



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
INTRODUCTION TO THE EUROPEAN CIVIL PROCEDURE	14464

Lecturer(s)	Department(s)
Coordinator: Assist. Dr Victor Terekhov Other(s):	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	
Pre-requisites: Basics of Civil Law, Civil Procedure, EU Law	Co-requisites (if any): -

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 provides students with a comprehensive understanding of the foundations, instruments, and functioning of European Civil Procedure. It develops the ability to interpret, analyse, and apply EU regulations, directives, and the case law of the Court of Justice in cross-border civil matters, with attention to recent legislative developments. Emphasis is placed on both doctrinal knowledge and practical problem-solving skills, including legal reasoning and communication.</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.	Interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (analyses of EU instruments and legal field-specific problematic issues, presentations on assigned topics); individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework and case-law, reading of academic literature)	In-class discussion, oral presentation (in small groups), mid-term test, final examination
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.	Interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (problem-based teaching, group discussions, comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms); individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework and case-law, reading of academic literature)	In-class discussion, oral presentation (in small groups), case-study analysis, mid-term test, final examination
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 to current challenges, including digitalisation of justice, global judicial cooperation, and safeguarding fundamental rights in cross-border disputes.	Interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (problem-based teaching, group discussions, comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms); individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework and case-law, reading of academic literature)	In-class discussion, oral presentation (in small groups), case-study analysis, final examination
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	Interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (problem-based teaching, group discussions, comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms); individual studies (analysis of the	In-class discussion, oral presentation (in small groups), case-study analysis, mid-term test, final examination

their ideas in a critical and reasonable manner.	relevant legal framework and case-law, reading of academic literature)	
Students will be able to analyse and make ethic evaluation of case law.	Interactive method of teaching during lectures and seminars (problem-based teaching, group discussions, comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms); individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework and case-law, reading of academic literature)	In-class discussion, oral presentation (in small groups), case-study analysis, mid-term test, final examination
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.	Individual studies (analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature)	Oral presentation (in small groups), case-study analysis, mid-term test, final examination

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, preparation of group research project
7. European Enforcement Order for Uncontested Claims	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
8. European Order for Payment Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
9. European Small Claims Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
10. European Account Preservation Order	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
11. Maintenance Proceedings in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
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, preparation of group research project
13. Succession Proceedings in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
14. Alternative and Online Dispute Resolution in European Civil	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group

Procedure									research project
15. Insolvency Proceedings in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
16. The Role of Directives in European Civil Procedure	1		1				2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts, preparation of group research project
17. Recent Trends in European Civil Procedure	2						2	6	Analysis of relevant legal doctrine and legal acts
Total	21		11				32	98	

Assessment strategy	Weight, percentage	Assessment period	Assessment criteria
Activity during the semester	20%	During the semester (September – December)	<p>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.</p> <p>The maximum evaluation of an activity during the semester is 10 points.</p> <p>Attendance of seminars is mandatory. If more than 2 seminars are missed, the seminars missed exceeding the permitted limit are to be settled during time arranged with the lecturer. The form of settling the missed seminars depends on the on the topic covered during the missed seminar.</p> <p>Student is allowed to take the examination after having participated in at least 3 of the seminars.</p>
Mid-term test	20%	In the middle of the semester (end of October)	<p>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 of equal value each, which could be multiple-choice, matching, short (one-word) answer and open questions, requiring writing student's opinion on a given problem.</p>
Group presentation (research project)	20%	During the seminars (November – December)	<p>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.</p> <p>The maximum evaluation of a group presentation is 10 points.</p>
Final examination	40%	During the examination (in January)	<p>The exam can be evaluated with a maximum of 10 points. It is carried out in writing by giving students 30 test questions of equal value each, which could be multiple-choice, matching, short (one-word) answer and open questions requiring writing student's opinion on a given problem.</p>
			<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: $(0,2*AS) + (0,2*MT) + (0,2*GP) + (0,4*FE) = FM$ 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"> • 10 – excellent; • 9 – very good; • 8 – good; • 7 – average; • 6 – satisfactory; • 5 – weak <p>Less than 5 (unsatisfactory) is a situation when the minimum requirements are not met: 4, 3, 2, 1.</p>

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
MAGNUS U.; MANKOWSKI R.	2011	Brussels I Regulation		Munich: Sellier
MAGNUS U.; MANKOWSKI R.	2012	Brussels Ibis Regulation		Munich: Sellier
VĚBRAITĚ V.	2014	Study Material. Introduction to European Civil Procedure		Vilnius: Vilniaus universiteto leidykla
NYLUND A.; KRANS H. B. (eds.)	2016	The European Union and National Civil Procedure		Cambridge: Intersentia
GASCÓN INCHAUSTI F.; HESS B. (eds.)	2020	The Future of the European Law of Civil Procedure: Coordination or Harmonisation?		Cambridge: Intersentia
European Law Institute (ed.), UNIDROIT (ed.)	2021	ELI – Unidroit Model European Rules of Civil Procedure: From Transnational Principles to European Rules of Civil Procedure		Oxford: Oxford University Press
OSZTOVITS A.	2022	The Present and Possible Future of Judicial Cooperation in Civil Matters	OSZTOVITS A.; BÓKA J. (eds.) The Policies of the European Union from a Central European Perspective	Miskolc–Budapest: Central European Academic Publishing
Recommended reading				
van RHEE C.H.	2000	Civil Procedure: a European <i>ius commune</i> ?		European Review of Private Law
HESS B.	2002	The Integrating Effect of European Civil Procedure Law	Vol. 4	European Journal of Law Reform
KRUGER T.	2016	The Disorderly Infiltration of EU Law in Civil Procedure	Vol. 63	Netherlands International Law Review
LAZIĆ V.; STUIJ S.	2017	Brussels Ibis Regulation: Changes and Challenges of the Renewed Procedural Scheme		Dordrecht: Springer
BIAVATI P.; LUPOI M.A.	2024	European Judicial Cooperation in Cross-Border Litigation		Bologna: Bologna University Press