



BUCERIUS LAW SCHOOL

HOCHSCHULE FÜR RECHTSWISSENSCHAFT

# Exchange Program in International and Comparative Business Law

Factsheet 2026

Excellence

Courage

Spirit

# Exchange Program in International and Comparative Business Law

## Semester Dates

### Semester Dates 2026

- September 1 – December 18

### Exam Sessions 2026

- Session I: October 19 – 23
- Session II: December 14 – 18

### Study Break 2026

- October 26 – 30

### Mandatory Orientation Program

- September 1 and 2

Any late arrival and departure must be approved by the Bucerius International Office

## Academic Requirements

- 2 years of legal study if studied at undergraduate level
- 1 year of legal study if studied at graduate level (e.g. U.S.)

## Language Requirements

Language of Instruction is English; students who study in English full-time at an American law school do not need to provide an official test score; students who do not study in English are expected to prove proficiency equal to a TOEFL score of 90.

Some courses in German are available if student is fluent in German.

## Nomination/Application Deadline

- **Nomination Deadline** April 1, 2026
- **Application Deadline** April 15, 2026

## Application Procedure

**STEP 1:** Partner university nominates student(s) via an online platform

- Transcript must be included
- Access to the platform is granted via email every January

**STEP 2:** Nominated students receive login credential for online application portal

- Online application form with questions about their motivation for studying at Bucerius, their international and professional experience etc.
- Uploads: a photo for a student directory

## Course Enrollment/Registration

Students pre-register for courses online. Some courses have quotas and pre-requisites. Important dates are:

- January: Course list posted online
- May: Course catalogue posted online
- July: Course registration online

**Minimum Course Load:** 4 ABA credits per session (total of 2 sessions), most students take 6-7 courses

**Mandatory:** "Introduction to German Law" (does not count toward minimum course load) and introductory sessions on Civil and Common Law.

**Total Course Offer:** 20-25 courses

**Credits:** 1 ABA or 2 ABA per course

Exchange program participants can opt to enroll in a module of specialized courses intertwining law, economics and management to earn a **Certificate in Management and Leadership for Lawyers** from the Bucerius Center on the Legal Profession.

In addition to law courses, a German language course at the beginner level will also be available. The credits do not count toward the minimum course load. The course comes at an additional cost.



## Extracurricular Activities

The International Office offers a **free extracurricular program** including guided tours in Hamburg and surrounding cities, visits to museums, lectures on the German political system and current political situations, and social events with Bucerius students.

Exchange students are also welcome to participate in the numerous student activity groups on campus.

## Housing

Bucerius Law School does not have on-campus housing and the housing market in Hamburg is tight. We strongly recommend looking for accommodation right after admission. **The International Office supports students by providing a list of housing resources/platforms to accepted students.** In addition, some Bucerius LLB students who will be studying abroad may sublet their apartment or room to international students.

## Health Insurance

Health insurance coverage is mandatory and can be purchased through Bucerius. Information will be provided to admitted students.

**US insurances usually do not fulfill German governmental regulations for student insurances.**

Student health insurances must fulfill certain requirements (no benefit limit, deductible under €5,000, pre-existing conditions, substance abuse and self-harm treatment must be covered).

## Living Expenses

**Recommended budget:** approx. €8,000 for four months.

A detailed list of the individual amounts can be found on our website:

<http://buceri.us/finances>.

## Immigration Information

The International Office provides detailed information to accepted students.

**U.S. citizens** can travel and to and remain in the Schengen countries (incl. Germany) for 90 days without a visa and apply for a residence permit after arrival.

Due to administrative delays, it is possible that no residence permit will be issued within the 90 visa-free Schengen days, meaning students cannot travel outside of Germany after the 90 visa-free days are over. Students can choose to apply for a 4-month visa at a German consulate instead.

**Most non-U.S./non EU** students must apply for a student visa at a consulate.

## Equal Opportunities

Bucerius Law School values student diversity and is committed to providing a learning environment where there is **no discrimination on the basis of gender, race, religion/belief, age, disability, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation, socio-economic background or other irrelevant distinction.** No student should feel disadvantaged or excluded from class participation.

Furthermore, Bucerius Law School tries to ensure that accessibility needs are met. The building, its lecture rooms and parking facilities are wheelchair-accessible.

The city of Hamburg continuously works on improving accessibility.

## Further Services

- With the "Deutschlandticket", Bucerius provides exchange students with a free ticket for all local trains and public transportation throughout Germany.
- Students from our partners receive a discount of 15% off the full tuition fee for their participation in one of our [Summer Programs](#).

## Team



Annalena



Saskia



Inga



Anna



Lena

## Campus – at a glance



Centrally located in between downtown area and the popular *Planten un Blomen* park



Easily accessible via public transportation; 10 minutes by subway from main station



Reference Library accessible 24/7  
Remote access to online publications and databases



Cafeteria and Coffee Lounge



Various teams and clubs: e.g. sports, culture, music or social engagement

## Contact

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