

Riga Graduate School of Law

Riga Graduate School of Law (RGSL) is a leading law school in the Baltic region offering interdisciplinary Bachelor and Masters studies in law combined with business, international relations, finance, and policy. Founded in 1998, RGSL aims to provide international solid, academic education in an ever-changing and interconnected world.

Website: www.rgsl.lv



International study environment

With a vibrant community of students and faculty representing over 30 countries, students are immersed in an international education setting from their first steps at RGSL. Studies in English, the Erasmus study exchange with more than 40 partner universities, and internship opportunities in the state, EU, and international institutions, as well as companies in Latvia and abroad, allow RGSL students to expand their experience and develop connections not only across Europe but also globally.



Interdisciplinary Bachelor programmes

Studies in law can be undertaken in combination with either business or diplomacy in our two LL.B. programmes – Law and Business and Law and Diplomacy. By combining two disciplines, you will receive a broad and international perspective on law, which includes a focus on business management or international relations. Our programmes lead to a recognised and competitive law degree.

Individual learning experience

RGSL is a medium-sized, specialised university offering a tailored and stimulating learning environment. Students enjoy small classes, which allow room for debate and individual questions, and facilitate contact with fellow students and faculty members. Our study approach allows students to develop critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and adaptability. We value an open and international culture and encourage students to develop their potential and make the most of their studies.



Further study: Masters programmes

RGSL offers LL.M. degrees in Law and Finance, Technology Law, Public International Law and Human Rights, EU Law and Policy and Transborder Commercial Law.

Law and Business LL.B.

DEGREE	LL.B. (Bachelor of Social Science in Law)
DURATION	3 years full time (183 ECTS)
LANGUAGE	English
FEES	EUR 4100 per academic year
ACCREDITED UNTIL	16 June 2027

This programme ensures a clear understanding of the inter-relationships between law and business. It therefore prepares graduates for a successful career in legal practice or business and management.

Legal issues are addressed from a regional and international perspective within the programme, the main focus is on the legal environment of the European Union (EU) and its Member States, as well as major trading partners. The programme covers subjects relevant to successful commercial operations, which include economics, accounting, management, business strategy, and marketing.



Oona Tuomi (Finland)

Student, Law and Business Bachelor programme

"I've had amazing opportunities and experiences in RGSL both academically and also when it comes to being part of the RGSL community.

I wholeheartedly recommend RGSL to anyone seeking a world-class legal education combined with a vibrant and international learning environment."

Law and Business
LL.B.



Law and Business programme structure

- ▶ The programme is based on mandatory and elective courses as well as optional free elective courses.
- ▶ Up to three courses can be taken simultaneously.
- ▶ Each course lasts six weeks with approximately five classes per week, plus research work on assignments and preparation for classes.
- ▶ Each course concludes with an exam, while the programme concludes with a thesis.
- ▶ Some elective courses on Latvian law are offered in Latvian.

Courses

A part / Mandatory courses

LAW & RESEARCH

Academic English
Legal English
Introduction to Law
Legal Philosophy
Legal Research Methods
Introduction to Civil Law
Constitutional Law
Contract Law
Introduction to Public International Law
International Human Rights Law
Legal Skills
Comparative Administrative Law
European Union Law
European Company Law
Internal Market Law
Competition and State Aid Law
Intellectual Property Law
Private International Law
International Environmental Law
International Commercial Law
Interdisciplinary Research: Law and Economics
Research Paper in Law
Research Paper in Law and Business
Bachelor Thesis

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

Introduction to Business Studies
Microeconomics

Mathematics and Statistics for Social Sciences
Business Accounting
Marketing
Business Strategy
Macroeconomics
Financial Accounting
Financial Economics
Applied Business Strategy
Risk Management
International Economics

B part / Restrictive electives

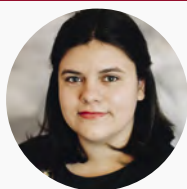
Krimināltiesības (taught in Latvian)
Darba tiesības (taught in Latvian)
Saistību tiesību problēmas (taught in Latvian)
Lietu tiesības (taught in Latvian)
Migration and Asylum Seeking Law
International Humanitarian Law
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation
International Tax Law
Law and Social Theory
International Courts and Tribunals
Philosophy of International Human Rights Law
Proceedings before the Court of Justice of the European Union
Argumentation: Theory and Practice
Banking Law
Project Management
European Legal History
Roman Law
Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Geo-economics: the Geopolitics of Energy
International Sales Law
Kriminālprocess (taught in Latvian)
Business and Human Rights
International Criminal Law
Knowledge-Based Capital and Fundamentals of Venture Capital Industry
Administratīvās tiesības un process Latvijā (taught in Latvian)
International Human Rights Institutions, Procedures and Mechanisms
Human Resource Management
Optional: Moot Court

C part / Free Elective

LANGUAGES

Elementary Latvian I (A1)
French Beginner
Spanish Beginner
Latin
Introduction to Rhetoric
Optional: Internship

Questions about our programmes or studying at RGSL?



Katrīna Daugule,
Head of Study department

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Law and Diplomacy LL.B.

DEGREE	LL.B. (Bachelor of Social Science in Law)
DURATION	3 years full time (183 ECTS)
LANGUAGE	English
FEES	EUR 4100 per academic year
ACCREDITED UNTIL	16 June 2027

The programme is designed for students who plan to work in the Public Sector of their home countries, or at international organisations. Our graduates also build successful careers in public affairs, the NGO sector, and private companies.

The programme covers major fields of public international law. Furthermore, it focuses on international organisations and EU institutions, and their role in shaping international relations. On the diplomacy side, the programme delves into the history and political sciences.

Language courses focus on English as a world language, with a view to terminology in law, international relations, and business. Students may also take courses in the traditional diplomatic language of French.



Miane Le Roux (South Africa and Dominica)

Student, Law and Diplomacy Bachelor programme

“My experience at RGSL thus far has been without parallel. I was so grateful to have found a law bachelor in English in the Baltics, particularly one so open and geared towards international thinking. I am incredibly privileged to start my higher education in such a multicultural environment, both the students and professors. You’re bound to enjoy every second of the study process. You will be proud to have studied at RGSL!”

Law and Diplomacy
LL.B.



Important dates

15 April 2024 – Early Application deadline

22 July 2024 – Application deadline



Apply here:
apply.rgsl.edu.lv

Law and Diplomacy programme structure

- ▶ The programme is based on mandatory and elective courses as well as optional free elective courses.
- ▶ Up to three courses can be taken simultaneously.
- ▶ Each course lasts six weeks with five class hours per week, plus research work on assignments and class preparation.
- ▶ Each course concludes with an exam, while the programme concludes with a thesis.
- ▶ Some elective courses on Latvian law are offered in Latvian.

Courses

A part / Mandatory courses

LAW & RESEARCH

Academic English
Legal English
Introduction to Law
Legal Philosophy
Legal Research Methods
Introduction to Civil Law
Constitutional Law
Contract Law
Introduction to Public International Law
International Human Rights Law
Legal Skills
Comparative Administrative Law
European Union Law
EU Institutional Law and Decision Making
International Diplomatic Law
Advanced Public International Law
Law of International Organizations
Legal Aspects of External Relations of the European Union
International Environmental Law
Law of State Responsibility
Interdisciplinary Research: Law and Politics
Research Paper in Law
Research Paper in Law and Diplomacy
Bachelor Thesis

DIPLOMACY & POLICY

Introduction to Politics
Theory of International Relations

Contemporary World History
Introduction to Diplomacy
International Security
Foreign Policy Analysis
Diplomatic Protocol
Comparative Politics
Crisis Management in International Politics
Global Approaches to Public Diplomacy
Economic Diplomacy
Political Negotiations, Strategy and Tactics

B part / Restrictive electives

Krimināltiesības (taught in Latvian)
Darba tiesības (taught in Latvian)
Saistību tiesību problēmas (taught in Latvian)
Lietu tiesības (taught in Latvian)
Migration and Asylum Seeking Law
International Humanitarian Law
Alternative Dispute Resolution: Mediation
International Tax Law
Law and Social Theory
International Courts and Tribunals
Philosophy of International Human Rights Law
Proceedings before the Court of Justice of the European Union
Argumentation: Theory and Practice
Banking Law
International Human Rights Institutions, Procedures and Mechanisms
European Legal History
Roman Law
Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution
Geo-economics: the Geopolitics of Energy
International Sales Law
Kriminālprocess (taught in Latvian)
Analysis of Russian Politics
Business and Human Rights
International Criminal Law
Knowledge-Based Capital and Fundamentals of Venture Capital Industry
Administratīvās tiesības un process Latvijā (taught in Latvian)
Optional: Moot Court

C part / Free Elective

LANGUAGES

Elementary Latvian I (A1)
French Beginner
Spanish Beginner
Latin
Introduction to Rhetoric
Optional: Internship

Key faculty members

RGSL is home to a resident faculty and a large international faculty that comes to Riga to teach selected courses. Our faculty represents academic excellence and extensive practical experience and offers a highly relevant education for career development.



Inga Reine,
MA, Visiting Lecturer

Inga Reine is a Judge of the General Court of the European Union and has a Masters degree from the University of Padua, Italy. She teaches EU Institutional Law and Decision Making. Area of Freedom, Security and Justice.

Waleed Gumaa,

MBA, Director of the Masters programmes, Lecturer

Waleed Gumaa oversees the Masters programmes at RGSL. He leverages his significant business expertise to offer an interdisciplinary education to RGSL Bachelor students. He teaches Introduction to Business, Business Strategy, and Project Management amongst other courses.



Carlos Llorente,
PhD, Visiting Professor

Prof. Carlos Llorente has been a practising attorney since 1989. He has worked at Baker & McKenzie, Madrid (ES) and Amya Abogados, Madrid (ES), and currently leads his professional legal practice. Carlos has also been a University professor since 1990 at several national and foreign academic institutions, he specialises in international commercial Law, private international law, transportation law, competition law and international contracts, and litigation funding. He teaches Comparative Contract Law and International Commercial Law.

Aleksandrs Fillers,
PhD, Assistant Professor

Dr. Fillers has a PhD in Law from the University of Antwerp. Due to his research on the United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods, he is one of the sought-after experts among the Vis Moot competition student teams and a regular speaker at conferences. Dr. Fillers coaches the RGSL Vis Moot team. He teaches Introduction to Civil Law, Contract Law, Private International Law, Law on Obligations and Property Law.



Alumni

The geography of RGSL alumni reaches over 50 countries. Most are from Latvia, but we also have graduates from Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, the Netherlands, the United States, etc.

More than half of our graduates are working in different areas of the private sector. Among the employers are the largest Baltic law firms such as Sorainen, Ellex Klavins, Deloitte, Klotini Sergis, and banks and international companies, such as Swedbank, PWC, Ernst & Young, and others.

The public sector – ministries, parliaments, government agencies, and courts – is the second biggest employer of RGSL graduates. This includes Latvian and European institutions such as the European Commission, the European Court of Justice, and the European Parliament.

Our former students often continue their relationship with RGSL as employees or lecturers.



Valērija Ruta-Hartmane,

Legal assistant at Eversheds Sutherland Bitāns, Masters student at Stockholm University, RGSL Graduate (2023)

“RGSL is an exceptional and distinct academic institution for legal education, primarily due to its capacity to furnish students with a comprehensive interdisciplinary perspective, namely, adding to law studies narratives of diplomacy and business, which I value highly. I can confidently attest that studying at RGSL has been a remarkable experience, transcending the boundaries of the prescribed curriculum and extending far beyond the confines of Latvia, affording students numerous opportunities for personal and professional growth.”



Edvarts Pauls Indārs,

Senior Associate at PwC Legal law firm, RGSL Graduate (2020)

“RGSL programmes offer an excellent academic foundation for any student interested in pursuing a career in law, business or diplomacy. Just as importantly, RGSL facilitates a lively environment where students can meet their future colleagues, business partners, and experts of different fields.”



Paula Kellija,

Paralegal at Klotiņi/Serģis Law firm, RGSL Graduate (2022)

“At RGSL I especially enjoyed the student-centered learning concept, which allows room for debate and individual questions during lectures. Studies at RGSL helped me to develop critical thinking, problem-solving in real-life scenarios, and how to adapt to a dynamic environment but most importantly it shaped me as an individual.”

Admission requirements

The average grade in diploma supplement corresponding to the European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) level of C or higher (7 grade points according to Latvian 10-point grading scale);

Proficiency in English confirming at least level B2 or higher under the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR):

- ▶ IELTS Academic Test (not older than 2 years) - the required score is at least 6.0;
- ▶ TOEFL (not older than 2 years) - the required score is at least 550 points (for a computer test - 213; Internet-based test - 80);
- ▶ State Centralized English Examination (applicants from Latvia)
- ▶ Applicants who have acquired previous education in English or are native English speakers are exempted from taking Proficiency tests in English.
- ▶ Applicant is also exempted from Proficiency tests in English if he/she has completed secondary education in a European Union, European Economic Area country, or the Swiss Confederation and his/her secondary education certificate includes English proficiency assessment that equals to B2 (or higher) level of the Common European Framework of Reference.

State Centralized Examination results of the Secondary General Education from

candidates from Latvia.

Academic and scientific achievements, active participation in youth organisations, and other relevant activities are highly desirable.

More information about our programmes, requirements, and application process is available at apply.rgsl.edu.lv



For Early Application you need to:

- ▶ **Apply in our Application portal <https://apply.rgsl.edu.lv/> by 15 April 2024;**
- ▶ **Submit your grade transcript for the previous semester with an average grade not lower than 7,5;**
- ▶ **Have English Proficiency (A&B level (7.5-10) in previous semester grade transcript, or IELTS 6.0+)**
- ▶ **Submit a motivation letter.**

Applicants who apply for studies by the Early Application deadline of 15 April 2024 and fulfil the Early Application requirements receive a 10% tuition fee waiver for the first academic year.



Tuition fee waivers

To celebrate academic excellence and foster competition among students, RGSL has established the RGSL Student Excellence award for 2nd and 3rd-year bachelor students with the highest grades in the previous study year

In the academic year 2024/2025 RGSL offers a 50% tuition fee waiver for the first academic year for two best bachelor programme applicants from Latvia (outside of Riga and Pierīga regions).

RGSL offers tuition fee waivers for RGSL employees, their children, orphans, and persons with 1st or 2nd degree disability.

Successful graduates of RGSL Excellence School receive a 15% tuition fee waiver for the first year of bachelor studies.

More information: rgsl.edu.lv/study/fees-and-funding

Early Application discount

All eligible applicants, local and foreign, who apply for studies by the Early Application deadline of 15 April 2024 and fulfil the Early Application requirements receive a 10% tuition fee waiver for the first academic year.



Important dates

15 April 2024 – Early Application deadline

22 July 2024 – Application deadline

For Open House dates check our website: www.rgsl.lv



Apply here:
apply.rgsl.edu.lv



Latvian state scholarships

Under bilateral agreements on cooperation in education and science signed between the Latvian government and several countries, Latvia offers scholarships to foreign students from 40 countries for studies in Latvian higher education institutions. Applications for the year 2024/2025 are open from February to April. More information: viaa.gov.lv

Law Library

Research at RGSL is supported by the RGSL Law Library which is a popular place for students, faculty, and visitors alike. Located on the top floor of the university, with stunning views across *Art Nouveau* Riga, it offers the top collection of legal literature in the Baltics and Northern Europe.

The library is open to students from RGSL and other universities, teaching staff, and the public. In addition to students, an increasing number of professionals make extensive use of the library, with its impressive collection of law books, and legal journals, plus access to valuable legal and multidisciplinary databases such as Westlaw, HeinOnline, and resources from the Kluwer Law and Oxford University Press, and others.

Workspaces in the library are available for all students. It has a modern study environment and a rooftop terrace, which is especially good for taking study breaks or simply some fresh air.



Academic platform, projects and research

Every year, RGSL hosts a wide range of events with distinguished guests from academia, government, legal practice, industry, regulatory authorities, NGOs, and the judiciary, where the students are invited to participate and benefit from the high-level content for their research purposes and networking opportunities.

RGSL is a host of the annual Human Rights Conference, which seeks to consolidate the academic and professional aspects of challenges in the application of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Latvia to raise awareness about current problems and their possible solutions. Since 2006 this conference has become an integral part of Latvia's civil and legal discussion framework.

RGSL publishes "RGSL Interdisciplinary Studies", a series of refereed publications critically analyzing current issues in

European and international studies.

Since 2019 RGSL has published the internationally recognized "Baltic Yearbook of International Law".

The annual RGSL International Students' Research Paper Conference has become an excellent platform for law students to present their research and engage in academic discussions with peers.

RGSL Summer School on International and European Law under the scientific leadership of Judge of the European Court of Justice and RGSL Professor Ineta Ziemele has become a place where students and law professionals can get the latest insights on international case law.



Student life

An equally exciting student life bolsters the dynamic academic atmosphere at RGSL, as extracurricular and social activities provide balance to intensive studies. Guest lecturers provide fresh perspectives to traditional study work while Student Association activities offer opportunities to develop relationships outside the classroom.

RGSL provides full support in helping students find relevant internships and networking opportunities.



Moot courts

Moot courts are a co-curricular activity at many law schools, where students participate in simulated court or arbitration proceedings. This academic year, RGSL students take part in two international Moot court competitions – Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, and Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot (Vis Moot). RGSL teams also participate in various Latvian moot courts with great success. There is also a strong tradition of the so-called "underground moot court" at RGSL, organised by the RGSL Student Association.

RGSL Chat Chamber

In 2020 RGSL students launched the RGSL Chat Chamber podcast where they interview distinguished professors and law professionals on professional and career topics. Two years and 27 episodes later, the podcast is available on the RGSL YouTube channel, Spotify, Anchor, Breaker, Google Podcasts, Apple Podcasts, Pocket Casts, and RadioPublic.

Location and campus

RGSL is located in the heart of Riga's famous *Art Nouveau* District, within walking distance of the city's UNESCO-listed historic centre. Academic facilities are of the highest standard, including fully equipped auditoriums and a student lounge. Many RGSL facilities are shared with the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, providing additional opportunities for networking and socializing.



Life in Riga

Combining the rich culture and history of a European capital city with a thriving community of international students and reasonable living expenses, Riga offers an ideal environment for studies, work and socialising. It is a home for more than 6,000 international students who enjoy a quality education, a rich cultural life, great entertainment venues, very fast internet, and outdoor adventures. RGSL is served by efficient public transportation while Riga itself offers easy connections to other European cities via bus or plane. As a medium-sized university, RGSL can assist its students in finding suitable housing in Riga.



Living expenses

During your stay in Riga, you can expect to spend approximately EUR 600 monthly on living expenses. This includes rent, but not tuition fees.

Accommodation: EUR 290–400 per month

Insurance: European Health Insurance Card

Public transport: EUR 15 (student pass)

Food and daily supplies: EUR 300 and up



Student mobility

RGSL actively promotes the student and staff exchange to diversify the student group and faculty cohort, to create an enriching learning environment with meaningful discussions of inter-disciplinary subjects in law, international relations, economics, and business.

RGSL also welcomes incoming Erasmus students from partner universities to spend one or two semesters in Riga, as all courses are taught in English and are available to mobility students. A wide range of subjects, small classes, quality of lectures and international professors, as well as many students from different countries, comfortable facilities, and a good location in the city centre are mentioned as the strengths of RGSL by Erasmus students.

Ulla Zumente-Steele, Erasmus Institutional Coordinator:

“RGSL students can choose to study abroad for an Erasmus exchange semester in one of 40+ partner universities from over 20 countries. The most popular destination countries are the Netherlands, Italy, Austria, Germany, Sweden, Finland, Hungary, and Spain. Still, experience has been empowering for our students in every place they have studied at during Erasmus. In addition, many RGSL students and alumni are increasingly pursuing Erasmus traineeships – international work placements for a period of 2-6 months with financial support of the EU Erasmus+ grant. They have worked at various host organizations such as international organizations, embassies, business companies, NGOs, and research institutes.”



8 reasons to choose RGSL

1

Careers in law,
business, and
diplomacy

2

Teaching
exclusively in
English

3

International
environment

4

Students and faculty
from 30+ countries



5

Exchange opportunities
with 40+ universities

6

Top collection of
legal literature in the
Baltics and Northern
Europe



7

Modern campus
in the heart of Art
Nouveau Riga



8

Good flight network
to and from Riga



RIGA
GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF
LAW



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