## Program Dates

BU Law and ILF follow different academic calendars. ILF’s initial term, called its “winter semester,” runs from early October to mid-February, with a holiday break from late-December to early-January. ILF’s second term, called its “summer semester,” runs from mid-April to mid-July.

## Important Links

- **LLM in Finance Brochure:** [https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/fileadmin/user_upload/LL.M. Finance Brochure.pdf](https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/fileadmin/user_upload/LL.M. Finance Brochure.pdf)
- **ILF Academic Calendar:** [https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/llm-programs/general-information/academic-calendar/](https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/llm-programs/general-information/academic-calendar/)
- **List of LLM classes:** [https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/llm-programs/llm-finance/list-of-courses/winter-semester/](https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/llm-programs/llm-finance/list-of-courses/winter-semester/)
- **LLM Degree Requirements:** [https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/llm-programs/llm-finance/curriculum-components/](https://www.ilf-frankfurt.de/llm-programs/llm-finance/curriculum-components/)

## Host School Deadlines

- **Fall studies:** March 31
- **Spring studies:** October 30

## Participant Cap

Up to two students may attend ILF, whether for a full-year or single semester.

## Academic Requirements for LLM in Finance

LL.M. Finance program requires 90 ECTS credits comprising 12 graded courses (each 5 ECTS), a 60-page thesis (20 ECTS) and a 7 to 8-week internship at a financial institution in Europe, such as at a law firm, company, or government institution (10 ECTS). Note that these requirements exceed BU Law’s study abroad requirement of 10 graded courses (the equivalent of 24 BU Law credits for the year.)

## BU Law Academic Requirements

All students must complete a minimum of 10 graded classes at ILF (each for five ECTS credits) plus a two-credit independent paper with a BU Law faculty member.

## Timing Considerations

Because spring semester classes run into mid-July, BU Law students will not be eligible to graduate in May or take the summer bar exam. They will be eligible to receive their BU Law JD degree in September and sit for a February bar exam.

## BU Law Credits Awarded

Students will receive 26 credits towards the BU Law J.D. degree. They will receive 12 credits for each semester for a total of 24. In addition, all students will be required to pursue a two-credit independent study with a BU Law faculty member, to commence in June - September prior to the student’s departure. The paper must be completed by the end of the academic year. It may (but need not) be on a topic related to financial law. This two-credit independent study is required in order for students to meet BU LAW’s 26 yearly minimum credit requirement. Students may not substitute journal work or other credits to meet this requirement.
## Housing

The ILF offers a limited number of dormitory rooms owned by the university’s student services. Because these rooms are in such high demand, they are reserved to students from abroad and allocated by lottery. Students interested in one of these rooms should let OGIP know that they wish to enter the lottery. The ILF is able to provide a list of non-profit housing facilities and organizations to help you find private accommodations.

## Program Contacts

- Dr. Rolf Friedewald – ILF Managing Director  
  Email: friedewald@ilf.uni-frankfurt.de
- Ms. Shen-Dee Kobbelt -- Head of Programs and Marketing  
  Email: kobbelt@ilf.uni-frankfurt.de
- Ms. Panagiota Bountrou Position: Admissions and Recruitment  
  Email: bountrou@ilf.uni-frankfurt.de

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## Living Costs

**Estimated costs in Frankfurt per month**
- Housing / Accommodation & Utility Bills: €400 - €600  
- Food/Misc: €400 - €600  
- Health Insurance: €60 - €90 (Depending on health insurance provider)  
- Travel Costs: Public transport in Frankfurt covered by twice yearly semester of approximately €365 to the University)  
- Binders from ILF/books, 2 class trips, optional German lessons: €800 - €1200 (per annum)

## Visas

Non-EU students should apply for visas once they have accepted a place in the program. Upon such acceptance, an official letter of admission from the Dean of Goethe University’s Law Faculty will be sent out. This letter is necessary to apply for a student visa at the German consulate or embassy in the student’s home country. The ILF will provide assistance should the consulate require further information regarding student status or the planned course of study. Visa applications are accepted no sooner than 90 days prior to the program’s start date and no later than 4 weeks prior.

Visa information on Consulate’s website:
[http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/05_Legal/02_Directory_Services/01_Visa/Study_Visa.html](http://www.germany.info/Vertretung/usa/en/05_Legal/02_Directory_Services/01_Visa/Study_Visa.html)