

Public International Law

Faculty of Law

IER4021

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Vidmar

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

International law, global developments, sources of law, international personality, statehood, jurisdiction, use of force

Full course description

“The course is common to all tracks of the Master in Globalisation and Law. It thus aims to provide students with the knowledge of international law necessary to understand the content of the three tracks of the Master’s Programme (Human Rights; Corporate and Commercial Law; and International Trade and Investment Law). The course focuses on the foundations and key conceptual principles of international law (e.g. the sources of law, the law-making process, participants in the international legal system and the nature of international legal obligations). Students thus learn what international law can and cannot regulate; who has the capacity to breach international law; where an international legal obligation is derived from and when is it breached. This course is conceptual in nature and is not primarily concerned with substantive subfields of international law, such as international trade law, international criminal law, international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Such subfields of international law are covered elsewhere in the curriculum. In order to understand them properly, a thorough grounding in public international law is needed and this is what this course seeks to achieve.”

Course objectives

- Understanding the foundations of international law

- Recognizing the international legal dimension in international events
- Applying rules and principles of international law to real or hypothetical situations
- Evaluating the lawfulness or otherwise of international conduct in the context of international law

Prerequisites

An introductory course in public international law.

Recommended reading

- Gleider Hernández, *International Law* (2nd edn, OUP, 2022).

Corporate Social Responsibility

Faculty of Law

LAW4037

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A. Beckers

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Corporate Social Responsibility, business and human rights, Sustainable Corporate Governance, corporate governance

Full course description

This course provides an introduction into the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in its legal dimensions. At the core of the debate about CSR lies the question to what extent companies are responsible, legal or otherwise, to respect and further societal interests that were originally viewed as a core responsibility of states. This entails questions on whether companies have responsibilities or obligations to respect human rights (the emerging field of Business & Human Rights), are expected to contribute to sustainable development (such as the involvement of the private sector in the sustainable development goals) or can be held responsible for contributing to climate change. Increasingly, also other issue areas, such as responsibility in the digital space or global tax compliance, are discussed from a CSR perspective.

To add to the complexity, not only the substance of CSR (what are companies responsible for) is a matter of debate, but also its form is highly contested. On the one hand, one can interpret a variety of legal norms that apply to companies from a CSR perspective. Such legal norms range from national law to international hard and soft law as well as private regulation although these rules are not always explicitly referred to as being related to CSR. On the other hand, existing laws are not sufficient to fully capture the concept of CSR. The newer regulatory developments suggest that we

are moving, indeed, into an era where CSR becomes a basis for increasing legal regulation and changing the forms of regulation, such as sustainability reporting rules or due diligence.

In this course, we adopt an understanding of CSR that considers it as being implicit in legal norms that impose obligations on companies to consider societal interests as well as serving as a normative notion that demands stronger laws on the social responsibility in national, EU and international law. In regard to the latter, we acknowledge that there are different positions that can be taken as to the form that is best and most effective. We have therefore selected the course literature in a manner that it reflects the breadth of different positions in the current debate.

As you may see from this description, the concept of CSR can serve as an excellent heuristic for studying how law is affected by and affects itself globalization, in particular related to globalization from the perspective of private (corporate) actors. It can show the potential and limits of national law to regulate globally operating companies with related struggles on extraterritorial regulation. A CSR perspective on international law can also shed light into the possibility, desirability and limitations of creating international hard or soft law to govern corporations and CSR is a core notion used to document the evolution of transnational law and global private regulation that, while not being legal in the traditional sense of a state-based understanding of the law, have an impact on corporate behaviour and are thus regulatory.

In the light of the compulsory character of this course for the corporate and commercial law and sustainability specialisations in the master programmes (Globalization and Law, European Law School, Dutch Law), the course focuses centrally on the interaction between corporations and CSR understood from the perspectives of corporate sustainability and business and human rights. The course will cover the most important laws and regulatory initiatives on corporate sustainability on a national, EU and international level and discuss how legal regulation on CSR approaches the transformation of globally operating companies into complex corporate group structures and supply-chains.

Course objectives

- Understand the concept of CSR, its origin, its substantive content, its legal dimensions and the relevance of the concept for the law.
- Understand and critically analyse national regulation of companies through company, tort and contract law in relation to their social responsibility.
- Understand and critically analyse the impact of private international law on the legal regulation of companies.
- Understand and critically evaluate the EU policy and regulation in the field of CSR and corporate sustainability.
- Understand and critically evaluate the international legal developments in relation to regulating corporations and their social responsibility, in particular the approach of polycentric governance, international soft law and international treaty-making.

- Understand the shift in corporate organization towards globally operating corporate groups, supply-chains and value chains and the related changes for corporate liability in tort and contract law.
- Understand the different regulatory techniques currently employed in law to foster corporate adoption of CSR, in particular reporting and due diligence laws, and further access to remedy for those affected by corporate human rights violations and climate change.
- Understand and critically analyse the merits and weaknesses of private regulation for CSR and understand the legal effects that private regulation of CSR has.

Prerequisites

This course is an advanced legal master course, in which we will analyse legal rules from the thematic perspective of CSR. Therefore, we assume a bachelor-level knowledge (in one national legal system or comparatively) of specifically the core concepts of

- company law
- civil law (contract and tort law)
- private international law (jurisdiction and choice of law for contracts and torts)
- European law (internal market law and consumer law)
- Public international law (human rights and institutions, treaty-making and interpretation, international dispute settlement).

Recommended reading

The course literature consists of articles, blog posts and book excerpts on the relevant topics. As the literature, legislation and case law in this field is rapidly evolving, there are no up-to-date comprehensive textbooks on the issue. The following books can be consulted on the topic:

- Anthony Ewing (ed), *Teaching Business and Human Rights*, Edward Elgar 2023.
- Surya Deva & David Birchall (eds), *Research Handbook on Human Rights and Business*, Edward Elgar 2020.
- Beate Sjøfjell & Christopher Bruner (eds), *The Cambridge Handbook of Corporate Law, Corporate Governance and Sustainability*, Cambridge University Press 2019
- Lisbeth Enneking, Ivo Giesen, Anne-Jetske Schaap, Cedric Ryngaert, Francois Kristen & Lucas Roorda (eds), *Accountability, International Business Operations, and the Law*, Routledge 2019.
- Horatia Muir Watt, Lucia Bíziková, Agatha Brandao de Oliveira, Diego P. Fernández Arroyo (eds), *Global Private International Law: Adjudication without Frontiers*, Edward Elgar 2019.
- Katharina Pistor, *The Code of Capital*, Princeton University Press 2019.
- Vibe Ulfbeck, Alexandra Andhov & Katerina Mitkidis (eds), *Law and Responsible Supply Chain Management*, Routledge 2019.
- Birgit Spießhofer, *Responsible Enterprise: The Emergence of a Global Economic Order*, C.H.Beck/Nomos 2018.
- Juan José Álvarez Rubio & Katerina Yiannibas (eds), *Human Rights in Business: Removal of Access to Justice in the European Union*, Routledge 2017.

- Andreas Rühmkorf, Corporate Social Responsibility, Private Law and Global Supply Chains, Edward Elgar 2015.
- Jeremy Moon, Corporate Social Responsibility: A Very Short Introduction, Oxford University Press 2015.
- John Ruggie, Just Business, Multinational Corporations and Human Rights, W.W. Norton & Company 2013.

Global Law

Faculty of Law

MET4011

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S.A. Reyes Molina

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Full course description

Law is typically thought of as the result of the exercise of State sovereignty. This intuition immediately confines the law's effects to the territory where sovereignty is exercised, making it a local phenomenon. However, this picture of the law is insufficient. States are in constant interaction among themselves, requiring thus their own regulation. This regulation takes the form of international treaties and conventions. Considering these two spheres of action, the national and international, one might think that the picture of law starts becoming fully formed.

Although this image of the law still stands in many respects, it is insufficient when addressing several contemporary issues that affect us globally. First, it does account for the appearance of non-state actors and supra-national institutions, such as the United Nations, European Union, World Trade Organization, World Economic Forum, World Health Organization, and transnational companies, and their interaction. Second, it does not provide fitting solutions to global problems, such as inequality, global poverty, climate change, global health, and mass human migration. Third, the division between national and international simplifies the relationship between modern states and ignores global injustices western powers have committed in the past through imperialism and colonialism.

This course provides you with the conceptual tools required to critically assess current global issues and their impact on our understanding of the law. The new challenges we face demand a thorough re-examination of our current legal institutions and their place in a globalized world. It invites us to think of a new dimension beyond the national and international: the global. Thinking of law as Global

Law forces us to reassess traditional core categories in legal thinking, such as a) sources, b) authority, and c) subjects. These categories are at the core of this course.

What are the sources of global law? Given the very nature of the contemporary problems we face, traditional sources of law such as constitutions, legislators, and treaties and conventions are not suitable to answer this question. Who is the ultimate authority on issues that global law covers? What is the justification for such authority? What makes this authority legitimate? The traditional categories of authority do not cover enough ground to provide an adequate response to these inquiries. Lastly, who are the subjects of global law? What is the relationship between global law and non-human entities? What's the role of rights in the development of global law?

Over seven weeks, you will critically explore these questions. Each session will revolve around a topic that will address a dimension of global law. Doing so will shed light on the challenges that an interconnected world brings to our current understanding of the law and related concepts.

Assessment methods:

The assessment methods are: a written exam (70% of the total grade) and weekly essays (30% of the total grade)

Course objectives

By the end of the course, students will be able to:

- a) critically analyze how the current global issues impact our understanding of the law;
- b) recognize conceptual notions of global law as opposed to international, transnational, and domestic law;
- c) explain the complexity of the sources and subjects of global law;
- d) understand the relationship between authority and global law.
- e) develop original arguments to substantiate claims about contentious topics in global law.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

Legal Philosophy

Legal History

Jurisprudence

Migration Law

Human Rights Law

Ethics

International Dispute Settlement

Faculty of Law

IER4008

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Vidmar

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

International disputes, peaceful settlement of disputes, international judicial bodies, global dispute settlement procedures

Full course description

This course focuses on institutional and procedural aspects of international dispute settlement, including questions of jurisdiction and access; preliminary objections, provisional measures, representation of parties, third party intervention and amicus curiae briefs; the various phases in the proceedings, including the possibility of appellate review; and the implementation and enforcement of judgments or awards. What are the comparative advantages of diplomatic and legal methods of dispute settlement? What is the role of NGOs in the various dispute settlement procedures? These are the kinds of questions that will be considered. The purpose always is to compare the mechanisms with each other and thereby to identify possibilities for improvement and reform. Each week there is a lecture on a particular category of international dispute settlement procedures, followed by a small-group tutorial session devoted to an assignment.

Course objectives

At the end of this course students should be familiar with the main features of the most important and most frequently used diplomatic and legal mechanisms for the resolution of international disputes. They should have acquired an understanding of the key concepts and methods of

international dispute settlement in a comparative perspective and have developed an awareness of the potential, and the limitations, of international dispute mechanisms as instruments for promoting peace, security, justice and economic development.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

- J. Merrills, Eric De Brabandere, *International Dispute Settlement* (7th edn, CUP, 2022)
- G. Hernandez, *International Law* (OUP, 2019).

International Investment Law

Faculty of Law

IER4015

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

I. Alexovicova

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

international investment law; international law of foreign investment; foreign investment protection; investor-state dispute settlement; investment arbitration

Full course description

What happens when a multinational company sues a government for phasing out fossil fuels? Or when public health policies trigger billion-dollar legal claims? These are the kinds of real-world dilemmas at the heart of international investment law where legal protections for foreign investors intersect with a state's sovereign right to regulate.

This course explores the international legal framework that govern foreign investment protection, an area of law both vital and deeply controversial. To attract much-needed economic capital, states have signed thousands of treaties committing to protect foreign investors from unfair treatment, expropriation, and discrimination. These protections are designed to foster stability and development, but they also limit policy space and trigger costly arbitration.

We will investigate the legal foundations of this regime, its rapid evolution, and the mounting push for reform. As governments increasingly seek to balance investment protection with urgent public interests, like climate action, health, and human rights, the field is being reshaped in profound ways.

Through a mix of case studies, treaty analysis, and critical discussion, you will gain the tools to navigate one of the most dynamic and high-stakes areas of international law today. Whether you are interested in global trade, environmental justice, or general international law, this course offers a front-row seat to a legal field where economic power and public policy collide.

The course covers the following topics: origins, nature and sources of international investment law, investor-state dispute settlement, substantive standards of investment protection like reasonableness, non-discrimination, fair and equitable treatment, full protection and security, and expropriation.

Course objectives

- the student acquires up-to-date knowledge of the substantive and procedural law of foreign investment protection by international investment treaties, as interpreted and applied by investor-state arbitration tribunals;
- the student understands and is able to engage in debate on legal issues relating to international investment law and can assess the relationship between rules contained in international investment treaties and the right of the state to regulate;
- the student can identify international investment law issues arising in true-to-life situations;
- the student is able to form a reasoned legal opinion with regard to true-to-life international investment law problems;
- the student is able to write a well-motivated legal opinion on international investment problems and to present it orally.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites:

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

Public international law

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

TBD

Recommended reading:

Reading provided on Canvas for each week.

Public International Law

Faculty of Law

IER4021

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Vidmar

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

International law, global developments, sources of law, international personality, statehood, jurisdiction, use of force

Full course description

“The course is common to all tracks of the Master in Globalisation and Law. It thus aims to provide students with the knowledge of international law necessary to understand the content of the three tracks of the Master’s Programme (Human Rights; Corporate and Commercial Law; and International Trade and Investment Law). The course focuses on the foundations and key conceptual principles of international law (e.g. the sources of law, the law-making process, participants in the international legal system and the nature of international legal obligations). Students thus learn what international law can and cannot regulate; who has the capacity to breach international law; where an international legal obligation is derived from and when is it breached. This course is conceptual in nature and is not primarily concerned with substantive subfields of international law, such as international trade law, international criminal law, international humanitarian law and international human rights law. Such subfields of international law are covered elsewhere in the curriculum. In order to understand them properly, a thorough grounding in public international law is needed and this is what this course seeks to achieve.”

Course objectives

- Understanding the foundations of international law

- Recognizing the international legal dimension in international events
- Applying rules and principles of international law to real or hypothetical situations
- Evaluating the lawfulness or otherwise of international conduct in the context of international law

Prerequisites

An introductory course in public international law.

Recommended reading

- Gleider Hernández, *International Law* (2nd edn, OUP, 2022).

International Commercial Dispute Resolution

Faculty of Law

IER5016

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

B. van Zelstj. Israël

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assessment

Keywords:

Commercial law, Arbitration, Litigation, Mediation, Jurisdiction, Applicable law, Recognition and Enforcement

Full course description

In the course “International Commercial Dispute Resolution” you will study three basic modes of settlement of commercial disputes between private parties: litigation in (state-sponsored) courts, arbitration in (non-state) tribunals and mediation (without courts). You will start by looking at how, in international commercial litigation, international jurisdiction and the law applicable to mainly contracts and non-contractual obligations are determined as well as the recognition and enforcement of foreign judgments. You will move from the situation where parties did not and/or could not agree on these issues to the possibility of parties to designate the competent court (choice of court) and applicable law (choice of law). From party-autonomy in cross-border litigation, you will then move into the field of international commercial arbitration and mediation, both of which are by their very nature based on party-autonomy. This course will ask you to reflect on the intersection of international party-autonomy and national regulatory measures and will help you to understand and to make strategic choices as to which mode of dispute settlement suits your client’s needs best.

Course objectives

Students

- Have insight in and understanding of the methods to resolve commercial disputes with a cross-border dimension via mediation, arbitration or court litigation, including the important regulatory frameworks such as the New York Convention, Brussels I and Rome I Regulations as well as Hague Conventions.
- Are able to interpret and apply the rules relating to jurisdiction, applicable law and recognition and enforcement in the context of mediation, litigation and arbitration and critically use relevant case-law in that context.
- Can explain the relation between issues of jurisdiction/competence, applicable Law and recognition and enforcement of judgments and awards, in particular when it comes to litigation and arbitration;
- Understand the extent of party-autonomy commercial parties enjoy in settling their disputes and the way public interests may restrict that autonomy through concepts such as arbitrability, public policy, and overriding mandatory provisions;
- Can compare and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of the various methods of international commercial dispute settlement, their interrelationship and the practical implications thereof, and make and justify a choice for one or the other in a specific case.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

TBD

International Trade Law

Faculty of Law

IER4002

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.D. Prévost

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

International trade law, WTO

Full course description

Whether you are interested in climate policy, food safety or de-risking global value chains, understanding the law of the World Trade Organization (WTO) is essential to navigating today's interconnected and contested global economy. This course offers a deep dive into the legal and institutional framework of the WTO, the cornerstone of global economic governance.

As a compulsory course in the GAL International Trade and Investment Law track, it provides a rigorous grounding in the core institutional arrangements, rules and exceptions of the WTO system. You will examine how trade rules are made, how disputes between states are resolved (or left unresolved), and how the system balances open markets with non-economic values like environmental protection and national security.

Topics include:

- The evolution, structure, and functions of the WTO in the context of the challenges faced by global economic governance;
- The WTO dispute settlement mechanism, including its current crisis and implications for the prospects for peaceful resolution of trade conflicts;
- The legal obligations of non-discrimination: the most-favoured-nation and national treatment rules;
- Market access disciplines on tariffs and non-tariff barriers to trade; and

- General exceptions and security exceptions: when trade rules yield to public policy concerns.

Learning is grounded in realistic trade scenarios and legal problem-solving, supported by interactive lectures and engaging tutorial discussions. Expert guest lectures from trade practitioners provide insights into current issues. Students may also take part in an optional study trip to the WTO and other institutions in Geneva (January 2026), offering a first-hand look at international trade practice in action.

This course equips future lawyers, policymakers, and scholars with the tools to critically assess and engage with the legal foundations—and challenges—of the global trading system.

Teaching methods:

Lectures, Tutorial discussions, and Assignments

Assessment methods:

- Assignments
- Written exam

Course objectives

- You acquire up-to-date knowledge of the core institutional and substantive law of the World Trade Organization;
- You become aware of, and can form a reasoned opinion on, the current challenges faced by the WTO as an institution;
- You understand and are able to engage in critical discussion on substantive legal issues relating to the core obligations and exceptions in WTO law;
- You can evaluate the relationship between WTO rules and the protection of non-trade values;
- You can identify international trade law issues arising from fictional case studies and are able to analyse them by applying the relevant provisions of WTO law;
- You are able to write well-motivated legal opinions solving international trade problems under WTO law, and can present these convincingly in class.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

NA

Recommended prior knowledge:

It is recommended that students have followed a previous course in international law or European law and therefore such basic knowledge will be presumed.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

The textbook used in this course is Van den Bossche, P. & Zdouc W., *The Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization*, 5th Edition (Cambridge University Press, 2021) (e-book available via the University Library).

Additional mandatory reading will be made known on Canvas, where appropriate.

Recommended reading:

It is convenient for students to have a copy of the compilation: *The WTO Agreements. The Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization and its Annexes* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). However, students can also find the relevant WTO legal texts on the WTO website (www.wto.org) and can use a printout of these texts.

Additional recommended reading will be made known on Canvas, where appropriate.

European Competition Law

Faculty of Law

IER4009

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

W. Devroe

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper

Keywords:

EU Competition Law, Cartels, Abuse of dominant position, concentration control, State aid, services of general economic interest

Full course description

This course offers an overview of the main areas of EU competition law sensu lato, that is including State aid and liberalization measures. The importance of this area of EU law cannot be overstated. It sets out to create a level playing field between economic operators in one of the biggest economies of the world. In addition, the application of its principles has important consequences for the interplay, and respective roles, of the market and the state in providing certain services and products meant to promote welfare. Finally, EU competition law may be considered a 'laboratory' of EU law at large, especially as regards judicial protection. Developments in public as well as private enforcement often originate in competition law and are then extended to other areas of EU law.

The course covers the substantive and procedural domains of all five branches of EU competition law: cartels, abuse of dominant position, concentration control, state aid, and public undertakings and services of general economic interest. Theory and practice are held to be equally important. From a theoretical perspective, the course aims to structure what might otherwise appear a chaotic multitude of regulations and cases. From a practical viewpoint, it is built upon the study of real-life or hypothetical cases.

Course objectives

The aim of this course is to invite students to study the legal sources of EU competition law in order to:

1. gain a thorough knowledge of the relevant legal principles derived from these sources and application thereof to real life cases;
2. reflect on the purpose(s) of EU competition law, its place in the legal framework for the internal market of the European Union and its interface with the legal systems of the Member States
3. examine and appraise the role of each of the actors in EU competition law both at EU level and national level;
4. identify, discuss and evaluate new developments in the case law of the EU courts or national courts applying EU law, and the administrative practice of the European Commission and national competition authorities applying EU law.
5. for all of the foregoing: suggest and defend, orally and in writing, options for change after critical assesment

Prerequisites

Knowledge of EU substantive and institutional law is a prerequisite to follow the course.

Recommended reading

Literature: Readers with selected legal sources, case-law and materials.

International Human Rights Law

Faculty of Law

IER4012

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.C. Broderick

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation and paper

Keywords:

Human Rights, International law, regional law, civil and political rights, socio-economic rights, monitoring bodies

Full course description

In the course International Human Rights Law, you will receive an overview of some of the key concepts of international human rights law. You will also be provided with an introduction to selected topics, while at the same time you will have scope for deep discussion and analysis of the main topics of interest in the field. You will focus in this course on the protection of human rights at the international level – developments occurring within the framework of the United Nations (UN) and regional organisations, in particular.

You will learn about the substance of human rights and procedural issues. This means that you will learn to analyse not only the normative framework of human rights law, including the different categories of rights, but you will also delve into learning about the international supervisory and monitoring procedures developed within the UN and regional organisations.

In addition, you will explore a number of current issues, which from the perspective of globalisation directly or indirectly affect the protection of human rights.

Assessment methods

85% for the final written exam and 15% for the presentation/paper

Course objectives

The course objectives are to ensure that:

1. you understand how the human rights track (specialisation) which you have chosen relates to, and interacts with, the other tracks of the Globalisation & Law Master program;
2. you can analyse and evaluate the underlying theoretical notions of international human rights law, such as universality and non-discrimination, the different categories of rights, monitoring mechanisms, and enforcement;
3. you can analyse and evaluate the typical features of international human rights law compared to other branches of public international law;
4. you acquire knowledge of, and understand at an advanced level, international human rights standards, principles and monitoring mechanisms (especially those developed within the framework of international organisations) and that you are able to apply these to specific present-day cases and situations in a global society;
5. you gain knowledge of the limitations and challenges of applying human rights in practice by different actors (governments, courts, NGOs, individuals, human rights defenders and international organisations); and
6. you are able to write and express an (oral) opinion on a current human rights issue

Prerequisites

None.

Recommended prior knowledge

In addition to some pre-knowledge of human rights law, a sound understanding of the main features of international law (e.g. sources, subjects and state responsibility etc.) is required.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

- Bantekas and L. Oette, *International Human Rights Law and Practice*, Cambridge University Press, fourth edition, 2024;
- U. Khaliq, *International Human Rights Law Documents*, Cambridge University Press, 2018, (a compilation of international human rights instruments).

Moreover, for some sessions, students will be assigned cases from the Oxford Reports on International Law (ORIL) database and other selected readings, with the page numbers or excerpts indicated.

Recommended reading:

TBD

International Humanitarian Law

Faculty of Law

IER4022

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

W.C. Muller

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Armed conflict – humanitarian law

Full course description

This course offers a thorough introduction into the law of international and non-international armed conflict. Topics covered include the means and methods of warfare, the treatment of prisoners of war, the protection of the wounded and the treatment of civilians, and the methods of implementation and enforcement. Particular attention will be paid to current challenges to International Humanitarian Law, such as asymmetric warfare, targeted killings by drones, cyber warfare, the use of new technologies and the use of private military contractors. Are the present rules of International Humanitarian Law adequate to regulate these activities or are new rules required? In order to find answers to these questions we will study relevant international legal instruments, case law and the literature. Lectures employing the Socratic method will present the big picture. Small group sessions employing the problem based learning method will focus on concrete examples from recent armed conflicts, such as the former Yugoslavia, Afghanistan, and the Middle East, including Iraq, Syria and Yemen.

Course objectives

Students who have successfully completed this course are able to identify, analyse and interpret the facts of contemporary armed conflicts, identify the relevant rules of International Humanitarian Law

applicable and apply these rules. They will also have a good understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of International Humanitarian Law.

Prerequisites

None

Recommended reading

E. Crawford and A. Pert, *International Humanitarian Law* (2nd ed.; Cambridge: CUP, 2020)

Intellectual Property Law

Faculty of Law

IER4033

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.W.J. Kamperman Sanders

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Full course description

This course covers the substantial legal aspects of industrial and intellectual property law with specific relevance for the Information Society as well as the management of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs). As such the economic rationale of IPRs is covered in respect of the creation and the regulation of markets in information. In order to get a full grasp of legal entitlements for creators in the information age, copyrights, database, patents and trade mark law will be juxtaposed with technological developments, such as multimedia, (open source) software, file sharing, domain name grabbing, and placed in the economic context of competition, management of IPRs and electronic commerce. Knowledge of the legal and economic rationale for the protection of intellectual and industrial creativity through acquisition of the fundamentals of intellectual and industrial property rights, (unfair) competition law, and management of intellectual property rights (IPRs) on an international, European, and national level. Among IPRs covered in the course are:

1. IP in the context of international trade and EU innovation (Section I);
2. trade marks (sections II and III);
3. patents (section IV);
4. copy- and neighbouring rights (section V);
5. designs (section VI); and
6. a mock trial on IP and public health (section VII).

Study of procedural matters concerning the subsistence, acquisition, application, registration, opposition, duration, surrender, revocation, invalidity, judicial review, and jurisdiction of all IPRs is required. In addition, an understanding of international and EC competition policy in cases of passing

off and unfair practices, free movement of goods, and abuse of rights in light of the information society has to be acquired. Students are expected to acquire this knowledge through study of the structure of international organizations, treaties, EC Regulations & Directives, and literature. The course is offered over a period of seven weeks (sections I-VII), and is concluded by a written exam. The final grade is calculated based on the acquisition of EUIPO Online Certificates (Sections II&III, and Section VI), a collective brief and individual oral contribution to the mock trial and the individually written exam.

Course objectives

At the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Understand and critically reflect upon EU intellectual property as an instrument for fostering industrial innovation and human creativity (Section I);
- Appreciate and apply the basic treaties and principles relating to intellectual property, with a focus on the areas of copyright, trademarks, patents, and (unfair) competition, and explain their different rationales (Sections I-VII);
- Become conversant with the substantive provisions of the WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, and the legal and policy implications of an intellectual property agreement within an international trade law system (Sections I and VII);
- Explore current legal and policy issues concerning TRIPS under consideration in the WTO and other international forums, especially from the perspective of regional integration and developing economies (Sections I-VI);
- Identify and articulate the current developments and issues that are at the centre of current discussions and negotiations for the further development or modification of the international intellectual property system, such as technology transfer and public health (Section I) and access to essential medicine; (Section VII) and Contemplate and articulate how the emergence of big data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) calls for a re-think on the existing IP and regulatory framework, and what can be the best possible legal framework – both within the domestic and international multi-stakeholder environment – that can successfully digitally transition the global economy, and foster innovation and enhance public trust in AI (Section V and VI);
- Have knowledge and insight of the EU regimes for trademarks, patents, copyright, and design, in particular of the aspects of acquisition of rights, scope of protection and infringement (Sections II-VI);
- Have a firm grasp of the international institutions and actors in the field of intellectual property, and the multilevel engagement that they have from multilateral, regional, national and domestic perspectives (Sections I-VII);
- Solve cases regarding all of the intellectual property rights listed above (Sections I-VII);
- Orally argue a case concerning any of the intellectual property rights listed above (Section VII).

Recommended reading

Christie/Gare, Blackstone's Statutes on Intellectual Property (latest edition, Oxford University Press)

WIPO

WIPO, WIPO Intellectual Property Handbook: Policy, Law and Use (2004, WIPO, Geneva) available at <https://www.wipo.int/about-ip/en/iprm/>

Kur, A. (2019), European Intellectual Property Law, 2nd Edition, (Edward Elgar Publishing)

Global Environmental Law

Faculty of Law

LAW4094

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.G.W.M. Peeters

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper, Assignment

Keywords:

Multilateral environmental treaties; International and Global environmental law; Environmental procedural rights; The role of the courts to advance environmental protection; Climate change and Biodiversity

Full course description

The primary aim of environmental law is to protect the environment and to find solutions to restore environmental damage caused by human activities. The first United Nations meeting to address the need to protect the environment was held in 1972. This event marked the international community's acknowledgement of the need to protect the environment. Although many multilateral environmental treaties have been adopted since then, and some successes can be identified, the global environment is unfortunately under immense pressure, with climate change and the loss of biodiversity being key examples of this. Law has an important role to play to prevent further deterioration, and to try to ensure a better living environment.

This course focuses on key international environmental law developments, identifies shortcomings but also potential successful pathways. It addresses the interaction among the international, EU, and domestic environmental laws. Given this holistic perspective, the course is titled "Global environmental law". The course is part of the master track "Law for a Sustainable Europe" and is offered in period 2. In period 4, the course "European Environmental Law" will offer a further deepening of how in EU law a high level of environmental protection is advanced by means of legislation, procedural rights, and litigation.

Teaching methods

A mix of tutorials (problem-based learning), knowledge clips and lectures with discussion opportunities. Also, a series of student debates on topical developments will be organized. Please note that further announcements regarding the lectures and tutorials will be made through Canvas.

Assessment methods

The assessment is composed of:

1. an individual reflection paper based on a student debate (30% of the final grade)
2. an essay exam (70% of the final grade).

Course objectives

The main objectives of this course are that you:

- acquire knowledge of the main characteristics, concepts and trends of international and global environmental law, and is able to identify the (need for) interaction among the international, regional and domestic environmental laws in order to realize the aims of international environmental treaties;
- are able to analyse how environmental treaties aim to govern towards a better protection of the environment, is able to identify core procedural and substantive obligations, and is able to reflect on how relevant they are for environmental protection;
- have acquired specific knowledge of the development of environmental rights, of how civil society is enabled to use such rights to protect the environment and human health, including the role of the courts to enforce such rights, and is able to reflect on opportunities and limits;
- are able to explain how international law regimes aim to protect the climate system and biodiversity, is able to identify the role national law plays or should play in order to make the international law regimes effective, and is able to reflect on implementation challenges and the role of the courts;
- are able to develop a critical analysis of specific environmental law developments, and use those arguments in debates in order to identify strengths and weaknesses of existing and new concepts in environmental law.

Prerequisites

Bachelor-level based knowledge of international (and European) law is strongly recommended.

Recommended reading

Birnie, Boyle and Redgwell's *International Law and the environment*, 4th edition, 2021: several chapters of this book will be used. You can read the copies in the library and copy part of it, or can decide to buy the book.

Furthermore, various online materials such as articles, book chapters, and blogs will be part of obligatory and recommended reading. Links to these online sources will be provided.

International Commercial Law

Faculty of Law

PRI4002

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Israël

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

International commercial transactions, Sale of Goods, Carriage of Goods, Letters of Credit, Uniform Private Law

Full course description

In this course you will have an opportunity to explore the private law core of international commerce and trade: the international sale of goods. The sales transaction is used to explore a number of related topics, such as the carriage of goods, insurance and payment. In the first part of the course, you will study the rights and obligations of buyers and sellers in international sales contracts, with a particular focus on the 1980 United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods. Your focus will then shift to contracts for the carriage of goods and its regulatory frameworks: the CMR for carriage of goods by road, the Hague-Visby Rules for carriage by sea and Montreal for carriage through the air. We will also reflect on the legal environment for the combined transport of goods in absence of a common/uniform regulatory framework. During the course we will consider different types of actors in international trade and their rights and liabilities. We also touch upon payment mechanisms used to finance international trade, such as documentary credits.

The course offers you an opportunity to become familiar with the basic mechanisms of international trade and their legal frameworks of uniform private law and soft-law and the basic rights and liabilities of private parties operating in this environment.

Course objectives

- You will acquire knowledge and understanding of international of the regulation of International Sale of Goods (CISG/INCOTERMS).
- You will acquire knowledge and understanding of international of the regulation of the international Carriage of Goods (Hague Visby Rules, CMR, MC'99, Multimodal transport)
- You will acquire knowledge and understanding of international of the regulation of payment mechanisms used in international commerce (UCP 600).
- You will learn to apply the knowledge you obtain to identify and solve concrete/complex problems that arise in the shaping, application or enforcement of international and national norms governing cross-border commercial activity.
- You will develop your analytical skills that enable you to identify and solve concrete/complex problems that arise in the shaping, application or enforcement of international and national norms governing cross-border commercial activity.

Recommended reading

TBD

Human Rights and Human Development

Faculty of Law

IER4004

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.C. Broderick

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation and paper

Keywords:

Development, Sustainable Development Goals, Human-rights based approach, the World Bank

Full course description

In the course Human Rights and Human Development, you will learn how to analyse the different efforts that have been made to re-conceptualise economic relations between developed and developing countries in terms of rights and obligations. The topics you will cover include: (1) the capabilities approach of Sen and Nussbaum as a theoretical framework for thinking about development; (2) the NIEO program sponsored by the Non-aligned Movement in the UN General Assembly; (3) the Millennium Development Goals and the Sustainable Development Goals; (4) the exploration of abuses in development programs as well as exploitative economic practices such as “land grabbing” and modern forms of slavery; (5) disability and development; and (6) the World Bank. This course is interdisciplinary in nature. Throughout the course you will explore the limited hard law and soft law that exists in the field of human development with the aid of extra-legal perspectives. The course will also provide you with opportunities to engage in analysis of the difficulties of measuring human rights achievement.

Assessment methods

85% for the final written exam and 15% for the presentation/paper

Course objectives

By the end of the course you should be able:

- To understand the theoretical background underlying the linkage between human rights and development;
- To critically understand the history of the notion of development, as it has changed from the NIEO program into the modern SDG paradigm;
- To evaluate complex fact patterns or policy programs from the perspective of human development;
- To demonstrate your knowledge by presenting complex information to an audience;
- To understand the theory behind Universal Basic Income as a way to conceptualise the relationship between human rights and development;
- To integrate your existing legal knowledge and skills into a wider interdisciplinary conceptual framework.

Prerequisites

None

Recommended prior knowledge

A basic knowledge of human rights law and/or international economic law.

Recommended reading

There is no textbook prescribed for the course. The course works with a variety of articles and books readily available from the online library.

Human Rights of Women

Faculty of Law

IER4019

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J.A. Sellin

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Human rights (law); Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women; UN System for the Protection of Human Rights; equality and non-discrimination; gender; gender-based violence against women

Full course description

Worldwide women experience difficulties in fulfilling their human rights. Discriminatory legislation and policies as well as culture, tradition and stereotypical ideas influence women's position in society. In this course we look at the human rights of women from the perspective of the principles of non-discrimination and equality. Special attention will be paid to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (Women's Convention) and its supervisory organ, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). We will study both procedural and substantive aspects of the Women's Convention, and look into CEDAW's monitoring possibilities. Regardless of how well rights are laid down and interpreted on the international level, they can only be enjoyed by individuals when they are implemented and protected at the national level. That is why information about national situations is most pertinent.

The course reflects the UM's vision on education that promotes student-centred learning through constructive, contextual, collaborative and self-directed learning (CCCS principles). Teaching and learning activities are designed in such a way to actively engage you in constructing your own understanding of international human rights law by working with real-life situations that reflect

relevant and professional context. Active participation and collaboration are key parts of constructive learning because learning improves when you activate prior knowledge and do it together. Finally, you are responsible for your own learning and expected to engage with the learning materials through independent, self-directed study.

You will have one 2-hour tutorial meeting and one 2-hour lecture per week on campus.

The weekly plenary **lectures** have three main objectives. First the lectures intend to provide you with an overview of the key legal concepts discussed in this course. Second, guest speakers are invited to delve into specific topics in more detail. Third, and finally, they provide you with opportunities to ask questions for further clarification or elaboration. These open Q&A sessions will be interactive and mainly driven by your questions and comments. The regular lectures are (generally) recorded; however, the Q&A sessions are not.

The **tutorials** are devoted to a mixture of tasks, including review questions, which are aimed at helping you engage with the materials; problem tasks, which are aimed at generating a deeper understanding of the law and the ways in which it can/should be applied to real-life cases and situations; and discussion tasks, which are aimed at generating a deeper understanding of the general topic and identifying different perspectives that can be taken with respect to a particular topic.

Attendance during the tutorials is not mandatory, however, strongly recommended.

The assessment for the course consists of two main components:

- Mid-term assignment: human rights NGO advocacy work (group assignment) – 40% of the final grade for the course:
 - Report; *and*
 - Social media content.
- Final exam (individual assignment) – 60% of the final grade for the course.

In the mid-term assignment students are encouraged to step in the role of a human rights NGO doing advocacy. You are tasked with doing research and writing a report on the non-implementation of human rights standards in respect to women's rights discussed during the course (such as eliminating gender-based violence against women; sexual and reproductive health; eliminating workplace discrimination; and/or eliminating discrimination against women in cultural and family life). In this report you will have to formulate specific recommendations to a domestic actor (e.g. the government). Subsequently, you will have to produce engaging and informative social media content to disseminate your findings and recommendations to a wider public.

The exam is fully open book. The exam will assess your ability to identify, critically analyse and evaluate real-life situations of gender-based discrimination (including gender-based violence), and identify, apply and critically assess the human rights principles of non-discrimination and equality, the Women's Convention's normative standards, state obligations, and procedural mechanisms.

Course objectives

At the end of the course, you will be able to ... :

- effectively use the Women's Convention and other relevant international and regional human right treaties. Concretely students should be able to identify, apply and critically assess the human rights principles of non-discrimination and equality, the Women's Convention's normative standards, state obligations, and procedural mechanisms.
- identify, critically analyse and evaluate real-life situations of gender-based discrimination (including gender-based violence).
- critically analyse and evaluate the domestic situation of a State as regards the implementation of women's human rights.
- do independent and collaborative research on the domestic (non-)implementation of the Women's Convention and present findings in both oral and written format.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge

Women's rights is a specific field within international human rights law, which is itself a sub-system of international law. Consequently, the course presumes a basic understanding of the foundations of international (human rights) law – most notably: treaty law, subjects and legal personality, state responsibility, civil and political rights versus economic, social and cultural rights, the tripartite typology of respect, protect and fulfil, and the international system for the protection and promotion of human rights, the United Nations in particular (e.g. charter-based and treaty-based bodies, monitoring procedures including complaint mechanisms etc). It builds on the courses Public International Law (period 1) and International Human Rights Law (period 2) in the human rights specialisation of the Globalisation and Law master programme.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading

We will make use of a variety of different materials throughout the course. First and foremost, we will study international human rights treaties and the authoritative statements made by relevant

treaty-bodies – most notably the **1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women** and the CEDAW’s general recommendations, concluding observations and views in regard to individual complaints. These materials are all freely accessible via the website of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, see <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/Home.aspx> .

For convenience you might want to consider using a compilation of human rights instruments during the tutorials and the exam (such as: U. Khaliq, *International Human Rights Law Documents*, Cambridge University Press, 2018; or A. Bisset, *Blackstone’s International Human Rights Documents*, Oxford University Press, 2020).

In addition, we will make use of **scholarship** to deepen our understanding of the issues being discussed. Most notably that will include relevant chapters of:

Marsha A. Freeman, Christine Chinkin and Beate Rudolf, *The UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and its Optional Protocol: A Commentary*, (second edition, OUP 2022).

This book is freely accessible as an e-book via the website of the University Library.

Advanced International Trade Law

Faculty of Law

IER4025

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.D. Prévost

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

International trade law, WTO

Full course description

Step beyond the basics and dive into the dynamic, high-stakes world of international trade law. This advanced course is designed for students ready to tackle the legal complexities shaping international trade today. Building on foundational knowledge from the 'International Trade Law' course, you will explore cutting-edge issues at the heart of international trade law and policy. With global trade at a turning point—facing sustainability challenges, geopolitical tensions, and resurging economic nationalism—this course equips you with the tools to critically analyze and navigate the evolving trade landscape.

Topics include:

- Trade in a changing geopolitical context: introducing the interplay between trade, sustainability and economic nationalism;
- WTO rules on technical barriers to trade and sanitary and phytosanitary measures: the legal boundaries of legitimate regulatory autonomy under the TBT and SPS Agreements;
- WTO disciplines on subsidies across industrial, agricultural, and fisheries sectors: the legal and systemic implications of state support;
- WTO rules on trade remedies: legal and procedural frameworks governing anti-dumping, countervailing and safeguard measures and their strategic use in industrial policy;
- The future of the multilateral trading system.

Special emphasis is placed on the interplay between trade disciplines and broader policy objectives—including sustainability, economic security, and geopolitical realignment. Through realistic case studies, thought-provoking tutorials, and guest lectures from leading trade law experts, you will gain practical insights and critical perspectives essential for a successful career in international trade law.

Teaching methods

Lectures, Tutorial discussions, Assignments and Discussion Tasks

Assessment methods

Written assignments and Written exam

Course objectives

- You acquire up-to-date knowledge of the current challenges facing the WTO;
- You understand and are able to engage in discussion on advanced legal issues relating to the WTO;
- You can critically assess the relationship between WTO obligations and the protection of other (non-)economic values and interests, particularly sustainable development and industrial policy;
- You can identify international trade law issues arising from true-to-life case studies dealing with the topics covered in this course and apply the legal framework to address these problems;
- You are able to form a reasoned legal opinion evaluating true-to-life international trade problems;
- You are able to write well-motivated legal opinions analysing international trade problems and to present these orally in class.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

NA

Recommended prior knowledge:

Prior knowledge of the core institutional and substantive rules of WTO law, as covered in the course International Trade Law IER4002, is strongly recommended, and will be presumed

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

- The textbook used in this course is VAN DEN BOSSCHE, P. and ZDOUC, W., The Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization, 5th Edition (Cambridge University Press, 2021)

(available as e-book via the university library)

- Additional mandatory reading will be provided on Canvas, where appropriate.

Recommended reading:

- It is convenient for students to have a copy of: *The WTO Agreements: The Marrakesh Agreement establishing the World Trade Organization and its Annexes* (Cambridge University Press, 2017). However, students can also find the relevant WTO legal texts on the WTO website (www.wto.org) and may use printouts of these texts.
- Additional recommended reading will be provided on Canvas, where appropriate.

Corporate Social Responsibility

Faculty of Law

LAW4037

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A. Beckers

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Corporate Social Responsibility, business and human rights, Sustainable Corporate Governance, corporate governance

Full course description

This course provides an introduction into the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in its legal dimensions. At the core of the debate about CSR lies the question to what extent companies are responsible, legal or otherwise, to respect and further societal interests that were originally viewed as a core responsibility of states. This entails questions on whether companies have responsibilities or obligations to respect human rights (the emerging field of Business & Human Rights), are expected to contribute to sustainable development (such as the involvement of the private sector in the sustainable development goals) or can be held responsible for contributing to climate change. Increasingly, also other issue areas, such as responsibility in the digital space or global tax compliance, are discussed from a CSR perspective.

To add to the complexity, not only the substance of CSR (what are companies responsible for) is a matter of debate, but also its form is highly contested. On the one hand, one can interpret a variety of legal norms that apply to companies from a CSR perspective. Such legal norms range from national law to international hard and soft law as well as private regulation although these rules are not always explicitly referred to as being related to CSR. On the other hand, existing laws are not sufficient to fully capture the concept of CSR. The newer regulatory developments suggest that we

are moving, indeed, into an era where CSR becomes a basis for increasing legal regulation and changing the forms of regulation, such as sustainability reporting rules or due diligence.

In this course, we adopt an understanding of CSR that considers it as being implicit in legal norms that impose obligations on companies to consider societal interests as well as serving as a normative notion that demands stronger laws on the social responsibility in national, EU and international law. In regard to the latter, we acknowledge that there are different positions that can be taken as to the form that is best and most effective. We have therefore selected the course literature in a manner that it reflects the breadth of different positions in the current debate.

As you may see from this description, the concept of CSR can serve as an excellent heuristic for studying how law is affected by and affects itself globalization, in particular related to globalization from the perspective of private (corporate) actors. It can show the potential and limits of national law to regulate globally operating companies with related struggles on extraterritorial regulation. A CSR perspective on international law can also shed light into the possibility, desirability and limitations of creating international hard or soft law to govern corporations and CSR is a core notion used to document the evolution of transnational law and global private regulation that, while not being legal in the traditional sense of a state-based understanding of the law, have an impact on corporate behaviour and are thus regulatory.

In the light of the compulsory character of this course for the corporate and commercial law and sustainability specialisations in the master programmes (Globalization and Law, European Law School, Dutch Law), the course focuses centrally on the interaction between corporations and CSR understood from the perspectives of corporate sustainability and business and human rights. The course will cover the most important laws and regulatory initiatives on corporate sustainability on a national, EU and international level and discuss how legal regulation on CSR approaches the transformation of globally operating companies into complex corporate group structures and supply-chains.

Course objectives

- Understand the concept of CSR, its origin, its substantive content, its legal dimensions and the relevance of the concept for the law.
- Understand and critically analyse national regulation of companies through company, tort and contract law in relation to their social responsibility.
- Understand and critically analyse the impact of private international law on the legal regulation of companies.
- Understand and critically evaluate the EU policy and regulation in the field of CSR and corporate sustainability.
- Understand and critically evaluate the international legal developments in relation to regulating corporations and their social responsibility, in particular the approach of polycentric governance, international soft law and international treaty-making.

- Understand the shift in corporate organization towards globally operating corporate groups, supply-chains and value chains and the related changes for corporate liability in tort and contract law.
- Understand the different regulatory techniques currently employed in law to foster corporate adoption of CSR, in particular reporting and due diligence laws, and further access to remedy for those affected by corporate human rights violations and climate change.
- Understand and critically analyse the merits and weaknesses of private regulation for CSR and understand the legal effects that private regulation of CSR has.

Prerequisites

This course is an advanced legal master course, in which we will analyse legal rules from the thematic perspective of CSR. Therefore, we assume a bachelor-level knowledge (in one national legal system or comparatively) of specifically the core concepts of

- company law
- civil law (contract and tort law)
- private international law (jurisdiction and choice of law for contracts and torts)
- European law (internal market law and consumer law)
- Public international law (human rights and institutions, treaty-making and interpretation, international dispute settlement).

Recommended reading

The course literature consists of articles, blog posts and book excerpts on the relevant topics. As the literature, legislation and case law in this field is rapidly evolving, there are no up-to-date comprehensive textbooks on the issue. The following books can be consulted on the topic:

- Anthony Ewing (ed), *Teaching Business and Human Rights*, Edward Elgar 2023.
- Surya Deva & David Birchall (eds), *Research Handbook on Human Rights and Business*, Edward Elgar 2020.
- Beate Sjøfjell & Christopher Bruner (eds), *The Cambridge Handbook of Corporate Law, Corporate Governance and Sustainability*, Cambridge University Press 2019
- Lisbeth Enneking, Ivo Giesen, Anne-Jetske Schaap, Cedric Ryngaert, Francois Kristen & Lucas Roorda (eds), *Accountability, International Business Operations, and the Law*, Routledge 2019.
- Horatia Muir Watt, Lucia Bíziková, Agatha Brandao de Oliveira, Diego P. Fernández Arroyo (eds), *Global Private International Law: Adjudication without Frontiers*, Edward Elgar 2019.
- Katharina Pistor, *The Code of Capital*, Princeton University Press 2019.
- Vibe Ulfbeck, Alexandra Andhov & Katerina Mitkidis (eds), *Law and Responsible Supply Chain Management*, Routledge 2019.
- Birgit Spießhofer, *Responsible Enterprise: The Emergence of a Global Economic Order*, C.H.Beck/Nomos 2018.
- Juan José Álvarez Rubio & Katerina Yiannibas (eds), *Human Rights in Business: Removal of Access to Justice in the European Union*, Routledge 2017.

- Andreas Rühmkorf, Corporate Social Responsibility, Private Law and Global Supply Chains, Edward Elgar 2015.
- Jeremy Moon, Corporate Social Responsibility: A Very Short Introduction, Oxford University Press 2015.
- John Ruggie, Just Business, Multinational Corporations and Human Rights, W.W. Norton & Company 2013.

Comparative Company Law

Faculty of Law

PRI4004

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M. Olaerts

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Company law, corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, takeovers, European company law, freedom of establishment

Full course description

The master course Comparative Company Law builds further on earlier acquired knowledge and competencies concerning company law. The topic is approached from a European and comparative perspective. Through this course you will acquire and further develop your knowledge of the basic principles of company law and we will dive into some interesting issues that come up in corporate practice. The differences and similarities between various EU company law systems will be discussed and compared to the approach in some non-EU jurisdictions. The main focus during the course will be on the company law of Germany, England, European legislation on the topic and, for some parts, the law of Delaware. The main topic of this Master Course concerns questions and problems of Company Law in general and its harmonization within Europe more in particular. The focus will be on the freedom of establishment, cross border company migration, the position of shareholders and directors within limited liability companies, the position and functioning of company groups and the functioning of capital markets, in particular with a view to company takeovers. This course can serve as a foundation for a deepening of knowledge of the internal functioning of limited liability companies which can be acquired in the course Corporate Governance. It allows you to understand the environment in which companies have to operate in a globalizing world and complements

courses such as corporate social responsibility allowing you to look at issues regarding stakeholder protection and sustainable business conduct from a company law perspective.

Teaching methods

The course will be taught in a combination of weekly lectures and tutorials.

Course objectives

- One of the goals is to identify and understand the interaction between federal regulation and (member) state law in the area of company law within the EU as well as in the US and to learn how to apply various principles underlying company law in various parts of the world to specific cases and compare the various solutions.
- To further develop knowledge of company law (acquired at Bachelor level) from a European and comparative perspective. You will study the way in which companies can cross borders, how entrepreneurs in the EU can choose in which Member State to set up their company and the various differences and similarities between the company law approaches in the legal systems under discussion.
- You will gain insights into the positions of the various relevant corporate stakeholders and corporate decision-makers. Think of the protection of shareholders, employees but also the environment. These positions and the regulatory approaches to safeguarding these positions are discussed in an interactive manner.
- Through this course you will be able to analyse and evaluate various company law solutions provided in different systems and apply them to cases suggesting solutions.
- You will learn how to defend certain positions related to the role of the board, the position of employees, shareholders and other stakeholders in a corporate context.
- To acquire knowledge with regard to company law systems and the skills to identify company law solutions allowing students to further study national company laws in an autonomous way.
- You will be able to examine different approaches to the division of power, the protection of employees and other stakeholders within companies allowing them to suggest solutions for future problems or to engage in further independent research in this area.

Prerequisites

Students are expected to have followed a previous course on company law (either on national or European/comparative company law) therefore basic knowledge will be presumed.

Recommended reading

Keylinks list with literature combined with handbooks on European and Comparative company law: A. Cahn and D.C. Donald, *Comparative Company Law*, Cambridge University Press 2018 and Dorresteyn and Olaerts, *EU Corporate Law*, Kluwer International 2022.

Customs Law

Faculty of Law

TAX4027

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

E.M. van Doornik

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Customs, origin and tariff determination, customs valuation, Brexit, Russo-Ukrainian war, trade wars, customs procedures, customs debt.

Full course description

The importance of international customs law continues to grow at an increasing rate, not in the least because of various geopolitical circumstances (e.g. the Russo-Ukrainian war and the Chinese- U.S. trade wars). The course 'Customs Law' connects with this development and aims to provide students with a solid professional and theoretical foundation in EU customs law. Students will familiarize themselves with concepts such as origin and tariff determination, valuation methods, the fight against irregular importation (smuggling), and the incurrance of customs debts. Further, students will obtain a solid understanding of the formalities associated with importation and customs procedures. After this course, students will be able to understand customs rules and practices in most jurisdictions. The focus lies on an international approach to the basic concepts in customs law. Various current developments in customs are studied (e.g. the Brexit and the associated Windsor framework). The EU Customs law framework functions as the primary foundation for the course, which – not unimportantly – has been officially certified and recognized by the EU as a “State-of-the art” customs law module (see [here](#) for more information).

Course objectives

During the first week of teaching, students learn the essential concepts and the key legislative instruments in the field of customs law. In each of the following weeks, one or two key concepts are explored more in-depth so that at the end of this course, the students will have a thorough understanding of the core features of customs law. The teaching method is dynamic and interactive, based not only on theory but also on practical knowledge. The Intended Learning Outcomes for Customs Law are as follows:

1. Describe, understand and explain the relation between customs law and international trade and contract law, the role of the WTO and the EU;
2. Identify, recognize, understand and distinguish the principles and foundations of customs law;
3. Know the various legislative instruments and sources of case law in customs law;
4. Describe, understand and explain the legal nature, characteristics, backgrounds, and systematics of the customs law, both within and outside the EU;
5. Describe, understand and explain the general concepts of customs law and closely related concepts;
6. Identify, recognize, understand and distinguish the elements of the customs procedures, special procedures, customs arrangements, etc.;
7. Understand customs valuation methods and understand how customs valuation interacts with VAT and transfer pricing;
8. Describe, understand and explain the origin / preferential origin concept;
9. Describe, understand and explain customs tariff rules, the nomenclatures, harmonized system, classification rules, and other aspects of tariff rules;
10. Describe, understand and explain when and how a customs debt may arise and who is in what situation to be considered the customs debtor;
11. Have a deep understanding of the mechanisms of importation and exportation of goods;
12. Solve real-life cases in customs law from a theoretical and practical point of view;

Prerequisites

None

Recommended prior knowledge:

Basic tax law concepts and principles

Recommended reading

- S. Armella, 'EU Customs Code', 2017, Bocconi University Press

International Criminal Law

Faculty of Law

CRI4023

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

R.M. Heemskerk

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

International Criminal Law, ICC, International Humanitarian Law

Full course description

International Criminal Law is a relatively recent branch of Public International Law. It imposes responsibilities and criminal accountability directly on individuals and punishes violations of specific prohibitions through international judicial mechanisms.

This course aims to provide you with a good understanding of what International Criminal Law is and what it aims to achieve. This course will focus on the jurisdictional regime and the law of the International Criminal Court: what crimes can be prosecuted before the ICC? Who investigates these crimes and how is that done? Who or what can trigger - and possibly challenge - a prosecution? You will familiarize yourself with the various elements of the so-called core crimes the ICC claims jurisdiction over, namely: genocide, war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression. When can we speak of genocide? What conduct amounts to a war crime? You will study the principles and modes of criminal liability that apply to the accused individuals, separating the (co-)perpetrators from the aiders and from the commanders who bear responsibility for the conduct of their subordinates. In order to understand how these cases are adjudicated, you will look at the procedural law of the ICC. Who are the actors involved? What are their rights? Finally, you will reflect upon the challenges to international criminal proceedings that complicate (at times impede) the course of justice in this field of law. You will be challenged to look forward and asked: can you think of better alternatives to criminal proceedings?

This course will consist of 7 tutorials and lectures. The lectures will (mostly) be delivered by experts that practice in this field of law. They will provide you with special (insight and insider-) knowledge on how international criminal law functions and feels in action, and will give you a taste of the real problems and challenges faced.

Course objectives

The aim of the course is:

- to provide knowledge of the origins and objectives of international criminal law;
- to provide an understanding of the numerous challenges faced in this field of law
- to gain a clear understanding of the substantive and procedural law of the ICC;
- to explore alternatives to international proceedings, such as truth and reconciliation commissions or national proceedings.
- to acquire the skill to apply legal provisions and theoretical knowledge to concrete cases.

Prerequisites

Recommended prior knowledge:

A good understanding of substantive and procedural criminal law,

Basic understanding of international humanitarian law, human rights law, international law.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

Robinson, D., *An Introduction to International Criminal Law and Procedure*, Cambridge University Press, 5th edition (2024)

Law of the Sea

Faculty of Law

IER4024

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

E. Lijnzaad

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Ocean governance and management, freedom of the seas v. common interests, conservation and sustainable ocean policy, dispute settlement and litigation in the law of the sea, position of humans in the law of the sea, fisheries and living marine resources, non-living marine resources – and the economy of the sea

Full course description

Oceans and seas cover 70 % of the Earth, and their governance is crucial to the world's population.

Humankind depends on the oceans for its survival in many different ways. Oceans provide food and provide a framework for navigation and commerce as well as tourism. Oceans play an important role in economic development, and at times are they are key locations for international conflict.

Much about the oceans and its ecosystems and dynamics remains unknown, but the legal paradigm of the 'freedom of the high seas' (Grotius, Mare Liberum, 1609) raises serious concerns about the future of the oceans. The law of the sea is at a crossroads today: the 'laissez faire' approach, which has brought important benefits in commercial terms, is no longer sufficient from the point of view of sustainability and the protection of the environment. The course on law of the sea will focus on environmental aspects, but equally on sovereignty and jurisdiction as key concepts of international law. Also issues such as law enforcement at sea, strategic and military questions and indeed human rights concerns related to migration will be addressed.

Assessment methods: two steps

The examination consists of two separate parts: writing an annotation (case note) about a recent law of the sea case, and a written exam that will cover all the law of the sea as covered during the course. The annotation will focus on understanding caselaw and demonstrating your insights into the law of the sea gained during the course. The exam will provide you with the possibility to demonstrate the scope and depth of the knowledge acquired.

1. Written annotation (case note) of a judgment on a contemporary Law of the Sea case in week 5/6 of the course (= 30% of the final mark)
2. Written examination at the end of the course (= 70% of the final mark)

Course objectives

You will gain an in-depth knowledge and understanding of the Law of the Sea as the legal system governing the use of the Oceans. Taking the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea as a starting point, substantive norms as well as dispute settlement will be covered. Towards the end, the course will focus on applying the law of the sea to contemporary problems ('plastic soup', the migration crisis, military use of the oceans etc.). By then, you should be able to recognize and analyse the legal aspects in contemporary oceans' problems and to individually formulate legally correct responses to such problems.

Prerequisites

At the time of registering for Law of the Sea, be registered for the course of Public International Law. At the time of starting the course: having successfully concluded Public International Law (IER4021), and preferably also International Dispute Settlement (IER4008).

If you think you may qualify for the Law of the Sea course *without having taken the Public International Law course*, or if you have taken a similar course elsewhere, please contact the coordinator at Liesbeth.lijnzaad@maastrichtuniversity.nl to discuss acceptance to the Law of the Sea course.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

- Donald Rothwell and Tim Stephens, *The International Law of the Sea* (Hart, 3rd Ed., 2023)
- A series of articles and instruments, as well as videos will be made available via keylinks on Canvas.

Comparative Corporate Governance

Faculty of Law

PRI4012

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

B. Kemp

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Final paper

Keywords:

corporate governance, corporate law, stake- and shareholders model, corporate governance from a European and international perspective, enforcing CSR through international law, corporate scandals, agency theory, law & economics., law & economics

Full course description

This course familiarizes students with the current debates on corporate governance, blending legal and economic theories as well as insights from psychology, sociology and other social and behavioral sciences to assess the place of the firm in a complex society. The course deals with debates on corporate scandals and corporate governance mechanisms, such as board quotas, the financial crisis and the division of powers between shareholders and the board, but also familiarizes students with various analytical tools to look at the firm in a societal context. Next to this, we look at the difference between self-regulating, soft law and hard law regulation, and involve students in the policy debates surrounding this - on a national and international level. The key questions are: who should be the benefactor of the firm's activities and how should the firm be governed? In order to answer this question, we will carefully investigate recent changes in corporate governance instruments and critically assess them against the societal changes that brought them about.

Course objectives

Students are able to:

- * analyse the firm using different analytical tools from economics, psychology, sociology and other social and behavioral sciences;
- * integrate and debate various theories on the role and nature of the firm, and who should be the benefactors of the firm's activities;
- * have a meaningful discussion on the division of powers within the firm;
- * take note of the recent discussions in corporate governance, and take their own position;
- * answer a research question clearly and concisely within a given timeframe.

Prerequisites

Students are expected to have followed a previous course on company law (either on national or European company law). Basic knowledge will therefore be presumed.

Recommended reading

Prescribed readings will be made available in the coursebook and will be either easily accessible electronically or to be found in the university library.

Verdieping Strafprocesrecht

Faculty of Law

CRI4002

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S. van der Aa

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Presentation(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

Opsporing, vervolging, dwangmiddelen, onderzoek ter zitting, slachtofferrechten, eerlijk proces, onschuldpresumptie, rechtsmiddelen, beraadslaging

Full course description

Het blok stelt zich tot doel de verschillende aspecten van het Nederlandse strafprocesrecht nader te analyseren. Het blok volgt in opzet min of meer de chronologie van het Nederlandse strafproces. Op een aantal thema's zal fundamenteel dieper worden ingegaan dan in de bachelorfase, zoals de opsporing, vervolging en de toepassing van dwangmiddelen. De bijzondere opsporingsbevoegdheden en de relatie met mensenrechtelijke waarborgen vormen een thema waarbij het EVRM een belangrijke rol speelt. Dat is ook het geval terzake van de meer algemene notie van het eerlijk proces. Wat behelst dat in het moderne strafproces? Aparte aandacht is er voor de rechtsmiddelen en de beraadslaging. Tevens zal er dieper worden ingegaan op de recente ontwikkelingen ten aanzien van slachtofferrechten. Sommige thema's worden rechtsvergelijkend behandeld en andere worden geplaatst in de juiste internationale of Europese context. Daarnaast richten we ons op de toekomst en zullen de plannen voor de Modernisering van het Wetboek van Strafvordering worden besproken.

Course objectives

Na afronding van dit blok:

- Heeft de student verdiepende en actuele kennis van de kernthema's van het Nederlandse strafprocesrecht; De student kan deze kennis toepassen op casusniveau.
- Is de student in staat de Nederlandse strafprocesrechtelijke rechtspraak (in verhouding tot EU en EVRM-recht) te analyseren
- Is de student in staat een kritisch en gefundeerd (normatief) oordeel te geven over de bestudeerde problematiek.

Prerequisites

Geen

Aanbevolen voorkennis

Strafprocesrecht uit de bachelor recht (1.2 en 2.5)

Recommended reading

- G.J.M. Corstens(bewerkt door M.J. Borgers & T. Kooijmans), Het Nederlands Strafprocesrecht(10edruk), Deventer: Wolters Kluwer 2021.
- Overige literatuur beschikbaar via CANVAS

Capita Selecta Criminologie

Faculty of Law

CRI4004

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J.M. Nelen

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Verklaren en toepassen van aantal belangrijke inzichten uit de criminologie

Full course description

Het vak Capita Selecta Criminologie moet inzicht te bieden in 1) de aannames waarop onze wetenschappelijke kennis over criminaliteit is gestoeld 2) de verschillende verklaringen van criminaliteit vanuit verschillende disciplines en op verschillende niveaus, 3) de mogelijkheden om verschillende theorieën toe te passen en te integreren en 4) de wijze waarop op criminaliteit –en veiligheidsproblemen wordt gereageerd. Door zowel recente als vroegere inzichten aan bod te laten komen wordt een beeld gegeven van de ontwikkeling van de criminologie als wetenschap, en hoe deze door maatschappelijke ontwikkelingen wordt beïnvloed. Het onderwijs vindt deels plaats in (online en real time) onderwijsgroepen waarin conform de PGO-uitgangspunten de stof door de studenten zelf wordt toegepast op actuele casus, praktijkproblemen en beleidsvragen. En deels door middel van kennisclips en weblectures waarin de belangrijkste criminologische theorieën en inzichten worden besproken.

Course objectives

Na afronding van dit blok moet de student in staat zijn om:

- Verschillen en overeenkomsten aan te geven tussen de verschillende theoretische (sub)stromingen in termen van onderzoeksvragen, verklaringen, assumpties, niveaus van verklaring en mogelijkheden voor theoretische integratie;

- De inhoud van de belangrijkste criminologische verklaringen te bespreken en illustreren aan de hand van actuele beleidsinitiatieven;
- De belangrijkste criminologische verklaringen te identificeren in concrete (kennis) problemen;
- Concrete (kennis) problemen te analyseren vanuit actuele wetenschappelijke bevindingen met het oog op het ontwikkelen van een eigen oordeel en het formuleren van aanbevelingen;
- Op basis van informatie over onderzoeksbevindingen conclusies te trekken over de empirische houdbaarheid van een aantal criminologische theorieën; de analyse van een criminologisch probleem te presenteren en bediscussiëren.

Prerequisites

N.v.t.

Recommended reading

N/A

Criminological Perspectives

Faculty of Law

CRI4017

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J.M. Nelen

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Crime causation and crime control

Full course description

The course Criminological Perspectives will introduce students to the field of crime, crime causation and crime control. More specifically, the course will provide a better understanding of:

- The assumptions our scientific knowledge of crime (development) is based upon;
- Various explanations of crime from different disciplines and on various levels;
- Possibilities to apply and integrate criminological theories;
- The rationale behind the contemporary response to crime.

By reviewing current as well as former insights, the development of criminology as a science is portrayed, as well as the way it is influenced by developments in society.

The course is characterized by tutorial groups where, according to the PBL model, students apply their insights to current cases, real-life problems and policy issues. In addition, a number of weblectures will be given.

Course objectives

Upon completion of this course, the student must:

- Be able to recognise the differences and similarities between the various theoretical movements as to research questions, explanations, assumptions, levels of explication and opportunities for theoretical integration;

- Know the contents of the main criminological explications and be able to apply them to concrete (knowledge) issues;
- Be able to draw conclusions based on information about research results as to the empirical tenability of theories;
- Be able to comprehend the rationale behind the current fight against and prevention of crime and substantiate this with practical examples.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

N/A

Evidence

Faculty of Law

CRI4021

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.M. Dolman

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Participation, Assignment

Keywords:

Evidence, burden of proof, probabilities, weight, probative force, evaluation, analysis, fair trial, admission, presumption of innocence, principle of orality, witness testimony, expert evidence, self-incrimination, comparative criminal procedure, evidentiary systems, beyond reasonable doubt, exclusion, truth

Full course description

This master course deals with how we may reconstruct past events for purposes of a criminal trial. What is evidence, with which purpose is evidence collected and by whom? These are some of the questions that will be raised in this course. Evidence in criminal proceedings may be collected before the actual trial or (much later) at the main hearing. What are the consequences of this division especially in view of the probative value of evidence? Attention will be paid to how conclusions can be drawn from the evidence that is on the table. Does the evidence that is presented prove that the accused committed the offence as charged? Why is the burden of proof on the prosecution and how does this relate to the presumption of innocence? What are the consequences of evidence that was illegally obtained on the one hand, but might still be reliable and relevant on the other? Evidence may be direct evidence or indirect: for example, a witness may report what she saw herself or what she heard somebody else stating (hearsay). There are different sources of evidence and different qualities that complicate both admission and evaluation of the evidence in a criminal court. In the final part of the course, you will apply the acquired knowledge by analyzing the famous English case of *Rex v. Bywaters and Thompson*: you will make your own assessment of the evidence provided and decide

whether the accused Frederick Bywaters and Edith Thompson were guilty of murder of Edith's husband Percy Thompson.

Before or during the course a visit will be paid to a criminal court to see evidence gathering and its evaluation in practice. You will be invited to describe what you see and interpret the practice of the relevant court in line of the literature.

Course objectives

The goal of this course is to gain a deep understanding of the complications relating to the collection, admission, interpretation, evaluation and assessment of evidence in different criminal justice systems. Students will be able to identify that whether a fact is proof of a certain probandum may depend on several factors such as the method of analysis. Students will be taught to distinguish between the different criminal justice systems and the way these deal with evidence. In addition, the course aims at a thorough understanding of the choices that these systems made in establishing rules of evidence. The ability to apply this theoretical knowledge to actual case problems will be the outcome of this course. Lastly, students will be able to understand the meaning of evidence in the larger context of criminal proceedings and its relation with the concept of the truth, both in law as well in other disciplines.

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of criminal procedure

Recommended reading

- Terence Anderson, David Schum and William Twining, Analysis of Evidence, Cambridge University Press, Second Edition, November 2009
- Coursebook
- E-reader

Advanced European Law

Faculty of Law

IER4006

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M. Bonelli

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

EU law; EU institutions; EU competences; Court of Justice; EU fundamental rights

Full course description

This course is devoted to the advanced study of European Union law. It is primarily addressed to those students who have followed one or more introductory courses of EU law. However, if you have little prior knowledge of EU law you are also welcome to participate. We will provide indications of recommended literature that will help you to make up for possible knowledge deficits.

In the course we propose an integrated study of EU law, in the sense that we emphasize the interaction between the two traditional subdivisions of 'institutional EU law' (which deals with issues such as decision-making processes and the role of the judiciary) and 'substantive EU law' (which deals with the content of EU law in the various policy areas). In the course we will therefore explore both how substantive EU law is influenced by the structure of the EU Treaties and institutions, and how the EU institutional framework has evolved in response to new social, political and economic challenges. During the course we also seek to integrate legal analysis with the social and political context in which the law emerges and operates.

This integrated study will take the form of a weekly lecture for all participants, which provides you a general overview of an area of EU law; and interactive tutorial meetings during which, each time, we will examine some specific and current legal issues from both institutional and substantive

perspectives, using a variety of legal materials such as case law, legislation, documents of the EU institutions, scholarly articles and blogs. The progression in the course is roughly parallel to the EU policy cycle.

Assessment methods:

Final open-book written exam.

Course objectives

At the end of the course, you will be able to:

- Explain the institutional and constitutional framework of the EU and assess its compatibility with key constitutional principles (democracy, the rule of law, fundamental rights) and its ability to respond to current challenges of European integration;
- Evaluate how the institutional law of the EU informs and affects the content of EU substantive law, and also vice-versa, and how the policy aims of the European Union determine its institutional evolution;
- Analyse judgments of the Court of Justice of the European Union and assess the contribution of these judgments to the evolution of a (specific part of) EU law;
- Situate new EU law developments (a new judgment, a new regulation, a new external agreement, etc.) in the overall context of the European Union's legal order;
- Reflect on the normative implications of alternative interpretations of EU law.

Prerequisites

None

Recommended prior knowledge:

Foundations of EU Institutional Law. If you have never followed a course of EU law, you are invited to read an introductory EU law textbook before the start of the course.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

C Barnard & S Peers (eds.), European Union Law (OUP 2023)

Other literature indicated in the syllabus

Recommended reading:

N/A

Gezondheidsrecht I

Faculty of Law

LAW4001

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Cox - Brinkman

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

gezondheidsrecht, grondrechten, structuur en organisatie van de gezondheidszorg, zorgverzekering, kwaliteit van zorg, beroepenregulering, geneeskundige behandelingsovereenkomst, rechten van de patiënt, rechtshandhaving in de gezondheidszorg, bedrijfs- en verzekeringsgeneeskunde, rechtspositie en taken van de bedrijfs- en de verzekeringsarts, vraagstukken op het snijvlak van gezondheids-, arbeids- en socialezekerheidsrecht

Full course description

Kun je verplicht worden je leefstijl aan te passen voordat je in aanmerking komt voor een operatie? Aan welke kwaliteitsnormen zijn zorginstellingen en medische beroepsbeoefenaren gebonden? Heb je altijd recht op inzage van je medisch dossier? Hoe ver reikt het beroepsgeheim van een arts? Mag een bedrijfsarts medische gegevens delen met anderen, zoals een werkgever? In het vak Gezondheidsrecht I ga je op zoek naar de antwoorden op dit soort vragen en leg je een stevige juridische basis voor de rechtspraktijk.

Je maakt kennis met het gezondheidsrecht, de grondrechten die daarin een rol spelen en de structuur van de Nederlandse gezondheidszorg. Je verdiept je in het zorgverzekeringsstelsel, kwaliteits- en beroepenregulering en de juridische relatie tussen arts en patiënt. Ook het tuchtrecht en andere vormen van rechtshandhaving in de gezondheidszorg komen aan de orde. Behalve voor de gezondheidszorg in het algemeen is er daarbij aandacht voor de bedrijfs- en de verzekeringsgeneeskunde. Tijdens het onderwijs zal er ook oog zijn voor de actualiteit. Het

gezondheidsrecht is een dynamisch vakgebied waarbinnen een toenemend aantal juristen, binnen en buiten de advocatuur, werkzaam is.

Course objectives

Na het volgen van dit vak heb je:

- een goed beeld van het gezondheidsrecht: plaats in het rechtssysteem, rechtsbronnen, inhoud, en de rol van rechtsbeginselen en grondrechten;
- inzicht in het stelsel van de Nederlandse gezondheidszorg, in het bijzonder het Nederlandse zorgverzekeringsstelsel;
- goede kennis van de relevante wet- en regelgeving over kwaliteit van zorg en de geneeskundige behandelingsovereenkomst;
- inzicht in de rol en verantwoordelijkheden van de bedrijfsarts en de verzekeringsarts op sociaal-medisch terrein;
- de vaardigheden die nodig zijn om gezondheidsrechtelijke vraagstukken en vraagstukken op het snijvlak van het gezondheidsrecht, het arbeidsrecht en het socialezekerheidsrecht te herkennen en juridisch-gezondheidsrechtelijk te analyseren.

Prerequisites

NVT

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Kennis van het publiekrecht en het privaatrecht op het niveau van een voltooide bachelor Nederlands recht.

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

- Leenen, H.J.J. e.a., *Handboek gezondheidsrecht*, achtste druk, Den Haag: Boom juridisch 2020 (UB; *E-Book*).
- Legemaate, J. en Kastelein, W.R., *Sdu Wettenverzameling Gezondheidsrecht 2025-2026*, Den Haag: Sdu Uitgevers, 2025.

Aanbevolen literatuur:

- Wijne, R.P., *De geneeskundige behandelingsovereenkomst*, Monografieën BW Deel B87, tweede druk, Deventer: Kluwer 2021.

The Foundations of European Institutionalisation

Faculty of Law

MET4010

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M. Fichera

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation and paper

Keywords:

Europeanisation; supranational cooperation; legal philosophy; human rights; European Union; Council of Europe.

Full course description

In this course you will learn to look behind and underneath legislation and case-law and think about them not as something that comes out of the blue, but as the product of ideas, as well as social and political forces that cannot be ignored. You will also learn to look at them with a critical eye.

At the end of WWII, new forms of supranational cooperation in Europe were first and foremost designed to strengthen the normative ideals of constitutional democracy. The values of the EU revolve around 'respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights' (Treaty on the European Union, Article 2). The aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve greater unity between 'like-minded European countries' and their 'common heritage of political traditions, ideals, freedom and the rule of law' in the aftermath of the Second World War (Statute of the Council of Europe, article 1).

The EU and the Council of Europe are taken as starting point to address questions about the justification, nature and desirable forms of legal integration beyond the State. How can they be understood as purposeful social and legal creations? Is there a particular ideal that inspires European integration and where does it come from? Do States come together as a result of pure self-interest, or is there some other reason? Are European national constitutions indifferent to the phenomenon of integration or are they somehow affected by it- and if so, how?

Course objectives

After completing the course, you will be able:

- to explain the development of European institutions conceptually and trace it back to some of the main philosophical paradigms of contemporary thought;
- to explain and discuss institutional theories of law, apply them to European institutions, and take a position in the debate;
- to formulate a definition of European institutionalisation;
- to reflect critically on the normative justification of European institutions and explain conceptually the interaction among their main actors;
- to illustrate the underlying principles and mechanisms of European institutionalisation (e.g., rule of law, margin of appreciation), applying analytical skills in examining the theoretical implications of the interaction between national and supranational legal systems and the interpretation of some important rulings in the field;
- to reflect on the role that law plays in European integration, and how such role can be problematised from a societal and political perspective

Prerequisites

Prerequisite:

not applicable

Recommended prior knowledge:

You are expected to have prior knowledge of basic notions of legal and constitutional theory, as well as EU law.

Recommended reading

TBD

Rechtshandeling en Overeenkomst

Faculty of Law

PRI4001

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

K.G.G. FestjensN. van Dijk

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Assignment, Oral exam

Keywords:

Algemene voorwaarden, dwaling, conformiteit, exoneratiebedingen, derdenwerking van exoneraties, wanprestatie, Onderhandelen, consumentenkoop.

Full course description

In het blok Rechtshandeling en Overeenkomst staat een aantal belangrijke thema's van het Nederlandse overeenkomstenrecht centraal.

Gelet op de omvang van het rechtsgebied is het noodzakelijk om een selectie te maken uit de mogelijk te behandelen onderwerpen. Het accent ligt op een verdieping van reeds in de bachelorfase van de studie behandelde leerstukken (waarvan kennis aanwezig wordt verondersteld), het aansnijden van nieuwe onderwerpen (onder meer uitleg van overeenkomsten, derdenwerking van exoneratiebedingen, algemene voorwaarden en de verzuimregeling) en het behandelen van fundamentele thema's en tendensen, die gezien de aandacht die zij krijgen in de rechtspraak en de literatuur bespreking verdienen.

Het vak geeft in combinatie met het vak Onrechtmatige Daad en Schadevergoeding een gedegen overzicht van het verbintenissenrecht.

Course objectives

Aan het eind van het blok is student in staat zelfstandig:

- De bronnen van het contractenrecht, namelijk wetgeving, jurisprudentie en literatuur, te bestuderen en daarbij verworven kennis en inzicht toe te passen;

- Kritisch te reflecteren op onderdelen van dit rechtsgebied;
- Een contract op te stellen en te beoordelen alsmede aan de hand van de opgedane kennis te duiden welke mogelijke juridische valkuilen het contract kent en een inschatting te maken van de juridische haalbaarheid;
- Discussie te voeren over actuele thema's in het contractenrecht (o.a. onvoorziene omstandigheden, exoneraties, non-conformiteit) onder verwijzing naar relevante jurisprudentie en politieke ontwikkelingen;
- Een oordeel te vormen over een contractrechtelijk probleem en dit oordeel duidelijk, juridisch correct en in goed Nederlands op te schrijven

Prerequisites

Toegang tot de masteropleiding

Recommended reading

Het verbintenissenrecht kan bestudeerd worden aan de hand van en in elk geval op het niveau van:

- Asser/Sieburgh 6-I, Verbintenissenrecht. De verbintenis in het algemeen, eerste gedeelte, Kluwer, laatste druk
- Asser/Sieburgh 6-II, Verbintenissenrecht. De verbintenis in het algemeen, tweede gedeelte, Kluwer, laatste druk
- Asser/Sieburgh 6-III, Verbintenissenrecht. Algemeen overeenkomstenrecht, Kluwer, laatste druk
- Asser/Sieburgh 7-I, Bijzondere overeenkomsten. Koop en ruil, Kluwer, laatste druk

Naast de literatuur in de voorgenoemde boeken, kan per bijeenkomst ook extra literatuur zijn voorgeschreven.

Ondernemingsrecht

Faculty of Law

PRI4007

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M. OlaertsT. Vos

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Vennootschapsrecht, concernrecht, fusies en overnames, structuurregelingen, corporate governance, aansprakelijkheid, Europese ontwikkelingen, herstructurering.

Full course description

In dit blok staat het ondernemingsrecht centraal. Het vak geeft inzicht in de manier waarop ondernemingen opereren. Daarbij wordt ingegaan op de rol en onderlinge taakverdeling tussen het bestuur, het toezicht op het bestuur, de aandeelhouders en andere kapitaalverschaffers. Vragen die bijvoorbeeld tijdens het vak aan bod komen zijn: welke rechtspersoon is het meest geschikt voor een onderneming, hoe moet het toezicht worden ingericht, wat zijn de rechten en plichten van het bestuur en de aandeelhouders, hoe moet worden omgegaan met vijandige overnames, in welke EU lidstaat kan een rechtspersoon het best worden gevestigd, wat is de maatschappelijke verantwoordelijkheid van een onderneming en wie kan aansprakelijk worden gehouden wanneer het mis gaat.

Tijdens het blok wordt in de eerste plaats ingegaan op de verschillende rechtspersonen waarin een onderneming kan worden gedreven. Daarbij zullen onder meer de stichting en de vereniging en de kapitaalvennootschappen de revue passeren.

Na de eerste introductieweek ligt de nadruk tijdens de rest van het blok op de kapitaalvennootschappen: de NV en de BV. Het Nederlandse vennootschapsrecht opereert niet in een

vacuüm maar wordt beïnvloed door de regels van de EU daarom wordt ook ingegaan op de Europese ontwikkeling en de vrijheid van vestiging van ondernemers binnen de EU.

Vervolgens wordt ingegaan op de bevoegdheidsverdeling en machtsverhouding tussen (en binnen) de verschillende organen van de vennootschap. Interessante vragen hierbij zijn bijvoorbeeld wie de bestuurders en toezichthouders kan ontslaan, wie de bonussen en het salaris van de bestuurders moet vaststellen etc. Daarbij wordt tevens ingegaan op het typisch Nederlandse fenomeen van het structuurregime. Met dit regime wordt getracht niet alleen de aandeelhouders maar ook de werknemers invloed te geven op de manier waarop het toezicht binnen de vennootschap wordt ingericht. Een vennootschap moet deel kunnen nemen aan het handelsverkeer door bijvoorbeeld overeenkomsten aan te gaan met andere partijen. Om dit te bewerkstelligen dient de vennootschap te worden vertegenwoordigd. De regels van besluitvorming en vertegenwoordiging komen eveneens aan bod.

Wanneer het misgaat is het de vraag wie daarvoor verantwoordelijk en aansprakelijk kan worden gehouden. Onderwerpen zoals de aansprakelijkheid van bestuurders jegens de vennootschap, schuldeiser en een eventuele curator zullen worden besproken. Voorts zal er aandacht zijn voor de maatschappelijke verantwoordelijkheid van de onderneming. Steeds meer onderneming worden immers aangesproken door aandeelhouders of maatschappelijke partijen op hun rol binnen de maatschappij. Ook dit thema zal tijdens het blok aan bod komen.

In de kranten leest men geregeld over overnames. Een multinational is bijvoorbeeld voornemens om een concurrent of een deel van de bedrijfsactiviteiten van een concurrent over te nemen. Tijdens het blok zullen we ingaan op de verschillende manieren waarop aan een dergelijke transactie gestalte kan worden gegeven. Daarbij wordt eveneens ingegaan op vijandige overnames en beschermingsconstructies die de onderneming moeten beschermen tegen een ongewenst overnamebod.

De onderneming, in de zin van organisatorisch-economisch verband gericht op duurzame deelneming aan het maatschappelijk verkeer, kan zich vertonen in vele juridische gedaanten. De wet gaat er gewoonlijk vanuit dat de onderneming door één kapitaalvennootschap wordt gevoerd. In de praktijk zien we echter dikwijls dat dit door meerdere organisatorisch en economisch verbonden rechtspersonen geschiedt. In dat geval spreekt men van een groep of een concern. De groep of het concern wordt steeds meer erkend als een juridisch relevante, economische eenheid, waaraan specifieke rechtsgevolgen zijn verbonden. Om die reden wordt tijdens het vak ook ruim aandacht besteed aan het concern.

Course objectives

Het doel van dit blok is de deelnemers inzicht te geven in de regelgeving en de praktijk van de maatschappelijk relevante leerstukken binnen het Europees en Nederlandse ondernemingsrecht. De behandeling van de verschillende aandachtsgebieden vindt in onderwijsgroepen plaats op basis van een aantal uitdagende casus. Naast deze onderwijsgroepen zal wekelijks een college worden gegeven.

De colleges zullen zoveel mogelijk aansluiten bij het onderwerp dat diezelfde week ook in de onderwijsgroepen centraal staat.

Na afsluiting van het blok:

1. heeft de student diepgaande aantoonbare kennis en inzicht over/in de hoofdlijnen van het ondernemingsrecht;
2. kan de student complexe materie inzake het ondernemingsrecht het hoofd bieden en daaruit ontstane vragen oplossen;
3. is de student in staat om een originele bijdrage te leveren aan het ontwikkelen en/of toepassen van vernieuwende ideeën rondom het ondernemingsrecht;
4. is de student in staat om de opgedane kennis en inzichten toe te passen in een bredere maatschappelijke context;
5. kan de student een oordeel en eigen standpunt vormen over ondernemingsrechtelijke aangelegenheden, daarbij rekening houdend met sociaal-maatschappelijke en ethische verantwoordelijkheden;
6. is de student in staat om deze oordelen en standpunten gedegen en gemotiveerd over te brengen aan anderen.
7. is de student in staat zelfstandig aan de slag te gaan met ondernemingsrechtelijke vraagstukken, maar is ook in staat om dit in groepsverband te doen.

Prerequisites

Voorwaarden

Voor studenten ingeschreven voor de Master Handels- en Ondernemingsrecht en de Master Arbeid en Onderneming geldt dat het blok Ondernemingsrecht een verplicht te volgen blok is. Studenten die andere Masters aan de Rechtenfaculteit van de UM volgen, kunnen het blok Ondernemingsrecht als keuzeblok kiezen, mits dat in lijn is met de in het OER gestelde voorwaarden aan de desbetreffende Master.

Aanbevolen voorkennis

Studenten dienen over basiskennis op het terrein van het rechtspersonenrecht te beschikken. Deze basiskennis wordt aangeboden in semester 4 van de Bachelor Rechtsgeleerdheid. Indien u niet over deze basiskennis beschikt, wordt u aangeraden om u op voorhand al voor te bereiden zodat u bij

aanvang van het blok wel over deze basiskennis beschikt. U kunt deze basiskennis opdoen met behulp van de Boom Basic Ondernemingsrecht en Kroeze e.a., De kern van het ondernemingsrecht, Deventer: Kluwer 2022.

Recommended reading

Van Schilfgaarde

P. Van Schilfgaarde, Van de BV en de NV, Deventer: Kluwer 2022 (*te raadplegen via Legal Intelligence*)

Bartman/Dorresteyn & Olaerts, Van het concern

S.M. Bartman, A.F.M. Dorresteyn & M. Olaerts, Van het concern, Wolters Kluwer, elfde druk, Deventer, 2025 (*te raadplegen via Legal Intelligence*)

Verdieping Bestuursrecht

Faculty of Law

PUB4020

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.M.L. Jansen

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

Bestuursrecht. Bestuursrechter. Rechtsbescherming. Awb. Besluit. Belanghebbende. Maatwerk. Toetsing. Evenredigheid.

Full course description

De Toeslagenaffaire, de roep om maatwerk, de dynamiek binnen de trias, burgerperspectief, evenredigheid. Het bestuurs(proces)recht staat volop in de belangstelling. Het blok Verdieping Bestuursrecht gaat hierover en het bouwt daarbij voor een deel voort op de vroegere bachelorvakken Inleiding Staats- en bestuursrecht en Staats- en bestuurs(proces)recht. Bepaalde onderwerpen uit de bachelor onderwerpen we aan een 'verdiepte' analyse. Daarnaast bestuderen we een aantal nieuwe thema's. Het bestuurs(proces)recht is volop in beweging. Denk alleen al aan de Toeslagenaffaire waarin de rol van het bestuur en de positie van de bestuursrechter onder een vergrootglas zijn komen te liggen. Heeft de rechter wel indringend genoeg en met voldoende oog voor de burger (evenredigheid!) getoetst? Het blok sluit zoveel mogelijk aan op dergelijke actuele discussies. Aan de orde komen dit jaar:

Grondslagen van het bestuursrecht. Wat is behoorlijk bestuur (abbb)? Voorts zoomen we in op het besluitbegrip als centraal begrip binnen het bestuursrecht en als toegangspoort naar de bestuursrechter; in hoeverre voldoet die notie nog. Welke alternatieven zijn denkbaar en welke voor- en nadelen kleven daaraan? Het belanghebbendebegrip dan: weliswaar een usual suspect in het bestuursprocesrecht maar nog steeds aan veranderingen onderhevig.

Ook gaan we in op bestuurlijke handhaving. Bestuursorganen hebben tal van mogelijkheden tot de inzet van handhavinginstrumenten. Welke mogelijkheden, wat zijn context en referentiekader (voorwaarden, grenzen, impact EVRM), bestaat er een handhavingsplicht en wanneer dan precies en wat is de juridische status van gedoogbeslissingen? En hoe indringend toetst de bestuursrechter de diverse handhavingsbesluiten. Dat is ook de brug naar een volgend thema: het bestuursrechtelijk geding. Wat bepaalt de omvang ervan, wat kan wanneer worden aangevoerd en wat niet? En wat is de ratio daarvan? Daarbij behoeft ook de urgente vraag naar de indringendheid van de rechterlijke toetsing aandacht, ook gezien de ontwikkelingen in zowel in het wetenschappelijk discours als in de rechtspraak. Welke rol speelt hierbij het zgn burgerperspectief en de idee van maatwerk?

In literatuur, rechtspraak en vanuit de wetgever is een ontwikkeling ingezet naar een veranderende bestuursrechtspraak waarin geschillen zoveel mogelijk finaal worden beslecht. Dat brengt een gewijzigde opstelling mee van de bestuursrechter en impliceert een andere benadering door partijen van een bestuursrechtelijke procedure.

De gekozen thema's worden benaderd vanuit niet alleen een theoretische invalshoek maar ook vanuit het belang dat de respectieve thema's hebben voor de praktijk.

Een ander kenmerk van dit vak is dat een voor de praktijk cruciale academische vaardigheid is ingebouwd: een (duo)presentatie waarin een inhoudelijk belangrijk onderwerp wordt toegelicht. Studenten krijgen vooraf en achteraf uitleg hierover.

Course objectives

- de student begrijpt de grondslagen van het bestuursrecht en de Algemene wet bestuursrecht, met inbegrip van de actuele ontwikkelingen;
- de student overziet de complexe samenhang van het algemeen deel van het bestuursrecht en de bijzondere delen;
- de student kent de betekenis van de abbb en de actuele ontwikkelingen ter zake;
- de student is in staat de functies van het besluitbegrip en het belanghebbendebegrip te doorgronden en vragen op dat gebied te identificeren, problematiseren en bediscussiëren;
- de student is in staat de actuele ontwikkelingen in het kader van bestuurlijke handhaving te kennen en kritisch te analyseren;
- de student weet hoe een bestuursrechtelijk geding wordt bepaald, wat de rol van de rechter en partijen daarbij is en welke complicaties zich daarbij voordoen;
- de student beschikt over inzicht van instrumenten voor bestuursrechtelijke (finale) geschilbeslechting
- de student kan de taakopvatting en de indringender toetsing van de bestuursrechter duiden.

Prerequisites

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Bachelorvak Staats- en bestuurs(proces)recht (of equivalent) met succes afgerond.

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

Reader. Naast de in reader opgenomen te bestuderen literatuur, dienen voor de bijeenkomsten steeds rechterlijke uitspraken te worden bestudeerd, welke in een lijst in het blokboek worden vermeld.

Verdieping Staatsrecht

Faculty of Law

PUB4028

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M. Stremler

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Final paper, Assignment, Oral exam

Keywords:

Staatsrecht, Grondwet, democratie, rechtsstaat

Full course description

‘De democratische rechtsstaat verkeert in een crisis.’ Je hoeft de krant maar open te slaan of de tv aan te zetten, en je leest of hoort iemand de alarmbel luiden over de staat van de democratie en de rechtsstaat in ons land. Maar verkeert onze democratische rechtsstaat inderdaad in een crisis? En zo ja, wat zijn de oorzaken daarvan? Hoe zou het staatsrecht – al dan niet na wijziging – kunnen worden ingezet om deze crisis het hoofd te bieden? Deze vragen staan centraal in het vak Verdieping Staatsrecht.

Course objectives

Na het volgen van dit vak ben je in staat om:

- het contingente karakter van het Nederlandse staatsrecht, en de daaraan ten grondslag liggende keuzes, te begrijpen en te verklaren.
- kritisch te reflecteren op de grondslagen van het Nederlandse staatsrecht door middel van rechtsvergelijking en analyse van historische en actuele ontwikkelingen.
- het Nederlandse staatsrecht te vergelijken met staatsrechtelijke systemen in andere landen (horizontale rechtsvergelijking).
- te analyseren hoe het Nederlandse staatsrecht zich in de loop van de tijd heeft ontwikkeld (verticale rechtsvergelijking).
- actuele voorstellen tot wijziging van het Nederlandse staatsrecht te duiden en te beoordelen.

- juridisch onderzoek te analyseren en een goed onderbouwd juridisch betoog te schrijven, mede ter voorbereiding op de masterscriptie.

Prerequisites

NVT

Aanbevolen voorkennis

Dit vak gaat ervan uit dat je beschikt over kennis van het staatsrecht op bachelorniveau.

Recommended reading

Aanbevolen literatuur:

NVT

Verplichte literatuur:

Het blokboek vermeldt de te bestuderen literatuur en jurisprudentie. Deze bronnen zijn grotendeels beschikbaar via internet of de elektronische zoeksystemen van de bibliotheek. Er hoeft geen boek te worden aangeschaft.

European Value Added Tax

Faculty of Law

TAX4005

Period 1:

1 Sep 2025

24 Oct 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.J. van Doesum

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

European value added taxation, indirect tax, indirecte belastingen, BTW, VAT, GST, tax law, European law, btw, European Law.

Full course description

This course focuses on EU VAT Law. Therefore, during this course emphasis is put on European VAT legislation (the VAT Directives and the VAT Regulation). A distinctive feature of the course is the special attention that is paid to the CJEU case law in the field of VAT. The course is set-up in a very structured way, using the so-called 'VAT Determination Scheme' that is derived from the VAT Directive as guidance.

During this course all aspects relevant for the effectuation of the tax are addressed, such as (but not limited to): What are the characteristics of EU VAT? Who do we tax? What do we tax? Which country is entitled to tax? How much VAT applies to the supply? Can the VAT be deducted? The course outlines the basic concepts of EU VAT, but certain optional VAT regimes will also be discussed (e.g. the VAT grouping regime). The course focuses on cross-border transactions. Special attention is paid to the guiding principles underlying the EU VAT system and to the VAT rules for international supplies of goods and services. The latter particularity of this course entails that topics that predominantly depend on national VAT rules based on optional regimes and derogations (such as the special regimes for travel agents, second hand goods and the VAT regime applicable to immovable property) are only touched upon briefly during this course.

The following instructions are directed to Dutch students from Tilburg University and VU Amsterdam involved in the specialisation 'Accent Indirect Tax'.

Studenten aan Tilburg University en de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam met interesse in om dit vak toe te voegen aan hun curriculum, dienen zich online te registreren voor het [Accent Indirect Tax](#).

Vervolgens zal de coördinator contact met je opnemen om jouw registratie aan Maastricht University en het vak European Value Added Tax af te ronden.

Course objectives

The course aims to familiarize its participants with the European VAT system, taking EU law as the focal point. The basis of the course consists of the VAT legislation – most importantly, the VAT Directive (2006/112/EC). As important as the VAT legislation is the VAT case law of the European Court of Justice (CJEU), which by now consists of over 1.200 rulings. Understanding the value added tax from a European point of view is necessary for understanding the national legislation of the Member States. After completing the course, the participants should:

- understand the legal nature, characteristics, backgrounds, and systematics of the EU VAT system;
- be able to solve real-life cases from a theoretical and practical point of view;
- be able to give - in English - an informed opinion on the case law relevant to the various topics discussed;
- be able to creatively and critically deal with the topics covered by this course, be able to show the points of failure of existing legislation (and/or CJEU case law) and to offer solutions to resolve these issues;
- be able to interpret the national VAT legislation in the context of the EU VAT Directive;
- be able to identify and explain the similarities and differences between European VAT rules and national VAT rules as well as differences in the VAT rules of the various Member States;
- know the commonly used English terminology used in the field of VAT; and
- understand what kind of behaviour is expected from taxpayers and tax authorities in the course of taxation under an indirect, neutral tax as EU VAT.

Prerequisites

- Basic English speaking and writing skills;
- Basic knowledge of European law;
- Basic knowledge of EU VAT Law;
- Students are required to study the book: 'VAT in a Day' prior to the start of the course.

Recommended reading

- Ad van Doesum, Herman van Kesteren, Gert-Jan van Norden and Frank Nellen (2nd edition), 'Fundamentals of EU VAT Law', Kluwer Law International, 2020

- Ad van Doesum and Frank Nellen, VAT in a Day, Kappert, Deventer, 2017 (3rd edition; also available as e-book)

Bewijs in Strafzaken

Faculty of Law

CRI4003

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.H. Klip

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Strafrechtelijk bewijs, waarheidsvinding, bewijsmiddelen, bewijswaarde, geloofwaardigheid, deskundigenbewijs, motiveringsplicht, rechterlijke overtuiging.

Full course description

Dit blok zoomt in op het bewijs in strafzaken. Wat is bewijs? Wat dient te worden bewezen? Wanneer is iets bewezen? Hoe kunnen we bewijs verzamelen? Dit zijn de vragen van dit blok die allemaal een rol spelen bij het beantwoorden van de kernvraag van het strafproces: heeft de verdachte het ten laste gelegde feit gepleegd? Voor de verdachte is dat – samen met de vraag naar de eventueel op te leggen sanctie de meest belangrijke vraag die de rechter dient te beantwoorden. Hoewel absolute zekerheid niet haalbaar is, dient wel zoveel mogelijk te worden voorkomen dat onschuldigen gestraft worden voor iets wat ze niet hebben gedaan. Een onterechte veroordeling heeft immers grote consequenties: niet alleen voor de veroordeelde (en het eventuele slachtoffer(s)) maar ook voor het vertrouwen in de rechtspraak.

Hoe kan nu worden gegarandeerd dat de bewijsbeslissing zoveel mogelijk overeenstemt met de waarheid? Om te beginnen heeft de wetgever bewijsregels geformuleerd. Die wettelijke regels zijn echter uiterst summier en derhalve afhankelijk van hun toepassing en invulling door de rechtspraak. Dit is in het bijzonder het geval bij de bewijsstandaard, dat is de standaard op grond waarvan kan worden gezegd dat is bewezen dat het strafbaar feit is gepleegd. In Nederland geldt dat een bewezenverklaring alleen kan volgen wanneer de strafrechter uit de inhoud van wettige

bewijsmiddelen de overtuiging heeft bekomen dat de verdachte het ten laste gelegde heeft begaan. Maar wat betekent dat? Wat mag de strafrechter voor het bewijs gebruiken en hoeveel bewijs is (minimaal) nodig voor een veroordeling? Wat wordt bedoeld met de rechterlijke overtuiging? Op welke wijze kan de inbreng van (een) getuige(n) en/of deskundige(n) voor het bewijs worden gebruikt? Hoe positioneert het Nederlands recht zich ten opzichte van andere stelsels ter zake van het bewijs en kunnen we daar iets van leren? Deze en soortgelijke vragen die betrekking hebben op de juridische normering van de bewijsbeslissing zullen in dit blok aan bod komen.

Assessment methods

Assignment, Written exam (resit could be oral)

Course objectives

Aan het eind van dit blok weet de student welke bewijsstelsels er zijn. Hoe wettige bewijsmiddelen kunnen worden onderscheiden en welke eisen worden daaraan worden gesteld? Welke bewijsminima zijn er, welke invloed heeft de rechterlijke overtuiging op de bewijsbeslissing? Wanneer is bewijs redengevend en wat betekent dat? Wanneer is bewijs geloofwaardig? Wat is het verschil tussen bewijswaarde en overtuigingskracht? Welke invloed heeft het deskundigenbewijs op de bewijsbeslissing? Hoe gaat de strafrechter om met selectie en waardering van (met name forensisch) bewijs?

Prerequisites

BLL. Bij bachelor van andere discipline is de toelatingstoets voor de master Forensica Criminologie en Rechtspleging vereist.

Recommended reading

Literatuur:

- G.J.M. Corstens, Het Nederlands strafprocesrecht, Arnhem: Gouda Quint, laatste druk;
- B.F. Keulen en G. Knigge, Strafprocesrecht, Deventer: laatste druk;
- W.H.B. Dreissen, Bewijsmotivering in strafzaken, Den Haag: Boom juridische uitgevers, 2007.
- Diverse artikelen uit tijdschriften worden opgenomen in een reader.

Psychology and Law

Faculty of Law

CRI4015

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.R. Vanderhallen

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Portfolio

Keywords:

criminal investigation, forensic interview, evidence evaluation, identification procedures, legal decision-making, Criminal law

Full course description

In this course, the discussion will revolve around the value of various pieces of evidence from a legal psychological perspective. We will discuss the theories on the use of evidence from a legal psychological perspective and then apply these insights to documents from actual criminal files. What is the power of eyewitness statements? What is the evidential value of a line-up identification of a perpetrator by a witness? And what about the value of a confession from a suspect? Finally, scenario-based investigation is discussed in the context of judicial decision-making.

Course objectives

- The student can understand legal psychological concepts and insights and explain these in their own words;
- The student can correctly discuss and illustrate legal psychological concepts and insights;
- The student can identify the most important risks in a specific case;
- The student can analyse a specific case from legal psychological insights with a view to develop an own judgment and to formulate recommendations.

Prerequisites

None

Recommended reading

- Costanzo, M. & Krauss, D. (2021). Forensic and legal psychology. Psychological science applied to law. Macmillan learning.
- Lassiter & Meissner (2010). Police interrogations and false confessions: Current research, practice, and policy recommendations. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Tolia, Read, Ross, & Lindsay (Eds.), (2007). Handbook of eyewitness psychology: Volume I: Memory for events. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum Associates.
- Lindsay, Ross, Read, & Tolia (Eds.), (2007). Handbook of eyewitness psychology: Volume II: Memory for people. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum Associates.
- Several articles (available online) per week are included in a reader.

Advanced Criminal Procedure

Faculty of Law

CRI4024

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

C. Peristeridou

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s), Presentation(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Human rights and criminal procedure; Torture; Deprivation of liberty; Fair trial; Presumption of innocence; Right to silence; Criminal procedure and privacy; European Court of Human Rights; European Convention of Human Rights.

Full course description

The course focuses on advanced topics of criminal procedure from a human rights perspective. Major topics of criminal procedure are discussed through the study of jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights: torture, inhuman and degrading treatment and violent police conduct; the right to liberty in relation to arrest and pre-trial detention; the application of presumption of innocence during and after criminal proceedings; the right to fair trial and cross-examination; the right to appeal; the right to privacy in relation to investigative measures. The course has also a practice-oriented element, i.e. the procedure before the European Court of Human Rights and how an application to the Court can be drafted.

Course objectives

- The student identifies the context and application of defence and fair trial rights as these are defined by the European Court of Human Rights;
- The student outlines the most recent developments in the interpretation of procedural rights;
- The student criticises the relationship between individual rights and measures of criminal procedure and assesses the balance between crime control and due process;

- The student deduces legal problems regarding procedural rights from facts and formulates them into a formal legal complain;
- The student composes an application for the European Court of Human Rights

Prerequisites

N/A.

Recommended reading

- Harris, O'Boyle and Warbrick, Law of the European Convention on Human Rights, 4rd. Ed., Oxford University Press, 2018
- Human Rights Handbooks nrs. 1, 3, 5, 6 available on the ECtHR website: <http://www.coe.int/web/human-rights-rule-of-law/human-rights-handbooks>

European Fundamental Rights Law

Faculty of Law

IER4016

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.L.H.K. Claes

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

Human rights – Europe – fundamental rights – EU Charter of Fundamental Rights – ECHR — human rights litigation – balancing of rights

Full course description

Over the years, the European Union has developed into a significant human rights actor, both internally in the EU and its Member States, and externally, in its relations with third countries. This course concentrates on the first dimension and examines the protection of fundamental rights in the Member States of the European Union. This involves legal documents and policy initiatives, actors and mechanisms located in at least three separate but interlocked scenes: the European Union, the national system, and the international level encompassing various international human rights systems. The result is a highly complex legal environment, consisting of systems of fundamental rights protection that are often overlapping and complementary, but at times also competing. This course seeks to offer a clear insight in how the overall system functions, how the different scenes interrelate, how the systems and mechanisms operate and how individuals can have their rights protected. Special attention will be paid to the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, EU fundamental rights legislation and to the European Convention of Human Rights, as well as their embedding in national legal systems. We will examine specific issues, such as the horizontal effect of fundamental rights, the balancing of fundamental rights and general interests or the enforcement of fundamental rights in an integrated manner, from the perspective of national, ECHR and EU law, taking account also, where relevant, of other (international) sources.

Course objectives

The course offers a clear insight in the complex European system(s) of fundamental rights protection, the interrelation of the various scenes and their main actors, the overall functioning of the interlocking systems, and channels open to individuals to have their rights protected.

At the end of the course, you will have gained a deep understanding of this complex system of fundamental rights protection, and will be able to analyse, appraise and compare the case law of the relevant courts at national and European level. You will be able to predict the outcome of cases and to formulate a litigation strategy for potential clients. You can solve hypothetical cases and formulate decisions on them. You can develop a solidly founded argument on complex issues of fundamental rights protection in Europe.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

If you wish to take this course, you should have a good knowledge of EU law as well as basic knowledge of the ECHR and domestic constitutional law.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

You can find the reading materials for the course listed in the course book. You can easily access them either on the website of the institution concerned (in the case of legislation, policy documents or case law) or among the electronic resources of the UM library (in the case of journal articles).

Recommended reading:

You can find references to recommended reading for the course in the course book. You can easily access them either on the website of the institution concerned (in the case of legislation, policy documents or case law) or among the electronic resources of the UM library (in the case of journal articles).

Internal Market Law and Governance

Faculty of Law

IER4023

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

E.I.L. Vos

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper

Keywords:

Free movement of goods; internal market, harmonisation; standardisation; diversity, non-market values; scientific evidence; agencies; comitology

Full course description

The creation of one internal market in which products may freely circulate has been central to the EU's integration project since its inception. After discussing the Treaty provisions and the case-law of the European Court of Justice on free movement of goods, this Course examines how EU law creates and manages the internal market tackling also inextricably linked institutional issues. EU harmonising rules are attractive to deal with the internal market as they can also take into account other interests than purely economic ones, such as the protection of human health and the environment. The use of harmonisation creates, however, an inherent tension between the need for uniformity and the respect for diversity in the levels of protection existing in the various Member States. This Course seeks to offer a clear insight in how EU rules on the internal market work. Hereby it pays attention to politically sensitive matters on which it may be difficult to find a compromise and adopt EU-wide measures, addressing the dilemma of balancing economic integration and free trade with the protection of non-economic concerns, such as human health, safety, and environmental protection. The Course also explores the international aspects of EU internal market law, where Member States and the EU are required at the global level to justify deviations from free trade in favour of the protection of non-economic interests in terms of science and scientific evidence.

Course objectives

This Course enables you:

- to gain in-depth knowledge about the main characteristics, legal rules and case law of EU internal market law;
- to gain a deep understanding of the functioning of internal market law regarding products in practice and formulate challenges the EU faces and illustrate these by giving specific examples;
- to identify problems in relation to the free circulation of products within the EU internal market, explain and critically analyse the applicable rules and the relevant case law, formulate substantiated arguments and offer solutions;
- to evaluate how institutional rules as regards decision-making inform and affect the content of EU internal market law, and vice-versa;
- to explain the relation between national, EU and international legal rules as regards the free movement of goods and compare and appraise similarities and differences between them.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

Bachelor-level based knowledge of EU law is recommended. Students with little prior knowledge of EU law are also welcome to participate; they are advised to prepare by reading the relevant themes in the main EU law textbooks.

Recommended reading

C Barnard & S Peers (eds.), *European Union Law* (OUP, most recent edition) and other literature indicated in the syllabus.

Introduction to Modern Computing and AI

Faculty of Law

LAW4102

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J.T. Gunawan

Teaching methods:

PBL, Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Presentation, Final take home exam, Assessment

Keywords:

Technology, computer science, computing, AI, machine learning

Full course description

For students to become legal experts in the digital domain, they need a profound understanding of the underlying technology. This is often not sufficiently emphasized in existing curricula at other universities, nor is it visible in contemporary debates around digitization. Deep digital education remains lacking in legal education, and this course will help fill this digital literacy gap by equipping students with the foundations for computational thinking and digital competencies as well as illustrating their relevance for legal practice and policy making. You will learn the core principles of modern computing, starting at theoretical concepts (e.g., What is an algorithm?), over to the core hardware level of computers (e.g., What does a computer consist of?), reaching over operating systems and software components (e.g., How does a computer know what to compute?) to modern-day AI systems based on agents and machine learning, including deep learning (e.g. How does a computer become “intelligent”? What’s the Turing test?). Once armed with the ability to understand, explain, and apply important concepts and methods of computer science, you will be well-positioned to become thought leaders in the digital legal space.

Assessment methods:

You will be given small participation assignments throughout the period for participation and knowledge checks (weekly) and the main assessment will be through a final project that includes a

writing and presentation component, as well as some practical/technical components where possible. The exact scope of the project will be defined through intermediate checkpoints throughout the block.

Course objectives

- Students demonstrate knowledge and understanding of concepts in technologies such as computing fundamentals, forms of artificial intelligence and machine learning, etc.
- Students identify, explain and analyse fundamental concepts and architectures of modern computing, including a truncated history of computing.
- Students engage with and identify common modern technologies (e.g. APIs, machine learning models, generative AI tools, etc.) through hands-on activities
- Student critically assess real-world technologies and emerging digital trends by analysing their ethical, legal and societal implications, particularly as they relate to regulation, accountability, transparency, digital rights, etc.
- Students apply computational thinking and basic programming/coding skills and understand how algorithms, data science and machine learning systems function both in technical and legal contexts.
- Students conduct informed case analysis in modern computing, analysing technical and legal implications.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

Mandatory literature will be provided during the course, and will be from open source, free sources. A sample of potential readings (which may in fact be more of recommended readings) are provided below, and are sample course materials broadly used in computer science.

- This is CS 50 (Harvard) <https://cs50.harvard.edu/x/2025/>
- Elements of AI Online Course <https://www.elementsofai.com/>
- Computer Science Field Guide <https://www.csfieldguide.org.nz/en/>
- A Data-Centric Introduction to Computing <https://dcic-world.org/2025-02-09/index.html>
- Python for Everybody <https://www.py4e.com/lessons>

Recommended reading:

Recommended literature will be provided in the course syllabus, and typically cover cutting-edge cybersecurity research from technical and legal domains.

Rechtspsychologie en Forensisch Bewijs

Faculty of Law

MET4008

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.R. Vanderhallen

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Portfolio

Keywords:

Opsporingsonderzoek, verhoor, bewijs, herkenningprocedures, rechterlijke beslissingen, strafrecht

Full course description

In dit blok wordt ingegaan op de waarde van verschillende bewijsmiddelen vanuit een rechtspsychologisch perspectief. We bespreken de theorie over bewijsvoering vanuit een rechtspsychologisch perspectief en zullen deze inzichten toepassen op stukken uit echte strafrechtelijk dossiers. Wat is de kracht van de verklaringen van de ooggetuigen? Wat is de bewijskracht van de identificaties? En hoe zit het met de waarde van een bekentenis van een verdachte? Tot slot wordt ook ingegaan op scenariodenken bij rechterlijke besluitvorming.

Course objectives

1. De student begrijpt de rechtspsychologische concepten en inzichten en kan deze in eigen woorden toelichten;
2. De student kan de rechtspsychologische concepten en inzichten correct bespreken en illustreren;
3. De student kan de belangrijkste risico's identificeren in een concrete casus;
4. De student kan een concrete casus analyseren vanuit rechtspsychologische inzichten met het oog op het ontwikkelen van een eigen oordeel en het formuleren van aanbevelingen.

Recommended reading

- De Keijser, J., Horselenberg, R. & Vredeveltdt, A. (2024). Tussen wet en wetenschap: over de psychologie van het recht. Den Haag: Boom Juridisch.
- Costanzo, M. & Krauss, D. (2021). Forensic and legal psychology. Psychological science applied to law. Macmillan learning.
- Lassiter & Meissner (2010). Police interrogations and false confessions: Current research, practice, and policy recommendations. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.
- Tolia, Read, Ross, & Lindsay (Eds.), (2007). Handbook of eyewitness psychology: Volume I: Memory for events. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum Associates.
- Lindsay, Ross, Read, & Tolia (Eds.), (2007). Handbook of eyewitness psychology: Volume II: Memory for people. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum Associates.
- Per week zijn diverse artikelen (online beschikbaar) opgenomen in een reader.

Tussen publiek en privaat: een metajuridische analyse

Faculty of Law

MET4012

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Oosterhuis R.H.M. Pierik

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper, Presentation

Keywords:

Publiekrecht, privaatrecht, staat, markt, rechtsfilosofie, rechtsgeschiedenis

Full course description

In het positieve, geldende recht wordt traditioneel een onderscheid gemaakt tussen **publiek- en privaatrecht**. In het publiekrecht speelt de overheid een cruciale rol: het initiatief om problemen op te lossen of ergens het voortouw in te nemen ligt bij de overheid. In het privaatrecht spelen juist burgers een cruciale rol: het initiatief om problemen op te lossen of om een nieuwe situatie – een overeenkomst, een onderneming – in het leven te roepen ligt bij burgers onderling. In het positieve recht wordt die tweedeling en ook de indeling die op grond daarvan gemaakt is – dit hoort thuis bij het staatsrecht, dit moet opgelost worden via het privaatrecht of het ondernemingsrecht – niet of nauwelijks in twijfel getrokken. En zeker niet op een systematische manier. Vaak hoeft dat ook niet: het aanpakken van grote maatschappelijke problemen, zoals de verdediging van het landsbelang of vaccinatie, hoort immers thuis bij de overheid. En private initiatieven, zoals wat je mag overeenkomen of het opzetten van een nieuwe onderneming, horen thuis bij burgers en de markt. Maar is dit wel zo evident? Waarom kiezen we de ene keer eigenlijk voor de **staat** en de andere keer voor de **markt** als we een maatschappelijk probleem willen oplossen?

Het positieve recht geeft de geldende juridische oplossing van zo'n dilemma. Maar het positieve recht geeft geen antwoord – en hoeft dat ook niet te doen – op de **achtergrond** en het **waarom** van het dilemma tussen staat en markt: hoe dat zo gekomen is en of er geen andere oplossingen zijn. In dit

vak gebruiken we twee perspectieven die zicht geven op de **grondslagen van het recht**, namelijk een historisch en een filosofisch perspectief. Rechtshistorici bestuderen de wordingsgeschiedenis van het recht om geldende leerstukken beter te begrijpen. Rechtsfilosofen zoeken naar antwoorden op vragen naar de aard van het recht en de wenselijke inhoud van het recht, in wezen los van wat het hier en nu geldende recht daarover voorschrijft. Dit zijn **metajuridische perspectieven**: we kijken niet zozeer naar de juridische oplossing zelf, maar naar de achtergrond en het waarom van die oplossing. En of het niet anders kan – of moet.

Vanuit deze metajuridische perspectieven analyseren we telkens verschillende aspecten van de verhouding tussen enerzijds de rol van de overheid en anderzijds die van de burger en de vrije markt. De volgende vraag staat daarbij in wezen telkens centraal:

Voor welk deel van de inrichting van de samenleving zou de overheid verantwoordelijk moeten zijn en welk deel hoort thuis bij de burger of de vrije markt?

Lesmethoden

Hoorcolleges (1x per week)

Onderwijsbijeenkomsten (1x per week)

Toetsvormen

Presentatie (30%)

Essay (70%)

Course objectives

Het primaire doel is om studenten te laten nadenken over het recht aan de hand van juridische dilemma's. Bij dit vak wordt dus niet volgens het bestaande positieve recht een casus opgelost – intern perspectief – maar worden juist de grondslagen van het recht geanalyseerd.

Vanuit rechtshistorisch perspectief staat de vraag centraal waarom bepaalde juridische doctrines in de loop van de tijd op een bepaalde manier zijn vormgegeven. De aanvullende vraag vanuit de rechtsfilosofie is of deze juridische oplossingen nog steeds de tand des tijds kunnen doorstaan, en of dat er misschien niet beter verdedigbare alternatieven voorhanden zijn.

Aan het eind van het vak zijn studenten in staat:

- kritisch na te denken over het recht vanuit een rechtsfilosofisch en rechtshistorisch perspectief

- vanuit deze perspectieven kritisch te reflecteren op de rol van markt respectievelijk overheid in een pluralistische samenleving, en dus ook over de verhouding tussen publiek- en privaatrecht
- de historische ontwikkeling te schetsen en een ethische beoordeling te geven van een aantal maatschappelijk relevante onderwerpen waarbij een spanning tussen markt en overheid speelt
- maatschappelijk relevante onderwerpen te analyseren met oog op vormgeving van toepasselijke normen (bijv. door overheid, marktpartijen, sociale normen) en vragen te kunnen beantwoorden als: wie heeft hier verordenende/regelgevende bevoegdheid (*regulatory power*), wie zou die moeten hebben, hoe is dit gerechtvaardigd, hoe is dit historisch gegroeid en veranderd?
- kritisch na te denken over vragen als: in hoeverre mag de overheid ingrijpen in subjectieve rechten? In hoeverre wordt het privaatrecht geconstitutionaliseerd en in hoeverre wordt het staatsrecht geprivatiseerd?

Prerequisites

N.v.t.

Recommended reading

Per week minimaal 4 verplichte artikelen of hoofdstukken (in totaal 100 à 150 bladzijden per week)

Per week 1 à 3 aanbevolen artikelen of hoofdstukken

Onrechtmatige Daad en Schadevergoeding

Faculty of Law

PRI4008

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

T. Hartlief

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Hoofdlijnen van het aansprakelijkheidsrecht (functies, typen aansprakelijkheid) en van het schadevergoedingsrecht (begroting, causaliteit, voordeelstoerekening, eigen schuld en beperkte kring van gerechtigden).

Full course description

Het aansprakelijkheidsrecht trekt regelmatig de aandacht in de media, omdat het niet alleen kan worden ingezet om schadevergoeding te verkrijgen maar ook om een verbod of bevel (denk aan klimaatverandering) in de wacht te slepen. Het is bovendien een rechtsgebied dat vanwege zijn 'openheid' vatbaar is voor ontwikkeling: nieuwe maatschappelijke ontwikkelingen (arbeidsverhoudingen, technologische ontwikkelingen, massaschade) krijgen al snel een vertaling in het aansprakelijkheidsrecht. In dit blok maak je in de eerste plaats kennis met een aantal kernthema's op het terrein van het aansprakelijkheids- en schadevergoedingsrecht. Zo is het belangrijk dat je niet alleen iets weet van de inhoud van de inhoud van en de rechtsontwikkeling op dit terrein, maar ook van de grond en functies van het aansprakelijkheidsrecht. Ook is het goed dat je het aansprakelijkheidsrecht niet geïsoleerd bestudeert, maar bijvoorbeeld weet dat er ook andere vergoedingssystemen als particuliere verzekeringen en sociale zekerheid in het geding zijn. Hoe is dan de onderlinge verhouding? Een belangrijk deel van de aandacht ga je in dit blok schenken aan de actuele ontwikkelingen op enkele belangrijke terreinen van het aansprakelijkheidsrecht (denk aan gevaarstelling, werkgeversaansprakelijkheid ex art. 7:658 en ex art. 7:611 BW). Daarbij gaat het niet alleen om ontwikkelingen in de wetgeving, maar juist ook in de rechtspraak. Je zult dus een behoorlijk

aantal arresten tegenkomen en bestuderen. In dit blok krijg je niet alleen thema's op het terrein van het aansprakelijkheidsrecht maar ook op dat van het schadevergoedingsrecht. Nadat is vastgesteld dat iemand tegenover een ander aansprakelijk is (uit overeenkomst of uit onrechtmatige daad) en op hem de verplichting rust schadevergoeding te betalen (vestigingsfase), zal de omvang daarvan moeten worden vastgesteld. In dat verband komen aan de orde (omvangsfase). Hier zal je inzicht krijgen over:

- (uitzonderingen op) het beginsel van volledige schadevergoeding;
- toerekening ex art. 6:98 BW;
- concrete versus abstracte schadebegroting;
- voordeelstoerekening;

Evaluatiemethoden:

Schriftelijk tentamen bestaande uit casus met subvragen.

Course objectives

Aan het eind van het blok ben je in staat om zelfstandig:

- de bronnen van het aansprakelijkheids- en schadevergoedingsrecht, namelijk wetgeving, jurisprudentie, en literatuur, te bestuderen en daarbij verworven kennis en inzicht toe te passen;
- diverse grondslagen voor aansprakelijkheid te herkennen in een feitencomplex en op basis van deze grondslagen gestructureerd te onderbouwen of er aansprakelijkheid is;
- indien er aansprakelijkheid is: aan te geven hoe ver deze reikt;
- de haalbaarheid van een aansprakelijkstelling en schadevergoeding te toetsen;
- het systeem van particuliere en sociale verzekering in verhouding tot aansprakelijkheid en schadevergoeding uit te leggen en toe te passen;
- discussie te voeren over actuele thema's in het aansprakelijkheidsrecht (o.a. shock- en affectieschade, immateriële schadevergoeding, werkgeversaansprakelijkheid) onder verwijzing naar jurisprudentie en politieke ontwikkelingen;
- een oordeel te vormen over een aansprakelijkheidsrechtelijk probleem en dit oordeel duidelijk, juridisch correct en in goed Nederlands op te schrijven.

Prerequisites

Volgtijdelijkheidseis :

NVT

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Verbintenissenrecht (Semesters 1 en 4).

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

NVT

Aanbevolen literatuur:

In het blokboek vind je een uitgebreid overzicht van relevante literatuur en jurisprudentie. Tot de basisliteratuur worden gerekend:

- Asser/Sieburgh 6-II, Verbintenissenrecht. De verbintenis in het algemeen, tweede gedeelte, 16e druk, Wolters Kluwer, Deventer 2022 (of 17 e druk uit 2025 als die bij aanvang van het onderwijs beschikbaar is);
- Asser/Sieburgh 6-IV, Verbintenissenrecht. De verbintenis uit de wet, 16e druk, Wolters Kluwer, Deventer 2023;
- T. Hartlief c.s., Verbintenissen uit de wet en Schadevergoeding, 10e druk, Wolters Kluwer, Deventer 2024.

Sociale Zekerheid I

Faculty of Law

PUB4018

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S.H.M. Montebovi

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Werk – bescherming, verzekering en vangnetten – werknemersstelsels – ziekte – arbeidsongeschiktheid – werkloosheid – bijstand – re-integratie

Full course description

Het blok Sociale Zekerheid I focust op een aantal specifieke socialezekerheidsrechtelijke onderwerpen, die raken aan het arbeidsrecht. Zo is er aandacht voor ziekte, langdurige arbeidsongeschiktheid, re-integratie, werkloosheidsregelingen en bijstand. We bekijken en bespreken hoe de beschermende werking van de sociale zekerheid in Nederland gaandeweg in een ander daglicht is komen te staan. Waar het accent vroeger lag op inkomensbescherming, wordt de bescherming nu veel meer gezocht in het voorkomen van uitkeringsafhankelijkheid.

In het verlengde hiervan wordt verwoed gepoogd mensen duurzaam inzetbaar te maken voor de arbeidsmarkt en/of van werk naar werk te begeleiden. Verder wordt al jaren gepoogd effectieve bruggen te slaan tussen uitkering en werk, zodat mensen niet langer dan nodig aanspraak maken op een uitkering. Duurzaam actief worden of blijven op de arbeidsmarkt, is waar het tegenwoordig om gaat.

Je zal verrast zijn hoeveel socialezekerheidsrechtelijke onderwerpen zowat dagelijks in het nieuws zijn en hoe sociale zekerheid ook verweven is met ons gangbare leven. Voor zowel werkenden als niet

(meer) werkenden biedt ons socialezekerheidsstelsel een vangnet, hoewel aan dat vangnet vaak gesleuteld wordt.

In dit blok zal je met deze materie in aanraking komen. Sterker nog, je zult worden uitgedaagd actief ermee aan de slag te gaan. Interessant, maar niet altijd gemakkelijk.

Course objectives

Na het volgen van dit vak kan je:

- Het kader en de kernfacetten van sociale zekerheid duiden, net als de financiering en de uitvoering ervan
- De koppeling maken tussen het civiele (arbeids)recht en het (materiële, socialezekerheidsrechtelijke) bestuursrecht
- Verschillende sociale risico's van ons stelsel – zoals ziekte, langdurige arbeidsongeschiktheid, werkloosheid, bijstand en de daaraan gekoppelde re-integratie – analyseren en in de Nederlandse context plaatsen
- Kernbegrippen uitleggen en toepassen: zoals bijv. passende arbeid, re-integratie, verwijtbare werkloosheid, algemeen geaccepteerde arbeid, arbeidsongeschiktheid, decentralisatie, werkgevers- en werknemersverplichtingen, ...
- Wijzigingen in het socialezekerheidsrecht interpreteren en beoordelen
- Kennis en inzicht toepassen op concrete situaties en op bredere, complexe vraagstukken
- Een helder en gemotiveerd standpunt innemen en verdedigen waar nodig

Prerequisites

Volgtijdelijkheidseis :

Zie de Onderwijs- en Examenregeling

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Basis overeenkomstenrecht/Arbeidsrecht/Socialezekerheidsrecht

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

Hoofdzaken Socialezekerheidsrecht, Klosse/Vonk – laatste editie.

Aanbevolen literatuur:

NTB + online beschikbare bronnen

Omgevingsrecht

Faculty of Law

PUB4029

Period 2:

27 Oct 2025

19 Dec 2025

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S. Schuite

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Full course description

Nederland staat de komende jaren voor grote opgaven op het gebied van de fysieke leefomgeving. Het woningtekort, de kwaliteit van de natuur, de transitie van de landbouw en de verduurzaming van de energievoorziening leggen allemaal een beslag op de ruimte. Tegelijkertijd is de ruimte in Nederland schaars. Er moet 'gewoekerd' worden met de beschikbare grond, zegt men wel eens. Het geheel van wetten en regels over bouwwerken, infrastructuur, watersystemen, water, bodem, lucht, landschappen, natuur en cultureel erfgoed, kortom alles wat we rekenen tot de 'fysieke leefomgeving', noemen we het omgevingsrecht.

Dit blok gaat over het omgevingsrecht als bijzonder deel van het bestuursrecht. Het blok gaat daarmee over het reguleren van de fysieke leefomgeving met als doel het beschermen en het benutten daarvan. Door de recente inwerkingtreding van de Omgevingswet behandelt dit blok het omgevingsrecht volgens de veelbesproken Omgevingswet. Ook wordt, waar nodig, aandacht besteed aan de 'oude' sectorale wetten en regels op het gebied van de fysieke leefomgeving (Wabo, Wro, Wet milieubeheer, onteigeningswet e.d.). Deze wetten kunnen vanwege het overgangsrecht – dat overigens nog geruime tijd zal duren – relevant zijn.

Onderwerpen die tijdens het blok aan de orde komen zijn:

- de omgevingsvisie en het omgevingsprogramma;
- het omgevingsplan en afwijken van het omgevingsplan;
- de omgevingsvergunning en de omgevingsplanactiviteit;
- natuur- en soortenbescherming;
- Europees en internationaal milieurecht;

- het actieve grondbeleidsinstrumentarium (i.h.b. voorkeursrechten en onteigening);
- handhaving van omgevingsrecht.

Lesmethoden

Onderwijsgroepen: tijdens de zeven onderwijsbijeenkomsten wordt gewerkt met gespreksleiders, die per taak/casus het voorzitterschap van de nabespreking op zich nemen.

Hoorcolleges: het blok bevat verschillende hoorcolleges, deels gedoceerd door gastsprekers werkzaam bij de overheid, in de wetenschap en in de advocatuur.

Toetsvormen

Schriftelijk (open vragen)(70%). Het schrijven van een wetenschappelijke annotatie telt voor 30% mee. De herkansing is mondeling. Indien uw annotatie met een onvoldoende is beoordeeld wordt deze mede mondeling herkanst o.b.v. een aantal vragen over een andere, vooraf aan u toegestuurde uitspraak.

Course objectives

Na afsluiting van dit blok heeft de student een gedegen kennis van de Omgevingswet en de oude sectorale wetten en regels op het gebied van de fysieke leefomgeving. Daarnaast is de student in staat complexe juridische vraagstukken op het gebied van het omgevingsrecht te analyseren en op te lossen. De student overziet de grotere bestuursrechtelijke lijnen die door het omgevingsrecht lopen en kan een goed onderbouwde toekomstvisie op Nederland geven. Tot slot is de student in staat om een gemotiveerd praktijkstandpunt over te brengen aan anderen.

Prerequisites

Aanbevolen voorkennis

Voor het volwaardig kunnen volgen en afronden van het mastervak Omgevingsrecht is een juridische bacheloropleiding vereist. De eindtermen uit de bachelorblokken Staats- en bestuursrecht, Bestuursprocesrecht en Verbintenissenrecht vormen dan ook het startniveau voor dit vak.

Recommended reading

Literatuur

- Ch.W. Backes e.a. (red.), *Handboek Omgevingswet*, Den Haag: Boom Juridisch 2024. **LET OP: dit boek kan niet online worden geraadpleegd en moet worden aangekocht.**
- E.T. de Jong & J. in 't Hout (red.), *Omgevingswet. Inclusief relevante wet- en regelgeving (Sdu Wettenbundel)*, Den Haag: Sdu 2025. **LET OP: deze bundel kan niet online worden geraadpleegd en moet worden aangekocht.**

European Criminal Law

Faculty of Law

CRI4007

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.H. KlipC. Peristeridou

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

European Criminal law, national criminal substantive and procedural law, rights of the accused

Full course description

Whether you like it or not; in all national criminal proceedings EU law is applicable. This course deals with all you need to know about EU crimes and what their relationship is with the national criminal justice system. Can the EU tell Member States what to criminalise, what to prosecute, or what penalty must be given? What does harmonisation mean in the area of criminal law? Whilst the EU has not yet developed its own criminal enforcement system, Europol and the European Public Prosecutor do exist already. Are we going to see an European Criminal Court in the near future? For now we will address the rights of the defence as stipulated in several Directives. Can the defendant rely directly on these rights in the absence of national implementing legislation? What is the role of preliminary references from national criminal courts to the Court of Justice? The goal of this course is to understand the indirect and direct influence of European norms on national substantive and procedural criminal norms; also the emergence of autonomous European criminal norms will be analysed. During the tutorials, students are required to apply advance research and analytical skills such as writing ECJ preliminary reference questions (or answers) and conducting research on the implementing national legislation of European Criminal law instruments.

In other words, this course deals with the criminal aspects of EU law and the EU impact on national criminal law.

Assessment methods

Assignment, Written exam (resit could be oral).

Course objectives

The goal of the course is to examine the influence of European Union law on criminal law and analyse the emergence of European Criminal law norms. The course also aims at a deeper understanding of the practical areas of European Criminal law such as the implementation of EU rules and the preliminary reference procedure before the ECJ.

Prerequisites

Basic knowledge of European law and of a national criminal justice system.

Recommended reading

Literature:

- André Klip, *European Criminal Law: An Integrative Approach*, Intersentia, fourth edition, Cambridge-Antwerpen 2021;
- André Klip, *Materials on European Criminal Law*, Intersentia, fourth edition Cambridge-Antwerpen 2022
- Reader with additional literature and case law, as announced in the course book

Verdediging in Strafzaken

Faculty of Law

CRI4009

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

D.V.A. Brouwer

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Strafproces, verdediging

Full course description

In dit blok wordt de positie van de verdediging in het strafproces onder de loep genomen. Daarbij staat de verhouding tussen de verdachte en zijn raadsman – of, andersom, de verhouding tussen de advocaat en zijn cliënt – centraal. De advocaat is één van de professionele procesdeelnemers en verricht zijn werkzaamheden in een samenspel met andere procesdeelnemers zoals de leden van het OM en de rechterlijke macht. Daarbij verschilt de positie van de advocaat van de andere procesdeelnemers in die zin dat zijn bevoegdheden in principe zijn afgeleid van de bevoegdheden van de verdachte. Dit betekent dat de advocaat slechts diens belangen hoeft te behartigen.

Die partijdige rol van de advocaat is bepalend voor zijn professionele ethiek. De kern van die ethiek is dat de advocaat tot het uiterste gaat in het belang van zijn cliënt, maar dat tegelijk in een rechtstaat aan de manoeuvreerruimte en het optreden van de advocaat grenzen gesteld kunnen worden in het belang van andere te beschermen rechtsgoederen.

Het optreden van de raadsman wordt echter niet alleen door wetgeving en ethiek bepaald. De advocaat is niet zelden ook ondernemer. Dat brengt met zich dat in de financiële omgeving – hoe wordt de advocaat voor zijn diensten betaald? – prikkels kunnen liggen die het gedrag van de advocaat beïnvloeden. In de organisatie van de beroepsgroep kunnen vergelijkbare prikkels liggen.

Uitgangspunt is dat de studenten die het blok volgen niet noodzakelijk strafrechtadvocaat (willen) worden. De doelstelling van het blok is dan ook om de kennis en het begrip bij te brengen (ook) aan de student die in andere functies terecht komt, om de positie en het optreden van de strafrechtadvocaat waar hij of zij mee in aanraking komt te kunnen plaatsen en begrijpen.

Course objectives

Doelstelling is het verhogen van kennis van en verschaffen van inzicht in:

- het straf(proces)recht en de procedurele waarborgen die het strafproces de verdachte biedt;
- de taak en de rol van de verdediging in het strafproces;
- de bevoegdheden en privileges van de raadsman in strafzaken, waaronder het recht op inzage van stukken, het recht op vrij verkeer tussen de verdachte en zijn advocaat en diens beroepsgeheim en verschoningsrecht;
- beroepsethische dilemma's en de verhouding met de andere professionele deelnemers aan het strafproces, de officier van justitie en de rechter;
- de gedragsregels en het tuchtrecht voor advocaten (in strafzaken).

Prerequisites

Volgtijdelijkheidseis :

N.V.T.

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Basiskennis strafprocesrecht

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

NTB

Aanbevolen literatuur:

NVT

Organisational Crime

Faculty of Law

CRI4020

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J.M. Nelen

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Project-Centered Learning

Assessment methods:

Final paper, Presentation, Assignment

Keywords:

Corporate crime, white collar crime, state and governmental crime, criminology

Full course description

Organisational Crime is an elective, specifically designed for students of the master Forensics, Criminology and Law (English and Dutch track), but accessible for students of other master programs as well. Organisational criminology studies violations of rules and ethics (deviant behavior) by legitimate organisations (e.g. corporations, governments, etc.) and their management. In the fields of criminal justice and criminology, it is a relatively new concept. It concerns the kind of offences that were never labeled outright as criminal before, at best, only in an indirect way. As with the concept, the academic field of organisational criminology is relatively new, hence its study is still in its adolescent phase making it a real challenge for practitioners. Many issues are still in dire need of elucidation. Therefore, during tutorial sessions students will deal with a number of sub-aspects about which (academic) discussions are far from reaching a consensus, offering students the opportunity to become actively involved in maturing this fascinating domain. During the first part of the course, the subject matter will be introduced and several different approaches to studying the phenomenon of organisational crime will be discussed. During the second part of the course, we study and analyze different cases of organizational crimes focusing on different levels of analysis (micro, meso, macro) while paying attention to different crucial criminological elements (means, motives, opportunities, control, etc.) The policy implications of different approaches are discussed as well. The critical multidisciplinary approach taken in this course is relevant given the structure and the notions

underlying the master in Forensics, Criminology and Law, which takes a multidisciplinary approach to crime and criminal justice in order to develop a more critical understanding of various forensic disciplines in relation to the law.

Course objectives

By the end of the course the participants should have developed the following capacities and accumulated insights in respect of the following areas of substantive knowledge:

Capacity:

- The capacity to conceptualize behaviours and events that belong to the area of interest of organisational criminology.
- The capacity to identify aspects of these behaviours in event that are relevant to categorise them within existing definitions in the discipline.
- The capacity to construct and apply definitions to these behaviours and events to support a critical analysis of why and how they occur.
- Different theoretical explanations that exist for organisational crime at the macro, meso and micro level.
- The capacity to critically reflect on existing and potential measures to limit and prevent instances of organisational crime with due regard for the insights developed regarding the definition and explanation of these events and behaviours.
- The capacity to write an analytical academic paper.
- The capacity to reproduce substantive knowledge built during the course.
- The capacity to apply the knowledge and capacities built during the course in the analysis of a case.
- The capacity to present orally the main research findings of the case study in a concise and coherent manner.

Area of Substantive Knowledge:

- Different definitions that exist in the field of organisational criminology.
- Different theoretical insights and proposals for preventing and limiting instances of organisational crime.

Prerequisites

Prior (basic) courses in criminology are not required but strongly recommended.

Recommended reading

E-reader

Criminalistiek en Forensisch DNA

Faculty of Law

CRI4025

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

R.G. Niemark

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

criminalistiek, forensisch DNA onderzoek

Full course description

Criminalistiek is een deelgebied binnen de forensische wetenschap dat zich richt op de toepassing van wetenschappelijke methoden in strafrechtelijke onderzoeken. Dit vak biedt een introductie tot criminalistiek als toegepaste wetenschap, met een sterke nadruk op forensische DNA-analyse en de juridische context waarin deze wordt toegepast. Studenten maken kennis met een breed scala aan forensische methoden. Het vak onderzoekt niet alleen de methodologie van deze technieken, maar ook de beperkingen, valkuilen en denkfouten die kunnen leiden tot gerechtelijke dwalingen of ontoelaatbaarheid van bewijsmateriaal. Het vak is één van de gebonden keuzevakken in de master Forensica, Criminologie en Rechtspleging.

Evaluatiemethoden:

- schriftelijk tentamen (75%)
- groepspresentatie (25%)

Course objectives

Na afronding van dit blok wordt de student geacht:

- De basisbegrippen van verschillende forensische technische methoden te begrijpen en toe te passen.

- Hypotheses en onderzoeksvragen voor criminalistisch onderzoek volgens Bayesiaanse principes correct te formuleren.
- De juistheid van onderzoeksvragen en hypotheses te beoordelen en biasrisico's, alternatieve interpretaties en voorbarige aannames te analyseren.
- De bewijswaarde van onderzoeksresultaten kritisch te toetsen en de correctheid van diverse bewijstheorieën te evalueren.
- Prosecutorial fallacies en defence fallacies te herkennen en te analyseren in strafrechtelijke context.
- Het onderscheid tussen bron- en activiteitsniveau bij forensisch sporenonderzoek te maken en dit toe te passen in casuïstiek.
- Het verschil in bewijswaarde tussen macro- en microsporen te evalueren.
- De essenties van forensisch biologisch onderzoek en de evaluatie en interpretatie van DNA-profielen uit te leggen.
- De waarde van referentiedatabases voor vergelijkend onderzoek te herkennen en te beoordelen.
- Relevante wetgeving aangaande het inzetten van deskundigen in strafzaken en DNA-onderzoek toe te passen en te analyseren.

Prerequisites

N.v.t.

Recommended reading

- Meulenbroek, A. J. (2009). *De essenties van forensisch biologisch onderzoek: Humane biologische sporen en DNA* (5e herziene druk). Zutphen: Uitgeverij Paris. ISBN: 9789077320822.
- Meulenbroek, A. J. (2021). *DNA zoekmachine*. Haarlem: Bertram + De Leeuw Uitgevers. ISBN: 9789461562739.

Criminalistics and Forensic DNA

Faculty of Law

CRI4026

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

R. Hofmann

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper, Assignment

Keywords:

Criminalistics, Forensic Evidence, DNA, Investigations, Bayes theorem, Fallacies and Bias.

Full course description

Criminalistics deals with forensic evidence in criminal cases. Students will take a legal perspective to achieve an overview of the most relevant methods of forensic sciences with a focus on DNA evidence. The course provides students with a broad understanding of criminalistics and forensic science and stimulates critical reflection on forensic methods. Its practical aim is to enable future judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers to ask the right questions to forensic experts in court. Fallacies and biases resulting in wrongful convictions or inadmissibility of evidence in court will be discussed.

Course objectives

Students should be able to:

- have a basic understanding of several areas of criminalistics and their application in legal practice;
- have a basic understanding of the weaknesses and fallacies of criminalistics methods and how forensic expertise can be refuted in criminal court;
- recognize prosecutors and defence fallacies in interpreting forensic results;
- have basic understanding of police investigations and crime scene analysis including red flags of crime scene staging and various risks of biases

- understand the opportunities and risks of criminalistics being depicted in contemporary popular culture (e.g. CSI-effect);
- understand basic scientific methods and their connection to admissibility of evidence in court;
- understand logically correct reasoning (Bayesian reasoning) and how this applies to forensic science;
- know the essentials of forensic DNA research and evaluation of DNA fingerprint comparison;
- achieve a basic understanding of wrongful convictions and related legal and societal consequences;

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

- Richard Saferstein, *Criminalistics An Introduction to Forensic Science* (Pearson, Global Edition) Edition 11 (2015). ISBN: 978-1-292-06202-
- selected texts in the reader of the course

European Environmental Law

Faculty of Law

LAW4042

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.G.W.M. Peeters

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

EU competences & principles for environmental decision-making

Environmental rights (human rights and environmental procedural rights)

Interplay between international and EU environmental law

Regulatory instruments to control and reduce pollution

Enforcement: liability for environmental pollution

European Climate Law (case based focus)

Full course description

This course addresses the role of EU law in protecting human health and the natural environment against the damaging effects of pollution and environmental deterioration. The global problem of climate change and the regulatory approaches established by the EU in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions serve as the core case study. Special attention will be paid to the role of civil society, particularly Environmental nongovernmental organisations (ENGOS) to advance environmental protection. EU law has implemented important environmental procedural rights, including access to information and public participation to governmental decision-making, which will be discussed in view of how they can be improved and how they can be used effectively. Furthermore, environmental litigation is on the rise, and the course will discuss leading cases, particularly in the field of climate change.

The course covers:

- EU competences for environmental decision-making and the balancing exercise often taken place in EU environmental law-making;

- human rights (ECHR) and the environment & procedural rights for environmental organisations and potential victims;
- regulatory instruments for reducing the polluting behaviour of industries, with attention to the market-based instrument commonly known as “emissions trading” but also to governance approaches employed by the EU;
- enforcement of environmental law, including EU legislation establishing liability of polluters causing environmental damage;
- litigation trends in the field of climate change and biodiversity protection, including 'green on green' litigation.

Teaching methods

A mix of tutorials (problem-based learning), knowledge clips and lectures / collective meetings with discussion time. Please note that further announcements about teaching sessions will be made through Canvas.

Assessment methods

1. counting for 60%: an essay exam (2 hours)
2. counting for 30%: a case note, to be delivered during the first 7 weeks
3. counting for 10% a short student presentation in class on an assigned topic

Depending on the number of students, and by exception, the resit might take the form of an oral exam (to be decided by the course-coordinator).

Specific information about the exam will be posted on Canvas.

Course objectives

The main objectives of this course are that you:

- acquire knowledge of the main characteristics, developments, strengths and weaknesses of European environmental law, with special attention to EU climate law serving as a case-study;
- understand the relationship between international and European environmental law, in particular in the field of climate change and in the field of procedural rights; and understands the specific duties and rights of Member States in the field of EU environmental law
- are able to explain selected substantive and procedural rights and provisions relevant for environmental protection, and is capable of identifying and debating legal strategies for improving environmental protection;
- are able to explain the core regulatory instruments to achieve climate neutrality in the EU, and is able to identify implementation challenges
- are able to develop and present a critical analysis of specific environmental law developments, in particular governmental policies, regulatory approaches, and court decisions

Prerequisites

None

Recommended prior knowledge:

Bachelor-level based knowledge of European law is strongly recommended.

Recommended reading

The course uses electronic means to provide the students with a rich compilation of relevant articles, book chapters, and blogs.

Regulation of Data, AI and Digital Servi

Faculty of Law

LAW4103

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M.N. Duffourc

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Keywords:

AI regulation, law and technology, digital governance

Full course description

The impact of digitalisation is becoming increasingly prominent in various areas of the EU economy. In response, the EU has adopted a wide range of legislative instruments. One of the prominent goals behind these instruments is to strengthen the EU Digital Single Market and make the EU more competitive in the global economy. On the other hand, by adopting innovative legislation on data, AI, and digital services, the EU also aims to protect consumers and uphold EU values.

This course will give you an overview of how data, artificial intelligence (AI), and digital services are regulated in the European Union (EU). It will focus on three core EU legislative instruments: the Data Governance Act, the AI Act, and the Digital Services Act. In addition to examining how data, AI, and digital services are governed under these Acts, the course will also explore how these Acts fit into the larger regulatory structure governing new technologies in the EU. The course trajectory follows the hypothetical development of an AI system from data collection to market entry. You will be immersed in a simulated environment in which you will work together in small groups to investigate and apply the regulatory framework as legal consultants to a variety of stakeholders involved in the process, including developers, platforms, regulators, and consumer interest groups.

Assessment methods:

Mid-term essay

Interactive oral presentation, in particular: multi-stakeholder mediation simulation

Legal memorandum

Course objectives

- You will understand the structure of the general regulatory framework in the EU as it relates to data, AI, and digital services, and be able to critically examine the limitations of these frameworks and discuss the role of legislation, lawmaking, and the values that the law should protect.
- You will be able to identify relevant legal issues related to regulation of data, AI, and digital services in various contexts and from diverse stakeholder perspectives and situate these legal issues within the general regulatory framework.
- You will be able to identify relevant legal provisions from the Data Governance Act, the AI Act, and the Digital Services Act, formulate reasonable interpretations of those provisions, and apply these interpretations to develop sound legal strategies.
- You will be able to critically analyze, assess, communicate and defend legal strategies.
- You will develop communication, client counseling and negotiation skills and understand how these skills facilitate transfer of expert legal knowledge, law and policy making processes, and cross-sector collaborations.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

N/A

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

TBD

Recommended reading:

TBD

Legal Data Analysis and Ethics

Faculty of Law

LAW4104

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

H.A.M. Westermann

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Assignment, Presentation and paper

Keywords:

Legal analytics, artificial intelligence, ethics, data science, machine learning, legal automation, programming, generative AI

Full course description

In an increasingly data-driven legal landscape, this course equips you with both the technical skills and ethical awareness necessary for engaging with legal data analysis and artificial intelligence (AI). Through a mix of hands-on programming and conceptual analysis, you will explore computational law, data collection methods, machine learning and model evaluation. The course allows you to choose between a technical AI project, or an empirical investigation of a legal question, using AI methods. Weekly topics cover everything from basic programming in Python to assessing the ethical implications of AI systems in legal contexts. Whether you are technically inclined or not, you will come away with a deeper understanding of the intersection between artificial intelligence, law and ethics.

Course objectives

- Define the key concepts in AI, data science, and legal data analytics, and describe how they interrelate.
- Apply basic programming skills using Python and Google Colab to analyse legal datasets.
- Design and implement a data analytics project or investigate a legal question using empirical methods.

- Analyse the ethical implications of AI technologies and assess the impact of automation in legal decision-making.
- Evaluate machine learning models using appropriate metrics and justify model choices within legal contexts.
- Communicate findings through clear and structured presentations and reports, tailored to both technical and non-technical audiences.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

Prior exposure to data analysis or programming is helpful but not required. The course offers alternative projects track to be engaging for both students with technical experience and those without.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

TBD

Recommended reading:

TBD

Goederenrecht (Master)

Faculty of Law

PRI4011

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

L.P.W. van Vliet

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

onroerende zaken, notariaat, Zekerheden, I.p.r..

Full course description

Het blok Goederenrecht bouwt voort op de goederenrechtelijke kennis die studenten eerder in de Bachelorfase hebben opgedaan. In het blok komen onderwerpen aan de orde die een meer specialistisch karakter hebben of nog niet eerder in de Bachelorfase zijn besproken. O.a. wordt aandacht besteed aan het recht m.b.t. onroerende zaken, de rol van het notariaat, nieuwe zekerheidsvormen, alsmede i.p.r., rechtsvergelijking en Europees goederenrecht. De te behandelen stof is verdeeld over de onderwijsgroepen en colleges.

Course objectives

Dit blok richt zich op de volgende doelen:

- In staat zijn om hedendaagse goederenrechtelijke problemen, die niet direct vanuit de bestaande regelgeving en rechtspraak zijn op te lossen, kritisch te analyseren en te zoeken naar theoretisch verantwoorde en praktisch hanteerbare oplossingen
- Het verschaffen van inzicht in het recht betreffende onroerende zaken
- Begrip inzake de rol van functioneren en de maatschappelijke betekenis van kwaliteitsrekeningen en afgescheiden vermogen
- Diepgaand inzicht in zekerheidsrechten
- Grondige kennis van het pand- en hypotheekrecht

- Begrip inzake het gebruik van eigendom als zekerheid (eigendomsvoorbehoud, eigendomsoverdracht tot zekerheid)
- Het bezitten van kennis betreffende de invloed van beslag op goederenrechtelijke vraagstukken
- Het verwerven van inzicht met betrekking tot het internationaal goederenrecht

Recommended reading

Ter herhaling van de Bachelorstof wordt aanbevolen: W.H.M. Reehuis/A.H.T. Heisterkamp, Pitlo, Het Nederlands burgerlijk recht, laatste druk, of - H.J. Snijders/E.B. Rank-Berenschot, Goederenrecht, Studiereeks burgerlijk recht, laatste druk.

Sociale Zekerheid II

Faculty of Law

PUB4001

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S.H.M. Montebovi

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation and paper

Keywords:

Werk – ontwikkelingen in en systemen van sociale zekerheid – volksverzekeringen – pensioen – stelsels voor zelfstandigen – Europees socialezekerheidsrecht – wisselend, actueel onderwerp – sociale bescherming

Full course description

Het blok Sociale Zekerheid II richt zich op socialezekerheidsrechtelijke onderwerpen die summier, niet of vanuit een ander perspectief aan de orde zijn geweest in het blok Sociale Zekerheid I. Actuele onderwerpen uit blokperiode 1 of 2 worden waar gewenst weer opgepakt en verder uitgediept.

De insteek is soms nationaal en soms grensoverschrijdend. Zo komen vanuit nationaal perspectief aan bod: de werking en het belang van de volksverzekeringen; de positie van de zelfstandige (de zzp'er) in het Nederlandse socialezekerheidsrecht. Vanuit grensoverschrijdend perspectief kijken we naar de mobiliteit binnen de EU en de gevolgen daarvan op de socialezekerheidspositie van de mobiele EU-burgers. Te maken krijgen met werk/woon/zorgrelaties in een ander land, is niet alleen voor de klassieke grensarbeider en zijn werkgever een vanzelfsprekendheid, maar geldt voor steeds meer mensen die tijdelijk in het buitenland verblijven of voor meerdere werkgevers tegelijk werken, of een tijdje een workation houden. Weten of en hoe men sociale bescherming geniet, is dan cruciaal.

Naast analyse van de wetgeving en jurisprudentie, nationaal en Europees, is er ook veel ruimte voor actualiteiten. De voorbeelden zijn legio: denk aan de toeslagenaffaire, de pensioenhervormingen of het groeiende aantal niet-standaard werkenden (flexwerkers), mobiliteit binnen de EU, telework etc.

Opdrachten worden individueel en in groep uitgevoerd en in groep besproken. Daarnaast is ook individuele inbreng vereist in de onderwijsgroepen.

Course objectives

Na afloop van het vak kan je:

- De verschillende onderwerpen gedetailleerd duiden in de Nederlandse en/of Europese context: o.a. de volksverzekeringen, de positie van de niet-standaard werkenden op de Nederlandse arbeidsmarkt, Europese grensoverschrijdende situaties, ...
- Verbanden leggen tussen arbeidsrechtelijke ontwikkelingen (bijv. steeds meer flexwerkers en zzp'ers op de arbeidsmarkt) en socialezekerheidsrechtelijke effecten (geen goede bescherming voor deze grote groep werkenden)
- Juridische problemen in sociale bescherming definiëren, analyseren en oplossen
- Noodzakelijke en relevante literatuur, jurisprudentie of andere informatie opzoeken en naar waarde beoordelen
- Helder en gemotiveerd een standpunt innemen, uitleggen en verdedigen en daarbij ook sociaal-maatschappelijk en ethische factoren afwegen
- Adequate feedback geven en ontvangen alsook met anderen in discussie gaan en tot een (gezamenlijke) beredeneerde uitkomst komen

Prerequisites

Volgtijdelijkheidseis :

Zie de Onderwijs- en Examenregeling

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Basis overeenkomstenrecht/Arbeidsrecht/Socialezekerheidsrecht en/of Kennis van het blok Sociale Zekerheid I.

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

Hoofdzaken Socialezekerheidsrecht, Klosse/Vonk – laatste editie.

Aanbevolen literatuur:

NTB + online beschikbare bronnen

European Labour and Social Security Law

Faculty of Law

PUB4007

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.P. van der Mei

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Full course description

This course involves the social aspects of the European Union: free movement of workers, coordination of social security schemes, prohibitions of discrimination on grounds such as gender, race and sexual orientation, health & safety at the workplace, fundamental employee rights with regard to individual and collective action, employees rights in the event of transfer of undertakings or insolvency of employers, the role of social partners and European collective agreements, and the social policy chapters in the Treaties of Rome, Maastricht, Amsterdam and Nice. The course also explains how social legislation is made within the EU and how it relates to the four freedoms of the EU.

Course objectives

- To accomplish understanding in detail of European Labour Law and Social Security Law and of its place within the larger EU legislative framework.
- To accomplish an accurate analysis of European Court of Justice cases on Social Law
- To accomplish knowledge of the systematic infrastructure of EU Social Law
- To achieve the competence to think and argue on topics of EU Social Law
- To achieve the ability to recognize the relevant material aspects of EU Social Law when analysing case studies.

Prerequisites

General knowledge of EU law, and basic knowledge of Human rights and social law.

Recommended reading

Barnard, EU Law, handbook

Europees en Nationaal Constitutioneel Recht

Faculty of Law

PUB4021

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

M. van der Sluis

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Wetgeving, begroting, veelgelaagde rechtsorde, parlement, parlementaire rol en bevoegdheden, EU en toezicht op staten, multi level governance, toetsingsrecht, rechter, grondrechtenbescherming

Full course description

Dit mastervak, onderdeel van de specialisatie staats- en bestuursrecht van de master Nederlands recht, gaat in op het functioneren van het Nederlandse staatsrecht binnen de context en kaders van het Europees recht, met name de EU.

Het vak laat zien dat het Nederlandse staatsrecht in toenemende mate beïnvloed wordt door het Europees recht. De blik is op het Nederlandse staatsrecht, maar met een Europese bril. Daarbij komen verschillende onderdelen van het Nederlandse staatsrecht aan bod, zoals de wetgevende macht, het bestuur en de rechterlijke macht. Welke mogelijkheden heeft het Parlement bijvoorbeeld om de positie van Nederland in Europese onderhandelingen te controleren? En hoe draagt Europese wetgeving bij aan de veranderende rol van de rechter in Nederland?

Ook is er veel aandacht voor recente ontwikkelingen rondom digitalisering, grondrechten en klimaatbeleid. Deze ontwikkelingen worden aan de hand van Europese en Nederlandse literatuur geanalyseerd.

Dit vak bestaat uit drie pijlers:

- a) Kennis van het recht. Hoe is de interactie tussen het Europese en het Nederlandse staatsrecht juridisch georganiseerd?
- b) Inzicht in de relevante literatuur. Hoe wordt er in de academische literatuur gedacht over de gevolgen van Europese integratie voor het nationale constitutionele recht?
- c) Kennis van recente ontwikkelingen. Welke politieke/economische/juridische ontwikkelingen zijn er op dit moment gaande in de Europese Unie die hun weerslag kunnen hebben op het Nederlandse staatsrecht?

In het tentamen staan kennis van het recht en recente ontwikkelingen centraal. In het essay ligt de nadruk op een recente ontwikkeling en relevante academische literatuur.

De voertaal van dit vak is Nederlands, hoewel veel voorgeschreven literatuur Engelstalig is. Ook enkele colleges zijn in het Engels.

Course objectives

De doelstellingen van het vak liggen in lijn met de drie pijlers van het vak: kennis van het recht, inzicht in de literatuur, kennis van recente ontwikkelingen.

Leerdoelen van het vak:

1. De student heeft kennis van de verschillende vormen van juridische interactie tussen Europees en nationaal constitutioneel recht.
2. De student kan onderzoeken hoe recente ontwikkelingen in het Nederlandse staatsrecht zijn beïnvloed door Europese integratie.
3. De student kan analyseren op welke manier nationaal staatsrecht, en met name het Nederlandse staatsrecht, relevant is voor het proces van Europese integratie.
4. De student kan in een specifieke juridische casus de invloeden van nationaal en Europees constitutioneel recht identificeren, mede aan de hand van relevante academische literatuur.
5. De student kan ontwikkelingen in Europees constitutioneel recht en nationaal constitutioneel recht bekritisieren vanuit het perspectief van de goede samenwerking tussen Europees en nationaal recht.

De student kan communiceren over de uitkomst van een eigen analyse van een juridische casus door middel van een essay.

Prerequisites

- Afgeronde bachelor recht
- Basiskennis van het nationale staatsrecht en van het Europese recht wordt verondersteld

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur

Er wordt in dit vak geen gebruik gemaakt van een verplicht (hand)boek. De verplichte literatuur is online beschikbaar.

Aanbevolen literatuur

n.v.t.

European and National Constitutional Law

Faculty of Law

PUB4023

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

F. Peirone

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Paper(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Legitimacy, Multi Layered Legal Orders, Sovereignty, Democracy, Rule of Law, Human Rights, National Identities, Internationalization/Globalization/Europeanization, Integration, Economic Union, Political Union, Primacy, Direct Effect, Parliamentarization, Subsidiarity, Conferral.

Full course description

This Master Course is a compulsory component of the public law track in the European Law School (ELS) Master Programme and an elective for students in other ELS tracks, as well as those enrolled in the Master Programs Globalization and Law, International Laws, and Nederlands Recht. The course explores the relationship between EU law and national constitutional law in a comparative, multi-layered legal context. We examine key issues such as the evolution of national constitutional law under EU influence, democratic legitimacy in a multi-level system, the role of national courts in EU integration, and current rule of law challenges in Member States. The course adopts both a vertical (EU–Member State) and horizontal (comparative constitutional) approach, focusing on contemporary legal and political developments. Topics include the EU’s supranational authority, economic and monetary integration, judicial interactions, human rights, and rule of law crises. While rooted in law, the course recognizes the deeply political nature of constitutional structures, requiring students to understand the interplay between legal rules and political dynamics. This perspective is essential for any legal professional navigating EU and national governance structures. Though not a course in specific policy domains, it provides essential tools to analyze the constitutional implications of EU -

Member State interactions and prepares students to understand, anticipate, and engage in the evolving balance of powers within the EU legal order.

Course objectives

1. You will have a thorough understanding of the interaction between EU and national constitutional law.
2. You will be able to measure the Europeanization of national public law and to distinguish major or minor degrees of integration in different areas.
3. You will acquire the ability to argue for a greater (or lesser) degree of EU intervention in key areas of public law, and to assess the feasibility of such intervention.
4. You will be able to report on the status of the EU integration and to highlight the current problems in structured and persuading formats.
5. You will be able to pick up the most promising arguments and debate on the current EU/MS issues.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

This course builds upon the other preceding courses in the master European Law School, such as Advanced European Law and Fundamental Rights, and it aims to offer different perspectives in the interaction between the different levels of the multi-level system.

Recommended prior knowledge:

We do expect all students to possess knowledge of constitutional legal concepts and of their own constitutional system and the basis functioning of the EU law. We do recommend acquainting yourself of the necessary knowledge of (institutional) EU law. We also recommend you strongly to follow the relevant news about EU developments and relevant discussions and papers and documents. The sites of the Commission, Council, and Parliament contain extensive information on all relevant issues and topics. And possibly the same applies for the sites of parliaments and governments in your home country. For a general understanding of constitutional systems as to ministerial accountability, application of EU law, etc., we recommend Aalt Willem Heringa, *Constitutions Compared* (6th Eds., 2022).

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

The book on all subjects of this course is still in construction. All the chapters already available will be made available on Canvas. We will indicate all the relevant materials in advance, mostly by inserting the link to the relevant document, article or source. These sources are easily downloadable or may be

found in the university library. We assume that all students prepare themselves properly by reading the prescribed materials and preparing themselves for the tutorials and for discussion.

Recommended reading:

Many of the issues are that recent and fresh that we will have to cope with policy documents and academic articles. We are aware however that new developments sometimes may go quicker than we have foreseen, so we do reserve the right to add new links and documents where necessary. We will do so through Canvas.

Pensioen

Faculty of Law

TAX4004

Period 4:

2 Feb 2026

2 Apr 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.H.H. Bollen

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Pensioen, werknemer – werkgever, deelnemer, pensioenuitvoerder, pensioenovereenkomst, pensioenuitvoeringsovereenkomst, pensioenreglement, AOW, bestuursmodellen pensioenfondsen, Pensioenwet – Wet Toekomst Pensioenen, Loon- & Inkomstenbelasting, echtscheiding en pensioendeling, waardeoverdracht, Europese wet- en regelgeving & verdragstoepassing, emigratie, inkomende & uitgaande werknemers (mobiele werknemer) en gepensioneerden in het buitenland

Full course description

Dit blok heeft betrekking op de voorzieningen die 'pensioen' worden genoemd. Alvorens de fiscale aspecten onderzocht kunnen worden, zal de student zich verdiepen in de vraag wat onder pensioen wordt verstaan en hoe de niet-fiscale regels voor dit fenomeen in elkaar steken. Deze blijken over uiteenlopende rechtsgebieden te zijn verspreid. Ook wat het belastingrecht betreft, gaat het om een materie die in meer dan één wet aan de orde komt, waaronder loon- en inkomstenbelasting. Tevens wordt aandacht geschonken aan Europese en internationale aspecten. De stof in het blok wordt benaderd vanuit het perspectief van de natuurlijke persoon, namelijk de werknemer / deelnemer / gepensioneerde. De bijeenkomsten zijn thematisch opgezet en worden gekenmerkt door een interdisciplinair karakter. De bijeenkomsten staan op zichzelf maar daarnaast kan de opgedane kennis worden aangewend in de volgende bijeenkomsten. Vanuit het civiele en fiscale recht wordt de basis gegeven en in de daarop volgende bijeenkomsten wordt op specifieke pensioenproblematiek ingegaan, waarbij aandacht wordt gegeven aan de bestuursmodellen voor pensioenfondsen en hun bestuur, de inrichting van pensioenregelingen, de impact van de fiscale wet- en regelgeving, alsmede

life events zoals echtscheiding en emigratie. Wat de mobiliteit van werknemers betreft, wordt ingegaan op de grensoverschrijdende pensioenperikelen die daarbij opkomen. Denk bijvoorbeeld aan werknemers die over grens gaan werken of gedetacheerd worden of andersom werknemers uit het buitenland die tijdelijk in Nederland komen werken. Daarbij wordt niet alleen naar de opbouwfase gekeken, maar ook naar uitkeringsfase.

Course objectives

- De student verwerft kennis en inzicht in de breedte van het pensioendomein;
- De student leert werken met de zowel civiele als fiscale wetgeving en wordt zich ervan bewust dat verschillende soorten wetgeving onlosmakelijke met elkaar verbonden kunnen zijn;
- De student kan zijn kennis en inzicht toepassen op complexe pensioenvraagstukken die gekenmerkt wordt door interdisciplinariteit;
- De student doet kennis en inzicht op met betrekking tot de pensioenovereenkomst en het pensioenreglement en kan op basis daarvan analyses en beoordelingen maken en toepassen op vraagstukken;
- De student doet kennis en inzicht op met betrekking tot pensioenuitvoerders en meer specifiek met betrekking tot de bestuursmodellen voor pensioenfondsen en kan op basis daarvan analyses en beoordelingen maken en toepassen op vraagstukken;
- De student kan de civiele en fiscale consequenties met betrekking tot het pensioen analyseren en beoordelen in het geval een huwelijk/partnerschap eindigt in een scheiding en toepassen op vraagstukken;
- De student kan de civiele en fiscale wet- en regelgeving rondom pensioen op detailniveau toepassen die geldend is voor een (mobiele / internationale) werknemer en kan complexe vraagstukken beoordelen en oplossen;
- De student heeft kennis en inzicht opgedaan met betrekking tot de pensioenproblematiek vanuit een Europeesrechtelijk, grensoverschrijdend alsook verdragsrechtelijk perspectief en kan op basis daarvan analyses en beoordelingen maken en dit toepassen op vraagstukken.

Prerequisites

Volgtijdelijkheidseis :

NVT

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

NVT

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

- A.H.H. Bollen-Vandenboorn (red.), Pensioen en de belangrijkste toekomstvoorzieningen, SDU 2026, 17e druk (*verschijnt in januari 2026*)
- Reader Pensioen (wetgeving & verdragen 2026), *Printing-on-demand via Bureau Onderwijs*
- Belastingwetgeving, meest recente versie, *op toetsdatum dient u te beschikken over de wettekst 2026*

Aanbevolen literatuur:

NVT

Verdieping Materieel Strafrecht

Faculty of Law

CRI4005

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S. van der Aa

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper, Presentation

Keywords:

Materieel strafrecht/ strafrechtelijke aansprakelijkheid/ daderschap/ deelneming/ opzet/ schuld

Full course description

Het blok Verdieping Materieel strafrecht bouwt voort op het strafrechtelijke curriculum zoals dat in de eerste drie jaren van de studie Nederlands recht werd aangeboden. Uit de naam van het blok blijkt al dat veel van de thema's die thans aan de orde komen in enige mate eerder de revue zijn gepasseerd. De in Inleiding strafprocesrecht (1.2) en Strafprocesrecht (2.5) verworven kennis wordt dan ook bekend verondersteld. De inhoud van het blok is afgestemd op die van andere blokken in het curriculum, in het bijzonder Crime and Criminal Policy en materieel Strafrecht en Crim. Politiek (3.2), Materieel Strafrecht en Criminele Politiek (3.5) en de masterblokken profiel Strafrecht Nederlands recht en de Master Forensica.

Het blok stelt zich tot doel de verschillende aspecten van het Nederlandse materiële strafrecht nader te analyseren. De focus ligt daarbij op het algemeen deel van het Nederlandse strafrecht met betrekking tot de strafrechtelijke aansprakelijkheid van natuurlijke personen. Hierbij zal een selectie worden gemaakt van enkele belangrijke materieelrechtelijke leerstukken. Sommige thema's worden rechtsvergelijkend behandeld en andere worden geplaatst in de juiste internationale of Europese context.

Course objectives

Van studenten wordt verwacht dat zij, na een succesvolle afronding van het blok een grondige kennis van en een goed inzicht hebben in het materiële strafrecht. Dat veronderstelt in het bijzonder een goede kennis van opzet en schuld, daderschap en deelneming, poging en voorbereiding en de strafuitsluitingsgronden, alsmede de specifieke problemen die zich daarbij kunnen voordoen. Naast het verwerven van kennis en een inzicht in het Nederlandse strafrecht wordt van studenten verder verwacht dat ze deze kennis kunnen toepassen en concrete, juridische problemen uit de praktijk kunnen analyseren en oplossen. Studenten worden ook geacht om bij de toepassing van de verworven kennis in staat te zijn om zowel mondeling als ook schriftelijk juridisch te kunnen argumenteren en kritisch te reflecteren om zodoende tot juridisch relevante en academisch verantwoorde conclusies te komen. Verder worden studenten geacht om verschillende juridische standpunten met elkaar te kunnen vergelijken en kritisch te kunnen evalueren.

Prerequisites

Geen

Aanbevolen voorkennis

Studenten die niet beschikken over een bachelor (Nederlands) recht wordt dringend afgeraden dit blok te volgen. De ervaring leert dat het niveau dan te hoog is.

Recommended reading

- J. de Hullu, Materieel Strafrecht, 8e druk 2021;
- Reader met aanvullende literatuur en rechtspraak

Forensische Accountancy

Faculty of Law

CRI4013

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

A.H.M. van Bree

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation and paper

Keywords:

Accountants; Forensische Accountants; Fraude; Interne Controle; Corporate governance; Opsporingstechnieken van fraude; Auditing; Wet- en regelgeving voor (forensische) accountants; Boekhoudschandalen; Wetboek van Strafrecht; Jurisprudentie voor (forensische) accountants.

Full course description

De laatste jaren is er steeds meer aandacht voor nieuwe soorten criminaliteit (denk aan cybercrime), die andere opsporingstechnieken vereisen. Ook om deze criminaliteit te bestrijden is en blijft financiële expertise noodzakelijk. Deze financiële expertise kan worden ingebracht door een forensisch accountant. De forensisch accountant is een gespecialiseerde (register) accountant die zich bezighoudt met (potentiële rechts)zaken waarbij in het kader van de bewijsvoering financieel-economische deskundigheid is vereist. Een forensisch accountant houdt zich veelal, maar niet uitsluitend, bezig met de preventie en opsporing van fraude en heeft veel inzicht en kennis op deze vakgebieden, die hij toepast in praktijksituaties op basis van zijn wetenschappelijke kennis. Daarnaast kan hij ook een rol spelen bij de bewijsvoering en de bepaling van het te ontnemen bedrag. Onderwerpen die in dit blok aan de orde komen zijn onder meer de controletechnieken die bij fraudebestrijding worden gebruikt, het bespreken van de werkzaamheden van een forensisch accountant en hoe frauduleuze rapportages kunnen worden opgespoord. Er wordt ook stilgestaan bij de recente boekhoudschandalen omdat ook de accountant die jaarrekeningen van (beursgenoteerde) ondernemingen controleert een verantwoordelijkheid heeft hierbij materiële fouten en fraude te ontdekken.

De volgende onderwerpen komen aan bod:

1. Forensische Accountancy: achtergrond, ontstaansgeschiedenis en huidige positionering.
2. Financial Accounting: basisbegrippen, zoals de gevolgen van scheiding tussen eigendom en management, de belangrijkste financiële verslagen (balans, resultatenrekening en kasstroomoverzicht) en de verslaggevingsprincipes accrual accounting en cash accounting.
3. Fraudepreventie: wat zijn internal control en corporate governance en hoe worden dit toegepast bij organisaties.
4. Controletechnieken bij fraudedetectie: de mogelijkheden en bevoegdheden van accountants bij fraude-opsporing.
5. Fraudebestrijding en het recht: de forensisch accountant en de wet- en regelgeving waaraan moet worden voldoen.
6. De mens achter de fraude: waarom pleegt iemand fraude, terwijl hij weet dat het strafbaar is?
7. Ontneming en capita selecta in het kader van accounting fraude.

Course objectives

Doelstelling van dit blok is om de studenten op een gedegen manier kennis te laten maken met het forensisch specialisme binnen de accountancy en een beeld te schetsen van de mogelijkheden die deze tak van sport biedt. Nader gespecificeerd:

- Kennis en inzicht krijgen in de werkzaamheden van accountants in het algemeen en forensische accountants in het bijzonder
- Kennis krijgen over begrippen als interne controle, corporate governance, de 'fraudedriehoek' en verslaggeving
- Kennis krijgen van het strafrecht dat relevant is voor forensische accountants en van jurisprudentie en wetenschappelijk onderzoek op dit gebied.
- Het toepassen en beoordelen van deze kennis in een drietal cases in subgroepen en het schrijven van 3 papers hierover
- Het presenteren van één van deze drie cases

Recommended reading

Literatuur (verplicht):

- Boek
- Reader met artikelen
- Relevante jurisprudentie

Transforensic Psychiatry

Faculty of Law

CRI4027

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

G. Esquivel

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

Transforensic psychiatry, psychopathological behaviour; forensic mental health; violence risk assessment.

Full course description

The Netherlands is internationally recognised for its advanced forensic mental healthcare.

Traditionally, however, access to such care has been limited to individuals placed under judicial measures—those whose psychiatric disorders have led to court-mandated treatment following criminal charges. But what happens to those who fall outside the legal system, yet still pose a significant risk to themselves or others?

Many individuals with severe mental illness and high-risk behaviour never enter the forensic system. Their actions may be disturbing or dangerous, yet they often go unreported, are deemed insufficiently severe, or do not meet the legal criteria—such as adequate evidence—to warrant compulsory forensic intervention. Consequently, these individuals are frequently left to the care of general mental health services, which may lack the specialist expertise required to manage such complex cases effectively.

This course introduces **Transforensic Psychiatry**, an emerging field aimed at addressing these systemic gaps. It focuses on individuals situated in a 'grey zone': those not legally mandated to receive forensic care, yet who nevertheless require it due to serious psychopathology and behaviour verging on criminality.

Using the Dutch legal and mental healthcare systems as a central case study, students will explore how clinical, legal, and ethical perspectives converge in shaping responses to risk and responsibility. The course encourages critical engagement with real-world dilemmas at the intersection of psychiatry, public safety, and justice. Through the analysis of case studies, expert perspectives, and interdisciplinary debate, students will develop a nuanced understanding of **transforensic** care.

Course objectives

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Define and contextualise **Transforensic Psychiatry** as an emerging field that bridges general psychiatric care and forensic mental health services.
- Recognise how psychiatric disorders—such as psychosis, addiction, or personality disorders—can contribute to high-risk or borderline criminal behaviour.
- Demonstrate foundational knowledge of the neurobiological mechanisms underlying aggression and addiction and explore therapeutic and institutional strategies for managing these conditions.
- Identify and evaluate the clinical and procedural criteria for compulsory psychiatric treatment and understand how such measures are applied in practice.
- Understand the role and structure of psychiatric and psychological expert reports, and how these reports inform judicial and clinical decision-making.
- Critically reflect on how risk is assessed and managed within forensic and **transforensic** contexts, and how these assessments influence treatment strategies and public protection.

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

TBD

Recommended reading:

JMLG, À. C., A. van Impelen, N. Hamakers and H. L. I. Nijman (2023). "Transforensic psychiatry: Addressing inpatient aggression in the "gray zone" between general and forensic psychiatric care." Behav Sci Law 41(4): 141-154.

European Migration and Asylum Law

Faculty of Law

IER4001

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

E. Tsourdi

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Work in subgroups

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

EU Migration and Asylum Law, Citizenship and Statelessness, Refugee Protection, Labour Migration, Family Reunification, External Border Control, Visa Policy, Return Policy, Fundamental Rights, Administrative Governance

Full course description

This course provides an advanced conceptual understanding of the content, workings, and shortcomings of EU law and policy in migration, asylum, external border control, return, as well as of the law of statelessness and citizenship. It also focuses on the interaction of EU law with international refugee, migration, and international and regional human rights law.

The course covers the core issues in asylum law, refugee law, and human rights law that define the scope of international protection and the rights of forced migrants. It critically assesses legal migration regulation in the EU, with a focus on labour migration, family reunification, and integration. It appraises the development of the visa and external border control policies and their intersection with EU's asylum and return policies. Apart from the constitutional dimension, the course delves into the policies' administrative governance, focusing on key elements such as the role of EU agencies in policy formulation, implementation, and enforcement. Finally, the course analyses the legal requirements for acquisition and loss of nationality from comparative and transnational perspectives, as well as the legal framework surrounding statelessness.

Lectures will be interactive and involve the close analysis of legal texts, as well as more general scholarly discussion, often focusing on interdisciplinary readings, framing the legal issues in more political and theoretical terms. The weekly tutorials will focus on critical legal perspectives or practical legal skills exercises. Legal skills exercises include analysing treaty provisions or case law or taking part in the more elaborate Refugee Law Moot Court.

Teaching methods

Interactive lectures and PBL tutorials, refugee law moot court

Formative Assessments

The formative assessments will consist of legal problem-solving exercises, the refugee law moot court, and legal argumentation and debate in class.

Summative Assessments

The course is assessed by means of a written assignment more heavily geared towards legal problem solving and the second is a written exam.

Course objectives

By the end of the course, you will:

1. Acquire a critical understanding of the content, workings, and shortcomings of EU law on migration and asylum;
2. Gain a deeper understanding on the interrelationship between EU law on migration and asylum, international refugee and migration law, and international and regional human rights law;
3. Analyse and evaluate case-law of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights on migration and asylum;
4. Debate and critically analyse legal and interdisciplinary scholarship on migration law;
5. Develop the skills of legal analysis, argumentation, problem solving, creative thinking and critical reflection.

Prerequisites

It is an advantage if students have followed a course on EU constitutional/institutional law.

Recommended reading

Below are suggested general Handbooks and textbooks for the course. Detailed thematic readings per week will be provided through the virtual learning environment.

- Vincent Chetail, *International Migration Law* (OUP, 2019)

- Cathryn Costello, Michelle Foster, and Jane McAdam (eds) *Oxford Handbook of International Refugee Law* (Oxford University Press 2021)
- Steve Peers, *EU Justice and Home Affairs Law: Volume I: EU Immigration and Asylum Law* (OUP, 5 th edn 2023)
- Daniel Thym, *European Migration Law* (OUP, 2023)
- Evangelia (Lilian) Tsourdi and Philippe De Bruycker, *Research Handbook on EU Migration and Asylum Law* (Edward Elgar 2022)

External Relations of the European Union

Faculty of Law

IER4003

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

R.A. Ott

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper

Full course description

The course focuses on the legal and constitutional foundations of the EU's external relations. For this purpose the course divides into two parts. The first part is devoted to the Treaty foundations for external relations and its external policies, highlighting relevant case law and Treaty provisions. The case law of the European Court of Justice (CJEU) had and has a strong influence on the interpretation of competences, effect (and direct effect) of international law and international treaty law in the past. Important aspects of this case law have been codified and updated with the Lisbon Treaty. The second part of the course will focus on a few selected and important external policies. More specifically we will concentrate on the (i) EU Trade Policy, (ii) EU Development Policy, (iii) EU Common Foreign and Security Policy and (iv) EU Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy. While the lectures will introduce into the different topics, the tutorials aim to further the knowledge on the EU external relations principles but also discuss matters such as the external dimension of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice, the participation of the Union in international organizations and the role of the European Parliament after Lisbon.

The course builds on knowledge acquired in previous EU law courses, especially EU institutional law. For students who have no prior knowledge on this subject, they are advised to consult general EU law books which cover EU competences, legal remedies, hierarchy of norms and direct effect in general and especially in regard to international agreements.

Course objectives

Successful participants:

- will have acquired in-depth knowledge about the political and legal dimension of EU external relations law. They will be able to reflect on the characteristics and difficulties linked to this topic and connect to their knowledge gained in other courses, especially EU institutional law and substantive law;
- will have gained new insights into how to apply their knowledge and understanding of EU external relations law to identify specific problems, form coherent arguments, and develop problem-focused interpretations (both orally and in text). They will be able to apply their abstract knowledge acquired by lecture and reading on different cases and come to a balanced and argued conclusion;
- will gain experience and understanding in case law, legislation and literature in EU external relations law and develop a deeper understanding of EU law and political and legal problems arising from European Union polity. They will improve their writing and argumentation skills from an external relational law perspective during the course through weekly written and oral assignments;
- will have become more skillful in communicating legal theory, case law findings and own ideas to their peers;
- will thereby have further developed learning skills that will prepare them for their final Master Paper as well as for future academic education and/or work in practice.

Prerequisites

EU Institutional law

Recommended reading

To be announced

State Aid and Public Procurement in the EU

Faculty of Law

IER4014

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

S.L.T. Schoenmaekers

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Presentation

Keywords:

Public procurement, state aid, competition, services of general economic interest

Full course description

This course studies the connection between public procurement law and competition law, in particular State aid law.

During the course these fields of law will first be studied separately, both from a legal and an economic angle.

Then their important underlying relationship will be discussed. In this regard particular focus will be paid to the money streams flowing from the public to the private sector in public procurement procedures and the real risk that payments made on the basis of such procedure constitute incompatible or illegal grants of State aid.

Recent developments in the fields of State aid and public procurement will be focused on as well, such as the increased emphasis on the non-economic goals of public procurement and (geo)political developments that lead to an increased focus on national instead of European and/or international markets.

Course objectives

The aim of this course is to help students:

- study the field of Public Procurement and State Aid law with a view to mastering the relevant legal principles and applying them to real life cases;

- reflect on the purposes of Public Procurement and State Aid law, their place in the legal framework for the internal market of the European Union and their interface with legal systems of the Member States;
- assess the role of each of the actors in Public Procurement and State Aid law, both at EU level and at national level;
- use the primary legal sources: Treaty provisions, secondary law, case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union and the administrative practice of the European Commission;
- analyse and evaluate new developments in the case law of the EU courts or in the administrative practice of the Commission and assess their consequences;

Prerequisites

N/A

Recommended reading

TBD

The Law of the Economic and Monetary Union

Faculty of Law

IER4020

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. De Smet

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s), Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper, Assignment

Keywords:

fiscal policy, European Stability Mechanism, Euro, monetary policy, European Central Bank, Eurogroup, banking union, Single Supervisory Mechanism, Single Resolution Mechanism

Full course description

The Economic and Monetary Union represents the “pinnacle” of European integration. It is based on novel procedures of cooperation between the EU and the Member States, which may culminate in serious sanctions, and the establishment of the exclusive competence of the EU in the monetary field. The course examines in detail the primary and secondary law and landmark judgments on fiscal and monetary policies, the European Stability Mechanism, and the division of competences between EU institutions and Member States. An important aspect of the course is a critical assessment of the effectiveness of the rules and of institutional accountability. The course starts with an explanation of the reasons for and the consequences of monetary integration and the evolution towards monetary union. It then reviews the relevant legislation and institutional responsibilities on fiscal and monetary policies and, in particular, the role of the Council, the European Commission and the ECB. It assesses decision-making procedures on fiscal and monetary policies and identifies their strength and weaknesses. The course concludes with an analysis of the banking union, the Single Supervisory Mechanism and the Single Resolution Mechanism.

Course objectives

Goals:

- Students demonstrate a thorough understanding of Treaty provisions and secondary legislation on the EMU.
- Students can critically assess the decision-making procedures and institutional structures of the EMU.
- Students can evaluate the effectiveness of multiple reforms of the rules of the EMU during the past decade.
- Students can explain the reasons for functional independence and appraise with rigorous argumentation the accountability of the institutions responsible for fiscal and monetary policies.
- Students can analyse the main pleas raised in landmark judgments and identify their strengths and weaknesses.

Objectives:

- In-depth review of the evolution and reasons for the EMU.
- Detailed understanding of the legal and institutional framework of the EMU, including the roles and responsibilities of the various institutions and agencies.
- Critical evaluation of the rules and structures of the EMU and the banking union.
- Comprehensive analysis of the case law on Treaty provisions and secondary legislation on the EMU.
- Synthesis of past problems, recent solutions and remaining challenges facing the EMU.

Prerequisites

None

Recommended prior knowledge

Students should have a good knowledge of the institutions and decision-making process and the principles of EU law concerning free movement in the internal market and some knowledge of EU competition rules.

Recommended reading

Alberto Saravalle, *An Introduction to the Law of Economic and Monetary Union*, (Edward Elgar, 2021).

European Data Protection and Privacy Law

Faculty of Law

IER4026

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

K.I. Podstawa

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Assignment, Take home exam

Keywords:

Personal data, data protection, data governance, cybersecurity, AI, regulation, innovation, regulation, compliance

Full course description

In an era defined by artificial intelligence, algorithmic decision-making, and global data flows, the question of how to regulate new technologies while safeguarding fundamental rights has never been more urgent. As governments and institutions race to develop ethical frameworks for digital innovation, **privacy and data protection have emerged as cornerstones of democratic governance and individual autonomy** in the 21st century.

This course offers a deep dive into how the **European Union** has positioned itself as a global leader in privacy regulation—most notably through the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**—and how these rules shape not only European society but also influence global tech policy.

What's the course about?

You'll explore how privacy and data protection have evolved into fundamental rights in the EU, and how they now influence everything from tech innovation to international trade. The course examines the GDPR as a global benchmark and explores its interaction with other major EU laws like the **Digital Governance Act, AI Act**, and **ePrivacy Directive**.

Why take this course?

- Gain **practical and theoretical knowledge** of EU data protection law.
- Understand how data protection intersects with **technology, economics, human rights, and global governance** .
- Enjoy interactions with **guest speakers** to gain more insight on specific topics.
- Participate in **interactive tutorials** , including the *Privacy Pursuit Game* and real-world case studies from the perspective of a privacy counsel.
- Prepare for careers in **law, compliance, tech policy, or data governance** —fields where privacy expertise is increasingly essential.

Who should take this course?

This course is ideal for students with an interest in **EU law, human rights, digital regulation, or tech policy** . No prior knowledge of data protection is required, but a basic understanding of EU law and digital technologies will be helpful—and we'll provide resources to help you catch up if needed.

How is it taught?

The course combines **lectures** , **problem-based tutorials** , and **group work** . You'll explore real-life scenarios, analyse case law, and develop your own legal arguments. A preparatory module on Canvas helps you get up to speed with the basics of law, technology, and economics.

Assessment:

- Take home exam (85%)
- Group work in class (Privacy Pursuit Game) (15%)

Course objectives

By the end of the course, you'll be able to:

- Navigate the core principles of the GDPR and related EU laws.
- Understand key legal concepts like data subject rights, accountability, consent, and enforcement.
- Analyse how data protection interacts with other legal areas like data governance and cybersecurity.
- Apply your knowledge to real-world challenges through case studies and group discussions.

Prerequisites

Prerequisite:

N/A

Recommended prior knowledge:

Prior knowledge of European Union Law is highly recommended. Knowledge of human rights protection in Europe will be an advantage. Basic understanding of economics behind digital economy is essential.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

- Fundamental Rights Agency, Handbook on European data protection law (FRA, 2018) available at < <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2018/handbook-european-data-protection-law> > (Available for free, can be ordered in a print version via the European Commission bookstore; it offers a good starting point for the analysis, but ATTENTION, it is slightly dated)
- I. Kamara, 'Standardizing Personal Data Protection' (OUP, 2025)
- E. Kosta, R. Leens and I. Kamara, Research Handbook on EU Data Protection Law (Edward Elgar, 2022), ebook
- C. Kuner, L.A. Bygrave, and C. Docksey, Commentary on the EU General Data Protection Regulation

(Oxford University Press, 2020). Please note that the authors are currently updating the commentary (to be published in 2026) and have released a selection of articles available here:

[https://www.jus.uio.no/ifp/english/research/publications/books/oup-gdpr-commentary---2nd-edition---compilation-\(march-2025\)---updated.pdf](https://www.jus.uio.no/ifp/english/research/publications/books/oup-gdpr-commentary---2nd-edition---compilation-(march-2025)---updated.pdf)

- NOYB, GDPR Hub (collection of analysis, summaries of case law on EU and national level) accessible at < <https://noyb.eu/en/gdprhub> >
- M.-G. Porcedda, 'Cybersecurity, Privacy and Data Protection in EU Law – A Law, Policy and Technology Analysis' (Bloomsbury, 2023)
- B. Rainery, E. Wicks and C. Ovey, Jacobs, White and Ovey - The European Convention on Human Rights (OUP 2017), Chapter 16: Protecting private life, the home and correspondence

Recommended reading:

Please follow recommended reading sections on Canvas.

Gezondheidsrecht II

Faculty of Law

LAW4002

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J. Cox - Brinkman

Teaching methods:

PBL, Assignment(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assignment

Keywords:

Bestuur en toezicht in zorginstellingen, medezeggenschap in zorginstellingen, toetreding van zorginstellingen tot de zorg‘markt’, rechtspositie van medisch specialisten, medisch-specialistisch bedrijf, disfunctioneren van medisch specialisten, medische aansprakelijkheid, aansprakelijkheid van arbodiensten, bedrijfsartsen, UWV en verzekeringsartsen.

Full course description

Wie heeft welke rol en verantwoordelijkheden in een zorginstelling, zoals een ziekenhuis? Moet er naast een Raad van Bestuur altijd een toezichthoudend orgaan zijn, en in hoeverre kunnen medezeggenschapsorganen, zoals een cliëntenraad, invloed hebben op het gevoerde beleid? Wat is de rechtspositie van medisch specialisten, en hoe te handelen bij mogelijk disfunctioneren, misschien zelfs grensoverschrijdend handelen, van een medisch specialist of een andere zorgverlener? Wat kan een patiënt doen als hij schade heeft geleden door het handelen van één of meer zorgverleners? Er moet allereerst sprake zijn van een medische fout, maar wanneer is sprake van een normschending? En aan welke voorwaarden moet eveneens worden voldaan wil de schadevergoedingsvordering van een patiënt succesvol zijn?

In het blok Gezondheidsrecht II staat allereerst de bestuurlijke inrichting (*governance*) van zorginstellingen, in het bijzonder ziekenhuizen, centraal. Goed bestuur is een voorwaarde voor goede zorg en dit weerspiegelt zich in de, uitgebreidere, wet- en regelgeving over toetreding tot de zorg‘markt’ en bestuur, toezicht en medezeggenschap binnen zorginstellingen. Waar het de kwaliteit

van de zorg betreft, is een belangrijke rol weggelegd voor de zorgverleners. In ziekenhuizen betreft het onder andere de medisch specialisten. Hun rechtspositie en (dis)functioneren zal daarom eveneens onder de loep worden genomen. Daarna spitst de aandacht zich toe op het medisch aansprakelijkheidsrecht. Daarmee verband houdende vraagstukken, waaronder dat van causaliteit en schadevergoeding, komen uitgebreid aan de orde. Het medisch aansprakelijkheidsrecht biedt bij uitstek de gelegenheid om te bezien hoe meer complexe aansprakelijkheidskwesties op medisch en sociaal-medisch (bedrijfsarts, verzekeringsarts) terrein moeten/kunnen worden opgelost.

Course objectives

Na het volgen van dit vak heb je:

- een goed beeld van de bestuurlijke inrichting van zorginstellingen en de voorwaarden voor toetreding door zorginstellingen tot (het verlenen van zorg op) de zorg‘markt’;
- inzicht in de rechtspositie van zorgverleners, in het bijzonder medisch specialisten, binnen zorginstellingen, en in het functioneren van medisch-specialistische bedrijven (MSB’s);
- goede kennis van het medisch aansprakelijkheidsrecht en de vraagstukken daarbinnen
- de vaardigheden die nodig zijn om gezondheidsrechtelijke vraagstukken met betrekking tot het (dis)functioneren van zorginstellingen, de daarin/daarvoor werkzame zorgverleners en hun mogelijke aansprakelijkheid te herkennen en juridisch-gezondheidsrechtelijk te analyseren, waar het de zorgverleners betreft met inbegrip van degenen die werkzaam zijn op het terrein van de bedrijfs- en de verzekeringsgeneeskunde.

Prerequisites

Bij voorkeur heb je het vak Gezondheidsrecht I gevolgd.

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Kennis van het publiekrecht en het privaatrecht op het niveau van een voltooide bachelor Nederlands recht.

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

- Legemaate, J. en Kastelein, W.R., *Sdu Wettenverzameling Gezondheidsrecht 2025-2026*, Den Haag: Sdu Uitgevers, 2025.
- Wijne, R.P., *Medische aansprakelijkheid*, tweede druk, Nijmegen: Ars Aequi Libri 2019.

Aanbevolen literatuur:

- Dooren, E. van, Dijk, F. van, Voort, M. van der en Lam, E., *Samenwerken tussen zorgorganisaties. Over contract, joint venture en fusie*, Houten: Bohn Stafleu van Loghum 2022 (*E-Book*)
- Leenen, H.J.J. e.a., *Handboek gezondheidsrecht*, negende druk, Den Haag: Boom juridisch 2024 (*E-Book*).
- Wijne, R.P., *De geneeskundige behandelingsovereenkomst*, Monografieën BW Deel B87, tweede druk, Deventer: Kluwer 2021.
- Wijne, R.P., *Aansprakelijkheid voor zorggerelateerde schade. De geneeskundige behandeling en de aansprakelijkheid bij schade van de patiënt*, vierde druk, Den Haag: Boom juridisch 2024.

Law and Economics

Faculty of Law

LAW4006

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

N.J. Philipsen

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Keywords:

Law and Economics, Property, Contracts, Torts, Regulation, Federalism, Crime, Competition, Corporate Governance.

Full course description

This course (which fits in every master programme) introduces you to the economic analysis of law, commonly known as law & economics (L&E). In applying economic concepts to legal rules and rulings, L&E attempts to determine efficient law or to point out the trade-off between efficiency and social values such as distribution, fairness, sustainability, and non-discrimination. L&E is on the curriculum of every major law school in the United States, Europe, and other parts of the world. The field of L&E counts many prestigious scholarly journals and received general recognition when Ronald Coase, one of the founding fathers of L&E, won the Nobel Prize for Economics in 1991. In an ever-growing number of court decisions as well as in professional journals and in policymaking, the results of L&E research are put to their use. This course teaches you to assess which legal instrument is best designed to deal efficiently with a social problem and how different allocations of legal rights affect efficiency and distribution. All domains of the law are suitable for economic analysis. For example, with respect to tort law an important question is how this law can contribute to reach a minimisation of total accident costs. Other topics discussed in this course include the economics of contract law, crime, intellectual property rights, competition law, insurance, corporate governance, public law, and federalism (harmonisation of laws). You are also invited to ask the teachers to apply law and economics to any area of law you are interested in, so you can benefit most from this course.

Course objectives

You will learn to study the law from a different (i.e. economic) perspective. They will be able to apply economic concepts and methods such as transaction costs, efficiency, and game theory in the analysis of laws, regulations and court decisions.

You will be able to recognize policy tradeoffs between efficiency and other values, such as fairness, non-discrimination, environmental protection and protection of weaker parties.

You will be able to understand law and economics contributions to specialized (academic) journals, policy reports and court cases.

Prerequisites

None

Recommended reading

Law and Economics, by R. Cooter and T. Ulen (free e-book). Texts written specifically for this course by members of the course planning group, journal articles (available in library), one chapter from the book Economic Analysis of Law, by R. Posner (also in library) and parts of the book The Anatomy of Corporate Law, by Kraakman et al (also in library).

OM en Rechtshandhaving

Faculty of Law

LAW4041

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

F.G. van Kleef

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Final paper

Keywords:

Openbaar ministerie, Opsporing, Vervolging, Rechtshandhaving, Strafrechtelijk beleid.

Full course description

Welke verantwoordelijkheden heeft een officier van justitie? Hoe ver reikt de magistratelijke rol van een officier van justitie? Ben je 24/7 officier van justitie? Hoe verloopt de samenwerking tussen het OM en de politie? Welke thema's zijn actueel binnen het OM? En welke ontwikkelingen veranderen de rol van het OM in de rechtshandhaving?

In het vak OM & rechtshandhaving verdiep je je in de unieke positie en verantwoordelijkheden van het OM. Je doet kennis op over ontwikkelingen binnen de organisatie van het OM. Je leert hoe de verhoudingen zijn tussen het OM, de Minister van Justitie en Veiligheid, de politie, de strafrechter en bestuurlijke autoriteiten. Verder bestudeer je belangrijke dilemma's waar het OM mee te maken heeft, zoals integriteit en misstappen (denk aan het Marengo-proces). Verder verdiep je je in actuele ontwikkelingen en thema's zoals de aanpak van witwassen, verschillende afdoeningsmogelijkheden (zoals strafbeschikking, transactie en procesafspraken), discriminatie, jeugdcriminaliteit, femicide en de strafrechtelijke aanpak van seksuele misdrijven. Je gaat aan de slag met literatuur en praktijkgerichte casussen in onderwijsgroepen. Gastsprekers van het Openbaar Ministerie verzorgen een deel van de hoorcolleges. Dat zorgt voor een directe link met het werkveld. Zo leer je niet alleen de theorie, maar zie je ook hoe mensen uit het veld die toepassen.

Course objectives

Na het volgen van dit vak heb je:

- een goed beeld over het ontstaan van de (huidige) organisatie van het OM
- kennis over (actuele) ontwikkelingen over de veranderende rol van het OM in de rechtshandhaving
- inzicht in de rol en verantwoordelijkheden van het OM en de richting van het strafrechtelijke beleid
- inzicht in de verschillende afdoeningsmodaliteiten
- begrip over de verhouding en samenwerking met verschillende ketenpartners
- kennis over de aanpak en het beleid rondom verschillende strafrechtelijke thema's, zoals jeugdcriminaliteit, afpakken van crimineel vermogen en discriminatie.

Prerequisites

NVT

Aanbevolen voorkennis:

Kennis van het straf(proces)recht op bachelorniveau.

Recommended reading

Verplichte literatuur:

- Handboek
- Reader
- OM aanwijzingen en richtlijnen

Aanbevolen literatuur:

NVT

Networks, Security and Regulations

Faculty of Law

LAW4106

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

J.T. Gunawan

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam, Assessment

Keywords:

Networks, cybersecurity, technology, data protection, hacking

Full course description

We live in a connected world, and the underlying networking infrastructure and data transmitted over it must be secured from unauthorized access and misuse. Ensuring proper governance and protection of IT, the networks, and data are vital for individuals, non-profits, corporations, and the public sector. Hence, the topic of security—ranging from IT to network security and cybersecurity—is a rapidly growing and evolving area that different regulations (including standards) address.

This course introduces students to the ever-important field of information and network security, the technical tools developed to remedy certain challenges, the organizations in charge of security, and the regulations in place to address mishaps and attacks. Building on European Data Protection and Privacy Law, students in this course learn about key areas in cybersecurity surrounding concepts like the CIA triad (confidentiality, integrity, availability) and security principles. By means of examples, you will learn how encryption algorithms like RSA function and how they can safeguard data, as well as methods to anonymize data. At the end of the course, you will not only understand how encryption algorithms, authentication, and authorization can contribute to network and data security but also how these concepts affect data governance overall.

Assessment methods

Students will be given short assignments throughout the period to assess knowledge retention (as the course covers a lot of potentially new concepts and material), with a midterm exam and final written exam.

Course objectives

- Students describe and compare the underlying technologies and structures that secure today's hardware and software.
- Students describe and compare known methods of attacking technological infrastructures, and identify common remedies against them.
- Students situate European data protection and cybersecurity regulations against their newly acquired technical knowledge; in particular articulating which regulations secure which technologies or their parts.
- Students evaluate recent landmark security incidents and assess compliance to known regulation.
- Students articulate the strengths and limitations of mitigation strategies in securing modern technologies.

Prerequisites

Pre-requisites:

Students should have taken Introduction to Modern Computing in Period 2 of this Masters' programme.

Recommended prior knowledge:

Students should have a basic idea of technical code/data structures and architectures.

Recommended reading

Mandatory reading:

Mandatory literature will be provided during the course, and will be from open-source, free sources.

Recommended reading:

Recommended literature will be provided in the course syllabus, and typically cover cutting-edge cybersecurity research from technical and legal domains.

The Good Lawyer

Faculty of Law

MET4063

Period 5:

13 Apr 2026

12 Jun 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

B. Böhler

Teaching methods:

PBL, Lecture(s)

Assessment methods:

Final paper, Assignment

Keywords:

rule of law, legal ethics, lawyer, professional ethics,, professional ethics,

Full course description

A lawyer fulfils an important task representing the interests of the client and upholding the rule of law, inside as well as outside of the courtroom. But whereas in the past the 'ethical behaviour of the attorney' was considered a given, it is now a topic of debate and often, for concern. In this course legal ethics will be approached from a critical point of view. Students will not only get acquainted with the role of the lawyer within the legal system but also with the theoretical foundation necessary for interpreting this role. In addition, we will look at the rules and regulations of the lawyer's professional ethics and we will consider solutions for 'real life' ethical dilemmas.

Course objectives

Apart from gaining knowledge of professional ethics, the goal of the course is to sharpen the students' ability to render ethical judgements and to solve ethical problems. To this end the following learning outcomes are defined (and assessed): Knowledge and insight - rules and regulations of the lawyer's professional ethics - the task and role of the attorney within the legal system Applying knowledge and insight, judgement and communication - being able to critically reflect on the role of the lawyer - being able to identify, analyse and assess ethical dilemmas - being able to distil ethical problems from a set of facts and apply the relevant rules of professional ethics to the case - being able to communicate (orally and in writing) the analysis of a case and present an appropriate solution

Prerequisites

None

↻ Load more...

Master internship GAL (6)

Faculty of Law

LAW4570

Year:

1 Sep 2025

31 Aug 2026

Credits:

6.0

Coordinator:

C.A.E. FranssenK.G.M. Mertens

Teaching methods:

Assessment methods:

Final paper

Keywords:

Internship, practical experience

Full course description

The internship is a practical elective. You work on intended learning outcomes related to your competences and scientific knowledge that is related to your master.

You search for an internship organisation yourself and discuss with the supervisor at the internship organisation on what specific learning outcomes you can work during the internship by performing your tasks. From the faculty you will have a faculty supervisor who reads your internship diaries and assesses the internship report.

The internship lasts for a minimum of 20 internship days (160 hours). The internship can be undertaken part time (minimum of 2 days per week) or full time.

100% working from your home office is not allowed. Hybrid internships are possible.

Assessment methods:

Assessment by the internship organisation

- ☒ Internship report
- ☒ Internship diary

Course objectives

- Working on writing competences
- Analysing
- Working in a team
- Applying legal knowledge in practice
- Communication
- Presenting
- Learning to prioritise

Prerequisites

In order to be able to receive credits for the internship you have to submit an internship proposal to the internship coordinator. The internship coordinator assesses whether the proposal meets the conditions set forth in the internship guidelines. You can consult the internship guidelines on the student intranet.

Master Thesis Globalisation and Law

Faculty of Law

LAW4075

Year:

1 Sep 2025

31 Aug 2026

Credits:

12.0

Coordinator:

L. Díez Sánchez

Teaching methods:

PBL

Assessment methods:

Written exam

Course objectives

The student is able to autonomously formulate a legal research question at Master's level and to provide an answer to this question in a legally and linguistically correct and structured manner and with adequate references.

The student is able to collect and interpret relevant legal sources, and where necessary also social and scientific data, with the aim of formulating an opinion on a legal question. This opinion is based on the weighing of relevant legal and possibly societal or ethical aspects.

In answering the research question, the student is able to apply his/her knowledge and insight in such a way that this shows a professional approach to his/her work or profession.

The student demonstrates knowledge and understanding and is able to contribute to the development and/or application of original ideas, either within an academic or a professional context. In this context, the student demonstrates in particular that(s)he has the required competences for substantiating and solving problems in the field.

The student equally demonstrates that (s)he has the ability to integrate knowledge and handle complexity, and formulate judgements even with respect to research questions that are new, in the sense that they have not yet been addressed widely or extensively in earlier publications, or interdisciplinary.

The student demonstrates that (s)he is capable of communicating his/her conclusions, and the knowledge and rationale underpinning these clearly and unambiguously to a scientific audience that mainly consists of lawyers but may include professionals from other fields.

The student demonstrates that (s)he possesses the research and writing skills necessary to carry out legal research autonomously either within an academic or within a professional context.

