UNIVERSIDADE LUSÍADA
LISBOA

Course Unit Program
Introduction to Law Studies

Academic Year 2025/2026

1. Organic Unit

Faculty of Law

2. Course

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

3. Cycle

1st

4. Course Unit

Introduction to Law Studies (07403)

5. Scientific Area

6. Curricular Year

1st

7. Type of Curricular Unit / Semester

1st Semester

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8. Class type and workload (work time)

Theoretical classes:	
Practical classes:	
Theoretical-Practical Classes	30,00
Tutorial Guidance:	20,00

9. ECTS Credits

6,00

10. Scientific Area Coordinator

11. Regent

Prof. Doutora ANA SOFIA DA SILVA GOMES

12. Assistants

13. Teaching Language

Portuguese

14. General Objectives

Start the legal training of students, with fundamental notions that allow them to understand the legal subjects covered in the curricular units of the different years of the degree. Teach to think straight. Provide knowledge on specific topics of this curricular unit, such as the social order, the legal order, the justice-security relationship, the foundation of law, legal normativity and public and private protection, the sources of law, the interpretation and application of law.

15. Specific Objectives

To prepare students for the study of the various legal disciplines, introducing them to the world of Law, to scientific and technical concepts, and introducing them to the logical rigor of legal reasoning, in terms of allowing them to understand what the legal phenomenon is, the Law in its realization, how it appears, what it consists of and how it is lived in moments of evolution and disturbance.

16. Skills to be acquired

Domain of the fundamental notions of Law; Articulation of concepts;
Rigorous knowledge of the legislative process and the hierarchy of laws;
Understand the legal phenomenon; Interpret and apply the law; Understand and resolve controversial cases on the interpretation and application of the law; Understand and solve cases about the application of the means of protection of the Law; sources of law, interpretation and application of law.

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17. Teaching Methodology

Theoretical development of subjects in plenary theoretical-practical classes;
.Practical application of concepts in practical classes, through the study and analysis of cases, with systematic interventions by students;
. Development of works on themes related to the syllabus;
.Participation in conferences;

18. Course Unit Program

The various social orders. Elements of the legal order. The purposes of law. Nation, State and Law. Positivism and jusnaturalism. A
legal norm (structure, characteristics, classification, sanctions), the courts. The public administration, the Public Ministry. Voluntary sources of law (Law, Jurisprudence and Doctrine) and non-voluntary sources (custom and fundamental principles of law). Interpretation (methodological guidelines, species, hermeneutic factors, results). Integration (gaps, intra-systematic and extra-systematic processes, new methodological perspective).

19. Assessment Methods

Continuous assessment consists of oral interventions, presentation and discussion of work and two written tests. A final frequency is added, in accordance with the Faculty's General Evaluation Regulation.

20. Didactic Resources

Indicated bibliography;
Developed summaries of lectures;
Presentations in PP used in classes.

21. Sustainability Objectives

The Curricular Unit of Introduction to the law aims to contribute to sustainability in the following areas:

general

1 - Ensure equal access to quality technical, professional and cultural education.

2 - Substantially increase the number of young people and adults with relevant qualifications, including technical and professional skills, for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship.

3 - Guarantee equal opportunities in university education, including for people in vulnerable situa

22. Keywords

Legal order
subjective rights
Nation, State and Law
Legal Standard
Public and Private Guardiansh

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23. Main Bibliography

Author(s):	Justo, António dos Santos		
Title:	Introdução ao Estudo do Direito		
Edition:	11ª ed	Year:	2020
Local:	Coimbra		
Publisher:	Petrony		

Author(s):	Telles, Inocêncio Galvão		
Title:	Introdução ao Estudo do Direito - vol I e II		
Edition:	11.ª	Year:	2010
Local:	Coimbra		
Publisher:	Wolters Kluwer-Coimbra Editora		

Author(s):	Mendes, João Castro		
Title:	Introdução ao Estudo do Direito		
Edition:	3ª ed.	Year:	2011
Local:	Lisboa		
Publisher:	Rei dos Livros		

24. Complementary Bibliography

Author(s):	Machado, J. Baptista		
Title:	Introduçao ao Direito e Discurso Legitimador		
Edition:	19ª ed.	Year:	2011
Local:	Coimbra		
Publisher:	Almedina		

Author(s):	Diogo Freitas do Amaral		
Title:	Manual de Introdução ao Estudo do Direito,		
Edition:	I	Year:	2015
Local:	Coimbra		
Publisher:	Almedina		

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Autor / Author	Prof. Doutora ANA SOFIA DA SILVA GOMES
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Descritores / Descriptors	-
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