

VENUE

Online. The link to the platform will be provided by email

FEES

General public: 35 euros

Master students and Ph.D. candidates in legal studies:
free tuition (under proof of condition)

APPLICATION AND ATTENDANCE:

1. English will be the working language. Therefore, at least B2 level is highly recommended.
2. After confirmation of enrollment, applicants will have to send via email (legalresearchmethodology@gmail.com) by 7th July a cover letter of max. 500 words illustrating:
 - a) the academic position of the candidate (or typology of work outside academia)
 - b) a description of research experience and current projects
3. Attendees will receive a list of recommended reading materials in advance.
4. Proof of attendance will be issued.

Information:

Servicio de Estudiantes y Extensión Universitaria

Edificio de Administración y Servicios

C/ Don Juan de Austria, 1 – 09001 Burgos

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CURSOS DE VERANO

SUMMER SCHOOL ON LEGAL RESEARCH METHODOLOGY. INTRODUCTION TO LEGAL METHODS FOR A SOCIETY IN TRANSITION

Direction:

Teresa Rodríguez-Cachón, Lecturer in Civil Law,
University of Burgos (Spain)

Margherita Brunori, Lecturer in Food and
Agriculture Law. University of Brescia (Italy)

July, 14th and 15th
ONLINE



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RATIONALE

Current societal, technological and environmental challenges as well as research policies are pushing the academic boundaries and requiring interdisciplinarity. Differently from other fields, publications in legal sciences traditionally do not display a methodological section. This does not mean that law scholars do not have one: on the contrary, each legal discipline has developed its theories and methods. However, the discussion on the methodology is not systematically included in legal papers, and it is not infrequent to find studies where the adopted method is not explicitly stated, but rather is implied. This may put early career researchers in legal studies under stress for several reasons. Firstly, the lack of a sound awareness of legal methodology may impair the ability of the researcher to develop a sound argument. Second, when confronted with other disciplines that adopt an explicit approach to theory, data collection and analysis, it can impair the researcher's ability to work in an interdisciplinary environment.

The comprehension of current phenomena claims for a bold change in perspective. Unveiling the implicit methodology is necessary to assess the disciplinary boundaries, test the viability of the approach and eventually innovate it. The Anthropocene and the digital revolution are the two principal sources of this requirement, and attempts by scholars to challenge the disciplinary assumptions of law are ongoing.

In social sciences, the methodology can attain both the theory driving the research journey and the material way data are collected and analysed. The first influences the other: the theory in which the study is grounded informs the choice of data and the means to select them. A critical reflection on legal research methods is therefore crucial, either for embracing the traditional one with more awareness or for embarking on innovative ones (innovative for legal studies, not always for other social sciences) while knowing which is the departure point.

ADDRESSEES:

The summer school welcomes all those who are interested in:

- increasing awareness in methodology for legal research,
- exploring different legal methods,
- learning from colleagues who already adopt different legal methods in their research projects,
- creating networks with scholars willing to engage in the subject.

As the class has an introductory cut, the programme is suitable for all postgraduate students, early career researchers and scholars at any level who are interested in attending.

The summer school is also open to non-academic public working in, among others, legal publishing houses, public administrations, research centers, non-governmental organizations and managers of public and private research projects.

OBJECTIVES:

Stemming from this background, this summer school aims to offer a broad perspective on the history of legal theory and argumentation forming the legal method, its current strands, and its more radical and innovative approaches. Outstanding early-career international scholars will bring their experience to the online sessions to answer the following questions:

1. What is legal research methodology? What kind of questions are legal questions? What is the role of legal argumentation?
2. What is the main current legal methodology? What are its limits, critics, and challenges?
3. How are innovative research projects of excellence conceptualizing legal research methodology? How to mix legal theory and social science empirical research methods in a research project?

Each session will offer both a theoretical and a practical part. In the first, lecturers will introduce the method by providing a background of the theory and rationale; in the second, they will provide context and examples on how to use it.

Thursday, 14th July

Introduction to legal methodology and current approaches to law studies

10:00 – 10:45 h. Session 0 – Presentation

MARGHERITA BRUNORI

Lecturer in Food and Agriculture Law. University of Brescia (Italy)

TERESA RODRÍGUEZ-CACHÓN

Lecturer in Civil Law. University of Burgos (Spain)
Summer School Directors

10:45 – 12:15 h. Session I – Introduction to legal methodology

LUCAS MIOTTO-LOPES

Assistant Professor in Legal Philosophy. Maastricht University (Netherlands)

12:30 – 14:00 h. Session II – Global Law

MARTA INFANTINO

Associate Professor in Comparative Law. University of Trieste (Italy)

Lunch: 14:00 - 15:15 h.

15:15 – 16:45 h. Session III – Introduction to Critical Legal Theories

GIEDRE JOKUBAUSKAITE

Lecturer in International Law. University of Glasgow (Scotland)

17:00 – 18:30 h. Session IV – Discourse analysis

SERGIO PÉREZ-CASTAÑOS

Associate Professor in Political Science, University of Burgos (Spain)

Friday, 15th July

Challenging disciplinary boundaries

10:00 – 12:00 h. Session V – Roundtable: experiences in applying interdisciplinary methods

SUSANNA POZZOLO

Full Professor in Philosophy of Law. University of Brescia (Italy)

Chair session

ELSA TSIΟΥMANI

Marie Curie Research Fellow. School of International Studies, University of Trento (Italy)

GIULIA SAJEVA

Researcher in Political Philosophy. Department of Cultures and Society, University of Palermo (Italy)

ANNA BERTI SUMAN

Postdoctoral Researcher, The European Commission Joint Research Centre

12:15 – 13:00 h. Closing Session – Conclusions and self-assessment

Summer School Directors