

Seminar Leader:

Alison Franklin
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International Study Centre, Language Centre (Sprachenzentrum)
<https://www.uni-kassel.de/einrichtung/isz/-/sprachenzentrum/startseite>

Module:

Part of "Integrationsbereich / Interkulturelle Kommunikation"
Title: Legal and Business English / Rechts- und Wirtschaftsenglisch
(Additive Key competence credits = 6 ECTS-Points \triangleq 180 hours workload)

Teaching Form:

Seminar **every two weeks**, 4 lessons of 45 minutes each **over 2 semesters**.

Course Requirements:

Compulsory course for BA students, normally during third and fourth semester.

Intended Learning Outcomes:

The aim of this course is to prepare students for **academic** study in **business law** in the **English language**. We focus on the language skills a student of business law needs and in particular on the receptive skills *listening* and *reading*. The subject should enable students to understand the relationship between language and law and how they work together in professional settings.

Course Content:

As a rule, the following topics will be covered:

Essential Legal Terminology, The English Court System, Legal Precedent, Forming a Business (Incorporation), Legal Correspondence, Tort Law (Negligence), Contract Law, Employment Law.

A particular **focus** will be placed on the following range of situations and text types:

Reading Comprehension:

Situations:
reading for orientation
reading for information and argument
reading instructions
Text-types:
newspaper articles
general academic/legal texts
contracts
legal correspondence

Listening Comprehension:

Situations:
listening as a member of an audience (e.g., your instructor, fellow students, audio media and recordings)
understanding interaction between legal professionals and/or students of law or the general public (e.g., interaction with instructor and other fellow students, understanding recorded lectures and radio/TV programmes and bulletins)

Required Academic Performance:

- Preparation of seminar, regular "active" attendance (see Language Centre „[Terms and Conditions](#)," in particular max. tolerated absence!), active participation in discussion and group work, presentation of group work results and, where applicable, completion of tasks/activities in Moodle (course no. will be announced in first session).
Course participants are expected to work through the prescribed readings/tasks **in advance** of each session and be prepared to discuss their answers in the relevant seminar.

Legal and Business English

Winter Semester 2024/25 – Summer Semester 2025

Assessment Methods:

- Listening Comprehension Test (approx. 45-60 minutes) at the end of the **Summer Semester**)
- Reading Comprehension Test at the end of the **Summer Semester** (60 minutes) – **registration via HISPOS/eCampus necessary**

Grading:

| 0-50%: 5 | 51-54%:4 | 55-59%:3,7 | 60-64%:3,3 | 65-69%:3 | 70-75%:2,7 | 76-80%:2,3 | 81-85%:2 | 86-90%:1,7 | 91-95%:1,3 | 96-98%:1 | 99-100%:0,7 |

Supporting material / additional aids in the final examinations:

- Moodle: enrolment in accompanying Moodle course will be completed during the first session.

Literature/Documents:

- Recommended Reading:
 - *Gubby, Helen*, Practical legal English: legal terminology, *Boom Juridische uitgvers*, (ISBN 978-9-05-454646-7)
 - *Wörten, Rainer*, Introduction to Civil Law, Vol. 1, *Alpmann Schmidt* (ISBN 978-3-89476-952-9)
 - *Wörten, Rainer*, Introduction to Civil Law, Vol. 2, *Alpmann Schmidt* (ISBN 978-3-89476-802-7)