



# PhD Course – Research in Tax Law

**Date:** 28-30 October 2025.

**Venue:** Solstrand Hotel & Bad, Solstrandvegen 200, 5200 Os, Norway.

**Faculty:**

- Eleonor Kristoffersson, Professor, Örebro University.
- John Vella, Professor, University of Oxford.
- Frederik Zimmer, Professor emeritus, University of Oslo and Professor II, Norwegian School of Economics.
- Christine Osterloh-Konrad, Professor, University of Tübingen
- Peter Koerver Schmidt, Professor, Copenhagen Business School and Professor II, University of Bergen.
- Henrik Skar, Associate Professor, University of Bergen.

**Language:** English. Group discussions may be carried out in the Scandinavian languages if all participants and faculty members in the group are familiar with these languages.

**ECTS:** Estimated to 2 points.

**Signing up, payment, accommodation:** Please see the separate document “Invitation”.

**Preparation:** Before the course, all PhD scholars must prepare a text about their dissertation which will be discussed in the group sessions. Scholars whose dissertation language is Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, or English should include a brief description of their project and applied methodology in English (750-1500 words) and a text taken from the dissertation in the language used there (4000-8000 words in Swedish/Norwegian/Danish or English). First year PhD scholars may send their project description instead, in addition to the brief description in English. PhD scholars with a dissertation language other than Scandinavian or English, can submit a project description or summary in English (2500 words or more).

The texts should be sent to [henrik.skar@uib.no](mailto:henrik.skar@uib.no) before Monday 4th of September 2025. All participants will (approx. two weeks) before the seminar receive about 4-5 texts from other PhD students that should be read before the course. Each participant will also be asked to prepare special comments for one of the other students. We will try to organize the groups according to the PhD scholars’ languages.

Before the course, we also ask that all participants read certain articles or book chapters that will be sent to them by email and that are relevant to the course. We will send you copies of these papers/chapters no later than two weeks before the seminar.

After the course, all participants should reflect on whether or not their research question, methodology and/or submitted text should be revised as a consequence of the discussions taking place during the course. Please prepare a short note – maximum 1 page – describing your reflections. The note should be sent to [henrik.skar@uib.no](mailto:henrik.skar@uib.no) before 15 November 2025. Once the note has been submitted and approved, you will receive a course certificate.

## **Preliminary Program PhD Course 28-30 October**

### **27. Oct: Monday Afternoon Before Course Start:**

15.00-19.00                    Most participants arrive at Bergen Airport Flesland and check in at Flesland Scandic Hotel (at the airport).

### **28. Oct: Legal Pluralism**

07.30 – 08.15	Breakfast at Flesland Scandic Hotel
08.30-09:30	Bus (hired from Tide) from Flesland Scandic Hotel to Solstrand and taxi from the law faculty to Solstrand for locals.
10.00-10.15	Welcome
10.15-10.45	Participants introduce themselves and briefly present their research projects and applied methodology.
10:45-11:30	Presentation by Faculty: Comparative research in Tax Law
11:30-11:45	Coffee break
11:45-12:15	Presentation continues
12.15- 13:15	Lunch
13.15-14.15	Group session: PhD student presentation and discussion about the student's project and submitted text with feedback and questions from designated commentators and other participants in their group.
14:15-14:30	Coffee break
14:30-15.30	Group session: PhD student presentation and discussion about the student's project and submitted text with feedback and questions from designated commentators and other participants in their group.
15:30-15:45	Coffee break
15.45-16:30	Presentation by faculty member
17:00-18:30	Swimming/sauna (optional)
19.30	Dinner (aperitif from 19:00)

## **29. Oct: Tax law research in context**

09.00-09.15	Recap and reflections on day 1
09.15-10.15	Group session: PhD student presentation and discussion about the student's project and submitted text with feedback and questions from designated commentators and other participants in their group.
10.15-10.25	Coffee break
10.25-11.25	Group session: PhD student presentation and discussion about the student's project and submitted text, with feedback and questions from designated commentators and other participants in their group.
11.25-11.30	Coffee break
11.30-12.15	Presentation by faculty member: Critical aspects of writing a PhD dissertation in tax law. Among other things the speaker will discuss how to balance the aim of contributing to theory building and the development of new principles, and at the same time write a dissertation that is of value to tax practitioners.
12.15-13.15	Lunch
13.15-14.15	Group session: PhD student presentation and discussion about the student's project and submitted text with feedback and questions from designated commentators and other participants in their group.
14.15-14.30	Coffee break
14.30-15:15	Presentation by Faculty member: Some reflections on tax law research - in particular the role of economics. The speaker will discuss the use of economic literature, concepts, and approaches by tax law researchers. He will also discuss broader issues such as the use of evaluative criteria and working from first principles
15:15-15:30	Coffee break
15:30-16:30	Panel debate, reflections, and recap: The panel will discuss issues such as, how to improve one's writings, how to get your research published, options for cooperating with other tax law

scholars, how to engage with the society at large, how to get your research funded and how to position yourself in the (academic) job market after the PhD

16:30 Buss to airport Flesland (for those not attending conference)

19.30 Dinner

**30. Oct.: Tax congress at UiB (optional and open for public)**

08:15-09:30 Bus from Solstrand to the law faculty, UiB. Congress begins 10:15