

(Program for Graduates from Asia)

MASTER OF LAWS in

**International Banking, Securities & Finance**



INSTITUTE FOR LAW AND FINANCE

*Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main*



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# THE ILF



*“We strive to provide students from Asia with a solid and comprehensive legal and financial education set in a dynamic learning environment, thereby giving them the legal training they need to excel in their careers.”*

Prof. Dr. Andreas Cahn

Executive Director, Institute for Law and Finance



# OFFERS:

## EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

The Institute for Law and Finance (ILF) is a center for academic excellence in teaching and research in the fields of law and finance. It was established in 2002 as a foundation of Goethe University Frankfurt am Main with the support of many leading commercial banks, international law firms, consulting and accounting firms as well as central banks and regulatory authorities such as the German Central Bank (Deutsche Bundesbank), the German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin) and the European Central Bank.

With the recent developments taking place in the banking and financial markets as well as new requirements for financial regulation being implemented, there is real need for professionals to be trained in these specialized areas of legal practice. Our Master of Laws in International Banking,

Securities and Finance (LL.M. International Finance) program for graduates from Asia offers excellent interdisciplinary and practice-oriented training in the areas of international and European banking, securities and finance law.

By studying at the ILF, you will be trained not only to deal with but also to excel in this increasingly important area where the worlds of international law and global finance meet. You will be taught by prominent professors from Goethe University Frankfurt am Main as well as top experts from the legal and financial industries.

Frankfurt plays a central role in European and global finance and the ILF, which is located in Frankfurt, provides the ideal location to train young professionals to deal with both current and future legal and financial challenges.



## The LL.M. International Finance

Program is listed among the top 10 LL.M. programs for banking, finance and securities law worldwide by LLM GUIDE!





# WHERE WE ARE:

## GOETHE UNIVERSITY, FRANKFURT CITY



The Institute for Law and Finance is situated in the House of Finance located at Campus Westend of Goethe University. Goethe University Frankfurt am Main was founded in 1914 by prominent citizens of Frankfurt and is today one of Europe's leading institutions of higher education.

Being a lively, urban, and cosmopolitan university, Goethe University provides an excellent atmosphere for research, study, thinking, and creating. With currently more than 45,000 students, including over 7,000 international students representing more than 135 nationalities, it prides itself on a rich tradition of intellectual and cultural excellence. Located right in the heart of Frankfurt City, Germany, Campus Westend of Goethe University is surrounded by a large park area with a beautiful campus atmosphere.



## HOUSE OF FINANCE

The House of Finance amalgamates the University's interdisciplinary research on finance, monetary economics, and corporate and financial law under one roof. With its attractive premises and exceptional infrastructure, the House of Finance allows its numerous researchers, doctoral students and graduate students to learn, exchange ideas and conduct research in a stimulating environment.

Our students have the use of the most modern equipment and facilities and state-of-the-art technology during their studies at the ILF. In addition, they benefit from the extensive contact and network opportunities available due to the presence



of researchers and experts working in the fields of law and finance at the House of Finance.

Students have access everyday around the clock to the specialized library housed in the House of Finance, which is based on the extensive law collection of the former Institute of Foreign and International Business Law (AIW) and contains more than 40,000 volumes, including about 100 international periodicals. They can use the Jurisdata, LexisNexis and Westlaw databases, and via the University Library (Universitätsbibliothek Johann Christian Senckenberg), they have electronic access to hundreds of legal, economic and financial journals.



Students have access to all databases and the internet via WLAN at the University and as full members of the university community, they are eligible to use all facilities available to students of Goethe University. The libraries of the University's Faculty of Law and Faculty of Business and Economics are located at Campus Westend. The Deutsche Nationalbibliothek, the national library and national bibliographic information center for the Federal Republic of Germany, is also located in Frankfurt. The library resources of the Deutsche Bundesbank are also accessible to students.



Official website of Goethe University: [www.uni-frankfurt.de](http://www.uni-frankfurt.de)



**Frankfurt am Main is the most international city in Germany and the largest financial center on continental Europe. There is an abundance to discover in this historical city of Goethe with its cultural offers.**

Almost one-third of the people living in Frankfurt do not hold a German passport. This means that wherever visitors come from, they will always meet people in Frankfurt who speak their language and a restaurant that serves their favorite food. The open and hospitable atmosphere in Frankfurt stems from its centuries-old role as a trading center.

Since the Middle Ages, the city of Frankfurt has been a major trade and financial center at the crossroads of Europe's trade routes. Today, as the leading financial marketplace in continental Europe, Frankfurt is the seat of the European Central Bank and international banks such as Deutsche Bank and Commerzbank. Many major foreign banks are also represented in Frankfurt.

Frankfurt is at the center of European monetary policy and the European Economic and Monetary Union. The German Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin) and the European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority (EIOPA) are located here. Major public banking institutions, including the Deutsche Bundesbank and KfW Bankengruppe, one of the EU's leading public credit institutions, are based in Frankfurt. One of the world's largest stock exchanges, Deutsche Börse which also houses the world's largest and most modern, all-electronic derivatives exchange, Eurex, is also located here. Finally, the new EU Anti-Money Laundering Authority (AMLA) is based in Frankfurt from 2025.

**The region benefits from an outstanding telecommunications and transportation infrastructure.**

Frankfurt Airport is the leading airport in continental Europe and offers excellent connections within Europe and overseas. Frankfurt's dense transportation network ensures a seamless connection to all road and rail links. Frankfurt serves as a perfect international meeting point for many people. It offers many cultural attractions, among them two opera houses, concert halls, theaters, and a great variety of museums and art galleries. Situated along one of Europe's great rivers, the Main, Frankfurt is a vibrant city with many recreational facilities which cater to the city's international population.





# WHY STUDY AT THE ILF?



## 8 GOOD REASONS:

- An interdisciplinary curriculum with excellent law and business/finance courses
- Top lecturers consisting of leading professors from Goethe University and experts from the professional world
- A location in Frankfurt, the financial center of continental Europe
- Increased interaction with ILF international students via combined courses with them
- A program that is open to graduates of law, business or economics faculties
- Advanced Business and Legal English and basic German language courses
- Exclusive and intensive Legal and Management Training Program during semester break
- Organized student excursions (e.g. Field Trips to Other Cities, European Central Bank, Germany Stock Exchange, Basketball Game, Football Game) and special Company Visits.

## COOPERATION WITH UNIVERSITIES IN ASIA

Since 2011, the ILF has been establishing cooperations with various universities in China as well as in other Asian countries for the LL.M. International Finance program.



**Anhui Medical University, Hefei**  
Cooperation since 2024



**Hanoi Law University, Hanoi**  
Cooperation since 2015



**Aichi University, Japan, Nagoya**  
Cooperation since 2020



**Beihang University, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2016



**Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2017



**Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing & Zhuhai**  
Cooperation since 2022



**Beijing Normal University, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2019



**Central University of Finance and Economics, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2013



**China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2014



**East China University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai**  
Cooperation since 2012



**Fudan University, Shanghai**  
Cooperation since 2016



**Nanjing University of Finance and Economics, Nanjing**  
Cooperation since 2013



**National Taipei University, Taipei**  
Cooperation since 2020



**Renmin University, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2016



**Shandong University, Qingdao**  
Cooperation since 2019



**Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, Shanghai**  
Cooperation since 2015



**Shanghai University of International Business and Economics School of Law, Shanghai,**  
Cooperation since 2020



**Shanghai University of Political Science and Law, Shanghai**  
Cooperation since 2023



**Sichuan Agricultural University, Ya'an**  
Cooperation since 2023



**Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, Chengdu**  
Cooperation since 2011



**Southwest University of Political Science and Law, Chongqing**  
Cooperation since 2021



**University of Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2014



**University of International Business and Economics, Beijing**  
Cooperation since 2012



**Zhejiang University, Hangzhou**  
Cooperation since 2020



# WHO CAN APPLY?

Graduates holding a first degree in law, business or economics from Asia and who have good academic records are eligible to apply to join our LL.M. International Finance program.

Since English is the sole language of instruction, applicants must have a good command of written and spoken English. Class size is kept small to ensure academic excellence and direct, personal contact between students and the faculty.

## DURATION OF THE PROGRAM

The LL.M. International Finance program at the ILF is a one-year postgraduate degree program. It is divided into two semesters, namely the winter semester (October to February) and the summer semester (April to July). The program commences in October and ends in July of the following year.

## CONFERMENT OF DEGREE AND ACCREDITATION

The LL.M. International Finance Degree is conferred by the Faculty of Law of Goethe University Frankfurt am Main. The ILF and the LL.M. International Finance degree program are re-accredited until 2029 by the Accreditation Commission of Goethe University. This award strongly confirms our extensive experience in education and training in the fields of law and finance relevant for Master's programs.

**RE-ACCREDITED!**

*LL.M. International Finance Program re-accredited until 2029!*

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

After graduating from the ILF, if you wish to stay and look for work in Germany, you can apply to extend your existing residence permit for up to 18 months (and work unrestricted). Such job seeker visas are granted as long as foreign students have evidence of receiving a degree from a German university, have health insurance and can support themselves financially during the period of stay.

## INTERNSHIPS

Students of the LL.M. International Finance Program have completed their **voluntary** internships at following institutions (including but not limited to):

- Agricultural Bank of China
- Ashurst
- Baker McKenzie
- Bank of Communications
- Bird & Bird
- Clifford Chance
- Commerzbank
- Debevoise & Plimpton
- Deloitte
- Dentons
- Deutsche Bundesbank
- Fieldfisher
- Finance in Motion
- Gleiss Lutz
- Görg
- Hauck Aufhäuser Lampe
- Hengeler Mueller
- Hogan Lovells
- ING DiBa
- K & L Gates
- King Wood Mallesons
- Latham & Watkins
- Linklaters
- Mayer Brown
- Noerr
- Norton Rose Fulbright
- Rödl & Partner
- White & Case



**Kaiqiang Fan**  
**China University of Political Science and Law, China**  
**ILF ALUMNUS, CLASS of 2015**

*"Studying at the ILF helped me a lot as many courses were taught by experienced lawyers which means that the course contents were all very practical. On the other hand, the extra-curricular activities enriched the program by allowing us to visit European governmental institutions as well as major and well-known law firms and banks. These extra-curricular visits really broadened my horizon.*

*In addition, ILF students had lots of opportunities to attend various conferences. I also appreciated the spectacular diversity offered at the ILF by experiencing the internationality of the program as well as the ambience of Frankfurt city, which has a perfect mix of modern and classic features."*



**Antonius Herri Setianto**  
**University of Indonesia, Indonesia**  
**ILF ALUMNUS, CLASS of 2017**

*"I was impressed at the beginning of the academic year, where the ILF arranged introductory courses for the whole class. I personally gained a lot from these helpful introductory courses, especially for me who comes from a non-European country (Indonesia). As a student of the LL.M. International Finance program, my classmates and I must participate in the mandatory courses specifically tailored for Asian students. However, this should not be seen as a limitation because the ILF allows the Asian students to fully participate in and audit any other non-conflicting courses (though no credit points will be awarded for such audited courses).*

*One thing for sure is that as most of the ILF lecturers are professors or practitioners from reputable law firms or authorities (like the ECB and BaFin), students will not only receive text-book based lectures, but the lecturers are willing to share their valuable lifetime experiences, the Dos and Don'ts as well as relevant problem solving strategies from actual cases and precedents. Indeed, it really feels like I am increasing the knowledge in my brain, yet the finish line is still a long journey ahead. I strongly believe that my whole experience gained at the ILF would open doors for me that may otherwise not be achievable."*



**Yuqi Hu**  
**Shanghai University of Finance and Economics, China**  
**ILF ALUMNA, CLASS of 2018**

*"The ILF is located in an international financial center with great potentials and opportunities. We learned from distinguished German lawyers and professors who are specialized in corporate finance, banking, capital markets and M&A issues and gain not only theoretical but also practical knowledge and they combine our interests of law and finance.*

*Here we meet our peers from all over the world with diversified backgrounds, study together and share different cultures. Joining the LL.M. International Finance program was one of the best choices I have ever made. It provided me with exciting challenges, improvements, and a solid foundation to pursue my future career path. I would never forget my marvelous time here."*



**Menghao Fu**  
**Tongji University, China**  
**ILF ALUMNUS, CLASS of 2016**

*"The ILF provided us with the unique combination of law and finance courses, plus an exciting living experience in the heart of Germany. We learned from the most experienced partners from the best law firms, German financial supervisory authorities, and officials from German national banks.*

*Nowhere else would we be lucky enough to have law firm partners with extensive rich experience in the legal 'battlefield' or regulators from BaFin who endeavored to hand down to us not only theoretical knowledge but also practical experience, making us think in terms of what a good lawyer would do if a client would come with a problem. The finance components were another highlight.*

*We have learned much more in the year at the ILF than we did in the four years of undergraduate studies which we have had. This academic achievement is everything that we had looked forward to and the program supports us to smoothly transform from being a student to being a lawyer."*



**Ishan Zahoor**  
**Jamia Millia Islamia, India**  
**ILF ALUMNUS, CLASS of 2019**

*"We were privileged to have acclaimed academicians teaching us the intricacies of law and finance. On top of that, we were showered with an array of accomplished practitioners from top law firms, giving us an insight into the operation of these laws.*

*With subjects ranging from Corporate Finance, Acquisition Finance, Economics, M&A, to Capital Markets etc., these have equipped us with great foundational knowledge upon which anything could be built. Topics ranging from securitization to structural subordination to recharacterisation to the relevance of capital structure and even valuation of a firm have all been explicated and comprehended well, in the two short demanding semesters. The simple fact of having smaller classes with Socratic Method of discourses has been a major impetus to my new found cognitive narrative.*

*This coupled with an opportunity to intern at a top law firm is an unsurpassable experience. As may be expected, there is no dearth of conferences in the House of Finance hosted by the ILF, which not only paves another way to supplement your knowledge but provides you with great opportunity to interact with potential employers. I was particularly interested in this interface of law with finance which has been so brilliantly structured at the ILF that I undoubtedly feel I have been armed with an arsenal ready to take over the financial/legal world.*

*Without doubt, there is not any other LL.M. in Banking, Finance and Securities Law which can come close to the one at the ILF. I can very well vouch on behalf of my classmates that this has been an experience of a lifetime which will keep us all well equipped to take on any challenge we face in our respective careers."*

# ALUMNI SAY?



**Qingqing Li**  
Shanghai Fudan University,  
China  
ILF ALUMNA, CLASS of 2020

*“The ILF program was probably one of the best choices I’ve ever made, not only because of the practical knowledge I gained from the program, but also because it opened up new opportunities for me to further my studies and life in Europe.*

*The program provided legal courses on corporate finance, investment banking, capital markets, mergers and acquisitions, etc., which brought us close to the practice of financial law, and also opened up our interdisciplinary perspectives through business-related courses such as fundamentals of finance, global economic environment and financial markets.*

*During my internship and visits to top law firms in Frankfurt organized by ILF, I learned more about the practice of legal services related to M&A and financing, and I have a clearer idea of my future career direction.”*



**Thi Minh Ngoc Nguyen**  
Ho Chi Minh City University of Laws,  
Vietnam  
ILF ALUMNA, CLASS of 2020

*“The LL.M International Finance program exceeded my expectations in many different aspects. The courses provided solid knowledge of law and finance essential for every lawyer. They were also cross-disciplinary, practice-oriented and lectured by professors who were experts and market leader lawyers. I could never have learned as much from any book or law school.*

*Having a legal background, I mostly enjoyed lectures in M&A, acquisition and project finance, from which I familiarized myself with deal structures and the entire process of a transaction. This is what lawyers actually do. Additionally, the intercultural and communication courses as well as interaction with other students in classes were extremely valuable for me, and have enhanced my adaptability to the international environment.*

*After the program, I am not only determined to pursue these practice areas in my profession, but I am also inspired to do continuous learning.”*

## LL.M. International Finance Program started its inaugural year in October 2014

The LL.M. International Finance students have the opportunity to interact with students from all over the world in the LL.M. Finance program as a result of four combined courses with the LL.M. Finance students. Further, they can also participate in all extra-curricular activities which are jointly organized for all students of the ILF.



**Xiaozhou Zhang**  
Renmin University,  
China  
ILF ALUMNA, CLASS of 2023

*“The one-year study at the ILF was a great pleasure for me. The LL.M. in International Finance program helped me so much, both in my academic improvement and my self-development, and it will always have a special spot in my heart. I really appreciate the course structure of the program. Courses in the first semester mainly covered the field of basic economic theories and financial regulations, which lured me into the wonderful world of capital markets and gave me a taste of EU regulation frameworks as well as applied financial models.*

*The second semester was a much deeper dive into detailed deal structures and real-world legal practices in capital markets. With the dedicated instruction of our amazing lecturers and the help of useful study materials, I was able to gradually integrate the contents from multiple classes with my previous experience and ended up having a thorough understanding of the mechanism of different types of transactions and essential legal clauses in market practices. Besides the courses, I also grew a lot from the cross-cultural interactions with the most motivated colleagues in the program who always have unique opinions and comments and I found them very inspirational to talk to.*

*All in all, the program not only equipped me with a solid knowledge base in the fields of law and finance, but also changed my mindset to a large degree and boosted my courage to network with more people so as to chase opportunities and pursue what I’m truly passionate about.”*



**Anudari Ganbaatar**  
National University of Mongolia,  
Mongolia  
ILF ALUMNA, CLASS of 2021

*“A fantastic program and highly recommended!*

*It was a very challenging, yet exciting journey year with the ILF. I came from a very far country to Germany to obtain the highest standard of education offered by the ILF in order to pursue my dream to further my academic studies as well as my personal skills. I have always dreamt of a career in banking and financial law which led me to Frankfurt. During the one year at the ILF as a full-time student, I acquired not only a strong understanding of legal and financial theories and concepts, I have also found my lifetime friends.*

*Eventhough it was an especially burdensome year due to the pandemic, this program was extraordinary with a very diverse group of people, excellent professors, and impressive staff. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ILF for the quality service during these challenging times.”*

# CURRICULUM

## COMPONENTS OF THE LL.M. INTERNATIONAL FINANCE PROGRAM (90 ECTS):

- A) Coursework: 11 courses (55 ECTS)
- B) Business and Legal English Part 1 and 2 (10 ECTS)
- C) Legal and Management Training Program (5 ECTS)
- D) Master's Thesis (20 ECTS)

### A. Coursework

In order to earn the LL.M. International Finance degree, students must acquire a minimum of 55 credit points through graded coursework. Credit points for a course are successfully acquired by receiving a passing grade as a result of fulfilling the specific requirements of the course (e.g. prepared attendance, presentations and exams). Students are required to attend all 12 courses offered in the program and have to pass at least 11 of the courses. In order to increase interaction and communication between students of both the LL.M. International Finance and the LL.M. Finance programs, some courses will be attended by students of both programs.

#### List of the 12 Courses Offered:

#### LAW

- Capital Markets and Securities Law
- Drafting of Contracts
- Law of Commercial Banking\*
- Law of Corporate Finance
- Law of Investment Banking\*
- Law of Project and Acquisition Finance
- Process and Principles of M&A Transactions
- Regulation of Financial Markets and Instruments
- Sustainable Infrastructure Investments for Institutional Investors

#### BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

- Global Economic Environment\*
- Financial Markets and Institutions\*
- Fundamentals of Finance

#### INTRODUCTORY COURSES

- Basics of European Union Law\*
- Basics of Financial Mathematics\*

\* combined classes with international students of LL.M. Finance program



### B. Business and Legal English Part 1 and Part 2

Students are required to attend and pass both Part 1 and Part 2 of the Business and Legal English course held during the two semesters.

### C. Legal and Management Training Program

During a 4-week intensive period of the semester break usually starting in mid-February, students are required to successfully participate in the specially-organized Legal and Management Training Program.

*The topics dealt with during this intensive program include:*

- Communication across Cultures (*Presentation Skills I*)
- Communication across Cultures (*Presentation Skills II*)
- Global Recruitment (*CV / Resume writing*)
- Global Recruitment (*Interview Skills*)
- International Business Communication (*Effective Emailing I*)
- International Business Communication (*Effective Emailing II*)
- International Business Communication (*Successful Telephoning*)
- Advanced Business and Legal English
- Thesis-Writing Workshop

Field trips to international firms and companies within the financial industry (e.g. banks, law firms, accounting and consultancy firms, stock exchanges etc) will be organized and students will have the opportunity to attend lectures given by experts in their various fields and participate in interesting discussions.

### D. Master's Thesis

Students must submit a thesis on a subject agreed in consultation with the student's thesis adviser. With the approval of the examinations committee, a thesis may also be completed by two students, provided that the part of each student allows for an individual grading of his or her work. The students shall show in the thesis that they can carry out independent academic work and present the results appropriately.

The final thesis will be reviewed by the student's thesis adviser and by one additional examiner according to the regulations of the program. Theses could potentially be on any subject related to coursework conducted in the LL.M. International Finance program.

# LEGAL and MANAGEMENT TRAINING PROGRAM (5 ECTS)

*during the Semester Break between February and April*

**During the semester break between February and April, the Legal and Management Training Program will take place over a four-week period.**

In addition to classes, specially-organized guest lectures, excursions to banks, law firms and institutions will be offered to the students. The Legal and Management Training Program is part of the mandatory curriculum of the program and carries 5 ECTS.

*Some examples where the LL.M. International Finance students have visited in the past:*

- Agricultural Bank of China, Frankfurt
- Allianz Global Investors, Frankfurt
- Allianz SE, Munich
- BaFin, Frankfurt
- Banco Santander, Frankfurt
- BMW Group, Munich
- Börse Hamburg (Stock Exchange Hamburg), Hamburg
- China Construction Bank, Frankfurt
- China Europe International Exchange AG, Frankfurt
- China International Investment Promotion Agency (Germany) GmbH, Frankfurt
- Dentons, Frankfurt
- Deutsche Bank, Frankfurt
- Deutsche Börse (German Stock Exchange), Frankfurt
- Deutsche Bundesbank (German Federal Bank), Frankfurt
- DZ Bank, Frankfurt
- European Central Bank (ECB), Frankfurt
- The Federal Cartel Office (Bundeskartellamt), Bonn
- Federal Financial Supervisory Authority (BaFin), Bonn
- Gleiss Lutz, Munich
- Hengeler Mueller, Düsseldorf
- KfW Group, Frankfurt
- King & Wood Mallesons (KWM Europe), Frankfurt
- Möhrle Happ Luther, Hamburg
- Ministry for Economics, Innovation, Digitisation and Energy of the state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW), Düsseldorf
- Noerr LLP, Frankfurt
- Stolmar & Partner
- Thyssenkrupp AG, Essen





All decisions regarding admissions to the LL.M. International Finance program are made by the Admissions Committee.

## TUITION FEES

The tuition for the LL.M. International Finance program is set at 20,000 Euro per annum from the academic year 2025/26 onwards.

This fee covers tuition, the use of the ILF facilities, the use of the facilities of Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, the conferment of the degree upon the successful completion of the program requirements, transcripts, degree certificates as well as selected extra-curricular activities.

It does not cover the costs of living (i.e. board and lodging), health insurance, teaching materials or computer consumables. Students shall also bear the University's semester enrolment fees (currently about 350 Euro per semester) themselves.

## SCHOLARSHIPS

Students will receive scholarships reducing the total tuition fee by 3,000 Euro (15% of tuition fees) if their applications are received by the ILF by **15 January**.

Students will receive scholarships reducing the total tuition fee by 2,000 Euro (10% of tuition fees) if their applications are received by the ILF by **28 February**.

## PAYMENT TERMS

The tuition fee shall be paid in 3 instalments as follows:

PAYMENT INSTALMENTS	Only 85% of tuition fees payable (17,000 Euro) if applications are received by <b>15 January</b>	Only 90% of tuition fees payable (18,000 Euro) if applications are received by <b>28 February</b>	Full tuition (20,000 Euro) if applications are received from <b>1 March</b> onwards
<b>1st Instalment (20%) non-refundable deposit</b> and to be paid within 30 days of receipt of the ILF's acceptance	<b>3,400 Euro</b>	<b>3,600 Euro</b>	<b>4,000 Euro</b>
<b>2nd Instalment (40%) plus Goethe University semester fee</b> approximately 350 Euro by 1 October	<b>6,800 Euro</b>	<b>7,200 Euro</b>	<b>8,000 Euro</b>
<b>3rd Instalment (40%) plus Goethe University semester fee</b> approximately 350 Euro by 1 April the following year	<b>6,800 Euro</b>	<b>7,200 Euro</b>	<b>8,000 Euro</b>

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

**15 May:** Countries where APS certificates are required (i.e. P.R.China, India, Mongolia and Vietnam)

**1 July:** All other Asian Countries

Applications submitted will be considered on a "rolling basis". Applicants will be informed of the results of their applications within 6 weeks of receipt by the ILF of the completed application. Admissions to the LL.M. International Finance program will be granted to successful applicants on a "first come first served" basis. No application fee is required.

As students from the People's Republic of China, India, Mongolia and Vietnam need to apply for APS certificates which may take up to at least 3 months' processing time, they are highly recommended to apply for admission to the ILF as early as possible.

# APPLICATION

## HOW TO APPLY TO THE ILF

Graduates with a degree in either law, business or economics from Asia are eligible to apply to join the LL.M. International Finance program. We recommend that you send in your application as early as possible in order to secure a place in our program. Please send your application via email to [LLMint@ilf.uni-frankfurt.de](mailto:LLMint@ilf.uni-frankfurt.de). We also accept applications sent by regular mail or courier.

*Your application should include:*

### APPLICATION FORM

### LETTER OF MOTIVATION

### CURRICULUM VITAE

### UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE QUALIFICATION AND TRANSCRIPTS

Results from university qualifying examinations, or high school diploma, Abitur, Baccalauréat, or other similar diploma. University entrance qualification document and transcripts must be submitted in English or German or as certified translations into one of these languages. All copies must be certified by a notary public or other appropriate public institutions.

### ACADEMIC DEGREES AND TRANSCRIPTS

Degree certificates and transcripts must be submitted in English or German or as certified translations into one of these languages. All copies must be certified by a notary public or other appropriate public institutions.

### ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

Proficiency in English must surpass a level of TOEFL 580, CBT TOEFL 237, IBT TOEFL 92 (ILF's Institutional Code with TOEFL is 5984) or IELTS 6.5. You should request the test center to directly send a copy of the official test results to the ILF. If the testing schedules do not allow the results to be available by the application deadline, you should state in your application when the results will be available.

### REFERENCES

At least two sealed and confidential letters of recommendation, preferably from university professors and/or employers must be submitted. The letters may either be included together with the application materials (as long as they are in a sealed envelope preserving confidentiality) or sent to the ILF directly by the referees. References should be current. More than two references may be included.

### CLASS RANK

A written confirmation from the relevant university indicating your class rank should be included in your application. This confirmation shall state your relative standing in the year of graduation and where possible, broken down into the relevant majors (e.g. in top 5% of law graduates in the class of 2022). The total number of students should also be stated. This information is required to assess the performance of the applicant in relation to his/her peers. If a given university does not provide such information, we need a written statement by the university to that effect.

### APS CERTIFICATE

For students from the People's Republic of China, India, Mongolia and Vietnam, an APS Certificate from the Akademische Prüfstelle must be submitted. (Note: It may take up to at least 3 months for the APS certificate to be issued by the relevant body.)

### TWO PASSPORT-SIZED PHOTOGRAPHS

### PHOTOCOPY OF PASSPORT

Note: It is the policy of the ILF not to return any application materials. Once the admissions process has been completed, the application materials of applicants will be destroyed in compliance with the European and German data protection legislation.



## HEALTH INSURANCE

All students are required to prove that they have adequate health insurance under German law before they can be matriculated as students of Goethe University Frankfurt am Main. They are required to take out a German health insurance for the duration of their studies.

This applies regardless of any private health insurance policy the student may hold in his or her home country. Students under 30 years of age can be insured with a German public insurance company while students above 30 years old must be privately insured. The costs for students under 30 years of age are currently about 130 EUR per month.

## VISA/APS REQUIREMENTS

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 of admission is necessary for you to apply for a student visa at the German embassies situated in your respective countries. Students are responsible for arranging their own visas.

The ILF is happy to provide assistance should the embassy require further information regarding student status or the planned course of study.

Students from the People's Republic of China, India, Mongolia and Vietnam must acquire APS (Akademische Prüfstelle) certificates before they can obtain student visas to study in Germany. As APS certificates may take up to at least 3 months to be issued by the relevant authority, applications should be made early.

## GERMAN LANGUAGE COURSE

During the semesters, a specially-organized optional basic German language course will be held, giving our students the opportunity to learn the language of the country where they stay during their studies.



## LIVING COSTS

Overall personal living expenses vary depending on the cost of accommodation and other personal choices. An estimate of at least 1,000 EUR per month for general living expenses is a realistic calculation for the Frankfurt area.

ILF students will receive a student card from Goethe University which entitles them to use the facilities of the university, which include the university's refectories and cafeterias, where students can eat at reduced prices. Students have direct access to the facilities on Campus Westend where the ILF is located.

The Goethe University's semester fees cover free public transportation in the Frankfurt area and certain regional trains.



## ACCOMMODATION

There are several accommodation options available to students in the Frankfurt area. A limited number of dormitory rooms are offered by the university's student services. However, since the demand for these rooms is usually greater than the number of rooms available, they are often quickly booked out.

Other options include student housing facilities offered by various church organizations and other non-profit housing facilities. We strongly recommend that students contact such organizations as soon as they receive notice of acceptance to the program, as these rooms are also very sought after.

The ILF is able to provide a list of these organizations and further information to help you find private accommodation in Frankfurt.

Official website of Frankfurt city: [www.frankfurt.de](http://www.frankfurt.de)

# EXTRA - CURRICULARS



Besides attending some courses in common with international students, there are also many academic as well as social opportunities for students to interact with the ILF international students participating in the other ILF program.

ILF students, in addition to participating in public conferences, seminars and guest lectures organized by the ILF, also have the opportunity to join many extra-curricular activities held during the entire academic year.

*Subject to possible changes, these include:*

- Graduation Event
- Guided tours: Commerzbank Tower, European Central Bank, Frankfurt City Tour, Frankfurt Stock Exchange
- ILF Alumni Roundtables
- ILF Conferences and Guest Lectures
- ILF Students' Christmas Party
- Special receptions held by sponsors
- Student excursions (e.g. Berlin, Brussels, Heidelberg or Luxembourg)
- Visit to a Basketball Game



## ILF CONFERENCES AND GUEST LECTURES

The ILF promotes the constant exchange of ideas between academics, regulatory bodies, credit institutions and the legal community. Regular series of conferences and guest lectures on topical issues related to international business and the financial markets are delivered at the ILF by leading academics and practitioners from all over the world.

Many of these conferences and lectures are open to the public and are regularly attended by ILF students and alumni as well as academics and legal and finance professionals. These conferences and lectures are announced on the ILF website at

[www.ilf-frankfurt.de](http://www.ilf-frankfurt.de).



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