

JUBN21, European Business Law, 15 credits

Europeisk affärsrätt, 15 högskolepoäng

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by The Faculty Board of the Faculty of Law on 2017-10-04 (Dnr U 2017/402) and was last revised on 2020-03-09 by Faculty of Law Board of education at undergraduate and postgraduate levels (Dnr U 2020/161). The revised syllabus comes into effect 2020-03-09 and is valid from the spring semester 2020.

General information

The course in European Business Law is an elective course in the Swedish Professional Law degree and to international students participating in exchange programmes with the Faculty of Law.

The duration of the course is 10 weeks full-time studies.

Language of instruction: English

Main field of study

Specialisation

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

Learning outcomes

The aim of the course is to provide students with in-depth knowledge about European Business Law, ranging from the basic structures and principles of the European Union to various specialized areas of law within the field of business. The students will gain insights into the laws and policies that regulate the internal market of European Union, as well as relevant case law.

Another objective of the course is to strengthen the students' ability to reflect critically and to produce structured academic papers. Through exercises that improve the students' writing, presentation and analytical skills, the aspiration is to provide the students with tools that are useful in both academic and professional settings.

Knowledge and understanding

To pass the examination the student shall:

- understand the core structures and principles of the European Union, as well as its main institutions and legal framework
- understand the main sources of law related to establishing and managing a company within the European Union, in particular focusing on Company, Labor, Environmental, Tax and International Private Law
- comprehend the main sources of law relevant when competing on the internal market and protecting a brand, product or invention. This includes Public procurement and State Aid, as well as Trademark, Patent and Competition Law

Competence and skills

To pass the examination the student shall:

- demonstrate an ability to master a wide range of diverse sources related to European Union Law
- draft academic papers including essays, case reports and legal memorandums
- identify key issues in relation to the various legal areas taught during the course and formulate coherent legal arguments
- present orally and give productive feed-back to peers while partaking in peer-grading assignments
- complete assignments within given time frames.

Judgement and approach

To pass the examination the student shall be able to:

- practice peer-grading working methods with colleagues from different backgrounds
- perform independent research and take responsibility for the development of their own knowledge
- explain and discuss the content of the course during seminars while applying critical perspectives

Course content

The course is divided into four blocks.

This first block builds a solid foundation by providing an introduction to the history and the institutions of the EU, as well as the most fundamental legal sources and methods of EU law. Students will be introduced to the fundamental principles and constitutional foundations of EU law, the economic freedoms and the legal framework of the common European foreign policy. They will also learn some practical skills, including how to navigate the vast databases of official publications, legislation and case law.

The second block includes specific areas of law, including Labour, Tax and Environmental law, within a European context. The topics are discussed within the wider framework of the internal market, the fundamental freedoms and national regulations. The block also covers Private International law, due to the multilateral nature of the EU, and subjects such as Public Procurement and the State aid control system.

The third block examines general business considerations, as well as specific legal areas that are relevant when establishing and managing a company with the European Union. It examines the foundations of company and agency theory and the harmonisation of company law on an EU level. The block examines Trademark and Patent law, focusing on the main laws, pertinent cases and useful strategies in business transactions.

The fourth block focuses on the European competition regime and its core regulations, particularly anti-competitive agreements or behaviour, and the prohibition of abuse of a dominant position within the internal market.

Throughout the course, there will be workshops focusing on essay writing, analysing case law, and legal writing and argumentation.

Course design

The course objectives are met through active participation in the education, independent studies of the course material and carrying out obligatory elements of the course.

The course is designed using the "flipped classroom"-model, which means that the lectures are web based. The web based lectures are paired with obligatory quizzes. Besides this, teaching is provided through seminars. The students shall in groups participate in an obligatory Role play carried out at one of the seminars. The student shall hand in written assignments, a final paper and subsequent peer-grading.

Assessment

Students' performance will be assessed by participation at the seminars, achieved results at the quizzes, written assignments and final paper. Points handed out for participation on seminars will be added to the result of the final paper.

The final grade is based on a weighted assessment of:

- The student's achieved result of the final paper.
- The student's performance and participation at the seminars.

The examiner, in consultation with Disability Support Services, may deviate from the regular form of examination in order to provide a permanently disabled student with a form of examination equivalent to that of a student without a disability.

Grades

Grading scale includes the grades: Fail, Pass, Pass with Credit, Pass with Distinction

All grading criteria rest on the baseline set up for the grade B (Pass). Criteria for the grade BA (Pass with credit) are additional to those for the grade B. Criteria for the grade AB (Pass with distinction) 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. This is a translation of the course syllabus approved in Swedish.

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 present it in a coherent and well-written paper.

B – Pass

To obtain a B grade, the student must show good knowledge in theoretical and practical applications of legal issues relating to the subject of European Business Law. The student must demonstrate good knowledge and ability to analyze fundamental principles within the EU, related to selected topics in European business law.

The student must demonstrate good knowledge and ability to analyze selected topics in European Business Law in both oral and written forms and an ability to work both individually and in groups.

The student must demonstrate good legal argumentation skills as well as good ability to interpret different legal norms and case law. This includes European conventions, EU primary and secondary law and the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

BA – Pass with credit

To obtain a BA grade, the student must show very good knowledge in theoretical and practical applications of legal issues relating to the subject of European Business Law. The student must demonstrate very good knowledge and ability to analyze fundamental principles within the EU, related to selected topics in European business law.

The student must demonstrate very good knowledge and ability to analyze selected topics in European Business Law in both oral and written forms and an ability to work both individually and in groups.

The student must demonstrate very good legal argumentation skills as well as very good ability to interpret different legal norms and case law. This includes European conventions, EU primary and secondary law and the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

AB – Pass with distinction

To obtain an AB grade, the student must show excellent knowledge in theoretical and practical applications of legal issues relating to the subject of European Business Law. The student must demonstrate excellent knowledge and ability to analyze fundamental principles within the EU, related to selected topics in European business law.

The student must demonstrate excellent knowledge and ability to analyze selected topics in European Business Law in both oral and written forms and an ability to work both individually and in groups.

The student must demonstrate excellent legal argumentation skills as well as excellent ability to interpret different legal norms and case law. This includes European conventions, EU primary and secondary law and the case law of the Court of Justice of the European Union.

Entry requirements

In order to register, students must have attended and completed the compulsory components of previous courses and passed 150 credits in previous semesters.

Further information

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

The university views plagiarism very seriously, and will take disciplinary actions against students for any kind of attempted malpractice in examination and assessment. The penalty that may be imposed for this and other unfair practice in examinations or assessment includes suspension from the University.