

1. OVERVIEW

Subject Area	General Theory of Law and Legal Thought
Degree	Bachelor's Degree in Law
School/Faculty	Social Sciences and Communication
Year	First
ECTS	6 ECTS
Type	Core
Language(s)	Spanish
Delivery Mode	On-campus
Semester	First semester

2. INTRODUCTION

General Theory of Law and Legal Thought is a core subject area of the Bachelor's Degree in Law, delivered in the first semester of the first year. It is worth 6 ECTS credits, as are all compulsory subject areas of the degree. General Theory of Law and Legal Thought will introduce the student to the fundamental aspects of law, understood as a theoretical and practical science, as well as one of its main tools: the legal norm. This subject area aims to lay down the foundational principles applicable to all subject areas of the Bachelor's Degree in Law.

The aim is also for students to understand how law relates to politics, morality and culture. This will require understanding of core aspects of the historical development of law.

3. SKILLS AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Basic skills (CB, by their acronym in Spanish):

- CB1: Students have shown their knowledge and understanding of a study area originating from general secondary school education, and are usually at the level where, with the support of more advanced textbooks, they may also demonstrate awareness of the latest developments in their field of study.
- CB2: Students can apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and possess the skills which are usually evident through the forming and defending of opinions and resolving problems within their study area.
- CB3: Students have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data (usually within their study area) to form opinions which include reflecting on relevant social, scientific or ethical matters.

Cross-curricular skills (CT, by their acronym in Spanish):

- CT1: Independent learning: Ability to choose the most effective strategies, tools and opportunities for independent learning and implementation of what has been learnt.
- CT3: Ability to put knowledge into practice, using the skills acquired through the study of mock situations based faithfully on real life issues in the relevant profession.
- CT4: Oral or written communication: Ability to communicate and gather information, ideas, opinions and viewpoints to understand and be able to act, spoken through words or gestures or written through words and/or graphic elements.
- CT5: Awareness of ethical values: Ability to think and act in line with universal principles based on the value of a person, contributing to their development and involving commitment to certain social values.
- CT6: Information management: Ability to seek, choose, analyse and integrate information from diverse sources.
- CT9: Problem solving: Ability to resolve an unclear or complex issue or situation which has no established solution and requires skill to reach a conclusion.

Specific skills (CE, by their acronym in Spanish):

- CE1: Ability to navigate the framework of legislation, legal doctrine and case law governing public and private legal relations.
- CE2: Ability to understand the law as a systematic, coherent whole, taking into account issues within the socioeconomic context.
- CE7: Ability to develop critical awareness in the analysis of the legal system.
- CE8: Ability to identify legal issues and provide appropriate solutions to real situations.
- CE10: Ability to understand the differences between the various fields within the legal profession.

Learning outcomes (RA, by their acronym in Spanish):

- RA1: Understanding of the scope, influence and necessity of law within society.
- RA2: Understanding of sources and branches of law and the specific characteristics of the legal system.
- RA3: Application and interpretation of legal rules in concrete cases, understanding the legal effects of these rules.
- RA4: Understanding of how law is connected to morality, politics and culture.

The following table shows how the skills developed in the course match up with the intended learning outcomes:

Skills	Learning outcomes
CB1, CT3, CT5, CE1, CE2, CE7	RA1: Understanding of the scope, influence and necessity of law within society.

CB2, CB3, CT3, CT6, CE1, CE7	RA2: Understanding of sources and branches of law and the specific characteristics of the legal system.
CB3, CT4, CT6, CT9, CE2, CE8	RA3. Application and interpretation of legal rules in concrete cases, understanding the legal effects of these rules.
CB1, CB2, CB3, CT4, CT5, CT9, CE1, CE7, CE8, CE10	RA4. Understanding of how law is connected to morality, politics and culture.

4. CONTENT

- Law and Society
- Classifications of Law
- Sources of Law
- The Application, Interpretation and Efficiency of Legal Norms
- History of the Concept of Law and Development of the Rule of Law
- Relationship Between Law, Morality, Politics and Culture

5. TEACHING/LEARNING METHODS

The types of teaching/learning methods are as follows:

- Lecture / Web conference
- Case studies
- Collaborative learning
- Problem-based learning

6. LEARNING ACTIVITIES

The types of learning activities, plus the amount of time spent on each activity, are as follows:

On-campus delivery mode:

Learning activity	Number of hours
Lectures	44 h
Asynchronous lectures	6 h
Legal problem-solving	30 h
Case studies	45 h
Writing reports and papers	13 h
Tutorials	10 h
Knowledge tests	2 h
TOTAL	150 h

Online Delivery Mode:

Learning activity	Number of hours
Reading of content	13 h
Legal problem-solving	30 h
Case studies	45 h
Online tutorials	10 h
Independent working	50 h
Knowledge tests	2 h
TOTAL	150 h

7. ASSESSMENT

The assessment systems, plus their weighting for the final grade for the subject area, are as follows:

On-campus delivery mode:

Assessment system	Weighting
Knowledge test	50%
Learning portfolio	25%
Case study/problem scenario	25%

Online Delivery Mode:

Assessment system	Weighting
Knowledge test	50%
Learning portfolio	25%
Case study/problem scenario	25%

On the Virtual Campus, when you open the subject area, you can see all the details of your assessment tasks, including deadlines and assessment procedures.

8. BIBLIOGRAPHY

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