

Module 1.5	Introduction to Business Law & International Trade Law (Law I)
Semester	1 (WS)
Qualification objectives	<p>This module gives an overview on private law as a foundation of any business activities. It also introduces the legal environment of international business transactions. On completion of this module, students are expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have fundamental knowledge in the legal system of the German Civil Code (BGB) as well as some aspects of the German Commercial Code (HGB) and company law. • Have gained a solid understanding and concept of law as a foundation for subsequent legally oriented modules. • Obtained profound knowledge of all relevant areas of international business law and be able to apply this knowledge to the day-to-day business.
Syllabus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National legal systems (civil law and common law). • Selective areas of the German Civil Code (BGB) and the German Commercial Code (HGB) as well as company law. • International organizations and economic institutions in international trade and shipping, such as the WTO, UNCTAD, the IMO, etc., including non-governmental organisations, such as the ICC. • International commercial transactions/trading (freedom of contract, choice of law, choice of jurisdiction). • Forms of contracts for international commerce. • International arbitration / mediation / settlement of disputes. • The Convention on the International Sale of Goods (CISG). • International customs law and its relevance for transport and logistics (supply chain security), clearance at borders and documentation. • Sales/purchase contracts for overseas import/export and transport, especially bills of lading. • Incoterms 2010 and its predecessors. • Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits 600 and its predecessors. • Warranties (guaranties, defects, etc.) and representations. • Ethically acceptable/unacceptable business practices.
Type of module	Compulsory module
Teaching and learning methods	Seminar, 40 participants
Assessment	At commencement of each semester the lecturer will decide upon one of the following forms of assessment: case study or written exam.

	Requirement for successfully passing the module: Students must gain at least the grade „ausreichend (satisfactory)“ (4.0) to pass the examination.
Prerequisites	No prerequisites
Usability	-
Student workload	60 + 120
Contact hours	60 + 15
Independent study	120
ECTS points	6
Duration and frequency	15 sessions offered once a year
Language	English*
Reading List	<p>The most recent study materials will be distributed at the beginning of the semester, including:</p> <p><i>Gildeggen/Willburger</i>, Internationale Handelsgeschäfte, 4th ed., 2012 and various ICC materials; internationally accepted legal materials (i.e., for example, <i>Chow</i>, International Business Transactions Problems, Cases, and Materials, 2010; <i>Carr</i>, International Trade Law, 2010.</p>

* As a rule, the modules in the International Degree Program Shipping and Chartering B.A. are provided in English only. Exceptions might occur for specific lectures to be taught in German and will be announced by the individual lecturer in advance.