

Intercultural Communication

Degree: Bachelor

Year: 2019/2020

Semester: Fall

General workload: 3 ECTS credits, 108 hours

Goals and objectives of the course

The main goal of the course is to develop students' personal qualities and to shape their cultural and professional competencies.

Course objectives

- To define the role and meaning of intercultural communication in a professional legal environment;
- To identify the key cultural values and concepts at cognitive, verbal and non-verbal levels;
- To identify issues and difficulties arising in the course of communication/interaction with different cultures' representatives and ways to resolve them;
- To define ethical standards students should use when conducting a professional activity in a multicultural environment.

Key didactic units

1. Intercultural communication is the key to business success. Work in international law firms. Interaction with the overseas partners.
2. Cooperation with the European partners. Common features and differences in the way businesses representing various European countries communicate.
3. South Asian peoples' mentality. The Chinese mindset.
4. Middle Eastern peoples' mentality.
5. International web-based businesses and their characteristics. International project and program participants.
6. Multinational companies' corporate culture. The 21st century employee's key skills. Corporate social responsibility.

Place of the discipline within the curriculum:

The course is part of the curriculum of program 40.03.01 in Law (concentration: International Economic Law).

Upon completing the course, the students should:

Know:

- The lexical and grammatical rules applied to the use of foreign language legal terminology in a professional environment;
- The basic social behavior standards and speech etiquette rules adopted in the country where the language is spoken.

Be able to:

- Use the foreign language in interpersonal communication in a professional environment;
- Use the foreign language terms, expressions and grammatical constructions that are relevant to the context when examining international laws and interpreting their provisions.

Have:

- Speaking and writing skills in a foreign language that need to be used in cross-cultural communication;
- Knowledge of speech etiquette rules and basic social behavior norms adopted in the country where the language is spoken;
- Lexical and grammatical skills to be used when reading legal texts in a foreign language and translating international economic law texts from a foreign language.

Course structure: practicals and a seminar

Summative assessment: pass/fail examination