Faculty of Law
Bachelor’s Degree in Comparative, European and International Legal Studies (CEILS)
International programme
www.law.unitn.it
The Faculty of Law

Established in 1984, the Faculty of Law of the University of Trento has, from the outset, conceived its mission as approaching law from a comparative, European and international perspective. Law is taught as a complex reality, including domestic, international, supranational law and their reciprocal interactions. Against this backdrop, comparative law is deployed as the preferred methodology for exploring domestic legal systems and specific legal phenomena.

Thus, choosing to study law in Trento offers students a challenging learning experience, bringing students into the realm of law in both its comparative and transnational aspects.

Alongside the five-year curriculum in Law (Laurea in Giurisprudenza), from the 2017-2018 Academic Year the Faculty of Law offers also a Bachelor’s Degree in Comparative, European and International Legal Studies (CEILS), taught entirely in English.

The international dimension of legal education is central in the ethos of the Faculty of Law, as demonstrated by its membership of several associations and networks, such as ELFA (European Law Faculties Association), EPLO (European Public Law Organization), IALS (International Association of Law Schools), ASCL (American Society of Comparative Law), INVERNOMOS (International Law Firms Association), AFDL (Asociación de Facultades de Derecho Latinas) and IUCN (Academy of Environmental Law).

Law students may benefit from a number of bilateral conventions signed by the University of Trento, providing mobility programmes with the following institutions: University of Kansas (USA), Melbourne University (Australia), Universidade Vale do Itajai (Brazil), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago and Villarrica campuses (Chile), Université de Sherbrooke, Québec (Canada), McMaster University, Ontario (Canada), Universidad Nacional de Cordoba (Argentina), Vermont School of Law (USA), Haifa University Law School (Israel), Hebrew University (Israel), McGill University (Canada), Zhongnan University of Economics and Law (China), Hitotsubashi University (Japan) and Washington University School of Law (WUSOL) in Saint Louis, Missouri (USA).
Living in Trento

Trento (117,000 inhabitants, 190 meters altitude) is set at the intersection of important routes leading to Garda Lake, the Dolomites (UNESCO world heritage), Venice, Verona, Bolzano and Innsbruck.

With its unique geographical position Trento represents on the one hand a crossroads between the Mediterranean and northern Europe cultures, on the other hand a natural production and technology platform for international business and an ideal trading hub between southern and continental Europe.

With a safe urban environment offering many cultural activities, set in an attractive natural landscape, with good employment opportunities, an excellent education system and an efficient health service, Trento is one of the top Italian cities to live in.

The cultural and social life is enriched by numerous conferences, meetings, exhibitions, international festivals (Mountain Filmfestival, Festival of Economics), traditional festivals (Feste Vigiliane), several theatre and musical events both in the city centre, and in the beautiful surroundings (e.g. Sounds of the Dolomites).

The University of Trento is constantly working to develop its international dimension, establishing and strengthening networks and partnerships that guarantee the opportunity of cooperation with regard to education, research and relations with industry.

International students coming to the University of Trento are supported in all the necessary administrative steps related to their arrival and stay in Trento, such as: pre-arrival information, support in VISA and stay permit application, Italian tax code, health insurance, bank account, local transports, information on accommodation and scholarship opportunities, enrolment procedures, socio-cultural events.

Sports activities and facilities as well as special discounts to access gyms, sports centres, swimming pools and ski slopes are available for students who join the University Sports Network (UniSport).
Bachelor's Degree in Comparative, European and International Legal Studies (CEILS)

The Bachelor’s Degree in Comparative, European and International Legal Studies (CEILS), taught entirely in English provides its students with an authentic international experience and an all-encompassing education in comparative, European, international and transnational law. Together with other national legal systems, elements of Italian law are taught within the European, comparative and international framework. Last but not least, CEILS students have the opportunity to apply for internship programmes in international institutions. The diversity of the students’ community enhances their learning commitment and intensifies their contact with other cultures. The CEILS curriculum is taught by Italian and foreign professors, who have wide-ranging research and teaching experience in Trento and abroad.

Study Plan

First Year
- Comparative Legal Systems
- Comparative Constitutional Law
- Roman Foundations of European Law
- European Union Law
- Foundations of Private Law from a EU Perspective
- Philosophy of Law

Second Year
- History of Western Legal Tradition
- Introduction to Economics
- International Law
- Comparative Private Law
- Criminal Law
- Multilevel Protection of Fundamental Rights

Third Year
- Employment and Labour Law
- Business and Company Law
- Administrative Law
- Transnational Civil Litigation in a Comparative Perspective
- Criminal Procedure from a Comparative and International Perspective
- Business and Consumer Transactions or Conflict of Laws or Competition Law

Other courses are offered as elective

Other Activities: Internship (preferably in international institutions); Information Technologies; Legal writing

Final Exam: Written dissertation.
Programme overview

| Main application deadline | EU and non-EU citizens living in Italy  
|                          | Spring: March each year  
|                          | Summer: July each year  
|                          | Non-EU citizens living abroad: January/February  
| Intake                   | September each year  
| Duration                 | 3 years full-time  
| Minimum requirements     | A high-school leaving certificate (permitting access to university studies), language competence (minimum B2 level of English)  
| Selection criteria       | General culture from an international perspective, basic IT skills  
| Further information      | international.unitn.it/legal-studies/ceils  
| Contacts                 | info.ceils@unitn.it  

Access to higher degrees and career opportunities

After the Bachelor’s Degree, graduates can either continue their studies with a Master's Degree, or start their professional career immediately.

Students who decide to continue their education will be able to apply for national or international masters’ programmes in law, economics, political science, and sociology. The comparative, European and international profile of CEILS graduates may constitute a valid background for the several higher (second-cycle) degrees offered by universities adopting the Bologna Process approach in legal education and beyond. CEILS students will also be provided with a set of skills that are particularly valuable for accessing careers in the international market of legal professions in the public and private sectors. Indeed, CEILS graduates could aim at positions in the industry, services or trade sectors, as well as in public or other private institutions, both profit and non-profit organisations, which require international legal competences.

Positions as legal officials or linguistic legal experts may be applied for by CEILS graduates although, depending on the position, further requirements may be required, either academic (e.g. a Master's degree) or a professional qualification (e.g. barrister), or both.

CEILS graduates have the chance to continue their legal education by applying and, once admitted, enrolling at a reduced rate either in an Accelerated LLB in Scots law, University of Glasgow School of Law, or in a two-year Advanced JD programme, Law College at Michigan State University. Other agreements are under development with European and non-European universities.
Requirements

The curriculum is offered to 50 highly qualified candidates.

Admission to the CEILS Degree is subject to the following requirements:

• highschool leaving certificate or equivalent qualification obtained in a foreign country;
• certified knowledge of written and spoken English (minimum requirement B2).

The selection procedure evaluates candidates’ general culture and their skills in basic information technology.

Admission requirements are assessed by means of official transcripts and certificates. General culture knowledge and basic information technology skills are evaluated through a test (in English) for EU applicants and through an interview operated by means of an internet-based communication system (skype or the like) for non-EU citizens living abroad.

Selection procedures take place in March for non-EU applicants (application deadline: January/February) and in April and August for EU and non-EU citizens living in Italy (application deadlines: March and July, respectively).
Contacts
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