



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2024

8,480: Comparative Constitutional Design

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Analog written examination, Analog, Individual work individual grade (100%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,480,1.00 Comparative Constitutional Design](#) -- English -- [Ginsburg Thomas B.](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

There are no required prerequisite courses, though students should have a basic knowledge of their own constitutional order. Participants should be prepared to participate actively in class discussions.

Learning objectives

- Acquire knowledge about a specialized area of comparative and international law;
- Learn about the particular challenges posed in the production of democratic constitutions, to
- Gain experience in applying norms of international law to national processes;
- Practice your discussion and critical thinking skills.

Course content

This course addresses the study of constitutional law and design from a social science perspective. From democracy and the separation of powers to legislative intent and constitutional review, the seminar will focus on the main concepts and theories of constitutional design. Students will analyze fundamental constitutional processes, including the drafting of constitutions and the circumstances that help them endure, territorial divisions of power, and legal institutions like courts and executive offices. The course is explicitly interdisciplinary, drawing from political science, economics and law.

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course will be taught in person in blocks; a kick-off will take place online.

Course literature

A reader will be made available online. The course is designed to be interactive, so students should read the literature before attending class.

Additional course information

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Examination information



Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Analog written examination
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written exam
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	100%
Duration	90 mins.

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Open Book

Students are free to choose aids, apart from the following restrictions:

- pocket calculator models which are not part of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series, as well as any programmable electronic devices that are capable of communication such as electronic dictionaries, notebooks, tablets, smartphones, headsets, additional screens, etc. are not admissible;
- there is an option for faculty members to explicitly define exceptions under supplementary aids.

Procuring any aids, as well as ensuring their working order, is the exclusive responsibility of students.

Supplementary aids

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Examination content

All materials contained in the online reader and discussed in class.

The exam will take place at the end of the last course day.

Examination relevant literature

The entire reader.



Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 13 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 25 January 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 18 March 2024);
- Examination information (supplementary aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 13 (Monday, 25 March 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: Starting with de-registration period in CW 15 (Monday, 08 April 2024).