

Syllabus

for free standing course (preliminary)

Law & Economics

Rättsekonomi

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

The aim of this course is to provide an introduction to the economic analysis of law. The general theme of the course is to understand how economic incentives impact laws and contracts, and how laws can stimulate outcomes that enhance society. Special emphasis is put on economic efficiency. The course will review the different economic theories leading up to the framework used today, and nuance it with modern innovation theories. Four current legal topics, such as intellectual property law, tax law, financial markets law and antitrust law will be reviewed to illustrate and exemplify how economics and laws interact in practice.

Intended learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

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

- Give an account of the central concepts of law and economics and describe how these methods of analysis can be applied with the purpose of explaining how social and economic efficiency is affected by the formation of laws and contracts.

Skills and abilities

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

- Solve and analyse problems where legal and economic reasoning can be applied, as well as explain how different assumptions affect the results.

Judgement and approach

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

- Critically assess the pros and cons, evaluate and present different solutions for various scenarios 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 debate session, and
- A take-home assignment.

Assessment criteria applicable to the debate session:

- 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.