Course Specifications
Valid as from the academic year 2019-2020

Legal History (A002115)

Course size
Credits 5.0
Study time 135 h
Contact hrs 45.0 h

Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2019-2020
A (semester 1) Dutch lecture 45.0 h

Lecturers in academic year 2019-2020
Heirbaut, Dirk RE02 lecturer-in-charge
Delafontaine, Ramses LW03 co-lecturer

Offered in the following programmes in 2019-2020
Bachelor of Arts in History 5 A

Teaching languages
Dutch

Keywords
Legal history, law, institutions, history

Position of the course
The aim of this basic course is to introduce historians and other non-lawyers to legal history, so that they should be able to understand the legal background and legal terminology of legal texts from the past.

Contents
- Introduction: legal terminology, types of legal history.
- PART 1: Evolution of making in Europe.
- PART 2: Legal historical research: differences with historical research in general.
- PART 3: Legal rules in the past (with an emphasis on the legal rules relevant to historians).
Topics of the lectures: history of women’s right (or rather the lack thereof), history of criminal law.
Topics for independent study: the legal status of foreigners, rights of minors, marriage and divorce and the law of succession and married property.
- PART 4: the historian as expert in courts.

Initial competences
To have a general knowledge of history and the method of the historian.

Final competences
1 To be familiar with the main points in the development of law in Europe and with the evolution of important branches of it.
2 To better understand the legal elements of social phenomena from the past.
3 To recognise the fact that law has been an important social force in the past, which must not be ignored in historical research.
4 Consulting general legal historical literature for research as a student.
5 Knowledge of a limited number of specific legal terms and expressions.
6 Understanding of the relationship between law and society.
7 Understanding the difference between law in the books and law in action.
8 Adapting the methods of historical research to the specific needs of legal historical research.
9 Awareness of the difference between law in the past (instrument of discrimination e. g. of women and foreigners) and today (weapon against discrimination).

Conditions for credit contract
Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences

(Approved)
assessment
Conditions for exam contract
Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted
Teaching methods
Guided self-study, lecture, self-reliant study activities
Extra information on the teaching methods
See content discription.
1. Lecture
2. Guided Independent study
3. Independent study
Learning materials and price
References
GILISSEN, J., Historische inleiding tot het recht; VAN CAENEGEM, R., Geschiedkundige inleiding tot het recht; GODDING, P., Le droit privé dans les Pays-Bas méridionaux; DE RUYSSCHER, D., Westers recht in ontwikkeling; MONBALLYU, J., Zes eeuwen strafrecht; MONBALLYU, J., Geschiedenis van het familierecht.
Course content-related study coaching
By the lecturers either during or after class and during office hours of the lecturer-in-charge. Questions can be posed via e-mail: dirk.heirbaut@ugent.be; ramses.delafontaine@ugent.be.
Several additional texts on legal history will be offered under the topic 'documents' on Minerva.
Evaluation methods
end-of-term evaluation
Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the first examination period
Written examination with open questions, open book examination
Examination methods in case of periodic evaluation during the second examination period
Written examination, open book examination
Examination methods in case of permanent evaluation
Possibilities of retake in case of permanent evaluation
not applicable
Extra information on the examination methods
Assessment moment
Periodical: exam (100%)
Assessment form
Written exam with open questions (lectures).
Written open book exam (individual study).
Calculation of the examination mark
Periodical: exam (100 %)
When a grade has a decimal value below 10, the final grade will be rounded up to the next whole number.
When a grade has a decimal value above 10, the final grade will be rounded down to the next whole number.
Facilities for Working Students
1 1. Possibility of not attending classes
1 After consultation with the lecturers, recognized working students can be offered the opportunity to be exempt from attendance during certain classes by making additional task(s) or studying additional course material.
1 2. Possibility of moving the exam to alternative date
1 Not possible.
1 3. Alternative date for feedback
1 Possible to schedule the feedback at an alternative moment during office hours.