



Master Law, Specialization International Migration and Refugee Law  
VU University Amsterdam - Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid - Master of Laws - 2017-2018

[Here you'll find all subsidiary subjects and minors](#)

The Master's programme Law, specialization International Migration and Refugee Law has a study load of 60 credits, 1 academic year.

The 2017-2018 academic programme consists of:

• 4 compulsory courses:

Refugee and Family Migration Law (12 EC)

Migration and Legal Remedies (6 ec)

Legal Methodology (Methoden van Rechtswetenschap) (6 EC)

Thesis (Scriptie) (12 EC)

• 1 integration course (6 EC), choose from the list below

• 1 elective course of the specialization (6 EC), choose from the list below

• 2 elective courses, from the lists below or not specifically related to this specialization (total of 12 EC), or 1 elective course (6 EC) + an internship (min. 6 EC).

To consult the year planning of the programme please visit:

[www.law.vu.nl](http://www.law.vu.nl) > Students > Schedules and Courses > Course and programme schedules or VuNet.

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## Master's programme Law - Specialisation International Migration and Refugee Law - Electives of the Specialization

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
<a href="#">EU Internal Market Law</a>	Period 1	6.0	R_EUIML
<a href="#">Irregular Migration</a>	Period 4	6.0	R_IrMig

## Master's programme Law - Specialization International Migration and Refugee Law - Compulsary and Advanced courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
<a href="#">Legal Methodology</a>	Period 2	6.0	R_Legmet
<a href="#">Master's Thesis Law</a>	Ac. Year (September)	12.0	R_ScripRe
<a href="#">Migration and Legal Remedies</a>	Period 3+4	6.0	R_MLR
<a href="#">Refugee and Family Migration Law</a>	Period 1+2	12.0	R_STMRL

## Master's programme Law - Specialization International Migration and Refugee Law - Integration Courses

Courses:

Name	Period	Credits	Code
<a href="#">Human Rights Protection in Europe</a>	Period 4	6.0	R_Hum.ri.pro
<a href="#">Philosophy of Int. Law and Migration</a>	Period 5	6.0	R_Phil.int.l

### EU Internal Market Law

<b>Course code</b>	R_EUIML ()
<b>Period</b>	Period 1
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	prof. dr. G.T. Davies
<b>Examinator</b>	prof. dr. G.T. Davies
<b>Teaching staff</b>	prof. dr. G.T. Davies, C. Kaupa

<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Lecture
<b>Level</b>	400

### Course objective

This course equips students to understand and criticize the law which allows goods, services, companies, citizens and their families, and investment capital to freely move within the EU. A particular emphasis is on the case law of the European Court of Justice and:

1. how this relates to the written law of the Treaties, and to national law and institutions,
2. How it has developed over time, and the internal logic of that development,
3. what the social, legal and economic consequences of that case law have been,
4. which theories and ideas have been used to criticise and understand it, and whether these provide an adequate explanation, and
5. how the law can/should develop in the light of the current situation in the EU.

These goals are primarily achieved by reading the judgments themselves, and a certain amount of academic literature, and discussing them in the light of the points above. This contributes in particular to the goals selected from the lists above.

### Course content

The EU law providing for the free movement of goods, persons, services, companies and capital between the Member States of the EU. This includes the law relating to EU citizens and their family members, including family members from outside the EU. Particular topics addressed include:

market law and the welfare state; product deregulation and its consequences; regulatory competition; EU citizens and migration of family members to the EU; the rights of EU citizens to work and live in other states; migration of non-economically active citizens and inter-state solidarity; the effect of free movement law on private organizations, including insurers, trade unions and sports regulators; the internal market and cross-border investment.

The consequences of Brexit will be considered.

### Type of assessment

Written exam

### Course reading

Chalmers, Davies and Monti, EU Law, (CUP, 3rd edn, 2014)

### Recommended background knowledge

Exchange - Some basic EU law concepts, or willingness to do some extra background reading and sufficient academic ability to cope with this.

### Target group

Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:

Students from other universities/faculties

Exchange students

Contractor (students who pay for one course)

## Remarks

IBL

Degree programme objectives International Business Law

The Master's graduate has thorough knowledge and understanding of the main areas of international business law.

The Master's graduate understands the relationships between the main areas of international business law and recognizes which legal issues are involved and how these influence each other.

The Master's graduate knows who the actors of the international business law environment are and how they interact with each other, while acknowledging legal and cultural differences. The Master's graduate understands the role of governments and the horizontal economic relationships between them, the vertical relationship between them and private business and, finally, the horizontal relationships between private companies. Consequently, the graduate discerns the legal position of various parties and understands how the conduct of these parties can influence legal positions.

The Master's graduate possesses analytical skills to apply acquired knowledge and insights to concrete problems in the area of IBL.

The Master's graduate 'translates' practical problems into legally manageable problems.

The Master's graduate shows evidence of an independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge.

The Master's graduate should be able to analyse complex issues in relation to international business and make useful legal recommendations. A Master's graduate can formulate an independent and well-substantiated opinion on complex legal issues and take a substantiated position within the existing debates on various international business law topics.

The Master's graduate has a self-critical attitude that enables them to independently acquire new knowledge and to improve their analytical, research and communicative skills.

## RECHTSGELEERHDEID

The following course objectives are only available in Dutch:

Eindtermen master Rechtsgeleerdheid

De afgestudeerde master beschikt over een academisch werk- en denkniveau;

heeft diepgaande en specialistische kennis van en inzicht in minimaal één deelgebied van het recht

heeft inzicht in de samenhang tussen verschillende onderdelen van het recht, met inbegrip van het nationale en internationale recht

De afgestudeerde master beschikt over de volgende (juridische) vaardigheden:

Analytische vaardigheden:

de juridische en maatschappelijke aspecten van een vraagstuk in hun onderlinge samenhang beoordelen en daarover kritisch nadenken/oordelen

zich inzicht verschaffen in de problemen die zich bij rechtsvorming op het gekozen deelgebied voordoen en een bijdrage leveren aan oplossing daarvan

Probleemoplossende vaardigheden:

complexe casus diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en zelfstandig juridische oplossingen aandragen

complexe juridische problemen onderkennen, analyseren en oplossen

Onderzoeks- en presentatievaardigheden:

met argumenten onderbouwde mening formuleren over een complex juridisch probleem of een nieuwe ontwikkeling

actief deelnemen aan een wetenschappelijk debat op het deelgebied dat het masterprogramma beslaat

## Human Rights Protection in Europe

<b>Course code</b>	R_Hum.ri.pro (200933)
<b>Period</b>	Period 4
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	mr. M. Kuijer
<b>Teaching staff</b>	mr. M. Kuijer
<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Lecture
<b>Level</b>	400

### Course objective

This course deals with human rights law in Europe, both institutionally as well as substantially. The main focus is on the ECHR and its significance in European society for various areas of law (criminal law, administrative law and family/private law). The course also highlights the development of human rights law within the European Union.

### Course content

The course will deal with the historic development of human rights law and the implementation of international human rights law into domestic legal orders. Attention is also paid to the procedure before the European Court of Human Rights and the interpretative methods of the Court. Subsequently, the most important case-law of the Court is discussed in respect of Articles 2 (right to life), 3 (prohibition of torture), 5 (right to liberty), 6 (right to a fair trial), 8 (privacy and family life), 9 (freedom of religion) and 10 (freedom of expression). During the course reference is made to other international human rights instruments including those in the EU legal order and mechanisms such as the CPT and the Venice Commission.

**Form of tuition**

lectures

**Type of assessment**

Written exam

**Course reading**

A collection of academic articles from law journals, handouts of the lectures and specified judgments of the EctHR.

**Target group**

Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:

Students from other universities/faculties

Exchange students (level: third bachelor year and master)

Contractor (students who pay for one course)

**Remarks**

Remark: Students may either take the course 'Human Rights Protection in Europe' or the course 'Mensenrechten en Strafrecht'.

## Irregular Migration

<b>Course code</b>	R_IrMig ()
<b>Period</b>	Period 4
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	T.K. Last
<b>Examinator</b>	T.K. Last
<b>Teaching staff</b>	prof. mr. T.P. Spijkerboer, C.H. Slingenberg, dr. G.N. Cornelisse
<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Lecture
<b>Level</b>	400

**Course objective**

After this course, the student will be able to:

- Map the most important legal sources in international and EU law concerning irregular migration;
- Map the diversity of legal contexts in which states and irregular migrants seek to achieve their aims, including criminal law, private law, international law, human rights law, and maritime law;
- Apply the variety of sources and legal doctrines to concrete cases where states seek to regulate irregular migration and where migrants seek to counter such regulations;
- Analyse how these various fields of law interact at the domestic, the European and the international level in the field of irregular migration; and
- To write a well-structured and argued legal analysis from different perspectives

**Course content**

One of the consequences of the regulation of migration is the existence of migration that is considered to be 'irregular'. In the past 25 years, law and policy have increasingly focused on preventing irregular entry,

on making irregular presence more difficult, and on return and removal of irregular migrants.

In this course, law and irregular migration will be the focus of attention. This field has been characterized by conceptual innovations. In addition to the classical administrative law approach to migration, criminal and private law have been added to the arsenal of migration policies. In addition, migration controls do not only take place upon entry but have been delocalized. They now take place at foreign airports during check-in, on the high seas or in the territorial waters of third countries, or by third states (forms of externalization). But they also take place throughout the territory of the state concerned by requiring legal residence for entering into a labour contract, renting a house, opening a bank account, and marriage (forms of internalization). Both internalization and externalization often involve private parties as 'deputy sheriffs'.

In these ways, law has been used as an instrument of states to govern irregular migration. However, law has also been used in order to counter state prohibition of irregular migration. For example, undocumented migrants have campaigned for their basic rights in the USA as well as in Europe. They have sought to regain some of the rights which have been deprived by the conceptual and legal innovations sanctioning irregular migration. They have done so in the fields of immigration detention, pushbacks, shelter, racial profiling, border deaths, and labour rights. This course focuses on the tensions and ambiguities that arise in the process where both states and migrants seek to recruit the law for their purposes. This course will include reading materials containing empirical information about the social realities in which these legal strategies are deployed.

### **Form of tuition**

The course will be taught in weekly 3 hour classes, wherein obligatory reading will be discussed and in-class assignments will be made. Students should prepare themselves thoroughly for each class by studying the required readings.

### **Type of assessment**

Students have to write three assignments during the course, including a case-note.

### **Course reading**

To be announced via Canvas

### **Entry requirements**

The general admission requirements for the IMRL master track apply:

- Applicants should have at least a Bachelor's degree in Law.
- Applicants who do not have a Bachelor in Law but in another subject are still encouraged to apply, provided that they have completed at least 60 ECT credits worth (one year) of law subjects, including some international and European Law. This may be relevant for people with e.g. political science or liberal arts degrees and 'Law and (..)' degrees.
- Applicants who do not meet the abovementioned requirement can exceptionally be admitted as well, provided that they have a sound academic background and considerable experience in the field of law.

### **Target group**

This course is available for exchange students also.

Exchange students should have knowledge of EU and International Law and must have followed 30 ec of law courses.

# Legal Methodology

<b>Course code</b>	R_Legmet ()
<b>Period</b>	Period 2
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	C. Kaupa
<b>Examinator</b>	C. Kaupa
<b>Teaching staff</b>	prof. dr. G.T. Davies, C. Kaupa
<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Seminar
<b>Level</b>	400

## Course objective

This course prepares students for independent legal research. They will learn how to prepare and critically assess research plans, and about the different methods, styles and approaches to legal research.

The particular skills developed are: independent analysis of a legal or social problem; understanding of different methods of approaching the problem; independent investigation of legal sources; critical reading of legal and interdisciplinary literature; formulation of written arguments; critique of existing arguments; understanding of the relationship between legal and non-legal questions and sources; participation in a current academic debate.

## Course content

The nature of legal research and legal science  
Different methods of legal research  
Interdisciplinary research  
Judging research: how to criticize and assess

There will be a particular emphasis on methods, sources and perspectives which are especially relevant for international legal research, and examples will usually be drawn from the international and/or European sphere.

## Form of tuition

There will be weekly seminars, and students will receive assignments and reading.

## Type of assessment

Take home exam

## Course reading

Literature will be indicated on Canvas before the course starts.

## Remarks

This course is the English language version of the masters course in "Methoden van rechtswetenschap". It is compulsory for students taking the English language master specialisations "Transnational legal studies" and "International Migration and Refugee Law"

## Master's Thesis Law

<b>Course code</b>	R_ScripRe ()
<b>Period</b>	Ac. Year (September)
<b>Credits</b>	12.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	Dutch
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Level</b>	600

## Migration and Legal Remedies

<b>Course code</b>	R_MLR ()
<b>Period</b>	Period 3+4
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	mr. dr. A.M. Reneman
<b>Examinator</b>	mr. dr. A.M. Reneman
<b>Teaching staff</b>	mr. dr. A.M. Reneman
<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Seminar
<b>Level</b>	400

### Course objective

After this course, the student will be able to:

- Map out the most important national, EU and international actors playing a role in decision-making and legal protection in migration law and describe their role.
- Establish which (inter)national legal remedy is (or should be) available and is most effective in a particular migration law case taking into account the relevant factors such as nationality and residence status of the migrant concerned, rights at stake, actors involved etc.
- Apply the procedural rules (admissibility requirements, time-limits etc) specific to an international court (ECtHR or CJEU) or UN body.
- Apply the right to an effective remedy and other procedural requirements following from international and EU law to a complex migration law case.
- Analyse how national law, EU law and international law in the field of legal remedies interact.
- Write a well-structured and argued legal argument, using different legal sources and literature.
- Orally present a legal argument in a clear and convincing way.

### Course content

In current instruments of EU immigration and asylum law, we see that different legal protection regimes apply to different categories of migrants. The availability and the scope of legal remedies may depend on a number of factors: the (human) rights which are at stake, the nationality or the legal status of the person concerned, the purpose of migration, the actor which has taken a decision or has taken action against the migrant or even the territory in which the person concerned is located. Legal protection should normally be offered by the national courts of a State. National law and practices with regard to the availability of and access to legal protection for migrants should

comply with requirements of both EU and international law. At the same time international courts such as the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and other supervising bodies play an important (subsidiary) role in the legal protection of migrants. Significant interaction takes place between national courts and these international courts and bodies.

This course addresses the legal protection of migrants. The first part of the course will give an introduction to the topic. It addresses amongst others the importance and development of legal remedies for migrants, the right to an effective remedy, the system and accessibility of legal remedies on the national, EU and international level and the interaction between the European courts. The second part of the course will focus on the availability and accessibility of legal protection in several particular fields of migration law:

### **Form of tuition**

Lectures, working groups and moot court sessions.

In the first part of this course (period 3) three interactive lectures will introduce the topic of legal remedies. This part will be concluded with a midterm test (written exam). The students prepare for this exam in a working group. The second part of the course (period 4) deals with several specific themes (for example asylum procedures). There will be one interactive lecture on each of these themes. Each lecture will be followed by a moot court session. During these moot court sessions teams of students will present a case as migration lawyers, representatives of the State or other relevant parties. The moot court sessions will be held before different courts and bodies (including the European Court of Human Rights and the Court of Justice of the European Union). Students are required to attend the moot court sessions.

### **Type of assessment**

A midterm written exam which counts for 30%.

An oral presentation during the moot court session which counts for 30%.

Written pleadings which count for 40%.

### **Course reading**

Literature will be announced on Canvas

### **Entry requirements**

Participants need to comply with the admission requirements of the master track International Migration and Refugee Law. See:

<http://www.vu.nl/nl/opleidingen/masteropleidingen/opleidingenoverzicht/p>

### **Recommended background knowledge**

Students who are not familiar with European Migration Law are advised to read the book P. Boeles, M. den Heijer, G. Lodder and K. Wouters, European Migration Law (2nd edition, Intersentia, 2014) and watch the web lectures placed on Canvas.

### **Target group**

Students of the master specialisation International Migration and Refugee Law

Students of the master specialisation Conflicthantering, rechtspraak en mediation

All other master, exchange and contract students who meet the admission requirements of the master track International Migration and Refugee Law. See:

## Remarks

Eindtermen Migration and Legal Remedies - Hoe draagt het vak bij aan de eindtermen van de opleiding?

Een student die het vak Migration and Legal Remedies heeft afgerond:

1. heeft diepgaande en specialistische kennis van en inzicht in minimaal één deelgebied van het recht
2. heeft inzicht in de samenhang tussen verschillende onderdelen van het recht, met inbegrip van het nationale en internationale recht.

De student beschikt verder over de volgende vaardigheden:

5. een probleem vanuit verschillende deelgebieden op een integratieve manier benaderen;
6. literatuur en juridische bronnen diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en kritisch beschouwen (waar relevant ook in de Engelse taal, waar relevant ook op nieuwe rechtsgebieden);
8. complexe casus diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en zelfstandig juridische oplossingen aandragen;
9. complexe juridische problemen onderkennen, analyseren en oplossen.
11. schriftelijk presenteren van een wetenschappelijk juridisch betoog
13. met argumenten onderbouwde mening formuleren over een complex juridisch probleem of een nieuwe ontwikkeling

## Philosophy of Int. Law and Migration

<b>Course code</b>	R_Phil.int.I (200988)
<b>Period</b>	Period 5
<b>Credits</b>	6.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	dr. mr. L.D.A. Corrias
<b>Examinator</b>	dr. mr. L.D.A. Corrias
<b>Teaching staff</b>	dr. mr. L.D.A. Corrias, mr. dr. M.C. Stronks
<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Lecture
<b>Level</b>	500

## Course objective

After successfully taking this course students will:

- have acquired knowledge of various philosophical approaches to inclusion and exclusion in international law and migration;
- have gained experience in close reading and analysis of philosophical texts;
- be able to critically reflect on various philosophical theories of international law and migration;
- be able to assess the implications of these theories for current practices of international law and migration.

The course also promotes the academic education of the student, in particular with reference to:

- independent, academic thought processes and performance;

- communicating and discussing at an academic level;
- reflecting on specialist academic knowledge in a wider philosophical context.

### **Course content**

What is the relation between inclusion and exclusion in international law and migration? That is the central question of this course. Is a world order conceivable with open borders, or no borders at all? What would that entail for questions of hospitality and sovereignty? And what about the other way around: full exclusion by means of rigorous control of borders, is that plausible? Or is inclusion the inevitable counter-part of exclusion, meaning that the two are mutually exclusive while at the same time in constant need of each other?

In this course these topical questions will be addressed from a philosophical and theoretical perspective. By close reading of some paradigmatic text we will endeavour to deepen our understanding of the complex relation between inclusion and exclusion. We will address different understandings of inclusion, open borders, closed borders and exclusion. This will include discussions on the relation between human rights and the nation state, economic and post-colonial exclusion, the state of exception and camps. In the two lectures per week these topics will be addressed and linked to contemporary issues of international law and migration.

### **Form of tuition**

Lectures.

### **Type of assessment**

Paper and/or written exam (to be announced).

### **Course reading**

To be announced. The reading material will mostly consist of philosophical texts (e.g. Immanuel Kant, Hannah Arendt, Jacques Derrida, Giorgio Agamben). Students who have any questions about the literature may contact the course coordinator at [l.d.a.corrias@vu.nl](mailto:l.d.a.corrias@vu.nl)

### **Recommended background knowledge**

No specific knowledge of international law, migration law and/or philosophy is required for this course.

### **Target group**

This course is open to students of the Faculty of Law, regardless of what Master they have chosen. It is open to exchange students and contract students (students who pay for one course only). Philosophy of International Law and Migration does not require specific knowledge of migration law, international law and/or philosophy. A basic knowledge of international law and migration law and a keen interest in philosophical questions concerning law and politics are a plus.

As a subsidiary subject ('bijvak'), Philosophy of International Law and Migration is also open to enrolment by students from other faculties or universities.

Given the content, the course might also be of interest to students in Political Studies, International Relationships, Legal Theory, Political Theory, History, Criminology, Philosophy, Theology, etc. The course also explicitly welcomes exchange students.

For more information on how to register for a subsidiary subject, please visit:

[https://www.rechten.vu.nl/en/Images/Inschrijfprocedure-bijvakken-EN1\\_tcm](https://www.rechten.vu.nl/en/Images/Inschrijfprocedure-bijvakken-EN1_tcm)

You are advised to start the application procedure at least six weeks before the start of the course (i.e. in February), so you have enough time to follow the application procedure and register in time. The registration deadline for courses is four weeks before the start of the period. After the deadline, enrolling or de-enrolling is not possible anymore.

### Remarks

The following course objectives are only available in Dutch:

Eindtermen master Rechtsgeleerdheid

De afgestudeerde master beschikt over een academisch werk- en denkniveau:

heeft diepgaande en specialistische kennis van en inzicht in minimaal één deelgebied van het recht

heeft inzicht in de samenhang tussen verschillende onderdelen van het recht, met inbegrip van het nationale en internationale recht

De afgestudeerde master beschikt over de volgende (juridische) vaardigheden:

Analytische vaardigheden:

de juridische en maatschappelijke aspecten van een vraagstuk in hun onderlinge samenhang beoordelen en daarover kritisch nadenken/oordelen literatuur en juridische bronnen diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en kritisch beschouwen (waar relevant ook in de Engelse taal, waar relevant ook op nieuwe rechtsgebieden)

Onderzoeks- en presentatievaardigheden:

schriftelijk verslag doen van een rechtswetenschappelijk onderzoek met argumenten onderbouwde mening formuleren over een complex juridisch probleem of een nieuwe ontwikkeling actief deelnemen aan een wetenschappelijk debat op het deelgebied dat het masterprogramma beslaat.

Degree programme objectives Law and Politics of International Security  
Final Attainment Levels

The student graduating with a Master's degree will have the following knowledge and understanding:

International conflict and security law, including jus ad bellum, jus in bello and jus post bellum;

Being capable of:

The student graduating with a Master's degree will have a capability to:  
Identify and apply theoretical approaches from international law and political science;

Show evidence of:

The student graduating with a Master's degree will have a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to:

The way in which problems in the area of international conflict and security are framed in academic, legal and policy debates;

The existing legal framework in the field of international conflict and security;

Existing scientific theories in the area of international security;

Academic research as well as research results.

## Refugee and Family Migration Law

<b>Course code</b>	R_STMRL ()
<b>Period</b>	Period 1+2
<b>Credits</b>	12.0
<b>Language of tuition</b>	English
<b>Faculty</b>	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
<b>Coordinator</b>	C.H. Slingenberg
<b>Examinator</b>	C.H. Slingenberg
<b>Teaching staff</b>	prof. mr. H. Battjes, prof. mr. T.P. Spijkerboer, C.H. Slingenberg
<b>Teaching method(s)</b>	Seminar, Lecture
<b>Level</b>	400

### Course objective

After completing this course, the student

1. has profound and specialist knowledge of international and European refugee and family reunification law;
2. has insight into the relationship between international, European, and national refugee and family reunification law, and their relationship with international and European human rights law;
3. can assess and discuss legal and societal aspects of refugee and family reunification law, in a critical manner;
4. can approach refugee and family migration issues from both a migration law and a human rights law perspective;
5. can interpret, analyse, and critically discuss scholarly and legal texts;
6. can analyse and critically discuss the interplay between rules and individual decisions;
7. can analyse complex refugee and family migration law cases;
8. can signal, analyse, and offer solutions for complex issues in refugee and family reunification law;
9. can, on an individual basis and in accordance with academic standards, do research on a refugee law and/or family migration law issue and present the results in writing;
10. can provide fellow students with relevant and useful feedback on academic writing assignments.

### Course content

This course discusses family reunification and refugee law in the light of international and European (both Union and Council of Europe) legal regimes as well as selected national policies and case-law, and explains the multilayered structure of these areas. It maps the international, European and national actors involved and traces the horizontal, vertical, and diagonal relationships between them. Furthermore, the

course analyses and critically discusses the tension between state sovereignty and individual interests and human rights. Finally, the interplay between migration flows, perceived effects on society, migration law and the dynamics of policy change in these areas are examined. The course focuses on refugee and family reunification law, as the complex multilayered structure comes to the fore in this area through the involvement of various actors, the tension with sovereignty, and the interplay between legal, political, and societal issues.

### **Form of tuition**

The course will be taught in weekly 3 hour classes, wherein obligatory reading will be discussed and in-class assignments will be made. In addition to these weekly lectures, two exam training sessions will be provided. Students should prepare themselves thoroughly for each class by studying the required readings. Further, students have to write a substantial paper on refugee or family reunification law during this course, and provide feedback on drafts of fellow students.

### **Type of assessment**

- A written exam (50%) (re-examination might be oral)
- A paper (50%)

### **Course reading**

Required readings will be published on Canvas.

### **Recommended background knowledge**

Knowledge of key concepts of European Union and international public law is assumed in class. In the first week an optional class has been scheduled for addressing deficiencies in knowledge of European Union law.

### **Target group**

Students with a bachelor's degree in law from VU University or from another Dutch or accredited non-Dutch university. Exceptionally, also students with a bachelor degree in another subject with 60 ECTS of law courses or students with considerable experience in the field of law may be admitted.