



Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Law

Syllabus

Jurisprudence II

Course Code:	JPG010
Course Title:	Jurisprudence II <i>Allmän rättslära II</i>
Credits:	10
Degree Level:	Undergraduate level
Progressive Specialisation:	First cycle, has less than 60 credits in first-cycle course/s as entry requirements (G1F)

Major Field of Study:
RVA (Jurisprudence)

Course Approval

The syllabus was approved by the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences 2018-09-13, and is valid from the Spring semester 2019 at Karlstad University.

Prerequisites

Law Programme (JALAW) at Karlstad University: Courses of 30 ECTS credits (earned in semester 1) and 15 ECTS credits (earned in semester 2)

Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and understanding

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- explain and summarise basic theory of law and philosophy of law,
- argue for practical as well as theoretical solutions to legal problems from different perspectives through spoken and written presentation, and
- analyse theories independently and apply explanatory models to a topical area by elaborating on them in a longer coherent text.

Competence and skills

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- compare different theories of law in an independent and competent way,
- problematise the law, the judicial system and legal theories by relating to societal goals and problem areas,
- place the law in a historical, philosophical, social, political and ideological context,
- discuss current social and moral issues in terms of philosophy of law,
- argue orally and in writing for different theoretical approaches to law and the function of the rule of law in society, and
- use and relate legal knowledge and method to a context of judicial theory.

Judgement and approach

Upon completion of the module, students should be able to:

- problematise the law and the role of lawyers from different philosophy of law and jurisprudence perspectives,
- maintain an independent and critical approach to the law,
- critically evaluate different methodological perspectives.

Content

The course deals with the interaction between the judicial system and social development in a wide sense. Considering the relationship of the judicial system to political, moral, economic, social and cultural contexts provides understanding of how legal thinking, legislation and application of law are influenced. The course includes basic history of ideas, classical philosophy of law such as natural law, legal positivism, legal realism and modern legal theory such as gender theory, critical theory and power theories. In addition, current jurisprudence perspectives are treated along with the foundations of sociology of law. The professional ethics of lawyers is treated. Different theories of the characteristic features of law as a norm system are thoroughly analysed through lectures and seminars in which different theories of philosophy of law are related to topical issues. Identifying main themes in different legal philosophies and analysing how these shape thoughts on principal legal issues and concepts enable students to problematise justice, rule of law, power relations, morality, gender and perceptions of current law. The basic assumptions of the legal method and traditional legal sources are problematised in terms of complementary and alternative perspectives.

Reading List

See separate document.

Examination

Assessment is based on individual and mandatory written tests, written PMs presented and discussed in mandatory seminars, and an individual hand-in assignment presented and discussed in a mandatory seminar.

Grades

One of the grades Pass with Distinction (AB), Pass with Some Distinction (BA), Pass (B), or Fail (U) is awarded in the examination of the course.

Quality Assurance

Follow-up relating to learning conditions and goal-fulfilment takes place both during and upon completion of the course in order to ensure continuous improvement. Course evaluation is partly based on student views and experiences obtained in accordance with current regulations and partly on other data and documentation. Students will be informed of the result of the evaluation and of any measures to be taken.

Course Certificate

A course certificate will be provided upon request.

Additional information

The local regulations for studies at the Bachelor and Master levels at Karlstad University stipulate the obligations and rights of students and staff.