



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
BLOC-525	Emerging Topics in Law and Regulation	10
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
N/A	Digital Innovation	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Elective		English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
2 nd Cycle	Dr. Charis Savvides Industry Fellows: Mr. Mark Toohey, Mr. Athanasios Leontaris	2 nd
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Face to face	N/A	N/A

Course Objectives:

This course will give students a clear understanding of the fast-changing digital assets and contracts world, focusing on NFTs and cryptocurrencies. We'll explore how contracts work, learn about making deals, negotiating, and get familiar with important terms. We'll also dive into details like boilerplates and shareholder agreements, touching on topics like ICOs and how boards are structured. Students will also learn how to turn new ideas into businesses, looking at real-world business concerns, how to protect ideas, and stay within the rules.

As we move forward, the course will focus on understanding business rules (governance), how to raise money, and dispelling common misunderstandings. We'll look into how online asset services, like crypto exchanges, work and stay updated on new rules, like the 5th EU AML Directive. Towards the end, we'll explore how crypto funds operate and study how financial investigations happen in the digital money world, including working together on a global scale and learning from real cases.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

- Gain a foundational knowledge of the ever-changing world of digital assets and contracts, particularly NFTs and cryptocurrencies.

- Understand the core components of contracts, including deal-making, negotiation techniques, and essential terms.
- Familiarize oneself with key regulations and guidelines within the digital assets space.
- Gain insights into the operations of online asset services, including crypto exchanges and new regulatory frameworks like the 5th EU AML Directive.
- Understand the workings and regulations governing crypto funds.
- Dive deep into the realm of financial investigations in digital currencies, emphasizing international collaborations and drawing lessons from real-world case studies.
- Understand the practice areas of the Securities Law, the regulated entities and activities, identify the supervisory authorities and through their publications and regulations outline the common market abuses and understand the need of a global regulatory approach.
- Identify the difference between those crypto-assets that do classify as financial instruments under the MiFID II and those which do not, their regulatory treatment, outline the rating agencies that proceed with the legal assessment of white papers and exchangers and analyze the different crowdfunding methods and how SMEs can benefit from token offerings.

Course Content:

1. NFTs and the Anatomy of a Contract

1. How to Make Deals
2. Negotiations
3. Mastering Terminology
4. Importance of Boilerplate
5. Force Majeure
6. Terms and Conditions

2. Shareholder Agreements (Revisited)

1. ICOs
2. NFTs
3. Shareholder Rights
4. Shareholder Issues
5. Board Structure
6. Exit Provisions

3. Turning Ideas into a Business

1. Commercial Realities
2. Dealmaker's Toolbox
3. Protecting IP
4. Regulatory Compliance

5. Discount Dangers

- 4. Governance and Raising Capital**

1. Myth Busting
2. Governance
3. Corporate Structures
4. Building Momentum
5. Disclosure
6. Funding Rounds
7. U.S. Regulations
8. Building a Team

- 5. Virtual Asset Service Providers**

1. 5th EU AML Directive
2. Crypto Exchanges & Digital Wallet Custodians
3. MiCA (the new EU Regulation about Markets in Crypto Assets)
4. Developments in other Jurisdictions

- 6. Crypto Funds**

1. How investment funds are regulated and operate.
2. The main types of investment in the crypto space for investment funds.
3. The key regulatory issues in relation with institutional investments in the crypto sphere.

- 7. Financial Investigations and Digital Currencies**

1. "Know Your Crypto Suspect"
2. Analyzing the Current Landscape
3. Identifying Key Challenges
4. International Collaboration
5. Case Studies

- 8. Financial Investigations and Digital Currencies (Cont.)**

1. Identifying Key Challenges
2. International Collaboration
3. Case Studies

- 9. Evidentiary Issues**

1. Digital evidence collection and preservation
2. Chain of custody and Blockchain forensics
3. Legal and technical challenges

- 10. Crime and Cryptocurrencies**

1. Types of crimes involving cryptocurrencies
2. Regulatory and enforcement responses
3. Technological tools for crime prevention

11. ESG Blockchain and Environmental Regulations (1)

1. Environmental impact of Blockchain technologies
2. Regulatory frameworks for sustainable Blockchain
3. Sustainable Blockchain initiatives

12. ESG Blockchain and Environmental Regulations (2)

1. Governance and ethical considerations
2. Social impact of Blockchain technologies
3. Integrating ESG into Blockchain investment and development

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Live Discussions, Course Forum discussions, Case-study analyses

Assessment Methods:

Quizzes, final exam

Required Textbooks / Readings:

The required and, if applicable, optional readings for each session will be included in the lecturer's notes provided at the conclusion of the preceding session.