**COMPARATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL LAW**

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**Course description and working method**

The course intends to provide an overview on the basic constitutional principles and the basic particularities of the major governmental systems, as well as to enhance the problem solving skills of the participants in the field of constitutional law.

The classes are based on the project work of the group of students (formed at the first class). The ‘Theory’ classes will focus on the relevant theoretical questions, as well as on the classic and current debates in jurisprudence related to the governmental systems. For this type of classes, the groups should answer questions and present their opinion on 2-3 readers.

The ‘Case study’ classes highlight challenging situations or constitutional deadlocks related to the most important aspects of governance. For these classes, the groups should work out a possible solution of the respective case based on the regulation of a country that they choose at the first class.

**Course outline**

1. *Introductory lesson*
2. *Theory: Types of constitutions*
3. *Case study: constitutional amendments*
4. *Theory: Governmental systems*
5. *Case study: the responsibility of the head of the state*
6. *Case study: the responsibility of the government*
7. *Case study: the mandate of the parliament*
8. *Theory: Rule of law, limitation of majority rule*
9. *Case study: the independence of the judiciary*
10. *Case study: constitutional review*
11. *Summary*

**Materials**

Readers, cases and the text of the constitutions will be shared with the students in a dropbox folder.

**Assessment**

Students are required to

* participate actively in the work of their group and at the classes,
* submit an essay (2500-3000 words) containing the presentation of the constitutional system of the chosen country, including the context learned in the theoretical classes and the solution of the cases.