



UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ

Course Unit Descriptor

Faculty

Faculty of Law

GENERAL INFORMATION

Study program	Undergraduate Academic Law Study Program (LL.B. degree-240 ECTS)
Study Module (if applicable)	-
Course title	Sociology and Sociology of Law
Level of study	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bachelor
Type of course	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective
Semester	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spring
Year of study	I (first) year of undergraduate studies
Number of ECTS allocated	5 (five)
Name of lecturer/lecturers	Prof. Slaviša Kovačević, PhD, Associate Professor, Natalija Žunić, MA
Teaching mode	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lectures <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Group tutorials <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individual tutorials <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory work Project work <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Seminar <input type="checkbox"/> Distance learning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blended learning Other

PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW (max. 5 sentences)

Aims: to introduce students to the sociological perspective on the legal systems, the impact of different social relations on the normative framework and expected patterns of behaviour a given culture/ society; to enable students to identify, understand and critically assess relations between law, social norms and values by applying sociological research methodology and interdisciplinary approach (including sociology, psychology, political science and law).

The course explores sociological understandings of law and legal institutions seeking response to the following questions: Why do societies have law? What is the relationship between law and social norms or values? How to understand formal and informal social control? Is law a mechanism for coordinating human activity toward the common good, or a vehicle for conflict and oppression? Why do people obey the law, and why do people punish lawbreakers? When does law stabilize society, and when does it promote social change? Is everyone equal under the law or does the law provide more resources to some social groups than to others?

Outcomes: On the basis of the acquired knowledge, students will be able: to differentiate and understand different forms of social relations and activities in many aspects of human life and discuss the impact of diverse social mechanism,

institutions and organisations; to acquire valuable sociological competences and skills to critically and argumentatively express their opinions and understanding of the contemporary society; to use the methodological apparatus in exploring the processes and changes in the field of law and society (by applying an interdisciplinary approach).

SYLLABUS (brief outline and summary of topics, max. 10 sentences)

1. Development of Sociology. Methodology of sociological research (methods and techniques of research). 2. Sociology of Law: theoretical sources and issue in Sociology of Law. Max Weber's notion of law. Emile Durkheim: evolution of society and social solidarity. Modes of production and the role of law. Socio-legal theories (Foucault, Habermas, Rawls, Luhmann). Emphasis on the nature and purpose of law (Foucault on power, and Habermas on legitimacy and public discourse). Relationship between law to justice (Rawls on Justice as fairness). 3. Nature, man and society. Law in the social structure. Functions of law and social functions of law (family, marriage, education, legal system, institutions, human rights, equality, culture, identity, politics, state and the church, labour relation, media, mass culture, environment, globalisation, ect.) 4. Normative patterns of social behaviour: moral, customs and law; Changes and development of the contemporary society (functions of legal norms and institutions in social structure, culture, social values, legal and non-legal norms, political power and democratic values, formal and informal social control, social justice, global integration processes, post-modern society, influence of race, gender and social status in the outcome of legal decisions. 5. Legal Profession: sociological aspects of professional identity, professional ethics of legal professionals.

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

Serbian (complete course)

ASSESSMENT METHODS AND CRITERIA

Pre exam duties	Points	Final exam	points
Activity during lectures	0-10 0-15	Written examination	0-25
Practical teaching	-	Oral examination	0-25
Teaching colloquia	0-25	OVERALL SUM	100

***Final examination mark is formed in accordance with the Institutional documents**