

Master's Program in Law

Name of the degree to be conferred	Master of Law
Educational purpose	To respond to the demand for human resources in the areas of business law, the Master's Program in Law seeks to develop and re-educate highly specialized professionals who possess the professional legal ability to present appropriate solutions for the legal problems that companies face in the modern society.
Vision of human resources development	This program, which is intended for those who have certain working experience at a company, fosters highly specialized professionals who can solve diverse problems arising in the modern society using specialized legal knowledge and the legal way of thinking.

Diploma Policy

The degree of Master of Law is commenced to those who have fulfilled the requirements for the completion of the Master's programs, as set out in the Graduate School Regulations of the University of Tsukuba and related university regulations, and who are deemed to have the following competencies.

Competencies	Evaluation perspectives
1. Knowledge application competence: Ability to contribute to society with advanced knowledge	① Can you apply knowledge gained through research and other activities in society? ② Can you identify new problems, even in other fields of expertise, based on broad knowledge?
2. Management competence: Ability to appropriately address challenges from broad standpoints	① Can you take on major tasks with systematic planning? ② Can you understand and solve problems from multiple perspectives?
3. Communication competence: Ability to accurately and clearly communicate expert knowledge	① Are you capable of efficient communication for research purposes? ② Can you discuss research or research-specific knowledge with experts from your own field and from other fields?
4. Teamwork competence: Ability to work with a team and actively contribute to the achievement of goals	① Do you have experience cooperatively and actively working on challenges as part of a team? ② Have you helped promote projects and activities other than your own research?
5. Internationality competence: Willingness to contribute to international society	① Are you aware of making contributions to international society and getting involved in international activities? ② Have you obtained the linguistic skills necessary for international information collection and action?
6. Basic specialized knowledge: Basic way of thinking in law and basic specialized knowledge about the areas of business law.	① If the basic way of thinking was gained in law ② If basic knowledge was gained in the areas of business law
7. Ability to investigate and analyze literatures and precedents: Ability necessary for business law research to investigate and analyze literatures, judicial precedents, etc.	① If the literacy to search and investigate on one's own gained to obtain literatures, judicial precedents, etc. necessary to learn or research in business law ② If obtained literatures, judicial precedents, etc. are accurately read and analyzed, and obtained information is sorted out
8. Deep knowledge about the specific area of business law: Specialized knowledge necessary for the comprehension and research about at least one major area of business law	① If the deep knowledge about at least one major area of business law is gained and understood ② If capable of carrying out research based on the deep knowledge and comprehension about at least one major area of business law

9. Thesis writing ability: Ability to write a thesis (Especially one supported by the problem awareness behind the experience as an adult member of society, etc.) based on the deep knowledge about at least one major area of business law
- ① If research is carried out and organized into a thesis with an appropriate research theme set up based on the deep knowledge about at least one major area of business law
 - ② If the problem awareness behind the experience as an adult member of society, etc. is incorporated in research and is reflected in the thesis

Dissertation evaluation criteria

Evaluation items for degree thesis

1. The thesis must show originality (Especially, supported by the problem awareness behind the experience as an adult member of society, etc.).
2. A wide range of important literature is investigated, and based on the comprehension of it, one's own ideas are expanded.
3. References and bibliography must be appropriately shown.

Review board members · Review method

The review of degree theses requires the approval of the review board members formed by one chief reviewer and two or more sub-reviewers. As sub-reviewers, those who are not a full-time faculty member belonging to the Master's Program in Law can be added. A thesis for degree grant meeting all of the above evaluation items passes as a master's thesis with the final exam included in the judgment.

Curriculum Policy

- Basic specialized knowledge: The Program offers an extensive range of subjects from foundation subjects in the area of business law to applied subjects in the areas of "Corporate Law", "International Business Law", "Intellectual Property Law", "Social Economic Law", "Social and Economic Law" and "Tax Law".
 - Ability to investigate and analyze literatures, etc.: The Program offers Legal Research and Writing to develop the ability to investigate and analyze literatures.
 - Gain of deep specialized knowledge: The Program sets up seminars and other highly specialized subjects taught by full-time faculty members, and from the viewpoint of learning the latest working circumstances, some subjects are taught by professional practitioners as part-time faculty members.
- Moreover, the Program has subjects participated by those who have completed Seminar on Civil Law, Seminar on Commercial Law, Seminar on Tax Law, Case Study of Labor Law and so on and the doctoral program students, etc.

Curriculum organization policy

In order to cultivate the basic skills and wide perspectives as well as generic knowledge and ability in associated areas with the student's major at the core, the Program offers Degree Programs' Common Courses, Inter-disciplinary Foundation Courses to support students' research ability.

The Program offers common Major Subjects and sets up subjects in the areas of "Corporate Law", "International Business Law", "Intellectual Property Law", "Social and Economic Law" and "Tax Law" to gain specialized knowledge in these areas, and students gain advanced specialized knowledge through seminars, etc. Specifically, the following subjects are set up.

Note that students can freely take any subjects in any area.

- Common Major Subjects: Legal Research and Writing, Introduction to Business Law, Special Studies on Business Law, etc.
- Major Subjects 【Areas of corporate law】 Contract Law, Property Law, Security Law, Corporation Law, Accounting and Law, Securities Exchange Law, Civil Procedure Law, etc.
- Major Subjects 【Areas of international business law】 Conflict of Laws, International Economic Law, International Civil Procedure, etc.
- Major Subjects 【Areas of intellectual property law】 Copyright Law, Patent Law, Unfair Competition Law, Trademark Law, Design Law, International Intellectual Property Law, etc.
- Major Subjects 【Areas of social/economic law】 Antimonopoly Law, Labor and Employment Law, Social Security Law, etc.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major Subjects 【Areas of tax law】 Tax Law on Business, Tax Procedural Law, International Taxation, etc. • Seminar, etc.: Security Law Seminar, Contract, Tort Law Seminar, Company Law Seminar, Seminar on Civil Procedure Law, Conflict of Laws Seminar, Intellectual Property Law Seminar, Labor and Employment Law Seminar, Social Security Law Seminar, Tax Planning seminars, etc.
Learning methods • Processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the time of enrollment, each student is set up with supervisory faculty members in the specialized realm closest to the research theme that the student entered in his/her research plan, etc. Then, through learning the required subjects “Special Studies on Business Law I to VI” , each of the supervisory faculty members gives the student one-on-one supervision on learning. • As for the learning of Major Subjects, students are encouraged to select them around those in the area corresponding to their respective research plans and the issues in which he or she is interested, let alone take Common Major Subjects. To select the subjects to be taken in the area, a learning plan is created according to the student’s need under the advice of the supervisory faculty member, and the student learns in accordance with the plan. • To complete the Program, students must earn 30 credits or more including the required subjects (Special Studies on Business Law I to VI) of six credits, and in addition, a master’s thesis, which goes through the interim report and then is submitted in accordance with the regulations stipulated by the degree program, needs to pass its review and the final exam.
Evaluation of learning outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The learning outcomes of Common Major Subjects and Major Subjects are evaluated by the faculty member in charge of each subject, who evaluates students’ performance in various forms, including exams, reports, and class participation and contribution, and appraises the credits based on these. • “Special Studies on Business Law I to VI” are positioned as required Major Subjects to give personal attention for thesis supervision. Each supervisory faculty member grants credits in accordance with the achievement and progress of each student in master’s thesis research. • To evaluate the outcomes during the research process of master’s theses, the students in the second year since enrollment are required to submit a more concrete research plan. In the fall of the second year, the interim report sessions of master’s theses, in which in principle all students who will submit a master’s thesis must participate, are opened to allow the faculty members of the major to grasp each student’s progress and to create opportunities for exchanging opinions to produce higher quality master’s theses. • To evaluate the outcomes of a master’s thesis, a review exclusive board formed by one chief reviewer and two sub-reviewers (external experts may be asked to participate depending on the theme) is set up, then evaluates the thesis and gives an oral exam under participation of, in principle, all faculty members of the major. The acceptance of the thesis is judged with its contents and the result of the final exam included.
Admission Policy	
Desired students	We seek candidates who have certain working experience at a company and have strong motivation to learn and enthusiasm to be able to develop the ability as highly specialized professionals to solve diverse problems arising in the modern society using specialized legal knowledge and the legal way of thinking.
Selection policy	<p>Candidates are selected with a research plan and interview.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research plan Candidates are evaluated around the problem setting ability, planning ability, specialized knowledge and other requirements for research. • Interview Candidates are evaluated around the basic legal thinking, logical thinking, critical thinking, the research ability, specialized knowledge, communication ability, etc.