



Bachelor's courses Faculty of Law

VU University Amsterdam - Student- & Onderwijszaken - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2019-2020

EU Anti-Discrimination Law

Course code	R_EUADL ()
Period	Period 5
Credits	6.0
Language of tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Law
Coordinator	prof. dr. G.T. Davies
Examinator	prof. dr. G.T. Davies
Teaching staff	prof. dr. G.T. Davies
Teaching method(s)	Lecture, Study Group
Level	400

Course objective

At the end of this course students understand the potential and actual impact of discrimination law on groups and individuals in society, and its strengths and weaknesses in contributing to equality, as well as the different visions of equality that may be pursued. They are able to think in a critical and informed way about the existing law, identifying its contradictions and the normative stances that it embodies.

This course contributes particularly to the goals numbered 1,3,4,15 and 16 of the LLM in Law. It also helps students achieve goals 5,6,7,12 and 13.

Course content

This course covers the EU law prohibitions on discrimination on grounds of e.g. sex, race, religion, ethnicity, sexuality, age and disability. Students learn the meaning and definition of discrimination, the scope of the prohibition, evidential requirements, and the extent to which positive action in favour of underrepresented groups is permitted or required. Current issues such as transgender rights, headscarf bans, and algorithmic discrimination are addressed.

This law is contained in a series of EU directives, and in the case law of the European Court of Justice. It is directly applicable in national courts, and provides the framework for national non-discrimination law in these fields. It is therefore relevant for national labour law and social law students, as well as EU law students.

Form of tuition

Classes will be interactive, with a mixture of lectures, discussion and exercises. There are 2 classes per week, each 1.5 hours long (with one or two breaks).

Type of assessment

2 written papers, one shorter (c1000 words) and one longer (c2500 words).

Course reading

Reading will be notified via Canvas nearer the time.

Recommended background knowledge

Some knowledge of basic EU law is desirable.

Target group

Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:

Students from other universities/faculties

Exchange students

Contract students (students who pay for one course).

Students taking this course will need to be familiar with the core elements of EU law, such as found in a typical introductory EU law course.