2024 – 2025 COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

COMILLAS UNIVERSIDAD PONTIFICIA

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SUBJECT DETAILS

Data on the subject	
Full Name	Accounting and Finance for Lawyers
Code	E000001235
Degree	Postgraduate in Master in International and European Business Law
Year	2023-2024
Nature	Fall
ECTS Credits	2
Department	Law
Area	Law
Teaching staff	Javier Hernández Galante

Data on the teaching staff	
Teacher	
Name	Javier Hernández Galante
Departament / Area	
e-mail	jhgalante@comillas.edu
Telephone	+34 91 364 98 00
Tutoring Schedule	Upon request from students

SPECIFIC DATA ON THE SUBJECT

Framework of the subject

Pre-requisites

None

Contribution of the degree to the professional profile

Acquiring knowledge on accounting and finance basics is essential to understand the economics of most of the transactions and legal implications of all the acts taken by companies, which are the main actors in the global economy.

The interaction between the economic side of a company (being the accounting the common language followed by all the companies to have comparable information) and the way to regulate from a legal point of view all the relations between the company and third parties is essential for an accurate and complete advise to your clients.

Competences - Goals
Competences to be deloveped
Generic Competences
GC 2: Ability to communicate orally and in writing GC 4: Problem-solving skills GC 5: Decision-making skills GC 6: Team-work skills GC 7: Ability to work in an international context GC 9: Awareness of the importance of ethical commitment GC 12: Ability to apply theoretical knowledge into practice
Specific Competences
SC 11 Knowing the structure of the financial reports and documents and be able to extract legal implications, both in corporate business taxation and in the context of business, commercial or corporate litigation

COURSE SYLLABUS AND CONTENT

Content
Area 1. Accounting for lawyers
Theme 1. Introduction to accounting and its relevance for a business lawyer
1.1 Introduction to accounting concepts in a balance sheet 1.2 Introduction to accounting concepts in a P&L account 1.3 Use of accounting for lawyers
Theme 2. Ways to measure the value of a company

2.1 Methods based on accounting 2.2 Other methods
Theme 3. Relevance of the accounting for tax purposes
3.1 The P&L account as the basis of the Corporate Income Tax 3.2 Different approaches to risk by accountants and lawyers
AREA 2. Finance principles for lawyers
Theme 1. Financial ratios and information obtained from accounting
1.1 EBITDA 1.2 Working capital 1.3 Return on investment / return on assets /return on equity
Theme 2. Alternative ways to finance a business (merits and cons)
2.1 Equity 2.2 Debt 2.3 Hybrid instruments

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

General methodology of the subject
Contact hours methodology: Activities
Practical classes with a theory part showing the accounting and finance basic principles and then use practical cases to, with the participation of all the members of the class, understand the previously explained concepts.
Outside class methodology: Activities
In some cases, and in particular regarding the final case study, they students will have to analyse and solve some cases. The cases (even the final case) will have to be analysed and solved by the students out of the class (in groups or individually) and delivered to the professor usually within the following 2-3 days.

SUMMARY OF STUDENT WORK HOURS

NUMBER OF CONTACT HOURS						
Lecture	Practical class	Debate	In class presentation	Individual work	Work in collaboration	Evaluation
4	10	2	2			2
NUMBER OF INDEPENDENT WORK HOURS						
Lecture	Practical class	Debate	In class presentation	Individual work	Work in collaboration	Evaluation
	8		2	8	8	4
ECTS CREDITS: 2 (50,00 hours)						

GRADE EVALUATION AND CRITERIA

Evaluation Activities	Indicators	Evaluation weighting
Case to be prepared individually on basic accounting principles and the application of those principles to an operating business. The solved case will have to be delivered 3 days after the end of the accounting sessions of the course. General participation in class		35% for the activity 5% on general participation
Evaluation: exam (final)	Final case to be prepared at home and delivered to the professor within the following 5 working days.	50%
Attendance	Regular attendance to classes – control by signature of a daily sheet	10%

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND RESOURCES

Basic Bibliography and Resources
OTHER MATERIAL Materials will be distributed in class.