UCLouvain

Idroi1511

2019

Introduction to Islamic Law

In view of the health context linked to the spread of the coronavirus, the methods of organisation and evaluation of the learning units could be adapted in different situations; these possible new methods have been - or will be - communicated by the teachers to the students.

5 credits	30.0 h	Q2

Teacher(s)	Christians Louis-Léon ;Dupret Baudouin ;				
Language :	French				
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve				
Main themes	The first part of the course is aimed at a brief reflection on the history, nature, methods and main categories of Islamic law, including some notions on the history of its sources. The second part introduces the students to the adaptation procedures of Moslem law to the modern world and to the question of the adaptation of Moslem law within Europe, with its special developments in family law and economic law and their organisational rules within the communities. The third part introduces the juridical systems chosen by contemporary Moslem countries, as well as their recent evolution.				
Aims	*To understand the place and role of Islamic law in the life and practice of the various Moslem communities and schools. * To help the student acquire a special method in such a way that, when confronted by a question with an Islamic dimension, he has the means to orientate himself and work out the possible solutions to be envisaged within the various different contexts, especially in Europe. The contribution of this Teaching Unit to the development and command of the skills and learning outcomes of the programme(s)				
	can be accessed at the end of this sheet, in the section entitled "Programmes/courses offering this Teaching Unit".				
Evaluation methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Student assignement: Some short papers will be required on specific focuses along the semester. They will be included in the final evaluation. Examination: An oral examination of reflection, prepared by a list of questions communicated before the session. The final note takes into account the participation of the student during the course, and the note obtained for the				
	short papers. The evaluation takes into account the discipline of origin of the student.				
Teaching methods	Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the information in this section is particularly likely to change. Classical oral presentation by two teachers, with the intervention of external guests.				
Content	The LDROI1511 Introductory Course on Islamic Law intends to remove the ambiguity of the concept of "Islamic law" along three lines :				
	A first approach is about a summary reflection on the history, nature, methods and major categories of the traditional legal schools of Islam, including some notions of history of the sources.				
	A second approach shows how this history of a scholarly law has been inscribed since decolonization in positive state law systems, through the analysis of a selection of contemporary Muslim countries, as well as their recent evolutions.				
	A third approach presents the modes of adaptation and the conditions of relevance of "islamic law" in Europe, with more specific developments on five reception mechanisms: the Islamic norm through freedom of religion, through Islam as a recognized religion in public law, through the 'personal status' in private international law of the family, through the common law of contracts (including arbitration and Islamic finance) and finally through political Islam as understood before the European Court human rights.				
	At the end of this course, students will be able to discuss the role of Islamic law in legal systems of countries with a Muslim population and within the legal systems of European states, and Belgium in particular. They will have acquired a method to orient themselves and to detect the possible solutions in various contexts, in particular European, vis-a-vis a legal question which has an Islamic dimension.				
	See the moodle website of the course.				

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Bibliography	 B. Dupret (dir.), La Charia aujourd'hui. Usage de la référence au droit islamique, Paris, La Découverte - Recherches, 2012, 301 pp. (avec un chapitre de L.L. Christians) B. Dupret, La Charia, Des sources à la pratique. Un concept pluriel, Paris, La Découverte, 2014. L Panafit, Quand le droit écrit l'Islam, Bruylant, 1999.
Faculty or entity in charge	BUDR

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Aims		
Bachelor in Ancient Languages and Literatures: Oriental Studies	HORI1BA	5		٩		
Master [120] in Sciences of Religions	SREL2M	3		٩		
Additionnal module in law	LDRT100P	5		٩		
Minor in Arabic language and Islamic civilization	LISLA100I	5		•		
Minor in Law (openness)	LODRT100I	5		٩		