



## COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
<b>INTRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN CIVIL PROCEDURE</b>	14464

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
<b>Coordinator:</b> dr. Vigita Vėbraitė <b>Other(s):</b> assist. dr. Victor Terekhov	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

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

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

Requirements for students	
<b>Pre-requisites:</b> Basics of Civil Law, Civil Procedure, EU Law	<b>Co-requisites (if any):</b> -

Number of credits allocated	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
<p>The course aims to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the foundations, instruments, and functioning of the area of judicial cooperation in civil matters in the European Union. The course aims to enable the student to evaluate the position of European Civil Procedure in the overall system of Civil Procedural Law, its basic operating principles and basic issues of court jurisdiction, recognition and enforcement of judgments, service of documents, taking of evidence, functioning of the special ("autonomous") procedures and harmonization of national law by means of EU procedural Directives.</p> <p>To achieve a deeper analysis of European Civil Procedure and considering the importance of practical use of knowledge, special focus is given to continued examination of relevant case law of the European Court of Justice and recent EU legislative proposals in the given area.</p>		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will gain knowledge of the sources of European Civil Procedure and will be able to analyse more extensively their contents and reasons for their adoption.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Problematic issues, individual analysis of scholarly literature, its discussion in seminars, individual analysis of EU legislation and its discussion in lectures and seminars; independent solutions of problems and their discussion in seminars
Students will be able to interpret legal sources and meaning of European Civil Procedure and appropriately apply sources and norms in support of their legal decisions.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Problematic issues, individual analysis of scholarly literature, its discussion in seminars, individual analysis of EU legislation and its discussion in lectures and seminars; independent solutions of problems and their discussion in seminars
Students will be able to innovatively and integrally use their knowledge in applying the latest trends of European Civil Procedure legal doctrine and case law in the modern	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Problematic issues, individual analysis of scholarly literature, its

context.		discussion in seminars, individual analysis of EU legislation and its discussion in lectures and seminars; independent solutions of problems and their discussion in seminars
Students will be able to argue their position in writing or orally based on the theoretical knowledge of European Civil Procedure and knowledge gained through case law analysis, and convey their ideas in a critical and reasonable manner.  Students will be able to analyse and make ethic evaluation of case law.  Students will be able to independently analyse, comprehend and appropriately apply sources of European Civil Procedure and legal norms established in case law.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Problematic issues, individual analysis of scholarly literature, its discussion in seminars, individual analysis of EU legislation and its discussion in lectures and seminars; independent solutions of problems and their discussion in seminars
Students will be able to work independently, making use of legal information databases and other relevant sources for enhancing their knowledge (for further studies) in European Civil Procedure.	Lectures, seminars, individual work	Problematic issues, independent solutions of problems and their evaluation in seminars

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study: hours and assignments	
	Lectures	Consultations	Seminars	Practical sessions	Laboratory activities	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. The Concept and History of European Civil Procedure	1						1	4	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
2. The System and Sources of European Civil Procedure	1						1	4	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
3. The Main Concepts of European Civil Procedure	1						1	4	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
4. Rules of Jurisdiction in European Civil Procedure	2						2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
5. Recognition and Enforcement of Judgments in European Civil Procedure	2						2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
6. Judicial Assistance in European Civil Procedure: Taking of Evidence and Service of Documents	2		1				3	8	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
7. European Enforcement Order for Uncontested Claims	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
8. European Order for Payment Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
9. European Small Claims Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
10. European Account Preservation Order	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
11. Maintenance Proceedings in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts

12. Proceedings Relating to Matrimonial Property and Property of Registered Partnerships in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
13. Succession Proceedings in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
14. Alternative and Online Dispute Resolution in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
15. Insolvency Proceedings in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
16. The Role of Directives in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
17. Recent Trends in European Civil Procedure	2						2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>		<b>11</b>				<b>32</b>	<b>98</b>	

Assessment strategy	Weight, percentage	Assessment period	Assessment criteria
Activity during the semester	20%	During the semester (September – December)	Continuous assessment of student engagement and participation in lectures and seminars. This includes active involvement in discussions, contribution to case studies and problem-solving exercises, timely completion of assigned tasks, and constructive interaction with other students in the group.
Mid-term test	20%	In the middle of the semester (end of October)	A written test assessing students' understanding of the fundamental concepts, principles, and legal instruments of European Civil Procedure covered in the first half of the course. The test evaluates knowledge, comprehension, and the ability to apply rules to short legal problems. The mid-term test can be evaluated with a maximum of 10 points. It consists of 20 test questions, which could be multiple-choice, matching, short (one-word) answer and open questions, requiring writing student's opinion on a given problem.
Group presentation (research project)	20%	During the seminars (November – December)	Collaborative research on a given topic of European Civil Procedure, presented orally in class. Assessment is based on the depth of research, clarity and structure of presentation, critical analysis, teamwork, and the ability to answer questions and engage the audience. The work is completed in small (2-3 students) groups, however the performance of each student during the seminar will be evaluated separately.
Final exam	40%	During the examination (in January)	The exam can be evaluated with a maximum of 10 points. It is carried out in writing by giving students 30 test questions, which could be multiple-choice, matching, short (one-word) answer and open questions requiring writing student's opinion on a given problem.
			<p>The final mark for the course is composed of the combined evaluation of the points gained for activity, mid-term test, group presentation and final exam assessments. It is based on the following formula:</p> $(0,2*AS) + (0,2*MT) + (0,2*GP) + (0,4*FE) = FM$ <p>where AS stands for “activity during semester”, MT – “mid-term test”, GP – “group presentation”, FE – “final exam” and FM – “final mark”.</p> <p>A 10-point scale is used for evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 – excellent;</li> <li>• 9 – very good;</li> <li>• 8 – good;</li> <li>• 7 – average;</li> </ul>

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 – satisfactory;</li> <li>• 5 – weak</li> </ul> Less than 5 (unsatisfactory) is a situation when the minimum requirements are not met: 4, 3, 2, 1.
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Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
<b>Compulsory reading</b>				
VĖBRAITĖ V.	2014	Study Material. Introduction to European Civil Procedure		Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla
STORSKRUBB E.	2008	Civil Procedure and EU Law: A Policy Area Uncovered (Oxford Studies in European Law)		Oxford: Oxford University Press
KRAMER X. E.; van RHEE C. H.	2012	Civil Litigation in a Globalizing World		Hague: T.M.C. Asser Press
MAGNUS U.; MANKOWSKI R.	2011	Brussels I Regulation		Munich: Sellier
MAGNUS U.; MANKOWSKI R.	2012	Brussels IIbis Regulation		Munich: Sellier
GASCÓN INCHAUSTI F.; HESS B. (eds.)	2020	The Future of the European Law of Civil Procedure: Coordination or Harmonisation?		Cambridge: Intersentia
NYLUND A.; KRANS H. B. (eds.)	2016	The European Union and National Civil Procedure		Cambridge: Intersentia
<b>Recommended reading</b>				
LAZIĆ V.; STUIJ S.	2017	Brussels Ibis Regulation: Changes and Challenges of the Renewed Procedural Scheme		Dordrecht: Springer
HESS B.	2002	The Integrating Effect of European Civil Procedure Law	Vol. 4	European Journal of Law Reform
van RHEE C.H.	2000	Civil Procedure: a European <i>ius commune</i> ?	-	European Review of Private Law
KRUGER T.	2016	The Disorderly Infiltration of EU Law in Civil Procedure	Vol. 63	Netherlands International Law Review