General information	
Academic subject	***Business Law 1***
Degree course	*LMG (M-Z); SSG (A-Z)*
Academic Year	*2°*
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS)	6
Language	*Italian*
SDS - GDS	GIUR-02/A *Business Law* - 12/GIUR-02
Academic calendar (starting and ending date)	*2nd (spring) semester from 16/02/2026 to 22/05/2026*
Mode of Attendance	*Optional but strongly recommended*

Professor/ Lecturer	
Name and Surname	***Massimo DI RIENZO***
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Department and address	*Department of Law-Palazzo F. Cassano-Corso Italia, 23-Second Floor*
Tutoring (time and day)	*Wednesdays from 12:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.* ***N.B.*** *The timetable may change during the months of lessons.* ***Students are invited to consult the lecturers' institutional pages.***

Syllabus	
Learning Objectives	*The course represents the first of two specialist courses on the methods of organisation and exercise of economic activity and examines the nature of the interests involved and the related forms of composition and protection provided for this purpose by the legislation for the peculiar system of «Business Law».* *The main objective of the course is to provide students with the basics of business law, commercial contracts and credit securities, in terms of both identification of the cases and knowledge of the discipline.* *The main knowledge provided will be the historical origins of the main institutions in the lex mercatoria, the business types (general type and sub-types of agricultural, commercial and small business), the organisational methods of the business (the company, the general regulation of the company and the statute of the commercial company), business contracts and credit securities.*
Course prerequisites	*Institutions of Private Law*
Contents	*The object of the course is the examination of the legal problems relating to the exercise of economic activity, the nature of the interests involved, and the related forms of composition and protection provided for this purpose by the legislation for the peculiar system of Commercial Law. The subject will, therefore, be divided into three parts dedicated respectively to the origins of commercial law, to the organizational methods of the company, to business contracts and to credit instruments. In particular, the following institutions will be taken into consideration:* ***Part I*** *Lex mercatoria: merchants' contracts and the first forms of business associations from the origins of commercial law to codifications.* ***Part II*** *The entrepreneur in general. The business sub-types (agricultural business, commercial business, small business and family business). The attribution of business activity: direct and indirect exercise of the activity (hidden entrepreneur); beginning and end of the business. The statute of*

	the commercial entrepreneur (accounting records, business register, commercial representation, capacity to run the business). *The entrepreneur's auxiliaries. The firm and its translational events. Distinctive signs (firm, sign and trademark): constitutive principles, protection and transfer. Intellectual works and industrial inventions (patents for inventions, designs and models). Unfair competition and antitrust principles.* ***Part III*** *Business contracts: the special principles of business contracts, the protection of weak contractual counterparties and some typical contracts: franchising, subcontracting, agency, mandate, insurance, leasing and banking contracts. The general characteristics of credit securities and their circulation; the basics of bills of exchange and cheques.*
Books and bibliography	***Parts I & II*** *L. Buttaro - M. Castellano - F. Vessia, Corso di Diritto Commerciale, Vol. I, Premesse Storiche e Disciplina dell'Impresa, 3^ ed., Giappichelli, Torino, 2019 (entire book).* ***or*** *G.F. Campobasso, Diritto Commerciale 1. Diritto dell'impresa, Utet, 2022, pp. 19-254 (entire book with exception of Introduction and chapters IX, X, XI e XII).* ***Part III*** *M. CIAN, Diritto Commerciale. I. Diritto dell'impresa, Giappichelli, 2024, Sezione V, Capo II, § 18 (pp. 316-329) e § 20 (pp. 354-367); Sezione VII, §§ 23-24 (pp. 395-412).* ***or*** *G.F. CAMPOBASSO, Diritto Commerciale 3. Contratti, titoli di credito, procedure concorsuali, 6^ ed., Utet, 2022, per i contratti (**in addition to Cian**): parte I, capitoliIV, V (solo par. 7), IX, X, XIII, XIV (solo par. 2-5), XVII (parr. 1-7); e per i titoli di credito (**in alternative of Cian**): parte II, capitolo XIX (par. 1-12), XX (parr. 1-3, 8, 10, 12, 14 e16), XXI (parr.1-4), XXII (par. 1);* ***or*** *A. GRAZIANI – G. MINERVINI – U. BELVISO – V. SANTORO, Manuale di Diritto Commerciale, 19^ ed., WKI-Cedam, 2023, per i contratti: parte V, capitoli I, VIII, IX, XI, XII, XIV (§§ 207-213), XV (solo par. 218), XVII (parr. 221- 228, 232-238); e per i titoli di credito: parte VI, capitolo I (§§ 240- 252), Cap. II (§§ 256-259, 261-262, 266,269-270), Cap. III (§§ 275-277), Cap. IV (par. 280).* ***N.B**. In case of handbook updating before starting of lessons, it is recommend purchasing the most recent edition of the mentioned books, without prejudice to the topics to be studied as indicated above.*
Additional materials	***It is essential to purchase an updated non-commented Civil Code, with an adequate set of complementary laws.***

Work schedule			
Total	Lectures	Hands on (Laboratory, working groups, seminars, field trips)	Out-of-class study hours/ Self-study hours
Hours			
150	***48***		***102***
ECTS			
6			

Teaching strategy	
	Traditional method based on theoretical lectures with PowerPoint presentation will be combined with: *1. practical exercises;* *2. oral discussion on real cases and judgments;* *3. writing of legal opinion.* *For self-verification of learning of the method and teaching contents, tutoring before exam is highly recommended.*
Expected learning outcomes	
Knowledge and understanding on:	*The course provides students with the cognitive tools necessary to:* ○ *place the different cases in the legal system;* ○ *understand the rationale of the instruments, the interests protected, the derogability or imperativeness of the rules;* ○ *identify the interpretative problems of the defining cases and the rules applicable to them;* ○ *know the peculiar Italian discipline of IPR and competition, also in relation to the Community legislation of reference.*
Applying knowledge and understanding on:	*The course enables students, through technical skills and knowledge, to:* ○ *qualify real cases;* ○ *solve practical cases;* ○ *use hermeneutic techniques to arrive at practical solutions.*
Soft skills	• ***Making informed judgments and choices*** *The course enables students to acquire:* ○ *Critical capacity and analysis of the interpretative issues underlying the positive discipline, aimed at solving practical cases and autonomy of judgement;* ○ *Capacity for legal qualification of cases in the regulatory system and for linking institutions, with mastery and mental elasticity.* • ***Communication skills*** *The course enables the acquisition of the typical skills of the positive jurist, i.e.:* ○ *the ability to express oneself using the specialised technical language of economic-legal subjects;* ○ *the ability to relate acquired knowledge clearly and completely to one's interlocutors.* • ***Ability to learn autonomously*** *Ultimately, students will be able to develop autonomous and self-directed learning processes in antitrust and competition law as well as IP law, with a view to lifelong learning.*

Assessment and feedback	
Assessment methods	*Oral exam* *Erasmus students will be able to agree with the teacher on alternative methods of assessment compared to the oral exam.*
Assessment criteria	*During the final examination, the candidate, with the ability to analyse regulatory provisions, autonomy of judgement in solving the (theoretical and concrete) legal problems posed, a critical sense and propriety of language, will have to demonstrate that he/she can clearly and appropriately represent and master the discipline of industrial law.*

Criteria for assessment and attribution of the final mark	*The method of ascertaining the knowledge and skills acquired is that of the oral examination, with theoretical questions on specific institutes aimed at verifying:* *a) the degree of in-depth knowledge of the reference legislation in force;* *b) the ability to make connections with other related institutes and/or with the regulations in force and with European legislation;* *c) the ability to identify and understand exegetical problems;* *d) the ability to solve practical cases and exemplify concrete situations.*
Final exam and grading criteria	*The examination ends with the awarding of a mark expressed in thirtieths from a minimum of 18/30. The different levels of preparation will lead to different judgements: excellent (30/30 cum laude), very good (28/29), good (25/27), fair (21/24), sufficient (18/20).*
Further information	*There are no intermediate tests for students*