UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Diritto Costituzionale - M-Z

1819-1-A5810227-MZ

Learning objectives

This course aims at providing students a first approach to the Italian constitution and the basic constitutional principles. Learning constitutional law and the constitutional approach to legal issues represents the formative basis for all the other law courses and political studies. It aims at providing students with appropriate tools of analysis and argumentation in order to address the main debated issues of constitutional law

Contents

The knowledge of Constitutional Law is essential to understanding the foundations of the Italian Law and it is the introduction to the are juridical subjects.
The course has the main purpose the study the constitutional system, through the examination of the Italian Constitution in its wording and interpretations developed by the case law and practice. Particular attention will be paid to the historical evolution, in comparison with other democratic systems, the fundamental principles, freedoms of individuals, the sources of law, the Government, the role of the Judiciary and of the Constitutional Court.

Detailed program

The course of constitutional law will deal with the following topics:

1. The State.
2. Historical developments of the modern States and Constitutions
3. Fundamental rights and freedoms
4. The Italian Constitution: origin, contents and fundamental principles.
The constitutional revision procedure.

5. The political system and its evolution
6. The Electoral Systems and political parties. Deliberative democracy
and referendum
7. The Parliament
8. The Head of State
9. The Government
10. The Constitutional Court
11. The Judiciary
12. Regional and local governments.
13. The Sources of law
14. The Italian Constitution and the European Union
A detailed exam program for students attending the lessons will be given during the course, considering the topics discussed in class.

Prerequisites

none

Teaching methods

The course will be held through lectures, use of the e-learning platform and powerpoint presentations. The analysis of the current debate on constitutional problems as well as the analysis of relevant judgments of the Constitutional Court and other European Courts will constitute part of the teaching methods.

Accordingly, students should not be limited to the study of the textbook, but to understand the political and legislative events reported by newspapers and other media, and to take account of normative data and jurisprudence.

The Italian Constitution and the National and Regional Acts are published at: www.parlamento.it , www.gazzettaufficiale.it , www.normattiva.it.
The Constitutional Court decisions at: www.cortecostituzionale.it and www.giurcost.org.
Among the others, see the following sites: www.associazionedeicostituzionalisti.it , www.forumcostituzionale.it , www.costituzionalismo.it , www.federalismi.it.

Assessment methods

Oral exam.
The students who regularly attend classes will be given the opportunity of a “mid course” exam, in order to split the program in two parts. The first exam will be a written one, whereas the second will be only oral. The final grade will take both grades and attendance to classes into account.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

For the comprehension of Constitutional Law it is mandatory to study the text of the Italian Constitution. The main issues are discussed in the handbooks. Therefore, the study shall be made with any up-to-date book.
For the academic year 2016-2017 the recommended book is the following:
1. A. PISANESCHI, Diritto costituzionale, Giappichelli, Torino, last edition.
As an alternative:
A. BARBERA e C. FUSARO, Corso di diritto pubblico, Il Mulino, Bologna, last edition.
R. BIN - G. PITRUZZELLA, Diritto costituzionale, Giappichelli editore, Torino, last edition
P. CARETTI e U. DE SIERVO, Istituzioni di diritto pubblico, Giappichelli, Torino, last edition.