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INSTITUTIONAL LAW OF THE EUROPEAN UNION

Bachelor of Law

Faculty of Social Sciences, Economics and Law

Course information

Bachelor year 3 27 HOURS

Fall Semester 5 ECTS

Lectures (CM)

Professor: Arnaud de Nanteuil, PhD in Public Law, Université Paris Panthéon Assas (France)

Course Code: FASSED_DPSP_L3_S5_INSTUE

Course description

The aim of this course is to introduce the general system of the European Union which is unavoidable for anyone who wishes to understand French law. The course will present first the institutions of the EU, i.e., the ones that make the law (mainly the European Commission, the Council and the Parliament as well as the European Court of Justice and the other specialized institutions). The law-making process will also be analyzed in order to understand what is the role of each institution and of member States. It will be shown that the process manages to reach a fairly balanced approach that takes into account all the interests at stake. The question of the enforcement of EU law and its application in domestic legal systems will also be addressed, as well as the possible recourses before the European Court of Justice.

At the end of the course, the students will be able to understand properly the way EU works and the way it adopts decisions. They will also be familiar with the relationship between member States and the Union and the way competences are exercised in an harmonious basis.

Learning Objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- 1 Understand thoroughly the functioning of the EU.
- 2 Present and discuss these issues in English.
- 3 Develop a critical (positive or negative) approach of core issues of EU law such as Human rights and democracy.

Courses prerequisites

In order to be able to follow the course, students shall have already been enrolled at least in one or two years of legal studies. They have to be familiar with general concept of public law such as administrative act, public body, judicial scrutiny of administrative act, etc. A knowledge

of a given system of administrative law, being French or other, without being formally a prerequisite, would certainly be an advantage.

Method of instruction

This course is a “*cours magistral*” provided to a pretty important number of students so it is less interactive than other courses. It is mainly a lecture by the professor, on the basis of a structure that is given in advance to the students. Of course, students are always free and welcomed to ask questions or to answer the questions raised by the professor.

Assessment and final grade

Assessment is based on a final exam only, which for foreign students is usually an oral exam, thus leaving the examiner the possibility to help and support the student during the exam. The final grade is on 20 points, and it is required to obtain at least 10.

Course requirement

As a lecture, there are no specific requirements from students except assiduity which is highly recommended to avoid misunderstanding. Attending courses also allows students to ask questions directly to the professor, which is probably the best way to ensure that the issues addressed are well-understood.

Bibliography

www.europa.eu

P. Craig, R. de Burca, EU Law, texts, cases and material, Oxford University Press