



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

The History of Legislation: A Comparative Perspective - 62731

Last update 28-12-2023

HU Credits: 4

Degree/Cycle: 1st degree (Bachelor)

Responsible Department: Law

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Dr. Levi Cooper

Coordinator Email: levi.cooper@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: by appointment

Teaching Staff:

Dr. Levi Cooper

Course/Module description:

Great codifications are the foundation of many legal systems, including the Jewish legal system. Legal codes from ancient times – such as the Code of Ur-Nammu, the Code of Hammurabi and the Torah – have survived. This course examines the history of legal codification from the dawn of civilization, through the period of enlightenment, up to the present day.

Course/Module aims:

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

Describe the primary codifications from ancient times through to present day.

Understand the different types of codification.

Distinguish, compare, and appraise various codificatory efforts.

Analyse the benefits and drawbacks of different codifications.

Assess the short-term success of a particular codification and its long-term impact.

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction:

Course/Module Content:

Introduction

1. The aesthetics of codification

The ancient world

2. Hammurabi and the Torah

3. Rules and Reasons in Codes

From Greece to Rome

4. Interpretation of ancient texts

5. Roman codification

6. Disputes and minority reports

The Middle Ages

7. Maimonides and the accessibility of Jewish Law

-
8. *Sages of Provence: Simplify or disconnect*
The Printing Revolution
 9. *Codification in the Printing Age*
 10. *Dismantling a code*
 11. *Opposition to codification*
The Modern Period
 12. *Bentham and the winds of codification*
 13. *Napoleon*
 14. *Who writes a code?*
 15. *Transmission of codification ideas*
The Twentieth Century
 16. *Preserving custom*
 17. *Codification and the technological revolution*

Required Reading:
to be publicised

Additional Reading Material:

Grading Scheme:

Essay / Project / Final Assignment / Home Exam / Referat 70 %
Presentation / Poster Presentation / Lecture/ Seminar / Pro-seminar / Research proposal 10 %
Submission assignments during the semester: Exercises / Essays / Audits / Reports / Forum / Simulation / others 10 %
Attendance / Participation in Field Excursion 10 %

Additional information: