

Faculty of Law

JAEN56, State Aid and Other State Measures Distorting Competition, 15 credits

Statligt stöd och andra statliga konkurrensbegränsningar, 15 högskolepoäng Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Faculty of Law Board of education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels on 2017-05-16 and was valid from 2017-05-16, autumn semester 2017.

General Information

The course State Aid and Other State Measures Distorting Competition is an elective course within the Master's Programme in European Business Law at the Faculty of Law. The course is open to students on the programme leading to a Swedish Professional Law degree with a specialization in European Business Law. The course is also open to international students participating in exchange programmes with the Faculty of Law.

The course is scheduled to require 10 weeks of full time studies.

Main field of studiesDepth of study relative to the degree
requirementsEuropean Business LawA1F, Second cycle, has second-cycle
course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

The aim of the course is to enable students to critically reflect upon the law on public undertakings and public monopolies in the EU, EU State Aids, the procedure available in this context and the legal remedies available before the European Court of Justice.

Knowledge and understanding

To pass the examination the student must be able to show a basic understanding of the states measures that affect competition relations. The student must also boast a very good knowledge of the scope of Articles 34, 37, 106, 107 and 108 TFEU and their related jurisprudence. In that sense, the student should demonstrate a fundamental understanding of both substantive and procedural law in the context of free movement of goods, state aids, monopolies, public undertakings, public procurement and to some extent competition law. Furthermore, the student shall be able to show an in-depth understanding of the remedies available before the General Court, the Court of Justice and the national Courts.

Competence and skills

The skills for which students will be trained consist mainly of presenting an analysis of EU legislation and ECJ case law assessed both in oral and written form. Also, the students will be asked to cope with scientific literature related to the content of the course.

Judgement and approach

Students shall train inter-disciplinary working methods with colleagues from different cultural backgrounds and of the opposite gender. They shall simultaneously perform independent research and take full responsibility for the development of their own knowledge in an objective, but critical manner. Students shall also consider and be able to discuss social and ethical responsibilities within a commercial environment and make personal judgments based on these reflections. Students will learn to rely on their knowledge of Union law when analyzing and solving practical and theoretical issues through the preparation and presentation at seminars and the written paper.

Course content

The course aims at presenting the application and functioning of Articles 34, 37, 106, 107 (substantive law) and 108 (procedural law) TFEU as well as the most important cases given by the European Court of Justice in these fields. Also Articles 101 and 102 TFEU will be discussed in relation to state measures.

The course consists of the following topics:

- General Framework of Articles 34, 37 and 106
- General Framework of Articles 101 and 102 in relation to state measures
- General framework of Article 107
- Administrative Procedure
- Recovery of Unlawful Aids
- Judicial Protection
- The Role of the National Courts
- The meaning of Services of General Economic Interest
- General Framework of EU Public Procurement

Course design

Teaching is structured in lectures and seminars.

Assessment

Examination will be based on a written paper which relates to the course content. The paper will also be presented orally. In assessing the final grades, weight will be placed on the active participation on seminars and lectures and on the oral presentation of the paper (20% of the grade) as well as the quality of the paper (80% of the grade).

In order to pass, students are required to have at least 80% attendance on seminars and lectures.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction.

All grading criteria rest on the baseline set up for the grade B. Criteria for the grade BA are additional to those for the grade B. Criteria for the grade AB are additional to those for the grade BA. Each grade criterion consists of a qualitative and a quantitative dimension. To be awarded a specific grade, the grade criterion must be satisfied in its qualitative as well as its quantitative dimension.

Grading criteria are applied to all dimensions listed as "Learning outcomes" in this syllabus. By way of example, an AB would presuppose that the student's examination reflect her or his mastery with regard to knowledge and understanding, skills and abilities and values and attitudes as laid down in the syllabus as "learning outcomes". Grading is done primarily using Qualitative and Quantitative criteria. The Quantitative criterion reflects how well read the student is whereas the Qualitative criterion reflects how well the student can use his/her knowledge to make a well structured critical and analytical argument and put it in a proper context.

B - Basic command

In order to pass (B) the student must show an ability to assess critically and analysis the jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice with support of problem based learning methods and to communicate conclusions to specialists and non-specialists.

BA - Advanced command

In order to pass with credit (BA) the student must, in addition to what is required to pass, show an in-depth understanding of how the Treaty rules prohibiting state measures distorting competition work and show a systematic understanding of the working methods of the Union Courts.

AB - Mastery

In order to pass with distinction (AB) the student must, in addition to what is required to pass with credit, show an ability to reflect on the relationship between the Court of Justice and the Union legislator in developing Union law. The student shall also demonstrate a deep understanding of the relationship between the Union and the Member States as regards the regulation of the internal market and the conflicts of interests and other complex problems that the Internal market faces today.

Entry requirements

Passed examination in courses corresponding to the first year of the Master's programme in European Business Law equivalent to 45 credits. Admission requirements for international exchange students include relevant undergraduate studies corresponding to three years at a university level, and basic knowledge of public international law.

Further information

The University views plagiarism as a very serious academic offence, and will take disciplinary action against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in connection with examinations and assessments. The penalty that may be imposed for this, and other unfair practices in examinations or assessments, includes suspension from the University.

Subcourses in JAEN56, State Aid and Other State Measures Distorting Competition

Applies from H17

1701 State Aid and Other State Measures Distorting Competition, 15,0 hp Grading scale: Fail, Pass, Pass with credit, Pass with distinction