



Course syllabus

Faculty of Social Sciences
Department of Law

1RV301 Juridisk metod och rättslig argumentation, 15
högskolepoäng
Legal method and argumentation, 15 credits

Main field of study

Legal Science

Subject

Law and Legal Studies

Level

First cycle

Progression

G1N

Date of Ratification

Approved 2024-01-22.

Revised 2025-02-12. Changes to the module arrangement.

The course syllabus is valid from autumn semester 2025.

Prerequisites

Basic eligibility + History 1b alt. History 1a1 + 1a2 and Social studies 1b alt. Social studies 1a1 + 1a2

Objectives

Upon completion of the course, students should be able to:

- identify relevant legal issues
- account for legal methodology and various types of sources of law
- present different ways of interpreting and analysing legal documents
- search out legal source material at the library as well as in digital form, and

- correctly compile this material
- in a comprehensible manner present material in writing as well as orally
- carry out legal argumentation at a general level

Content

The aim of the course is to introduce the subject of legal methodology, mainly focusing on future work at government agencies and administrative authorities, companies, non-profit organisations, international organisations, or within the EU institutions. The students learn how to systematically find and refer to different sources of law, and one important part of this is having knowledge of the Swedish legislative process as well as knowledge of human rights and the sources of law within the EU. The course delves into legal information retrieval at libraries and on the Internet. The course provides library instructions about the library resources in the form of official publications, books, periodicals, and available public and legal databases.

On the basis of different legal issues, the students learn how to identify legal matters, look for relevant legal material and how to compile as well as analyse this. The course contains oral as well as written presentations of the prepared material and analysis. Through critical examination, the students also learn how to practice legal argumentation, in writing as well as orally.

The methods of legal research are aimed at the current laws in force, but the students are also introduced to different ways of interpreting and analysing legal documents and sources within the scope of traditional legal dogmatics as well as within legal science in general. Through teaching in legal methods, the students are given the opportunity to gain an understanding of the legal basis and its application as well as information retrieval and investigative procedures. The ability to identify legal issues, analyse these and argue for legal choices is assessed through oral as well as written assignments.

Type of Instruction

Teaching takes place in the form of lectures and seminars.

Possibilities for field trips and discussions with practicing lawyers are also provided.

Examination

The course is assessed with the grades Fail (U), Pass (G) or Pass with Distinction (VG).

Examination of the course objectives takes place by means of oral individual examinations, two individual written examinations, and one individual on-campus written exam.

In order to receive a grade of Pass in the course, the course objectives must be attained.

For a grade of Pass with Distinction in the course, it is required that the two written individual examinations are assessed as Pass with Distinction.

A retake of the examination is provided in accordance with the Local Regulations for First-cycle and Second-cycle Courses and Examination at Linnaeus University.

Should the university determine that a student is entitled to special educational support due to impairment, the examiner may decide on adapted or alternative examination.

Course Evaluation

A course evaluation should be conducted during the course or in connection with its conclusion. The results and analysis of the completed course evaluation should be promptly communicated to students who have completed the course. Students participating in the next course instance should be informed of the results of the previous course evaluation and any improvements that have been made, no later than at the start of the course.

Required Reading and Additional Study Material

Hydén, Håkan & Hydén, Terese (latest edition). *Rättsregler: en introduktion till juridiken*. Lund: Studentlitteratur AB, (ca. 150 p.).

Nääv, Maria & Zamboni, Mauro (eds.) (latest edition). *Juridisk metodlära*. Lund: Studentlitteratur, (selected parts, ca. 200 p.).

Ryberg-Welander, Lotti (2016). *Att hitta rätt. En introduktion till rättskällor och rättslig information*. Lunds universitet: Socialhögskolan working paper 2016:1 (provided by the department), (25 p.).

Wahlgren, Peter, Warling-Nerep, Viweka & Vrange, Pål (latest edition). *Juridisk skrivguide*. Malmö: MTM, (selected parts, 100 p.).

Zetterström, Stefan (latest edition) *Juridiken och dess arbetsätt*. Stockholm: Iustus förlag, (ca. 190 p.).

Legal codes, cases and publications as per the teacher's instructions.

Works of Reference

Bernitz, Ulf, Carlsson, Mia, Heuman, Lars, Leijonhufvud, Madeleine & Magnusson Sjöberg, Cecilia (latest edition). *Finna rätt. Juristens källmaterial och arbetsmetoder*. Stockholm: Norstedts juridik, (selected parts, ca. 150 p.).