



**LEUPHANA**  
UNIVERSITY OF LÜNEBURG

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# GAZETTE

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— Subject-Specific Schedule 5.4a International Law and Sustainability (LL.M.) to the General Assessment Regulations for Master's Programs at the Graduate School of Leuphana University Lüneburg

## **Subject-Specific Schedule 5.4a International Law and Sustainability (LL.M.) to the General Assessment Regulations for Master's Programs at the Graduate School of Leuphana University Lüneburg**

In accordance with Section 44 (1) sentence 2 of the Lower Saxony Higher Education Act (NHG) in the version dated 26 February 2007 (Nds. GVBl. p. 69), last amended by Art. 14 of the Act of 13 December 2024 (Nds. GVBl. 2024 No. 118), on 12 November 2025, the Faculty council of the School of Public Affairs at Leuphana University has adopted the following Subject-Specific Schedule 5.4a to the General Assessment Regulations for Master's programs at the Graduate School of Leuphana University Lüneburg dated 17 September 2008 (Leuphana Gazette No. 15/08 of 6 October 2008), last amended on 19 April 2023 (Leuphana Gazette No. 49/23 of 16 June 2023). The Executive Board approved the Subject-Specific Schedule in accordance with Section 44 (1) sentence 3 and Section 37 (1) sentence 3 No. 5b NHG on 26 November 2025.

### **SECTION I**

#### **Regarding §1 RPO, scope of application, designations**

The study components to be completed in Lüneburg are governed by the General Assessment Regulations for the Master's programs of the Graduate School and by this Subject-Specific Schedule. The examination achievements to be taken at the partner university are subject to the examination regulations of the partner universities.

#### **Regarding § 2 RPO, aim of the programme, purpose of the examination**

The English-language double degree Masters programme "International Law and Sustainability" (ILaS) is aimed at national and international students. The aim of this programme is to enable students to deal with the interrelationships between law and sustainability in global, national and regional contexts on a sound legal basis. The close cooperation between the partner universities and the study visits to two different countries ensure that, in addition to professional qualifications, students acquire linguistic and (inter)cultural skills that are very important for international sustainability law.

#### **Acquisition of subject-specific skills**

##### **Graduates:**

- have broad and theoretically sound knowledge in the fields of law and sustainability based on the latest scientific findings;
- have sound, broad and practically applicable knowledge – with a focus on sustainability in the environmental, social and economic fields – in international and public law as well as transnational private law;
- have expertise in international and transnational sustainability law and experience abroad, enabling them to deal with complex transnational legal issues in English;
- have a critical understanding of the most important theories and methods of international sustainability law;

- can develop, apply and evaluate new ideas or procedures within international sustainability law and related areas, taking into account different assessment criteria;
- have the technical, conceptual and methodological skills to conduct independent research in the field of sustainability law.

#### Acquisition of interdisciplinary skills

##### Graduates:

- can work responsibly in teams of experts and lead groups or organisations in complex tasks.
- can guide and specifically promote the professional development of others.
- can deal with problems in a team in a forward-looking manner.
- can present complex subject-related problems and solutions to experts in a convincing manner and develop them further with them, as well as conduct subject-specific and cross-disciplinary discussions and present their work results.
- can define, reflect on, evaluate and sustainably shape goals for learning and work processes.
- can define goals for new application- or research-oriented tasks, reflecting on the possible social, economic and cultural implications, use appropriate means and independently acquire knowledge for this purpose.

### **Section 3 Details on the structure and content of the subject-specific area of the Master's program**

#### **Module overview Masters programme in International Law and Sustainability (LL.M)**

(see also Subject-Specific Schedule 8 Complementary Studies)

### Module Overview Masters Programme in International Law and Sustainability (LL.M)

2nd year of study (Sept. to Aug.)	UoG / UWC / UWI / Milan		Master's dissertation 20 ECTS					
			Pathway Specialisation* 40					
1st year of study (Oct. to Aug.)	Lüneburg	Semester 2	Transnational Private Law & Sustainability I: Conflict of Laws and Transnational Litigation (MA-ILaS-2a) 5 ECTS	Transnational Private Law & Sustainability II: Sustainable Private Law (MA-ILaS-2b) 5 ECTS	Transnational Private Law & Sustainability III: Corporate Social Responsibility (MA-ILaS-2c) 5 ECTS	Current Issues in Transnational Environmental and Sustainability Law (MA-ILaS-2d) 5 ECTS	Law and Sustainability Transformation (MA-GL-2) 5 ECTS	Complementary Studies 5 ECTS
		Semester 1	Public International Law (MA-ILaS-1a) 5 ECTS	Environmental Law (MA-GL-4) 5 ECTS	International Economic Law and Sustainability (MA-ILaS-1b) 5 ECTS	Sustainable Ocean Law and Governance (MA-ILaS-1c) 5 ECTS	International Sustainability Law (Ma-GL-6) 5 ECTS	Complementary Studies 5 ECTS

\* An LL.M. programme at the University of Glasgow, University of the Western Cape (UWC), University of the West Indies or University of Milan

	Compulsory modules in Lüneburg
	Complementary studies in Lüneburg
	Pathway specialisation at a partner university
	Master's thesis at a partner university

The standard period of study is four semesters. The scope of study is 120 credit points. The first and second semesters must be completed at Leuphana University Lüneburg, and the third and fourth semesters must be completed at one of the following partner universities.

- University of Glasgow (UoG)
- University of the Western Cape (UWC) in Cape Town, South Africa
- University of the West Indies (UWI)
- Università degli Studi di Milano Statale (University of Milan)

The Master's thesis depends on the location of the third and fourth semesters. It must be written at the location of the partner universities.

The Masters programme is completed when a total of 120 credit points (CP) have been earned in accordance with the Subject-Specific Schedule. The modules (60 CP) scheduled in Lüneburg in the 1st and 2nd semesters must be completed at Leuphana University Lüneburg; the remaining 60 CP in the 3rd and 4th semesters must be completed at one of the partner universities.

**Regarding § 5 RPO, Academic Degrees**

Master of Laws (LL.M.); award of two degrees, one Master of Laws (LL.M.) in International Law and Sustainability from Leuphana University Lüneburg and one Master of Laws (LL.M.) from one of the corresponding partner universities.

The Masters programme is completed when a total of 120 credit points (CP) have been earned in accordance with this Subject-Specific Schedule. At Leuphana University Lüneburg, 60 CP must be completed in the 1st and 2nd semesters; the remaining 60 CP in the 3rd and 4th semesters must be completed at one of the partner universities.

If the required CP are not achieved at the respective partner university after exhausting the respective examination attempts, the Master's examination at Leuphana University Lüneburg is definitively failed (para. 13 (3) RPO) and the academic degree "LL.M." cannot be awarded by Leuphana University Lüneburg.

**Regarding Section 6 (para. 10) RPO**

The teaching and examination language is English.

**Regarding § 8 RPO**

Depending on the chosen study path, the Master's thesis is written at the respective partner university in accordance with the examination modalities applicable at that university.

### Module Table for the Master's Programme in International Law and Sustainability at Leuphana University Lüneburg in the First Semester

Modules	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
<b>Mandatory Modules</b>					
<i>Public International Law (MA-ILaS-1a)</i>	<i>In this module the students will receive a basic introduction to public international law, a body of rules that govern the conduct of States and other international actors (such as international organisations). Two main aims will be pursued: First, to present to students the 'infrastructure' of public international law - its sources and actors, its impact on international relations, and its limits; Second, to illustrate how rules of international law shape international cooperation in important areas of international life (from environmental protection to world trade and peace-keeping).</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH) or 1 Seminar (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 combined scientific work or 1 written scientific work without supervision</i>	5	English
<i>Environmental Law (MA-GL-4)</i>	<i>This module offers a comprehensive overview of environmental law from international, European, and national perspectives. Students will explore the foundational principles and key instruments governing environmental protection across these interconnected levels of governance. Key thematic areas covered include climate change, biodiversity conservation, pollution control, and the role of the courts and other enforcement mechanisms. Upon completion, students will be able to analyze and evaluate complex environmental challenges through a multi-level legal lens.</i>	<i>1 Lecture or 1 Seminar (4 CH)</i>	<i>1 written examination under supervision (60 min.) or 1 combined scientific work</i>	5	English

**Continuation of the Module Table for the Master's Programme in International Law and Sustainability at  
Leuphana University Lüneburg in the First Semester**

Modules	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
<b>Mandatory Modules</b>					
<i>International Economic Law and Sustainability (MA-ILaS-1b)</i>	<i>In this module the students will be introduced to international economic law, particularly world trade law, and its intersections with sustainability issues will be addressed, in particular environmental protection and labour and social standards.</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH) or 1 Seminar (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 written scientific work under supervision (120 min.) or 1 combined scientific work</i>	5	English
<i>International Sustainability Law (Ma-GL-6)</i>	<i>This course focuses on the international regulatory approaches and intersections among the three pillars of sustainable development: economic, environmental and social (human rights). Having developed in different contexts and by different institutions, Human Rights Law, International Environmental Law and International Economic Law each have unique structures, narratives and enforcement mechanisms. In line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals, which envisage an integrative framework for sustainable development, the course will also explore mechanisms and tools for the systemic integration of the three pillars and recent developments in treaty lawmaking as an essential basis for a sustainable world. Students will gain knowledge of the main international legal agreements relevant for achieving the SDGs such as environmental and climate protection or gender equality and learn to identify conflicts and synergies among the different legal frameworks.</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 written scientific work under supervision (90 min.) or 1 combined scientific work</i>	5	English

**Continuation of the Module Table for the Master's Programme in International Law and Sustainability at  
Leuphana University Lüneburg in the First Semester**

Modules	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
<b>Mandatory Modules</b>					
<i>Sustainable Ocean Law and Governance (MA-ILaS-1c)</i>	<i>This course addresses the role, achievements and shortcomings of international law and relevant global and regional actors and institutions in achieving sustainable ocean governance. Its main focus is on the international legal framework governing the sustainable use and protection of the oceans and the international institutions established for the purpose of, or involved in, implementing these legal frameworks (for example, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), the International Seabed Authority (ISA) or regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs)).</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 written scientific work under supervision (90 min.) or 1 combined scientific work</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Transnational Private Law &amp; Sustainability I: Conflict of Laws and Transnational Litigation (MA-ILaS-2a)</i>	<i>Issues of sustainability law are typically of a cross-border nature. In this module the students will look at such cross-border disputes from a private law perspective. The students will deal with international jurisdiction and other questions of international litigation as well as will get an introduction into conflict of laws, with a focus on the European Union rules in these areas.</i>	<i>1 Lecture (3 CH) oder 1 Seminar (3 CH)</i>	<i>1 written scientific work under supervision (120 min.) or 1 oral examination (group examination, 15 min per person)</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>English</i>

### Module Table for the Master's Programme in International Law and Sustainability at Leuphana University Lüneburg in the Second Semester

Modules	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
<b>Mandatory Modules</b>					
<i>Transnational Private Law &amp; Sustainability II: Sustainable Private Law (MA-ILaS-2b)</i>	<i>Topics of sustainability law are usually not limited to single/autonomous legal systems. In this module, students take an in-depth look at private law issues relating to sustainability law that are being negotiated simultaneously at different levels (national, European, international, transnational law). These issues include, amongst others, private climate lawsuits against large CO2 emitters as well as European Union directives and regulations promoting sustainability through private law.</i>	<i>1 Seminar (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 combined scientific work</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Transnational Private Law &amp; Sustainability III: Corporate Social Responsibility (MA-ILaS-2c)</i>	<i>In this module the students will deal with selected legal issues relating to the development of company-related sustainability regulation at national and European level with their current focus on supply chain monitoring and climate protection issues.</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 written scientific work under supervision (60 min.)</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>English</i>

### Continuation of Module Table for the Master's Programme in International Law and Sustainability at Leuphana University Lüneburg in the Second Semester

Modules	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
<b>Mandatory Modules</b>					
<i>Law and Sustainability Transformation (MA-GL-2)</i>	<i>This course provides an introduction to the concept of law, legal methodology and the role of law in sustainability transformation. It offers a critical understanding of the structure and functioning of international, European and national law both as an important tool to steer societies towards sustainability and, importantly, as a constraint to such efforts. A particular focus of the course is on the interrelationship between the different levels of law as well as key differences between them with respect to actors, law-making, instruments, implementation and enforcement from a global, regional and domestic level.</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 written examination under supervision (120 min.)</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>English</i>
<i>Current Issues in Transnational Environmental and Sustainability Law (MA-ILaS-2d)</i>	<i>In this module, the students will deal with changing current topics in the field of transnational environmental and sustainability law. The different topics are examined from the perspectives of public law, private law, criminal law and/or disciplines such as legal philosophy. Possible topics include current developments in the field of international environmental law. Thus the students will have an opportunity to engage in depth with specific, topical issues and to contextualize the knowledge acquired in other, more broadly oriented courses.</i>	<i>1 Lecture (2 CH) or 1 Seminar (2 CH)</i>	<i>1 written scientific work under supervision (90 min.) or 1 combined scientific work</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>English</i>

**Module table Complementary studies**

Modules	Content	Types of taught components (type and number of courses, CH)	Module requirements	CP	Comments
<b>Complementary Studies</b> <i>1-3 Semesters</i>	The structure, content, types of class and assessments in Complementary Studies are set out in Subject-specific Schedule 8: Complementary Studies				5 CP per module each semester

**SECTION II****Entry into force**

This subject-specific schedule shall enter into force after its public announcement in the Official Newsletter of Leuphana University Lüneburg (Leuphana Gazette) at the start of the winter semester 2026/27.

