



AUC Pre-Law Track

UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme

Since 2017, AUC is proud to offer, in collaboration with the Faculty of Law of the University of Amsterdam (UvA), an exciting new opportunity for (Dutch speaking) AUC students with an interest in a legal career in the Netherlands: UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme, and its preparatory AUC Pre-Law Track.

What is 'civiel effect'?

To practice law as an attorney, public prosecutor or judge in the Netherlands ('toga beroepen'),¹ and be admitted to the Dutch bar, requires the special qualification of 'civiel effect'. Until recently, this was reserved only for law school graduates with a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Dutch law, but this will now also be open to AUC students. Dutch-speaking AUC students that have completed AUC's Pre-Law Track (details below) will be able to obtain a full Bachelor of Laws diploma (LLB) in a fast-track, one-year pre-master law bachelor programme at UvA Faculty of Law. In combination with a relevant Dutch law Master's degree,² graduates earn the qualification of 'civiel effect'.

1. AUC Pre-Law Track and course requirements

Considering the entry requirements of the new UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme, AUC has developed a new Pre-Law Track, which builds on existing AUC law track courses. If students complete the mandatory and elective courses in this track, and meet the Dutch language requirements, they will be admissible to the Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme.

The AUC Pre-Law Track consists of:

- **Five mandatory courses (30 EC):**

1. Constitutional and Administrative Law (200-level, Spring semester)
2. Criminal Justice Systems (300-level, Spring semester)
3. European Union Law (300-level, Autumn semester)
4. International Law (200-level, Spring semester)
5. Principles of Private Law (200-level, Autumn semester)

- **Three elective law courses (18 EC);** any 3 of the following courses (cross-)listed in the law track:

- Artificial Intelligence, Technology, and the Law (300-level, Spring semester);
- Corporate Social Responsibility (300-level, Autumn semester);
- Environmental Law and Policy (200-level, Autumn semester);
- Global Environmental Governance (300-level, Autumn & Spring semesters);
- Human Rights Law and Politics (200-level, Autumn semester);
- Law, Society and Justice (100-level, Autumn and Spring semesters);
- Legal and Social Philosophy (300-level, Autumn semester);

[International Business Contract Law (300-level, discontinued in 2023-24)]

[Moot Court Lab (300-level, discontinued in 2023-24)]

NB: Off-campus/Study abroad law courses do **not** count toward the Pre-Law track qualification, nor do Community project/internship (CP/I) credits, nor participation in the Amsterdam Law Trials.

- **Capstone thesis with a legal focus (300 level, 12 EC).**

The following specific capstone conditions must be met:

- Supervisor must hold a graduate degree in law (LLM, JD, PhD, JSD, or equivalent);
- Capstone thesis must be based at least for 50% on a legal problem statement, i.e. have a clear legal research question (1) that is embedded in the disciplinary context, i.e. sources of law and legal literature, (2) of which the author explains the importance in legal theory and/or the socio-legal relevance of answering the question, (3) of which the different underlying (legal) concepts and elements are explained, and (4) of which the research methods, used by the author to answer the question, are described.
- Fulfilment of these criteria will be assessed by the pre-law track coordinator with the assistance of the capstone coordinator, and confirmed by the AUC Board of Examiners and communicated to the UvA Law Faculty Examinations Board at the student's request.

¹ Nationality requirements apply to become a public prosecutor or judge in the Netherlands.

² Eligible UvA Master's programmes ("doorstroommasters") to obtain *civiel effect* are: *Arbeidsrecht; Fiscaal recht- Internationaal en Europees belastingrecht; Fiscaal recht-Nederlands Belastingrecht; Informatierecht; Gezondheidsrecht; Privaatrecht-Commerciële rechtspraktijk; Privaatrecht-Privaatrechtelijke rechtspraktijk; Publiekrecht-Staats- en bestuursrecht; Publiekrecht-Strafrecht.*

Any elective space in these LLM programmes must be filled with Dutch law courses.



2. How to register your interest in the AUC Pre-Law Track

Students interested in the UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Law Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme are encouraged to register for the AUC Pre-Law Track by sending an email to track coordinator **Thijs Etty** (t.f.m.etty@auc.nl), including their name, student number, and expected date of graduation. Registration is not a formal commitment but facilitates direct communication with interested students and is helpful for planning purposes for both AUC and UvA track coordinators.

3. UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme

To be eligible for the UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme, AUC students must meet two entry requirements: (1) Dutch language proficiency (NT2 level II) and (2) completed AUC Pre-Law Track, including 'sufficiently legal' capstone (see criteria above). During the one-year UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme, students must complete 60 EC in Dutch law courses in the areas of private, criminal, constitutional, and administrative law. AUC graduates will be exempted from the general UvA Law faculty BSA-requirements. Honours-level seminar groups are offered in the Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme, comprised of AUC Pre-Law Track graduates, PPLE Law graduates, and UvA and VU Honours law students.

Full details of the UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme are available [here](https://www.uva.nl/programmas/bachelors/rechtsgeleerdheid/studieprogramma/civiel-effectprogramma-pple-en-auc#Kosten-van-het-civiel-effectprogramma) (in Dutch): <https://www.uva.nl/programmas/bachelors/rechtsgeleerdheid/studieprogramma/civiel-effectprogramma-pple-en-auc#Kosten-van-het-civiel-effectprogramma>.

4. Reduced tuition fee & enrolment procedure for UvA-AUC Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme

AUC Pre-Law Track students nearing graduation are requested to enroll for the UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme before **1 July**, using this [form](#) and via [Studielink](#) (make sure to register as a regular bachelorstudent Rechtsgeleerdheid, **NOT** as "schakelstudent" or as "bijvakstudent"). In order to potentially benefit from a potential significantly reduced tuition fee (2024-25: *wettelijk collegegeld* €2.530,- instead of *instellingsgeld-tarief* €8.700,-, for EER students), and potential eligibility for study financing, enrolment must be completed before **1 September**. For detailed conditions, see UvA [Tuition Fees](#) (in Dutch).

5. Legal Master's options for non-Dutch language students (without 'civiel effect')

AUC graduates with a law concentration (i.e., not restricted to the Pre-Law Track outlined above) may be admissible to a number of English-language legal Master's (LLM) programmes at the UvA, VU or other (Dutch) universities. At the UvA, relevant Master's programmes include: European Private Law, International and European Law: European Union Law, International and European Law: European Competition Law and Regulation, International and European Law: Public International Law, International and European Law: International Trade and Investment Law.

While these programmes do not offer 'civiel effect', and thus no access to admission to the Dutch bar as a practicing lawyer, or careers in public prosecution or the judiciary in the Netherlands, they do offer a wide range of other (quasi-)legal career perspectives, e.g. as corporate counsel, paralegal, international organisations (incl. UN bodies), legal consultancy, academic career in legal studies, etc. For full information, students are encouraged to consult the websites and/or student advisors of these Master's programmes.

6. Questions and contact

For questions about the AUC Pre-Law Track or the UvA-AUC 'Civiel Effect' Fast-track Law Bachelor (LLB) Programme, please contact AUC's Pre-Law Track coordinator **Thijs Etty** (t.f.m.etty@auc.nl) or the UvA contact/law study-advisor Niall Houffelaar (n.g.houffelaar@uva.nl).

An [online FAQ](#) is provided by the UvA Law faculty (in Dutch). NB: after clicking the link, select 'Rechtsgeleerdheid (bachelor)' as your degree programme: <https://www.uva.nl/programmas/bachelors/rechtsgeleerdheid/studieprogramma/civiel-effectprogramma-pple-en-auc#Kosten-van-het-civiel-effectprogramma>.