Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Faculty of Law

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)

Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- **Title:** Computer Law and GDPR
- **Code:** LLB19
- **ECTS:** 6
- **Hours per week:** 4
- **Academic Year:** 2nd
- **Teaching Period:** Spring Semester
- **Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-Face
- **Language of Instruction/Assessment:** English
- **Course Type:** Mandatory

2. Course Description

This course examines the legal challenges and regulatory responses associated with the use of digital technologies, with particular emphasis on data protection and information governance. It explores the evolution of computer law, addressing issues such as cybercrime, digital evidence, platform regulation, algorithmic accountability, and the protection of fundamental rights in the digital environment. A substantial part of the course is devoted to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), including its scope, core principles, data subject rights, and enforcement mechanisms. The Greek legal framework on data protection is presented in the context of EU law and international instruments, with comparative references to regulatory approaches in other jurisdictions. The course encourages critical reflection on the role of law in shaping technological

development and balancing innovation with the protection of personal autonomy, dignity, and democratic values.

3. Keywords

Data Protection, GDPR, Cyberlaw, Digital Rights, Platform Regulation, Internet and Law

4. Learning Outcomes

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

1. **Identify** the core legal principles governing data protection and the use of digital technologies, with particular reference to the GDPR. *(Remembering)*
2. **Explain** the rights of data subjects, the duties of data controllers and processors, and the legal architecture of digital governance under EU and Greek law. *(Understanding)*
3. **Apply** GDPR provisions and related norms to practical scenarios involving data processing, consent, data breaches, and automated decision-making. *(Applying)*
4. **Analyse** the relationship between technological innovation and legal regulation in fields such as platform governance, algorithmic accountability, and cybercrime. *(Analysing)*
5. **Critically assess** the effectiveness of existing legal frameworks in protecting fundamental rights in the digital environment. *(Evaluating)*

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. **Introduction to Computer Law: Legal Responses to the Digital Revolution –** Defining computer law; evolution of legal regulation in the age of computing and networks.
2. **Legal Frameworks for Information and Communication Technologies –** National and EU legal sources; sectoral regulation; horizontal versus vertical approaches.
3. **The Concept of Data and the Legal Value of Information –** Distinguishing personal and non-personal data; the legal status of digital information.
4. **Foundations of Data Protection Law: History, Principles, and Policy Aims –** Origins of privacy law; Council of Europe Convention 108; development of EU data protection.
5. **Scope and Structure of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) –** Material and territorial scope; key definitions; relationship with national law.
6. **Principles of Data Processing under the GDPR –** Lawfulness, fairness, transparency, purpose limitation, data minimisation, accuracy, storage limitation, integrity, and accountability.
7. **Rights of the Data Subject: Access, Erasure, Portability, and Beyond –** The architecture of individual rights and their practical implementation.
8. **Obligations of Data Controllers and Processors –** Accountability, data protection by design and by default, record-keeping, DPIAs, breach notification.
9. **Supervision and Enforcement: National Authorities and the Role of the EDPB –** Independence, investigatory powers, administrative fines, the consistency mechanism.
10. **Cross-Border Data Transfers and International Dimensions of Data Protection –** Adequacy decisions, standard contractual clauses, and global challenges to EU data sovereignty.
11. **Cybercrime and Liability for Unlawful Access and System Interference –** Computer misuse, hacking, denial-of-service attacks, and regulatory models under Greek and comparative law.

12. **Intermediary Liability and Legal Responsibility on the Internet** – Hosting, caching, and access providers; safe harbour regimes; notice-and-takedown procedures.

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

Bainbridge, D. I. (2000). Introduction to computer law (4th ed.). Longman.

Custers, B., Sears, A., Dechesne, F., Georgieva, I., Tani, T., & van der Hof, S. (2019). EU personal data protection in policy and practice. Asser Press; Springer.

Ebers, Martin., Poncibò, Cristina., & Zou, Mimi. (2022). *Data protection, migration and border control the GDPR, the Law Enforcement Directive and beyond (e-book) /.* Hart,.

The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) : a commentary /. (2020). Oxford University Press Data protection in the internet. (2020). Springer.

Iglezakis, I. (2020). The legal regulation of cyber attacks (2nd ed.). Kluwer Law International B. V.

Kornilakis, A. (2024). The contractual networks of digital commons: Self-organized criticality through individual autonomy (1st ed.). Nomos.

Papakonstantinou, V. (2024). *The regulation of digital technologies in the EU : act-ification, GDPR mimesis and EU law brutality at play /.* Routledge, Taylor & Francis Group

Privacy Technologies and Policy 5th Annual Privacy Forum, APF 2017, Vienna, Austria, June 7-8, 2017, Revised Selected Papers (e-book)/. (2017). Springer International Publishing : Imprint: Springer.

Solove, D. J., & Schwartz, P. M. (2024). Privacy and the media (5th ed.). Aspen Publishing.

Spiecker genannt Döhmann, Indra., Papakonstantinou, Vagelis., Hornung, Gerrit., & De Hert, Paul. (2023). *General Data Protection Regulation : article-by-article commentary /* (First edition.). Nomos ; Beck ; Hart.

Voigt, P., & von dem Bussche, A. (2017). The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): A practical guide. Springer International Publishing.

Voigt, P., & von dem Bussche, A. (2024). The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): A Practical Guide, Second Edition. In *The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR): A Practical Guide, Second Edition*. Springer Nature. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-62328-8/

- 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=SCLW**
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**