GHENT UNIVERSITY

Course Specifications

Valid as from the academic year 2026-2027

Procedure (B001315)

Course size *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

Credits 7.0 **Study time 210 h**

Course offerings in academic year 2027-2028

A (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent
M (semester 2)	Dutch	Gent

Lecturers in academic year 2027-2028

Vandenbussche, Wannes	RE21	lecturer-in-charge
Boullart, Sven	RE21	staff member

Offered in the following programmes in 2027-2028	**crdts**	**offering**
Bachelor of Laws in Laws	7	A
Micro-credential Procedure	7	M
Linking Course Master of Laws in Laws	7	A
Preparatory Course Master of Laws in Laws	7	A
Elective Set Laws	7	A

Teaching languages

Dutch

Keywords

Civil Procedural Law, Structure of the Courts, Judicial authorities, Actors (Judges, Lawyers, Bailiffs), Legal proceedings, Legal Aid, Legal remedies, Review, Summary Proceedings.
Public Procedural Law, Legal protection, prevention of conflicts, protection a posteriori, Administrative Courts, Council of State (institution, competence, procedure, enforcement)

Position of the course

Part I (prof. Vandenbussche): In the first part of the course, students acquire a thorough foundational knowledge and understanding of the rules of civil procedure within Belgium's multi-layered legal order. Particular attention is devoted to the underlying principles, sources, general doctrines, methods of legal reasoning, and procedural methodology. Students are encouraged to think critically about the role and mission of the courts, the functions of various judicial actors, and current challenges in this context — such as digitalisation and the relationship with alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.
Part II (prof. Lust): The aim is that students obtain a basic knowledge and insight in the regulations on Belgian public procedural law, including the basic principles, legal sources, law finding methods and methodology. The objective is also to get them to reflect critically on the subject. Subject matters of this part of the course or the varios techiques on legal protection of the citizens against public authority action, with particular attention to the administrave courts, and more specifically the Council of State.

Contents

Part I (prof. Vandenbussche): Study and commentaries on the basic principles of an appropriate dispute settlement, judicial organization, judicial authorities, jurisdiction, judicial proceedings and an overview of the methods for alternative dispute settlement.
Part II (prof. Lust): study of the general structure of the legal protection of citizen

against public authority action; solving conflicts through administrative procedure. The most important subject matter of this part of the course is the study of the administrative courts, especially the Council of State (procedure, judicial powers, implications of a judgement of annulment).

Initial competences

Besides the admission to follow the bachelor degree, the student must have taken a preliminary training in basic knowledge of Belgian private law, the Belgian judicial organization and administrative law.

Final competences

1 Knowledge and insight: a fair basic knowledge and insight in the regulations of (Belgian) procedural civil and public law ; master the procedural law research methods.

2 An ability to make oral and written reports on the subject and the ability to solve simple cases and in more complicated cases.
3 An ability to distil the relevant questions and to formulate the beginning of a solution.
4 An ability to reflect critically on civil and public procedural law and its regulations.
5 Students have to be aware that procdural regulations may be subject to change (often in function of societal developments).

Conditions for credit contract

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

Conditions for exam contract

Access to this course unit via an exam contract is unrestricted

Teaching methods

Seminar, Lecture, Independent work

Extra information on the teaching methods

In addition to traditional lectures, part of the course content is introduced and explored in greater depth through case studies, which are discussed with the active participation of the students. The lectures also provide room for a critical discussion of significant and current developments within the field.
Recordings of each lecture will be made available shortly after class and will remain accessible until the end of the academic year.
The lifelong learner enrolled in this micro-credential has the ability to take the lectures on campus or online. Regular students cannot enroll in the micro-credential and must follow the regular course.

Study material

Type: Syllabus

Name: Civil Procedure 2024-2025, with model bundle
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Number of Pages : 450
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes
Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No

Type: Syllabus

Name: Legal protection against administrative authorities
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Language : Dutch
Number of Pages : 200
Available on Ufora : Yes
Online Available : Yes

Available in the Library : No
Available through Student Association : No

Type: Slides

Name: PowerPoint Presentations
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Audiovisual Material

Name: Lesson recordings
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Additional information: No live stream.

Type: Other

Name: Up-to-date edition of the Judicial Code
Indicative price: € 40
Optional: no

Type: Other

Name: All kinds of media reports, recent rulings, reports, notes and plans concerning current developments in the fields covered
Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty
Optional: no
Available on Ufora : Yes

Type: Other

Name: Up-to-date edition of a codex of Belgian Public Law
Indicative price: € 50
Optional: no

References

M. Storme en P. Taelman, Tweetalige uitgave van het Gerechtelijk Wetboek en bijzondere wetten, met rechtspraakannotatie, Uitgave E. Story-Scientia
P. Taelman en P. Van Orshoven (eds.), *De wet van 26 april 2007 tot wijziging van het Gerechtelijk Wetboek met het oog op het bestrijden van de gerechtelijke achterstand doorgelicht*, Brugge, die Keure 2007 (tweede druk).
B. Allemeersch en P. Taelman (eds.), *Hervorming van de burgerlijke rechtspleging door Potpourri I*, Brugge, die Keure, 2016, XI + 160 p.
P. Taelman en B. Allemeersch (eds.), *Het burgerlijk procesrecht opniuew hervormd*, Antwerpen, Intersentia, 2019, xiv + 284 p.
G. De Leval e.a., Droit judiciaire, Tome 2, Manuel de procédure civile, Brussel, Larcier, 2021, 3 Volumes.
J. Laenens e.a., *Handboek Gerechtelijk Recht*, Antwerpen, Intersentia, 2020, xxviii + 969 p.
M. Van Damme (ed.), *De hervorming van de Raad van State*, Brugge, die Keure, 2014, 318 p.
S. Lust, P. Schollen en S. Verbist (eds.), *Actualia rechtsbescherming tegen de overheid*, Antwerpen, Intersentia, 2014, 163 p.
F. Viseur en J. Philippart (ed.), *La justice administrative*, Brussel, Larcier, 2015, 833 p.
A.L. Durviaux en M. Pâques, *Droit administratif et contentieux*, Brussel, Larcier, 2016, 399 p.
R. Stevens en K. Didden, *Raad van State, afdeling bestuursrechtspraak, 2. Het procesverloop*, in *Administratieve rechtsbibliotheek*, Brugge, die Keure, 2018, 811 blz.
D. Renders en B. Gors, *Le Conseil d'Etat*, Brussel, Larcier, 2020, 708 blz.

Course content-related study coaching

Parts I and II: The academic staff (ZAP and AAP) can be contacted via the online discussion tool for additional information or clarifications concerning the (online) lectures, the (online) plenary exercises,the seminars and the guided self-study. Questions that serve as a model for the exam will be available and are discussed and solved during the (online) plenary exercises and the seminars.

Assessment moments

end-of-term assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period

Written assessment

Examination methods in case of permanent assessment

Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment

examination during the second examination period is possible

Extra information on the examination methods

Written exam with multiple choice questions (max. 50%), theoretical questions, practical questions and a verification of the student's insights (his/her ability to reflect on, to give interpretations of and to analyse more complex cases).
The lifelong learner enrolled in this micro-credential takes the exam along with the regular students.

Calculation of the examination mark

Facilities for Working Students

Lessons will be recorded.