

LW4626: COMPARATIVE LAW

Effective Term

Semester A 2025/26

Part I Course Overview

Course Title

Comparative Law

Subject Code

LW - Law

Course Number

4626

Academic Unit

School of Law (FL)

College/School

School of Law (FL)

Course Duration

One Semester

Credit Units

3

Level

B1, B2, B3, B4 - Bachelor's Degree

Medium of Instruction

English

Medium of Assessment

English

Prerequisites

Nil

Precursors

Nil

Equivalent Courses

LW4126 Comparative Law (LLB) (from the old curriculum)

LW4126A Comparative Law (AMLLB) (from the old curriculum)

Exclusive Courses

Nil

Part II Course Details

Abstract

This course introduces students to a scholarly comparison of elements of their own and other jurisdictions. It enables them to compare the operation of law in two or more systems and thereby to increase their overall understanding of those legal systems and how law operates in different cultural, economic, political, social and linguistic backgrounds. On completion of this course, students should be able to discover and select those elements of their own and another jurisdiction (cultural, economic, political, social and linguistic) which govern scholarly comparison of all or part of legal systems; compare the working of law in two or more systems to increase their understanding of at least one of them; demonstrate that increase.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

CILOs		Weighting (if app.)	DEC-A1	DEC-A2	DEC-A3
1	Identify, describe and synthesize the ideas of comparative law	50		x	
2	Apply the ideas of comparative law to complex fact patterns	30		x	
3	Develop the skill to analyse, evaluate and reflect critically on current problems of comparative law	20		x	

A1: Attitude

Develop an attitude of discovery/innovation/creativity, as demonstrated by students possessing a strong sense of curiosity, asking questions actively, challenging assumptions or engaging in inquiry together with teachers.

A2: Ability

Develop the ability/skill needed to discover/innovate/create, as demonstrated by students possessing critical thinking skills to assess ideas, acquiring research skills, synthesizing knowledge across disciplines or applying academic knowledge to real-life problems.

A3: Accomplishments

Demonstrate accomplishment of discovery/innovation/creativity through producing /constructing creative works/new artefacts, effective solutions to real-life problems or new processes.

Learning and Teaching Activities (LTAs)

LTAs	Brief Description	CILO No.	Hours/week (if applicable)	
1	Lectures	The course leader will present the most important topics of comparative law	1	2 hours/week or a total of 26 hours of block teaching
2	Interactive class discussion	Students will learn how to apply comparative law in practice. Students will also be engaged to participate in debates to develop a critical view on the strengths and deficiencies of comparative law	2, 3	1 hour/week or a total of 13 hours of block teaching

Assessment Tasks / Activities (ATs)

	ATs	CILO No.	Weighting (%)	Remarks ("- " for nil entry)	Allow Use of GenAI?
1	Coursework	1, 3	30	-	No
2	Performance and participation	1, 3	20	-	No

Continuous Assessment (%)

50

Examination (%)

50

Minimum Continuous Assessment Passing Requirement (%)

30

Minimum Examination Passing Requirement (%)

30

Assessment Rubrics (AR)**Assessment Task**

Coursework

Criterion

Demonstration of ability to identify issues; Application of knowledge to specific problems and discussion questions.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal (D)

Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

Examination

Criterion

Demonstration of ability to identify issues; Application of knowledge to specific problems and discussion questions.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal (D)

Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Assessment Task

Participation and Performance

Criterion

Demonstration of ability to identify issues; Application of knowledge to specific problems and discussion questions.

Excellent (A+, A, A-)

Strong evidence of original thinking; good organization, capacity to analyse and synthesize; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.

Good (B+, B, B-)

Evidence of grasp of subject, some evidence of critical capacity and analytic ability; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.

Fair (C+, C, C-)

Student who is profiting from the university experience; understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.

Marginal (D)

Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.

Failure (F)

Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited, or irrelevant use of literature.

Part III Other Information

Keyword Syllabus

Nature, purpose and techniques of comparative law; kinds of comparison; legal systems; selected topics.

Reading List

Compulsory Readings

Title	
1	Mathias Siems, Comparative Law, Cambridge University Press 2014
2	Konrad Zweigert and Hein Kötz, Comparative Law, Oxford University Press 1998

Additional Readings

Title	
1	Nil