



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit title	Code
CONSUMERS' PROTECTION LAW OF THE EUROPEAN UNION	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
Coordinator: assoc. prof. dr. Danguolė Bublienė Other(s): -	Private Law Department, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University Saulėtekio av. 9, Building 1, LT-10222, Vilnius, Room 311, tel. (85)2366170; e-mail: ptkatedra@tf.vu.lt

Study cycle	Type of the course unit
Second	Optional

Mode of delivery	Course unit delivery period	Language (s) of instruction
Face-to-face	1 st semester (autumn)	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites:-	Co-requisites (if any):-

Number of credits allocated	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
6	160	36	124

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed

The course unit aims at providing students with profound knowledge in depth aspects of consumer protection in the European Union: the history and legal background of consumer protection, consumer and consumer contract concept, institutional framework, the regulation of protection of consumer rights, enforcement of consumer protection (procedural peculiarities) as well as the application and interpretation of legal norms of consumer rights protection in practice. It aims to develop analytical and critical thinking, interpersonal and communication skills.

Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
- Students will demonstrate advanced knowledge of the law of consumer protection of the EU: they will be able to distinguish between consumer relations and other contractual legal relations; they will be able to determine peculiarities and guarantees of consumer protection.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Presentation, participation in discussion, analysis of practical situations.
- Students will be able to interpret legal norms regulating consumer relations, and to properly apply them as well as positions of case-law and doctrines in the process of solving complex problems.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Presentation, participation in discussion, analysis of practical situations.
- Students will be able to independently study and analyse scholarly and practical material as well as case-law and to systemise information.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Presentation, participation in discussion, analysis of practical situations.
- Students will be able to critically analyse practical situations, to properly classify legal issues relating to the consumer protection and will be able to undertake practical activities related to protection of consumer rights (inter alia, applying methods of dispute resolution, providing legal advice and recommendations, representation of legal interest) in respect to ethical values, the principle of justice and moral sensibility.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Presentation, participation in discussion, analysis of practical situations.
- Students will be able to take critical (and self-critical) approach, orally or in written to provide their opinion in a coherent, argumentative and logic manner (inter alia, draft legal application acts) and to evaluate the current position assumed by others.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Presentation, participation in discussion, analysis of practical situations.
- Students will be able to enhance acquired knowledge and abilities independently, inter alia, to use legal information data bases and other sources, to select relevant theoretical and practical material, and to substantiate their own conclusions by the achievements of jurisprudence.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Presentation, participation in discussion, analysis of practical situations.

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practical sessions	Laboratory activities	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. General Provisions (Sources of Legal Regulation, Self-Regulation, Conflict Rules in Consumer Protection).	4		1				5	9	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation.
2. Institutional Framework of Consumer Protection.	2		1				3	7	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
3. Concept of the Consumer. Concept of the Consumer Contract.	4		2				6	16	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
4. Consumer Rights.	4		2				6	16	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
5. Unfair Contract Terms.	2		2				4	13	Study of literature, case-law, and decisions of State Consumer Rights Protection Authority of preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
6. Peculiarities of Consumer Purchase-Sale Agreements.	2		1				3	6	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
7. Realisation of Consumer's Right to Justice.	2		1				3	7	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
8. Non-Judicial Settlement of Consumer-Related Disputes.	2		1				3	9	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
9. Peculiarities of Protecting Consumer Rights in Court.	2		1				3	7	Study of literature and case-law, preparation of a presentation, analysis of a practical situation.
								34	Preparation for the examination.
Total	24		12				36	124	

Assessment strategy	Weight, percentage	Assessment period	Assessment criteria
Presentation and performance in class discussion	50	During the semester	Delivery of presentation topics covered in the course unit to the group as well as active and efficient participation in the discussion (providing correct answers to questions, formulating problems and suggesting (searching for) solutions, offering thoughtful critical remarks, contributing to other participants' ideas, etc.)
Examination	50	At the end of the course	The maximum score is 5 points. The examination consisting of two tasks – analysis of practical situations, related to consumers protection in the EU that reflect student's knowledge about the main legal characteristics of the consumers protection system, capability to present academic discussions about problematic aspects of that system and ability to apply newly acquired competences in a practical situations. Students should provide all the necessary information in an argumentative, coherent and clear manner.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
HOWELLS, G.; WILHELMSSON, T.	1997	EC Consumer Law		Aldershot: Ashgate

EDITED BY JAMES DEVENNEY, MEL KENNY	2012	European consumer protection : theory and practice		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press,
CHRISTOPHER J.S. HODGES, IRIS BENOHR, NAOMI CREUTZFELDT-BANDA	2012	Consumer ADR in Europe		Oxford ; Portland, Or. : Hart Publishing
Optional reading				
HOWELLS, G.; SCHULZE, R. (eds.)	2009	Modernising and Harmonising Contract Law		Munchen: Sellier European Law Publishers
MICKLITZ, H.-W.; STUYCK, J.; TERRY, E. (eds.)	2010	Cases, Materials and Text on Consumer Law		Portland, Oregon: Hart Publishing
SCHULTE-NOLKE, H.; TWIGG-FLESNER, Ch.; EBERS, M. (eds.)	2008	EC Consumer Law Compendium: The Consumer Acquis and its Transposition in the Member State		Munchen: European Law Publishers
SCHULZE, R.; SCHULTE-NOLKE, H.; JONES, J.	2002	A Casebook on European Consumer Law		Oxford and Portland, Oregon: Hart Publishing
WEATHERILL, S.; BERNITZ, U. (eds.)	2007	EU Consumer Law and Policy		Portland, Oregon: Hart Publishing