

UČNI NAČRT PREDMETA / COURSE SYLLABUS	
Predmet:	
Course title:	Introduction to the American Legal System and American Legal Writing

Študijski program in stopnja Study programme and level	Študijska smer Study field	Letnik Academic year	Semester Semester
First-cycle University Study Programme in Law	Law		Spring

Vrsta predmeta / Course type

Elective (Special elective course for Erasmus students)

Univerzitetna koda predmeta / University course code:

Predavanja Lectures	Seminar Seminar	Vaje Tutorial	Klinične vaje work	Druge oblike študija	Samost. delo Individ. work	ECTS
20	20			70	60	6

Nosilec predmeta / Lecturer:

Prof. Dr. Leslie Ann Burton

Jeziki /
Languages:

Predavanja /
Lectures:
Vaje / Tutorial:

English

Pogoji za vključitev v delo oz. za opravljanje študijskih obveznosti:

Prerequisites:

Exchange student of the University of Ljubljana

Vsebina:

Content (Syllabus outline):

	<p>U.S. Constitution, structure of American government, separation of powers, federal and state power.</p> <p>Sources of law and their hierarchy; common law; state and federal judicial systems.</p> <p>Nature of case law; precedent; legal reasoning process; briefing a case.</p> <p>Statutory law; common law approach to statutes; statutory interpretations; legislative history.</p> <p>Analogizing and distinguishing cases; legal argument; working with hypotheticals.</p> <p>Adversary system; right to trial by jury; anatomy of a civil court case.</p> <p>Filing a civil action (complaint); Answer; Pre-Trial Motions.</p> <p>Trial: Jury selection, opening statement, examination and cross-examination of witnesses, rules of evidence [movie clips].</p> <p>Closing argument, judge's instructions, jury deliberation, verdict [movie clips].</p> <p>Anatomy of a criminal case; search and seizure laws; defendant's constitutional rights. [movie clips]</p> <p>Trial procedures continued; settlement; mediation; criticisms of adversary system and jury system.</p> <p>Constitutional law, right to free speech, press, religion; separation of church and state; equal protection; due process.</p> <p>Administrative law.</p> <p>Jurisdiction; foreign judgments; conflicts of law.</p>
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Temeljni literatura in viri / Readings:

Professor will prepare readings, which will include cases and excerpts from texts, including Introduction to the Law and Legal Systems of the United States by William Burnham (West 1995)

Cilji in kompetence:

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Objectives and competences:

My objective is to teach an overview of American legal systems, including the U.S. Constitution and the trial system. We will discuss some comparisons with Slovene law. We will also do writing of American-style legal documents.

Predvideni študijski rezultati:

Znanje in razumevanje:

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Intended learning outcomes:

Knowledge and understanding of the basic Constitutional law provisions of the US and how its adversary legal system works; how to read cases; how to write an American legal document.

Metode poučevanja in učenja:

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Learning and teaching methods:

The class will be partly lecture, and partly class discussion. We will also review some Power Point slides and some videos. The class will be expected to do readings, and in class they will asked questions about that reading and they will have to write a couple of assignments.

Načini ocenjevanja:

Delež (v %) /

Weight (in %)

Assessment:

Način (pisni izpit, ustno izpraševanje, naloge, projekt)

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Type (examination, oral, coursework, project):
There will be coursework including writing projects and a final written exam.

Reference nosilca / Lecturer's references:

A Review of Great Legal Traditions: Civil Law, Common Law, and Chinese Law in Historical and Operational Perspective, 60 Kansas Law Review 1137

"The Non-Discrimination Principle of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and Its Effect on the Education of Roma Children in the Czech Republic," in Symposium on Convention on Rights of the Child, 30 Capital University Law Review 665.

"Kosovo: To Bomb or Not to Bomb: The Legality is the Question" (regarding United Nations' peacekeeping efforts in Yugoslavia), 7 Golden Gate University Annual Survey of International & Comparative Law 49.