

# Syllabus

for course at advanced level

**EU External Trade Relations Law and Policy**

**EU:s handelsrätt och handelspolitik**

**15.0 Higher Education**

**Credits**

**15.0 ECTS credits**

**Course code:** JU348A  
**Valid from:** Autumn 2019  
**Date of approval:** 2017-09-15  
**Changed:** 2017-09-15  
**Department** Department of Law

**Main field:** Legal Science  
**Specialisation:** A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

## Decision

Approved by the Education Committee of the Faculty of Law (by delegation) on 15 September 2017.

Technical revision by the Student Services on 9 May 2019.

## Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

For access to lectures and examination, students must fulfill the general requirement for admission to elective courses, i.e. having passing grades amounting to at least 150 credits on mandatory courses within the law program.

Exchange students admitted by the Department of Law at Stockholm University are also given access to the course.

## Course structure

Examination code	Name	Higher Education Credits
0100	EU External Trade Relations Law and Policy	15

## Course content

The course aims at providing students with in-depth knowledge of the EU member states' common trade policy and the regulation of trade with third countries. The course covers in particular the allocation of competences between the Union and its member states, bilateral trade agreements, Brexit, the work of the Union in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the implementation of external actions in the member states. The course draws on EU constitutional law as expressed in the founding treaties, the Charter of Fundamental Rights and in the case law of EU Court of Justice, as well as in bilateral and multilateral trade agreements and international law. Negotiation processes, dispute settlement mechanisms and the work of the investment tribunals are also studied, as well as EU investments and projects in developing countries.

In conclusion, both substantive as well as institutional and procedural aspects of the subject are addressed. The course aims also at deepening the students' method awareness and further develop their critical thinking and scientific approach. Overall, the student should be given sufficient knowledge and skills to be able to independently carry out a major academic work such as a 30-credit degree thesis.

## Learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- exemplify, classify and explain the links between the EU's normative processes and the Common Commercial Policy, and demonstrate deeper insight into the regulation of trade with third countries,
- exemplify, classify and explain both the application of international treaties in accordance with the Vienna Convention and the lexical, systematic and teleological practices of EU law,
- analyse key issues of the Common Commercial Policy and the legal regulations for international trade based on the conceptual and systemic framework and objectives of international and EU law,
- assess the need for regulation and the type of regulation needed to achieve identified objectives, and,
- create your own reasoning and draw independent conclusions on the regulation of the Common Commercial Policy of the EU member states and the regulation of trade with third countries.

#### Skills and abilities

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- critically apply the sources, terminology and methodology of international and EU law in the field of the Common Commercial Policy to argue for or against different regulatory strategies,
- assess the relationship, validity and normative power of the sources of law,
- put forward one's own sustainable arguments and convincing reasoning based on the sources, terminology and methodology of EU law,
- present one's own arguments and reasoning both orally and in writing, through a comprehensive independent work,
- critically assess both one's own and others' arguments and reasoning based on the sources, terminology and methodology of EU law.

#### Judgement and approach

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- analyse the relationship between Common Commercial Law and areas of research,
- understand the importance of the Common Commercial Policy for the socio-economic development of the EU.

#### Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures, seminars and essay supervision. The language of instruction is English.

The course consists of lectures and seminars on primary and secondary constitutional sources relating to internal market law and competition law. Furthermore, a seminar is held on how to write an academic essay and each student is given individual essay supervision. Each student writes an essay of approximately 15 pages on one aspect of the Common Commercial Policy. Each student will then comment on another student's essay in accordance with the instructions given in the course description.

Mandatory components: attendance at a minimum of 80% of all lectures and seminars including the essay seminar; the writing of an independent essay; and the writing of a review on another student's essay (peer-review).

#### Forms of examination

Examination and assessment of the expected learning outcomes are carried out through a written examination, the writing of an independent essay of ca. 15 pages on one aspect of the Common Commercial Policy and the writing of a comment on another student's essay (peer-review).

The language of examination is English.

In order to pass the course, students must achieve all intended learning outcomes. In addition, students must pass each examined course component in order to pass the course as a whole.

The final grade in the course is based on the written exam, the independent essay and the peer-review. The final grade in the course is based on the students' individual performances in all three examined course components. The written classroom examination amounts to 50% of the final grade in the course, the independent essay 30%, and the peer-review 20%. The minimum score required on each examined course moment in order to pass the entire course, together with the maximum scores achievable, are stated in the course description. The final grade in the course is based on the total amount of points achieved on each course moment.

The final course grade is set using the following scale: Pass with Distinction (AB), Pass with Credit (BA), Pass (B) or Fail (U).

Students are entitled upon request to receive grades according to the seven-point ECTS scale. The request should be made by the student before the examination as determined by the Department of Law.

The grade according to the seven-point scale is then valid instead of the regular grade. Passing grades according to the seven-point scale are: A (Excellent), B (Very Good), C (Good), D (Satisfactory) and E (Adequate). Failing grades are Fx (Inadequate) or F (Totally Inadequate).

Grading criteria for each examined course components and permitted aids during the examination are specified in the course description.

Students who receive a failing grade on a regular examination will have the opportunity to retake the examination. Students who have received a passing grade on an examination may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. Students who fail the essay or peer review are given the opportunity to supplement these assignments. A student who has failed the same examination twice is entitled to have another examiner appointed, unless there are special reasons to the contrary.

A student with a certificate of special pedagogical support issued by Stockholm University has the right to alternative/accommodated forms of examination in accordance with the certificate.

### **Misc**

Completed course requirements are valid for two years. This also applies to students who drop the course during the early course withdrawal period.

The course requirements in effect at the time of the student's first registration on the course may be completed within two years. After two years, the course requirements included in the most recently revised syllabus will apply.

Entry into force

These provisions will apply as of 15 January 2018.

### **Required reading**

The course literature will be determined by the head of department. Please refer to the course website and the course description for information about the required reading. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.