

DOCTORAL SCHOOL OF LAW

TRAINING PROGRAMME WS/SS 2025/2026

Module A – Transferable Skills

Title	Professor / Speaker	Hours	ECTS	WS/ SS
Library & Database Research (WS) 1) Conducting Research at the Library of the Court of Justice of the EU, <i>Dr Maria Pichou & Dr Fabio Pappalardo</i> 2) LLC services and databases, Julie Toussaint 3) LCEL Library visit	Maria Pichou & Fabio Pappalardo (CJEU), Julie Toussaint, Irina Kühn	20	0.5	WS
How to Teach Law	Michal Urban (Charles University) & Speaker TBC	20 + self study and preparation	1	WS + SS
Tips & Tools to conduct your PhD research, to manage your sources and organize your PhD project	André Prüm & Salomé Lannier	15	1	SS

Library & Database Research (SS)		20	0.5	SS
1) Conducting Research at the Library of the Court of Justice of the EU	Maria Pichou & Fabio Pappalardo (CJEU),			
2) LLC services and databases	Julie Toussaint,			
3) LCEL Library visit	Irina Kühn			

Module B – Methods and Approaches to Law

Title	Speaker	Hours	ECTS	WS / SS
Comparative and Historical Research Methodology		15 + self study and preparation	1.5 +0.5	WS
1) Method of Comparative Law	Gilles Cuniberti		See notes	
2) Historical Analysis of Law: The Foundational History of the European Court of Justice: Treaty Negotiations, Key Actors, and Landmark Cases	Amedeo Arena (University of Naples) & Luca Prete (CJEU)			
Approaches to Banking and Finance Law Scholarship	Felix Pflücke & Christos Gortsos (University of Athens)	14 + self study and	1	WS

		preparation		
Developments in European Law and Policy	Herwig Hofmann		1+1 See notes	SS
Access to Legal Academia in Europe and Beyond	Herwig Hofmann		1+1 See notes	SS
Empirical Legal Studies	Felix Pflücke		1	SS
Law and Literature	Johan Van der Walt		2	SS
Law and Democracy	Johan Van der Walt		2	SS

Module C – Intradisciplinary Courses

Title	Speaker	Hours	ECTS
Séminaire Doctoral: Droit Pénal Européen	Juliette Lelieur, Katalin Ligeti, John Vervaele		0,5 - 1
Subsidies' Role in Green Transition: EU Internal Market and WTO Perspectives (DTU GREITMA)	Florin Dascalescu (European Investment Fund)	6	0,5

The EU as a global digital actor: on global data governance (DTU GREITMA)	Elaine Fahey (City Law School) + Elif Biber	14	1
The emerging European Environmental Constitution (DTU GREITMA)	Klaus Tuori and Fernando Losada	10	1
Human Rights: Insights to Today's Challenges	Various speakers under the supervision of Jörg Gerkrath		1+1 See notes
Introduction au droit Luxembourgeois	Patrick Kinsch	10 + self study and preparation	1
Introduction to Luxembourg Public Governance	Bob Kieffer	9	0.5
EPLaw Training Session - Athens (DTU GREITMA)	EPLaw	12	1,5
EU Energy Law (DTU GREITMA)	Raphaël Meyer (CJEU)	6	0.5

<p>Values, Democracy and Legal Sciences</p> <p>1) Common values and national constitutional values in EU Law <i>Celestina Iannone</i></p> <p>2) Analyzing the Legal Functioning of “Authoritarian”, “Dictatorial” or “Totalitarian” Regimes, Luc Heuschling</p> <p>3) The principle of Democracy in EU Law</p>	<p>Celestina Iannone (CJEU),</p> <p>Luc Heuschling,</p> <p>Lucia Rossi (University of Bologna - CJEU)</p>	<p>20 + self-study and preparation</p> <p>(10)</p>	<p>1.5</p>
<p>Introduction to Sustainable Finance</p>	<p>Julia Sinnig</p>	<p>10 + self study and preparation</p>	<p>1</p>

COURSES DESCRIPTIONS



Faculty of Law,
Economics
and Finance

Title

Tips & tools to conduct your PhD research, to manage your sources and organize your PhD project

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. André Prüm & Salomé Lannier

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intradisciplinary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English / French on demand
ECTS:	1 ECTS
Activity type:	Workshop
Course description:	<p>The overall aim of this seminar is to guide doctoral students in organizing their research work. PhD students will be familiarized with the usual standards for citing references in the legal field. They will learn how to create and maintain a database of bibliographic references, how to use it to manage the references cited in their thesis and how to share their sources with their thesis supervisors and other doctoral students. The use of IA tools for research will be discussed. Different word-processing solutions and their effective use, as well as writing aids, will be discussed. The protection of their manuscript through a secure backup method will be presented. Advice will be given on how to manage the thesis as a manageable project over time. Explanations will be given on the formal presentation of the thesis.</p> <p>The seminar is designed as a platform for exchanging experience and advice. Doctoral students will be encouraged to use collaboration tools, such as teams, to exchange with each other in a simple way and to help and support each other.</p> <p>For doctoral students starting their thesis, the seminar will provide the keys to organizing their research work effectively. For those who are already working on their thesis, it will provide tips on how to progress safely.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	For each activity, PhD students will be invited to present their own way of working and the ways in which they think they could improve it.

Learning outcomes:	Structuring research work Collecting, organizing and managing documentary sources Planning Formatting the manuscript
Student will be able to:	adopt working and organizational methods to complete their thesis project

Title

Conducting Research at the Library of the Court of Justice of the EU

Professor or Lecturer

Dr Maria Pichou & Dr Fabio Pappalardo

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
ECTS:	
Activity type:	Course – Applied seminars
Semester:	Winter Semester 2025 - Spring Semester 2026
Dates:	Fridays 12:00 – 14:00 Winter Semester : Tentatively : 10/10, 17/10, 24/10, 31/10 et 14/11 Spring Semester : Tentatively : 27/2, 6/3, 13/3, 20/3 et 23/03
Room:	C006 & A101 (Winter)
Course description:	<p>This course's duration is of 5 weeks, as the course consists of (4) two-hours seminars and an assessment activity during the final week :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Introduction - Research as science - the epistemology of legal scholarship2) The use of the Court's internal Research tool 'Curius'2) Quality of the research and fundamentals of the Research Design in Law3) L'évaluation de la qualité scientifique au sein de la Direction de la Bibliothèque4) Assessment week : Group Presentations, Conduct research at the Library and compile a bibliography <p>The course aims at training students in designing research by using the research tools of the Library of the Court of Justice of the EU.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	Read the course's syllabus and the reading material

<p>Learning outcomes:</p>	<p>By completing this course, students should be able to:</p> <p>In terms of skills: Use the research tools of the Library of the Court to conduct their own research; Navigate through the different databases of the Court to search for relevant sources;</p> <p><u>In terms of Knowledge:</u> Identify the research gaps/research questions in academic work; Critically evaluate the quality of the research and of the sources used; Hands on knowledge of the research done at the Court Formulate research questions in their chosen field; relating these to relevant theories and methods; Explain the distinction between doctrinal and empirical legal research; Identify strategies for collecting relevant sources, data, and discuss opportunities and limitations that come with different such strategies;</p>
<p>Workload:</p>	<p>This is an applied course. The emphasis will be on training students' methodological skills towards producing a solid research bibliography on a project using legal analysis.</p>

Title

LLC services and databases

Professor or Lecturer

Julie Toussaint

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	
Activity type:	Interactive class
Semester:	Winter
Course description:	This class offers an in-depth exploration of legal databases accessible through the Luxembourg Learning Centre catalog. Each session focuses on a specific group of databases, examining their features, strengths, and limitations through practical examples.
Seminar pre-work:	Be registered to the library is a plus
Learning outcomes:	Participants will gain hands-on experience navigating these resources, enabling them to critically assess which tools best suit various legal research needs.
Workload:	
Contact hours	6
Estimated preparatory work hours	/
Estimated self-study	/

Title

How to Teach Law

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Michal Urban

Module:	
A- Transferable Skills	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B- Methods and Approaches to Law	<input type="checkbox"/>
C- Intradisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lecturer, Email address:	urban@prf.cuni.cz
Languages:	English
ECTS:	1
Activity type:	Course
Course description:	<p>Are you an aspiring or current university-level educator seeking to enhance your teaching skills and create a dynamic learning environment? This course is designed to empower you with the essential knowledge and strategies needed for effective instruction at the higher education level.</p> <p>In this course, we bridge the gap between the advanced subject matter expertise you acquire from other courses and the completion of your Ph.D., and effective pedagogy. While secondary and elementary educators often undergo extensive pedagogical training, the same isn't always true for university-level educators. Yet, beginning your teaching journey without proper preparation can be challenging. This course offers a solution. Whether you're preparing to embark on your teaching career or are already an instructor aiming to elevate your teaching to new heights, this course provides a comprehensive foundation. It draws from extensive teaching experience of the instructor and evidence-based approaches to university-level education. You'll not only gain insights into the core</p>

	principles of evidence-based pedagogy but also have the opportunity to explore your own questions and topics, collaboratively seeking solutions. Upon completion, you'll be well-equipped to plan your lessons and courses with greater precision, motivate your students, familiarize yourself with effective teaching methodologies, and enhance your confidence as an educator.
Seminar pre-work:	Complete a questionnaire about what you want to learn in the course (approximately 20 minutes) and fill in a handout (approximately 30 minutes)
Learning outcomes:	<p>At the end of the program, participants will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> explain the basic principles of quality teaching and evidence-based approaches in education and apply them to their teaching plan their teaching and the whole course and refine their plans use specific tools for effective preparation and delivery of their lessons reflect on the way they teach themselves give examples of several types of motivation and use specific tools to motivate and activate learners apply and reflect on selected teaching methods and strategies, including those to promote active learning justify the importance of a growth mindset, a safe learning environment and respectful communication explain the principles of effective learning, the workings of attention and memory and use examples of effective questioning implement strategies that encourage active participation among all learners, recognizing the importance of inclusivity depart from this course with heightened self-esteem and confidence as an educator

Title

Method of Comparative Law

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Gilles Cuniberti

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	2
Activity type:	Lecture
Semester:	WS
Dates:	13/10, 15/10, 17/10, 27/10, 29/10 (10:30 to 12 :00)
Room:	B302
Course description:	<p>The main purpose of the class is to understand the challenges of comparative legal research and the different types of comparative projects. In particular, the class will focus and introduce the functional method of comparative law. It will discuss issues such as language, translation, and the determination of the legal systems to be included in the comparison.</p> <p>Due to the fact that students will make presentations, a maximum of 10 students will allowed to take the class for credit.</p>
	There will be preparatory readings for most classes.
Learning outcomes:	Participants will become aware of the challenges of comparative legal research and the need to justify their choices in this respect. Participants will become aware of the peculiarities of the US legal system and academia relevant to comparative legal research.
Workload:	
Contact hours	10 TU (5 classes of 1,5 hours)
Estimated preparatory work hours	1 hour for each class.

Estimated self-study	Participants will be asked to prepare a short presentation for the last class discussing their comparative law project.
-----------------------------	---

Title

Approaches to Banking and Finance Law Scholarship

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Christos Gortsos and Dr Felix Pflücke

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	1
Activity type:	Workshop
Semester:	Winter
Course description:	<p>The course offers seven sessions on topics relating to academic legal research in banking and financial law at the PhD level, in particular:</p> <p>Working with sources and resources in banking and financial law at the University of Luxembourg (relevant journals, databases, citation style and tools, how to conduct literature research etc.)</p> <p>Iterative writing in banking and financial law: what are the typical perspectives to address?</p> <p>The “thesis” and the Thesis: Critical thinking and legal writing</p> <p>Mind & Heart: How to balance “smart” moves with following your passion in an (academic) career</p> <p>Preparation of CET meetings and how to get efficient feedback</p> <p>“Must reads” in Banking and Financial Law</p> <p>Building your own academic profile</p> <p>Every session is moderated by the lecturer who will, at times together with a postdoctoral researcher or fellow professor, introduce to the topic. The objective is to create an interactive mutual learning environment, allowing for an exchange of views within the Department’s in banking and financial law community, guided by moderators that have already undergone the PhD process.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	PhD candidates are requested to prepare the sessions by collecting concrete examples they experienced/are experiencing in relation to the topic of the session.

Learning outcomes:	PhD students will be introduced to the “common ground” of how to conduct their legal research project, what is expected from them in the framework of PhD studies at the University of Luxembourg, with a focus on Thesis development, and what they need to think about when undergoing this first step of an academic career, with a focus on subject matters of, and examples from, banking and financial law.
---------------------------	---

Title

Empirical Legal Studies

Professor or Lecturer

Dr Felix Pflücke

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	1 ECTS
Activity type:	PhD Seminar
Course description:	<p>The course will focus on 7 distinct topics, ranging from data collection and analysis to communicating empirical legal findings.</p> <p>17.02.26 13.00 – 17.30 Lecture 1: Introduction to empirical legal research Lecture 2: Research plan Lecture 3: Collecting and coding data Workshop 1: Research plan and creation of ELS projects</p> <p>2.03.26 10.00 – 13.00 Assignment 1 (present the structure of your empirical research plan, collection and coding strategy) Lecture 4: Introduction to data analysis Lecture 5: Introduction to regression models, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing</p> <p>16.03.26 13.00 – 17.30 Workshop 2: data analysis Lecture 6: Causality and other relevant inferential models Assignment 2 (present preliminary data analysis and updates on your empirical research)</p>

	23.03.26 10.00 – 13.00 Lecture 7: Communicating data and results Assignment 3 (present final findings)
Seminar pre-work:	Optional and further readings: - Cane/Kritzer (eds), <i>The Oxford Handbook of Empirical Legal Research</i> (Oxford University Press 2010) (chapters depending on your methodology). - Pflücke, <i>Compliance with European Consumer Law</i> (Oxford University Press 2025) chapters 1, 5, and 6. - Zetzsche et al, 'The ICO Gold Rush: It's a Scam, It's a Bubble, It's a Super Challenge for Regulators', <i>Harvard International Law Journal</i> , https://journals.law.harvard.edu/ilj/wp-content/uploads/sites/84/3_ICO_60.2.pdf
Learning outcomes:	The students will have basic skills to conduct their own empirical studies.
Student will be able to:	Intensify their methodological knowledge by attending specialist lectures on empirical studies of law.
Workload:	20 TU
Contact hours:	20 TU
Preparatory work hours:	0
Self-study:	0

Title

Law and Democracy

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Johan Van der Walt

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	2
Activity type:	5 Seminars
Semester:	SS
Course description:	This course offers a study of the historical and philosophical development of the concept of liberal democratic law. It does so in five sessions, each of which look at the significance of a specific historic in the development of the concept of liberal democratic law.
Seminar pre-work:	Prescribed Text: Johan van der Walt, <i>The Concept of Liberal Democratic Law</i> (Routledge 2019), available electronically in the LLC. Students will be required to read sections of the book in advance of every seminar. The schedule will be announced on Moodle.
Learning outcomes:	Students will be acquainted with the history of political and legal thought that contributed in positive and negative ways to the development of the concept of law associated with liberal democratic political systems.

Title

Law and Literature

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Johan Van der Walt

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	2
Activity type:	Seminars
Semester:	SS
Course description:	Unlike most approaches in law and literature courses offered in the world, this course does not look at the relation between law and literature from the perspective of the correspondence or similarities between them. It will stress, instead, the fundamental difference between law and literature. In the course of five weeks we will endeavour to come to grips with this fundamental difference between law and literature by working through the prescribed text indicated above.
Seminar pre-work:	Prescribed Text: Johan van der Walt, <i>The Literary Exception and the Rule of Law</i> , Routledge 2023 (available electronically in the LLC). Students will be required to read sections of the book in advance of every seminar. The schedule will be announced on Moodle.
Learning outcomes:	Students will be acquainted with the literature and key debates about the relation between law and literature (and law and art) across the world, and taught at leading universities of the world.
Workload:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact hours	10 hrs (10 TUs)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estimated preparatory work hours	40 hrs (8 hours per week)

Title

Analyzing the Legal Functioning of “Authoritarian”, “Dictatorial” or “Totalitarian” Regimes

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Dr Luc Heuschling

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	
Activity type:	Course
Semester:	Summer Semester 2026
Course description:	<p>In the current context where liberal-democratic systems are, once more, surrounded by, and connected to, an increasing number of so-called “dictatorships” and are facing internal threats of backsliding (“populism”, “illiberal democracies”, “authoritarian abuses/practices”, etc.), there is an urgent need, both for lawyers and non-lawyers, to gain a more sophisticated understanding of what so-called “dictatorships” lato sensu are, or may be, from the perspective of legal science. How do the legal systems of those stigmatized regimes work? Is there something specific? Do they all operate in the same way or do they mobilize different legal techniques, concepts, justification discourses, etc.? To what extent is the classic distinction established in political science after WWII between “(ordinary) dictatorships” and “totalitarian” regimes (Nazi Germany, USSR, etc.) also relevant for legal science? Where should one situate, as a legal expert, such systems currently called “illiberal democracies”? Based on the study of legal materials and scholarly debates taken from various ancient and contemporary “dictatorships” lato sensu, this course will provide a first introduction into the intellectually stimulating field of legal research on those regimes which far too often are discarded from legal education in the western world.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	There are no compulsory reading assignments.

Learning outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide a first overview of the existing, rich legal literature on ancient and current dictatorships. - Provide a deeper understanding of key terms of legal science such as “law/legal system”, “right”, “hierarchy of norms”, “rule of law (nomocracy)”, “democracy”, “independence (judicial independence)”, etc. and their flexible use in different political settings - Create a sharper awareness of what distinguishes, or not, our so called “liberal-democratic regimes” from those regimes qualified as “dictatorships” lato sensu
Workload:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact hours 	10h
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated preparatory work hours 	n.a.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated self-study 	/

Title

The Principle of Democracy in EU Law

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Lucia Rossi

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	ENGLISH
ECTS:	1
Activity type:	Lecture
Course description:	Seminar for PhD students concerning the EU founding values, notably the rule of law and the principle of democracy
Seminar pre-work:	
Learning outcomes:	Knowledge about the EU founding values and the role of the different EU institutions in protecting them
Student will be able to:	Have a good knowledge about the current developments and perspectives in the protection of democracy and rule of law in the EU

Title

Introduction au droit luxembourgeois

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Patrick Kirsch

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	FR
ECTS:	1
Activity type:	
Semester:	winter semester
Course description:	Cours destiné à familiariser les étudiants en doctorat, qu'ils aient fait leurs études antérieures au Luxembourg ou ailleurs, avec certaines particularités du droit luxembourgeois : -sources d'inspiration du droit luxembourgeois, en particulier parmi les droits étrangers - principales particularités en droit privé et public - méthodologie législative, jurisprudentielle et -méthodologie de la recherche sur les sources
Seminar pre-work:	N.A.
Learning outcomes:	L'étudiant aura été familiarisé avec le droit luxembourgeois au point de pouvoir travailler de manière autonome (intégration de certaines références de droit luxembourgeois même dans une thèse qui n'est pas spécifique au droit luxembourgeois)

Title

Introduction to Luxembourg Public Governance

Professor or Lecturer

Bob Kieffer

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	0.5
Activity type:	Lecture
Semester:	2
Course description:	This 10h course offers a comprehensive introduction to the political and institutional system of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, combining a legal perspective with political science analysis. We will explore the constitutional framework of the Luxembourgish state, the functioning of its institutions, and the electoral and party dynamics that structure national political life. Particular attention will be given to the interaction between the national and the European levels of governance.
Seminar pre-work:	Students are expected to have read the 2023 Constitutions
Learning outcomes:	The overall objective is to provide students with a coherent, critical, and contextualised understanding of the Luxembourg governance model, enabling them to analyse its specific features, recent developments, and current challenges.

Séminaire doctoral – Droit pénal européen

17-18 septembre 2025

Animation

Pr. Juliette Lelieur, Université de Strasbourg

Pr. Katalin Ligeti, Université de Luxembourg

Pr. em. John Vervaele, Université d'Utrecht

Lieu : MISHA, Campus de l'Esplanade, 5 allée du Général Rouvillois, Salle Océanie, 1^{er} étage (salle 140)
Tram C ou E, station « Observatoire »

Programme

Jeudi 17 septembre : 14h – 18h15	Vendredi 18 septembre : 9h – 12h
<p>14:00: Georgia Theodorakakou, <i>The impact of EPPO on the national judicial systems</i></p> <p>15:00 : Milena Stamenkovic, <i>Le droit pénal français de la protection des intérêts de l'UE</i></p> <p>16:00 : pause-café</p> <p>16:15 : Nicole Visco Comandini, <i>Non-conviction based confiscation</i></p> <p>17:15 : Jean Mukunayi Kamuena, <i>La protection pénale de la démocratie</i></p> <p>19:15 : Dîner, Le Purgatoire, 34 rue de Zurich</p>	<p>9:00: Yamina Bouadi, AI based investigations and data protection in French and German law</p> <p>10:00: Charlotte Quaisser, The role of private actors in criminal procedure (in German law)</p> <p>11:00 : pause-café</p> <p>11:15 : Sarra Triqui : L'IA et les droits de la défense dans la phase préliminaire du procès pénal</p> <p>12:15: Andreas Kanakakis: Digital Investigatory Measures: Evidence Admissibility and the Rights of the Person Concerned</p> <p>13:30 : Déjeuner, « Le 32 », 32 boulevard de la victoire</p>

Pour chaque doctorant.e :

- présentation : 20 minutes
- discussion : 35 minutes

Title

Introduction to Sustainable Finance

Professor or Lecturer

Assist-Prof. Julia Sinnig

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	1
Activity type:	Lectures
Semester:	SS
Course description:	The course introduces PhD students into the law and regulation of sustainable finance. It gives an overview of classification categories and reporting duties of financial intermediaries and other stakeholders involved in financial markets.
Seminar pre-work:	Reading recommendations will be shared with students via moodle. All readings shall a) assist in understanding the concepts discussed in class, b) familiarize students with the principles of financial regulation, and c) provide examples for PhDs on how to deal with sustainable finance in publications.
Learning outcomes:	PhD students will retain a basic understanding of sustainable finance and related areas that potentially affect their own research as well.

Title

Subsidies' Role in Green Transition: EU Internal Market and WTO Perspectives

Professor or Lecturer :

Mr. Florin Dascalescu, Head of Unit, EIB Group

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	0,5
Activity type:	Course
Semester:	Winter
Course description:	<p>This course explores how subsidies are regulated under EU (State aid) and International Trade Law (WTO), and critically assesses whether current legal frameworks enable or constrain governments to support the Green Transition.</p> <p>The session on WTO Framework provides an overview of the WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM), including definitions of prohibited and actionable subsidies, and the conditions under which subsidies can trigger countervailing duties (CVDs). Particular attention is paid to the lack of specific environmental exceptions in the ASCM, the treatment of green subsidies in recent trade cases, and tensions between environmental policies and trade.</p> <p>The EU State Aid session examines the EU's internal subsidy control regime under Article 107 TFEU, focusing on how State aid law has evolved to accommodate environmental and climate-related goals. The session will focus on how the EU Member States may pursue environmental objectives and green policies, with reference to policies funded from the EU budget as well.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	<p>Estimated time: 4 hours</p> <p>To ensure engagement during the sessions, participants are expected to get familiarized with two legal frameworks: WTO Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCM) General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) Regulation 651/2014 as amended</p>

Learning outcomes:	Understand the legal architecture of subsidy control in WTO and EU frameworks. Critically evaluate how these legal frameworks impact climate-related support measures. Identify legal tensions between trade/competition policy/industrial policies and environmental protection.
---------------------------	---

Title

The EU as a Global Digital Actor : on global Data Governance

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Elaine Fahey

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	0,5
Activity type:	
Semester:	Winter
Course description:	<p>The module is designed to introduce doctoral students to debates on the theory, practice and policy new fields of regulation of technology in the contemporary global legal order focussing upon the EU as a Global Digital Actor principally.</p> <p>Global challenges increasingly permeate all areas of EU action beyond conventional external relations law. Although a field where the EU has had undeniable first-mover advantage, digital law, policy and governance arguably appears no different as a global challenge. The EU increasingly seeks to portray its GDPR, AI Act and content moderation rules as a global blueprint to influence global standards yet their interoperability is much disputed, particularly as to privacy. Moreover, a rising use of soft law may impact upon its regulatory first-mover position or operate to dilute its standards and values. Increasingly international organisation initiatives at WTO, CoE and UN level demonstrate downwards pressures upon standards and values</p> <p>It is increasingly understood that in global governance terms the future of digital regulation and governance lies in understand the interaction between the three major actors of the EU, US and China. Yet what are the legal implications thereof? For whom? At national, regional and international level? The course explores a <i>'Digital Empires' understanding of the EU, US and China as lead players in the global legal order</i>. The EU's human-centric model of regulation is contrasted with the US market-driven approach and China's state-driven approach. The EU has been significantly influential in global digital regulation through the 'Brussels effect', whereby the EU uses its regulatory power to influence the policies of tech companies and foreign governments. Yet China increasingly copies the GDPR and US States one by one adopt comprehensive privacy laws. How will these Digital Empires interact at regional, international and transnational level?</p>

	<p>The course examines the <i>global race to regulate Artificial Intelligence (AI) at multilateral, international and regional level</i>. The EU's Artificial Intelligence Act adopted looks set to see the EU as the first global leader in the development of secure, trustworthy and ethical AI using binding hard law, seeking to move beyond mere ethics.</p> <p>The digitalisation of the contemporary economy also creates new vulnerabilities, as foreign governments or non-state actors can seek access to sensitive information or can try to disrupt critical functions or infrastructure. As a result, governments around the world have increasingly begun to legislate for <i>cybersecurity</i>. The internet of things (IoT) and its cybersecurity regulation has entailed that the EU and US increasingly legislates for a broader range of cybersecurity issues because it has more than users to regulate. What divergences and convergences exist with other key players, regions and organisations?</p> <p>Sectorally, the course explores the <i>legal implications of the Internet of Things (IoT) evolving as an age of products which own the user rather than the converse</i>. How is this regulated by the EU across borders and at national level?</p> <p>The course explores briefly also <i>digital trade and its scope as to emerging technology</i>. It considers how international economic law is understood to be mired in archaic understandings of digital trade because of uncertainty as to goods versus services characterisations, split between US, EU and Chinese visions of regulation. How do these visions relate to multilateral developments? How do we understand the interoperability of data technology regulation with a world of increasingly multifarious cross-border data arrangements?</p> <p>The module examines: Global governance and the digital economy in a world of digitisation Key major global governance regulators: Digital Empires- i) EU ii) US iii) China AI regulation between international organisations Internet of things (IoT) International economic law regulation of digital trade International data flow/ adequacy arrangements and agreements</p>
<p>Seminar pre-work:</p>	<p>Fahey, The EU as a Global Digital Actor (Hart 2022) ch. 1 (approx. 3 hours)</p> <p>Bradford, A. Digital Empires (OUP 2023) (approx. 3 hours) chs.1 ,2, 5</p>

	<p>Reading: Goldsmith, Jack, and Tim Wu, 'Preface', <i>Who Controls the Internet? Illusions of a Borderless World</i> (Oxford, 2006; online edn, Oxford Academic, 12 Nov. 2020), https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780195152661.002.0003, (approx. 3 hours)</p> <p>Reading: Bradford, A. 2024. The False Choice Between Digital Regulation and Innovation. <i>Northwestern University Law Review</i>, 118(2). (approx. 2 hours)</p>
<p>Learning outcomes:</p>	<p>SUMMARY</p> <p>The course will provide students with a capacity to study regulators and jurisdiction in a variety of substantive fields, including AI regulation between international organisations, the Internet of Things (IoT), international economic law regulation of digital trade and international data flow/ adequacy arrangements and agreements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The primary aim is to provide students with an advanced knowledge of international, regional and national laws on the theory, practice and policy of new fields of regulation of technology. • The module aims to enable students to explore the major actions, architecture and actors of digital regulation and governance, in particular EU, US and China • The secondary aim of the module is to provide students with an advanced knowledge of Global governance and the digital economy in a world of digitisation by focussing upon the key major global governance regulators - i) EU ii) US iii) China. Other salient jurisdictions may be considered also. • The knowledge and skills acquired from the module will be transferrable across jurisdictions and enable further study at doctoral level or enable specialisation in practice if students wish to pursue a career in international organisations. • The breadth of jurisdictions considered will enable students to develop a truly global perspective.

Title The emerging European Environmental Constitution

Professor or Lecturer Dr Klaus Tuori and Dr Fernando Losada

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	1
Activity type:	Lectures seminar
Semester:	SS
Course description:	<p>This course aims at describing how environmental sustainability is entering the EU’s constitutional framework and in particular if a new environmental constitution is forming in the EU. Studying the influence of environmental goals in three areas of economic integration (internal market, monetary policy and fiscal policy coordination), the course will show how EU decision-making has integrated environmental aims and rationales in the concrete fields, such as Green Deal, taxonomy and greening of financial markets law. This opens the discussion, where the students can make the link between their specific area of interest and the broad constitutional framework proposed in the course.</p> <p>Contents by session:</p> <p>I. Environmental constitutionalism in practice: the EU case – The EU as an instance of functional constitution addressing climate change</p> <p>II. EU internal market regulation incorporating environmental sustainability – Adapting the market rules to deal with new overarching concerns</p> <p>III. Monetary Policy and Climate change – The European Central Bank as an agent for greening European finance and economy</p> <p>IV. Greening of the EU fiscal policy framework – The NextGenerationEU program and its impact on the European Semester in environmental terms</p> <p>V. Towards an EU Environmental constitution? – Discussion and forward looking</p>

Seminar pre-work:	Some readings but not extensive
Learning outcomes:	<p>The course aims at providing the students with a clear knowledge about (1) the institutional setting and legal rules of current EU economic decision-making, (2) the impact of including environmental sustainability criteria on that setting, and (3) the eventual formation of an environmental constitution at EU level. More concretely, by the end of the course students will be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Summarize the main elements of EU economic decision-making. - Explain the impact of environmental sustainability goals on economic decision making in the European Union. - Identify subsequent malfunctions or inconsistencies between environmental and economic policies. - Propose changes and avenues to promote environmental sustainability in the light of those malfunctions and inconsistencies. - Assess the impact of environmental sustainability goals on their specific area of interest. - Contribute to the discussion about the eventual encroaching of environmental sustainability into the EU constitutional framework. <p>In sum, regarding content-related objectives, the course aims at equipping students with legal tools to analyze and problematize ongoing developments in the management of environmental sustainability at EU, and in particular its impact on the economic framework. But at a more general level the course also aims at promoting students' learning abilities and at developing their professional skills by requiring them to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Present ideas in a clear and engaging way in both orally and in writing. - Develop their argumentative abilities. - Progress in their inter-disciplinary thinking. - Set in motion their critical thinking. - Gain awareness of self-progression (also resulting from peer-assessment).

Title **Common values and national constitutional values in EU Law**

Professor or Lecturer **Celestina Iannone**

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	EN
ECTS:	
Activity type:	Teaching
Semester:	II
Course description:	<p><i>First part: the role of the Constitutional Courts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The role of the Constitutional Courts in EU legal order• The role of the Constitutional Courts in the preliminary ruling procedure• The national constitutional case law on the application and interpretation of EU Law: a comparative view• <p><i>Second part: the role of the constitutional traditions</i></p> <p>The notion of constitutional traditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The role of constitutional traditions for the protection of fundamental rights in the EU legal order• The role of constitutional traditions in the interpretation of the common values enshrined in article 2 TEU.
Seminar pre-work:	<p>Study of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• opinion 2/13, judgement C-181/23 and opinion AG C-769/22• judgments C-896/19 and C-132/20, opinion AG C-448/23• judgements C-156/21 and C-157/21

Learning outcomes:	Understanding of the role of common values in European integration In-depth study of rulings
---------------------------	---

Title

History of the European Court of Justice: the Foundational Period (1950-1975)

Speaker

Prof. Amedeo Arena

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English
ECTS:	0,5
Activity type:	Seminars
Course description:	The seminar explores the formative years of the European Court of Justice, from the drafting of the Paris and Rome Treaties to the landmark case law of the 1970s. Through a combination of historical reconstruction and legal analysis, the session will examine the Court's institutional role, its early jurisprudence, and the actors who contributed to shaping the principles of direct effect, primacy, and effective judicial protection.
Seminar pre-work:	Participants are required to read selected excerpts from the Schuman Declaration, the ECSC and EEC Treaties, and a selection of early judgments (e.g. <i>ASSIDER</i> , <i>Fédéchar</i> , <i>Van Gend en Loos</i> , <i>Costa v. ENEL</i>). A reading list will be circulated in advance.
Learning outcomes:	The seminar provides doctoral students with methodological tools to study the early jurisprudence of the Court of Justice, combining historical reconstruction and legal analysis, and encourages an interdisciplinary approach to EU legal history.
Student will be able to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the historical and political context in which the Court of Justice was created. Identify the methodological challenges of combining archival research and doctrinal analysis. Critically evaluate the foundational case law of the Court of Justice in light of its historical trajectory.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reflect on the interdisciplinary value of integrating legal history with EU law scholarship.
Workload:	
Contact hours:	4 (seminar sessions and discussion)
Preparatory work hours:	(mandatory readings)
Self-study:	(further research and reflection)

Title of the activity

EU Energy Law

Speaker

Raphaël Meyer



Faculty of Law,
Economics
and Finance

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Lecturer, Email address:	Raphael.meyer@curia.europa.eu
Languages:	English
ECTS:	0,5
Activity type:	Seminar
Course description:	<p>The course offers an overview and critical analysis of EU energy law, focusing on its general framework and its three central pillars: security of supply, sustainability in energy matters, and the internal energy market.</p> <p>The course will be organized in 3 seminars of 2 hours. Each seminar combines a lecture with the analysis of a key CJUE judgment followed by an interactive discussion, encouraging both theoretical examination and case-law based reflection.</p> <p>The seminars will follow a progressive structure, from general principles, to sustainability, and finally to the functioning of the internal energy market. They will be structured as follows:</p> <p>Seminar 1: General principles: the evolution of EU Energy Law, its legal bases and its interactions with international relations, with a particular focus on the principle of security of supply.</p> <p>Seminar 2: Sustainable development and energy: the role of renewable energy, energy efficiency and governance mechanisms in advancing the EU's sustainability objectives.</p> <p>Seminar 3: Internal energy market law: regulatory framework of third-party access, unbundling, cross-border infrastructure, and the role of EU energy regulators in shaping the EU's internal energy market.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	Before each seminar, PhD candidates will be asked to read one key CJUE judgment, to allow for a critical discussion of the case.

Learning outcomes:	Acquire a basic understanding of how to approach EU Energy law as part of their own research. Engage critically with the future of EU energy law and its role in addressing global challenges such as climate change and energy security.
Student will be able to:	PhD candidates will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Understand and be able to critically assess EU energy law, and the case-law of the CJUE in this area;- Evaluate and problematize the EU's approach to the three pillars of energy law;- Develop independent and original arguments on contemporary challenges in EU energy law;- Connect law and policy and analyse how concepts of general application operate in the specific context of energy.

Title of the activity

Human Rights: Insights into Today's Challenges

Organized by

Prof. Jörg GERKRATH

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Lecturer, Email address:	Currently confirmed speakers: Dr Senthoran Raj (a Reader of Human Rights Law at Manchester Law School, Manchester Metropolitan University)
Languages:	English, French
ECTS:	1 ECTS for 5 sessions + 1 ECTS for a presentation in one of those sessions
Activity type:	Seminar
Course description:	PhDs, Post-Docs, professors as well as interested external auditors, are cordially invited to participate in and contribute to our seminar series titled: " <i>Human Rights: Insights into Today's Challenges</i> " hosted by the Doctoral School of Law. The aim of the seminar is to have an in-depth discussion on a different human rights issue in each seminar. Presentations of 15 to 20 minutes (or up to 30 minutes if we have two or more speakers) will be followed by an open group discussion.
Seminar pre-work:	TBC

Learning outcomes:	Participants will critically engage with contemporary human rights challenges through expert presentations and collaborative discussions. By the end of the seminar series, they will be able to articulate diverse perspectives and apply interdisciplinary insights to current human rights debates.
---------------------------	--

Title

Developments in European Law and Policy

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Herwig HOFMANN

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English & French
ECTS:	1 ECTS for 5 sessions + 1 ECTS for a presentation in one of those sessions
Activity type:	Seminar
Semester:	Continuous
Course description:	<p>During the Summer Semester 2026, the seminar will pick leading recent cases of the CJEU to discuss the evolution of concepts of EU law in various policy areas. Each session will focus on one area. Each session's case will be presented by either a PhD, Postdoc or Professor. The presenter will outline the case, point to early commentary of the case and background reading to comprehend the field and lead the discussion with the other members during the seminar.</p> <p>Together, the participants will review evolutions of EU law through the lens of litigation. This allows positioning to the degree the reported facts of a case show, also studying real-life background to cases as well as their reception in national law. The discussions will thus ensure a study of EU law in diverse policy and life contexts and will cover a wide scope of methodologies used in analysis from textual, contextual, historic, multi-lingual and comparative law. It will also discuss how concepts of EU law evolve from various national understandings.</p> <p>The cases to be discussed during the semester will pertain to, <i>inter alia</i>, the following areas of EU law:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Digital Regulation, AI and Information2. Immigration

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Citizenship 4. State Aid / Subsidies 5. Environmental / Chemical and other areas of Risk Regulation 6. Banking and Finance Regulation 7. Criminal law 8. Institutional Litigation 9. Rights and Freedoms 10. Competition law
Seminar pre-work:	Participants can drop in for individual sessions. However all PhD students are encouraged to participate in the entire seminar in order to obtain the ECTS arising from participation plus the additional award from presenting.
Learning outcomes:	The seminar will focus on the transformation of EU law and the role of policy-area-specific case law therein. It allows comparing developments across policy fields, studying new methodological approaches, the emergence and evolution of general principles and concepts of EU law as well as the relation between EU and forms of national, international and private sources of law. The focus will, according to the session's topic also be on how procedural law influences substantive developments.

Date	Case-area	Case	Presenter
19.02.	Banking and Financial Regulation	Case C-687/23, Banco Santander	Areti Nikolakopoulou
26.02	Competition law/Collective Redress	Case C-34/24, Stichting and Case C-253/23, ASG 2	Elif Biber
05.03.	Digital Regulation, AI and Information	tbc	Eléonore Fuzier
13.03	tbc	tbc	tbc
02.04.	Banking and Financial Regulation	Case C-18/23, Dyrektor Krajowej Informacji Skarbowej (Mode de gestion d'un OPC)	Gabriel Roussin-Léveillée
16.04	Minimum wages	Case C-19/23, Denmark v Parliament and Council (Adequate minimum wages)	Luca Ratti
23.04	Litigation	Herwig Hofmann: Case C-703/25, Latombe <i>Case pending</i> Tanja Hilpold: Case C-767/23, Remling <i>Case pending</i>	Herwig C.H. Hofmann or Tanja Hilpold

30.04.	Litigation	<p>Herwig Hofmann: Case C-703/25, Latombe <i>Case pending</i></p> <p>Tanja Hilpold: Case C-767/23, Remling <i>Case pending</i></p>	Herwig C.H. Hofmann or Tanja Hilpold
07.05.	Rights and Freedoms	Case C-769/22, Commission v Hungary <i>Case pending</i>	Emmanuel Renoud

Title

Access to Legal Academia in Europe and Beyond

Professor or Lecturer

Prof. Herwig HOFMANN

Module: A- Transferable Skills B- Methods and Approaches to Law C- Intra- and Interdisciplinary	<input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
Languages:	English & French
ECTS:	1 ECTS for 5 sessions + 1 ECTS for a presentation in one of those sessions
Activity type:	Doctoral Seminar
Semester:	Summer Semester 2026
Course description:	<p>This PhD seminar will explore how to access an academic legal career at Universities in Europe and the diversity of legal and academic cultures in Europe. In each of its ten sessions, it will explore one or more European countries. Each jurisdiction will be presented by an expert active in that specific jurisdiction. Questions addressed thereby will include: Which conditions exist, what expectations are placed on candidates, what pathways to access exist, and what this tells us about the still highly diverse legal and academic cultures in Europe. How does this compare to jurisdictions outside of Europe? What are the differences between public and private universities, where such a distinction exists within the jurisdiction? We will also examine the working conditions for academics within the system. The seminar will conclude with a comparative overview of the findings.</p> <p>Jurisdictions covered will include e.g. Luxembourg, France, Spain, Italy, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, the UK, Ireland, Sweden and other Nordic countries, Eastern European countries, but may also expand to cover North American, South American or Asian jurisdictions. The breadth shows that the seminar might be continued during another semester, in case of sustained interest.</p>
Seminar pre-work:	Participants can drop in for individual sessions. However, all PhD students are encouraged to participate in the entire seminar in order to obtain the ECTS arising from participation plus the additional award from presenting.

Learning outcomes:	The seminar will allow students to understand the transformation of academic careers in Europe and beyond. Aspects discussed will include Participants will develop an understanding of expectations within different jurisdictions for entering into an academic career and the possible progression therein. Such aspects will include, typically, the value put in these countries in terms of languages spoken, the type of publications expected before and during a career, the value put on multi-jurisdictional experiences, the networks in place and the normal or atypical hiring procedures followed, the support mechanisms in place and the societal expectations of young academics.
Workload:	
• Contact hours	20 TU
• Estimated preparatory work hours	0
• Estimated self-study	10

Jurisdiction	Speaker	Date – Thursdays 18-19:30
Luxembourg	Herwig Hofmann, Takis Tridimas	19.02
Netherlands	Simona Demková, Lisette Mustert, Rick Lawson	26.02
Spain	Migle Lakauyte	05.03
Italy	Diana-Urania Galetta	13.03
Finland/Sweden	Päivi Leino-Sandberg	26.03
Canada (and US)	celine.castets-renard@uottawa.ca	02.04
France	Thomas Mastrullo, Isabelle Riassetoo	16.04
Portugal	Filipe Brito Bastos, Joana Mendes	23.04
UK & Ireland	Cathryn Costello, Imelda Maher	07.05
Germany	Stefan Braum	21.05