



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
International Business Law	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: Viltė Kristina Steponėnaitė, LL.M. Other(s):	Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Vilnius University

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
Second	Compulsory

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Classroom	Spring semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: none, basic knowledge of the European Union Law being recommended however	Additional requirements (if any):

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	130	24	106

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
<p>The course is aimed at familiarising students with some of the key legal frameworks for doing business in Europe. The course contributes to the following learning outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - awareness of the structure, methodology and key concepts of the substantive law of the European Union (the four freedoms, i. e. free movement of goods, freedom to provide services, free movement of persons, freedom of establishment, free movement of capital); international and European intellectual property law with a particular focus on the European Union trademark law, European Union copyright law and European Union patent law; European privacy and data protection law. - critical thinking and independent research skills with regard to the taught subject matter, enabling to adopt critical position and solve complex problems. 		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
<p>Students shall be well aware of the content and way of exercising the so called four freedoms of the European Union. Furthermore. Students shall have a thorough insight into the international and European intellectual property law with a particular focus on the European Union trademark law, European Union copyright law and European Union patent law as well as European privacy and data protection law. Students shall understand new developments in subject domains.</p> <p>Learning outcomes 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 4.2, 4.5, 4.6, 5.1.</p>	<p>Methods comprise theoretical, conceptual and problem-based teaching, providing guidance for individual study. Students are provided with conceptual background, frontiers of research as well as with practical training. Teaching focuses on fostering critical thinking skills, enabling to master structure and methodology of the addressed regulations and case law, dealing with complex problems in the subject domains.</p>	<p>Examination (up to 50%), practical task (up to 50%) and evaluation of participation during the classes.</p>

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours			Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Exercises	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Free movement of goods in the European Union	2.5	1.5	4.0	17	Practical task requiring individual search and analysis of relevant international and European laws, case law of Court of Justice of the European Union and European Court of Human Rights.
2. Freedom to provide services, freedom of establishment in the European Union	2.5	1.5	4.0	17	
3. Free movement of persons, free movement of capital in the European Union	2.5	1.5	4.0	17	
4. International and European copyright law	2.0	1.0	3.0	15	
5. International and European trademark law	2.0	1.0	3.0	15	
6. International and European patent law	2.5	0.5	3.0	14	
7. European privacy and data protection law	2.0	1.0	3.0	11	
Total	16	8	24	106	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Individual practical task	50	At least two weeks for the individual work provided. To be submitted at a scheduled date; evaluation to be provided together with the final examination results	Successful performance requires: - understanding of the key concepts of the taught subject matter; - understanding and correctly interpreting the relevant laws and case law in complex cases (using consistent reasoning); - providing arguments in a well-structured manner. Results constitute up to 50% of the final grade.
Examination	50	At a scheduled date	Open and (or) multiple-choice questions. Successful performance requires: - understanding of the key concepts of the taught subject matter; - understanding and correctly interpreting the relevant laws and case law in complex cases (using consistent reasoning); - providing arguments in a well-structured manner. Results constitute up to 50% of the final grade.
Participation during the classes	Possibility to gain additional points	Constant	Active and meaningful participation during the classes may add from 0.5 to 1.5 points to the final grade.
Attendance of 80% is required in order to be allowed to take an exam and to be evaluated with regard to the practical task,			

unless exceptional circumstances are demonstrated. In case of low attendance particular students may be provided with additional questions during the examination. For the final result a scale from 0 to 10 is used for grading, 5 being the passing grade.

Mandatory materials

Laws (check for the version in force)

1. [Consolidated version of the Treaty on European Union](#), Official Journal No. C 326, 2012, p. 13–390;
2. [Consolidated version of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union](#), Official Journal No. C 326, 2012, p. 47–390;
3. [Directive 2004/38/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the Member States](#), Official Journal No. L 158, 2004, p. 77–123;
4. [Regulation 492/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 April 2011 on freedom of movement for workers within the Union](#), Official Journal No. L 141, 2011, p. 1–12;
5. [Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on services in the internal market](#), Official Journal No. L 376, 2006, p. 36–68;
6. [Directive 2014/54/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on measures facilitating the exercise of rights conferred on workers in the context of freedom of movement for workers](#), Official Journal No. 128, 2014, p. 8–14;
7. [Directive 2001/29/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 on the harmonisation of certain aspects of copyright and related rights in the information society](#), Official Journal No. L 167, 2001, p. 10-19;
8. [Directive 2006/116/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the term of protection of copyright and certain related rights](#); Official Journal No. L 372, 2006, p. 12-18;
9. [Regulation \(EU\) 2017/1001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2017 on the European Union trade mark](#), Official Journal No. L 154, 2017, p. 1-99;
10. [The European Patent Convention](#), 1973;
11. [European Convention of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms](#), 1950;
12. [Regulation 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC \(GDPR\)](#), Official Journal No. L 119, 2016, p. 1–88;
13. [Directive 2002/58/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 July 2002 concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the electronic communications sector](#), Official Journal No. L 201, 2002, p. 37-47.

Other laws may be provided.

Books

1. Barnard, C. [The Substantive Law of the EU](#), 2016, Oxford University Press.
2. Pila, J., Torremans, P. [European Intellectual Property Law](#), 2016, Oxford University Press.

Reports, handbooks and articles

1. Annual Report. The Court of Justice of the European Union, latest available version.
2. Guide to the application of Treaty provisions governing the free movement of goods, European Commission, latest available version.
3. [Overview: the TRIPS agreement. World Trade Organization.](#)
4. [Guidelines: Trademarks. Guidelines for Examination in the European Union Intellectual Property Office.](#)
5. [Guidelines: Patents. Guidelines for Examination in the European Patent Office.](#)

Case law shall be provided for every class.

Other materials may be provided.

Students shall find relevant laws and case law on the official websites of the relevant organisations and courts.

Recommended materials

Laws (check for the version in force)

1. [The Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights \(TRIPS\)](#), Annex 1C of the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization, signed in Marrakesh, Morocco on 15 April 1994;
2. [Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works](#), 1886;
3. [Directive \(EU\) 2019/790 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 April 2019 on copyright and related rights in the Digital Single Market and amending Directives 96/9/EC and 2001/29/EC](#), Official Journal No. L 130, 2019, p. 92-125;
4. [Directive 2009/24/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2009 on the legal protection of computer programs](#), Official Journal No. L 111, 2009, p. 16-22;
5. [Directive 96/9/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 1996 on the legal protection of databases](#), Official Journal No. L 77, 1996, p. 20-28;

6. [Directive \(EU\) 2015/2436 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2015 to approximate the laws of the Member States relating to trade marks](#), Official Journal No. L 336, 2015 12 23, p. 1-26;
7. [Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property](#), 1883;
8. [Madrid Agreement Concerning the International Registration of Marks](#), 1891;
9. [Nice Agreement Concerning the International Classification of Goods and Services for the Purposes of the Registration of Marks](#), 1979;
10. [Patent Cooperation Treaty](#), 1970;
11. [Patent Law Treaty, 2000](#);
12. [Convention on the Unification of Certain Points of Substantive Law on Patents for Invention](#), 1963;
13. [Agreement Relating to Community Patents](#), 1989;
14. [International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants](#), 1991;
15. [Council Regulation 2100/94 of 27 July 1994 on Community Plant Variety Rights](#), Official Journal No. L 227, 1994, p. 1-30;
16. [Convention on Biological Diversity](#), 1992;
17. [Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine](#), 1997;
18. [Directive 98/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 July 1998 on the legal protection of biotechnological inventions](#), Official Journal No. L 213, 1998, p. 13-21;
19. [Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data](#), 1985.

Books

Craig, P., de Búrca, G.	2015	EU Law: Text, Cases, and Materials	6 th Edition	Oxford University Press
Maskus, K.	2010	Private Rights and Public Problems: The Global Economics of Intellectual Property in the 21st Century		Peterson Institute for International Economics

Reports, handbooks and articles

1. Kokott, J., Sobotta, C. The distinction between privacy and data protection in the jurisprudence of the CJEU and the ECtHR. International Data Privacy Law, 2013, Vol. 3, No. 4.
2. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Opinion 04//2007 on the concept of personal data, 2007.
3. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Opinion 1/2010 on the concepts of “controller” and “processor”, 2010.
4. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Opinion 03/2013 on purpose limitation, 2013.
5. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Opinion 06/2014 on the notion of legitimate interests of the data controller under Article 7 of Directive 95/46/EC, 2014.
6. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Working Document 01/2016 on the justification of interferences with the fundamental rights to privacy and data protection through surveillance measures when transferring personal data, 2016.
7. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Guidelines on Consent under Regulation 2016/679, 2018.
8. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Guidelines on transparency under Regulation 2016/679, 2018.
9. Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, Guidelines on Automated individual decision-making and Profiling for the purposes of Regulation 2016/679, 2018.

Recommended reading for those having no background of the European Union Law

Barnard, C., Peers, S. (ed.)	2017	European Union Law		Oxford University Press
---------------------------------	------	------------------------------------	--	-------------------------

Other articles may be recommended.