



COURSE UNIT DESCRIPTION

Course unit title	Code
MASTER SEMINAR	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
Coordinator: prof. dr. Tomas Davulis Other(s): Supervisor appointed by the Dean's decree	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	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Course unit delivery period	Language (s) of instruction
Face-to-face	3 (autumn) semester	English

Requirements for students	
Pre-requisites: Completed course units of the 1 st and the 2 nd semesters	Co-requisites (if any): -

Number of credits allocated	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	136	16	120

Purpose of the course unit: programme competences to be developed

The course unit aims at developing the competence to carry out an individual research: to identify, analyze and solve complex legal problem of both law making and application of law in the field of international and European law as well as interdisciplinary problems relating to international and European law, to select and use scientific literature and legal sources, to apply diverse research methods, to independently accomplish raised objectives, to formulate conclusions, solutions and recommendations (if possible), and to put the research in a coherent and orderly way using proper scientific language as well as to clearly convey the results to the audience, to reasonably defend research output and discuss raised problems.

Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
- Students will be able to properly apply the methodological requirements for Master Thesis.	Seminars (oral presentations, group discussions), personal consultations, individual work (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature, preparation of Master Thesis)	Presentation of intermediate Master thesis, reviewing of colleague's Master thesis (pass/fail)
- Students will be able to employ acquired interdisciplinary knowledge in an innovative and integral way in order to model strategies for appropriate problem solution taking into consideration possible social, ethical and legal consequences.		
- Students will be able to independently identify and formulate a complex scientific issue based on development of international and European Union law theory and practice (inter alia, interaction with national law), define a research object, select appropriate research methods.		
- Students will be able to autonomously choose legal sources and scientific literature, systemise collected material on the problem, summarise it, analyse and critically interpret, argue one's position and lay out a reasoned conclusion.		
- Students will be able to convey relevant information orally to audience in accordance with theoretical and practical knowledge and abilities.		
- Students will be able to ethically assess and discuss the researches (projects) that are carried out by their colleagues or specialists.		
- Students will be able to plan a schedule and organise their work.		

- 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.		
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Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours						Self-study: hours and assignments		
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practical sessions	Laboratory activities	Internship/work	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
Intermediate Master thesis (legal problem, object, purpose, hypothesis, applied methods, the preliminary structure of the thesis, sources and literature, interim research results, probable conclusions)			12				12	20	Preparation for the presentation of oneself intermediate Master thesis orally for the colleges and preparation for the reviewing and discussion on the college's Master thesis.
Preparation of Master thesis		4					4	100	Preparation of Master thesis (literary studies, source analysis, etc.).
Total		4	12				16	120	

Assessment strategy	Weight, percentage	Assessment period	Assessment criteria
Presentation of intermediate Master thesis, reviewing of colleague's Master thesis	100	During semester	<p>The oral presentation of intermediate Master thesis and reviewing of colleague's Master thesis are assessed applying pass/fail system (no mark is given, only conclusion whether or not one has passed and detailed feedback about performance).</p> <p>The assessment includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the quality of Master Thesis presentation content (, comprehensive problem formulation and target analysis, creativity, proper source selection and application, critical analytical thinking); - Master Thesis presentation (concentrated, efficient and convincing work presentation, adhesive language, the use of informative visual aids); - Review of colleague's Master Thesis (evaluation of the relevance of the selected theme, capability to critically assess the issues, to identify the most significant features, to provide orally clear arguments in support of their points made in a logical, coherent and structured manner); - efficient and active participation in discussion (providing correct answers to questions, formulating problems and suggesting (searching for) solutions, offering thoughtful critical remarks).

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of periodical or volume of publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
	2015	Vilnius university Faculty of Law Methodological Requirements for Research Paper and Master's Thesis Preparation		http://www.tf.vu.lt/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/2017-01-17_TF_Rasto-darbu-metodiniai-nurodymai-EN.pdf
		International, European Union and national legislation		http://eur-lex.europa.eu/homepage.html?locale=en
		The jurisprudence of the European Court of Justice, European Court of Human Rights and other international and national courts.		https://curia.europa.eu/jcms/jcms/j_6/en/ ; http://www.echr.coe.int/Pages/home.aspx?p=caselaw&c=
Other concrete scholarly literature is selected in accordance to the issue of a Master thesis				