Course description (Syllabus) for EU Competition Law (15 hp/ECTS) AUTUMN 25

General information about the course

In this Syllabus you'll find information about the structure of the course, learning activities, and assessment and grading. Please check the schedule and further information at the course website, which will be updated during the course. If there are any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Course Administrator:
Pernilla Nordlund Tenggren
+46 (0)8 16 32 83
compl@juridicum.su.se

Course Director:
Niousha Nademi
niousha.nademi@juridicum.su.se

Content and objectives

The overall objective of the course is

- The aim of this course is to examine the legal rules of EU Competition Law taking into account the underlying economic principles and wider policy issues. The course concentrates on the foundations for the system of rules, consisting of Articles 101 and 102 of the TFEU and the Merger Regulation, which together are enforced in order to ensure that effective competition prevails on the markets in EU.

The course includes the following course elements:

- With the use of both lectures and seminars, the course offers, to some extent, both an interdisciplinary (legal and economic) and comparative perspective with the aim of understanding the function and use of competition law in society. It examines the application of the competition rules in certain sectors, such as in media and telecommunications, and in this context, the interplay between competition law and intellectual property law is studied. However, the emphasis is on the basic rules of competition. The course touches the legal development in related areas, such as in EU state aid law and in reference to the EU rules on public procurement. In addition to substantive rules and principles, EU civil procedural rules and principles that ensure the effective impact of EU competition law, are studied. The implications of the EU's Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights are covered

Upon completion of the course, students are expected to be able to:

- independently understand and apply EU competition law in a broad sense and be able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, and demonstrate an understanding of economic and other social effects of different EU competition law regulations and control mechanisms;

- demonstrate a deeper methodological knowledge of EU competition law, including insights on the importance of economic theory.

- write and present a short essay, where relevant jurisprudential issues relating to EU competition law are identified and analysed critically by using an appropriate method and taking into account academic requirements regarding the use of sources, etc.

- demonstrate in-depth ability to critically evaluate the impact of competition law on social development in the EU.

The core pedagogical activity is the seminars where the students actively participate and thus both learn and teach their fellow students under the supervision of seminar teachers.

More about the course structure

The course consists of two basic learning activities: (1) lectures, where the lecturer provides the tools for studying an area of law and (2) seminars, where you are expected to take active part in the discussions.

Lectures
Preferably, you will have read the text and material indicated in the reading instructions prior to the lectures so that you may take part in the discussions. You are welcome to ask for clarifications and to raise additional questions at the lectures. Some lecturers are held outside the university and are provided by practitioners.

Seminars
Seminar questions and other material will be issued at the course web before the seminar. You are expected to prepare the questions together with the peers in your seminar group.

Assignment/Opposition seminars
In the end of the course the students are obliged to present and provide comments on a fellow students assignment.

The EU Competition Law course forms part of the LLM programme, is a special course for the programme students and popular among Erasmus students. It fits well with other business law related courses as well as EU law courses.

Requirements regarding participation in the course

Registration

A **Swedish student** who intends to participate in the course must be registered by the second day of the course at the latest.

International master students must have successfully completed the mandatory elements of the first course of their master programme (“European Economic Law”) in order to be registered on this course.

Exchange students register on the course through their university account in Ladok at the beginning of their exchange, the week before the semester starts.

Re-registration

Re-registration on the course is done by the course administrator.

De-registration

If for some reason, a student does not intend to take the course, they must de-register within three weeks after the start of the course (known as "early withdrawal period"). This is done through the student's university account in Ladok. This is of great importance to guarantee a place in a group the next time the student applies for the course. The early withdrawal period is calculated from the Monday of the week the course starts and three weeks ahead. The last day is always a Sunday.

Please note that de-registrations may have consequences for the right to receive student grants, including Erasmus grants. Please, contact CSN for more information if you are a Swedish student, or the Office of International Affairs if you are an international master student or an exchange student.

Groups

In order to enroll in a group, students must be registered on the course. Students who have never taken the course previously are given priority when choosing a group, if group selection is granted. The day/time of registration is indicated on the course website. The possibility for re-registered students to participate in a group is subject to availability and done on a "first come, first served" basis.

Study instructions

Book:
The main book at the course is B. Sufrin, N. Duhne and A. Jones *EU Competition Law*, 8th edn. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2023) (hereinafter "J&S")

Miscellaneous:
More articles, texts, cases and materials are distributed as seminar or lecture material during the Course.

Other recommended literature:
- R. Whish and D. Bailey, Competition Law, 10th edn. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2021)
- G. Monti, *EC Competition Law* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2007)
- S. Bishop and M. Walker, The Economics of EC Competition Law, 3rd edn. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2010)
- S. Anderman (ed.), *The Interface Between Intellectual Property Rights and Competition Policy* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2009)
- S. Anderman and H. Schmidt (eds.), *EU Competition Law and Intellectual Property Rights – The Regulation of Innovation* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011), Chapters 1-3.
- S. Anderman and A. Ezrachi, *Intellectual Property and Competition Law: New Frontiers* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011).

Reading instructions

As always when studying law, reading is essential and the written word a main source of information. Finding the appropriate reading material is part of your studying and it is your responsibility. The following instructions are only recommendations for how to structure your self-studies. The exam may very well include questions for which answers are not found on the pages indicated below. The weekly indications are meant to illustrate where the bulk of the week's discussions will revolve. Prioritizing your time

Please note that the seminars are essential in order to reach the learning goals of this course, and that you need to prepare for the seminars by reading the material found online. The seminar material will be published on the course website in advance of each seminar.

Week 1: Introduction, and Article 102 TFEU:
- J&S chapters 1.1-1.4.
- J&S chapters 3; 6; 7.
- J&S chapter 2 (if you do not feel very comfortable with EU law)
- Seminar materials.

Week 2: Aims of EU competition law, and Article 101 TFEU:

- J&S chapters 1.5-1.7
- J&S chapters 4; 5; 11.
- Seminar materials.

Week 3: Digital markets and Merger Control

- J&S chapters 1.12.
- J&S chapters 16, 15.
- Seminar materials.

Week 4:

- Catch up on remainder of week 1-3.
- Seminar materials.

Week 5: Enforcement, and procedure

- J&S chapter 13, and 12 (relevant parts).

Week 6:

- J&S chapter 12 (relevant parts).
- Catch up on remainder of reading.

Week 7: Exam week

- Repetition

Examination

All intended learning outcomes are assessed and measured on the basis of two forms of examination: (1) An open book exam covering some central aspects of the course and (2) an individual essay (including the opposition, i.e. review of an essay written by a peer). The essay is a formative form of examination as it also constitutes a learning outcome.

Assessment and grading

There are two bases for assessment and grading of knowledge and skills at the Course; (i) The written examination and (ii) the essay. The bases for assessment and grading are attributed different weights in the final grade at the Course:

The written examination: 75%
The essay: 25%

You can obtain 0-30 points at the written examination and 0-10 points for the written essay. See appendices 1-3 for an overview of how the learning outcomes translate into scores.

The score obtained for each assessment ground translates into a grade (A, B, C, D, E, Fx, or F or the Swedish system of AB, Ba, B, or U. Normally A and B correspond to AB, C and D to Ba, and E corresponds to B, while Fx and F is U.). The final grade is based on the sum of all learning outcomes quantified in the overall score. However, the grade levels may be slightly adjusted depending on the level of complexity of the written exam.

In case a student obtain Fx on the regular exam, that implies that the student failed the regular exam and they should take the re-exam. In case a student obtains Fx on the re-exam, the Course director may require the student to write a final essay of approx. 20 pages to obtain a passing grade, i.e. highest a C or a B in the Swedish system.

An attendance requirement must be met in order to obtain a final grade. The lectures are voluntary, but highly encouraged (see further under "The written examination"). You need to attend **80% of the seminars** in order to pass the course. Exemptions can be made only in exceptional cases e.g. when a medical certificate can justify a special treatment.

The written examination

The written exam lasts for **four hours** and you are required to answer three questions, which might be divided into sub-questions. The questions may consist of a given problem or invite you to write a shorter essay.

Each question may give 0-10 points (maximum score is 30 points).

The written examination is based on all the texts and materials indicated in the reading instructions and on the information provided at the lectures and seminars throughout the Course.

Hence, the answers can be found in the course literature indicated in the literature list in this Syllabus and in the seminar materials, but also in your own notes from the learning activities, including all lectures, and study visits.

Since the exam is an open book exam, you may bring all the materials you want as well as your own written or printed notes. No old exams questions or answers are allowed. No electronic devices are allowed at the examination, except a simple (non-programmable) calculator.

Assignments

Each student will be given an assignment based on one of the areas covered during the course. The assignment is to be written and handed in individually. The purpose of the assignment is to develop the experience of actively researching a subject in some depth.

Following the submission of the essay, each student will give a 5 minutes (approx.) oral presentation of the assignment, during a seminar. This is to develop the skill of summarizing and presenting the essence of a complex body of information, which is essential in professional life after university.

The student will also orally "oppose" or discuss another student's assignment, by raising questions about the material presented or adding relevant information. The process is called the "opposition" process in Swedish legal education but it corresponds to the role of discussant in professional legal education and professional life throughout Europe. This "opposition" is to take approx. 10 minutes. The assignment discussed will cover a different topic than the one that has been written by the discussant.

You will receive a grade (and a relative value in points up to 10, including the oral presentation/opposition) for the assignment.

The oral presentation and opposition, if satisfactory in terms of preparation, structure, analysis and clarity, can each result in 1 extra point respectively, adding to your result on the written assignment. These points can either strengthen your existing grade or at the margins lift you a grade. This indicates that the oral presentation and opposition process are serious components of the overall assignment exercise. You can get a maximum of 10 points, 8 points for the essay and 2 points for the presentation/opposition.

Deadline for handing in assignments is **Monday 12th of January 2026**, at 13:00. Please submit it on Athena. Send a copy to your opponent. If you do not have the e-mail address to your opponent, please ask Pernilla a few days before the deadline.

You are welcome to correspond with your respective teachers during the assignments for short clarifications.

Footnotes and separate bibliography are expected.

The essay should be written in 1½ spaced, Times New Roman, size 12; and 2,5 cm margins.

The page number limits are 4-8 pages + separate cover sheet, table of contents and bibliography.

Exam registration

Students must register for the exam no later than 10 calendar days before the date of the exam. Registration for the exam requires registration on the course. **Students who have not registered for the exam are not allowed to write the exam.**

Swedish students receive a grade on the learning-outcome based four-grade grading scale AB-U. International master students and exchange students receive a grade on the learning outcome-based seven-grade grading scale A-F(x).

All students have the right to receive grades according to the grading scale A-F(x). Swedish students who wish to do so must report this to the course coordinator/teaching assistant at least five working days before the written exam.

Students with a documented disability who have been issued a certificate of extra pedagogical support from Stockholm University must report this to the course administrator/teaching assistant as soon as possible (see below, "studying with a disability").

Documents allowed at the exam

All students are required to show a valid ID on the day of exam. Driving licenses, passports and ID cards that are still in date are approved as identification. In case of stolen or lost ID, students may also prove their identity by providing a police report of no more than three months. Foreign ID documents are also accepted, preferably passports and ID cards.

Permitted aids and other exam regulations

Students must be in the examination room at least 15 minutes before the exam is set to start.

At the exam, different examination options can be applied. Information about the different examination options and the rules that apply can be found on the Department of Law's website. The presence of unauthorized exam aids, notes and the like, as well as violations of exam regulations may lead to a notification to the university Disciplinary Committee. The Disciplinary Committee, led by the university president, can decide on a warning or a suspension.

In the course The EU Competition Law, the examination option 3 is applied.

Grading criteria on the AB-U scale

Grading criteria on the A-F(x) grading scale

Request for grade review:

Requests for grade reviews are submitted on a special form to the course administrator/teaching assistant. The request must be carefully supported and a copy of the exam must be attached.

Studying with a disability

General

Stockholm University offers various forms of extra pedagogical support for people with permanent disabilities. The support offered depends on the individual's situation and is intended to facilitate studies. The goal is for all students to have an opportunity to study on equal terms.

To take advantage of the support offered, students must submit an application to the university's Disability Services (part of the Student Services). To do this, they must log into the system NAIS via a link found on Student Services's web page (Stockholm University > Education > Studying with a disability > how to apply for support) and fill in the online form. To complete the application, a certificate confirming the disability must be attached.

When the application is received, the student will be contacted by the Student Services to book a personal meeting.

Once the student is granted support, they will need to contact their department's contact person and submit the certificate issued by the Student Services. The contact person at the Department of law for Swedish students is Viktoria Pettersson, director of studies, Tel.: 08-16 13 04 or e-mail: viktoria.pettersson@juridicum.su.se. International master students must contact the Office of International Affairs at master@juridicum.su.se. Exchange students must also contact the OIA using the email exchange@juridicum.su.se.

Examination

Note that the course administrator/teaching assistant must be informed of a student's documented disability **no later than 3 weeks** before each examination in order for the extra pedagogical support to be in place in time. If the information is received later, the department cannot guarantee that the examination can be carried out as desired**. Please also note that registration for the exam must be done in the usual manner no later than 10 calendar days before the exam**. Also note that in order to receive extra pedagogical support during the entire course (e.g. note-taking assistance) or special extra measures (e.g. dividing up the exam), the course administrator/teaching assistant must be contacted at the latest **by at the start of the course**.

Student influence and course development

All students are asked to complete an anonymous electronic course evaluation at the end of the course. The course evaluation is of great importance for the quality assurance of the course content and its pedagogical structure. The course is constantly changing and evolving, and the views and ideas expressed in the course evaluation are always carefully considered.

Appendix 1: The written Exam

Grade	Criteria
A 27-30	In all, a set of very well structured and exclusively relevant answers with a clear focus on the central aspects of the questions. Extensive references to legal sources and correct use of all relevant facts. Revealing great ability to independently understand and apply EU competition law in a broad sense and being able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, while demonstrating an insights on the importance of economic theory.
B 24-26,5	In all, a set of well-structured and highly relevant answers with a clear focus on central aspects of the questions. Convincing references to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts. Revealing a high ability to independently understand and apply EU competition law in a broad sense and being able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, while demonstrating an insight on the importance of economic theory.
C 21-23,5	In all, a set of well-structured and mainly relevant answers addressing most central aspects of the questions. Convincing references to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts. Revealing an ability to independently understand and apply EU competition law in a broad sense and being able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, while demonstrating insight on the importance of economic theory.
D 19-20,5	In all, a set of structured and relevant answers addressing several central aspects of the questions. Adequate reference to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts. Revealing signs of ability to independently understand and apply the EU competition law in a broad sense and being able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, while demonstrating insight on the importance of economic theory.
E 17-18,5	In all, a set of transparent answers addressing some central aspects of the questions. Some reference to legal sources and use of some relevant facts. Revealing signs of ability to independently understand and apply the EU competition law in a broad sense and being able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, while demonstrating insight on the importance of economic theory.
Fx 8-16,5	In all, a set of answers which observe some aspects of the questions. Insufficient use of legal sources and relevant facts and/or revealing no signs of ability to independently understand and apply the EU competition law in a broad sense and being able to use the principles and tests that can be inferred from the case law of CJEU, while demonstrating an insights on the importance of economic theory.
F 0-7,5	Blank, to a reproduction of disjointed facts with insufficient reasoning

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Appendix 2: The Assignment

The criteria are weighted but not absolute. Even if it is e.g. more important to show knowledge than to master the language, the text must be comprehensible for an initiated reader.

Point	Criteria
A 9-10	Great knowledge in the field of writing and clear focus on central aspects demonstrating a deeper methodological knowledge of EU competition law and an understanding of economic and other social effects of the relevant EU competition law regulation or control mechanism. Complete understanding of the applied method. Great ability to engage in abstract reasoning and to make an independent assessment of problems. Excellent presentation (both written and orally) and opposition in terms of structure, stringency, systematics, and language. Extensive references to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts. Keeps deadlines and uses all relevant feedback from supervisor.
B 7-8,5	Much knowledge in the field of writing and clear focus on central aspects demonstrating a deeper methodological knowledge of EU competition law and an understanding of economic and other social effects of the relevant EU competition law regulation or control mechanism. Comprehensive understanding of the applied method. Good ability to engage in abstract reasoning and to make an independent assessment of problems. Good presentation (both written and orally) and opposition in terms of structure, stringency, systematics, and language. Much reference to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts; Keeps deadlines and uses most of the relevant feedback from supervisor.
C 5-6,5	Convincing knowledge in the field of writing and focus on central aspects demonstrating a deeper methodological knowledge of EU competition law and an understanding of economic and other social effects of the relevant EU competition law regulation or control mechanism. Convincing understanding of the applied method. Adequate ability to engage in abstract reasoning and to make an independent assessment of problems. Good presentation (both written and orally) and opposition in terms of structure, stringency, systematics, and language. Convincing references to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts. Keeps deadlines and uses most of the relevant feedback from supervisor.
D 3-4,5	Adequate knowledge in the field of writing and focus on some central aspects demonstrating a deeper methodological knowledge of EU competition law and an understanding of economic and other social effects of the relevant EU competition law regulation or control mechanism. Signs of understanding of the applied method; Signs of ability to engage in abstract reasoning and to make an independent assessment of problems. Adequate presentation (both written and orally) and opposition in terms of structure, stringency, systematics, and language. Adequate reference to legal sources and correct use of relevant facts. Keeps deadlines and uses some relevant feedback from supervisor.

E 1-2,5	A transparent reasoning that observes some aspects that are relevant demonstrating a deeper methodological knowledge of EU competition law and an understanding of economic and other social effects of the relevant EU competition law regulation or control mechanism. Signs of understanding of the applied method. Some reference to legal sources and relevant facts. Signs of ability to make an independent assessment of problems.
F 0	A reasoning that observes aspects that are relevant to the questions posed but insufficient reference to legal sources and relevant facts and/or no signs of ability to make an independent assessment of problems.

Appendix 3: Final grade

The criteria are weighted but not absolute.

Grade	Criteria
A	Passes all grounds for assessment and grading with excellent praise.
B	Passes all grounds for assessment and grading with praise, or passes some grounds for assessment and grading with excellent praise.
C	Highly acceptable results not without praise at all examinations, or passes some grounds for assessment and grading with praise.
D	Highly acceptable results at all examinations, or willingly accepted results not without praise at some of the examinations.
E	Acceptable results at all examinations, or willingly accepted results at some of the examinations.
Fx	Unacceptable results at any or some of the examinations but meets the requirements for Fx indicated in appendix 1- 2 with respect to the relevant ground(s) for assessment and grading.
F	Unacceptable results at any or some of the examinations and does not meet the requirements for Fx indicated in appendix 1- 2 with respect to the relevant ground(s) for assessment and grading.