



Faculty of Social Sciences

SELP03, Sociology of Law: Sociology of European Law, 15 credits

Rättssociologi: Europeisk rättssociologi, 15 högskolepoäng
Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus is an old version, approved by Faculty Board of Social Sciences on 2011-12-15 and was valid from 2012-01-22, spring semester 2012.

General Information

The course is offered as a freestanding course in sociology of law and as a compulsory course within the Master of Science (120 credits) Programme in Sociology of Law - European Law.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of studies

Sociology of Law

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Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

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Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

On completion of the course the student shall

- demonstrate an extensive knowledge of the legal foundations, integration processes and development directions of the European Union.
- be able to use theoretical and empirical findings in sociology of law in order to better comprehend and assess current trends, developments of law in the context of the European Union.
- demonstrate the commonalities and differences in socio-legal cultures and traditions in Europe and its possible effects on the implementation of European legislation.

Competence and skills

On completion of the course, the student shall

- demonstrate an ability to independently, systematically and critically integrate knowledge produced within the academic field of sociology of law and contemporary problems related to socio-legal processes behind the development of the European Union.
- design, execute and reflect on all stages of the research process within a predetermined time frame.
- be able to communicate the results of learning and research processes and discuss the conclusion and arguments on which they are based in dialogue with different kinds of audiences both in writing and orally, using proper academic references and citations.

Judgement and approach

On completion of the course, the student shall

- demonstrate the ability to make assessments in sociology of law informed by relevant disciplinary, social and ethical aspects of research.
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.
- demonstrate the capacity to identify personal need for further knowledge and take responsibility for his or her ongoing learning.

Course content

The course consists of five modules aiming at exploring the preconditions for as well as the content and impact of European legalisation from a perspective of sociology of law.

Module one focuses on the legal basis and foundations of the European Union and its developments until today. The student learns the ABC of the European Union both from a legal and institutional perspective and how the law making process works both in theory and practice.

Module two focuses on implementation of EU Law with a special focus on cultural differences. The European countries have different institutional and legal traditions which mean a different culture on how laws should be constructed, interpreted and implemented. This module will explore these differences and the effect on the development and implementation of EU law.

The third module focuses on integration and includes EU's relations with itself and the outside. European integration is the process of industrial, political, legal, economic, social and cultural integration of states wholly or partially in Europe. The European integration goes hand in hand with the development of the relation between Europe and the rest of the world. This module aims to explore these two processes in relation to theories and empirical findings developed within the discipline of sociology of law.

The fourth module consists of an individual project and the last module focus on communication discussion, and evaluation of Individual projects.

Course design

The course is taught as a web-based distance course. It is based on a combination of web-based filmed and written lectures. Students will mainly work through individual studies and through the consecutive handing in of independent assignments and papers.

Assessment is based on written assignments or papers on specific issues and critical reflections on the course literature as well as contributions to the course seminars and discussions.

Assessment

In connection with the course students are offered three examinations: a regular examination, a re-examination and one additional re-examination. Within one year after the course, students are offered a minimum of two additional re-examinations. Thereafter, more examinations are offered but in accordance with current course content.

Subcourses

1101 Sociology of European Law, 15,0 hp Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show acceptable results. For the grade of D the student must show satisfactory results. For the grade of C the student must show good results. For the grade of B the student must show very good results. For the grade of A the student must show excellent results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown unacceptable results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

To be eligible for the course the student must have at least a Bachelor's degree including three terms (1-90 credits) of studies in sociology of law or another subject of relevance to the course, e.g. sociology, law, political science, social work, or the equivalent.

Since the course is conducted in English, an advance language proficiency in the English language is necessary (English B). Language proficiency shall be demonstrated in one of the following ways:

- IELTS score of 6.5 (with no section less than 5.5)
- TOEFL paper-based score of 4.5 (scale 1-6) in written test and a total score of 575; internet based score of 20 (scale 0-30) and a total score of 90

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The Division of Sociology of Law

- Cambridge/Oxford – Advanced Certificate of Proficiency
- A Bachelor's degree from a university where English is the only language of instruction, according to the International Handbook of Universities
- A pass on English course B (Swedish upper secondary school).