

Course instructor: **Vladislav V. Starzhenetskiy**, Ph.D.,
Associate Professor, Department of General and
Interbranch Legal Disciplines, Faculty of Law, National
Research University Higher School of Economics,
Moscow, Russia

Syllabus

1. Course Description

- a. Title of a Course: **European Business Law: Understanding the Fundamentals**
- b. Pre-requisites: English (Upper Intermediate)
- c. Abstract:

The course will give you a thorough understanding of the basics of the European Union, its institutions and its legal framework. It will cover a wide array of topics, ranging from the history of the EU to the constitutional dynamics that govern the relationships between the Union and the Member States. Of course, principal subjects relevant for doing business in Europe, such as the economic freedoms will be dealt with in some detail. The course is divided into five modules, each module representing about one week. Lectures and in-video quizzes are the main method of teaching. In order to give you an overview and ease your learning, we have included a reading for each lecture. In these you will find more in-depth information about the legislation mentioned in the lecture, case law, recommended readings, online sources and more. Each module finishes with a graded quiz. Please note that Module 4 also contains a peer graded assignment in addition to the quiz.

2. Online platform: Coursera

3. Course link: <https://www.coursera.org/learn/european-law-fundamentals?>

4. Language of instruction: English

5. Course Plan:

Module 1. Introduction to EU law

This first module will help the learner to build a solid foundation for the coming lectures on EU law. The module provides a brief introduction to the history and the institutions of the EU, as well as the judicial branch, i.e. the Court of Justice of the EU. The module will also go into some detail about the most fundamental EU treaties, namely the Treaty on the European Union (TEU) and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU).

Module 2. Legal Resources

The second module is slightly different from the rest of the course as it focuses on practical skills on how to deal with the legal sources and method of EU law. It will provide you with some skills that are crucial when dealing with EU law, such as navigating the vast databases of official publications, legislation and case law. Keep in mind that the module can be used as reference if you continue your studies of European Business Law.

Module 3. Fundamental Principles and Constitutional Foundations

In the third module you will learn about the fundamental principles and constitutional foundations of EU law. The dynamic and interaction of the national law of the Member States and the EU will be covered in some detail.

Module 4. The Economic Freedoms

The fourth Module will deal with the economic freedoms. The freedom of movement of capital, services, people and goods is at the very heart of EU law and crucial to understanding the law from a business perspective. While the lectures focus on the free movement of capital, services and goods, the readings will include additional material on the free movement of persons and establishment. This module contains a peer graded assignment in addition to the quiz.

Module 5. The External Dimension

The fifth and last module will deal with the legal framework of the common European foreign policy. This is a complex field where the policies of the individual Member States and the EU overlap and interact. The external dimension is important to understand for anyone considering international trade or relations with the EU.

6. Reading List

- a. Required: <https://www.coursera.org/learn/european-law-fundamentals?>

7. Forms of Control:

- a. Current control: 5 graded multiple answer quizzes and a peer graded assignment (80% Final grade)
- b. Intermediate control: interview with the instructor (20% Final Grade)

Students are also expected in an oral examination to deliver answers in which the following qualities will be assessed:

- audibility and clarity, pitch, proper articulation;

- fluency, appropriate forms of language including addressing the examiner, clarity of expression;
- appropriate content (proper coverage of legal issues, relevance of law in their responses, emphasis, anticipating or responding to other side; at least certain justification of the argument which has been supported).

8. Grading System: $\text{Fin.} = \text{Curr.} * 0,8 + \text{Accum.} * 0,2$

9. Methods of Instruction:

- use of online educational technologies
- use of accumulative system of control.

10. Special Equipment and Software Support (if required):

- a. Microsoft Windows 7 Professional RUS
- b. Microsoft Windows 10