

# Regulations governing the Master of Advanced Studies in International Law, Economics and Politics (MILE) *[Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]*

Vom 26. Mai 2016, mit Änderungen (Stand am 22. Mai 2025)

*The Faculty of Law at the University of Bern,*

*in application of Art. 2 (1) (d) and Art. 29 (a) of the Act governing the University of Bern of 5 September 1996 (Universitätsgesetz, UniG), and in addition to Art. 4, 43 and 77 to 80 of the Statute of the University of Bern of 7 June 2011 (Universitätsstatut, UniSt); the Weiterbildungsreglement der Universität Bern of 10 December 2013 (Weiterbildungsreglement, WBR);*

*after consideration by the Weiterbildungskommission;*

*adopts [Fassung vom 13. Dezember 2018]:*

## **1. General** *[Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]*

Subject

**Art. 1** These regulations govern the Master of Advanced Studies in International Law, Economics and Politics (MILE) within the framework of the general study program in international law and economics at the World Trade Institute (WTI). The program is interdisciplinary and emphasizes the rules, regulations, and institutions, both domestic and international, that define and govern foreign trade, investment, the operations of multinational enterprise in the global economy, and the interests and role of other actors and stakeholders. *[Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]*

Governing Body

**Art. 2** The MILE program is executed by the World Trade Institute (WTI). The academic program of the MILE is managed by the MILE academic program coordinator, under supervision of the Director of Studies. The structure of the program itself is subject to periodic and at least annual review by the Academic Program Committee of the World Trade Institute. The Academic Program Committee includes inter alia the WTI Managing Director, the Director of Studies, the MILE academic program coordinator, and academic program coordinators for other WTI programs.

Cooperation

**Art. 3** Cooperation with institutions outside of the University of Bern is subject to separate cooperation agreements entered into by the Board of Directors (Universitätsleitung) of the University of Bern.

Teaching	<p><b>Art. 8</b> <sup>1</sup> The teaching staff is comprised of leading international experts from academia, private practice, international organisations, government and civil society organisations, as well as WTI staff with relevant experience and knowledge of the subject matter.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> The course work involves a combination of attendance and participation in courses, individual reading and studies, regular written and/or oral submissions and the preparation and submission of a master's thesis.</p>
Language	<p><b>Art. 9</b> The language of instruction as well as the language of all written work is English, including all assessments and the master's thesis. Written assignments will be monitored to ensure academic integrity.</p>
	<p><b>3. Admission</b> [<i>Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025</i>]</p>
Quality Assurance	<p><b>Art. 10</b> <sup>1</sup> The program is evaluated by the WTI's Academic Program Committee during its annual strategy meeting. The WTI's Academic Program Committee shall determine to what extent the objectives of the program are being met and shall propose any changes it deems necessary.</p> <p><sup>2</sup> All courses are evaluated by the students. The results of these evaluations shall be considered by the Academic Program Committee and the Operational Management when selecting instructors for future courses and in the continued development of the program.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> The WTI's Academic Programme Committee shall provide the Weiterbildungskommission with an annual report.</p>
Admission	<p><b>Art. 11</b> <sup>1</sup> Admission to the MILE is based on the evaluation of a complete application, made by the MILE Admissions Committee. Applications are accepted between 1 December and 31 January and are reviewed in a timely manner. Applicants will be notified of admission decisions by 1 March. Decisions on financial matters, including fees and waivers, will be notified by 15 March. The WTI's Academic Programme Committee may revise these dates. Later applications may be accepted on a rolling basis, only if places are available. [<i>Fassung vom 13. Dezember 2018</i>]</p> <p><sup>2</sup> Applicants must demonstrate outstanding academic ability and provide credible references bearing witness to their research abilities.</p> <p><sup>3</sup> Applicants must have completed an undergraduate degree (or equivalent, depending on the educational system of the respective country), ideally in a field related to the focus of the program, such as law, economics, finance, commerce, international relations, or political science.</p> <p><sup>4</sup> Applicants should possess at least one year of professional experience in a related field (lawyer, diplomat, export industry representative, trade economist, civil servant, etc.). Exceptions to this rule may be granted upon reviewing individual applications.</p> <p><sup>5</sup> Applicants must demonstrate an excellent command of written and spoken English. Students whose first language is not English are required to provide TOEFL or IELTS test results. Exceptions may be granted on further examination, particularly where students have obtained their previous degree from a program conducted entirely in English. [<i>Fassung vom 13. Dezember 2018</i>]</p>

database, or to make said database available, to enable comparison with theses submitted by others." [Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]

<sup>6</sup> The Academic Program Committee may adjust the Declaration of Authorship as stated in subsection 5 in regards to the use of artificial intelligence. [Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]

<sup>7</sup> All weekly modules, seminars and the master's thesis, including the amount of ECTS points awarded, are listed in the MILE Study Plan.

Grading scale

**Art. 15** <sup>1</sup> The courses and seminar in the MILE programme are graded on a scale from 1-6, rated as follows [Fassung vom 13. Dezember 2018]:

6	excellent
5.5	very good
5	good
4.5	satisfactory
4	adequate
3.5	inadequate
3	inadequate
2.5	inadequate
2	inadequate
1.5	inadequate
1	inadequate

<sup>2</sup> Grade 4 and above are considered a passing grade and grades below 4 are failing grades. [Fassung vom 13. Dezember 2018]

<sup>3</sup> Students are provided with a transcript of grades that displays the individual grade awarded for each class and a final average of all grades awarded. The final average takes into account the different ECTS value of each grade.

<sup>4</sup> In appreciation of a student's overall performance, based on the final average grade obtained, the title awarded may include the following honours:

- 4.00 to <4.5: rite
- 4.50 to <5.0: cum laude (pass with honours)
- 5.00 to <5.5: magna cum laude (pass with high honours)
- 5.50 to 6.00: summa cum laude (pass with highest honours)

[Eingefügt am 13. Dezember 2018]

Length of studies

**Art. 16** <sup>1</sup> Generally, the length of studies is one year.

<sup>2</sup> An extension may be granted by the Director of Studies, after consultation with the MILE academic program coordinator. Failure to complete without an approved extension may result in exclusion from the program. [Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]

Degree

**Art. 17** <sup>1</sup> The MILE degree requirements are considered fulfilled when all of academic and financial requirements have been fulfilled.

<sup>2</sup> The MILE degree is awarded and signed by the Dean of the Faculty of Law and the Dean of the Faculty of Business, Economics and Social Sciences at the University of Bern, Switzerland, and will read "Master of Advanced Studies in International Law, Economics and Politics, World Trade Institute, University of Bern" (MILE Unibe). [Fassung vom 13. Dezember 2018]

scheduling, as well as the formalities related to the collection of fees and student graduation.

<sup>2</sup> The WTI's Academic Program Committee is responsible for developing and conceptualizing the academic program as a whole, the curricula, and the course contents, as well as for reviewing the programme on an annual basis. The office of administration of the World Trade Institute is responsible for executing the administrative aspects of the program as spelled out in Art. 21.1.

Appeals

**Art. 22** <sup>1</sup> The first point of contact for students is the MILE academic program coordinator. If possible, differences of opinion will be handled via meetings between the coordinator, faculty, and student, in a non-contentious setting. Decisions are then taken by the Director of Studies. *[Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]*

<sup>2</sup> Where decisions taken by the Director of Studies affect the participant disadvantageously in his/her legal position, the participant may appeal the decision within 30 days of notification to the Dean of the Law Faculty. *[Fassung vom 22. Mai 2025]*

<sup>3</sup> The rulings of the Law Faculty, respectively the Dean of the Law Faculty, (to grant or not grant academic titles, in accordance with paragraph 2), pursuant to these regulations and to enact the implemented provisions within them, may be appealed within 30 days of notification to the appeals committee (Rekurskommission) of the University of Bern.

<sup>4</sup> Appeals decisions taken by the appeals committee can be appealed to the administrative court (Verwaltungsgericht) of the Canton of Bern.

<sup>5</sup> Appeals based on the complaint of inadequacy of the results of performance assessments and examinations are inadmissible (Art. 76 para. 4 UniG).

Transitional Provisions

**Art. 23** *[aufgehoben am 13. Dezember 2018]*

Adoption

**Art. 24** The present Regulations were adopted by the Faculty of Law on Mai, 26 2016 and the Senat on October 18, 2016.

Entry into Force

**Art. 25** The present Regulations shall enter into force on November 15, 2016.

*Adopted by the faculty of Law:*

Bern, 5/26/2016

The Dean

Prof. Dr. Peter V. Kunz