A. Syllabus for SELP03 Sociology of European Law (15 credits, second cycle, A1N)

The course was adopted by the Board of the Faculty of Social Science on 15 December, 2011.

The syllabus was approved by the Division of Sociology of Law on 16 November, 2011.

B. Course details

Main field of study: the sociology of law.

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.

The language of instruction is English.

C. 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 and 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;
- become familiar with some of the socio-legal research on EU law and policy;
- learn to plan research on EU Law and policy
D. Competences 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.

E. Judgment 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.

F. Course Content

The course is divided into two modules. Module One introduces students to the research and theory in European sociology of law, while Module Two focuses on the methodological issues of doing research, generally, but writing a master’s dissertation (or thesis) related to EU law and policy, in particular. This course is, therefore, specifically designed to familiarize students with research and debate within EU law and policy from a socio-legal standpoint. At the same time, it prepares students for writing their dissertation. It starts with discussing research theory and European law and policy, and ends by producing a “research proposal”. This proposal will lay the foundation for students’ dissertations.

G. Teaching and Assessment

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.

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.

H. Grades

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. 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.

I. Specific 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
- 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).
J. Literature

This is a research-based course and therefore the number of pages is not a reliable indicator of either scope or the depth of the course. However, the course consists of approximately 1000 selected pages from electronic books, 150 pages articles, at least 400 pages individual reading of peer-reviewed texts related to an individual project.

Books


Articles


List of references for Module One

1) Simon Hix and Klaus Goetz, “Introduction: European Integration and National Political Systems” (a copy is attached)
2) Erik O. Eriksen, Normativity in European Union (Palgrave, 2014). An e-copy is available at:
http://books.google.se/books?id=cUVGAgAAQBAJ&pg=PA10&lpg=PA10&dq=%22risk+management%22+normativity&source=bl&ots=CtYOzF5-D&sig=d8vLq82JKuTW69dijOypNFXxisC0&hl=sv&sa=X&ei=0TXJUpuDJsWOtAA3nIC4DQ&ved=0CHcQ6AEwBzgK#v=onepage&q=%22risk%20management%22%20normativity&f=false

4) Hanne Petersen, et al. (eds) Pradoxes of European Legal Integration (Ashgate 2008)
5) David Trubek and Louise Trubek, “New Governance and Legal Regulation” (A copy is attached).

**List of references for Module Two**

10. Morris, Caroline and Murphy, Cain, Getting a PhD in Law (Hart, 2011)