



MASARYK UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW

JUDr. Tereza Kyselovská

English for Lawyers - Introduction



Syllabus

1. Introduction
2. Syllabus
3. Study materials
4. Credit test, attendance



Introduction

- JUDr. Tereza Kyselovská
- Department of Private and European Law,
room no. 234
- Consultations - Tuesday 11.10 - 12.40
- Tereza.Kyselovska@law.muni.cz



Introduction

- Other languages - German, French, Spanish...
- Seminars, visiting foreign professors
- Socrates/Erasmus

- Virtuální jazyková studovna <https://vjs.muni.cz/>
- Právnická fakulta – Mezinárodní spolupráce
<http://www.law.muni.cz/content/cs/mezinarodni-spoluprace/>
- Masarykova univerzita www.muni.cz



Syllabus

- **3.10.** What is law, prescriptive and descriptive law, customs and laws
- **10.10., 17.10.** Sources of modern law, common law systems, continental systems
- **24.10., 31.11.** Civil and public law, main categories
- **7.11. - 14.11.** Judicial institutions, English courts
- **21.11. - 28.11.** Lawyers at work, education, range of work, legalese
- **5.12.** Credit test
- **12.12.** Evaluation of the semestr



Study materials - compulsory

- Interactive syllabi, study materials
 - Texts, Vocabulary, Tests, Scans - Law Today
- Chromá, Marta. *New introduction to legal English. Volume I*. Univerzita Karlova, 2007
- Chromá, Marta. *New introduction to legal English. Volume II*. Univerzita Karlova, 2007
- Chromá, Marta. *English-Czech law dictionary*. Leda, 1997.
- Chromá, Marta. *Czech -English law dictionary*. Leda, 2001.



Study materials - optional

- Powell, Richard. *Law today*. 1. ed. Harlow : Longman, 1993
- Krois-Lindner, Amy - Firth, Matt. *Introduction to International Legal English*. CUP, 2008.
- Black, Henry Campbell. *Blackův právnícký slovník*. Praha : Victoria Publishing, 1993.



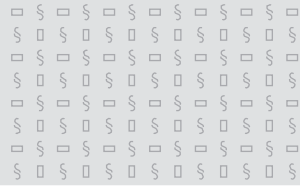
Study materials

■ Dictionaries

- Chromá. *English-Czech law dictionary, Czech -English law dictionary*

- Macmillian. English Disctionar

■ Online dictionaries - interactive tool



Credit test, attendance

■ 5.12. 2011

1. 10 translations Czech - English
2. 10 translations English - Czech
3. 3 definitions of legal terms
4. 2 open questions

■ Attendance -1



Optional

- Optional points
 - Presentations
 - „homeworks“



What is law?

„If you like laws and sausages, you should never watch either one being made.“

Otto von Bismarck

„The law is what it is - a majestic edifice, sheltering all of us, each stone of which rests on another.“

John Gallsworthy

„Wherever the law ends, tyranny begins.“

John Locke



What is law?

*„There is no jewel in the world comparable to learning,
no learning so excellent as knowledge of laws.“*

sir Edward Coke

*„We must not make a scarecrow of the law. Setting it
up to fear the birds of prey and let it keep one shape
'till custom make it their perch and not their terror.“*

William Shakespeare



What is law?

„Let all the laws be clear, uniform and precise. To interpret laws is almost always to corrupt them.“

Voltaire

„Morality cannot be legislated but behavior can be regulated. Judicial decrees may not change the heart, but they can restrain the heartless.“

Martin Luther King

“Law cannot persuade where it cannot punish.“

Thomas Fuller



Law and Lawyers

- William Shakespeare, Henry VI, part 2:
„First thing we do, let’s kill all the lawyers.“



Introduction to Legal English

- Write down any English word connected to law (e.g. *legal*, *judge*, *attorney*...) and try to explain.
- Think about:
 - Legal profession
 - Legal expressions, terms in general
 - Different types of law
 - Faculty, university
 - „Legal“ movies, series



Introduction to legal English

Adjective + noun	Noun + noun	Adjective + noun	Verb + noun	Noun of noun
... law	law ...	legal law	... of law
Civil law	Law enforcement	Legal term	Apply law	Role of law



Homework

■ Powell. Law Today

- Introduction to legal English, 1 What is law?, pp. 6 -13

■ Chromá I- Unit 1

- **Interactive tool** - 1 What is law? - vocabulary, tests

■ Filling in