



UNIwersYTET
Andrzeja Frycza Modrzewskiego
w Krakowie

SUBJECT CARD

1. Basic information

Subject	Introduction to Law
Faculty	Faculty of Law
Field of studies	International Relations
Specialization	international business
PRK level	6 PRK
Education level	first-cycle studies
Form of studies	full-time studies
Group of activities	—
Number of ECTS points	3
Type of subject	obligatory
Total number of hours	30 h
Didactic cycle	2024/2025 winter
Academic semester	2
Academic year	1
Education profile	general academic
Year of implementation	2024/2025
Language of instruction	English
Teacher(s)	prof. UAFM dr hab. Marcin Pieniążek

Semester, number of ECTS points, type of subject, number of hours

Semester	Lecture
2	30 godz. 3 ECTS

2. General objectives

C1	Objective 1. Acquainting the students with the importance and the role of law as the basis for the functioning of the society. Learning to perceive the reality through the prism of law. Mastering the skills of associating legal facts with legal consequences. Mastering the basic rules of legal interpretation.
	Objective 2. Mastering the concepts of the language of law and the juristic language. Acquiring the ability to describe the facts and the norms in the juristic language. Implementing the ability to use the sources of law. Acquiring the horizontal and the vertical orientation in the structure of the legal system and the knowledge of the basic legal institutions in key areas of law.

3. Introductory requirements

- a. Basic knowledge about the society and its political organization.
- b. Elementary knowledge of the humanities.

4. Learning outcomes

W1	Knowledge: Understanding the multi-dimensionality of the analysis of law. Knowledge of the views on the nature of law and its social functions. The ability to describe the role of law in the state. The knowledge of the views on the structure of the legal norm and its logical value as well as the performative functions. The understanding of the difference between the legal norm as well as the moral and the social norm
W2	Knowledge: The knowledge about the legal systems and their construction as well as the basic characteristics of the continental and Anglo-Saxon legal system. The knowledge about the commonly binding sources of law. The familiarity with the types of sources of law in the EU. The knowledge about the structure of normative acts and their respective types. The familiarity with the basic branches of law and their distinctive institutions. The knowledge of the basic legal concepts. The knowledge of the basic rules of the interpretation of law. The familiarity with the enforcement of law, the efficiency of the operation of law applying bodies, justice and the rule of law.
U1	Skills: The understanding of the social and political mechanisms which determine the content of law. The ability to predict the effects of normative regulations. The ability to use the conceptual framework of law and its effective application. The ability to use the theoretical knowledge of law in order to analyze and interpret social problems.
U2	Skills: The ability to use the juristic language, to read legal texts and juristic texts so as to understand the specific nature and types of legal provisions. The ability to identify the types of normative acts and the legal institutions contained therein, according to the basic criteria and key concepts. The ability to reconstruct simple legal norms. The ability to interpret simple legal provisions in accordance with the principles of interpretation. The ability to find the appropriate data in the relevant official journals of law, in court reports, in the electronic databases and in the legal literature. The ability to apply the rules of legal interpretation and inference in legal reasoning.
K1	Social competence: The understanding of the importance of the obedience to law as the regulator of social relations and the awareness of the problem of tolerance for violations of law. Showing interest in the dynamics of law, legislative policy issues, the understanding of the need for continuous monitoring of legislative changes and case l
K2	Social competence: The understanding of the need for continuous training of professionals and personal development. The importance of ones own self-assessment of competence and improvement of skills. Determination of the directions of ones own development, education and improvement of the skills of using juristic language. The awareness of the importance of interpersonal communication and the communication in decision-making process as well as in dispute resolution.

5. Course program

Lecture (30 h)

Code	Detailed description of the topic blocks (semester: 2)
Wyk1	Methodology of jurisprudence. Status of jurisprudence as humanistic science. Classification of legal sciences. Dogmatic, sociotechnical, theoretical and methodological issues in legal sciences. The concept of jurisprudence, philosophy of law, legal theory.
Wyk2	Law vis-vis other normative systems (morality, religion). The most important historical attempts to define the concept of law: natural law (iusnaturalism) - St. Thomas.

Wyk3	The most important historical attempts to define the concept of law: legal positivism and its failures. Claim of scientificity of law. Rule of. G. Radbruch.
Wyk4	The most important historical attempts to define the concept of law: legal realism, legal hermeneutics, theory of legal argumentation.
Wyk5	Theory of social contract (T. Hobbes, J.J. Rousseau). Concept of rule of law. Civil disobedience and its practical significance (H. Arendt, M. L. King, M. Gandhi).
Wyk6	The system of law. The concept of the system. The common law and civil law legal system. Legal norm as part of the legal system. The vertical and horizontal division of the legal system. The branches of law. The notion of completeness and consistency of the legal system. Loophole in the system.
Wyk7	Main features of civil law system and common law system. National, European and international law. Theories of legal system (H.L.A. Hart, H. Kelsen, R. Dworkin).
Wyk8	Legal norm. Construction of a legal norm. Hypothesis, disposition and sanction as constituting elements of a legal norm. The conception of conjugate norms. General and individual norms, abstract and concrete norms.
Wyk9	Abstract and general norms as elements of the legal system. A legal norm as a statement of obligation character. Legal norm and the legal provision a record in the legal text. Performative function of legal language.
Wyk10	The construction of a legal text. The structure of a normative act. Fundamental concepts: promulgation, derogation, vacatio legis, general clauses, discretion, principles of community life.
Wyk11	Types of legal provisions (imperative prohibitive authorising; mandatory/instructive); general specific; concrete blank reference norms; substantive-legal norms and formal-legal norms; norms of the first and second degree).
Wyk12	The interpretation of the legal text: clarifying derivative, declaratory constitutive; authentic legal judicial doctrinal; literal extending narrowing; linguistic systemic functional; semantic syntactic pragmatic.
Wyk13	Sources of law. The sources of positive law: the act of law, the constitution, the European laws directives, regulations, acts of public international law conventions. Precedent as a source of law. The construction of a precedent ratio decidendi and obiter dicta.
Wyk14	Legal relationship. The legal facts. The legal bond (the content of the legal relationship. The parties to the legal relationship. The object of the legal relationship. The concept of entitlement and obligation.
Wyk15	Preliminaries of private law. Legal capacity. Capacity to perform legal acts and its limitations. Natural persons and legal persons. Preliminaries of criminal law. Felony, misdemeanor and offence

6. Didactic methods

Lecture	
M13	E-learning methods
M17	Multimedia presentation
M20	Lecture

7. Student workload

Number of hours under supervision	Student workload
Lecture	30 h
Including e-learning:	12 h

Student's own work	
	45 h

Total workload	
Total number of hours for the course	75 h
Total number of ECTS points	3 ECTS

8. Conditions for course completion

Course completion criteria

Completing the exercises at the e-learning platform. Passing the examinational test composed on 30 single choice and multi choice questions.

Lectures (Final exam / Final pass)	
Grade 5:	Achieving 93% of the examinational test(28 correct answers per 30).
Grade 4,5:	Achieving 83% of the examinational test (25 correct answers per 30).
Grade 4:	Achieving 73% of the examinational test (22 correct answers per 30).
Grade 3,5:	Achieving 63% of the examinational test (19 correct answers per 30).
Grade 3:	Achieving 53% of the examinational test (16 correct answers per 30).

9. Literature

Basic literature

1. Marcin Pieniżek — Introduction to law, Krakow, 2022 AFMKU [The electronic, open access issue].

Supplementary literature

1. Jolanta Jabłońska - Bonca — Wprowadzenie do prawa/Introduction to Law, Warszawa, 2008, LexisNexis.

Lecturer's publications

1. On Paul Ricoeurs tribute to legal philosophical issues of recognition and reciprocity, [w:] Towards Recognition of Minority Groups. Legal and Communication Strategies, [red.] M. Zirk – Sadowski, B. Wojciechowski, K. M. Cern, Ashgate / s.87-102 / ark. 1.20 / 978-1-4724-4490-5 / Londyn / 2014
2. The objectivity of the legal text in view of the concept of semantic autonomy. Comments on Paul Ricoeur's theory ,[w:] Diverse Narratives of Legal Objectivity: An Interdisciplinary Perspective, [red.] B. Vito, L. Rodak, Peter Lang / s.113-136 / ark. 1.70 / 978-3-631-65343-2 / Frankfurt am Main / 2016
3. Concept of contract as redefined from the perspective of E. Levinas ' philosophical thought / Humanitas Journal of European Studies / nr III / 2009/ s.85-101 / ark. 1.00 / Katowice -Lancashire / 2009
4. On possible applications of Paul Ricoeur's thought in legal theory / Archiwum Filozofii Prawa i Filozofii Społecznej / Nr 1(10) czerwiec 2015 / s.79 -88 / ark. 0.90 / Warszawa / 2015
5. The application of Paul Ricoeur's theory in interpretation of legal texts and legally relevant human action / International Journal for Semiotics of Law - Revue internationale de Smiotique juridique / Volume 28, Issue 3 / 2015 / s.627-646 / ark. 1.80 / Heidelberg / 2015
6. Paul Ricoeur's concept of metaphor and its application in the analysis of the legal text / Przegląd Prawa Publicznego / 2/2016 // s.7-18 / ark. 0.75 / Warszawa / 2016
7. Rhetoric of violence. On eristic methods used by Stalinist courts in the perspective of Cham Perelmans theory / Filozofia Publiczna i Edukacja Demokratyczna / t. 6, nr 2 (2017) /s. 7- 48 / ark. 1.25 / Poznań / 2017
8. Applying legal narratives. Some comments on Bernard Jackson's sociolinguistic approach in legal semiotics / Filozofia Publiczna i Edukacja Demokratyczna / Tom 7/2018 - Tom 8/2019 / s.274 - 296 / ark. 1.10 / Poznań / 2018

10. Additional information for students

An interactive course available on the e-learning platform. The course includes, among others, graphic elements and written and spoken texts. Each part of the course is completed with a test analogous to a fragment of the final exam test.

11. Information about academic teachers

The person responsible for the card

prof. UAFM dr hab. Marcin Pieniżek (e-mail: mpieniżek@uafm.edu.pl)

Teacher(s) conducting the subject

prof. UAFM dr hab. Marcin Pieniżek (e-mail: mpieniżek@uafm.edu.pl)