

Name of university, Name of faculty: Trnava University
Faculty of Law

INFORMATION SHEET OF THE SUBJECT

Code: XNOPb210

Name: Legal Writing

Cover: Institute of Clinical Legal Education

Type of educational activity: Lecture, Practise

Scope of educational activity (in hours):

Weekly: 0/2

For term of study: ZS 46/,24

Number of credits: 3

Recommended semester: WT

Study grade:
Bachelor

Method of educational activity: Combined

Underlie subjects:

Conditions for passing the course:

Method of evaluation: Completion by a continuing assessment

Continuous evaluation: The condition for passing the course is to pass the continuous assessment, which consists of sufficiently writing a short written essay on a given topic. In the essay, the student must demonstrate that he/she can logically structure the text, master grammar and style, can write simply, factually and without unnecessary and complicated constructions, and that he/she also masters the formal arrangement and grammatical aspects of writing.

Continuous assessment:

The maximum number of points for an essay is 20.

Grading: A: 20 – 19 points, B: 18 – 17 points, C: 16 – 15 points, D: 14 – 13 points, E: 12 – 11 points, FX: 10 points and less.

Final evaluation: Completion by a continuing assessment

Finished: By ongoing evaluation.

Learning outcomes:

By completing the course, the student will:

- gain basic knowledge of the requirements for writing various types of legal texts (legal opinion, lawsuit and replies, court decision, professional article),
- acquire the skills necessary for independent writing of high-quality legal texts, in particular, they will know how to conceive a text from the addressee's perspective, how to prepare for writing, how to write in a way that the addressee understands the text and convinces the addressee, and how to avoid common shortcomings of legal texts,
- acquire the ability to assess what shortcomings a specific legal text has, the ability to articulate these shortcomings, as well as the ability to eliminate these shortcomings.

Schedule of subject:

1. Preparation for writing a legal text (familiarization with the facts, identification of legal issues, their continuity and conditionality, awareness of who is the addressee of the text).
2. Text structure (structuring the text so that its individual parts are logically, chronologically and meaningfully connected).
3. Text clarity (simplicity and objectivity of expression, length of text, paragraphs and sentences, simple sentence structures, avoidance of ballast, non-repetition, writing in syllogisms, use of Latin and other foreign words).
4. Style (text stylistics, use of emphasis).
5. Convincingness (tools to increase the persuasiveness of the text, method of argumentation).
6. Citations and references (citation standards and dealing with other people's ideas, referring to legal regulations, case law).
7. Formal appearance of the text (font selection, text appearance).

Recommended reading:

Basic recommended literature:

GARNER, B. A. Právní psaní srozumitelným jazykem. Praha : Nugis Finem Publishing, 2021.

VUČKA, J. Právní psaní. Praha : C.H. Beck, 2019.

Language requirements: Slovak

Notes:

Student's work load: 75 hours

Combined study (C, K): 24 hours

Preparation for exercises and study of materials in Moodle: 36 hours

Essay writing: 15 hours

Course evaluation:

Assessed students in total: 152

A	B	C	D	E	FX
64%	28%	0%	0%	0%	9%

Lecturers:

JUDr. František Sedláčko, examiner, instructor

Date of last change: 01.09.2026

Approved by: prof. PhDr. JUDr. Tomáš Gábriš, PhD., LL.M., MA