

## **TEACHING GUIDE**

# **PROFESSIONAL ETHICS, BASIC PRINCIPLES OF LAW AND EQUALITY (INTRODUCTION TO LAW)**

## **GRADO EN ECONOMÍA (INGLÉS)**

## **ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27**

Publication date: 05-07-2026





### I.-Subject Identification

|                                         |                       |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Type                                    | FORMACIÓN BÁSICA      |
| Teaching period                         | 1 course, 1Q semester |
| Nº of credits                           | 6                     |
| Language in which the subject is taught | English               |

### II.-Presentation

The aim of this course is to provide students with the basic knowledge of the legal and political framework, as well as the ethical and deontological principles that should guide their professional activity. It will deal with issues such as values and the legal framework that defines the environment in which students will develop their work. Throughout the course, students are expected to develop sufficient skills to carry out their work within a complex ethical and political context, but one in which they will need to be able to cope with the legal and moral premises of democratic societies. There will therefore be addressed issues relating to law and ethics, and the application of the principle of equality; all of this before introducing the students to more specific issues related to our legal system, which are necessary to know for a professional dedicated to the management and administration of companies. The course aims to provide students with an understanding of the general concepts and principles of Law and their practical implications, as well as the particular significance for economists of the different legal rules which may affect them. In this sense, essential aspects will be analysed such as the sources of Law; the concept, interpretation and application of legal rules; the Law of persons, patrimonial Law -obligation, liability and contracts- as well as the essential knowledge of family and succession Law. The subject is divided into several units, beginning with a study of Law and its sources, continuing with the natural and legal person as a subject of Law and private economic activity. We will analyse the main private-legal contracts, together with real rights, as well as a brief reference to matrimonial property regimes and inheritance Law.

### III.-Learning outcomes

- CT01. Ability to analyse and synthesise  
 CT02. Ability to organise and plan  
 CT06. Ability to analyse and search for information from different sources  
 CT07. Ability to solve problems  
 CT15. Ability to learn independently  
 CB01 .That students have demonstrated the possession and comprehension of knowledge in a field of study based on the foundations of general secondary education, at a level that, although supported by advanced textbooks, includes some aspects that imply knowledge proceeding from the forefront of the field of study.  
 CB02 . That students are able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and have the skills that are typically demonstrated through the preparation and defense of arguments and problem solving within their field of study.  
 CB04 . That students are able to transmit information, ideas, problems and solutions to both specialized and non-specialized audience.  
 CE02. Information search and research skills  
 CE05. Understanding of the laws governing economic activity
- Key for degrees not adapted to RD 822/21: **CB** - basic competences, **CG** - generic competences, **CE** - specific competences, **CT** - transversal competences.
  - Key for degrees adapted to RD 822/21: **CON** - knowledge, **COM** - competences, **HAB** - skills.



#### IV.-Contents

##### IV.A.-Syllabus

###### UNIT I.- LAW AND ETHICS

- 1.-Law, ethics and deontological rules: normative systems.
2. Ethical and social responsibility.
- 3.- Public and Private Law. Civil Law.
- 4.- The sources of Law: concept and classes. Special reference to the national law and European Union (EU) law.
- 5.-Application and effectiveness of legal rules.

###### UNIT II.- THE SUBJECTIVE RIGHT

1. Concept and characteristics of subjective rights. Structure and classes
2. Birth, acquisition, modification, extinction, loss and waiver of subjective rights.
3. Exercise of subjective rights. Its protection. Limits to the exercise of subjective rights:

a) Good faith.

b) Abuse of the subjective right and its antisocial exercise.

4. Effects of the passage of time on subjective rights: statute of limitations and expiry.

###### UNIT III.- THE SUBJECT OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY ECONOMIC ACTIVITY (I). THE NATURAL PERSON

1. Concept and classes of person. Beginning of the personality. Birth, the unborn child and its protection.
2. Civil and legal capacity.
3. Civil status.
4. Age and its legal significance: a) Major of legal age; b) Minor of legal age; c) Emancipation: concept, types and requirements
5. Support measures for persons with disabilities: concept and types.
6. Nationality and civil residency - The Civil Register.

###### UNIT IV. THE SUBJECT OF PRIVATE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY (II). THE LEGAL PERSON

1. Concept and types of legal person
2. Approximation to the legal regime of associations and foundations

###### UNIT V. THE LEGAL SPHERE OF THE PERSON

- 1.- Personality rights. Life, physical integrity, liberty, honour, personal privacy, self-image. Special reference to equality as a constitutional right. Protection of personal data.
2. Property rights.
3. Representation.

###### UNIT VI. THE CONTRACT

1. The principle of free will. Concept and classes of contracts
2. Requirements: essential and accidental.
3. Effects of the contract. Ineffectiveness of the contract.
4. Consumer and user protection and electronic commerce: distance sales. Adhesion contracts and general terms and conditions of contracts.

###### UNIT VII. TYPES OF CONTRACTS

1. - Contracts and the transfer of the ownership
2. - Contracts and the transfer of the use of another's property.
3. -Contracts of management, custody and guaranty.
4. - Contracts for the settlement of disputes.

###### UNIT VIII. RIGHTS IN REM

Concept and classes. Ways of acquiring ownership. The ownership. The Land Registry. Other rights in rem.

###### UNIT IX. BRIEF REFERENCE TO FAMILY LAW AND INHERITANCE LAW

1. Marriage. Marital agreements. Economical systems of marriage. The community property regime. The separation of property regime.
2. Mortis causa succession.

##### IV.B.-Training activities



| Type                     | Title                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lectures                 | Explanatory lecture classes.                                                                                                                       |
| Resolución de ejercicios | The lecturer shall dedicate some of the sessions to correct the practical case studies that the students must have delivered through Aula Virtual. |
| Test and/or exams        | Final test (short written questions or multiple-choice test).                                                                                      |

| V.-Student workload                                                                          |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Theoretical sessions                                                                         | 30  |
| Resolution of exercises, problems, case studies, etc.                                        | 26  |
| Practical sessions in experimental, technological and clinical laboratories, fieldwork, etc. | 0   |
| Tests and/or exams                                                                           | 4   |
| Academic tutorials                                                                           | 30  |
| Related activities: conferences, seminars, etc.                                              | 18  |
| Preparation of theoretical sessions and self-study                                           | 20  |
| Preparation of practical tasks, exercises, case studies, projects, etc.                      | 27  |
| Preparation for tests and/or exams                                                           | 25  |
| Total student workload                                                                       | 180 |

| VI.-Methodology and academic programme |                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Type                                   | Period             | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Tests and/or exams                     | Week 14 to Week 14 | Final test (short written questions or multiple-choice test). Date to be determined by the University.                                                                                                                                                                |
| Theoretical sessions                   | Week 1 to Week 14  | Explanatory lecture classes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Practical sessions                     | Week 4 to Week 14  | Periodically, depending on the progress of the course and the criteria of the professor responsible for the group, the lecturer shall dedicate some of the sessions to correct the practical case studies that the students must have delivered through Aula Virtual. |
| Academic tutorials                     | Week 1 to Week 14  | As the students may need.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Other activities                       | Week 1 to Week 14  | Short presentation in the classroom on topics related to the subject that enables the student to speak in public and that allows the acquisition and transmission of ideas.                                                                                           |



**VII.-Assessment methods**

The general assessment method is continuous as established in the *Regulation for the Assessment of Learning Outcomes* of Rey Juan Carlos University.

All the assessment systems established in the degree report must be employed, except for those that have a minimum weight of 0%, which can be used by professors in the academic years they consider relevant. Each assessment system may be applied through one or more assessment activities, consistent with the system. No assessment activity can exceed individually 60% of the overall grade for the subject.

The sum of non re-evaluable activities cannot exceed 40% of the overall grade for the subject and, in general, should not have an established minimum grade (except for practical activities in which, strictly speaking, the conditions of the ordinary call cannot be reproduced in the extraordinary call).

Those students who do not manage to pass the subject in the ordinary call, or do not attend this first call, may attend the extraordinary call only for failed re-evaluable assessment activities.

The distribution and characteristics of the assessment activities are described below.

**VII.A.-Description and weight of the assessment activities**

The continuous evaluation of this subject will be carried out through the following activities: .- FINAL GENERAL TEST. Minimum mark: 5. Weighting: 60%. Ordinary assessment period. The exam will be an on-site multiple-choice test or a short questions test, at the professor's discretion about the whole program of the subject. In the case of a multiple-choice exam, the professor will specify the evaluation criteria from the following two options: a) the test will be passed if 60% of the questions are answered correctly. No reduction coefficient will be applied to the questions answered incorrectly b) the test will be passed if 50% of the questions are answered correctly. A reduction coefficient decided by the professor will be applied to the questions that are not answered or are answered incorrectly. The result of this test will be weighted with 60% of the final mark in the subject, both in the ordinary and the extraordinary call. IT IS COMPULSORY TO PASS THIS FINAL TEST IN ORDER FOR THE GRADES OBTAINED IN THE REST OF THE EVALUABLE TESTS (resolution of case studies, oral work and/or knowledge tests) TO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. This multiple-choice test or short questions test, as the case may be, is REVALUABLE in June/July. .- CASE STUDIES, PRESENTATIONS AND/OR KNOWLEDGE TESTS, at the professor's discretion. Minimum mark: NO. Weighting: 40%. Period: weeks 4-14. The number of case studies, presentations and/or knowledge tests will be set by the professor according to the number of students and the actual performance of the course. The specific exercises will be established by the professor in class. The result of this part of the subject will constitute 40% of the final mark in both the ordinary and extraordinary calls. This activity will be carried out throughout the semester with a combination of distance learning and on-site. The case studies will be delivered through Aula Virtual or in class and will be corrected in class. Each student will be graded based on the tests, presentations and case studies/essays carried out/delivered during the semester according to the professor's instructions. The case studies, presentations and essays carried out during the semester WILL NOT BE REVALUABLE in June/July. EXTRAORDINARY EVALUATION: Students who fail to pass the ordinary evaluation or do not show up, will be subject to an extraordinary evaluation only in the revaluable activities. Therefore, the revaluation period can only be used to evaluate the student in those competencies that can be REVALUABLE. ONLY THE MULTIPLE-CHOICE TEST TYPE OR SHORT QUESTION TEST CAN BE RE-EVALUATED IN THE MONTH OF JUNE/JULY. IN NO CASE WILL IT BE POSSIBLE TO HAND IN PRACTICES AND/OR ESSAYS AFTER THE END OF THE PERIOD OF CLASSES. In the June/July call, the internship mark obtained during the course will be maintained in the terms stated and the same criteria as those set out for the ordinary call will be applied to the exam. ADVANCE EVALUATION: It will consist of an exam on the entire content of the subject program taken on the date set by the University. The type of the exam and the evaluation criteria will be determined by the professor at the beginning of the semester. NOTES: The grade of NOT SHOWN/NO PRESENTADO will only apply to those students who have NOT taken any case study or exam. In the event that a student decides not to take the multiple-choice/short questions test, but has DELIVERED one or more case studies, the grade FAIL will appear in his/her record, since he/she has been evaluated with respect to the delivered practices

#### ADVANCED EXAMINATION:

An exam (multiple choice test, short-answer questions, essay or extended response questions, practical application of knowledge, or a combination of the above) will be administered covering the entire course syllabus on the date set by the University for the advanced examination period. The grade obtained in the exam will be the final grade for the course in the advanced examination session. ONLY MULTIPLE CHOICE TESTS OR ESSAY-TYPE QUESTIONS ARE SUBJECT TO REASSESSMENT IN JUNE. UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES MAY PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENTS AND/OR WRITTEN PAPERS BE SUBMITTED AFTER THE END OF CLASSES. In the JUNE session, the grade obtained for coursework during the term will be maintained as previously established, and the exam will be assessed under the same criteria as those applied in the regular session. GRADES: The grade of "Not Attended" ("No presentado") will be given to students who have NOT completed any practical assignments and have NOT taken the exam. If a student decides not to take the multiple choice test but HAS submitted one or more assignments, a grade of "Fail" ("Suspenso") will be recorded in their transcript, based on the assessment of the submitted assignments.

#### VII.B. Assessment of students with academic exemption from class attendance



Having Academic Exemption from Class Attendance (DAAC) does not imply that students are automatically exempt from participating in the continuous assessment activities or in the training activities of compulsory attendance as established in the teaching guide. Once the exemption has been granted, students must contact the subject's teaching staff, who will propose the adaptations he/she may consider relevant, as long as they guarantee the acquisition and adequate assessment of the learning goals established. Students must maintain adequate communication with the teaching staff so that they may provide information on the dates for training and assessment activities, if these are not established in the programme and available for students at the time of achieving the exemption.

Subject with possibility of academic exemption: Yes.

#### **VII.C. Review of assessment activities**

In accordance with the Regulation for the Assessment of Learning Outcomes of Rey Juan Carlos University.

#### **VII.D.-Students with a disability or special educational needs**

In order to guarantee equal opportunities, non-discrimination, universal accessibility and academic success, students with disabilities or especial education needs may request curricular adaptations to follow their studies. These adaptations will be provided by the Unit of Attention to People with Disabilities of Rey Juan Carlos University, in accordance with the regulation which regulates the service for the Attention of People with Disabilities at the University. This Unit will issue a report for curricular adaptations, so that students with disabilities or special education needs must contact the service (at e-mail [discapacidad.programa@urjc.es](mailto:discapacidad.programa@urjc.es)) in order to provide relevant information for different educational alternatives.

#### **VII.E.-Academic behaviour, academic integrity and honesty**

Rey Juan Carlos University is fully committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty, so studying at the URJC means assuming and subscribing to the values of integrity and academic honesty set out in the University's Ethical Code. To support this process, the University has Rey Juan Carlos University's Academic Conduct Regulation as well as different tools (anti-plagiarism, supervision...) that offer a collective guarantee for the full development of these essential values.

### VIII.-Teaching resources and materials

#### Basic bibliography

Rodríguez de las Heras Ballel, Teresa, *Introduction to Spanish Private Law. Facing the social and economic challenges*, Routledge Cavendish, London and New York (last edition).

Merino Blanco, Elena, *Spanish Law and legal rights*, Sweet and Maxwell, London (last edition).

Código Civil español. The English version (Spanish Civil Code) may be obtained from the website of the Ministerio de Justicia (<http://www.mjusticia.gob.es/cs/Satellite/Portal/es/servicios-ciudadano/documentacion-publicaciones/publicaciones/traduccion-derecho-espanol>)

Several authors (editors: Sjef Van Erp and Antoni Varquer), *Introduction to Spanish Patrimonial Law*, Comares, Granada (last edition).

Bergel Sainz-Baranda, Yolanda, *Handbook on Spanish Patrimonial Law*, Tecnos, Madrid (last edition).

#### Consultation bibliography

### IX.-Professors

|                                         |                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Name and surname                        | MARÍA DE LOS DESAMPARADOS NÚÑEZ NÚÑEZ                                                               |
| E-mail address                          | mariadesamparados.nunez@urjc.es                                                                     |
| Department                              | Derecho Privado                                                                                     |
| Campus                                  | Madrid - Quintana                                                                                   |
| Category                                | Profesor/a Contratado/a Doctor/a                                                                    |
| Academic degree                         | Doctor                                                                                              |
| Person responsible for the subject      | Yes                                                                                                 |
| Tutorial timetable                      | Para consultar las tutorías póngase en contacto con el/la profesor/a a través de correo electrónico |
| Number of quinquennia                   | 5                                                                                                   |
| Number of sexennia                      | 2                                                                                                   |
| No. of positive evaluations by Docentia | 4                                                                                                   |
| Name and surname                        | MARÍA TERESA NÚÑEZ SANZ                                                                             |
| E-mail address                          | mteresa.nunez@urjc.es                                                                               |
| Campus                                  | Madrid - Quintana                                                                                   |
| Category                                | Investigador                                                                                        |
| Person responsible for the subject      | No                                                                                                  |
| Tutorial timetable                      | Para consultar las tutorías póngase en contacto con el/la profesor/a a través de correo electrónico |



|                                         |   |
|-----------------------------------------|---|
| Number of quinquennia                   | 0 |
| Number of sexennia                      | 0 |
| No. of positive evaluations by Docentia | 0 |
|                                         |   |

