

School of Law

Courses in English 2018

List of courses taught in English –Spring and Fall 2018. The courses are only open for Master students.

Spring 2018

Courses	Lecturers
EU Constitutional Law	TBA
European Law: Financial Services	Hallgrímur Ásgeirsson
International Oil and Gas Law	Eduardo Pereira
Law and Economics in Competition Law Procedure – theoretical and practical issues and perspectives	Heimir Örn Herbertsson
Trade Mark Law	Ásdís Magnúsdóttir
Entertainment Law (first half of term)	Sigríður Rut Júlíusdóttir
Willem C. Vis Int. Commercial Arbitration Moot II*	Garðar Víðir Gunnarsson

* This course is only available to those able to take both part I and II. Students must be present and enrolled in both the fall and spring semesters. Students have to apply especially for this course

Fall 2018

Courses	Lecturers
EEA Law Moot Court Competition	Margrét Einarisdóttir
International and European Energy Law – Icelandic Energy Law	Fanney Rós Þorsteinsdóttir, Kristín Haraldsdóttir and Eduardo Pereira
International Protection of Human Rights	Davíð Þór Björgvinsson and Ragna Bjarnadóttir
Legal English	Erlendína Kristjánsdóttir
Refugee Law	Katrín Oddsdóttir
The Law of the World Trade Organization	Þórdís Ingadóttir and James Mathis
Comparative Law	Milosz Hodun
The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition I*	Þórdís Ingadóttir

* This course is only available to those able to take both part I and II. Students must be present and enrolled in both the fall and spring semesters. Students have to apply especially for this course

Spring 2018

L-746 EU/EEA Constitutional Law

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: 30-38 lectures/discussion periods per semester

Lecturer: TBA

Description: The course will focus on the emergence of an EU constitutional legal order, particularly developed by the European Court of Justice through its case law. The principles of supremacy, direct effect and state liability will be analysed thoroughly, with the aim of shedding a light on the delicate relationship between the national legal orders and that of the EU. For that purpose, the initial ground breaking cases and circumstances will be thoroughly dealt with, and analysed in the light of the recent cases and Treaty amendments. Additionally, the course will analyse the emergence of fundamental human rights, as general principles of EU law, and the impact of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights on the EU constitutional legal order. Lastly, the course will deal with the issue of legal remedies for individuals under EU law.

The Course is based on active student participation during seminars. The students will be required to present and discuss the most important cases, and become familiar with reading, analysing and presenting judgments. In addition, the students will be invited to read relevant and topical doctrinal materials in order to stimulate the discussions.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: Once this course is completed a basic understanding in the interaction between the national legal orders and the EU/EEA legal orders by using the relevant legal sources of EU/EEA law, particularly primary law (Treaties), and relevant (and current) case law of the Court of Justice and the EFTA Court. The students should acquire the necessary knowledge that will help them to understand the the EU/EEA constitutional legal order, based on the current Treaty regime, and particularly developed through case law. The students should critically analyze the EU/EEA regime – particularly its institutions, basic principles, fundamental rights and legal remedies, and to which extend this legal order is having a constitutional character. That also means to review in a critical way jurisprudence of the Court of Justice and that of the EFTA Court with support of doctrinal material, and to communicate conclusions in a clear and independent manner.

-Skills: This course gives the students the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding in a real context, where they will be able to deal with complex and current issues. In this course the students will be required to integrate their knowledge through the development of legal opinions and present it both in written form and orally. In that sense the students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in applying professional methods and procedures acknowledged in the field of law.

-Competence: After completing this course the students should be able to apply their knowledge and skills in a professional and practical way. They will learn to work independently, but also in groups. Furthermore, they should be able to communicate and present their knowledge and findings in a professional manner, and for most, even in a foreign language.

Reading material: Will be announced.

Teaching methods: Lectures and discussions.

Course assessment: Course attendance and participation (case presentations and discussions) 20%, case study 30%, written paper 50%.

Language of instruction: English

L-738 European Law: Financial Services

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: 36 lectures/discussion periods per semester

Lecturer: Hallgrímur Ásgeirsson

Description: Financial services include banking, insurance and investment services. These services play a fundamental role in the functioning of every society and economy. The provision of financial services is dependent upon a regulatory framework that promotes financial stability and confidence in the financial system, its institutions and operators. These objectives must, however, be balanced against the fact that financial services are provided in an environment subject to high degree of international competition and technological development. With this in mind, the conditions for the provision of banking, insurance and investment services in the EU Member States have been made subject to extensive harmonisation in European law. Knowledge of European law on financial services is therefore a key to understanding the national regulation in this field in the different EU Member States.

The following topics will be covered:

- Introduction to financial services
- Primary legislation
- Accounting
- Banking
- Insurance
- Investment services
- Investment funds (UCITS)
- Pension funds

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: On successful completion of the course the student will have gained general understanding and knowledge of key legal provisions and theoretical issues in European law on financial services and its interaction with national law of the EU Member States.

-Competence: On successful completion of the course the student will have acquired skills to apply legal theories and methods in European law on financial services and obtained understanding and abilities to deal with subject matters in this area.

-Skills: On successful completion of the course the student will be able to draw from the knowledge and skills gained in European company law in subsequent professional career or studies. The student will have acquired abilities to present and describe theoretical issues in English and to take objective, professional decisions and substantiate them.

Reading material: Primary focus will be given on training students to understand, interpret and apply primary legislation (Treaty on the Functioning of the EU and EEA Agreement), secondary legislation (directives and regulations) as well as case law in the area of financial services.

Teaching methods: Lectures, discussions and case studies

Course assessment: Course attendance and participation 20%, written group assignment 30%, final exam (oral) 50%.

Language of instruction: English

L-776 International Oil and Gas Law

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: 36 lectures/discussion periods per semester. Intensive course.

Lecturer: Eduardo G. Pereira

Description: The course provides an overview of the most challenging stages of the petroleum industry: the exploration and exploitation stages of oil and gas known as Upstream. These two stages involve the higher risks and rewards in the entire chain of petroleum activities. Thus it is critical to understand in details the regulatory and contractual framework, which govern those relevant stages. The course is divided into two parts. The first part (3 ECTS) covers the host government agreements and regulatory framework. The second part (3 ECTS) is concerned with consortium agreements. In addition, each part of the course is followed by a seminar with the participation of relevant industry players, regulator, lawyers, etc. The best assignment among the class will be presented at that respective seminar.

The first part of the course will explain the different models applied by States (or individuals whenever applicable) when granting rights to explore and exploit oil and gas, possible transfer or sharing of those rights and the main obligations involved for those who have the right to explore and produce oil and gas. The second part of the course covers the most relevant consortium contracts created to conduct exploration and exploitation activities. The creation of consortium is a typical approach by oil and gas companies in order to reduce and minimize the amount of high risks and costs involved in any upstream activity.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: At the completion of the course the student should have: Acquired basic knowledge of the legal and contractual framework in the field of upstream oil and gas law and be able to identify and explain the main principles and legal issues

related to host government agreements, consortium contracts, regulatory framework, relevant players, among others.

-Skills: At the completion of the course the student should be able to apply laws and contracts to issues relevant in the upstream sector. This involves among other things that the students are able to find, interpret and apply legal sources of the relevance for the upstream sector and able to apply international and local laws when working on projects concerning the upstream sector.

-Competence: At the completion of the course the student should have knowledge and skills, to be put in practical use and/or for further study. This involves that students have (1) developed competence and sufficient independence for further study in upstream laws and contracts, (2) ability to work independently and in organised manner on topics concerning the upstream sector, and (3) the ability to interpret, explain and present theoretical issues concerning upstream law and contracts.

Course assessment: Assignments 40%, oral presentations of assignments and participation in class 20% and final exam 40%.

Reading material: Selected book chapters, articles and papers

Teaching methods: Lectures, case studies and exercises. Active participation of students in class is required.

Language of instruction: English

L-834 Law and Economics in Competition Law Procedure – theoretical and practical issues and perspectives

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): Competition Law (L-303-SAKE)

Schedule: 30 – 38 lectures/discussion periods per semester

Lecturer: Heimir Örn Herbertsson

Description: The program aims to provide students with better understanding of the role of economics in competition law practice. The program covers subjects such as market power and market definition, economic subjects that are linked with market dominance and behaviour of dominant undertakings, economic issues that arise in matters governed by Article 10 of the Competition Act and in merger cases.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: Students will learn about the foundations of economics that are applied to competition law, economic concepts that are important in the field and the interaction between law and economics in competition law procedure and policy making.

-Skills: Students will learn to identify when economic analysis is needed in particular circumstances and how to obtain and apply results from such analysis to the legal issues at hand.

-Competence: Students will be able to better analyse if and when agreements, mergers or conduct on behalf of undertakings is likely to have detrimental effects on competition as interpreted by competition authorities and courts, from an economic

point of view, to be better able to manage risk on behalf of undertakings/clients and to deal with situations where various articles of the Competition Act come into play towards behaviour on behalf of undertakings.

Course assessment: Assignments 50% - final written exam 50%.

Reading material: To be announced.

Teaching methods: Lectures and assignments.

Language of instruction: English

L-833 Trademark Law

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Level of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: 30 – 38 lectures/discussion periods per semester

Lecturer: Ásdís Magnúsdóttir

Description: Trademark protection has seldom, if ever, been more important to companies than now. With growing changes in business there have awoken new questions concerning trademarks and the laws and regulations governing them that haven't yet been fully answered. This course will explore trademark rights in an international context. The procedures and rules in the EU will be studied along with the procedures in the United States. Trademark rights in the US are quite different from those in the EU and whether that might affect the development the trademark subject will be considered in the course. Among the subjects covered will be “new problems” in the field that are not “traditional” trademark issues, such as trademarks and internet domains, the use of trademarks online (e.g. in relation to the connection of trademarks with advertising sales in search engines). Court rulings from both the EU and the US will be used extensively in the course.

Learning outcomes:

The aim of this course is to give an overview and understanding of international trademark law. Those who complete the course will be equipped to deal with trademark rights from a European viewpoint as well as an American viewpoint. A special emphasis will be placed upon the students being able to assess different issues in the field

and a desirable prospective development for it based on the objectives and purpose that trademark law should serve. Trademark use and protection is by nature an international subject and it is important that students are able to recognize these rights as a part of the big international picture.

Course assessment: Essay 40%, participation 10% and final oral exam 50%

Reading material: Various chapters, articles and rulings.

Teaching methods: Lectures, discussions and projects.

Language of instruction: English

L-740 Entertainment Law 3.75 ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None, but basic knowledge of copyright law is a plus

Schedule: See description

Lecturer: Sigríður Rut Júlíusdóttir Supreme Court attorney

Description: The course is intended to give students an insight into the various applications of the law in the entertainment industry. Special emphasis will be placed on produced materials for television and film. The course will focus on the use and handling of copyrighted materials. The main types of contracts governing the field of law will be covered and how best to secure the interests between contract members. Various contracts will be studied – from book publishing contracts to contracts regarding the sale of story rights for movies, production contracts, director's contracts and script contracts. Also the contracts for the use of music in films.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: At the end of the course students should have gained knowledge of the interests and disputes that can surface in this area of law as well as knowledge regarding the main types of contracts that are relevant to entertainment law.

-Skills: Students in the course should obtain skills to analyse problems and disputes for every type of participant in entertainment law, as well as the tools to solve those issues.

-Competence: Students should have the competence necessary to work on and draft contracts in entertainment law and be able to assess the different interests for various participants in the area.

Course assessment: Participation in discussions in class. Each student will submit a short essay at the end of the course

Reading material: TBA

Teaching methods: Lectures and discussions

Language of instruction: English

**L-732 Willem C. Vis Int. Commercial Arbitration Moot Part II
(Willem C. Vis Moot Court Competition)**

7.5

ECTS

Semester: Spring 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: See course description

Lecturer: Garðar Víðir Gunnarsson

Description: The course is divided into two parts, I and II. Work on the course begins in early September and concludes with participation in a moot court competition held in Vienna, Austria, in the week before Easter. In the first part of the course (I) students will be required to prepare a Memorandum for Claimant based on a description of particulars which is normally published in the first week

of October. All documents to be prepared in the course are in English. The matter at issue will concern a dispute on an international sale of goods based on the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG). Account also has to be taken of the rules of law that apply to procedure before an international court of arbitration based on the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration and the New York Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards. The claimant's memorandum must be submitted in early December. Before work begins on the preparation of documentation lectures will be held covering the principal rules of procedure that apply in the above fields and also some of the principal matters that need to be borne in mind in the preparation of the documents that need to be submitted. From the outset of the course students will need to acquaint themselves thoroughly with the CISG convention by reading scholarly articles and judgments. Also, students will need to acquaint themselves in detail with the rules of civil procedure that apply in each case, which vary from one year to the next, as the cases are based on the procedural rules of different arbitration institutions each year, and they will need to be familiar with the fundamental principles of international arbitration law. In the second part of the course (II), which takes place in the spring, participating students need to prepare and submit a respondent's memorandum as a response to the claimant's memorandum. The organisers of the competition will send to each participating university a claimant's submission which has been prepared by another university. The respondent's memorandum must be submitted in mid-January. When the respondent's memorandum has been submitted this is followed by preparations for oral argument before an arbitration tribunal and finally participation in the competition itself in Vienna. According to the rules of the competition participants in the course/competition must work by themselves without significant assistance from anyone other than their fellow students on the preparation of the applicant's and respondent's memoranda. The School of Law will provide students with working facilities for all preparations. The School will also, to the extent that the rules of the competition permit, provide participants with instruction, e.g. for the oral arguments. A special application must be made for admission to the course, as further detailed in the course website. A significant emphasis is placed on participants' sound knowledge of spoken and written English, as all writing of documents and all oral arguments take place in English. Further information on the competition is available on the following website:

<http://www.cisg.law.pace.edu.vis>; interested students are encouraged to familiarise themselves thoroughly with this information, including the rules of the competition and the general information included below on the objectives and structure of the competition.

Learning outcomes:

–**Knowledge:** At the end of the course students should have a thorough knowledge of the UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG) and other procedural rules and legal viewpoints that apply to international sales of goods, in addition to the principal fundamental rules of international arbitration law. In the course students will also gain increased knowledge of these fields through

research of the legal matters that are at issue at any time, which they are expected to use both in the preparation of their documents and in the course of hearings.

–Skills: By the end of the course students should have acquired significant experience and training in the preparation of submissions for both claimants and respondents in proceedings before courts of arbitration and they should have learned independent professional work methods in preparing such documents. This experience will not be limited to the conduct of proceedings before an arbitration tribunal, but work methods that can be used in the preparation of legal documents in litigation in general. It is also expected that the training provided by the course will encourage students to apply original thinking when it comes to analysing and resolving legal issues.

–Competence: The work that students will be required to do in the course, together with the work of producing documents and participating in oral argument, will have the effect of significantly improving students' competence in expressing themselves in spoken and written English. Also, there will be a significant emphasis on independent work methods and original thinking. Furthermore, the course is designed to improve students' competence in analysing legal issues and the means available for their resolution and how to present legal reasoning in an organised and efficient manner.

Course assessment: Course assessment will be based on performance in writing documents and oral argument. No numerical grade is awarded; this is a pass/fail course.

Reading material:

Rules of law

- The United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (CISG)
- The Convention on Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards
- The UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration
- The Rules of the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot

Books:

- Peter Huber & Alastair Mullis, *The CISG, A new textbook for students and practitioners*, 2007.
- Joseph Lookofsky, *Understanding the CISG, a compact guide to the 1980 United Nations Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods (Third Worldwide Edition)*, 2008.
- Nigel Blackaby, Constantine Partasides, Alan Redfern & Martin Hunter, *Redfern & Hunter on International Arbitration*, 2009.
- Margaret L. Moses, *The Principles and Practice of International Arbitration*, 2008.
- Julian Lew, Loukas Mistelis & Stefan Kröll, *Comparative International Commercial Arbitration*, 2003.
- Bryan A. Garner, *The Winning Brief – 100 Tips for Persuasive Briefing in Trial and Appellate Courts*, 2004.
- Christopher Kee, *The Art of Argument – A Guide to Mooting*, 2006.

Teaching methods: See description of teaching methods in the course description.

Language of instruction: English

Fall 2018

L-719 EEA Moot Court Competition

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: TBA

Lecturer: Margrét Einarsdóttir

Lýsing The overall aim of the course is to give students an opportunity to work on various areas of EU/EEA law through a challenging Moot Court Competition. The competition will consist teams competing in a moot court setting, in front of competent judges. The competition will consist of a written stage and an oral final stage. Furthermore, the course will consist of a preparatory stage. Participation in this course and in the competition should strengthen students' knowledge of EU/EEA law, raise their analytical and research skills, and give them confidence in oral presentation.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: After completing this course the students should possess good knowledge and understanding in the core features of EU/EEA law, particularly its key case. The students should, furthermore, be able to provide good and solid arguments for their own independent solutions. The EEA Moot Court Competition enables students to put this knowledge in real and relevant context and receive substantiated feedback.

-Skills: This course gives the students the opportunity to apply their knowledge and understanding in a professional context, where they will be able to deal with complex and real issues, even in new and unfamiliar situations. In this course the students will be required to integrate their knowledge through the development of legal opinions and present it both in written form and orally. In that sense the students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in applying professional methods and procedures acknowledged in the field of law.

-Competence: After completing this course the students should be able to apply their knowledge and skills in a professional and practical way. They will learn to work independently, but also in groups. Furthermore, they should be able to communicate and present their knowledge and findings in a professional manner, and for most, even in a foreign language.

Course assessment: This is a pass/fail course. No formal grades are given. The course assessment is based upon the students' performance and outcome of the both the written submissions and the oral arguments.

Reading material: EEA law moot court bundle and more, to be further announced.

Language of instruction: English

L-712-IEEL International and European Energy Law – Icelandic Energy Law 7.5 ECTS

(Alþjóðlegur og Evrópskur orkuréttur - Íslenskur orkuréttur)

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: 36 lectures/discussion periods per semester. Námskeið kennt í lotu.

Kennarar: Kristín Haraldsdóttir og Eduardo Pereira.

Description: The course provides an overview of the organizational and regulatory framework concerning the energy sector, acknowledging the importance of energy on a global scale. The course is divided into two parts. The first and main part (6 ECTS) covers the principal legal and policy issues relating to international and European energy affairs. The second part (1.5 ECTS) is concerned with the legal framework of the Icelandic energy market. The students can choose to complete either 6 ECTS or 7.5 ECTS. The first part of the course deals with international energy relations and discusses the global quest for energy resources and the role of the major actors on the energy market. In this part the main policy and legal issues and principles governing the energy supply chain, i.e. generation, transmission and consumption, in the EU will be covered. A special focus will be on renewable energy matters and legal issues related to emission trading. In this part energy-specific regulation, the role of courts and international institutions in general will also be discussed. The second part of the course covers the legal framework of the Icelandic energy market. It focuses on Iceland's obligations under the EEA-agreement in the field of energy and legal issues related to implementation of the relevant EU directives into national law.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: At the completion of the course the student should have: Acquired basic knowledge of the legal and institutional framework in the field of energy law in the international and European context and be able to identify and explain the main principles and legal issues related to generation, transmission and consumption of energy. Students should also have acquired basic knowledge of the legal framework governing the Icelandic energy market, its main characteristics and identify possible legal relations and problems.

-Skills: At the completion of the course the student should be able to apply energy law to issues relevant in the energy sector. This involves among other things that the students are able to find, interpret and apply legal sources of the relevance for the energy sector and able to apply international and European laws when working on projects concerning the energy sector.

-Competence: At the completion of the course the student should have knowledge and skills, to be put in practical use and/or for further study. This involves that students have (1) developed competence and sufficient independence for further study in energy law, (2) ability to work independently and in organised manner on topics concerning the energy sector, and (3) the ability to interpret, explain and present theoretical issues concerning energy law.

Course assessment: *Fyrri hluti:* Assignment 40%, presentations 20% og exam 40%. *Seinni hluti:* Assignment 70%, presentations 20% and participation in class 10%.

Reading material: Selection of book chapters and articles

Teaching methods: Lectures and discussions.

Language of instruction: English

L-760 International Protection of Human Rights

7.5 ECTS

(Alþjóðleg mannréttindavernd)

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): Aðferðafræði, L-700-ADFE, L-101-ADFE eða sambærilegt.

Schedule: 30-38 kennslustundir/verkefna- og umræðutímar/leiðsagartímar á önn

Lecturer: Davíð Þór Björgvinsson

Description: Firstly, the international system for human rights protection will be introduced by a discussion of the substantive protection and control mechanisms of key human rights conventions. Secondly, the theoretical background, basic concepts and development of international human rights protection will be dealt with as well as the interpretation of human rights instruments. Thirdly, a selected field of substantive rights will be treated. Finally, students are expected to conduct a small research project under the supervision of the course organiser.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: Knowledge of international human rights protection has become an important competency in many respects. It is relevant to attorneys, judges, civil servants and in business. The learning objectives of the seminar are the following: - Knowledge of the structure of the international system for the protection of human rights, its theoretical background and development, - understanding of the nature and function of international human rights protection.

-Skills: Skills in theoretical analysis of the main aspects of international human rights protection and in the presentation of results, both in oral and written form.

-Competence: The competence to understand the nature and purpose of international human rights protection and to be able to analyse disputed matters in this area, both in future work and further studies.

Course assessment: Verkefni 50% og skriflegt lokapróf 50%.

Reading material: Moeckli, Shah & Sivakumaran, *International Human Rights Law*, Oxford University Press, 2010 og ýmsar tímaritsgreinar.

Teaching methods: Fyrirlestrar umræðutímar.

Language of instruction: English

L-601 Legal English

7.5 ECTS

(LagaEnglish)

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): None

Schedule: 30-38 lectures pr. semester

Lecturer: Erlendína Kristjánsson

Description: Legal English is a practical course aimed at developing students' skills in using English as a professional language. Students mainly build on their speaking and writing skills in a legal context and work towards increasing their legal vocabulary substantively. Students improve their pronunciation and learn how to apply effective communication strategies for purposes of public speaking activities, such as, professional speeches, presentations, and court cases. The course also provides students with clear guidelines on how to write basic legal texts, such as, professional e-mails, bad-news communication, legal briefs, legal memos, and international sales contracts. The course covers the main writing conventions for purposes of legal drafting and communication with clients as set out by the European Commission and other anti-legalise associations. Students work on texts and complete practical exercises relating to the following themes: court case formats, legal drafting, systems of government – constitutional law, human rights, contracts, company law, and company finance. The course prepares students for the International Legal English by Cambridge University (ILEC exam) and participation in international moots, such as the annual Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot. The course also provides students with the foundations needed to work in international organisations or law firms. The level of the course is equivalent to C1 of the Common Framework of Reference for Language Learning.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: In terms of knowledge, students will be able to:

- define the main words and phrases of international contracts
- define at least 150 new legal terms and phrases
- describe the main characteristics of legalese
- explain the main writing formats and structures of legal correspondence.
- understand the mechanics of legal writing (capital letters, numbers, punctuation)
- list the main theories relating to legal argumentation and logic
- explain the characteristics of professional speeches and presentations

-Skills: In terms of skills, students will be able to:

- write well-structured legal messages
- devise a bad-news letter
- learn vocabulary more effectively
- give a professional speech and presentation
- present legal arguments in a court setting
- Competence:** In terms of competences, students will be able to:
 - write with grammatical correctness
 - write with effective punctuation marks, correct use of capital letters and numbers
 - express themselves in a well-organised manner
 - communicate with use of the appropriate legal vocabulary

Course assessment: Continuous evaluation with emphasis on small, practical speaking tasks for skills development purposes. No final exam. Speaking (35%): Informative Speech – 5% / Persuasive Speech – 5% / Class Presentation – 10% / Moot – 15%, Writing (30%): Bad-news letter - 5% / Legal Brief – 10% / Test on Legal Writing – 15%, Vocabulary Tests (35%): Test 1 – 15% / Test 2 - 20%

Reading material: Tilkynnt síðar.

Teaching methods: Short lectures, practical language assignments and discussions.

Language of instruction: English

L-883 Refugee law

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): The course is taught in English. The same course "*Flóttamannaréttur*" is taught in Icelandic in the fall of 2018. Students who have completed a comparable course, 3.75 ECTS, are not eligible for the course

Schedule: 30-38 classes per semester

Lecturer: Katrín Oddsdóttir

Description: Refugee law is closely linked to various other branches of the law and it is a growing field, both in Iceland and, of course, in a global context. Tremendous changes have occurred in recent months and the number of refugees has rarely, if ever, been greater.

The interfaces of refugee law with human rights law and administrative law are both numerous and important. The course will address the definitions of the concept of "refugee" in the Act on Foreigners No. 96/2002 and the United Nations Convention relating to the status of refugees and examine how the concept has been interpreted in international practice and by Icelandic government authorities. The focus will be on obtaining as comprehensive as possible a picture of the policy area. Also, other key concepts of this field of law will be examined, such as the implications of a "well-founded fear of being persecuted" in a home state.

The course will also examine the reasons that people seek aid outside their home countries, among other things through guest lectures given by refugees and people working in the policy area. Attention will be focussed on the conflicting views that balance against one another in the processing of requests for asylum.

Other legal recourses will be addressed, such as permission for residence on humanitarian grounds, supplementary protection and family reunification. An explanation will be provided of the roles of the Directorate of Immigration, the Red Cross, the Asylum Appeals Board, the Ministry of the Interior and appointed spokesmen for asylum seekers.

The focus will be on obtaining an understanding of how the world situation has changed with the large number of refugees who abandoned their home countries, such as Syria, in 2015 and the experience of the the different approaches taken by the receiving countries from a legal standpoint.

Learning outcomes:

Following completion of the course students should have a sound knowledge of the legal field, its principal features, concepts and sources of law. Furthermore, students should possess knowledge of the principal legal recourses available to asylum seekers and of the principal reasons for rejections of applications for asylum. Students will be expected to possess an understanding of how refugees' rights interact with other fundamental rights and what rules of administrative law are most important in legal work in the field.

–**Knowledge:** At the end of the course students will possess knowledge of the theoretical aspects of refugee law and an understanding of the interaction of refugee law, human rights and administrative law. Students will be familiar with international law, such as the United Nations Refugee Convention and other relevant commitments under international law.

Students will obtain their knowledge by understanding and recognising the multifaceted nature of refugee law discussed in the course schedule, but in particular by working on assignments linked to the course schedule and addressing the principal aspects of the legal field. The emphasis will therefore be on the students' search for knowledge rather than being fed the course material.

–**Skills:** At the end of the course students will be able to employ the legal methods and procedures of refugee law. This means that students will be able to understand the positions of administrative authorities or refugee spokesmen and draft texts such as administrative decisions or legal opinions citing laws and regulations. Students will acquire these skills through assignments, among other things, where a description of particulars will be provided and students asked to arrive at a conclusion regarding a specific case. Students will also acquire skills in finding information on the status of individual states and their minorities using reliable sources of information, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. Students will acquire their skills through independent and disciplined approaches to the tasks assigned and participation in class.

–**Competence:** At the end of the course students should be able to use their knowledge and skills in refugee law in their work or further studies. They should be able to use the underlying methodology and adapt it to other fields relating to human rights and minority rights. Students will have obtained a view of the international status of refugees and gained sufficient insight to participate in in-depth discussions of this field of law based on an in-depth understanding of the underlying principles.

Students will acquire these skills by developing the ability to take an independent initiative in addressing assignments, directing them and assuming responsibility for the work of groups and individuals, as well as arriving at independent and learned decisions with regard to issues and questions in the field of refugee law and conveying information on matters of refugee law in an independent manner, in writing or orally, in the language in question and seeking further knowledge in the field based on an understanding of the need for such further knowledge. Students will have developed the competence to apply critical thinking and draw their own conclusions in issues that may arise concerning refugee law.

Course assessment: Assignments 50%, oral examination 50%.

Reading material: The Law of Refugee Status (2nd ed.), by James C. Hathaway and Michelle Foster.

Teaching methods: Teaching will consist of lectures and discussion periods involving active student participation. Students should expect to be asked questions on the subject in class. Also, there will be an emphasis on practical resolutions of issues discussed in class, which students will be asked to resolve in group work.

Language of instruction: English

L-801 The Law of the World Trade Organization

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): No prerequisites

Schedule: 30-38 lectures/discussion periods per semester Course will be

Lecturer: Þórdís Ingadóttir and James Mathis

Description: The World Trade Organisation provides a legal and institutional framework for the multilateral trading system. The World Trade Organisation is one of the most powerful international organisations in the world, where states and regional unions have undertaken extensive obligations with regard to free trade (trading in goods and services and intellectual property rights). Currently the membership of the World Trade Organisation comprises 162 states and regional unions, including Iceland, the European Union, the United States, China and, most recently, Russia (2012). About 97 per cent of all world trade is conducted under the auspices of the Organisation. The course will provide a detailed overview of the work and rules of the World Trade Organisation. The principal substantive rules of the GATT/WTO will be reviewed, including rules on tariffs, most-favoured-nation treatment, dumping, subsidies and countervailing measures. Also, the course will address the process of disputes by the World Trade Organisation, which includes one of the most influential and most used dispute settlement mechanism of the international community, with mandatory membership and extensive powers. The course will also address special focal points, such as international trade in agricultural goods, the compatibility of the GATT/WTO rules with human rights and increasing disputes between the developing countries and the richer member states regarding the constitution of the Organisation.

Learning outcomes:

–**Knowledge:** The objective of the course is for students to acquire knowledge of the purpose and work of the World Trade Organization and to be familiar with the principles of international trade, including most favoured nation treatment and national treatment. Also, students should acquire an understanding of the interaction between local, regional and international rules, as well as the links between international trade and other fields of law. Students will also acquire an insight and knowledge of the internal activities of the WTO, the nature of negotiations and the decision making process in the organisation.

–**Skills:** Students will possess the knowledge to analyse and resolve issues covered by the rules of the World Trade Organization. Also, students will be able to gather, analyse and assess sources of law in this field. Furthermore, students will obtain an understanding and knowledge of the decision-making process within the World Trade Organisation and the making of international agreements.

–**Competence:** At the end of the course, students should have gained the independence to perceive and analyse issues falling within the domain of the World Trade Organization and the ability to discover and work with its sources of law and present academically reasoned conclusions. Also, students will have obtained knowledge of the nature of negotiations and the decision-making process within the Organisation. Students will benefit from this competence whether in practice in Iceland or abroad or in further studies.

Course assessment: Practical assignment 50%, written home examination 50%.

Reading material: The Law and Policy of the World Trade Organization, Peter van den Bossche, Cambridge University Press 2013; Case Reader.

Teaching methods: Lectures and discussions

Language of instruction: English

L-748 Comparative Law**7.5 ECTS**

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Framhaldsnám

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s):

Schedule: 30-38 sessions.

Lecturer: Milosz Hodun

Description: There are two basic aims foreseen for this course. On a practical level, we will learn about the differences and similarities, both real and perceived, between different legal orders. We will focus on legal orders within the "civil" and "common" law and try to find out in which way it makes sense to conceive of them as "the Western Legal Tradition". Examination of the concept of a legal tradition, including elements of particular legal traditions, their philosophical foundations, their implementation through institutions, and their influence on one another will be a starting point in the learning process. The process of interactions between diverse legal orders will be shown and the trends toward hybrid systems will be analysed. On a theoretical level, we will try to understand what it means to "compare", and how it can help us both to understand other legal systems as well as our own.

Case studies will include public and constitutional comparative law, especially concerning the European Union and the United States, analyzing different traditions of public law, human rights or the concept of judicial review.

Learning outcomes: By the end of the course, students should have a detailed knowledge of the topics covered in this subject and be able to appreciate the development of these areas of law. Students should also be able to think critically about the topics covered in the course. Students who successfully complete this course will be able to demonstrate:

- an understanding of the role and significance of comparative law as a discipline,
- an understanding of the principal legal traditions,
- an understanding of a term of the Western Legal Tradition,
- an awareness of the growing trends toward 'hybrid' systems of law,
- an ability of making connections to theories and reading while analyzing comparative law issues,
- an ability in applying comparative law methodologies.

Course assessment: Course attendance and participation 25%, written assignment 25%, final exam 50%.

Teaching methods: Discussions, case studies, group work. Interactive methods will be stressed.

Reading material:

L-811 The Philip C. Jessup Int. Law Moot Court Compet. Part I

7.5 ECTS

Semester: Fall 2018

Level of course: Advanced, specialised course

Type of course: Elective

Prerequisite(s): L-503-THJO, Þjóðaréttur

Schedule: To be announced

Lecturer: Þórdís Ingadóttir

Description: The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition has been held for 56 years with the participation of over 500 law schools from more than 80 countries. Each fall the administration of the Competition issues a Compromis and a dispute that has been brought before the International Court of Justice in the Hague. The issues are in the field of international law. Competitors need to prepare and submit memorials for both parties to the case. The memorials are a test of the detailed delimitation of the issues, clear reasoning and strong presentation. Students need to participate in a national qualifying tournament held among the law schools that participate in the competition at each time. The oral arguments require good speaking and reasoning skills. The winning team proceeds to the final competition which is held in Washington in the spring.

Learning outcomes:

-Knowledge: The objective of the course is to give students an opportunity to take on a challenging practical assignment that tests various fields of international law. Students will acquire extensive knowledge of many of the fundamental rules of international law as well as certain of its special fields.

–Skills: Students will gain independence and competence in analysing issues in the field of international law and competence in discovering and using international sources of law. They will also acquire skills in reasoning, writing submissions and pleadings. Students will gain skills in working in groups, leading assignments and working under a deadline. Students will gain skills in speaking and writing English.

–Competence: At the end of the course students should have acquired the independence of thought and ability to analyse issues in certain areas of international law and to discover and work with the sources of international law. They will also have gained skills in oral argument and in writing submissions. Furthermore, they will have acquired skills in speaking and writing about legal issues in English. Students will benefit from this competence whether in practice in Iceland or abroad or in further studies.

Course assessment: Pass/fail

Reading material: To be announced

Teaching methods: Working groups under the guidance of a teacher. Training in public speaking from a specialist.

Language of instruction: Icelandic and English