



COURSE DATA

Data Subject

Code	35200
Name	Theory of law
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1303 - Degree in Law	Faculty of Law	1	First term
1921 - Double Degree Program BMA & Law	Faculty of Law	1	First term
1922 - Double Degree Prog. Law-Political Science	Faculty of Law	1	Second term
1923 - Double Degree Programme Law-Criminology	Faculty of Law	1	First term
1930 - Programa Doble Titulación Grado Derecho-Ciencias Políticas y de la Administ	Faculty of Law	1	Second term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1303 - Degree in Law	3 - Theory of law	Basic Training
1921 - Double Degree Program BMA & Law	1 - Year 1 compulsory subjects	Basic Training
1922 - Double Degree Prog. Law-Political Science	1 - Year 1 compulsory subjects	Obligatory
1923 - Double Degree Programme Law-Criminology	1 - Year 1 compulsory subjects	Obligatory
1930 - Programa Doble Titulación Grado Derecho-Ciencias Políticas y de la Administ	1 - Asignaturas obligatorias de primer curso	Obligatory



Coordination

Name

BEA PEREZ, EMILIA

TALAVERA FERNANDEZ, PEDRO AGUSTIN

Department

364 - Political Legal Philosophy

364 - Political Legal Philosophy

SUMMARY

1. Legal Theory has an introductory purpose regarding legal reality, from the perspective of the Philosophy of Law. Thus, it wants to provide the student with a first approach to the architecture of Law, through a critical reflection that makes possible understanding Law in the framework of social reality, beyond specific perspectives to the other legal disciplines. It draws contributions from a wide range of related disciplines in the humanities and social sciences, including philosophy, political science, economics, history and sociology.

2. Legal Theory offers a broad range of topics, including analytical jurisprudence, normative jurisprudence, analyses of legal doctrines, theories of law as a social or cultural phenomenon, and critical perspectives on law and legal institutions. It is particularly related to Civil Law and Constitutional Law. Legal Theory aims for students to acquire the maturity to carry out a critical approach to Law.

3. The content of Legal Theory focuses on following topics: Concept of Law. Main conceptions of Law. Relationship between Law and other normative orders. Connection of Law with society and the State. The rule of Law. Spanish constitutional and legal system. The problem of interpretation and application of Law. Connection between Law and Justice. The sense of Law in human existence.

PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

1303 - Degree in Law

- Recognise the importance of law as a system for regulating social relations.
- Understand the legal system as unitary and have an interdisciplinary perspective of legal problems.
- Be able to apply constitutional principles and values, the respect for human rights, with special attention to equality between men and women, sustainability and the culture of peace as working tools in the interpretation of the legal system.



- Be able to use legal sources (legal, jurisprudential and doctrinal).
- Be able to read and interpret legal texts.
- Be able to communicate correctly both orally and in writing in the field of law.
- Be able to analyse legal problems and synthesise their approach and resolution.
- Develop critical awareness for the analysis of the legal system and develop the legal dialectic.
- Acquire basic knowledge of legal arguments.
- Be able to use information and communication technology to obtain and select legal information.
- Be able to create and structure regulations.

Adequate use of Legal Theory of Law course will allow the student to obtain the following results:

- Understanding the unitary character of the legal system and acquiring an interdisciplinary outlook of legal problems.
- Ability to understanding an analyzing legal text and jurisprudence doctrines.
- Ability to use constitutional principles and values, respect for human rights, sustainability and the culture of peace, as working tools in the interpretation of the legal system.
- Manage of legal sources
- Correct communication, orally and in writing, in the legal field.
- Ability to analyzing legal problems and offering a proposal of resolution with the basic instruments of legal argumentation.
- Acquisition of a critical conscience in the analysis of the legal system and of developing the legal dialectic.

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION TO THE CONCEPT OF LAW

LESSON 1. INTRODUCTION

1. Place of the Legal Theory in the Law Degree.
2. The concept of Law: diversity of perspectives.
3. Basic legal categories: validity, efficacy and justice.
4. Law as a social and political phenomenon.

LESSON 2. CONCEPTIONS OF LAW

1. Natural Law.
2. Legal Positivism.
3. Constitutionalism and other perspectives.



LESSON 3. LAW AND OTHER NORMATIVE ORDERS

1. Law, Morality and Conventions as normative orders.
2. Law and Morality.
 - Various aspects of the moral phenomenon.
 - Differential features between Law and Morality.
 - Connections between Law and Morality.
3. Law and Conventions.

LESSON 4. LAW AND SOCIETY

1. The place of Law in social spheres: politics, economy, culture.
2. The functions of Law.
3. Legitimation of power: State and Law. Crisis of the rule of law?
4. Law and economy. Law and culture.

2. THE ELEMENTS OF LAW

LESSON 5. THE RULES

1. The language of the rules
2. The content of rules.
3. Law as the union of primary and secondary rules.
4. Rules and principles.

LESSON 6. FROM RULES TO LAW

1. Law as a Legal System.
2. The unity of the Legal System. Main theoretical proposals.
3. The fullness of the Legal System. The gaps in the Law and its integration procedures.
4. The coherence of the legal system. Legal antinomies and their resolution criteria.
5. The sources of Law.

3. INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THE LAW

LESSON 7. THE PROCESS OF INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THE LAW

1. Models of Judicial Discretion.
2. Interpretation of rules. Concept, models and conditions.
3. Hermeneutical criteria. Reference to the Spanish Law

1. Law, Morality and Conventions as normative orders.
2. Law and Morality.
 - Various aspects of the moral phenomenon.
 - Differential features between Law and Morality.
 - Connections between Law and Morality.
3. Law and Conventions.

**4. JUSTICE AND THE LAW****LESSON 8. LAW AND JUSTICE**

1. Principles of Justice.
2. Theories of Justice. Main conceptions.
3. Law and Rights, duties and responsibilities.
4. Introduction to the Human rights.

WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00	100
Attendance at events and external activities	2,00	0
Development of individual work	8,00	0
Study and independent work	26,00	0
Readings supplementary material	8,00	0
Preparing lectures	18,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	8,00	0
TOTAL	130,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY**1. Evaluable activities:**

Four specific activities will be carried out, corresponding to each of the four parts of the subject. Of these, the teacher will indicate three as evaluable.

2. Specific activities:

The teacher will determine other activities in the classroom, which will contribute to improving the level of understanding of the program and participation in the lessons.

3. Complementary activities (may be evaluable):

Other activities may be considered evaluable, such as Judges, Prosecutors or Lawyers conferences, participation in Law workshop, etc. It will be carried out in the specific schedule of complementary activities indicated for each group.



EVALUATION

- 70% of the final grade corresponds to the mark obtained in the global test (final exam).
- 30% of the final grade corresponds to the mark obtained in the continuous evaluation (marks in the evaluable activities).
- Participation in theoretic lessons and other activities will count, at the teacher discretion, to modulate the final grade.

REFERENCES

Basic

- AÑÓN, M.J. et alii (2023), *Teoría del Derecho*, Valencia, Tirant Lo Blanch, (3ª ed.).
- AÑÓN, M.J. et alii (2023), *Teoría del Dret*, València, Tirant Lo Blanch, (2ª ed.).
- ATIENZA, M. (2012), *El sentido del Derecho*, Barcelona, Ariel.
- PÉREZ LUÑO, A.E. (2019), *Teoría del Derecho. Una concepción de la experiencia jurídica*, Madrid, Tecnos, (18ª ed.).
- PRIETO SANCHÍS, L. (2005), *Apuntes de Teoría del Derecho*, Madrid, Trotta.

Additional

- ATIENZA, M.- RUIZ MANERO, J. (2007), *Las piezas del Derecho*, Barcelona, Ariel, (4ª ed.)
- BALLESTEROS, J. (2001), *Sobre el sentido del Derecho*, Madrid, Tecnos (3ª ed.)
- BOBBIO, N. (1991), *Teoría general del Derecho*, Madrid, Debate.
- DE LUCAS, J. (2020), *Decir no. El Imperativo de la Desobediencia*, Valencia, Tirant lo Blanch.
- KELSEN, H. (1991), *Teoría pura del Derecho*, México D. F., Porrúa-UNAM.