

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

Rule of Law, Legal Reform and International Organisations
Rättsstaten, rättsliga reformer och internationella organisationer

15.0 Higher Education
Credits
15.0 ECTS credits

Course code:	JU35BB
Valid from:	Autumn 2016
Date of approval:	2016-03-14
Department	Department of Law
Main field:	Legal Science
Specialisation:	A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Decision

Approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law (delegation) on 2016-03-14.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

For access to lectures and examination, the student must fulfill the general requirement for admission to elective courses through the completion of compulsory courses of at least 150 credits within the law program.

Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
0100	Rule of Law, Legal Reform and International Organisations	15

Course content

The course is offered as an elective course within the law program but also as an independent course. The course deals with the importance of law and legal institutions to economic development and good governance, to peace and security and to reconciliation and democratization. Special attention is given to the concept of rule of law and to the role of the EU and other international and non-governmental organizations for the promotion of the rule of law and for combating corruption. Specific issues addressed are access to justice, crisis management in post-conflict situations, reform projects, etc.

The purpose of the course is to give the student an enhanced understanding of methodological and theoretical problems associated with international reform work and the transfer of legal models (legal transplants) to developing countries and transition economies. Another major purpose is to provide training in scholarly methods in law and adjacent fields.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate depth of knowledge and understanding of the relevant law and the role of legal institutions for democratization, economic development and crisis management; and
- demonstrate depth of knowledge of the main tools and procedures used in international reform work in order to promote the rule of law, good governance and institutional and legal reforms.

Skills and abilities

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to systematically, critically and independently identify, formulate and analyze issues related to the promotion of the rule of law and good governance, institutional and legal reforms and the combating of corruption; and
- within prescribed time limits independently plan and author an essay on a relevant topic (a theoretical and/or methodological topic or a case study) and orally present and discuss the conclusions contained in his/her own study as well as in other students' studies.

Ability to evaluate and the undertaken approach

After completing the course, the student is expected to:

- critically assess and evaluate various tools and procedures used in international reform work based on both legal and interdisciplinary theory.

Education

Teaching consists of lectures and seminars in which theoretical and methodological perspectives are intermingled with experiences from practical reform work, etc.

Teaching is conducted in English.

Forms of examination

Examination is conducted through

- compulsory and active attendance at the seminars
- authorship of an essay (approximately 10 pages)
- acting as opponent vis-à-vis another student's essay
- a written examination

There is a requirement of active attendance at all seminars. Active attendance means that the student shall have prepared the seminar assignments and be prepared to participate in discussions of the same.

The course director can however grant a general exemption from the attendance requirement within the framework of the provisions governing examination as adopted by the Law Faculty's Education Committee. The attendance requirement is stated in the teaching syllabus. In addition thereto, an exemption can be granted in the case of a legal excuse (Swedish: laga förfall). In such a case, the student shall carry out a pedagogically equivalent assignment to compensate the absence. Exemption shall not be granted from the attendance requirement with regard to the seminar at which the essay is discussed or the seminar at which opposition occurs.

Examination shall be in English.

Grading shall be based on the essay, presentation of the essay, opposition vis-à-vis another student's essay and the written examination. Principles indicating the weighted total of these examination components are stated in the course's teaching syllabus. For other examination components only the following grades apply: Pass (G) and Fail (U).

Assessment criteria regarding the essay:

- Problem formulation and purpose
- Factual knowledge and insight into the subject
- Presentation and structure
- Material and method
- Analysis and argumentation, including the independence with which these are conducted
- Quality of language, utilization of sources and other formal aspects as well as
- The ability to complete the essay within the prescribed time limits

Assessment criteria regarding the grading of the oral presentation:

- The ability to formulate legal problems
- The ability to argue systematically and independently from the standpoint of the formulation of the problem in a legally correct manner as well as
- The ability to draw legal conclusions and to present them in a manner comprehensible to both lawyers and non-lawyers

Assessment criteria regarding the opposition:

- The ability to present constructive criticism
- The ability to draw legal conclusions and to present them in a manner comprehensible to both lawyers and non-lawyers

To pass the course, all of the course's learning outcomes must be met. Permitted aids at the written examination and grading criteria are specified in the teaching syllabus.

Students who fail the regular examination are given the opportunity for re-examination. Students who have passed are not entitled to undergo re-examination for higher grades. Students who are failed twice by the same examiner have the right to demand a different examiner when doing additional re-examinations. This does not apply if there are specific reasons for not appointing a different examiner.

The seven-point grading scale uses the following pass grades: A (Excellent), B (Very good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory) or E (Sufficient). Failing grades are Fx (Insufficient) and F (Wholly insufficient).

Misc

Completed compulsory assignments are valid for two years. This also applies in cases where a student deregisters from the course through withdrawal.

If the compulsory requirements are raised, the student has the right - for a period of two years after registration - to invoke the requirements that applied when the student registered for the first time for the course.

Effective

These provisions will apply as of 29 August 2016.

Required reading

Course literature shall be approved by the Head of the Department of Law. For more information about course literature, see the course's website and the teaching syllabus. The reading list shall be available at least two months before the course starts.