UCLouvain

2025

## Comparative Constitutional Law

The version you're consulting is not final. This course description may change. The final version will be published on 1st June.

30.0 h

5.00 credits

Q1

Teacher(s)	Verdussen Marc ;			
Language :	French			
Place of the course	Louvain-la-Neuve			
Main themes	There are an increasing number of principles and rules enshrined in the Constitutions of the States of the European Union, contributing to the formation of a European constitutional heritage and promoting the emergence of common values in Europe. These principles and rules should be compared with the initiatives taken within the European integration, leading to adopt a Constitution for Europe. The article I-2 of the draft Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe - to become Article 1bis of the Treaty on European Union - actually stipulates that the European Union "is based on values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, égalité de l'Etat de droit, as well as respect of human rights, including rights of persons belonging to minorities ". It states that "these values are common to all Member States in a pluralist society, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality between women and men." The course deals with this development. It also deals with some major developments in contemporary constitutional law which give rise to comparisons between states, today more than ever before. By comparing the goals identified in similar systems, it causes us to evaluate our own system of standards, but also helps to highlight the various options and sets them in a wide conceptual horizon. So the exercise combines a normative (empirical) and a conceptual approach (theoretical) towards the subject. Among others, the following subjects will be studied and discussed this year : les déclinaisons de l'Etat de droit, the process of direct democracy, constitutional revision procedures, parliamentary mediation, asymmetrical federalism, the protection of minorities when compared with other comparative preliminary issues in other legal disciplines? What difficulties are met? Do specific issues need to be identified? Settling these questions is precisely a matter for constitutional sciences.			
Learning outcomes				
Faculty or entity in charge	BUDR			

Programmes containing this learning unit (UE)						
Program title	Acronym	Credits	Prerequisite	Learning outcomes		
Master [120] in Law	DROI2M	5		٩		