

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Legal Systems and Methods

Rättskulturer och juridisk metod

15.0 Higher Education

Credits

15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	JU630A
Valid from:	Spring 2016
Date of approval:	2015-06-10
Department	Department of Law
Subject	Law and Legal Studies
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

Adopted by the Education Committee at the Faculty of Law, Department of Law upon delegation on 2015-06-10.

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 are also given access to the course.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
0100	Legal Systems and Methods	15

Course content

The main purpose of this course is to help law students develop tools to successfully negotiate the difficulties that arise from clashing legal traditions in everyday legal work in an international or internationalized setting. In order to achieve this goal, a two-fold approach is necessary: First and foremost, students will be given an introduction to legal culture within the most theoretically and practically important legal systems. The curriculum places particular emphasis on legal methods and techniques specific to a legal tradition. Since legal cultures are constantly evolving, their historical background and ideological underpinnings must be considered. In addition to the study of the legal methods of the world, students are required to develop such skills that facilitate legal work in situations where more than one legal tradition is involved. Practical exercises will help students to acquire inter-cultural legal communication skills and strategies (International Lawyering). The course closes with a case study.

Learning outcomes

After having completed the course, students are expected to be able to:

- show knowledge about and understanding of the legal methods and techniques of the most important legal traditions, including their historical background and their institutional and ideological underpinnings,
- identify relevant issues in this specific field of knowledge and critically analyse reasoning in law and legal scholarship with regard to methodological implications,

- collate the results of the analysis and independently and systematically formulate relevant legal arguments on the basis of methods and techniques in different legal traditions,
- evaluate the legal consequences following a choice of method and make strategic evaluations of the suitability of different methods and techniques in particular cases,
- in general develop such practical skills that make it possible to successfully work in an international or internationalized legal environment.

Education

The course length is 10 weeks. Teaching methods include lectures, group tuition, seminars and a case study. Active participation in the seminars is mandatory, unless otherwise specified. The requirement of active participation means that the student has made suitable preparations for the seminar and is prepared to answer questions and take part in the discussion. Absence from a maximum of 25 percent of seminars can, however, be compensated by a short essay for every seminar the student has missed. Participation in the case study is mandatory and cannot be compensated.

The course will be taught in English.

Forms of examination

Students will be assessed through a written exam and a case study. The assessment will be made in English.

Grading will be based on individual achievements in both the written exam and the case study. The written exam makes up 75 percent and the case study 25 percent of the basis for the assessment. To pass the course the student has to fulfil every learning outcome in the syllabus.

Materials which the student is allowed to have at the examination as well as grading criteria are set out in the course curriculum.

A student who receives a failing grade on the first exam will be given an opportunity for re-examination. Students who have received a passing grade are not entitled to take a new exam to receive a higher grade. A student who has been failed twice by the same examiner is entitled to a different examiner in connection with re-examination(s). This does not however apply if there are special reasons for not appointing a different examiner.

The following grades will apply: Passed with distinction (AB), Passed but not without distinction (BA), Pass (B) or Fail (U)

A student who so requests is entitled to receive his/her grades according to a goal-related 7-point grading scale. The request is to be made by the student prior to the examination in a manner decided by the Department of Law. The grade according to the 7-point scale shall in such cases apply instead of the ordinary grade. A passing grade awarded according to the 7-point scale shall be one of the following: A (Excellent), B (Very good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory) or E (Sufficient). Failing grades are Fx (Insufficient) or F (Wholly insufficient).

Misc

The results of the fulfilled requirements of a course are valid for two years. This also applies to students who deregister from a course through withdrawal.

If the course requirements change substantially, the student is entitled to cite the requirements that applied at the time he/she registered for the course for the first time for a period of two years after registration.

Effective

These provisions apply as of 2016-01-18.

Required reading

The course literature is decided by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law. For information concerning course literature, see the course's homepage. A current list of literature will be available two months prior to the beginning of the course.