



## COURSE DATA

### DATA SUBJECT

**Code:** 35201  
**Name:** History of Law  
**Cycle:** Undergraduate Studies  
**ECTS Credits:** 9  
**Academic year:** 2025-26

### STUDY (S)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1303 - Degree in Law	Facultat de Dret	1	Annual
1921 - Double Degree Program BMA and Law	Facultat d'Economia	1	Annual, First quarter
1923 - Double Degree Programme Law-Criminology	Facultat de Dret	1	Annual, First quarter
1930 - Double Degree Programme in Law and Political and Public Admin. Sciences	Facultat de Dret	1	Annual, First quarter

### SUBJECT-MATTER

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1303 - Degree in Law	History of law	BASIC
1921 - Double Degree Program BMA and Law	Year 1 optional subjects	ELECTIVES
1923 - Double Degree Programme Law-Criminology	Core subjects	ELECTIVES
1930 - Double Degree Programme in Law and Political and Public Admin. Sciences	Asignaturas de formación básica	ELECTIVES

### COORDINATION

TORMO CAMALLONGA CARLOS

## SUMMARY

The subject "History of Law" constitutes a first-year compulsory course of the law degree. It is a year-long course with 9 credits. It aims for the student to acquire a general understanding of the current law by analyzing its historical development in the Hispanic territories. It is particularly focused on the principal aspects of the elaboration of the juridical science, the knowledge of the different legal sources of each period, and an approach to some legal institutions regulated by the aforementioned sources.

First part. Understanding of the basic concepts of the course. What is history, law, history of law, and what scope does Spanish terminology have. Secondly, it is a question of knowing the principal historiography directions both of the general history and of the legal historiography, in particular the Spanish one. The indispensable questions that have to do with the production of works or historical-judicial texts, as well as



its presentation (bibliography and sources...), are also approached.

Middle Ages. Analysis of the law from the Early and Late Middle Ages. The relations between nobility (fief-vassals) and between the lord and the peasant. A generic knowledge will have to be acquired on the expansion of the Christian kingdoms and the different juridical realities that originates; this supposes a minimum approach to the Muslim law. Special attention is given to the teaching of the common law. The Justinian roman law, the canon law and the common feudal law supposed the typical juridical substratum in the West for centuries, with slight differences depending on the territories and the periods of time. Organization and functioning of the universities and the creation of the legal science in the law faculties, exclusive centres of formation of the jurists from the 12th century. Study of some examples of local and territorial legislation. Finally, general features of commercial law in the Mediterranean area and in the Atlantic are also explored.

Early Modern Age. The introduction of the absolute monarchy, the increase of the real legislation and the elaboration of the compilations in the Hispanic monarchy. Scheme of the law in the ultramarine territories up to its independence in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Brief approximation to the weak Spanish Enlightenment and to some attempts of elaborating enlightened codes. The abolition of the public foral law of the territories of the crown of Aragon and especially the abolition of the Valencian public and private law. Finally, it ensures the understanding of the changes that in the juridical science suppose the emergence of the juridical humanism, rationalism and the juridical doctrines of the "*usus modernus pandectarum*".

Late Modern Age. This is the period which better explains the foundations of the current law. The purpose is then to understand the general principles of law since the Liberal revolution, as well as the principal legal sources (constitutions, codes, special laws and non-codified law).

## PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

## RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER SUBJECTS OF THE SAME DEGREE

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

## COMPETENCES / LEARNING OUTCOMES

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Capacidad para analizar, comprender y exponer las cuestiones jurídicas de una fuente histórica

Capacidad para comprender las realidades jurídicas a lo largo de la historia.

Capacidad para razonar jurídicamente desde los distintos sistemas de los derechos históricos

Capacidad para utilizar las herramientas informáticas para la localización de información, realización de ensayos y exposición pública de resultados o conocimientos.



## DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

### 1. INTRODUCTION

LESSON 1. CONCEPT AND LEGAL HISTORIOGRAPHY. Concept of History of Law. An idea of the law. Legal historiography. The three stages of history. Concept and classification of sources of knowledge.

### 2. MIDDLE AGE

LESSON 2. FEUDALISM. Introduction.- The origins of feudalism.- The estamental society. Social estates and its juridical status.- The relations fief-vassal.- The peasants and the seigniorial relationships.- Spanish case: Reconquest and repopulation.- Catalonian feudalism and Castilian-leonese feudalism.

LESSON 3. LAW IN THE EARLY MIDDLE AGES. Chronology and the shape of the sources.- General aspects of law in the Early Middle Ages.- Spain as a Christian territory: Catalonia, Leon and Castilian.- Municipal jurisdictions.- The jurisdiction of Cuenca and its extension process. Social classes.- The process towards the Late Middle Ages.

LESSON 4. LAW IN THE LATE MIDDLE AGES. General features of law in the Late Middle Ages.- Origins of the royal absolutism.- Organization of the Crown.

LESSON 5. RECEPTION OF THE IUS COMMUNE. Introduction.- Texts.- Feudal law and canon law.- Dualism of common law.- jurist's method: treatment of issues. Authors and literary-scientific genres.- Medieval universities.- Organizational models.- Extension of the ius commune throughout the Iberian Peninsula.

LESSON 6. ALFONSO 10th THE WISE AND THE CASTILIAN LAW. The legislation of Fernando III.- Draft and concessions of royal jurisdiction.- The upraisings of 1272.- The royal court and its lawsuits.- Codes.- The integration of the Castilian legal system.

LESSON 7. ORIGINS OF VALENCIAN LAW. Conquest and repopulation.- The costum de Valencia.- Furs of Valencia : text and content ; process of expansion.- Validity and priority order of legal sources.- The commercial law of the Mediterranean area: the consulates and the "Llibre del Consolat

### 3. MODERN AGE

LESSON 8. ABSOLUTE MONARCHY. Chronological limits.- Absolute monarchy: bureaucracy, army and state.- Unification of Hispania's monarchy. Territorial structure and political conflicts.- Seigniorial regime: A) monarch intervention; B) the overlord territories ('señoríos') in the Iberian Peninsula



LESSON 9. THE LEGISLATION OF THE EARLY MODERN AGE. General features.- Types of dispositions: forms of procedure and hierarchy.- Mechanisms of legal control.- Compilations of laws: concept, types and reasons of the compilations.- Castilian compilations.- The compilations in the crown of Aragon: the crown and the compilations.

LESSON 10. INDIAN LAW. The conquest's titles. Institutions and organization.- Indian compilations

LESSON 11. DECREES OF NUEVA PLANTA AND THE BORBON INSTITUTIONS. The war and the abolition of the Furs of Valencia.- The church and the nobility.- institutional changes.- Attempts to return the fueros.- Decrees of Nueva Planta of Aragon and Catalonia.

LESSON 12. JURIDICAL DOCTRINES AND UNIVERSITY. Legal humanism.- The usus modernus pandectarum.- The natural law theory and its jurists.- Enlightened European codes and the attempts of codification in Spain.- Universities: University models and number of students.- Decline and Faculties of law.

## **4. CONTEMPORARY AGE**

LESSON 13. THE LIBERAL REVOLUTION AND THE LAW. Chronology. The revolution and its causes. Social change and law property. Causes of the Spanish revolution. The law in the Late Modern Age: norms and principles.

LESSON 14. SPANISH CONSTITUTIONS Stability or constitutional change. Periods of the constitutional history: Absolutists and liberals (1808-1833). Revolutionary six-year term, and Restoration (1868- 1931). System's crisis: II Republic and the period of Franco (1931-1975). Constitutional ideas from the bourgeois parties. The structure of the power in the liberal Spain.

LESSON 15. THE LIBERAL CODIFICATION. The meaning of the liberal codes.- French and German codification. Spanish codification: revolution and codification- The first liberal codification. Commercial codification. The penal code. The failure of the project of the civil code. The civil code of 1888-1889

LESSON 16. NON-CODIFIED LAWS. Administrative law origins: public administration, its origins and organizational principles. Administrative organization. The administrative action in the different sectors. Origin of the labour law. The work during the ancient regime and the end of the guilds. The labour movement. The first labour legislation. Second period of labour law.

LESSON 17. UNIVERSITY AND LEGAL SCIENCE. Society and jurists. Universities and Faculties. The ongoing reform of the 'moderados'. Revolution and 'restauración'. A note on legal science.

## **WORKLOAD**

## **PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES**



Activity	Hours
Theoretical and practical classes	90,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>90,00</b>

### NON PRESENCIAL ACTIVITIES

Activity	Hours
Attendance at other activities	0,00
Individual or group project	25,00
Independent study and work	60,00
Preparation of lessons	20,00
Preparation for assessment activities	30,00
Resolution of case studies	0,00
<b>Total hours</b>	<b>135,00</b>

### TEACHING METHODOLOGY

#### Classes to attend

They refer to the activities in the classroom used normally by the group or subject. These hours will be distributed in the following way:

**Theoretical lessons:** The lecturer will expose and explain fundamental aspects that should guide students in their studies and understanding of the lessons. The student must actively engage in the learning process by reading, before the teacher's explanation, or in class, depending of the organization of teaching time, of those materials, manuals, monographs or texts provided or indicated previously.

**Applied activities:** They will deepen, through various materials (historic or historiographical, juridical, films or documentaries, debates, etc), on those aspects considered of most importance of the chapters. These classes will be participatory. The preparation and participation in applied activities are mandatory and evaluated. Sessions will be used to gradually introduce and get the student used to the handling of those materials and techniques of the discipline, historical and historical-juridical.

#### Complementary activities

It will be scheduled, into the teaching, specific activities of the subject, or of interdisciplinary character, in coordination with the groups of the same subject or other subjects that help to deepen in some issues or problems that may be of interest. For these activities we will have the appropriate teaching and administrative organization, and will be timely assessed in the context of the learning process. This will take place outside the set hours, within the times especially dedicated to them.

It offers guided tours to the historic building, of the University of Valencia, in *La Nau* street, a visit to the



royal seminary college of *Corpus Christi* Valencia, as well as a guided tour to the "*Archivo del Reino de Valencia*". It may be possible to organize attendance to a conference or seminar if there is an event or historical congress which may be held at the University of Valencia.

#### Directed activities

As a way to reinforce the activity in class the teacher will schedule a series of activities which may consist of pre-reading or complementary lectures, research essays, etc.

#### Attendance to unscheduled tutorials

Students in a group may attend the office hours for students scheduled by each lecturer to solve any doubts on any topic or aspect related to the course or related, in any case, to the work being performed at that specific moment.

## EVALUATION

The final evaluation of the course will be made according to the following percentages:

- Midterm exam , if any, and final examination in the second term (oral/s or written): up to 70%.
- Active learning dynamics in class and directed activities; objective tests and previous study work; and complementary activities a minimum of 30%.

To pass the course the student must obtain 50% of the percentage allocated to the final exam (oral or written).

**21/22 First Term**



It is allowed that students with special situations (Covid vulnerable people) realize the EC without inconveniences. Therefore, those who value class attendance will be flexible with these situations.

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## REFERENCES

- PESET, M. y otros, Lecciones de historia del derecho, Valencia, 2023.
- TOMÁS Y VALIENTE, F., Manual de Historia del Derecho Español, Madrid, 2001, última reedición.
- CLAVERO, B., Manual de historia constitucional de España, 3ª ed., Madrid, 1992, última reedición.
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- CORONAS GONZÁLEZ, S., Manual de Historia del Derecho Español, Valencia, 1996.
- ESCUDERO, J. A., Curso de historia del derecho. Fuentes e instituciones político-administrativas, Madrid, 2012, última reedición.
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- MONTAGUT I ESTRAGUES, T. y MALUQUER DE MOTES I BERNET, C.J., Història del Dret Espanyol, Barcelona, 2012, última reedición.
- PÉREZ PRENDES, J. M. Y AZCÁRRAGA, J. DE, Lecciones de Historia del Derecho Español, 3ª ed., Madrid, 1997.
- LORENTE, M. Y VALLEJO, J., Manual de Historia del Derecho, Valencia, 2012, última reedición.
- SERRANO DAURA, J., Història del Dret Hispànic i de les seves Institucions, Barcelona, 2015, última reedición.
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- MASFERRER, A., OBARRIO, J.A., Textos de Historia del Derecho. Con cuestiones para su análisis y comentario. Dykinson, 2009.
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