

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Faculty of Law

Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)

Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- **Title:** Banking and Finance
- **Code:** LLB30
- **ECTS:** 30
- **Hours per week:** 4
- **Academic Year:** 3rd
- **Teaching Period:** Spring Semester
- **Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-Face
- **Language of Instruction/Assessment:** English
- **Course Type:** Mandatory

2. Course Description

This course offers an in-depth and interdisciplinary introduction to Banking and Finance Law with a strong emphasis on the legal, institutional and regulatory dimensions that shape the operation of banking systems at both the European and international levels. Students will be introduced to the historical evolution and economic functions of banks as financial intermediaries and the public interest objectives that underpin their regulation, namely the stability of the financial system, the protection of depositors, the integrity of financial markets and the preservation of trust in the banking system. Special focus will be placed on the architecture of banking regulation, including the division of responsibilities between central banks, financial supervisors, and resolution authorities and the interplay between national, EU and international standards (e.g. EBA, ECB, SRB, Basel Committee). The course will delve into core themes such as: the licensing and ongoing supervision of credit institutions, the prudential rules on capital adequacy (Basel

I-IV), the internal governance and risk management of banks and the rules on anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing (AML/CFT), which are central to the financial system's integrity. Key EU legal instruments such as the Capital Requirements Regulation (CRR), the Bank Recovery and Resolution Directive (BRRD), the Single Supervisory Mechanism (SSM), the Payment Services Directive (PSD2), and the Markets in Crypto-Assets Regulation (MiCA) will be thoroughly examined in light of their real-world impact on banking practices and financial stability.

In addition to prudential regulation, the course will also cover market conduct rules and consumer protection frameworks, especially in the areas of retail banking, responsible lending and digital payments. Emerging topics like FinTech, digital banking, Crypto-assets, central bank digital currencies (CBDCs) and the green transition in finance (e.g. ESG risk disclosures and taxonomy regulation) will be explored in both regulatory and policy terms, highlighting the challenges and opportunities of financial innovation. Through a combination of lectures, case studies, regulatory analysis and classroom debates, students will acquire the tools to interpret complex financial regulation, assess institutional reforms and critically engage with ongoing developments in the banking and finance sector. This course is essential for those aiming to pursue careers in financial law, banking supervision, central banking, compliance, ESG finance or policy-making, and for anyone seeking to understand the pivotal role law plays in the design and operation of financial systems in the 21st century.

3. Keywords

Banking regulation, prudential supervision, FinTech, Basel III, Crypto-assets, ESG finance, consumer credit, digital euro, bank resolution, payment services.

4. Learning Outcomes

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

1. Explain the legal and institutional foundations of modern banking systems.
2. Interpret key regulatory requirements under EU and international banking frameworks (e.g., Basel III, BRRD, PSD2).
3. Evaluate the effectiveness of financial supervision, bank governance and crisis management tools.
4. Assess the legal and policy implications of FinTech innovations, Crypto-assets and ESG developments in banking.
5. Understand consumer protection principles and responsible lending in financial services.

6. Apply legal reasoning to case studies involving prudential regulation, bank resolution and regulatory compliance.
7. Analyze the interaction between national, EU and international regulatory authorities in the governance of the banking sector.
8. Identify and explain the legal responses to banking crises, including state aid, resolution tools and depositor protection schemes.
9. Discuss the impact of digital transformation and monetary innovation on the legal framework of modern banking.

5. General Skills to Be Acquired

- Legal reasoning and interpretation of complex financial regulations
- Policy analysis and comparative evaluation of EU and international banking frameworks
- Case study analysis and application of legal norms to financial practice
- Structured legal writing and argumentation
- Familiarity with regulatory institutions and supervisory procedures
- Critical thinking on the role of law in financial innovation and crisis response
- Ability to synthesize legal, economic and institutional perspectives in banking law
- Awareness of compliance strategies and risk-based supervisory approaches
- Capacity to engage with regulatory developments through a multidisciplinary lens

6. Course Content (Topics)

1. Foundations of banking law: nature, purpose and evolution
2. The role of central banks and monetary policy in banking systems
3. Bank licensing and regulatory architecture (national & EU level)
4. Capital adequacy and Basel frameworks
5. Bank governance and risk management
6. Anti-money laundering (AML) and counter-terrorist financing (CFT)
7. Banking supervision: prudential and conduct of business regulation
8. Deposit guarantee schemes and resolution frameworks (BRRD, SRM)
9. Bank insolvency, state aid and bail-in mechanisms
10. Payment services and the FinTech regulatory landscape (PSD2, open banking)
11. Crypto-assets, stablecoins and digital euro: regulatory challenges
12. Sustainable finance, ESG requirements and banking
13. Consumer protection in financial services and responsible lending

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 unauthorized 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

Amttenbrink & Herrmann, EU Law of Economic and Monetary Union, 2020

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

Arnone, AI and Chatbots in Fintech: Revolutionizing Digital Experiences and Predictive Analytics, 2024

Basly (Ed.), Decentralized Finance: The Impact of Blockchain-Based Financial Innovations on Entrepreneurship, 2024

Bodellini, Gimigliano & Singh (Eds.), Commercial Banking in Transition: A Cross-Country Analysis, 2024

Busch & Ferrarini, European Banking Union, 2020

Busch, Danny., Ferrarini, Guido., & Grünewald, S. Neva. (2024). *Sustainable finance in Europe corporate governance, financial stability and financial markets* / (Second edition). Palgrave Macmillan.

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Donnelly, Power Politics, Banking Union and EMU: Adjusting Europe to Germany, 2018

Dombret, A. R., & Kenadjian, P. S. (Eds.). (2022). *Green banking and green central banking* (e-book). Walter de Gruyter .

<https://search.lib.auth.gr/Record/1169458?sid=50104598>

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Ferran, E. (2023). *Principles of corporate finance law (e-book)*. Oxford University Press.
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Ferretti & Martino, *Banking and Financial Markets: New Risks and Challenges from Fintech and Sustainable Finance*, 2023

Goldbarsht & de Koker (Eds.), *Financial Technology and the Law: Combating Financial Crime*, 2022

Gortsos, *European Central Banking Law: The Role of the European Central Bank and National Central Banks under European Law*, 2020

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Gupta, Dwivedi & Shah, *Artificial Intelligence Applications in Banking and Financial Services: Anti Money Laundering and Compliance*, 2023

Haentjens & de Gioia Carabellese, *European Banking and Financial Law*, 2020

Hinarejos, *The Euro Area Crisis in Constitutional Perspective*, 2015

Howarth & Quaglia, *The Political Economy of European Banking Union*, 2016

Lee, *Crypto-Finance, Law and Regulation: Governing an Emerging Ecosystem*, 2022

Lessambo, *Fintech Regulation and Supervision Challenges Within the Banking Industry: A Comparative Study within the G-20*, 2023

Lo Schiavo, *The Role of Financial Stability in EU Law and Policy*, 2017

Lo Schiavo (Ed.), *The European Banking Union and the Role of Law*, 2019

Naifar & Elsayed (Eds.), *Green Finance Instruments, FinTech, and Investment Strategies: Sustainable Portfolio Management in the Post-COVID Era*, 2023

Nicolini & Intini, *The Cryptocurrency Phenomenon: The Origins, Evolution and Economics of Digital Currencies*, 2023

Poulle, J.-Baptiste. (2024). *EU banking and financial regulation (ebook)*. Edward Elgar Publishing,.

Ruof, *Regulating Financial Innovation: Fintech and the Information Deficit*, 2023

Santa Maria, European Economic Law, 2019

Schlosser, Europe's New Fiscal Union, 2018

Stylianou, Lundqvist & Iacovides (Eds.), Fintech Competition: Law, Policy, and Market Organization, 2023

Turi & Lekhi (Eds.), Innovation, Sustainability, and Technological Megatrends in the Face of Uncertainties, 2024

Walker, Kooli, Nikbakht & Turtle (Eds.), Fintech and Sustainability: How Financial Technologies Can Help Address Today's Environmental and Societal Challenges, 2023

Walker, Nikbakht & Kooli (Eds.), The Fintech Disruption: Law, Policy, and Market Organization, 2023

Wandhöfer & Nakib, Redecentralisation: Building the Digital Financial Ecosystem, 2023

Zilioli & Wojcik, Judicial Review in the European Banking Union, 2021

- 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