

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Faculty of Law

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)

Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- **Title:** EU Law I
- **Code:** LLB14
- **ECTS:** 6
- **Hours per week:** 4
- **Academic Year:** 2nd
- **Teaching Period:** Winter Semester
- **Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-Face
- **Language of Instruction/Assessment:** English
- **Course Type:** Mandatory

2. Course Description

The European Union, now comprising 27 Member States, has evolved from relatively modest origins into an economic, social and political Union. The EU of today is comprised of a number of institutions which collectively possess a range of powers (or competences) to enact legal rules in policy areas that affect citizens' everyday lives. Therefore, an understanding of the European Union and its legal system is a crucial component of legal education in every Member State.

This course aims to give students a comprehensive understanding of the key constitutional and substantive elements of EU Law. It will start by introducing the structure of the EU by examining its founding treaties, identifying its institutions and understanding their roles. Students will then consider the constitutional principles of EU Law, such as the doctrines of direct effect and supremacy. This material is important in

order to critically consider the relationship between the EU and its Member States, whilst also providing an important foundation for understanding the substantive law of the EU.

3. Keywords

European Union, Treaties, Direct Effect, Supremacy, Directives, Regulations

4. Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

1. critically discuss legal theories, principles, doctrines, values and rules which underpin the law of the European Union, including those of supremacy, direct effect, state liability and the relationship between EU and national law;
2. critically discuss the institutions and constitution of the European Union;
3. critically discuss the treaties and secondary legislation of the European Union, particularly legislation concerning the single market and free movement principles

TRANSFERABLE SKILLS

4. communicate accurately and effectively, using a variety of media and technological resources whilst demonstrating care and accuracy in use of English and legal terminology, including terminology relating to the law framework of the European Union;
5. demonstrate a high level of ability to manage personal development by effective use of feedback, reflection, determination of needs, acquisition of knowledge and skills and collaborative working;
6. undertake self-directed research using a wide range of legal and other information sources, evaluating and selecting information based on reasoned criteria.

EVALUATING

7. Critically assess the effectiveness of legal rules or doctrines in achieving their stated objectives.
8. Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of judicial reasoning in landmark decisions.
9. Assess the implications of proposed legal reforms from normative and practical perspectives.

10. Formulate a reasoned opinion on controversial legal or ethical questions using appropriate sources.

CREATING

11. Construct well-structured legal arguments in essays, position papers, or research projects.
12. Draft basic legal documents, such as contracts, pleadings, or legal memoranda.
13. Develop original legal hypotheses or research questions on topics of contemporary relevance.
14. Integrate doctrinal, theoretical, and empirical materials to propose innovative legal solutions.

5. General Skills to Be Acquired

- Apply knowledge in practice
- Retrieve, analyse, and synthesise data and information
- Adapt to new situations
- Make decisions
- Work in an international context
- Work in an interdisciplinary team
- Generate new research ideas
- Appreciate diversity and multiculturalism
- Respect the natural environment
- Be critical and self-critical
- Advance free, creative, and causative thinking

6. Course Content (Topics)

1. An introduction to the European Union
2. EU Institutions, policy and law-making
3. The existence and exercise of EU competence: conferral, subsidiarity, proportionality

4. Conferral as a Case Study in the Area of Harmonization
5. Subsidiarity and National Parliaments
6. Rights, procedures, and remedies (Part I): Direct effect of EU Law
7. Rights, procedures, and remedies (Part II): Directives and the Indirect effect of EU Law
8. The Supremacy of EU Law from an EU Perspective
9. The Supremacy of EU Law from Member States' Perspectives
10. Rights, procedures, and remedies (Part III): Equivalence and effectiveness
11. Rights, procedures, and remedies (Part IV): State liability for the breach of EU Law
12. Seminar
13. Revision

7. Teaching Methods

- Lectures.
- Case law workshops.
- Student presentations and structured debate.
- Guided reading and legal reasoning exercises.

8. Assessment Methods

Method	Weight	Description
Final Written Exam	70%	Essay-type and case-based questions
Mid-Term Assignment/Presentation	20%	Individual or group-based
Participation and Engagement	10%	Constructive attendance, preparedness, contribution

Note: A minimum final exam score of 50% is required to pass.

9. A. Ethics

Students are reminded that all submitted work must comply with the University's academic [integrity policy](#). Plagiarism or unauthorised collaboration will result in disciplinary measures.

B. Course Policies

- Attendance is strongly encouraged.
- All assignments must be submitted on time via the designated platform.
- Special accommodations will be made for students with documented learning or health needs in accordance with university policy.

10. Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

- **Use in Teaching:** (e.g. digital slides, audiovisual aids, interactive tools like Mentimeter)
- **Use in Communication:** (e.g. E-learning platform, Zoom/Google Meet for office hours)
- **Digital Resources:** (e.g. online legal databases, podcasts, video lectures)

11. Bibliography

- Books/E-Books
Arnull, A., & Chalmers, D. (Eds.). (2015). *The Oxford handbook of European Union law* (1st ed.). Oxford University Press.

Annunziata, Filippo., & Siri, Michele. (2025). *EU banking and capital markets regulation open issues of vertical interplay with national law*(e-book) /. Palgrave Macmillan.

Avbelj, Matej. (2018). *The European Union under transnational law : a pluralist appraisal* /. Hart Publishing,.

Chalmers, D., Davies, G., & Monti, G. (Eds.). (2014). *New legal approaches to studying the Court of Justice: Revisiting law in context*. Oxford University Press.

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Craig, P., & Schütze, R. (2025). *Landmark Cases in EU Law, Volume 1: The Constitutional Cases* (e-book). Bloomsbury Publishing.

<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170424?sid=50263004>

De Witte, B. (2024). *Redefining EU membership: Differentiation in and outside the European Union*. Oxford University Press.

Fromage, Diane., & Herranz-Surrallés, Anna. (2022). *Executive-legislative (im)balance in the European Union* (e-book) /. Hart.

Gaëlle, M. (2025). *European Citizenship Through the Lens of EU Values* (e-book).

Larcier. <https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170421?sid=50262998>

Gallo, D. (2025). *Direct Effect in EU Law* (e-book) . Oxford University Press.

<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170241?sid=50262896>

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Katja S. Ziegler, Päivi J. Neuvonen, & Violeta Moreno-Lax. (2022). *Research Handbook on General Principles in EU Law. Constructing Legal Orders in Europe* (e-book). Edward Elgar. <https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170416?sid=50262986>

Kostakopoulou, D., & Thym, D. (2022). *Research Handbook on European Union Citizenship Law and Policy* (e-book). Edward Elgar.

<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170426?sid=50173871>

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Pouille, J.-Baptiste. (2024). *EU banking and financial regulation* (e-book). Edward Elgar Publishing.

Robertson, A. H. (1973). *European institutions: Co-operation, integration, unification* (3rd ed.). Stevens & Sons; Matthew Bender.

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<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170240?sid=50262723>

Rüdiger, V. (2024). *Regulating EU Capital Markets Union: Volume I: Fundamentals of a European Code Volume II: Market Conduct and Corporate Disclosure in a European Code (e-book) :: Library Catalog*. Oxford University Press.

<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1170419?sid=50262993>

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Spieker, L. D. (2023). *EU values before the Court of Justice: Foundations, potential, risks (e-book)*. Oxford University Press.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198876731.001.0001>

Voigt, S. (2020). *Standing to enforce European Union law before national courts*. Bloomsbury Publishing.

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Zgliniski, Jan. (2020). *Europe's passive virtues deference to national authorities in EU free movement law (e-book)*/ (First edition). Oxford University Press .

- Databases

Westlaw UK Academic	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
HeinOnline Academic Core and Kluwer Law International Journal Library	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Beck-online PREMIUM	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/

O.U.P Oxford Public International Law	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
O.U.P Max Planck Encyclopedia of Comparative Constitutional Law	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Dalloz.fr	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
JURIS Zusatzmodul Hochschulen, BGB Staudinger Online	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Kluwer Law Online (30 journals)	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
IAReporter. Investment Arbitration Report	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
Cambridge Core (Law)	https://www.cambridge.org/core/browse-subjects/law
EBSCO	https://research.ebsco.com/c/quc7ji/search/advanced/filters?autocorrect=y&isDashboardExpanded=true
ProQuest Central	https://www.proquest.com/central/topicpaths/AbiGlobal_business/0?accountid=8359#0
Springer link	https://link.springer.com/
Taylor & Francis e-books	https://www.taylorfrancis.com/search?subject=SC LW
Taylor & Francis e-journals	https://www.tandfonline.com/subjects/law
The Making of Modern Law: Legal Treatises 1800-1926 (Gale)	https://go.gale.com/ps/start.do?p=MOML&u=arist&cookieConsent=true&analyticsOptout=false&aty=ip
Wiley online Library	https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/action/showPublications?startPage=&ConceptID=85