



UCZELNIA
ŁAZARSKIEGO

Syllabus:

Comparative Legal Systems

Field of study:

Law in International Relations

Faculty of Law and Administration

Aims and Learning Outcomes:

The course will examine, compare, and contrast the legal systems around the world, with focus on Constitutions and protection of fundamental rights. It shall also explore different aspects of civil and criminal law in selected countries.

Form of studies: wykład

Mode of Studies: stacjonarne

Module level: first-cycle studies

Learning Criteria:

Interactive lecture, discussions, analysis of legal documents.

Assessment Methods Criteria:

Active participation in classes - 10%, final essay on a given topic - 90%.

Module description:

The lecture will cover following topics:

1. Introduction.

The meaning of term "comparative legal systems" and "comparatistics", comparative method in legal research, overview of legal system around the world and key differences between them.

2. Common law and civil law system.

Role of judge in common law and civil law countries, significance of precedents, law-making process in both systems, geographical reach of both systems, historical roots, contractual regime.

3. International and national law systems.

Differences in: law-making procedures, law enforcement methods, court procedures. Specific case of the European Union.

4. Analysis of constitutions

Analysis of texts of constitutions of selected democratic and authoritarian countries. Emphasis on political and economic, position of head of state, fundamental rights, role of parliaments.

5. Civil law

Contract law and contractual regimes, civil liability, torts.

6. Criminal law

Penal regulations in selected countries, types of penalties applicable in selected countries, forms of offences, role of prosecutor in particular states.

7. Fundamental rights

Worldwide regulations on protection mechanisms on issues such as: women's rights, minorities rights, rights of child, freedom of speech, drug policy.

8. Law of international organisations

Legal bases of particular international organisations, differences between GOs and NGOs, organisations of global, regional and local reach.

9. Dispute resolution.

Forms of resolving disputes in various legal systems. Types of court procedures, alternative dispute resolutions.

10. Workshops on drafting essays.

Learning outcomes

Knowledge:

- **PM/K1A K06** (P6S_WK)
-knows and understands the sources of law and fundamental principles and rules of interpretation of laws and legal references
- **PM/K1A K02** (P6S_WG)
-has advanced knowledge and an in-depth understanding of the principles of national

Skills:

- **PM/K1A U04** (P6S_UW,P6S_UK)
-can use the acquired knowledge and specialised terminology in a debate
- **PM/K1A U06** (P6S_UW,P6S_UK)
-can use the acquired knowledge in the field of law
- **PM/K1A U07** (P6S_UW,P6S_UK)
-can analyse possible solutions to specific legal problems and proposes solutions following the law;
- **PM/K1A U09** (P6S_UW,P6S_UK)
-can prepare letter drafts and draw up contracts

Social Competencies:

- **PM/K1A K01** (P6_KK)
-is prepared to assess the acquired knowledge and received information critically through self-assessment of their competences
- **PM/K1A K04** (P6S_KK)
-is prepared to recognise the importance of knowledge in solving cognitive and practical problems

Supplementary literature:

- **The civil law tradition: an introduction to the legal systems of Europe and Latin America**
John Henry Merryman, Rogelio Pérez-Perdomo; 2007, Stanford University Press
- **Major Legal Systems in the World Today, The Free Press,**
David, Rene and Brierley, John E. C.,; 1978, Macmillan Publishing Co.

Supplementary literature:

- **European legal systems: selected readings, Parker School of Foreign and Comparative Law**
Charles Szladits; 1972, Columbia University