

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
Faculty of Law
Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.)
Course Syllabus

1. Course Information

- **Title:** Κυπριακό Δίκαιο
- **Code:** LLB42
- **ECTS:** 5
- **Hours per week:** 4
- **Academic Year:** 4th
- **Teaching Period:** Winter/Spring Semester
- **Mode of Delivery:** Face-to-Face
- **Language of Instruction/Assessment:** Greek
- **Course Type:** Elective

2. Course Description

This course offers a comprehensive overview of Cypriot law as a unique mixed legal system shaped by British, Greek, Ottoman, and European influences. Through a historical, structural, and comparative approach, students will explore the evolution of legal institutions, the distinctive features of constitutional and private law in Cyprus, the impact of EU and international human rights law, and key judicial decisions. Emphasis is placed on legal pluralism, judicial reasoning, and the challenges faced by a small post-colonial legal order within the EU.

3. Keywords

Cypriot law, mixed legal system, constitutional law, case law, EU law, doctrine of necessity, judicial review, civil law, criminal law, family law, property, legal institutions, ECHR, legal history

4. Learning Outcomes

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

1. Describe the historical development and structural features of Cypriot law.

2. Analyse the coexistence of common law and civil law elements in Cyprus.
3. Interpret and evaluate landmark judicial decisions in Cypriot constitutional and civil law.
4. Assess the influence of EU law and the European Court of Human Rights on the Cypriot legal system.

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
- Be critical and self-critical
- Advance free, creative, and causative thinking

6. Course Content (Topics)

I. Introduction – Historical and Structural Foundations

1. Cypriot Law: A Mixed Legal System

(Common law & Continental law traditions in coexistence)

2. The Historical Development of Cypriot Law

(From Ottoman and British rule to independence and EU accession)

3. The Role of Common Law in the Cypriot Legal System

(Case law, judicial precedent, and comparative insights)

II. Constitutional Structure and Public Law

4. The Constitution of 1960: Structure, Principles, and Challenges

(Power-sharing, bi-communal elements, and constitutional deadlocks)

5. The Doctrine of Necessity in Cypriot Constitutional Law

(Legal continuity and constitutional crisis management post-1963)

III. Private and Civil Law

6. The Law of Torts in Cyprus

(General principles and key deviations from English tort law)

7. Historical Development and Modernisation of Family Law in Cyprus

(From ecclesiastical control to civil law reforms)

8. The Property Issue in Cyprus from 1974 to the Present Day

(Legal complexities arising from the Turkish invasion and displacement)

IV. Legal Institutions and Professions

9. Legal Professions and Judicial Organisation in Cyprus

(Bench and bar, court structure, legal education)

10. The Criminal Justice System in Cyprus

(Criminal courts, procedures, and prosecutorial authority)

V. European Union Law and International Human Rights

11. The Role of EU Law in the Cypriot Legal Order

- Status of EU law in Cyprus
- Direct effect, supremacy, preliminary rulings
- EU law's impact on national reforms (labour law, anti-discrimination, competition)

12. Cyprus before the European Court of Human Rights

- Landmark cases (e.g. Loizidou)
- Implementation and constitutional interaction

VI. Comparative Perspectives and Legal Culture

13. Cypriot Legal Institutions in Comparative Perspective

- Parallels and contrasts with the Greek legal system
- The legacy of British colonial law
- Challenges of legal identity in a post-colonial EU member state

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 Paper	70%	Essay-type and case-based analysis
Mid-Term Assignment/Presentation	20%	Individual or group-based research or analysis
Participation and Engagement	10%	Constructive attendance and contribution

Note: A minimum final paper 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: digital slides, audiovisual aids, interactive tools

Use in Communication: e-learning platform, Zoom for office hours

Digital Resources: online legal databases (e.g. Cyprus Legal Portal, EUR-Lex, HUDOC)

11. Bibliography

Books/E-books

Αρχοντάκη, Α. (2024). *Επιτομή κυπριακού συνταγματικού δικαίου*.

<https://www.nb.org/ekdoseis/kypriako-dikaio/epitomi-kypriakoy-syntagmatikoy-dikaioy.html>

Παρασκευά, Κ. (2024). *Κυπριακό συνταγματικό δίκαιο*. <https://www.nb.org/ekdoseis/kypriako-dikaio/kypriako-syntagmatiko-dikaio-v2.html>

Πολυβίου, Π. (2024). *Δίκαιο και δικαιοσύνη*. <https://www.nb.org/ekdoseis/kypriako-dikaio/dikaio-kai-diakiaosini.html>

Aimilianides, A. K. . (2024). *Constitutional law in Cyprus* . Wolter Kluwer Law & Business.

Kareklas, I. (2021). *International Law and diplomacy on the Cyprus Question* . Νομική Βιβλιοθήκη. <https://www.nb.org/international-law-and-diplomacy-on-the-cyprus-question.html>

Neocleous, A. (2010). *Neocleous's introduction to Cyprus law*. A. Neocleous & Co. LLC. <https://galaxybookshop.com.cy/en/product/neocleouss-introduction-to-cyprus-law-third-edition/>

Panico, Paolo. (2022). *Trust laws in Cyprus an international perspective*. Globe Law and Business.

Polyvios, P. (2023). *Judicial Review and Constitutional Adjudication in Cyprus and Beyond* | . <https://www.nb.org/judicial-review-and-constitutional-adjudication-in-cyprus-and-beyond.html>

Vasilakakis – S. Papasavvas: *Elements of Cypriot Law*, Sakkoulas Publications, Thessaloniki 2002 / 1st edition (Book Code in Eudoxus: 25085).

<https://www.cityoflaw.com/product-category/cyprus-law/>

Databases

Westlaw UK Academic	https://law.auth.gr/en/subscription-to-electronic-databases-2/
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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

- **Additional Databases and E-resources**

CyLaw – Cypriot Case Law and Legislation

🔗 <https://www.cylaw.org>

An independent legal portal of Cyprus, offering access to national case law, legislative texts, draft bills, and interpretative case law of Cypriot courts.

e-Justice Portal – National Legislation of Cyprus (EU)

🔗 https://e-justice.europa.eu/topics/legislation-and-case-law/national-legislation/cy_en

A section of the European e-Justice Portal providing information on the national legislation of Cyprus within the context of EU law.

HUDOC (European Court of Human Rights)

🔗 <https://hudoc.echr.coe.int>

The official database of the European Court of Human Rights. It provides access to judgments, decisions, advisory opinions, and other materials under the European Convention on Human Rights.

EUR-Lex (EU Law)

🔗 <https://eur-lex.europa.eu>

The European Union's legal database, offering full access to EU legislation, Court of Justice decisions, preparatory acts, and the Official Journal.