

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**Comparative Law**  
**Komparativ rätt**

**15.0 Higher Education  
Credits**  
**15.0 ECTS credits**

<b>Course code:</b>	JU44BB
<b>Valid from:</b>	Autumn 2019
<b>Date of approval:</b>	2015-03-09
<b>Changed:</b>	2015-03-09
<b>Department</b>	Department of Law
<b>Main field:</b>	Legal Science
<b>Specialisation:</b>	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

Approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law (by delegation) on 9 March 2015.  
Technical revision by the Student Services on 9 May 2019.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

For access to lectures and examination, students must fulfill the general requirement for admission to elective courses, i.e. having passing grades amounting to at least 150 credits on mandatory courses within the law program.

Exchange students admitted by the Department of Law at Stockholm University can also attend the course.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
0100	Comparative Law	15

## Course content

The course aims to provide students with knowledge of the use of comparative law methodology in research and practical legal life. The course is divided into four blocks. The first block focuses on the overarching comparative law theories and methods. The second block addresses different national legal systems, namely Swedish, English, American and German. The third block will focus on the analysis of various legal issues from a comparative law perspective. The issues discussed will cover contract law, labour law, family law, criminal law, real estate law and international private law, among others. The fourth block consists of authoring a comparative law essay. The essay is to be presented orally. Students will also oppose another student's essay both in writing and orally.

## Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- demonstrate a knowledge of comparative legal theory and methodology as well as independently and critically reason as to choice of method and method risks in carrying out a comparative law investigation,
- demonstrate knowledge of the basic tenants in the legal systems and legal families studied within the framework of the course as well as analyze and evaluate similarities and difference between them,
- plan and carry out a comparative law investigation and report the outcomes both in writing and orally, and
- analyze and evaluate the comparative law investigations of others as well as present constructive criticism both in writing and orally.

## **Education**

Instruction is primarily given in the form of seminars. Each student is to present and defend an essay, as well as act as opponent with respect to another student's essay, in the last week of the course.

During the course, each student is to lead a seminar according to a seminar assignment, and, together with the seminar instructor, discuss the topic. The seminar assignments are distributed on the first day of the course.

Active attendance is mandatory at all seminars. Active attendance means that the student has prepared the assignments and is ready to participate in seminar discussions and analyses. Students may be absent at one seminar, but will then be required to compensate for the absence by writing an essay on the current question in accordance with instructions from the course director. Exemptions are otherwise solely granted if the student has a lawful excuse. The seminar introduction, as well as the presentation and opposition of an essay at the final seminar are mandatory. No exemption from attendance will be granted for these.

The language of instruction is English.

## **Forms of examination**

Examination is carried out through active participation at the mandatory seminars, the writing and presentation of the investigation, the opposition on another student's investigation, and through a seminar introduction.

- The language of examination is English. Assessment criteria for the written assignments:
- Subject and problem formulation
- Factual knowledge and insight into the subject
- Presentation
- Material and method
- Analysis and argumentation, including independence
- Conclusions, sources and formal requirements
- Language

Assessment criteria for the oral presentations:

- Ability to formulate legal problems
- Ability to independently and systematically carry out an argumentation on the basis of a problem formulation, in a legally correct manner and within specified time limits
- Ability to draw legal conclusions and communicate them

The final grade in the course is based on the students' individual performances in all three examined course components. In order to pass the course, students must achieve all intended learning outcomes.

Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination will have the opportunity to retake the examination. Students who have received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.

The final grade in the course is set using the following seven-point scale: A (Excellent), B (Very Good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory) and E (Adequate). Failing grades are Fx (Inadequate) or F (Totally Inadequate).

## **Misc**

Completed course requirements are valid for two years. This also applies to students who drop the course during the early course withdrawal period.

Students have the right - for a period of two years after registration - to invoke the course requirements contained in the course syllabus applicable at the time they first registered for the course.

Entry into force

These provisions will apply as of 31 August 2015.

## **Required reading**

The course literature is approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law. Please refer to the course website for information about the required reading. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.