

Legal English (15 credits) – Course description fall 2023

Welcome

Welcome to Legal English! This course focuses on legal analysis and writing. The assignments in the course are based on a **Case Memo** (10%), **Moot Court** (10%), and **Final Essay** (80%).

Learning objective/Course Aim

After successful completion of the course, the student is expected to be able to demonstrate:

- knowledge and the ability to review, understand, and critically analyse legal texts in English,
- knowledge and understanding of the use of English in legal contexts, particularly in international legal usage,
- knowledge and ability to independently and in time author texts in English in legal contexts,
- ability to orally and in writing effectively communicate in English in legal contexts, including adapting the use of English to the specific situation.

Course description

The course consists of lectures, seminars, exercises, tutorials and assignments conducted in English. Students are to participate actively in class discussions. The course seeks to develop students' abilities to critically analyse legal texts in English, and create and edit their own English texts in legal contexts. Students will also learn to orally present and discuss legal issues in English. The course also focuses on rhetorical aspects of English, including adjusting the use of English to the type, and purpose of the text, as well as to the reader or audience.

Instruction

Instruction consists of 10 weeks of full-time studies consisting of lectures, seminars, exercises, tutorials and assignments conducted in English. All lectures, seminars, tutorials and scheduled activities require active participation. Active participation requires students to prepare adequately, and present and discuss reading and written assignments. All seminars have mandatory attendance. In the event a student misses a seminar, the student is to complete a written make-up assignment based on the missed seminar according to the course director's instructions. Any make-up assignments need to be turned in at the latest with the brief. The moot court is mandatory and any absence can only be made up when the course is next given, which typically is the following year.

Examination

Examination in the course is based on a **Case Memo** (10%), **Moot Court** (10%), and **Final Essay** (80%).

1. **Case Memo**, 1-2 pages (10 points)
2. **Moot Court** (10 points)
3. **Final Essay**, 6-8 pages (80 points)

Each of these assignments are obligatory.

Assessment criteria applicable to grading of the written assignments:

- problem formulation
- structure and presentation
- insight into the topic, as well as materials and knowledge
- investigation and analysis
- argumentation and conclusions
- independence
- language, formal requirements and
- the ability to perform the required work on time

Assessment criteria applicable to the oral presentations:

- ability to identify, analyze and orally present the relevant legal issues
- ability to work with others and argue in a constructive manner, and
- ability to assess and draw conclusions from the presented documents.

The course grade is based on a weighing of the individual presentations within the framework for the different examination moments. All of the course's learning outcomes must be met and all activities passed in order to pass the course.

Grades are based on the following scale:

- AB (passed with high distinction)
- BA (passed with distinction)
- B (satisfactorily passed)
- U (failed to pass)

Students who so request may be graded on the grading system scale of seven grades with passing grades of:

- A (Excellent)
- B (Very good)
- C (Good)
- D (Satisfactory)
- E (Sufficient)

Failing grades are Fx (Insufficient) or F (Entirely insufficient).

Students who initially fail are given the opportunity to be assessed a second time. Students who have received a passing grade are not allowed to be assessed again in order to achieve a higher grade. Students who fail the course twice from the same examiner have the right to request a different examiner for their next examination.