

Course content

The course is offered as an elective course within the law program but also as an independent course. The course deals with the importance of law and legal institutions to economic development and good governance, to peace and security and to reconciliation and democratization. Special attention is given to the concept of rule of law and to the role of the EU and other international and non-governmental organizations for the promotion of the rule of law and for combating corruption. Specific issues addressed are access to justice, crisis management in post-conflict situations, reform projects, etc.

The purpose of the course is to give the student an enhanced understanding of methodological and theoretical problems associated with international reform work and the transfer of legal models (legal transplants) to developing countries and transition economies. Another major purpose is to provide training in scholarly methods in law and adjacent fields.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate depth of knowledge and understanding of the relevant law and the role of legal institutions for democratization, economic development and crisis management; and
- demonstrate depth of knowledge of the main tools and procedures used in international reform work in order to promote the rule of law, good governance and institutional and legal reforms.

Skills and abilities

After completing the course, the student should be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to systematically, critically and independently identify, formulate and analyze issues related to the promotion of the rule of law and good governance, institutional and legal reforms and the combating of corruption; and
- within prescribed time limits independently plan and author an essay on a relevant topic (a theoretical and/or methodological topic or a case study) and orally present and discuss the conclusions contained in his/her own study as well as in other students' studies.

Ability to evaluate and the undertaken approach

After completing the course, the student is expected to:

- critically assess and evaluate various tools and procedures used in international reform work based on both legal and interdisciplinary theory.

Education

Teaching consists of lectures and seminars in which theoretical and methodological perspectives are intermingled with experiences from practical reform work, etc. Teaching is conducted in English.

Forms of examination

Examination is conducted through

- compulsory and active attendance at the seminars
- authorship of an essay (approximately 10 pages)
- acting as opponent vis-à-vis another student's essay
- a written examination

There is a requirement of active attendance at all seminars. Active attendance means that the student shall have prepared the seminar assignments and be prepared to participate in discussions of the same. The course director can however grant a general exemption from the attendance requirement within the framework of the provisions governing examination as adopted by the Law Faculty's Education Committee. The attendance requirement is stated in the teaching syllabus. In addition thereto, an exemption can be granted in the case of a legal excuse (Swedish: laga förfall). In such a case, the student shall carry out a pedagogically equivalent assignment to compensate the absence. Exemption shall not be granted from the attendance requirement with regard to the seminar at which the essay is discussed or the seminar at which opposition occurs.

Examination shall be in English.

Grading shall be based on the essay, presentation of the essay, opposition vis-à-vis another student's essay and the written examination. Principles indicating the weighted total of these examination components are stated in the course's teaching syllabus.

Students who fail the regular examination are given the opportunity for re-examination. Students who have passed are not entitled to undergo re-examination for higher grades. Students who are failed twice by the same examiner have the right to demand a different examiner when doing additional re-examinations. This does not apply if there are specific reasons for not appointing a different examiner.

Completed compulsory assignments are valid for two years. This also applies in cases where a student deregisters from the course through withdrawal.

If the compulsory requirements are raised, the student has the right – for a period of two years after registration – to invoke the requirements that applied when the student registered for the first time for the course.