

ANNEX 2 – COURSE DESCRIPTION

Course title	Constitutional Law				
Course code	LAW-101				
Course type	Compulsory				
Level	Undergraduate				
Year / Semester	1st / A				
Teacher's name	Petros Konstantinidis				
ECTS	6	Lectures / week	3 hours per week	Laboratories / week	
Course purpose and objectives	<p>The main objectives of the course are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction and understanding of the theory of Constitutional law, its historical origins through the movement of constitutionalism until today. • Understanding of fundamental principles of constitutional law: separation of powers and institutional check and balance, rule of law, drafting and revising power, popular sovereignty, functionality and competence of state institutions. • Understanding the forms of organization of the State and the states models: unitary state, federal and confederate states, presidential and parliamentary systems and related models. • Comparative approach between the models of various Constitutions and the identification of their state and other characteristics. • The perception of the special characteristics of the Cyprus Constitution as a imposed constitution in relation to its historical development and the application of the law of necessity focusing on the fundamental decision in the "Ibrahim" case. • Understanding the process of producing legislation and the system of the constitutional review as it has been shaped in the Cyprus context. Examination of the various systems of constitutional review. • The process of amending the Cyprus Constitution in relation to the law of necessity. • The effect of European Union law on the Cypriot constitutional order. The position of European law in the Cyprus legal order. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic elements of governing the functioning of the three branches of government. 		
Learning outcomes	<p>Upon completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To know the basic theoretical elements and principles of constitutional law. • Developing the capacity to identify and analyze diverse constitutional theoretical perspectives through critical thinking skills. • Gaining comprehension of the fundamental structures and features of the Cyprus Constitution, including its bi-communal organizational framework and the presidential system, through comparative analysis with similar system. • To be able to interpret the constitutional rules through critical analysis. • To develop critical thinking skills regarding the operation of constitutional principles and the overall functionality of the Cyprus Constitution. • To be able to understand the operation of the law of necessity in the Cyprus constitutional order. • To possess the capability, grounded in constitutional law principles, to assess specific issues and challenges stemming from the application of constitutional regulations. • To acknowledge and comprehend the process of formulating legislation within the Cyprus legal system, as well as the manner in which the principal organs of the State function. 		
Prerequisites	None	Required	None
Course content	<p>The course is structured in three sections: 1) the first concerns the general theory of constitutional law, fundamental principles, models of government and state organization systems, 2) the second focuses on the basic features of the Cypriot constitution, its structures, the historical aspect and the law of necessity and 3) the third examines the basic functions of the direct institutions of the Constitution, such as the President of the Republic and the Council of Ministers, the House of Representatives and the Supreme Constitutional Court as well as the independent officials.</p> <p>Section A</p> <p>Primary characteristics of constitutional law.</p> <p>Constituent elements of the State, concept of the state and models of state organization.</p>		

	<p>Writing and amendment of the Constitution.</p> <p>Examination of basic concepts of constitutional law such as rule of law, separation of powers, popular sovereignty, functionality and competence of state institutions.</p> <p>Section B</p> <p>Sources of Cyprus Constitutional law, the concept of an impose constitution and the principle of the law of necessity.</p> <p>The effect of European law on the Cyprus Constitution.</p> <p>Historical review of Cyprus Constitutional Law.</p> <p>Section C</p> <p>The process of establishing and functioning of executive power.</p> <p>The process by which the House of Representatives is established and functions, as well as the procedure for drafting and establishing legislation.</p> <p>Interpretation and constitutional review of laws. The role of the Supreme Constitutional Court.</p> <p>Procedure for amending the Constitution.</p> <p>Independent officials.</p>
<p>Teaching methodology</p>	<p>Lectures with the help of power points and encouraging active participation and dialogue, assignments and presentations.</p> <p>Analysis of relevant cases of the Cyprus Courts and relative Courts of other Jurisdictions.</p> <p>Case studies/examples.</p>
<p>Bibliography</p>	<p>Kompos, K., Cypriot Constitutional Law: Theory, Organization, and Practice (Nomiki Bibliothiki, Athens 2021)</p> <p>Aimilianides A.K., Constitutional Law in Cyprus (Kluwer International Law 2024)</p> <p>Loizou, A., Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus (Nicosia 2001)</p> <p>Aimilianides, A., The Overcoming of the Cypriot Constitution (Sakkoulas, 2006)</p> <p>A. Aimilianides / Ch. Papastyliou / K. Stratilatis, The Republic of Cyprus and the Law of Necessity (Sakkoulas 2016)</p> <p>Kombos, C., The Doctrine of Necessity in Constitutional Law (Sakkoulas, Athens - Thessaloniki, 2015)</p> <p>P. Polyviou, Cyprus on the Edge. A Study in Constitutional Survival (Nicosia, 2013).</p>

	<p>Polyviou P., The Case of Ibrahim, the Doctrine of Necessity and the Republic of Cyprus (Nicosia, 2015).</p> <p>K. G. Tornaritis, The Constitutional Law of the Republic of Cyprus (Center for Scientific Research, Nicosia 1982).</p> <p>X. Lottidis, The Constitution of the Republic of Cyprus, its complexity and the unsuccessful attempt of its amendment, 1963 (Sakkoulas 2009).</p> <p>E. Venizelos, Lessons in Constitutional Law, New Edition (Sakkoulas 2021).</p> <p>P.M. Pantelis, Handbook of Constitutional Law (Livanis 2020)</p> <p>I. Kareklas, Constitutional Law and Federations (Lexington Books 2021).</p> <p>E. Chemerinsky, Constitutional Law (Aspen Publishing 2024).</p>
Assessment	<p>Assignment: 20%</p> <p>Midterm exam: 20%</p> <p>Participation: 10%</p> <p>Final exam 50%</p>
Language	Greek