UNIVERSITY *of* NICOSIA

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
LAW-100	Legal Skills	6
Department	**Semester**	**Prerequisites**
Law	Fall / Spring	None
Type of Course	**Field**	**Language of Instruction**
Major Requirement	Law	English/Greek
Level of Course	**Year of Study**	**Lecturer(s)**
1st Cycle	1st	Dr. Marinos Kleanthous/Dr. Costas Paraskeva
Mode of Delivery	**Work Placement**	**Co-requisites**
Face-to-face	N/A	None

Objectives of the Course:

The course is designed to enable the student to learn effectively; to develop skills of written and oral communication, and argument; to support substantive law courses by developing the ability to discover, interpret and apply legal rules; to engender a critical approach to the study of law; and to introduce the student to both computers in general and legal databases in particular.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:
1. Analyze the sources of 'law'
2. Evaluate the essentials for undertaking legal research.
3. Explain how to use the library effectively.
4. Illustrate the way one has to read a case/court decision.
5. Demonstrate the way one has to read a statute.
6. Determine the main divisions of law.
7. State how to write a case-report.
8. Demonstrate knowledge of principle features of the legal system including general familiarity with its institutions and procedures.

Course Content:

1. What is 'Law'?
2. Sources of the Law
3. Study skills and the learning process: lectures, seminars and group learning; methods of study
4. Reading skills: cases (court structure, legal reasoning, doctrine of judicial precedent); legislation (decision-making process, statutory interpretation); the European context (the courts, the decision-making process)

5. Writing skills: English legal writing (process, strategies, material, structure, writing-up, writing good English, finishing your work and utilizing feedback); writing style and references (citations, footnotes/endnotes, bibliography)
6. Legal resources: law library (law reports, journals and books), computerized information retrieval systems (digital library, online databases, CD ROMs)
7. Legal research: working with precedents, working with statutory provisions, the EU dimension; note taking
8. Examination skills: solving problems, essay questions, examination room
9. Oral presentations: presentation, moots and mock trials
10. The legal profession and legal services

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, tutorials, written examinations and assignments

Assessment Methods:

exercises/case studies, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Bradney, Cownie et al	How to study law – Legal skills series (6th ed)	Sweet & Maxwell	2010
Higgins & Tatham	Successful legal writing (2nd ed)	Sweet & Maxwell	2010

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Knowles	Effective legal research (2nd ed0	Sweet & Maxwell	2009
Glanvill Williams	Learning the law (14th ed)	Sweet & Maxwell	2010