

LAW FACULTY

SUBJECT DETAILS

Data on the subject		
Name	Advanced Legal Writing: Drafting Business Transactions	
Degree	Postgraduate in Master in International and European Business Law	
Year	2018-2019	
Nature	Spring	
ECTS Credits	2	

Data on the teaching staff		
Teaching staff	CRISTINA CALVO ORTEGA	
Group		
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Office	Ashurst LLP. Calle Alcalá 44, 28014 Madrid	
Tutoring Schedule	Upon request	

SPECIFIC DATA ON THE SUBJECT

Pre-requisites

None

Contribution of the degree to the professional profile

The class is a lesson on legal writing, but within a very specific business context: the real estate market. Students will learn not just how important it is to structure contracts properly and use the right legal terms, but will do so from a business perspective, focusing on how to protect their client's interest better depending on the market situation they are in and how much leverage they have as a result. The class also includes practising negotiation skills and how to reach a satisfactory deal for all parties involved

COMPETENCES TO BE IMPROVED

Generic Competences

GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing

GC 4: Problem solving skills

GC 5: Decision making skills

GC 7: Ability to work in an international context

Specific competences of the subject

SC 12: Mastering advanced techniques of drafting legal documents in English, especially in the contract and corporate field.

THEMATIC AREA AND CONTENT

AREA 1:ADVANCED LEGAL WRITING:DRAFTING BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

Theme 1: INTRODUCTION TO CONTRACT DRAFTING

- 1.1 Preamble
- 1.2 Recitals
- 1.3 Words of Agreement
- 1.4 Definitions
- 1.5 Actions sections
- 1.6 Other substantive provisions (representations, warranties, covenants, rights, conditions, etc.)
- 1.7 Endgame provisions
- 1.8 General provisions
- 1.9 Signature lines

Theme 2: INTERNATIONAL RE INVESTMENTS

- 2.1 What are the international RE investments taking place at the moment: market evolution as a driver for transactions and the effects of the RE crisis on investors' appetite.
- 2.2 Assessing a RE investment: recurring income and appreciation of the asset over time.
- 2.3 Preparing for an asset purchase: NDA, Exclusivity, Due diligence.
- 2.4 The Purchase Agreement: key provisions.

Theme 3: DRAFTING AN ASSET PURCHASE AGREEMENT - WORKSHOP

- 3.1 Parties and Recitals
- 3.2 Object and price.
- 3.3 Conditions precedent, conditions subsequent (third party consents, authorisations)
- 3.4 Representations and Warranties.
- 3.5 Debate

Theme 4: REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

- 4.1 International Real Estate Transactions: real estate as an asset class
- 4.2 International Real Estate Investment Funds: who they are and what they do
- 4.3 A bit of background: what has RE meant for the Spanish economy and where we are now.
- 4.4 RE Investment Funds targeting Spain: what they are looking for and why

AREA 2: TEST

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Basic Bibliography

Text books

Derecho Mercantil Inmobiliario – Editorial Bosch

Chapters of books

Articles

Spain re-enters the game - Property EU

Bargain Hunters turn to Spain - Property EU

Retail investors head south - Property EU

Europe's distress is a US game - Property EU

Joint ventures entre promotores españoles y fondos de inversión extranjeros – Irea inmobiliario

Websites

Urbanland.ULI.org

Notes

Teacher's internal materials on legal writing

Teacher's own practice precedents regarding asset acquisitions and disposals.

Other material

Revista Funds People España

Other material

Subprime mortgage crisis documentary

(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2uCjJRGEU2o_Part 1;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WP89zHmNArU&t=17s_Part 2;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5rU2AB1gB0 Part 3;

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-Ubk5K6ltE&t=11s Part 4)

Inside Job (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0zPAsilKij0)

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

General methodological aspects of the subject

Contact hours methodology: Activities

Class will be highly practical. Students are expected to actively participate and be proactive in the different activities and discussions we undertake in class.

Independent study methodology: Activities

Students are expected to complete all out of class activities and come to class prepared to participate.

SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK HOURS			
Activity	Number of contact hours	Number of independent study hours	Total number of hours
Lecture	8	10	18

Practical class	5	20	25
Debate	3		3
In class presentation	1		1
Individual work	1	5	6
Work in collaboration	1		1
Evaluation: one minute paper			
Evaluation: class test			
Evaluation: exam	1,0		1,0
Evaluation: exam review			
Others			
ECTS Credits:	20	30	50

GRADE EVALUATION AND CRITERIA

Evaluation Activities	Generic Competences	Indicators	Evaluation Weighting
Individual work	GC 4: Problem solving skills GC 5: Decision making skills	Reading materials in advance	5%
	SC 12: Mastering advanced techniques of drafting legal documents in English, especially in the contract and corporate field.		
Debate	GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing	Participation in class debates	5%
	GC 4: Problem solving skills		
	GC 5: Decision making skills		
Class presentation	GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing	Presentation of designated negotiating position	10%
	GC 4: Problem solving skills		
	GC 5: Decision making skills		
	GC 7: Ability to work in an international context		

Evaluation: class test	GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing GC 4: Problem solving skills GC 5: Decision making skills GC 7: Ability to work in an international context SC 12: Mastering advanced techniques of drafting legal documents in English, especially in the contract and corporate field.		20%
Evaluation: final exam		There are three questions related to the same case study, each question is worth 33.3%.	50%
Attendance			10