

## ANNEX 2 – COURSE DESCRIPTION

<b>Course title</b>	<b>Introduction to Law</b>			
<b>Course code</b>	<b>LAW-100</b>			
<b>Course type</b>	<b>Compulsory</b>			
<b>Level</b>	<b>Undergraduate</b>			
<b>Year / Semester</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> /A			
<b>Teacher's name</b>	Kriton Dionysiou			
<b>ECTS</b>	6	<b>Lectures / week</b>	3 hour per week	<b>Laboratories / week</b>
<b>Course purpose and objectives</b>	<p>The purpose of the course is to introduce students to the scientific field of law, but also to the systematic and practical study of law in general. Through the course the students will understand the method of operation of the law, its entire structure, the scientific fields and the methods of interpretation of the law. The fundamental characteristics of law will be presented, such as the sources of law and its hierarchy, the distinction between public and private law.</p> <p>Also, aim of the course is to provide students with the knowledge to develop the necessary skills and abilities to understand and handle legal tools such as how to search for legislation and case-law, as well as databases and books. Furthermore, students will acquire the ability to write an academic assignment.</p> <p>The students will familiarize themselves with the object and nature of Cypriot and Greek law.</p> <p>Finally, the goal is for students to develop critical thinking and analytical method in order to acquire the ability of legal thinking and argumentation.</p>			
<b>Learning outcomes</b>	<p>Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• comprehend the theoretical framework governing the evolution and functioning of law and legal science.</li> <li>• to understand the basic concepts of law such as law, jurisprudence, custom and the interpretation of law.</li> <li>• to develop legal thinking and be able to apply the various interpretive methods of law.</li> <li>• to be able to distinguish among the different fields of law.</li> </ul>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to grasp the hierarchical structure of legal regulations and the notion of legal source.</li> <li>• to comprehend the characteristics of Cypriot and Greek law as well as the differences between them.</li> <li>• to understand the common law tradition and understand how the doctrine of judicial precedent works.</li> <li>• to develop skills for writing a scholarly paper.</li> <li>• to acquire the skills to study, analyse and solve a practical problem as well as to know the process of applying the law to the facts.</li> <li>• to develop the capacity for legal research, including the exploration of legislation, case law, databases, and legal texts.</li> <li>• to develop legal critical thinking and analytical method and be able to express legal arguments in a structured and substantiated manner.</li> </ul>		
<b>Prerequisites</b>	None	<b>Required</b>	None
<b>Course content</b>	<p>Introduction to law.</p> <p>The concept of law and its content.</p> <p>Basic characteristics of modern law.</p> <p>The correlation between law and ethics.</p> <p>The language of law and the meaning of legal terms.</p> <p>The process of law production.</p> <p>The rule and legal reasoning.</p> <p>Types of rules.</p> <p>Legal order and polity.</p> <p>The hierarchy of legal rules.</p> <p>The distinction between public and private law.</p> <p>The branches of private law.</p> <p>The concept and purpose of criminal law.</p> <p>Methods of interpretation and application of the law.</p> <p>The sources of Cypriot and Greek law.</p> <p>The concept of jurisprudence and the doctrine of judicial precedent as sources of law.</p>		

	<p>Basic features of Cypriot and Greek law.</p> <p>Law research and analysis method.</p> <p>The process of writing a legal thesis.</p>
<p><b>Teaching methodology</b></p>	<p>Lectures with the help of slides and encouraging active participation and dialogue.</p> <p>Assign practical questions to solve and use database search tools.</p> <p>Use of the University's library resources as well as presentation of IT systems.</p> <p>Formation of small groups to collaboratively analyse and address practical issues while conducting pertinent research.</p> <p>Training on conducting searches for court decisions and the process of analysing them.</p> <p>Case studies/examples, assignments and presentations.</p>
<p><b>Bibliography</b></p>	<p>K. Stamatis/A. Takis, Introduction to the science of law, 2nd ed. (Sakkoulas 2018).</p> <p>A. Georgiadis, Introduction to legal science (P.N. Sakkoulas. 2020).</p> <p>A. Georgiadis, What is law? Legal science for everyone (Panepistimiakes Ekdotis Kritis 2018)</p> <p>K. Stamatis, Commentary on a court decision, 2nd ed. (Sakkoulas 2009).</p> <p>K. P. Sourlas, JUSTI ATQUE INJUSTI SCIENTIA, An introduction to the science of law (Ant. N. Sakkoulas 1995)</p> <p>C. Cleridis, The Cypriot Legal System (Nomiki Vivliothiki, 2017).</p> <p>S. Papasavvas/E. Vassilakakis, Elements of Cypriot law (Sakkoulas 2002).</p> <p>G. Piki, English common law, the rules of equity and their application in Cyprus (Nicosia, 1981).</p> <p>K. Engisch, Introduction to Legal Thought, 3rd edition (National Bank Educational Foundation 1999).</p> <p>F.A.R. Bennion, Understanding Common Law Legislation, Drafting and Interpretation (Oxford University Press. 2009).</p> <p>McCormick N./Summers P., Interpreting Precedents. A comparative Study. (Routledge, 2016).</p> <p>McCormick N./Summers P., Interpreting Statutes. A comparative Study. (Routledge, 2016).</p>

	<p>M. McConville / W. H. Chui, <i>Research Methods for Law</i>, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (Edinburgh University Press 2017).</p> <p>M. Salter / J. Mason, <i>Writing Law Dissertations: An Introduction and Guide on the Conduct of Legal Research</i> (Pearson Education Limited 2007).</p> <p>J. Holland / J. Webb, <i>Learning Legal Rules</i>, 11<sup>th</sup> ed. (Oxford University Press 2022).</p> <p>R. Wacks, <i>Understanding Jurisprudence: An Introduction to Legal Theory</i>, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. (Oxford University Press 2021).</p>
<b>Assessment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assignment 30%.</li> <li>• Participation in lectures 20%.</li> <li>• Final exam 50%.</li> </ul>
<b>Language</b>	Greek