

**Program Guide
Master in Private Law**

College of Law - University of Bahrain

2024



Master in Private Law

1: About the Program

The Master's Degree in Private Law is a specialized program that follows the Bachelor's degree. Students in this program are awarded the degree upon passing the exams and succeeding in defending their theses.

2: Program Objectives

The program aims to achieve the following:

1. Providing the appropriate environment for creativity and creative thinking in different areas of law that leads to the advancement of scientific and professional skills of the researcher for the progression of his/her legal knowledge.
2. Creating the appropriate environment for creativity and creative thinking in the field of law, which leads to developing, refining, and promoting scientific capabilities.
3. Ability to analyze legislations, comparative legislations, and judgments by weighing and refuting different legal views and opinions.

4. Enabling the students to be familiar with the rules and methods of scientific research in the field of law and the principles of expressing legal opinion and recommendations to the legislator.

5. Promoting scientific research in the field of law at the University of Bahrain.

6. Providing the Bahraini community with graduates with distinguished legal experience and the ability to practice law with competence.

3: Program Intended Learning Outcomes

1. In-depth knowledge of the branches of Private Law.
2. Analyze and interpret legal texts and facts.
3. Refute and weigh between conflicting jurisprudential positions and comparative legislation.
4. Use scientific research skills to prepare legal studies and research that are in line with the needs of the labor market and society.
5. Conduct all legal and judicial work with competence and distinction.

4: Admission Requirements

The following requirements are required for admission to the Master's Program in Private Law:

- The applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from the University of Bahrain, or another university recognized by authorities, with a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of no less than 2.33 out of 4.0 points or equivalent thereof in other grading systems. Applicants with a GPA lower than 2.33 but no less than 2.00 may be accepted if they have at least one year of work experience in the field of specialization they wish to study, as determined by the relevant academic department if the need arises, or if the applicant is a sponsored student. According to article 12 of the Graduate System of the University of Bahrain
2. The applicant must attach the documents required to apply for postgraduate program as indicated on the admission requirements page of the University's website (Postgraduate Students Application Process): <https://www.uob.edu.bh/admission-requirements/>

5: Admission Procedures

1. Applications for admission to Master's Programs are submitted to the Deanship of Admission and Registration within specific time periods of the university calendar and on special forms prepared by the Deanship of Admission and Registration, attached to all necessary supporting documents.
2. The Deanship of Admission and Registration shall, after confirmation of papers and documents, inform the applicant of the result of the acceptance.

6: Duration of the Program

The duration of the program is two academic years, with four semesters, which can be extended in accordance with the permitted conditions and duration in the university's postgraduate system.

7: Language of the Program

The program is taught in Arabic with one course taught in English.

8: Job Opportunities and Graduate Destination

A graduate of the Master's Program in Private Law can work in the following positions:

1. A judge in civil, commercial, and labor courts.
2. A Legal consultant in governmental and private institutions such as commercial companies, financial institutions, transportation, shipping, and insurance companies.
3. A Legal researcher in governmental and professional institutions.
4. A Lecturer in the field of private law in law colleges.
5. A lawyer.
6. An Arbitrator in the field of commercial arbitration in commercial, economic and investment cases.

9: Program's Credit Hours

The program consists of a total of 33 credit hours, in which 27 credit hours are distributed over 9 courses, 3 hours for each course, in addition to 6 hours allocated for the master's thesis. Provided that the minimum study load in the semester is 9 credit hours and the maximum is 12 credit hours. The student is committed to the courses offered by the relevant department in this scope, noting that the student may register less than 9 credit hours in one semester during the period of their study.

10: Attendance and Teaching Pattern

The college follows a full-time physical attendance pattern. The lectures often start in the evening from 5 pm to 8 pm once a week for each course based on the student's course schedule in each semester. The college also adopts the application of the e-learning policy as one of the most important supporting tools in the teaching and learning process.

11: Study Mechanisms

The study in the Program's courses shall include all the topics included in the course description, and the students shall be assessed by either taking a written or oral exam or both, based on the course specification as determined by the college and department councils.

12: Evaluation and examination system

- Students are assessed and evaluated through written and oral examinations, which are conducted at the end of each semester according to appointments to which the student is informed in advance. The distribution of the grades are as follows:

- Mid-term written exam 25%
 - Oral exam 25%
 - Class participation and activity 10%
 - Final written exam 40%
- Regarding the research methods course (Law500), the above distribution of grades applies with the exception of the final written exams of 40% which is replaced by a discussion and evaluation of the research submitted by the student.
- The instructor teaching the course conducts a written exam for the student in a special in-depth study that deals with one of the topics of the course itself according to its description or relates to a part of it or to scientific developments related to it.
- A committee of members of the Section shall be constituted for the oral examination, one of which shall be the course's instructor.

13: Preparing the Master's Thesis for Discussion

1. The student is not allowed to register the master's thesis title unless the following conditions are met:
 - The student must not be under academic probation.
 - The student has passed the courses required in the program.

2. The student shall submit the project proposal for his thesis containing the definition of the project, his/her plan, and the objectives sought therein. Subsequently, the thesis proposal is submitted to the College Council for approval, based on the recommendations of the relevant Department Council.
3. The thesis is submitted for discussion, after the student successfully completes the courses with a GPA of at least (3.0) out of (4.0) (B) and prepares his/her thesis required to obtain a Master's Degree. The Supervisor then submits to the Department's Higher Studies Committee a detailed report on its suitability for discussion, accompanied with three printed and bounded copies of the thesis.
4. Based on the recommendations of the Department Council, the College Council later forms the Committee of Examiners, in which the decision on the formation of the Committee is then submitted to the Higher Studies Committee for final approval. The Committee consists of the Supervisor and two other members, one of which is an external examiner.
5. After the discussion and examination, the committee prepares a report recommending the acceptance, rejection, or acceptance with amendments. The amendments shall be made under the supervision of the Supervisor.
6. The grade is awarded after the discussion of the Master's Thesis, according to the Higher Studies Regulations and Appendices of the University of Bahrain.

7. The student is obligated to submit ten copies of the amended thesis, including three copies submitted to the members of the Examination Committee.

14: Academic Warning and Expulsion

The student is academically warned with expulsion if he/she does not obtain a minimum GPA of (3.0) out of (4.0) in any academic semester.

The student will be irretrievably expelled from the university in the following cases:

1. If the student does not obtain the minimum cumulative GPA (3.00) out of (4.00) at the end of the two semesters following the warning.
2. If the student exceeds the time limit for obtaining a master's degree.
3. If the student commits a violation, punishable by expulsion, in accordance with the university's regulations.

The master's student may be granted a higher diploma if the student is unable to complete the requirements for obtaining a master's degree as a result of having exhausted the maximum period of study in the program, has a low cumulative average, or based on the personal desire in accordance with the regulations stipulated in No. 42 of the Graduate Studies System at the University of Bahrain.

Study Plan for the Academic Program

Program credit hours distribution according to the type of courses

Number	Course Type	Credit Hours
1	University Requirement (UR)	-
2	College Requirement (CR)	-
3	Major Requirement (MR)	24
4	Major Elective (ME) (equivalent to 35% of the total specialized hours of the program)	-
5	General Studies Elective (free elective)	3
6	Minor (if available)	–
7	Thesis Credit Hours	6
8	Total Credit (CRD)	33

Study Plan

Year 1 - Semester 1

#	Course Title	Course Code	Credit hours
1	Research Methods	Law500	3
2	Civil Law	Law510	3
3	Commercial Law	Law515	3

Year 1 - Semester 2

#	Course Title	Course Code	Credit hours
1	Islamic Law	Law511	3
2	Law of Information	Law513	3
3	Commercial Arbitration (taught in English)	Law516	3

Year 2 - Semester 3

#	Course Title	Course Code	Credit hours
1	Law of Civil and Commercial Procedures	Law512	3
2	Private International Law	Law518	3
3	An elective course, including the following: a) Philosophy of Law b) Law of Banking Operations c) Intellectual Property d) Islamic Banking Operations	Law501 Law514 Law517 Law519	3

Year 2 - Semester 4

#	Course Title	Course Code	Credit hours
1	Thesis	Law530	6

Description Of Courses Making Up The Program

Course Description

Course Code: LAW 500	Research Methods
<p>The course focuses on giving the student the basic tools of legal research and providing him/her with the necessary skills to prepare studies and legal research on assorted topics, as well as preparing the student for the second stage of study, which is the thesis stage, by introducing him to the methods of legal research and the stages of research writing. In this course, the student prepares a research paper of 7,500 words to 10,000 words. The research topic is chosen at the beginning of the first semester, and the research is submitted in the last week of study.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 510	Civil Law
<p>The course deals with a detailed analytical study of one of the selected topics in the field of civil law, with in-depth analysis of legal texts, judicial rulings and jurisprudential opinions, research and analysis, as well as a discussion of contemporary issues in light of comparative legislation.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 511	Islamic Law
<p>The course deals with a jurisprudential and fundamental study of one of the topics of Islamic law in terms of terminology and a statement of the position of Islamic jurisprudence on it, provided that the selected topics are presented within the framework of interactive discussion circles. The student studies the relevant general course requirements and is subject to evaluation through an oral examination by a committee.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 512	Law of Civil and Commercial Procedures
<p>The course deals with a detailed, analytical, philosophical study of the basic topics in the Code of Procedures, which are related to the following: judicial protection, distinguishing judicial work and the theory of the case, judicial authority, judicial litigation and its parties. It also deals with the theory of procedural work, litigation procedures and their symptoms, procedures for issuing judicial and arbitral rulings, methods of appeal, the theory of state action, the theory of execution, its types, conditions and procedures for execution, its persons, place and methods, forced sale procedures, and distribution of the proceeds of execution.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 513	Law of Information
<p>The course deals with a study of the legal framework of information technology in light of modern means of communication and the use of computers, smart programs, and information systems in the field of private law, with a focus on the position of national and comparative legislation to identify the most prominent legal challenges.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 515	Commercial law
<p>The course deals with a detailed analytical study of one of the selected topics in the field of commercial law, with in-depth analysis of legal texts, judicial rulings, and relevant jurisprudential opinions.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 516	Commercial Arbitration (taught in English)
<p>The course represents a suitable opportunity for students to put into practice their knowledge of substantive commercial rules and formal procedures as a mean to find out realistic and practical solutions to business disputes in terms of arbitration awards and their implementation in the light of the legislation in force in the kingdom of Bahrain and the comparative international conventions and agreement.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 518**Private International Law**

The course deals with a detailed, analytical, philosophical study of one of the main topics in private international law in relation to the means of resolving conflict of laws problems, solutions to conflict of laws in Bahraini legislation and comparative legislation, the international jurisdiction of Bahraini courts, the implementation of foreign judgments in terms of its regulations, conditions and jurisdiction in Bahraini legislation, general principles of nationality And its problems, nationality provisions in Bahraini legislation, general principles of the status of foreigners, provisions of Bahraini foreigners law and its applications in practical reality, provisions on foreign investments in Bahraini legislation and provisions of domicile in private international law.

Course Code: LAW 530**Thesis**

A topic for the thesis is chosen from among the emerging legal problems in one of the specializations of private law, as the case may be, in consultation between the student and the supervisor. The thesis plan is presented after holding a discussion circle and subjecting it to the evaluation of two specialized arbitrators. The plan is then presented to the scientific councils (Department Council, College Council, Postgraduate Studies Council, and University Council) to approve it, then the student, under the supervision of the supervisor, undertakes to research the topic and study it according to the chosen scientific method.

Major Elective courses

Course Code: LAW 501	Philosophy of Law
<p>An in-depth study of the philosophy of law in terms of its nature and importance, its relationship to the origins of law interpretation. Moreover, the course familiarizes the student with the philosophical attitudes and doctrines which have addressed law and its role in shaping legal thought throughout the ages, all presented to the student to enable him/her to understand existing legal systems in order to analyze, criticize, and develop them.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 514	Law of Banking Operations
<p>The course deals with a detailed analytical study of banking operations in terms of explaining their nature and the legal system which governs them under Bahraini and comparative law.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 517	Intellectual Property
<p>The course contains copyright, copyright-adjacent rights, patents, utility models, plant varieties, and schematic designs for integrated circuits, as well as other fields such as industrial designs and models, technical know-how, computer programs, trademarks, commercial and electronic addresses, and geographical indications.</p>	

Course Code: LAW 519	Islamic Banking Operations
<p>The course deals with an in-depth study of one of the topics related to banking operations (specifically Islamic banking operations) with a focus on the legal system of conventional banks and Islamic banks, and an explanation of the relationship of Islamic banks with central banks.</p>	

For further information, please contact the Private Law Department on the following numbers:
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