

Syllabus

for free standing course (preliminary)

Dynamic Competition Policy
Dynamisk konkurrenspolicy

Credits: 3.5 ECTS credits

Valid from: Spring 2019

Period: Summer

Study pace: 100%

Prerequisites and conditions for access to the course

The course is intended for foreign students enrolled in an exchange programme at the Department of Law or in the Stockholm Business School Summer programme at Stockholm University. The course is interdisciplinary but requires no prior knowledge in the subject.

Course content

Digital monopolies such as Facebook and Google are gaining more power, and companies such as Amazon are acquiring both pharmacies and grocery stores, venturing into new sectors. Should consumers fear this? Apple and Samsung are fierce competitors, but are cross-licensing their technologies to each other. Is this an illegal cartel, or is this beneficial for society? What will the impact be? The course aims to prepare the students to tackle similar questions in sectors in which they might not have any prior knowledge by understanding the legal framework and economic incentives on the market. The purpose of the course is to give students an overview of EU rules in competition law and convey specialised knowledge in three different areas: (1) the abuse of a dominant position, (2) anticompetitive agreements and concerted practices, and (3) mergers and acquisitions. The course utilises these traditional areas, but applies a comparative and economic view on the theoretical foundations. The course further gives an introduction to the digital era, and the competition policy implications that arise therein, while nuancing this through new business models that might be at odds with the old theories, such as licensing agreements and rebate schemes.

Intended learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- demonstrate knowledge of the principles, theories and cases, as well as economic and social implications of different legal rules and governance mechanisms within EU competition law.

Skills and abilities

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Compare outcomes and independently identify and analyse possible solutions in competition law by application of a comparative and economic method.

Judgement and approach

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- Critically assess, evaluate and present different solutions for various types of matters in English, both orally and in writing, independently and in groups.

Instruction

Instruction comprises 2 weeks of full-time studies and consists of lectures and seminars. On the basis of the given course material, students will work in groups to answer questions during each seminar. Active participation in 2/3 of seminars and lectures is compulsory. A more detailed description of the course content is available in the course description and course schedule. The language of the course is English.

Forms of examination

Examination is conducted through:

- Active participation in the compulsory elements of the course,
- A legal discussion exercise, and
- A take-home assignment.

Assessment criteria applicable to the legal discussion exercise:

- ability to identify, analyse and oral present the relevant legal issues
- ability to work with others and argue in a constructive manner, and
- ability to assess and draw conclusions from the discussion.

Assessment criteria applicable to grading of the take-home assignment:

- problem formulation
- structure and presentation
- insight into the topic, as well as materials and knowledge
- investigation and analysis
- argumentation and conclusions
- independence
- language, formal requirements and
- the ability to submit the required work in time.

All of the course's learning outcomes must be met and all activities passed in order to pass the course.

Students who fail the regular examination are given the opportunity for re-examination. Students who have passed are not entitled to undergo re-examination for higher grades. Students who are failed twice by the same examiner have the right to demand a different examiner when doing additional re-examinations. This does not however apply if there are specific reasons for not appointing a different examiner.

The grading scale for the course is as follows: Pass (G) or Fail (U).

Other

Completed course requirements are valid for two years. This also applies to students who de-register from the course through early withdrawal.

The course requirements in effect at the time of the student's first registration on the course may be completed within two years. After two years, the course requirements included in the most recently revised syllabus will apply.

Course literature

The course literature is approved by the head of department. Please refer to the course website and the course description for information about the required reading. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.