



**VIU**  
**PhD**  
**academy**  
**QUANTITATIVE**  
**METHODS**  
**IN LEGAL**  
**STUDIES**

**May 25-30, 2020**  
**Venice International University**  
**Isola di San Servolo, Venice**

VIU International PhD  
Academy

## Quantitative Methods in Legal Studies

May 25 – 30, 2020

Venice International  
University

Scientific coordinator:

Kirill Titaev,  
European University at St.  
Petersburg

Quantitative empirical legal studies represent a new growing sub-discipline of social sciences that benefits from the data revolution. Clusters of quantitative legal scholarship exist in the USA, the Netherlands, Russia, Israel, UK, Czech Republic and Brazil.

The Academy will be focused on the use of quantitative methods in legal studies. Participants will represent various countries with different legal traditions and jurisdictions, but all of them can benefit from the application of empirical methods to discover the legal reality. Involvement of the law faculties in the international cooperation is an important part of promoting the idea of a cross-national academic transparency.

The PhD Academy will have two main focuses:  
\_comparative discussions on the questions which are interesting for scholars from different countries (e.g. sentencing, pretrial detention, victimization surveys, judicial decisions, behavior of litigators, etc.).

\_methodological questions in advanced quantitative analysis (e.g. methodological limitations of the administrative data, text-as-data approach, predictive empirical legal studies, natural experiments in law and society, etc.).

Legal scholars traditionally operate in the national academic environment. National context is very important for legal studies and therefore this academic field resides in the national community. No outsiders are interested in the concrete problems of national law, which are very sensitive for the local law enforcement. Empirical legal studies not only suggest new methods for legal scholars but also establish a new basis for international academic dialogue, because empirical studies are in fact much more universal and transparent for cross-country comparison.

This Academy aims to be a first step in the matter of internalization of legal studies and development of cross-national cooperation of legal scholars. Involvement of the law faculties in the international cooperation is an important part of promoting the idea of cross-national academic transparency.

This PhD Academy will be led by:

- European University at St. Petersburg, Russia
- KU Leuven, Belgium
- Tel Aviv University, Israel

#### **Faculty**

Kirill Titaev, EUSP  
Vadim Volkov, EUSP  
Dmitry Skougarevsky, EUSP  
Vladimir Kudryavtsev, EUSP  
Alexey Knorre, EUSP  
Arthur Dyevre, KU Leuven  
Nicolas Lampach, KU Leuven  
Monika Glavina, KU Leuven  
Timothy Yu Cheong Yeung, KU Leuven  
Tamar Kricheli Katz, Tel Aviv University  
Ronen Avraham, Tel Aviv University

#### **Topics**

- Comparative sentencing studies
- Text-as-data approach.
- Behavior of litigators in commercial dispute resolution.
- Administrative data and quantitative criminology.
- Decision-making in Commercial Courts: From querying court API to estimating case outcome regressions.
- Third-party litigation funding.
- Strategies to increase the relevance of quantitative research in legal scholarship and legal education.
- Challenges in publishing research that applies sophisticated and not yet common statistical techniques.
- Epistemological issues pertaining to the application of economics.
- Employment discrimination.

The program will include **round tables**, **field trips** and **transversal skills** for developing participants' academic careers, and **poster sessions** to present their own research projects.

#### **Level of students and suitable fields of study**

This PhD Academy is offered to PhD students, post-docs and young researchers in Law and Social Sciences.

Open to candidates from all the VIU Member Institutions.

Applications from excellent candidates from non-member institutions will be also considered.

#### **Fees & Grant Support**

Students from the VIU member universities will pay no participation fees. Grant support is also available to support, partially or fully, the costs of international travel and accommodation.

The participation fee for students of non-member universities is Euro 1.200,00 incl. VAT. The fee is inclusive of tuition, course materials, accommodation for 7 nights, lunches, social events and taxes. Students from non-member institutions are not eligible for VIU grant support. VIU Alumni are eligible for a reduced fee.

#### **The final program will be available on the VIU website**

#### **Applications**

**December 1, 2019 – January 31, 2020**

via the VIU website.

Applicants must submit the (1) application form, (2) a letter of motivation – which should include a short bio and a brief description of the candidate's research project, (3) a curriculum vitae and (4) a photo.

Selected participants will be asked to present a poster.

## **VIU International PhD Academies**

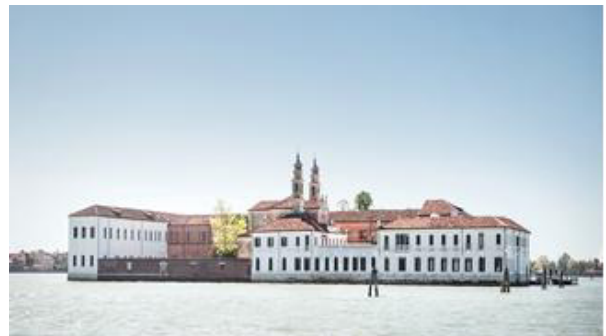
Venice International University is a consortium of 19 universities, representing 14 countries throughout the world.

The mission of VIU is to foster cooperation among VIU member institutions while facilitating the exchange of knowledge and ideas, by developing, promoting and organizing joint academic, research and training/capacity-building program. Students from non-member universities may participate in selected academic programs. The academic programs at VIU are distinguished by a markedly interdisciplinary approach to the topics, and by the international perspectives that the participants contribute to the discussions. The VIU campus is on the island of San Servolo in Venice, Italy.

Venice International University holds two International PhD Academies each year. They are intensive training opportunities open to PhD candidates from the member universities of VIU. A PhD is the highest diploma awarded by universities in the world, and PhDs are naturally expected to take on major responsibilities in their professional life. Apart from the disciplinary scientific skills acquired during doctoral study and research, it is the ability to respond to the requirements of creativity, innovation and project management, that produce the significant added value of a doctoral degree. Whether they will work within or outside academia, PhDs must be able to develop a forward-looking vision of the challenges they have to face. The interdisciplinary approach of all VIU activities is adopted also in the PhD Academy, where the participants have the opportunity to meet their peers from all over the world, and to tackle transversal topics.

[www.univiu.org/study/phd-academy](http://www.univiu.org/study/phd-academy)

## **Location**



## **Venice International University**

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