

Logic and Argumentation Theory

Degree: Bachelor

Year: 2019

Semester: Spring

General workload: 3 ECTS credits, 144 hours

Goals and objectives of the course

- To acquire logical, reasoned and evidence-based thinking, ability to examine the logical consistency of own judgments and partners and opponents' judgments;
- To acquire the ability to apply knowledge of the logical thinking rules to practice in a professional environment;
- To acquire practical experience of verbal interaction that provides an opportunity to professionally use logic as a tool when thinking and using persuasion, improve the culture of verbal communication, develop the ability to competently and convincingly defend own point of view.

Key didactic units

1. The subject of logic. The laws of logic. The value of logical thinking for professional operations.
2. Forms of logical thinking. Concept and judgment, their logical characteristics.
3. Inference. Rules, types and characteristics of inference. Syllogisms, modi and dilemmas.
4. The logical basis of argumentation and criticism.
5. Tactics of argumentation and criticism. The practice of conducting disputes.

Place of the discipline within the curriculum

The discipline plays an important role in the training of a future expert. Its goal is to provide in-depth knowledge of logic, to improve theoretical thinking skills, develop a culture of logical thinking and to develop the ability to apply the knowledge of the theory and logical thinking rules to practice.

Upon completing the course, the students should:

Know:

- Typical legal situations where deduction, induction, analogy is used that are connected with other fields (economics, sociology, political science, politics) and about the necessity to clarify cause and effect relationships;

Be able to:

- Detect errors and use of incorrect methods in court speech authors' argumentation and law enforcement agencies' work; take into account the relevant experience and use it for performing search and research and finding argumentation in any field.

Have:

- Logical analysis skills needed to examine investigators' work and court speeches; knowledge of the fact that the skills can be applied to other fields.

- The ability to set research goals and objectives, to choose optimal ways and methods to achieve them.

Course structure: lectures and seminars.

Summative assessment: pass/fail examination.