the course seminars are arranged which will help students to prepare their theses, with focus on the choice and limitation of research questions, theories and methods, organization, introduction and conclusions, argumentation, as well as the academic requirements for legal sources and citation to authorities. Workshops academic legal writing in English will be held with the purpose of giving students the opportunity to develop their legal writing in English skills. During the course students will submit written assignments relating to their thesis work upon they will receive feedback and will discuss at seminars and tutorials. Students will orally present their ongoing work at a seminar and also present the final thesis at a final thesis seminar.

The Master thesis project includes serving as discussant ("opposition") and critically reviewing and evaluating another student's Master thesis at a seminar on the thesis.

Active participation in 80 per cent of the schedule instruction is compulsory. In the event of special circumstances, the head of the course can grant exceptions. In this case, the student shall be responsible for completing an additional assignment.

Instruction and the Master thesis project will be in English.

### **Forms of examination**

In order to submit his/her thesis, the student has satisfactorily completed the course International Commercial Arbitration Law and Advanced International Arbitration Law.

Examination occurs in conjunction with the student presenting and defending his/her academic paper at a seminar on the thesis. Course grades are determined based on a combination of the individual's performance in each of the different elements of the course: the thesis, the oral presentation and the opposition.

The examiner is appointed by the head of the department. The examiner is the chairperson of the seminar on the thesis. The supervisor may not be the examiner.

All course requirements must be met in order to pass the course.

Students who initially fail the examination are given the opportunity to be assessed a second time. Students who have received a passing grade are not allowed to be assessed again in order to achieve a higher grade. Students who fail the course twice from the same examiner have the right to request a different examiner for their next examination. This, however, does not apply if there are particular reasons that a different examiner cannot be appointed.

The grading system uses a criterion-referenced scale of seven grades with passing grades of A (Excellent), B (Very good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory), or E (Sufficient). Failing grades are Fx (Insufficient) or F (Entirely insufficient).

Grading criteria shall be made available at the latest at the beginning of the course.

Essential elements of assessment:

1. Ability to identify, formulate and critically analyse questions

2. Knowledge of details and insight into the subject
3. Written presentation - systematic, clear and logical presentation of the material, with focus on presentation of the central issues
4. Familiarity with relevant material and ability to use relevant material
5. Accounting for chosen method or methods; Relevance of the method or methods; Consistent use of the method or methods
6. Independence
7. Consideration of the social, scientific and ethical aspects of the selected question
8. Substantiated conclusions with deeper discussion of the subject area
9. Mastery of scholarly accuracy, i.e., specificity and precision in reporting references and sources
10. Clear, correct and concise language, using established terminology
11. Ability to receive and respond to relevant criticism and comments
12. Ability to adhere to the determined schedule for the project.

**Misc**

Effective date

These provisions are effective from 16 January 2017.

**Required reading**

Required reading is determined by the supervisor.