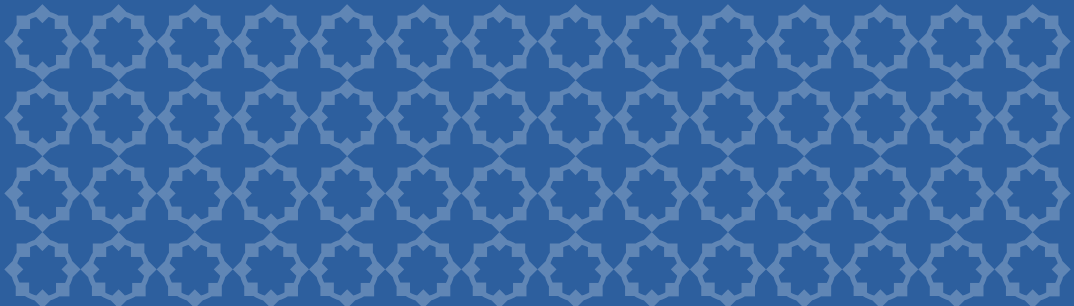




University  
of Ferrara

Department  
of Law

Studying law  
in Ferrara in **English**  
and other  
foreign languages



## DEPARTMENT OF LAW UNIVERSITY OF FERRARA PRESENTATION FOR INCOMING STUDENTS

In this booklet foreign students can find useful information on how to get ready for a life-changing experience of spending a study period in our Department of Law. It will help them to:

- navigate the opportunities offered to students who enroll in our exchange programmes
- discover our language services
- explore the elective courses available in order to customize their individual learning plan

### BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL

- The learning agreement

Different offices of the University deal with different aspects of your stay in Ferrara. The appointment procedure is dealt with by your home University together with the Welcome Office of our University.

Once this phase is successfully completed, you need to get in touch with the Department's Academic Erasmus Coordinators and submit your proposals for the learning agreement.

Further information is available:

[↩ Click here ⇨](#)

[↩ Click here ⇨](#)





# WELCOME TO FERRARA

The Department of Law of the University of Ferrara, widely recognized among the leading Italian institutions in its field, is renowned for its strong emphasis on the European and International dimension of its study programme. It is part of the small group of Departments of Excellence designated by the Ministry of University and Research: such an important recognition, which we obtained for 2018-2022, has been renewed for the five-year period 2023-2027. Besides ascertaining the high quality of the opportunities available to students, such a recognition also ensures more resources and funding for the implementation of important activities for students, both national and incoming.

We are committed to offering our students a wide range of opportunities to include international experiences in their curriculum. Notwithstanding the significant challenges it posed, the Covid pandemic has only strengthened our belief that this is an essential aspect of our educational offer.

We are in close contact with our extensive network of international partners, and have now fully resumed student and staff mobility programmes. Teaching is now mainly face-to-face.

We look forward to welcoming guest students from all over the world into our historic buildings in the centre of Ferrara. This beautiful renaissance city reverberates with university life and yet enjoys the safety of a small and quiet town; 20.000 students live on its urban campus (out of a population of 130.000 people), with a wide range of services for study, research, practicing sports and having a good time.

Lectures and conferences also give our guests the opportunity to visit our Rovigo site. Since 2019 the Department is located in Palazzo Angeli, a prominent historic building at the centre of this historical town, 20 minutes by train from Ferrara.

## ACADEMIC LIFE

- **Admission to Courses and Seminars**

Our courses typically do not have a maximum number of students. You will not have difficulties in being admitted to courses. However, you may need to register in advance for some courses (Italian Language crash courses, Legal Clinics and in other cases where this is specified).

Attendance is usually not mandatory at the Department of Law, although it is highly recommended for incoming students.

Please note that some courses (Legal Clinics, Italian Language crash courses, and others when specifically mentioned) do require active participation in class and that different study programmes may be envisaged for non-attending students.

- **Exams**

For regular courses (6 ECTS or more), there will be opportunities to take exams just after the end of each course, and several times thereafter. The exam calendar is published around 15 November every year. Differently, for shorter seminars by visiting professors there will be one opportunity to sit the exam at the end of the course. There is usually the possibility to sit the exam once more in case of difficulties.

Each lecturer freely chooses how to assess students. While most exams at the Department of Law are oral, written exams, presentations in class, personal research and essays or a combination of the above are also possible.

Grades are marks out of 30 (with the pass grade being 18/30 and the best grade being 30/30 with honours).

- **Transcript of records and end-of-stay certificates**

Once you have taken your exams, the grades will be automatically recorded in your transcript of records. In normal circumstances, you will receive this document from the Welcome Office, together with the end-of-stay certificate. Please note: you will need to make an appointment with the Welcome Office for this purpose just before you leave. Academic Coordinators do not issue any end-of-stay certificates.

## CHOICE OF COURSES

While some courses are specifically meant to target the needs of exchange students, as a guest student you are entitled to pick courses from any curriculum offered at the Department of Law, as well at other Departments of the University of Ferrara.

If you are interested in taking foundational courses in Italian, you may wish to consider selecting courses from the Bachelor's Degree curriculum, rather than their equivalent of the Single-Cycle curriculum. The former earns fewer ECTS, and are therefore less



demanding.

Please note: some optional courses are only offered at our Rovigo site. However, it will be possible to attend online.

The official, complete list of courses for the three curricula of the Department of law is published in June every year for the next academic year. For updated information on the three curricula please see below.

## YOUR CUSTOMIZED LEARNING PROGRAMME

- As an exchange student, you can compose your own learning agreement, choosing from a large number of elective courses in English, Italian and French. The learning agreement has to be submitted by the 30th of June (1st Semester) and 15th November (2nd Semester) respectively. The agreement may later be amended, but we advise to use this opportunity sparingly. Although in our study plan the average number of credits for each semester is 30, we do not require incoming students to obtain a minimum number of ECTS credits. Please check with your home university if additional requirements apply.

- Are you coming for research? Nonetheless, we advise you to add at least one course in your learning agreement.



# COURSES OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW

The Department of Law at the University of Ferrara currently offers:

*A Single-Cycle Degree in Law, in Ferrara* [↩ Click here](#)

*A Single-Cycle Degree in Law, in the satellite campus of Rovigo (40 km north of Ferrara)* [↩ Click here](#)

*A three-year Degree in Legal Services, in Ferrara* [↩ Click here](#)

The first semester usually starts at the end of September, while the second one at the end of February.

## **The Department of Law offers to Incoming students:**

- Introductory courses
- Ordinary courses
- Legal Language Courses
- Italian Language Courses

Introductory courses and Italian Language Courses are pre-semester courses: their beginning is planned, for the first semester, at the beginning of September and, for the second semester, at the beginning of February. Please note that the Course Introduction to EU Law (second semester) will not be offered in 2023-24.

All the courses delivered in English and all Language courses are available [here](#) [↩ Click here](#)





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## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

Other additional activities complete the programme of available courses for incoming students. These include Gianformaggio Chair courses and further seminars held by Visiting Professors coming from other international universities. Moreover, during the semester students may also benefit from attending seminars organized within the Centre for European Legal Studies on Macro-Crime (Macrocrimes), the European Documentation Centre (CDE) and the PhD in European Union Law and national legal systems.

- **Gianformaggio Chair**

The Department has established a Chair, dedicated to the late Professor of Philosophy of Law, Letizia Gianformaggio. Visiting professors affiliated to foreign Universities are invited to teach for one semester at the University of Ferrara.

Experts in different areas of law will thus enrich the Department's list of courses, giving students the opportunity to get in touch with legal cultures of other countries.

- **Seminars**

Every academic year the list of courses in a foreign language is complemented by shorter seminars, also taught by Visiting Professors, guests of the Department. Each seminar lasts 25 hours 3 ECTS.

The list of seminars is available [here](#) ↩ *Click here*

- **Macrocrimes - Centre for European Legal Studies on Macro-Crime**

Macrocrimes was established at the Department of Law of the University of Ferrara in November 2018, within the framework of a project leading to its acknowledgment as one of the best Departments in Italy in terms of research quality (“Dipartimenti di eccellenza”).

The Centre for European Legal Studies on Macro-Crime focuses on the legal aspects relating to the fight against “macro-crime”, a notion ranging from core crimes – such as war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide and aggression – to crimes entailing grave breaches of fundamental rights, crimes linked to immigration and organized, mafia-type, terrorist and transnational crime, from economic crime to environmental and food crime.

Further information is available [here](#) ↩ *Click here*

- **CDE - European Documentation Centre**

The European Documentation Centre of the University of Ferrara was set up within the Faculty of Law of the University of Ferrara, during the early days of the European Community, in December 1952, and is regulated by a convention between the University and the European Commission.

The centre is part of the information network established since 1963 in Member States and in third countries with the aim of disseminating information about the Community in universities and research institutes.

Further information is available [here](#) ↩ *Click here*


- **PhD in European Union Law and national legal systems**

The PhD in “European Union Law and national legal systems” is a high-qualified scientific school formed of two curricula, both focusing on a plurality of subjects, all of which displaying a direct or indirect European relevance.

More in detail, the first curriculum aims at training professional legal experts on the general issues related to the process of European integration and the Europeanisation of law. PhD candidates could then focus on issues concerning the institutional framework of the EU or concerning the constitutional problems stemming from the relationship between national, supranational and international legal systems.

In the view of training a legal professional expert on the general issues concerning the europeanisation of law, the second curriculum is intended to focus on issues related to specific EU policies, implemented by means of secondary law sources, directly



applicable in the national legal system or to be transposed into national law.  
Further information is available [here](#)  [Click here](#)









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