



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
INTRODUCTION TO THE LITHUANIAN LAW OF OBLIGATIONS	12979

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: dr. Stasys Drazdauskas	Private Law Department, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University Saulėtekio al. 9, Building 1, LT-10222, Vilnius, Room 311, tel. (85)2366170, e-mail: ptkatedra@tf.vu.lt
Other(s):	

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
First	Optional

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Face-to-face	Autumn semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: Basics of Civil Law	Additional requirements (if any):

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
The main objective of the course is gaining theoretical knowledge about the Lithuanian Law of Obligations. The course aims to provide the student with basic understanding of the system of legal sources of the Lithuanian Law of Obligations, general principles of civil law, relevant for the law of obligations and specific principles of the law of obligations, general concept of the obligation, elements of the obligation, the basic institutes on performance, non-performance, grounds for extinguishing the obligations, as well as general rules on contract law and delicts (torts). The students are enabled to recognise and analyse the main features of the obligation as a legal relation between two parties, and the rules applicable or relevant to the obligation. Students will also be enabled to analyse two different legal systems in a comparative way.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will gain knowledge of the system of sources of the Lithuanian Law of Obligations and will be able to analyse more extensively their contents.	Lectures, individual studies of legal sources, individual research of scholarly materials.	Participation in discussions, written paper, written exam.
Students will be able to recognise the main features and elements of the obligation, distinguish from other types of legal relations.	Lectures, individual studies of legal sources, individual research of scholarly materials.	Participation in discussions, written paper, written exam.
Students will gain knowledge of the main legal institutions governing the obligations as legal relations, in particular, the general principles relevant for the obligations, rules on performance, non-performance, grounds for extinguishing an obligation, general rules on contract law and law of torts.	Lectures, individual studies of legal sources, individual research of scholarly materials	Participation in discussions, written paper, written exam.
Students will gain and improve skills of research and legal writing by comparing a chosen topic of Lithuanian Law of Obligations with the respective topic of the native legal system and identifying differences and similarities.	Individual studies of legal sources, individual research of scholarly materials, written analysis and comparison of native and Lithuanian Law of Obligations	Written paper, presentation.
Students will be able to compare different legal systems and identify similar and distinctive features	Individual studies of legal sources, individual research of	Written paper.

of the law of obligations.	scholarly materials, written analysis and comparison of native and Lithuanian Law of Obligations	
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Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. The system of the Lithuanian Law of Obligations and system of legal sources relevant for the Lithuanian Law of Obligations	2						2	5	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
2. The general principles of civil law relevant for the law of obligations and specific principles of the law of obligations, contract law, the law of delicts (torts)	2						2	6	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
3. The concept of the obligation, main features and elements of the obligation, classification of types of obligations	4						4	16	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
4. General rules on performance	4						4	8	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
5. General rules on non-performance	8						8	14	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
6. Grounds extinguishing the obligation	2						2	5	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
7. General rules of contract law	8						8	32	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
8. General rules of the law of delicts	2						2	12	Reading of scholarly literature, analysis of legal sources
Total	32						32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight,%	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Individual research and written paper	100	During the semester (September – January)	The paper has a clear structure, containing introduction, main part, conclusions; comparison of two legal systems on a selected topic of the law of obligations is provided, similarities and differences are identified; the presentation of research is concise; legal sources are cited and references are provided in footnotes and in the list of materials at the end.

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
MIKELĖNAS, Valentinas	2000	Unification and Harmonisation of Law at the Turn of the Millennium: The Lithuanian Experience.	Uniform Law Review. 2000-2, NS - Vol. V., p. 251.	UNIDROIT Hyperlink
MIKELĖNAS, Valentinas;	2004	International Encyclopaedia of	Suppl. 38. S. 1.	Kluwer Law International

MIKELĖNIENĖ, Dalia		Laws. Lithuania. Contracts		Library
MIKELĖNAS, Valentinas	2005	The Main Features of the New Lithuanian Contract Law System Based on the Civil Code of 2000	vol. 10, p. 42-50.	Juridica International Hyperlink
UNIDROIT	2010	UNIDROIT principles of international commercial contracts		UNIDROIT Hyperlink
TIKNIŪTĖ Agnė, DAMBRAUSKAITĖ Asta	2011	Understanding Contract under the Law of Lithuania and other European Countries	18(4), p. 1389–1415.	Jurisprudence Hyperlink
		English translation of the Lithuanian civil code		Hyperlink
Optional reading				
SCHLECHTRIEM, Peter	1992	Good Faith in German Law and in International Uniform Laws		Centro di studi e ricerche di diritto comparato e straniero. Roma Hyperlink
ZIMMERMANN, Reinhard	1992	The Law of Obligations. Roman Foundations of the Civilian Tradition		Cape Town, Wetton, Johannesburg: Juta & Co. Ltd., Library
BONELL, Michael Joachim	1995	The UNIDROIT Principles of International Commercial Contracts: Why? What? How?	1994-1995, vol. 69, p. 1121-1147.	Tulane Law Review, Available at heinonline.org
LANDO, Ole	2000	Principles of European Contract Law and UNIDROIT Principles: Moving from Harmonisation to Unification.	vol. 8, 2000, p. 218-220.	Uniform Law Review Available at heinonlin.org