

Excellent research and lectures require appropriate working conditions and especially the availability of the necessary literature. The Faculty – in collaboration with the Lower Saxon State and University Library – has a large inventory of literature in all fields of law at its disposal. Researchers and students have access to the important databases from various personal computers around the campus, as well as through the University Wireless LAN Network. The Faculty's libraries are currently being reorganised in order to further improve the library services. The new facility will provide access to the comparative law collections in the main library of the Juridicum.

The Faculty also offers its 2000 students – based on their research profiles – comprehensive research in both the compulsory area of legal studies and also in a broad variety of areas of specialisation unique in Lower Saxony, in particular:

- Historical and Philosophical Foundations of Law
- Business Law
- Civil Law and Iudicature
- Private and Public Media Law
- International and European Public Law
- Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
- Labour and Social Security System
- Medical Law
- Public Law - Governance, Regulation and Administration.

Furthermore, by participating in the European Union's Erasmus Programme, German students have the possibility to obtain a Magister/Magistra Legum Europae degree in the complementary "Rechtsintegration in Europa" ("Integration of Law in Europe") study programme, which includes one term of studies abroad. Foreign graduate students can obtain a master's degree by completing one year of post-graduate studies.

The Göttingen Faculty of Law offers an excellent environment for academic achievements in the field of law. It also aims at improving its attractiveness for doctor candidates. The Faculty is for this reason currently developing a plan to restructure its doctoral programme. This plan should help reinforce the supervision of doctoral candidates and permit the acquisition of additional qualifications. Moreover, the Faculty of Law in Göttingen is one of the founding members of the Göttingen Graduate School for Social Sciences (GGG).

For further information see

[www.uni-goettingen.de/de/sh/42867.html](http://www.uni-goettingen.de/de/sh/42867.html)

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Georg-August-Universität  
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Juristische Fakultät

Faculty of Law

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## History of the Faculty

The Faculty of Law of the Georg-August University is the oldest, largest and most renowned law faculty in the German State of Lower Saxony. The faculty has a long and distinguished 270 year history, having first opened its doors in September 1737. The special meaning of faculty in the Kingdom of Hanover and far beyond is owed to the Hanover Privy Council Gerlach Adolph, Baron of Münchhausen, who began working toward the founding of the university in Göttingen in 1734. The success of the Faculty of Law is the result of Münchhausen's plans for jurisprudence and the study of law. The principle of unity and freedom for research and teaching as an expression of enlightenment was so realized in Göttingen more than 70 years before the founding of the University of Berlin. These circumstances are the reason why the percentage of students at the Georg-August-Universität who studied Law in the first 100 years remained almost constantly above 50%. For this reason, we can say that the University was a "University of Jurists" until 1837.

The meaning of the Faculty of Law in Göttingen as the superior school of "jus publicum" was established by Johann Stephan Pütter, whose students included Heinrich Friedrich Karl Baron from and to Stein and Karl August, Prince of Hardenberg, as well as Klemens, Prince of Metternich and Wilhelm von Humboldt.

## Faculty Profile

### Prospects of the Faculty

The Faculty's goal is to establish itself as a centre for excellent legal research in Germany. In the past years, independent reviews of academic teaching (2008) and research (2002) have confirmed its leading position in Northern Germany.

The Faculty has for a long time distinguished itself through academic research and teaching in the core subjects in Civil Law, Public Law, Criminal Law, as well as in courses in the historical, philosophical and comparative foundations of law. On this basis, the Faculty has established research projects on overlapping themes and special subjects. The Faculty aims at further gaining prominence by linking up with economic and social sciences through three main areas of interdisciplinary research:

- Europeanisation and Internationalisation
- Humans in Medical Science and the Family
- Economic and Social System.

In the course of generational change, the Faculty has reformed its academic personnel and thereby created suitable conditions for the extension of its main areas of research. In addition, the Faculty has taken numerous structural and organisational measures. Based on research considerations, the Faculty has established nine Institutes and two Centres as well as three associated external Institutes:

## Institutes and Centres

- Institute of Political Science
- Institute of Labour Law
- Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice
- Institute of Agricultural Law
- Institute of Public Law
- Institute of Private Law and Procedural Law
- Institute of History of Law, Philosophy of Law and Comparative Law
- Institute of International and European Law
- Institute of Business Law
- Centre for Medical Law

## External Institutes

- Sino-German Institute for Law, Nanjing (People's Republic of China)
- Ecclesiastical Institute of the Protestant Church in Germany
- Competence Centre for Insurance Sciences GmbH, Hannover