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ФИО: Ястребов Олег Александрович
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**Federal State Autonomous Educational Institution for Higher Education
PEOPLES' FRIENDSHIP UNIVERSITY OF RUSSIA
NAMED AFTER PATRICE LUMUMBA**

LAW INSTITUTE

educational division (faculty/institute/academy) as higher education programme developer

COURSE SYLLABUS

WORKSHOP «Drafting Legal Letters, Memos & Legal Opinions»
(Course title)

Recommended by the Didactic Council for the Education Field

40.03.01 JURISPRUDENCE

(Code and Name of the Field of Education / Specialty)

The course instruction is implemented within the professional education programme of higher education:

BACHELOR OF LAWS (LLB)

higher education programme profile/specialisation title

1. COURSE GOAL

The main goal of the course is to acquire the professional skills necessary for the preparation of legal documents: drafting high-quality legal letters, memorandums, and legal opinions.

2. REQUIREMENTS FOR LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course is aimed at building and enhancing the following target competencies (parts of competencies):

Table 2.1. List of target competencies (parts of competencies)

Code (GC, GPC, PC)	Competence	Competence indicators
PC-2	Can apply legal norms in specific legal areas and use them in the way prescribed by law	PC-2.1. Demonstrates specific knowledge of the implementation of law, knows the procedure for carrying out the duties of jurisdictional bodies responsible for the implementation of law; PC-2.2. Has mastered the skills of analyzing the facts of the case, qualifying the facts of law and legal relations that arise due to them, identifies legally significant circumstances; PC-2.3. Carries out the correct choice of the legal norm to be applied and the method of its interpretation; PC-2.4. Has mastered the methods of searching for cases of implementation of law and monitoring it in order to complete professional tasks; PC-2.5. Develops options for legal actions in strict accordance with the legislation and makes decisions in the form prescribed by law.
PC-4	Can provide legal assistance to citizens and organizations and other types of legal services, to provide qualified professional opinions and advice in specific legal areas	PC-4.3. Knows and applies the rules needed to prepare a legal opinion and provide consultations.

3. COURSE IN HIGHER EDUCATION PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The course refers to the core/variable/elective* component of (B1) block of the higher educational programme curriculum.

* - Underline whatever applicable.

Within the higher education programme students also master other (modules) and / or internships that contribute to the achievement of the expected learning outcomes as results of the course study.

Table 3.1. The list of components of the Educational Program of Higher Education that contribute to the achievement of the expected results of the development of the course

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Previous courses/modules*	Subsequent courses/modules*
PC-2	Can apply legal norms in specific legal areas and use them in the way prescribed by law	Theory of State and Law Administrative Law Civil Law Basic Provisions of Civil Law Implementation and Protection of Civil Rights. Right of Ownership and Other in Rem Rights Law of Obligations. Tort Law Contract Law Intellectual Property Law. Inheritance Law Family Law Civil and Commercial Procedure Financial Law and Tax Law International Public Law Environmental Law and Land Law Labor Law International Private Law Commercial Law and Corporations Logic for Lawyers Theory of Legal Argumentation Fundamentals of Medicine Law Workshop "Procedural Documents in Civil Cases" Workshop "Procedural Documents in Administrative Cases" Workshop "Procedural Documents in Criminal Cases" Workshop "Skills of Effective Presentation in Court" Workshop "Procedural Documents in International Disputes" Workshop "Procedural Documents in Constitutional Procedure" Workshop "Negotiations and Contracts"	Interdisciplinary Course Paper Work Experience (Judicial) Internship Work Experience (Pre-graduation) Internship
PC-4	Can provide legal assistance to citizens and organizations and other types of legal services, to provide qualified professional opinions and advice in specific	Civil and Commercial Procedure Fundamentals of Medicine Law Legal Design	Work Experience (Pre-graduation) Internship

Competence code	Competence descriptor	Previous courses/modules*	Subsequent courses/modules*
	legal areas		

* To be filled in according to the competence matrix of the higher education programme.

4. COURSE WORKLOAD AND ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

The total workload of the course is 3 credits (108 academic hours).

Table 4.1. Types of academic activities for **full-time** education

Types of academic activities	TOTAL, academic hours	Semester			
		5	6	7	8
<i>Classroom learning, academic hours</i>	15				15
including:					
Lectures (LC)					
Lab work (LW)					
Seminars (workshops/tutorials) (S)	15				15
<i>Self-study (ies), academic hours</i>	75				75
<i>Evaluation and assessment (exam or pass/fail grading)</i>	18				18
Course Workload	academic hours	108			108
	credits	3			3

5. COURSE CONTENTS

Table 5.1. The content of the course and types of academic activities

Course Units / Sections	Topics	Type of academic activity*
Section 1. Fundamentals of legal writing technique.	Fundamentals of legal technique. Legislative technique, technique of individual acts. Internal construction of a legal document. Stages of writing legal documents. Preliminary stage. Stage of writing. Language and style of legal documents.	S
Section 2. Legal opinion and memorandum.	The essence of the memorandum as a legal document. Types of memoranda. The structure of the memorandum. Options for constructing a memorandum. Legal (legal opinion). Features of the preparation of a legal opinion. The structure of the legal opinion.	S
Section 3. Rules for the preparation and execution of legal documents	General requirements for the creation of documents. General principles of paperwork. General norms and rules of paperwork. Features of electronic documents (digital signature). Legal design. Development of draft legal documents.	S

* - filled in **only for full-time** education: LC - lectures; LW - laboratory work; S - seminars.

6. CLASSROOM EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS

Table 6.1. Classroom Equipment and Technology Support Requirements

Type of academic activities	Classroom equipment	Specialised educational / laboratory equipment, software, and materials for course study (if necessary)
Lecture	Classroom for lectures, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; a set of devices including portable multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection.	Multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection. Software: Office 365 (MS Office, MS Teams), Chrome
Lab	Classroom for lab work, group and individual consultations, evaluation and assessment, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; a set of devices including portable multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection.	Multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection. Software: Office 365 (MS Office, MS Teams), Chrome
Seminars	Classroom for seminars, group and individual consultations, evaluation and assessment, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; a set of devices including portable multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection.	Multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection. Software: Office 365 (MS Office, MS Teams), Chrome
Computer classroom	Computer classroom for academic activity, group and individual consultations, evaluation and assessment, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; a set of devices including portable multimedia projector, 30 personal computers, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection.	Multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection. Software: Office 365 (MS Office, MS Teams), Chrome
Self-studies Classroom	Classroom for Self-studies, equipped with a set of specialized furniture; a set of devices including portable multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection.	Multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection. Software: Office 365 (MS Office, MS Teams), Chrome
Courtroom	Classroom for court hearing simulation equipped with a set of specialized furniture; a set of devices including portable multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection.	Multimedia projector, laptop, projection screen, stable wireless Internet connection. Software: Office 365 (MS Office, MS Teams), Chrome

* - It is necessary to specify a classroom for self-study of students

7. RESOURCES RECOMMENDED FOR COURSE STUDY

1. Richard K. Neumann. Legal Memos: Templates, Tips, and Structures. ISBN: 9780409343212. 2017.

2. Nichola Corbett-Jarvis. Effective legal writing: a practical approach. ISBN: 9781454886525. 2017.

3. LETTER WRITING SKILLS. URL: <https://www.british-legal-centre.com/part6-build-successful-law-career-letter-writting-skills>

Internet-(based) sources:

1. Electronic libraries with access for RUDN students

- RUDN Electronic library system <http://lib.rudn.ru/MegaPro/Web>

- Electronic library system «University Library online» <http://www.biblioclub.ru>

- Electronic Library «URAIT» <http://www.biblio-online.ru>

- Electronic library system «Student. Consultant» www.studentlibrary.ru

- Electronic library system «Lan» <http://e.lanbook.com/>

- Electronic library system "Troitskiy most"

2. Courts and Tribunals judiciary. The Structure of the Courts. URL: <https://www.judiciary.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/courts-structure-0715.pdf>

3. The European e-Justice Portal. URL: <https://e-justice.europa.eu/home>

4. Databases and search engines:

- Electronic Legal and Regulatory Documentation Fund <http://docs.cntd.ru/>

- Search system Yandex <https://www.yandex.ru/>

- Search system Google <https://www.google.ru/>

- SCOPUS <http://www.elsevierscience.ru/products/scopus/>

A complete list of ELS, databases and search engines is provided on the website of the Educational and Scientific Information Library Center (Scientific Library) of RUDN University <https://lib.rudn.ru>

* - Learning toolkits for self-studies in the RUDN Learning materials for self-studies on the relevant course pages in TUIS

8. ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT AND GRADING SYSTEM* FOR EVALUATION OF STUDENTS' COMPETENCES LEVEL UPON COURSE COMPLETION

The assessment toolkit and the grading system* to evaluate the competences formation level (competences in part) upon the course study completion are specified in the Appendix to the course syllabus.

DEVELOPERS:

Associate Professor of the
Department of
Theory of Law and State

position, department

signature

Sergey B. Zinkovskiy

name and surname

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT:

Head of the Department of

Theory of Law and State

position, department

signature

Andrei A. Klishas
name and surname

**HEAD OF HIGHER
EDUCATION
PROGRAMMME:**

Head of Director of the Law
Institute

position, department

signature

Sergey B. Zinkovskiy
name and surname