

Course Descriptions (English Courses)

1. Making your Case - Rhetoric Skills for Lawyers

(Mr. Wessal; Course ID 060321, May 30, 31 and June 1, 2, 2023, 9 am-4 pm, GD 1/450)

This course offers basic rhetoric skills for law students with a focus on making practical arguments. Although taught in English and with a focus on argument in court, the skills are transferrable to a variety of other formats, such as written and oral legal exams (including German ones).

2. Introduction to International Dispute Settlement

(Mr. Wuschka; Course ID 060303, April 13, 14 and May 5, 12, 2023, 9 am-4 pm, GD 1/450)

This course focuses on the procedural side of international law. In addition to general principles of international dispute settlement, students will be familiarized with various fora for the resolution of inter-state, investor-state and commercial disputes, including their rules of procedure. The institutions to be discussed are, inter alia, the International Court of Justice, the World Trade Organization's dispute settlement system, arbitral tribunals, as well as the currently hot-debated system for the settlement of investment disputes (e.g. ICSID).

The course is limited to 30 participants (SPB 4 students and interested others).

This course is an elective course in the Certificate Program of the Legal Faculty.

3. An Introduction to Comparative Constitutional Law

(Dr. Oliveira de Sousa, Course ID 060305, Thursday, 2-4 pm, GD 1/450)

This course provides an introduction to the overarching concepts of constitutional law in a comparative fashion. It draws on the political and legal systems of the United States, China, Brazil, the United Kingdom, France and Germany, in order to highlight differences and similarities across a diversity of constitutional traditions. During this course, you will become acquainted with the fundamental features of the systems of government referred above; acquire insights about recent philosophical discussions on judicial review and the different ways in which it can be designed; reflect on how features of the constitutional systems referred above may help to explain and understand current social phenomena (e.g. political polarization); and reflect on whether and how traditional concepts of constitutional law may be revised in order to cope with recent developments in the global and transnational arena. At the same time in which this course will draw on traditional doctrinal analyses of constitutional law, it will also draw on relevant side-literature, especially of constitutional theory and of political, social and legal philosophy. During the seminar we will discuss and confront different accounts and responses to evil that come from moral philosophy and psychology, and legal philosophy (this will include discussion of classical and contemporary philosophical texts on the nature of evil, recent empirical findings on social and psychological factors involved in it, and legal philosophical questions about whether and what type of punishment it deserves). The goal of the course is to acquaint the students with one of important problems of philosophy, science and daily life, but also to help them strengthen their critical thinking, writing and argumentative skills.

4. Law, Sustainability and Climate Change

(Dr. Oliveira de Sousa, Course ID 060317, Thursday, noon-2 pm, Zoom Video Course)

The topic of sustainability and climate change is here to stay. Despite the fact that citizens in many countries declare that combating climate change should be a top priority in politics and that they are willing to make changes in their individual lifestyles and behavior, many citizens keep reverting to their old, non-climate friendly habits (e.g. driving emissions-intensive cars, flying for holidays and so on). They do not promote any substantive changes in their behavior, even if they recognize a need to do so. This behavioral problem, which is widely attested in behavioral economics and sustainability research literature, poses the question of what might be possible to do to promote a long-standing change in behavior toward climate-friendlier and more sustainable standards and practices.

This course will provide you with a critical reflection of the role of law broadly understood – of legal instruments and institutions – in the fight against climate change. In order to do this, it will provide you with an overview of the different legal instruments that have been adopted by legal systems worldwide (in Germany or otherwise) for incentivizing emissions reductions. It will also discuss the main challenges – from the point of view of behavioral studies – of changing behavior through law.

This course has a strong inter-disciplinary character. Active participation and discussion are expected.

5. International Legal Dialogue

(Prof. Dr. Windel, Course ID 060173, course dates and times have to be announced, FS 3/314)

The class is intended to provide a platform for an international community of teachers and students to exchange views in an open discourse on legal issues brought about by globalization. Students will act actively and independently throughout the whole process, gaining their own direct

access to international dimensions of law. A moderated colloquium, including presentations by foreign guest lecturers serves as an external framework. Participation requires an individual application and admission. The course involves giving a presentation in German or English on a topic of choice. 9 credit points are awarded upon finishing the course. Participation is mandatory.

The class is also recognized as an elective course for the Certificate Anglo-American Law & Language of the Faculty of Law.

6. U.S. Contract Law

(Mr. O'Connolly; Course ID 060304, April, 18, 20, 25, 27 and May, 9, 11, 2023, 8.30 a.m. – 11.30 a.m., GD 1/450)

U.S. Contract Law introduces law students to American contract law. The course will cover basic contract law concepts (including offer and acceptance, mistake, problems of proof; function of consideration; conditions; assignments; third-party beneficiaries and effect of changed circumstances) as well as legal remedies of contracting parties, including damages in contract and quasicontract, specific performance, reformation and rescission. Students will be expected to participate, read and discuss selected cases. Required reading will be provided.

7. International Dimensions of Law

(Dr. Thiede; Course ID 060307, Friday, 2-4 p.m., Podcasts)

Aims & Intended Outcomes: As indicated by its title, this course will focus on an introduction to Comparative Law, Conflict of Laws, European Law and Public International Law (with a focus on all questions of the law applicable (choice of law) in cases with a foreign element). Participants should obtain basic knowledge in Comparative Law, Conflict of Laws, European Law and Public International Law; understanding of problems in mentioned areas of law and (some) competence in questions of the law applicable in cases with a foreign element.

Previous knowledge expected: Instruction and assessment will be exclusively in English, and participants should have an appropriate level of linguistic competence.

8. International Environmental Law in the Anthropocene

(Prof. Scholtz; Course ID 060309, April, 17, 20, May, 4, 11, online, 6 pm-8 pm, May, 25, in person, 9 am-11 am, GD 1/450, May, 25, in person, 2 pm-6 pm, GD 1/148, May, 26, in person, 9 am to 1 pm, GD 1/450)

The module illuminates the response of International Environmental Law (IEL) to global environmental degradation and introduces students to key aspects, such as sustainable development, actors in IEL as well as the importance of soft law norms. An analysis of the normative framework enables students to critically assess the treaty regimes that regulate climate change, the loss of biodiversity, the sharing of freshwater resources, protection of marine resources and trade in hazardous substances. The module also explores the relationship between IEL and human rights, security, and animal welfare. The purpose of the module is to equip students with the necessary insight, knowledge, and skills to work in and with this fascinating, interesting, and highly relevant field of Law.

9. U.S. Intellectual Property Law

(Mr. Hanrahan, Course ID 060306, Tuesday, 4-6 p.m., Zoom Video Course)

This course will provide students with a basic and fundamental overview of major areas of intellectual property law in the United States. We will cover topics related to United States patents, trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets, as well as how each of these different areas are interrelated to one another. We will not only discuss how to obtain intellectual property rights, but also how and when to enforce those rights against an infringer. The course will reference current United States laws, cases, as well as rules and procedures enforced by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and U.S. Copyright Office. Some participation is expected during the lectures.

10. Feminist Approaches in International Law and Foreign Policy

(Ms. Manandhar, Ms. Yaman, Course ID tbd, March, 30 Intro Session, further sessions have to be determined)

In the summer semester 2023, the Institute for International Law of Peace and Armed Conflict (IFHV) organises a lecture series on "Feminist Approaches in International Law and Foreign Policy". It will focus on feminist theories in international law and their implications in the fields of international humanitarian and international criminal law, and discuss the status-quo of human rights. Through insights into academia, politics and practice, a faceted insight into this field will be presented. The lectures are held in English and the foreign language certificate can be purchased by submitting an academic paper. The first kick-off meeting for interested students will take place on 30.03.2023 at 16:00. The course is divided into several block seminars and attendance is mandatory.

Questions can be directed to Timeela Manandhar (timeela.manandhar@rub.de) and Dilara Karmen Yaman (dilara.yaman@rub.de).

Kursbeschreibung (Türkische Veranstaltung)

1. Türkisches Strafrecht im Vergleich zum Deutschen Strafrecht (Karsilastirmali olarak Türk ve Alman Ceza Hukuku)

(Jun.-Prof. Dr. Özaydin; Veranstaltungs-Nr. 060318, 21.04.+19.05.+16.06. (in person) +17.06.2023 (online) von 13-18 Uhr, GD 1/450)

Karşılaştırmalı Olarak Türk ve Alman Ceza Hukuku" adlı ders, Türkçe dilinde anlatılacaktır. Bu ders bağlamında, Ceza Hukuku hukuk terminolojisinin aktarılmasının yanı sıra başta Türk Ceza Hukuku'nun tanımı ve genel prensipleri, suçun maddi ve manevi unsurları ve hukuka aykırılık gibi konular ele alınacaktır. Bunun yanı sıra dersin amacı; en önemli suçların incelenmesi ve bu bağlamda Yargıtayın vermiş olduğu en güncel kararlar da dikkate alınarak problemlerin tartışılmasıdır. Özellikle hayata ve vücut bütünlüğüne karşı suçlar, cinsel dokunulmazlığa karşı suçlar, uyuşturucu veya uyarıcı madde suçları ve bilişim alanında işlenen suçlar dersin içeriğini oluşturmaktadır. Bu bağlamda Alman Hukuku ile bağlantılar kurulacaktır: Tarihsel açıdan Türk Ceza Hukuku önce Fransız, sonra İtalyan Ceza Hukuku'ndan esinlenmişken; 2005 yılında Türk Ceza Kanunu nihai olarak Alman Ceza Hukuku'nun yoğun etkisi altında kalarak reform edilmiştir.

Kursbeschreibung (italienische Veranstaltung)

1. **Einführung in die italienische Rechtssprache** (Introduzione alla lingua giuridica italiana)

(Frau Campolucci; Veranstaltungs-Nr. 060316, Montag 16-18 Uhr, GD 1/450)

Questo corso è rivolto agli studenti di Giurisprudenza con conoscenze della lingua italiana. L'obiettivo principale è quello di impartire conoscenze linguistiche legali di base con l'aiuto di testi giuridici italiani. La presenza è obbligatoria.

Kursbeschreibungen (französische Veranstaltungen)

1. Introduction au droit privé

(Dr. Juredieu, Course ID 060610, voraussichtlich im April, Präsenzveranstaltung + Zoom Video Course)

Les sources du droit civil (lois règlements coutumes) ; les personnes physiques et morales: présentation, régime juridique. classification des droits subjectifs. modalités de preuve. Etudes des liens entre les personnes: les couples, filiations, l'autorité parentale, l'obligation alimentaire.

Pour toute information supplémentaire et inscription, veuillez contacter M. Lefort ou Mme Riekes : dfbm@rub.de

2. Französische Rechtsmethodik

(Dr. Kouassi, Course ID 060602, voraussichtlich im Mai, Präsenzveranstaltung + Zoom Video Course)

Vermittlung der Methodik des französischen Rechts als Vorbereitung für einen bevorstehenden Auslandsaufenthalt in Frankreich. Insbesondere werden die notwendigen Kenntnisse zur Lösung von Abschlussarbeiten in Frankreich, insbesondere fiche d'arrêt, commentaire d'arrêt, dissertation und cas pratique, gelehrt und eingeübt.

Pour toute information supplémentaire et inscription, veuillez contacter M. Lefort ou Mme Riekes : dfbm@rub.de

3. Droit civil français

(Prof. Ophèle; Course ID 060612, voraussichtlich im April, Präsenzveranstaltung + Zoom Video Course)

Les obligations : sources ; le fait juridique ; la responsabilité extra-contractuelle ; principaux régimes de responsabilité ; l'acte juridique ; le contrat: formation et exécution.

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