

Liverpool John Moores University

Title: COMPARATIVE LAW
Status: Definitive
Code: **5004LAWPL** (115995)
Version Start Date: 01-08-2011

Owning School/Faculty: Law
Teaching School/Faculty: Law

Team	Leader
Carlo Panara	Y

Academic Level: FHEQ5
Credit Value: 24.00
Total Delivered Hours: 32.00
Total Learning Hours: 240
Private Study: 208

Delivery Options

Course typically offered: Standard Year Long

Component	Contact Hours
Lecture	16.000
Workshop	16.000

Grading Basis: 40 %

Assessment Details

Category	Short Description	Description	Weighting (%)	Exam Duration
Essay	AS1	independent research on a topic individually agreed by the module leader with each student	50.0	
Report	AS2	essay	50.0	

Aims

1. To introduce students to a variety of legal systems used in the world today
2. To provide students with the conceptual tools to understand and critically assess such systems
3. To introduce the students to the methods and tools of comparative research
4. To help the students understand different legal cultures.

Learning Outcomes

After completing the module the student should be able to:

- LO1 Demonstrate an understanding of the potential problems inherent in comparative legal studies
- LO2 Demonstrate the capacity for linking legal settings to their history and culture
- LO3 Undertake independent comparative research and communicate the results of this research in writing
- LO4 Demonstrate an understanding of different legal families and systems and discuss aspects of the English legal system in relation to other legal systems
- LO5 Demonstrate the understanding of different forms of state and government and of constitutional review in different jurisdictions

Learning Outcomes of Assessments

The assessment item list is assessed via the learning outcomes listed:

Essay	LO 1	LO 2	LO 4	LO 5
Report	LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	

Outline Syllabus

1. *Introduction to comparative law, concept of comparative law and its importance, 'clash of civilizations' theory and its critique.*
2. *Research method in comparative law.*
3. *Legal families, common law and civil law.*
4. *The phenomenon of codification of private law on the European continent and in Britain.*
5. *Comparative family law.*
6. *Comparative law of obligations.*
7. *State, nation-state, constitution, constitutionalism, absolute monarchy, liberal state, liberal-democratic state, democracy, illiberal democracy, autocracy, theocracy, authoritarianism, totalitarianism, 'end of history' theory and its critique.*
8. *Concept of form of government: from constitutional monarchy to parliamentary democracy, presidential government, semi-presidential government, directorial government, electoral systems.*
9. *Territorial distribution of powers: confederations, federal states, regionalized states, devolution, the European Union, disintegration of state sovereignty.*
10. *Constitutional review in different jurisdictions.*

Learning Activities

Lectures, workshops, self-directed learning, coursework research and preparation.

References

Course Material	Book
Author	Zweigert, K & Kötz, H
Publishing Year	1998
Title	An Introduction to Comparative Law
Subtitle	
Edition	3rd
Publisher	Clarendon Press
ISBN	0-19-826860-2

Course Material	Book
Author	De Cruz, P
Publishing Year	2007
Title	Comparative Law in a Changing World
Subtitle	
Edition	1st
Publisher	Routledge
ISBN	1-85941-936-4

Notes

Comparative law is a research-based module. Students will be encouraged to execute independent research. Participation and interaction in class is of paramount importance.