

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

INFORMATION SHEET OF THE SUBJECT

Code: YNNSm401

Name: Legal Aspects of Religious Freedom

Cover: Institute for Legal Aspects of Religious Freedom

Type of educational activity: Lecture, Practise

Scope of educational activity (in hours):

Weekly: 1/1

For term of study: ZS 23,23/24

Number of credits: 3

Recommended semester: WT

Study grade:
Master

Method of educational activity: Combined

Recommended semester

Study programme

1.year WT

Law (YDŠMgr-PR)
Law (YEŠMgr-PR-23)

Underlie subjects:

Conditions for passing the course:

Method of evaluation: Completion by taking an examination

Continuous evaluation:

Final evaluation: Oral exam, or alternatively, a written final exam.

Final evaluation:

The student has the opportunity to prepare a seminar paper in the form of a scientific article in the range of about 10 standard pages on a pre-agreed topic with the teacher or pass an oral exam consisting of answers to two questions drawn by the student among the questions published on the website of the Institute for Legal Issues of Religious Freedom of the FL TU.

Evaluation: A: 100%-91%, B: 90%-81%, C: 80%-71%, D: 70%-66%, E: 65%-61%, FX: 60%-0.

Finished: By exam.

Learning outcomes:

After completing the course, the student can name the sources of the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion, can analyze and interpret them, as well as apply their provisions in specific situations.

The student will gain sensitivity to the need to ensure human rights - freedom of conscience and religion in connection with the need to perceive religious and cultural differences and differences in life practices in connection with the non-religious worldview systems.

The student knows and can explain the historical context, causes and consequences of the principle of state neutrality towards religion, s/he can analyze and apply the principles of secularism and autonomy of churches.

The student is able to apply the acquired knowledge of current legislation and solve model cases of applications of the preparatory committee of a religious society for registration by the state, can calculate the state contribution from the state budget based on the formula under the Act on Support for Churches and Religious Societies and to solve model cases of delimitation of external expressions of freedom of thought, conscience and religion by natural persons as well as churches and religious societies, including entities with derived subjectivity from registered churches and religious societies.

The student is also well aware of interdisciplinary issues and can use the knowledge of other sciences in creative solutions to problems related to the abuse of weaker party in the religious environment, name prophylactic means and remedies and methods of their application.

They can creatively and critically argue in solving model problems. The student, under the direct guidance of a teacher, is able to formulate de lege ferenda proposals as well as the correct conclusions of simulated cases. S/he is able to clearly identify illegal activities in the field of protection of the right to freedom of conscience and religion. S/he knows and can apply the principle of justice and proportionality in the researched area, solves ethical dilemmas in the field of freedom of conscience and religion and can justify their value judgments and interpret them to the professional public in writing and orally.

Schedule of subject:

1. Law, religion and society, overlapping aspects of religious and secular laws.
2. Freedom of thought, conscience and religion. From etymological to essential approach to the issue.
3. Freedom of conscience and religious thought and its protection in the international and European environment.
4. Freedom of conscience and religion in the Slovak Republic.
5. Contractual and non-contractual relations between states and churches and religious societies.
6. Mental reservation and possibilities of its application.
7. Economic aspects of external manifestations of freedom of religion, interactions of states and religious entities and their models.
8. Overview of the non-Euro-Atlantic systems of relations between the state and religion (re-sacralization and secularization of traditional societies, Islamization, Hinduization, etc.) and systems of protection of human rights (law and religion in the region - joint lecture with a foreign expert).
9. Overview of the system of relations between the state and religion (law and religion in a selected European state - joint lecture with a foreign expert).
10. Secular principles, laïcité, laiklik and religion in public space.
11. The issue of abuse of weaker party in the religious environment and its prophylaxis.
12. Ethical dilemmas in the area of freedom of conscience and religion and the possibilities of their solution.

Recommended reading:

Basic recommended literature:

MORAVČIKOVÁ, M. Ľudské práva, kultúra a náboženstvo. Praha, 2014. 248 p. Available online: <http://publikacie.iuridica.truni.sk/ucebnice/>.

ČEPLÍKOVÁ, M. Konfesné právo v Slovenskej republike. Bratislava, 2011. 279 p.

Available online: <http://publikacie.iuridica.truni.sk/ucebnice/>.

Other recommended literature:

KROŠLÁK, D., MORAVČÍKOVÁ, M. (eds.) Hodnotový systém práva a náboženství v medzikultúrnej perspektíve. Praha, 2013. 334 p.

KROŠLÁK, D., MORAVČÍKOVÁ, M. (eds.) Rozhodovacia činnosť súdov a náboženstvo. Bratislava, 2015. 189 p.

MORAVČÍKOVÁ, M., KRIŽAN, V. (eds.) Právna ochrana slobody svedomia. Trnava, 2013. 174 p.

NĚMEC, D. Konkordátní smlouvy Svatého stolce s postkomunistickými zeměmi (1990 – 2008). Bratislava, 2010. 542 p.

ŠMID, M., MORAVČÍKOVÁ, M. (eds.) Clara pacta – boni amici. Zmluvné vzťahy medzi štátom a cirkvami. Bratislava, 2009. 607 p.

ŠMID, M. Základná zmluva medzi Svätou stolicou a Slovenskou republikou s komentárom. Bratislava: Lúč, 2001. 135 p.

ŠMID, M., MORAVČÍKOVÁ, M. (eds.) Medzinárodné a vnútroštátne právne aspekty subjektivity osobitných subjektov medzinárodného práva a cirkví a náboženských spoločností. Trnava, 2013. 270 p.

Language requirements: Slovak

Notes:

Student's workload: 75 hours

Combined study (Lectures, seminars, consultations): 24 hours

Study for seminars, final evaluation and study of submitted materials and documents in Moodle (individual study): 51 hours

Course evaluation:

Assessed students in total: 18

A	B	C	D	E	FX
33%	44%	11%	11%	0%	0%

Lecturers:

ThLic. Mgr. Michaela Moravčíková, Th. D., lecturer, examiner, instructor

Date of last change: 01.09.2026

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