



### *Course unit description*

Course unit title	Course unit code
<b>Introduction to the Language for Law/ Teisės kalbos įvadas</b>	

Lecturer(s)	Department where the course unit is delivered
<b>Coordinator:</b> Prof. Dr Inesa Šeškauskienė <b>Other lecturers:</b> ---	Centre for Multilingual Studies, Institute of Applied Linguistics, Faculty of Philology

Cycle	Type of the course unit
1 <sup>st</sup> cycle (bachelor)	optional

Mode of delivery	Semester or period when the course unit is delivered	Language of instruction
workshops, individual work	autumn semester	English, Lithuanian

Prerequisites and co-requisites	
<b>Prerequisites:</b> skills in English and Lithuanian not lower than B2 according to CEFRL	<b>Co-requisites</b>

Number of credits allocated	Student's workload	Contact hours	Individual work
5	130	32	98

Purpose of the course unit: programme competences to be developed		
<p>The course aims at providing knowledge and understanding about legal English as a branch of English for specific purposes, developing reading, writing, and speaking skills in legal English as well as some basic skills in translating legal texts from English into Lithuanian and from Lithuanian into English. The course also introduces the main branches of law and the key terms across case-law and civil law countries.</p> <p><b>Generic competences to be developed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to apply knowledge in practical situations</li> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of the subject area and understanding of the profession</li> </ul> <p><b>Subject-specific competences to be developed</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge and understanding of the structure of English</li> <li>• Ability to establish relevant comparisons between English and a national language</li> <li>• Mediation and translation skills</li> </ul>		
Learning outcomes of the course unit	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Ability to apply knowledge in practical situations</u>: ability to establish adequate relations between knowledge of legal English and its practical applicability</li> <li>• <u>Knowledge and understanding of the subject area and understanding of the profession</u>: fundamental understanding of linguistics and ESP</li> <li>• <u>Knowledge and understanding of the structure of English</u>: ability to describe and explain the structure of legal texts; ability to use legal terminology; ability to establish relevant comparisons between English and Lithuanian</li> <li>• <u>Ability to establish relevant comparisons between English and a national language</u>: 1) ability to understand intermediate legal texts about Lithuanian and British/American legal system; 2) ability to demonstrate oral and speaking skills in English on legal issues; 3) ability to create texts of legal English taking into account appropriate terminology, grammar and register.</li> <li>• <u>Mediation and translation skills</u>: ability to translate and interpret basic legal texts from English into Lithuanian and from Lithuanian into English</li> </ul>	Brainstorming, group discussion, individual tasks, group projects, presentations	Vocabulary quizzes, mid-term and final test
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Course content: breakdown of the topics								Individual work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars/workshops	Laboratory work	Internship/work placement	Consultations	Contact hours	Individual work	Assignments
1 Introduction. General framework of the course, requirements, assessment etc. Legal English (LE). Essential features of legal English as distinct from other Englishes. General discussion about legal language			2				2	6	Workshop 1. (based on Section 1 in Šeškauskienė 2012)
2 Some key notions. Liability and responsibility. The age of criminal responsibility			2				2	8	Workshop 2. (based on Section 2 in Šeškauskienė 2012)
3 Rights and obligations. The language of the Civil Code. Key notions of Civil Law			2				2	8	Workshop 3. (based on Section 3 in Šeškauskienė 2012) The Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania (chapter 1)
4 Civil Law: property, company, contract			4				4	8	Workshop 4. (based on Section 2 in Šeškauskienė 2012) Wyatt, pp. 13-14, tasks 1-2.
5 Criminal Law. Criminality and other key notions. Major crimes. The language of the Criminal Code.			2				2	8	Workshop 5. (based on Section 5 in Šeškauskienė 2012) The Code of Criminal Law of the Republic of Lithuania (chapter 1)
6 <i>Revision for the mid-term test</i> . Mid-term test			2				2	16	Preparation for the mid-term test
7 Procedural Law. Civil procedure			2				2	8	Workshop 6. (based on Section 6 in Šeškauskienė 2012) The Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Lithuania (selected articles)
8 Criminal procedure. Punishment			2				2	8	Workshop 7.

								(based on Section 7 in Šeškauskienė 2012) The Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Lithuania (selected articles)
9 People in the legal profession. Judges and the system of courts in Lithuania and the United Kingdom Student's presentations on courts			6				6	12 Workshop 8 (based on Section 8 in Šeškauskienė 2012) Brown and Rice, pp. 14-15, task 4.1; Wyatt, p. 24, task 1; individual tasks, presentations on the system of courts in Lithuania Magna Carta
10 Legalese, 'false friends' of a translator and other intricacies. Revision for the final test			3				3	16 Workshop 9 (based on Section 9 in Šeškauskienė 2012)
11 Summing up. Feedback on the course. Final test on legal English			4				4	
12 Feedback on the final test and final results of the course			1				1	
<b>Total</b>			<b>32</b>				<b>32</b>	<b>98</b>

Assessment strategy: cumulative assessment	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Continuous assessment	5	throughout the term	The points are granted for attendance and in-class participation. The points are not granted if a student misses two or more classes.
Mid-term test	35	Week 8/9/10, depending on academic calendar that year	Based on the materials covered: 35 point set of tasks
Presentations on the system of courts	15	Weeks 13/14/15 depending on academic calendar	Knowledge about a particular (type of) court and its accurate representation in a visual; fluent oral skills; communication with the audience; meaningful exchange of ideas after the presentation
Final test	45	Examination session	Based on the materials covered: 45 point set of tasks

Author	Publishing year	Title	Issue No or vol.	Publishing house or internet site
<b>Required reading</b>				
Brown, Gillian D. and Sally Rice	2007	<i>Professional English in Use. Law</i>		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
Šeškauskienė, Inesa	2012	<i>Legal-ease: a way to legal English</i>		Vilnius: Vilnius University Press
Wyatt, Rawdon	2006	<i>Check your English Vocabulary for Law</i>		London: A & C Black Publishers
		<i>Magna Carta of Judges</i>		<a href="https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1707925">https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?id=1707925</a>
		<i>Lietuvos Respublikos civilinis kodeksas/ The Civil Code of the Republic of Lithuania (selected articles)</i>		LT: <a href="https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.107687/asr">https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.107687/asr</a> EN: provided by the lecturer

		<i>Lietuvos Respublikos baudžiamasis kodeksas/ The Criminal Code of the Republic of Lithuania</i> (selected articles)		LT: <a href="https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.111555">https://e-seimas.lrs.lt/portal/legalAct/lt/TAD/TAIS.111555</a> EN: Provided by the lecturer
<i>Lietuvos Respublikos civilinio proceso kodeksas/the Code of Civil Procedure of the Republic of Lithuania, Lietuvos Respublikos baudžiamojo proceso kodeksas/ the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Republic of Lithuania</i> ; articles on legal issues from the British and American press, other materials selected by the lecturer <a href="https://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/">https://legal-dictionary.thefreedictionary.com/</a>				
<b>Recommended reading</b>				
Armalytė, Olimpija and Lionginas Pažūsis	1998	<i>Anglų-lietuvių kalbų teisės žodynas</i>		Vilnius: Alma Litera
Krois-Lindner, Amy and TransLegal	2006	<i>International Legal English</i>		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
Soobik, Liina	2007	<i>A Guide to EU Legal Terminology</i>		Tartu: Kirjastus Juura
Yadugiri, M.A. and Geetha Bhasker	2011	<i>English for Law. Second ed.</i>		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

Revised: March 2026.