

Study program: Law				
Type and level of studies: Master of academic studies				
Course unit: CONTEMPORARY LEGAL THEORIES - SELECTED TOPICS				
Teachers in charge:				
Prof. Dr. Srđan S. Đorđević, full professor,				
Prof. Dr. Dejan S. Matić, associate professor, second examiner				
Asst. Dr. Nikola Ivković, assistant professor				
Language of instruction: English language				
ECTS: 15				
Prerequisites: No				
Semester: summer semester				
Course unit objective				
Contemporary legal theories are studied in order to acquaint students with current trends in world and domestic legal theory. This discipline provides an insight into the most important contemporary considerations of the state and law, paying special attention to the issues of the legal state and the rule of law in modern legal theories.				
Learning outcomes of Course unit				
In-depth knowledge of current trends in legal theories, as well as familiarization with contemporary viewpoints on the rule of law, the rule of law, and human and civil rights and freedoms, as well as their importance in modern society.				
Course unit contents				
Contemporary legal theories: basic issues and development possibilities; Subject and content of Contemporary Legal Theories; Development of legal theories and their conceptual differences; Theories about the nature of law; H. L. A. Hart and legal positivism; Hans Kelsen's Pure Theory of Law; John Finnis and the theory of natural law; Lon Fuller's natural law approach; Conceptions of Ronald Dworkin's Law; Main questions and positions in the modern theory of law; Justice; Legal state; Contemporary approaches to state sovereignty; The rule of law; Democracy; Human and civil rights and freedoms; Law and morality; New perspectives in legal theory; American legal realism; Economic analysis of law; Contemporary critical perspectives; Pragmatism and postmodernism in legal theory.				
Literature				
1. Stephen C. Hicks (ed.), Modern Legal Theory - Problems and Perspectives, F.B. Rothman, Littleton, 1998				
2. All other relevant literature from the theory of law, in Serbian and foreign languages, can be used in teaching activities and in the fulfillment of pre-examination obligations. An approximate list of relevant literature, which exists in the Library and with teachers, will be published on the website of the Faculty.				
Number of active teaching hours				Other classes
Lectures: 30	Practice: 30	Other forms of classes: 15	Independent work: 15-30	
Teaching methods				
Lecture-mentor teaching:				
Discussion group (eventually seminar):				
Case/stages:				
Consultations:				

Defense of written work			
Examination methods (maximum 100 points)			
Exam prerequisites	No. of points:	Final exam	No. of points:
Student's activity during lectures	5	oral examination	to 60
practical classes/tests	20	written examination	
Seminars/homework	20	
Project	5		
Other			
Grading system			
Grade	No. of points	Description	
10	91-100	Excellent	
9	81-90	Exceptionally good	
8	71-80	Very good	
7	61-70	Good	
6	51-60	Passing	
5	less than 51	Failing	

(Table 5.2) Course unit description