



**RIGA
GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF
LAW**

International studies in law and beyond

Bachelor programmes

Law and Business

Law and Diplomacy

2023/24





Riga Graduate School of Law

Riga Graduate School of Law (RGSL) is a leading law school in the Baltic region offering interdisciplinary Bachelor and Masters studies in law combined with business, international relations, finance and policy. Founded in 1998, the goal of RGSL is to provide strong international, academic education within the context of an ever-changing and interconnected world. Website: www.rgsl.lv



International study environment

With a vibrant community of students and faculty representing over 30 countries, students are immersed in an international education setting from their first steps at RGSL. Studies in English, the Erasmus study exchange with more than 40 partner universities and internship opportunities in state, EU and international institutions, as well as companies in Latvia and abroad, allow RGSL students to expand their experience and develop connections not only across Europe, but also globally.



Interdisciplinary Bachelor programmes

Studies in law can be undertaken in combination with either business or diplomacy on our two LL.B. programmes. By combining two disciplines, you will receive a broad and international perspective on law, which includes a focus on business management or international relations. Our programmes lead to a recognised and competitive law degree.



Individual learning experience

RGSL is a medium-sized, specialized university offering a tailored and stimulating learning environment. Students enjoy small classes, which allow room for debate and individual questions, and facilitate contact with fellow students and faculty members. Our study approach allows students to develop critical thinking, problem solving skills and adaptability. We value an open and international culture and encourage students to develop their potential and make the most of their studies.



Further study: Masters programmes

RGSL offers LL.M. degrees in Law and Finance, Public International Law and Human Rights, EU Law and Policy, Transborder Commercial Law, and a novelty in the Baltic region – Technology Law.

Law and Business LL.B.

DEGREE	LL.B. (Bachelor of Social Science in Law)
DURATION	3 years full time (183 ECTS)
LANGUAGE	English
FEES	EUR 3800 per academic year
ACCREDITED UNTIL	16 June 2027

This programme ensures a clear understanding of the inter-relationships between law and business. It therefore prepares graduates for a successful career in legal practice or business and management.

Legal issues are addressed from a regional and international perspective within the programme, the main focus being on legal environment of the European Union (EU) and its Member States, as well as major trading partners. The programme covers subjects relevant for successful commercial operations, which include economics, accounting, management, business strategy and marketing.



Viola Karjalainen (Finland),
Law and Business programme Graduate, 2020

"I first came across with RGSL when I was searching for a law school that provides bachelor programs in English. I then noticed that the university will be presented at the student fair "Studia" in Helsinki, and after talking with the representatives there I decided to apply. I am extremely happy with my choice; these three years at RGSL have been truly amazing."

Law and Business
LL.B.



Important dates

Early Application deadline

17 April 2023

Apply here:
www.rgsl.lv



Law and Business programme structure

- ▶ The programme is based on mandatory and elective courses as well as optional language courses.
- ▶ Up to three courses can be taken simultaneously.
- ▶ Each course lasts six weeks with approximately five classes per week, plus research work on assignments and preparation for classes.
- ▶ Each course concludes with an exam, while the programme concludes with a thesis.
- ▶ Some elective courses on the Latvian law are offered in Latvian.

Courses

A part / Mandatory courses

LAW & RESEARCH

Academic English
Legal English
Introduction to Law
Legal Philosophy
Legal Research Methods
Introduction to Civil Law
Constitutional Law
Contract Law
Introduction to Public International Law
International Human Rights Law
Legal Skills
Comparative Administrative Law
European Union Law
European Company Law
Internal Market Law
Competition and State Aid Law
Intellectual Property Law
Private International Law
International Environmental Law
International Commercial Law
Interdisciplinary Research: Law and Economics
Research paper in Law
Research paper in Law and Business
Bachelor Thesis

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Introduction to Business Studies
Microeconomics
Mathematics and Statistics for Social Sciences
Business Accounting
Marketing
Business Strategy
Macroeconomics
Financial Accounting
Financial Economics
Applied Business Strategy
Risk Management
International Economics

B part / Restrictive electives

(full list of B (restricted elective) courses is available at the RGSL Administration)
Research Methods for Business Studies
Migration and Asylum Seeking Law
European and International IT-Security and Data Protection Law
International Humanitarian Law
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation
Data Analytics for Business
International Tax Law
European Legal History and Roman Law
Project Management
Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Goeconomics: the Geopolitics of Energy
Comparative Data Law
International Sales Law
Legal Interpretation
Simulation of EU Decision-Making
Kriminālprocess (in Latvian)
Krimināltiesības (in Latvian)
Darba tiesības (in Latvian)
Saistību tiesību problēmas (in Latvian)
Lietu tiesības (in Latvian)
Optional: Moot Court

C part / Free Elective

Languages
Elementary Latvian I (A1)
French Beginner I
French Beginner II
French Intermediate I
Latin
Rhetoric

Optional: Internship

Law and Diplomacy LL.B.

DEGREE	LL.B. (Bachelor of Social Science in Law)
DURATION	3 years full time (183 ECTS)
LANGUAGE	English
FEES	EUR 3800 per academic year
ACCREDITED UNTIL	16 June 2027

The programme is designed for students who plan to work in the Public Sector of their home countries or in international organizations. Our graduates also build successful careers in public affairs and the NGO sector, as well as in private companies.

The programme covers major fields of public international law. Furthermore, it focuses on international organizations and EU institutions, and their role in shaping international relations. On the diplomacy side, the programme delves into history and political sciences.

Language courses focus on English as a world language, with a view to terminology in law, international relations, and business. Students may also take courses in the traditional diplomatic language of French.



Katariina Komulainen (Finland),
Law and Diplomacy programme
Graduate, 2022

“At RGSL studies are extremely student orientated. In Finland, the emphasis is on conservative and subject-based teaching and learning whereas RGSL has adopted agile and continuous improvement in their core functions that enable the student satisfaction to be high at a constant rate.”

Law and Diplomacy
LL.B.



Questions about our programmes or studying at RGSL?



Katrīna Daugule,
Head of Study department

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Law and Diplomacy programme structure

- ▶ The programme is based on mandatory and elective courses as well as optional language courses.
- ▶ Up to three courses can be taken simultaneously.
- ▶ Each course lasts six weeks with five class hours per week, plus research work on assignments and preparation for classes.
- ▶ Each course concludes with an exam, while the programme concludes with a thesis.
- ▶ Some elective courses on the Latvian law are offered in Latvian.

Courses

A part / Mandatory courses

LAW & RESEARCH

Academic English
Legal English
Introduction to Law
Legal Philosophy
Legal Research Methods
Introduction to Civil Law
Constitutional Law
Contract Law
Introduction to Public International Law
International Human Rights Law
Legal Skills
Comparative Administrative Law
European Union Law
EU Institutional Law and Decision Making
International Diplomatic Law
Advanced Public International Law
Law of International Organizations
Legal Aspects of External Relations of the European Union
International Environmental Law
Law of State Responsibility
Interdisciplinary Research: Law and Politics
Research Paper in Law
Research Paper in Law and Diplomacy
Bachelor Thesis

DIPLOMACY & POLICY

Introduction to Politics
Theory of International Relations
Contemporary World History
Introduction to Diplomacy
International Security
Foreign Policy Analysis
Diplomatic Protocol
Comparative Politics
Crisis Management in International Politics
Global Approaches to Public Diplomacy
Economic Diplomacy
Political Negotiations, Strategy and Tactics

B part / Restrictive electives

(full list of B (restricted elective) courses is available at the RGSL Administration)
Migration and Asylum Seeking Law
European and International IT-Security and Data Protection Law
International Humanitarian Law
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation
International Tax Law
Asia Policy Studies I
Asia Policy Studies II
European Legal History and Roman Law
Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Goeconomics: the Geopolitics of Energy
Comparative Data Law
International Sales Law
Legal Interpretation
Simulation of EU Decision-Making
Analysis of Russian Politics
Kriminālprocess (in Latvian)
Krimināltiesības (in Latvian)
Darba tiesības (in Latvian)
Saistību tiesību problēmas (in Latvian)
Lietu tiesības (in Latvian)
Optional: Moot Court

C part / Free Elective

Languages
Elementary Latvian I (A1)
French Beginner I
French Beginner II
French Intermediate I
Latin
Rhetoric

Optional: Internship

Key faculty members

RGSL is home to a resident faculty as well as a large international faculty that comes to Riga to teach selected courses. Our faculty represents both academic excellence and extensive practical experience, and offers an education that is highly relevant for career development.



Inga Reine,
MA, Visiting Lecturer

Inga Reine is a Judge of the General Court of the European Union and has a Masters degree from University of Padua, Italy. She teaches EU Institutional Law and Decision Making. Area of Freedom, Security and Justice.

Waleed Gumaa,

MBA, Director of the Masters programmes, Lecturer

Waleed Gumaa oversees the Masters programmes at RGSL. He leverages his significant expertise in business to offer an interdisciplinary education to RGSL Bachelor students. He teaches Introduction to Business, Business Strategy and Project Management amongst other courses.



Carlos Llorente,
PhD, Visiting Professor

Prof. Carlos Llorente has been a practicing attorney since 1989, and has worked at Baker & McKenzie, Madrid (ES) and in Amya Abogados, Madrid (ES) and currently leads his own professional legal practice. Carlos has also been a University professor since 1990 at several national and foreign academic institutions, he specialises in international commercial Law, private international law, transportation law, competition law and international contracts, and litigation funding. He teaches Comparative Contract Law and International Commercial Law.

Aleksandrs Fillers,
PhD, Assistant Professor

Dr. Fillers has a PhD in Law from University of Antwerp. Due to his research on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods he is one of the sought after experts among the Vis Moot competition student teams, and a regular speaker at conferences. Dr. Fillers coaches RGSL Vis Moot team this year. He teaches Introduction to Civil Law, Contract Law, Private International Law, Law on Obligations and Property Law.



Alumni

The geography of RGSL alumni reaches over 50 countries. Most of them are from Latvia, but we also have graduates from Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Netherlands, the United States, etc.

More than half of our graduates are working in different areas of the private sector. Among the employers are the largest Baltic law firms such as Sorainen, Ellex Klavins, Deloitte, Klotini Sergis, as well as banks and international companies, such as Swedbank, PWC, Ernst & Young and others.

The public sector – ministries, parliaments, government agencies and courts – is the second biggest employer of RGSL graduates. This includes both Latvian and European institutions such as the European Commission, the European Court of Justice and the European Parliament.

Quite often, our former students continue their relationship with RGSL as employees or lecturers.



Sabīne Vaivodiša,
Law and Business programme Graduate, 2020

“RGSL was a source of legal and business knowledge, and also gave a chance to interact with leading lawyers, diplomats, judges and business experts. Public lectures, seminars, conferences, Erasmus exchange were opportunities worth taking. My knowledge and experience now help me to solve legal issues, analyze problems and create solutions, have assurance of my work and a rapid career growth.”

Admission requirements

The average grade in diploma supplement corresponding to European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) level of C or higher (7 grade points according to Latvian 10-point grading scale);

Proficiency in English confirming at least level B2 or higher in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR):

- ▶ IELTS Academic Test (not older than 2 years) - the required score is at least 6.0;
- ▶ TOEFL (not older than 2 years) - the required score is at least 550 points (for a computer test - 213; Internet based test - 80);
- ▶ State Centralized English Examination (applicants from Latvia)
- ▶ Applicants who have acquired previous education in English or are native English speakers are exempted from taking Proficiency tests in English.
- ▶ Applicant is also exempted from Proficiency tests in English if he/she has completed secondary education in a European Union, European Economic Area country or the Swiss Confederation and his/her secondary education certificate includes English proficiency assessment that equals to B2 (or higher) level of the Common European Framework of Reference.

State Centralized Examination results of

the Secondary General Education from candidates from Latvia.

Academic and scientific achievements, active participation in youth organisations, and other relevant activities are highly desirable.

More information about our programmes, requirements and application process is available at apply.rgsl.edu.lv



For Early Application you need to:

- ▶ **Submit your full application by 17 April 2023;**
- ▶ **Submit your grade transcript for the previous semester with the average grade not lower than 7,5;**
- ▶ **Have English Proficiency (A&B level (7.5-10) in previous semester grade transcript, or IELTS 6.0+)**
- ▶ **Submit a motivation letter.**

Applicants who apply for studies by the Early Application deadline 17 April 2023 and fulfill the Early Application requirements receive a 10% tuition fee waiver for the first academic year.



For Open House dates check our website: www.rgsl.lv



Tuition fee waivers

To celebrate academic excellence and foster competition among students, RGSL has established the RGSL Student Excellence award for 2nd and 3rd year bachelor students with the highest grades in the previous study year.

RGSL offers tuition fee waivers for RGSL employees, their children, orphans and persons with 1st or 2nd degree of disability.

Successful graduates of RGSL Excellence School receive 15% tuition fee waiver for the first year of bachelor studies.

More information: rgsl.edu.lv/study/fees-and-funding



Early Application discount

All eligible applicants, local and foreign, who apply for studies by the Early Application deadline 17 April 2023 and fulfills the Early Application requirements receive a 10% tuition fee waiver for the first academic year.

Latvian state scholarships

In accordance with bilateral agreements on co-operation in education and science signed between Latvian government and several countries, Latvia offers scholarships to foreign students from 40 countries for studies in Latvian higher education institutions. Applications for the year 2023/2024 will be open from February to April. More information: viaa.gov.lv



Law Library

Research at RGSL is supported by the RGSL Law Library which is a popular place for students, faculty and visitors alike. Located on the top floor of the university, with stunning views across Art Nouveau Riga, it offers the top collection of legal literature in the Baltics and Northern Europe.

The library is open to students from RGSL and other universities, teaching staff, and the public. In addition to students, an increasing number of professionals make extensive use of the library, with its impressive collection of law books, legal journals, plus access to valuable legal and multidisciplinary databases such as Westlaw, HeinOnline, and resources from the Kluwer Law and Oxford University Press, and others.

Workspaces in the library are available for all students. It has a modern study environment and a rooftop terrace, which is especially good for taking study breaks or simply some fresh air.

Academic platform, projects and research

Every year, RGSL hosts a wide range of events with distinguished guests from academia, government, legal practice, industry, regulatory authorities, NGOs and the judiciary, where the students are invited to participate and benefit from the high-level content for their research purposes and networking opportunities.

RGSL is a host of the annual Human Rights Conference, which seeks to consolidate the academic and professional aspects of challenges in application of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Latvia to raise awareness about current problems and their possible solutions. Since 2006 this conference has become an integral part of Latvia's civil and legal discussion framework.

RGSL publishes "RGSL Interdisciplinary Studies", a series of refereed publications critically analyzing current issues in



European and international studies.

Since 2019 RGSL publishes the internationally recognized "Baltic Yearbook of International Law".

Annual RGSL International Students' Research Paper Conference has become a great platform for law students to present their research and engage in academic discussions with peers.

RGSL Summer School on International and European law under the scientific leadership of Judge of the European Court of Justice and RGSL Professor Ineta Ziemele has become a place where students and law professionals can get the latest insights on international case law.



Student life

The dynamic academic atmosphere at RGSL is bolstered by an equally exciting student life, as extracurricular and social activities provide balance to intensive studies. Guest lecturers provide fresh perspectives to traditional study work while Student Association activities offer opportunities to develop relationships outside the classroom.

RGSL provides full support in helping students find relevant internships and networking opportunities.

Moot courts

Moot courts are a co-curricular activity at many law schools, where students take part in simulated court or arbitration proceedings. This academic year, RGSL students take part in four international Moot court competitions – Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Vis Moot), Levan Alexidze Moot Court in Georgia and Helga Pedersen International Moot Court Competition. RGSL teams also participate in various Latvian moot courts with great success.



There is also a strong tradition of so called "underground moot court" at RGSL, organized by RGSL Student Association.

RGSL Chat Chamber

In 2020 RGSL students launched the RGSL Chat Chamber podcast where they interview distinguished professors and law professionals on professional and career topics. Two years and 26 episodes later, the podcast is available on RGSL YouTube channel, Spotify, Anchor, Breaker, Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts, Pocket Casts and RadioPublic.

Location and campus

RGSL is located in the heart of Riga's famous Art Nouveau District, within walking distance of the city's UNESCO-listed historic centre. Academic facilities are of the highest standard, including fully-equipped auditoriums and a student lounge. Many RGSL facilities are shared with the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, providing additional opportunities for networking and socializing.



Life in Riga

Combining the rich culture and history of a European capital city with a thriving community of international students and reasonable living expenses, Riga offers an ideal environment for studies, work and socialising. It is a home for more than 6000 international students who enjoy a quality education, a rich cultural life, great entertainment venues, very fast internet and outdoor adventures. RGSL is served by efficient public transportation while Riga itself offers easy connections to other European cities via bus or plane. As a medium-sized university, RGSL is able to assist its students in finding suitable housing in Riga.



Living expenses

During your stay in Riga, you can expect to spend approximately EUR 500 per month on living expenses. This includes rent, but not tuition fees.

ACCOMMODATION: EUR 200–400 per month

INSURANCE: European Health Insurance Card

PUBLIC TRANSPORT: EUR 16 (student pass)

GENERAL LIVING EXPENSES: EUR 280–300



Student mobility

RGSL actively promotes the student and staff exchange with the aim of diversifying the student group and faculty cohort, to create an enriching learning environment with meaningful discussions of inter-disciplinary subjects in law, international relations, economics and business.

RGSL also welcomes incoming Erasmus students from partner universities to spend one or two semesters in Riga, as all courses are taught in English and are available to mobility students. Wide range of subjects, small classes, quality of lectures and international professors, as well as many students from different countries, comfortable facilities and a good location in the city centre are mentioned as the strengths of RGSL by Erasmus students.

Ulla Zumente-Steele, Erasmus Institutional Coordinator:

“RGSL students can choose to study abroad for an Erasmus exchange semester in one of 40+ partner universities from over 20 countries. The most popular destination countries are the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Sweden, Finland, Hungary and Spain, but experience has been empowering for our students in every place they have studied at during Erasmus. In addition, many RGSL students and alumni are increasingly pursuing Erasmus traineeships – international work placements for a period of 2-6 months with financial support of the EU Erasmus+ grant. They have worked at a wide range of host organizations such as international organizations, embassies, business companies, NGOs and research institutes.”



8 reasons to choose RGSL

1

Careers in law,
business and
diplomacy

2

Teaching
exclusively in
English

3

International
environment

4

Students and faculty
from 30+ countries



5

Exchange opportunities
with 40+ universities

6

Top collection of
legal literature in the
Baltics and Northern
Europe



7

Modern campus
in the heart of Art
Nouveau Riga



8

Good flight network
to and from Riga



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Riga Graduate
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