



AbsolventInnenecke

Doing my Doctor's Degree in English

Not only international students are interested in pursuing their doctoral studies in English, German-speakers also find it more and more attractive to practice their English skills and receive a degree at the same time.

For professional working in a legal field, a sound command of English is essential because today even middle and smaller business and law firms operate in an international environment with an international clientele. The best way of demonstrating high level English is a degree or alternative education in English.

Alma Z. is a German speaking student at the Law Faculty doing her doctor's degree in English. She states: "No matter what you do English is a necessity. I was lucky that I had the opportunity to do an LL.M. in New York. After that I decided to do my doctorate in English. I was pleasantly surprised to find out that the University of Vienna is open towards an English dissertation. This is a great possibility because it made my work easier as I could use English language literature without having to translate everything and eventually it will make my work accessible to a wider audience."

The Faculty of Law tries to support students' ambitions to perfect their English, but also supports international students and therefore provides the facilities to study your doctor's degree in English. Prof Meissel, the director of the studies programme, explains: "The attraction of a faculty can be seen not least by the interest of

international students. Hence, we are happy about a relatively high number of international doctorate students. Still, German skills and a certain willingness to become acquainted with Austrian law is expected. Of course, it is no problem to write a dissertation in English or another common foreign language. In this way several high-qualified jurists successfully gained their doctor's degree of law here in Vienna. For our faculty it is essential to reach a high quality of dissertations. Therefore, with our program, we want to attract the best minds (no matter, if they are from Austria, or not)."

Students from other countries still have to keep in mind that they may have to get their foreign certificates acknowledged and complete some additional exams before they are allowed to register for doctor's studies at the law faculty of Vienna.

Once you are registered, the biggest challenge is finding supervisors. There are some Professors who actively offer to supervise your English dissertation, many other Professors support an English dissertation if they are asked.

Another part of the doctoral studies is successfully completing obligatory classes. For the „Juristische Methodenlehre“ (juridical methods) and „Judikatur- und Textanalyse“ (analysis of jurisprudence and texts), eg Prof Stadler provides an English track for people who are interested. You will have to read English lite-



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International summer school on European Studies

Date: 14/7/12 to 11/8/12
in Strobl, Salzburg

<http://shs.univie.ac.at/shs>



The international summer school in Strobl, Salzburg, is open for students from all over the world



ature and pass an oral colloquium. Of course, there are far more other classes that can be completed in English. All of them can be found in the university calendar.

„[...] It is no problem to write a dissertation in English or another common foreign language [...]“

Prof Meissel, director of the studies programme

But also outside the regular doctoral studies there are plenty of alternative offers in English language. In addition to the various English LLM-programs at the University of Vienna, there is the opportunity to participate in a Summer Law School.

One example is the Summer Law School on Dispute Resolution in Vienna, offered by ELSA in co-operation with the Law Faculty. The Dean, Prof Mayer, thinks: "ELSA provides students the opportunity to apply their learned knowledge in practice and enhance their juridical skills. Therefore the Law Faculty of the University of Vienna supports the ELSA Law School on Dispute Resolution."

The participants of the ELSA Summer Law School will get an overview of different dispute resolution techniques, such as litigation, arbitration, mediation, and negotiation. The knowledge and skills will be transmitted by leading experts, for example Prof. Oberhammer of our Faculty, who is the patron of the event, Dr. Willheim, who is partner at Willheim Müller Attorneys at Law, the main sponsor of the Summer School and Dr. Knötzl, partner at Wolf Theiss Attorneys at Law, who also sponsor the event.

„[...] I was very happy and also pleasantly surprised to find out that the University of Vienna is open towards an English dissertation. This is a great possibility [...]“ *Alma Z.*

Another opportunity for a Summer School with English program is the "Summer School 2012 – Career Perspectives in Europe", presented by the Viennese DoktorandInnenzentrum. It is addressed not only to law students, but to all doctorate students of the University of Vienna. The event focuses on training activities, practical tips to develop your skills in job application procedures and interaction with experts from different European countries. The program will help to raise your awareness of intercultural and interdisciplinary differences and prepare you for an interna-

tional job. Additionally, there will be many opportunities for networking activities.

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ELSA is an international, independent and non-political non-profit-organisation run by and for students and recent graduates.

ELSA Summer Law School:
Date: 26/8/2012 - 2/9/2012
Registration deadline: 15/5/12 (registration form and CV)

Contact Information:
Adi Bikic, director.ls@elsa-wien.org
www.elsa-wien.org

Finally, there is the possibility to participate in the University of Vienna SHS, taking place from 14th July to 11th Aug in Strobl. The four week program offers high level European Studies courses in the morning and (if needed) German language courses in the afternoon. You can even use some of the classes as courses for your doctor's degree at the Law Faculty. Furthermore, the experience is enhanced by an extensive extracurricular program.

Further information to help you satisfy your ambition to improve your English can be found on our website www.fvjus.at

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practice your English skills:
research in another country:
<http://forschung.univie.ac.at/home/>
LLM: www.llm-guide.com
MBA: www.officialmbaguide.org

Acknowledgement for certification: Mag. Haas
Tu 09:00-11:00, Th 13:00-15:00 at the Institute for international law, Juridicum, staircase 1, 3rd floor room 327
Email-adress: verena.haas@univie.ac.at
Tel: 01 4277 340 23
You can reach her on Mo 09:00-13:00,
Tu 09:00-14:00, We 12:00-16:00, Th 11:00-16:00

Summer School 2012 – Career Perspectives in Europe
Date: 15/7/12 to 21/7/12
in Spital am Phyrn

Registration deadline: 1/4/12
(registration form, motivation letter, recommendation letter from your supervisor)

Contact Information:

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allison.oreilly@univie.ac.at

<http://doktorat.univie.ac.at/veranstaltungen/summer-school-2012/>

