



Aims of Learning Outcomes:

The aim of the course is to provide students with basic knowledge and understanding in the field of the U.S. legal system. The course will examine the constitutional structure of the American system, relation between the federal and state governments, basic rights guaranteed under the federal constitution, separation of powers between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government. It will also examine the common law underpinnings of American legal thought, considering various areas of law.

Form of studies: seminar

Mode of studies: Full-time

Module level: first-cycle studies

Learning Criteria:

The course is conducted in MS Teams in a remote asynchronous form with the active participation of the lecturer (activities are performed at any time convenient for students at time intervals designated by the lecturer). Introductory classes are held stationary (duration 60 minutes). Additional on-line meetings are also planned for consultation and discussion of the issues asked for consideration. The basis of the student's work are video collections that cover the thematic scope of the entire subject, tests, literature as well as problem tasks and reflections carried out under the supervision of the lecturer.

Assessment Methods Criteria:

Individual work during classes (reflection / problem discussion), partial tests and final oral assessment. Final oral assessment - 50% Partial tests - 10% Individual work during classes (reflection/ problem discussion) - 40 %

Module description:

1. INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS LAW?
2. THE BACKGROUND OF AMERICAN LAW
3. LEGAL FAMILIES
4. THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM
5. CASE LAW
6. LEGISLATIVE SYSTEM
7. EXECUTING POLICY
8. PRIVATE LAW
9. PUBLIC LAW
10. CONSTITUTIONAL LAW & CIVIL LIBERTIES
11. THE AMERICAN LEGAL PROFESSION
12. AMERICAN LEGAL SYSTEM - SYNOPSIS

Basic literature:

- ♦ **American Law. An Introduction**
Lawrence M. Friedman and Grant M. Hayden; 2017, Oxford University Press
- ♦ **An Introduction to the Legal System of the United States**
E. Allan Farnsworth; 2010, Oxford University Press
- ♦ **Introduction to law**

Jolanta Jabłońska-Bonca; 2015, LexisNexis

♦ **Introduction to law**

Jaap Hage, Antonia Waltermann and Bram Akkermans (eds.); 2017, Springer

Supplementary literature:

♦ **American Law and American Jurisprudence: Interpretations, Challenges, Procedures**

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