



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Autumn Semester 2024

7,485: Introduction to Methods and Thinking of Law

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

decentral - Written examination, Digital, Individual work individual grade (85%, 90 mins.)

Examination time: Term time

decentral - Active participation, Analog, Individual work individual grade (15%)

Examination time: Term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[7,485,1.00 Introduction to Methods and Thinking of Law](#) -- English -- [Riznik Donald](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

none

Learning objectives

Understanding the very nature of law

Understanding different theories about the foundations and prerequisites of law

Understanding different methodological approaches and their impact on legal interpretation

Course content

The target audience of this course on offer in the MIL programme are students who either did not have a legal education, e.g. students who move into the MIL laterally, or did not have the opportunity to deal with classic jurisprudential questions and topics during their legal studies and hence could not engage with general questions about the very nature of law. In this course we will encounter a few of these very general questions. What is law? What is the purpose of law? Is there a connection between law and morality? What role do judges and lawyers play in shaping the law? What are the foundations of legal interpretation?

The goal of this course is to broaden and deepen your knowledge about law and give you a solid basis for your further legal education in any given field (national law, European Union law and international law including all their sub-branches).

Course structure and indications of the learning and teaching design

The course will take place during the first half of the autumn semester and will consist of two 90 minutes units per week with lectures, interaction, and discussion.

Students are not required to give presentations in class, but active participation and interaction is compulsory. We intend to have colloquial atmosphere with a seating order, so that I can address the students by name.

Course literature

Texts and documents will be made available on a continuous basis during the course.



Additional course information

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Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Written examination
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Written exam
Examination mode	Digital
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	85%
Duration	90 mins.

Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Closed Book

The use of aids is prohibited as a matter of principle, with the exception of pocket calculator models of the Texas Instruments TI-30 series and, in case of non-language exams, bilingual dictionaries without any handwritten notes. Any other aids that are admissible must be explicitly listed by faculty members in the paragraph entitled "Supplementary aids" of the course and examination fact sheet; this list is exhaustive.

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

Supplementary aids

The examination will be conducted as a digital examination with the following admissible media:

- **Private notebook** (compulsory) – no tablets!
- **Mains adapter** (compulsory)
- External computer mouse (optional)
- External computer keyboard (optional)

We would like to point out explicitly that the examination cannot be taken with tablets/iPads.

You will need the following for the examination:



- Appliance and system requirements: [cf. StudentWeb](#)
- Special software: [LockDown Browser](#)
- HSG log-in including access modalities
- WLAN – operational access to Eduroam

Please make sure that

- all the updates have been carried out before the examination.
- In the run-up to digitally conducted examinations, technical tests (mock examinations without grades) are carried out. Participation is urgently required!
- You yourself are responsible for the perfect working order of your appliance, [cf. also StudentWeb](#).
- Keyboard stickers in the language in which the examination is conducted (such as English, German, as well as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Japanese, etc. in language examinations) are permitted. The stickers must be identical with the original characters of the language concerned.

Any use of additional appliances that are not listed above will be strictly prohibited throughout the examination.

Any necessary actions with another software or additional appliances require the express prior approval of the persons in charge of the examination and are only permitted under supervision.

Any infringement of these rules of conduct may be sanctioned as an infringement of the rules of the University.

2. Examination sub part (2/2)

Examination modalities

Examination type	Active participation
Responsible for organisation	decentral
Examination form	Oral examination
Examination mode	Analog
Time of examination	Term time
Examination execution	Synchronous
Examination location	On Campus
Grading type	Individual work individual grade
Weighting	15%
Duration	--

Examination languages

Question language: English
Answer language: English

Remark

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Examination-aid rule

Free aids provision

Basically, students are free to choose aids. Any restrictions are defined by the faculty members in charge of the examination under supplementary aids.

Supplementary aids

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Examination content

All subjects discussed in class and covered by the texts and materials handed out during the course may be addressed in the final exam.

The written exam is decentralized and digital (closed book exam).

Examination relevant literature

All texts and materials handed out during the course. These texts and materials may not be used in the exam (digital closed book exam)

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 (CW51) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 42 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 34 (Thursday, 22nd August 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 42 (Monday, 14 October 2024);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before ending with de-registration period in CW 45 (Monday, 04 November 2024).