

1. BASIC DETAILS

Subject	Comparative Legal Systems
Qualification	Bachelor's Degree in International Relations
School/Faculty	Economics, Business, and Communication Sciences
Year	Second
ECTS	6
Type	Basic
Language(s)	English
Modality	Campus-based
Semester	S4
Academic year	2025/2026
Coordinating professor	PhD Alonso Muñoz Pérez

2. PRESENTATION

The subject of Comparative Legal Systems is essential in a globalized world, where legal relationships of all kinds (commercial, civil, labor...) are established between subjects belonging to different cultures. The aim of this subject is to provide the future jurist with the necessary tools to develop a pluralistic legal mind to be able to exercise his or her profession in a world without borders. Students will learn about the legal framework of the states with which they are going to relate, its inspiring principles, its sources of law, its political organization, its institutions, etc. Comparison with other legal systems will also allow students to assess their own legal system and identify its weaknesses, guiding and inspiring future reforms.

3. COMPETENCIES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES

Basic competencies:

- BC1: Students have demonstrated knowledge and understanding in the field of study based on general secondary education and, although they are aided by advanced textbooks, this also includes certain aspects that require cutting-edge knowledge in their field of study.
- BC3: Students are able to gather and interpret relevant information (normally within their area of study) to make judgments, including reflecting on significant social, scientific or ethical issues.
- BC5: Students have developed the learning skills needed to undertake subsequent studies in a highly independent way.

Cross-cutting competencies:

- CC4: Ability to analyze and synthesize. Ability to break complex situations down into their constituent parts, as well as considering other alternatives and viewpoints to find optimal solutions. Synthesis seeks to reduce complexity in order to better understand it and/or solve problems.

- CC5: Ability to apply the knowledge to practice, using the knowledge acquired in the academic field in situations as close as possible to the reality of the profession for which they are being educated.
- CC6: Oral/written communication. Ability to convey and receive data, ideas, opinions and attitudes to attain comprehension and perform actions, oral communication being that which is achieved through words and gestures and written communication that which is achieved through writing and/or graphic support.
- CC7: Awareness of ethical values. Ability to think and act according to universal principles based on valuing people in a way that aims at the development of their full potential and which involves a commitment to certain social values.
- CC11: Planning and time management. Ability to set goals and choose the means to achieve those goals using time and resources in an effective manner.
- CC12: Critical reasoning. Ability to analyze an idea, phenomenon or situation from different perspectives and take a personal approach to it, built on rigor and argued objectivity, and not on intuition.

Specific competencies:

- SC11: Understanding of the functioning of mainly international legal institutions.
- SC15: Ability to make use of different sources and channels of information.
- SC19: Ability to interpret and analyze legal texts.
- SC22: Ability to take an active part in proposing solutions to specific problems and conflicts regardless of the geopolitical area.

Learning outcomes:

- LO1: Knowledge and understanding of the use of and need for comparative law.
- LO2: Knowledge of and ability to manage different legal families.
- LO3: Understanding of the interrelation of the fundamental principles of comparative law techniques.

The table below shows the relationship between the competencies developed in the subject and the learning outcomes pursued:

Competencies	Learning outcomes
BC1, BC3, CC4, CC12, SC11, SC15, SC22	LO1: Knowledge and understanding of the use of and need for comparative law.
BC5, CC5, CC12, SC11, SC22	LO2: Knowledge of and ability to manage different legal families.
BC5, CC4, CC6, CC7, CC11, CC12, SC11, SC19	LO3: Understanding of the interrelation of the fundamental principles of comparative law techniques.

4. CONTENTS

- Comparative law.
- Comparative method.
- Classification of the world's legal families.
- Legal families in Western Europe.
- Common Law family.
- Religious legal systems.
- Eastern law systems.

5. TEACHING-LEARNING METHODOLOGIES

The types of teaching-learning methodologies to be applied are as follows:

- Case-based method
- Cooperative learning
- Problem-based learning
- Master classes
- Simulation environments

6. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Each of the educational activities to be carried out together with the number of hours students will dedicate to it is described below:

Campus-based modality:

Educational activity	Number of hours
Master classes	30
Asynchronous master classes	12
Academic tutorials	10
Resolution of case studies	30
Independent work	43
Knowledge integration test	5
Analysis and integration of the theoretical-practical contents of the subject with current events.	20
TOTAL	150

7. ASSESSMENT

The assessment systems, as well as their weight in the total grade of the subject, are listed below:

Campus-based modality:

Assessment system	Weighting
Individual assignments	30%
Group assignments	20%
Evaluation exercises through theoretical knowledge tests (with open questions on a topic, or objective and direct questions on a specific aspect of the subject, or objective test-type questions) or practical (with problems or cases to solve, to give an answer to the same, reflecting in a practical way, the theoretical and practical knowledge of the subject). practical knowledge of the subject).	50%

When you access the subject in the Virtual Campus, you will be able to consult in detail the assessed assignments that you must perform, as well as the submission dates and the assessment procedures for each of them.

Observations on the evaluation system:

- The continuous evaluation system will be applied per subject throughout the different Learning Units, weighting and assessing in an integral way the results obtained by the student through the indicated evaluation procedures.
- The evaluation concludes with a recognition of the level of learning achieved by the student and is expressed in numerical grades, in accordance with the provisions of current legislation.

7.1. First exam sitting

In order to pass the subject at the first exam sitting, you must achieve a grade that is greater than or equal to 5 out of 10 in the final grade (weighted average) in the subject.

In any case, you will need to obtain a grade greater than or equal to 5 in the final exam, in order for this to count toward the average calculated with the rest of the assignments.

7.2. Second exam sitting

In order to pass the subject at the second exam sitting, you must achieve a grade that is greater than or equal to 5 out of 10 in the final grade (weighted average) in the subject.

In any case, you will need to obtain a grade greater than or equal to 5 in the final exam, in order for this to count toward the average calculated with the rest of the assignments.

Any assignments not passed at the first exam sitting must be resubmitted after having received the corresponding corrections by the professor, as well as any that were not submitted.

8. SCHEDULE

This section indicates the schedule with submission dates for the subject's assessed assignments:

Assessed assignments	Date
Assignment 1. Comparative legal analysis	Weeks 3-5
Assignment 2. Comparative legal analysis	Weeks 6-8
Assignment 3. Comparative legal analysis	Weeks 9-11
Assignment 4. Comparative legal analysis	Weeks 12-16
Assignment 5. Final exam	Week 18

This schedule may be modified for logistical reasons related to the assignments. Any modification will be notified to the student in a timely manner.

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

The recommended bibliography is as follows:

In Spanish:

- ALTAVA LAVALL, Manuel G. Lecciones de Derecho comparado. Castellón de la Plana: Publicacions de la Universitat Jaume I, 2003.
- DAVID, René; SÁNCHEZ CASTAÑEDA, Alfredo; JAUFFRET-SPINOSI, Camille; DÁVILA, J.A.S.C. Los grandes sistemas jurídicos contemporáneos. México D.F.: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas, 2010.
- SANTOS ALISTE, Tomás J. Sistema de Common Law. Salamanca: Ratio Legis, 2013.
- ZWEIGERT, Konrad y KÖTZ, Hein. Introducción al Derecho comparado. México D.F.: Oxford University Press, 2002 [translation of the 3rd edition in English, 1998].

In English/French:

- DAVID, René y JAUFFRET-SPINOSI, Camille. Les grands systèmes de droit contemporains. 11a Edn. Paris: Dalloz, 2007.
- DE CRUZ, Peter. Comparative Law in a Changing World. Abingdon: Routledge, 1999.
- SIEMS, Mathias. Comparative Law. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014.
- ZWEIGERT, Konrad y KÖTZ, Hein. Introduction to Comparative Law. 3a Edn. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998.

10. EDUCATIONAL GUIDANCE, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION UNIT

From the Educational Guidance and Diversity Unit we offer support to our students throughout their university life to help them reach their academic achievements. Other main actions are the students inclusions with specific educational needs, universal accessibility on the different campuses of the university and equal opportunities.

From this unit we offer to our students:

1. Accompaniment and follow-up by means of counselling and personalized plans for students who need to improve their academic performance.
2. In terms of attention to diversity, non-significant curricular adjustments are made in terms of methodology and assessment for those students with specific educational needs, pursuing an equal opportunities for all students.
3. We offer students different extracurricular resources to develop different competences that will encourage their personal and professional development.
4. Vocational guidance through the provision of tools and counselling to students with vocational doubts or who believe they have made a mistake in their choice of degree.

Students in need of educational support can write to us at:

orientacioneducativa@universidadeuropea.es

11. SATISFACTION SURVEYS

Your opinion matters!

The Universidad Europea encourages you to participate in our satisfaction surveys designed to identify strengths and areas for improvement regarding teaching staff, degree programs and the teaching-learning process.

Surveys will be available in the survey space on your virtual campus or via your email.

Your opinion is needed to improve the quality of the degree.

Thank you very much for your participation.