

**Syllabus (2019-2020)**  
**INTRODUCTION TO LAW**

Lecturer: Eva van der Zee

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This course aims at providing a global knowledge of the basic legal concepts, elementary philosophy of law, and main fields of law. It seeks to (1) harmonize levels of understanding of law among lawyers and economists, (2) facilitate an understanding of basic legal concepts and doctrines among lawyers coming from various countries, and (3) introduce both lawyers & economists to underlying assumptions, legal concepts and methods that are instrumental in the field of law and economics.

The course is organized in five blocks of four hours. During the first two hours of each block a lecture will be given setting the scene and introduce students to relevant legal notions and methodologies. The last two hours of each block will take the form of tutorials, offering hands-on learning through group discussions, case studies, and student presentations. Further information on the tutorials will follow.

Literature

Jaap Hage et al, *Introduction to Law*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. (2017)

- Optional: Raymond Wacks, *Understanding Jurisprudence: An Introduction to Legal Theory* (2017)
  - Optional: Robert C. Ellickson, *Orders without Law: How Neighbours Settle Disputes* (1994)
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Topics

**Block 1: 7 October 2019, 9AM-1PM**

**1. Sources of law**

- Common/civil law
- Hierarchy of norms
- Case law
- Legal interpretation

Literature: Hage Chapter 1-2

**2. Basic concepts of law**

- Public/private law
- Function of law

Literature: Hage Chapter 3

**Block 2: 15 October 2019, 1-5PM**

**3. Legal philosophy**

- Natural v positive law
- Formalism v realism
- Assumptions underlying legal theory

Literature: Hage Chapter 15

Optional : Wacks

**Block 3: 18 October 2019, 9AM-1PM**

**4. EU law**

- Brief history
- Institutions of the EU

- Sources of EU law

- EU law/national law

Literature: Hage Chapter 10

**5. International law**

- Basic architecture of international law
- Sources of international law
- Institutions of international law

Literature: Hage Chapter 12.

**Block 4: 21 October 2019, 9AM-1PM**

**6. Public law**

- Criminal law
- Constitutional law
- Administrative law
- Fundamental rights law

Literature: Hage Chapter 7, 8, 9, and 13

**Block 5: 29 October 2019, 1-5PM**

**7. Private law**

- Contract law
- Tort law
- Property law

Literature: Hage Chapter 4, 5 and 6

Optional: Ellickson