

Subject card

Subject name and code	Comparative Law - lecture, PG_00201594						
Field of study	Criminology and Criminal Justice						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026	Academic year of realisation of subject				2026/2027	
Education level	Bachelor's studies	Subject group				Obligatory subject group in the field of study	
Mode of study	full-time studies	Mode of delivery				at the university	
Year of study	1	Language of instruction				English	
Semester of study	1	ECTS credits				3.0	
Learning profile	academic	Assessment form				exam	
Conducting unit	Faculty of Law and Administration -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Nataliia Mushak				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	15.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	15		2.0		58.0	75
Subject objectives	The objective of the course is to develop the ability to comparatively analyze criminal law systems and criminal procedures in various countries. Students will become familiar with the diversity of legal systems, criminal law principles, criminal responsibility mechanisms, and crime prevention methods. The course includes selected comparative topics in substantive criminal law, enabling an understanding of different approaches to defining crimes, penalties, and preventive measures. The aim is to highlight the significance of comparative law in the 21st century and to support critical thinking.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[CCJL3_UW04] is able to use theoretical knowledge to solve typical problems related to criminology and the functioning of the national and international justice system, as well as to analyze legal and ethical dilemmas in professional work in this area, and to organize their own research work, plan and conduct simple empirical studies	The student is able to apply the knowledge gained in comparative law to analyse selected legal issues in both domestic and international contexts. The student can also independently prepare a simple comparative analysis and identify the legal and ethical aspects of similarities and differences between legal systems.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/discussion [SU2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[CCJL3_WG04] Has a well-structured and enhanced knowledge of the norms and principles prevailing in structures and institutions related to criminology, including advanced knowledge of the role of state bodies in counteracting sociopathological phenomena, especially crimes, the internal structure of these bodies and their competencies	The student knows the basic norms and principles governing the functioning of state structures and institutions in various legal systems, with particular emphasis on their role in combating crime. The student is able to compare the competences and organisation of state authorities in selected countries and to identify differences and similarities in approaches to counteracting socially pathological phenomena.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW2] presentation/project/paper/report
	[CCJL3_K02] is prepared to actively participate in groups, social or legal projects, organisations and institutions related to criminology in its broadest sense and to the administration of justice, while being able to communicate with both specialists and non-specialists in criminology	The student is able to actively participate in academic discussions on comparative law and to cooperate within a group when analysing selected legal systems. The student is also prepared to communicate the results of comparative analyses clearly to both legal professionals and non-specialists.	[SK2] presentation/project/paper/report [SK6] demonstration of practical skills
	[CCJL3_WG01] has an enhanced knowledge of the nature of legal sciences, including, in particular, the branches of law related to the studied major, knows their place in the field of social sciences and understands the relations between them	The student has basic knowledge of comparative methods in legal studies and is able to identify similarities and differences between selected legal systems, understanding their place within the structure of social sciences.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	<p>Introduction to Comparative Law (Lecture Units 1-3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> History and significance of comparative law. Methodology and comparative techniques in legal research. Overview of major legal systems in the world (common law, civil law, religious law, mixed legal systems). <p>Substantive Criminal Law (Lecture Units 4-6):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Case analysis of criminal responsibility in various jurisdictions. Differences in the approach to criminal law institutions in different legal systems. <p>Criminal Procedure (Lecture Units 7-9):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comparison of judicial procedures in common law and civil law systems. Protection of defendants' rights in different legal systems. Application of international human rights standards in criminal procedure. <p>Special Issues in Criminal Law (Lecture Units 10-12):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medical criminal law: professional responsibility and bioethics. Economic criminal law: white-collar crimes and financial regulations. European criminal law: harmonization of criminal regulations in the EU. <p>Presentation of Student Research Findings (Lecture Units 13-15):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Group or individual presentations on selected criminal law issues in a comparative context. Discussions on research findings, methodology, and conclusions. Evaluation and feedback on presentations and research work. 		
Prerequisites and co-requisites			
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	written or oral exam	51.0%	50.0%
	presentation/project/report	51.0%	50.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kischel, Uwe - <i>Comparative Law</i>, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 2019. • Reichel, Philip L. - <i>Comparative Criminal Justice Systems: A Topical Approach</i>, Pearson, Boston, 2018. • Dammer, Harry R., Fairchild, Erika - <i>Comparative Criminal Justice Systems</i>, Cengage Learning, Boston, 2014. • Nobles, Richard, Schiff, David - <i>A Sociology of Jurisprudence</i>, Hart Publishing, Oxford, 2006.
	Supplementary literature	Nelken, David - <i>Comparative Criminal Justice: Making Sense of Difference</i> , Sage Publications, London, 2010.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed	<p>Sample Comparative Essay Topics: 1. Comparison of Criminal Law Systems in Counter-Terrorism: A Case Study of the United States and the United Kingdom. 2. Evidence Procedures in Criminal Cases: A Comparison of DNA Evidence Approaches in Germany and Australia. 3. Justice Systems' Responses to Sexual Crimes: Comparative Legal Regulations and Judicial Practices in Sweden and India. 4. Criminal Liability for Environmental Crimes: A Comparative Study of Regulations in Canada and Brazil.</p>	
Work placement	Not applicable	

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