Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne - Ecole de droit de la Sorbonne
Master 2 Droit anglais et nord-américain des affaires
Année universitaire 2026-2027

SYLLABUS

Comparative Conflict of Laws

Pr. Laurence USUNIER

16 hours (8 classes of 2 hours each)

Description of the course

The course provides an introduction to the conflict of laws (or, in other terms, "private international law") in a comparative perspective. It focuses on four major legal systems (England and Wales, the U.S., France and the European Union), with particular emphasis on one key issue raised by private law situations having a foreign element: the international jurisdiction of courts.

Objectives

This Module aims to help the student:

- Understand the legal problems raised by private law disputes involving individuals and companies from different countries;
- Become familiar with the principles that help solve these problems in common law and in civil law systems;
- Analyze and assess critically court decisions in this field of the law.

Development of skills base

A successful candidate on this Module should:

- Possess a firm knowledge and understanding of Private International Law;
- Be able to evaluate critically new developments in this area;
- Be capable of utilising a full range of learning and research resources.

Course content

1. Introduction
2. Heads of Jurisdiction
3. Declining Jurisdiction (1): The Doctrine of *Forum Non Conveniens*
4. Declining Jurisdiction (2): Parallel Proceedings
5. Choice of Court Agreements
6. Anti-Suit Injunctions and Abusive Proceedings
7. Anti-Suit Injunctions and Choice of Court Agreements

Mode of assessment

Oral examination at the end of the term. Participation in class is also taken into consideration as a bonus for students who were active all along the semester.

Bibliography

- B. Audit & L. d'Avout, *Droit international privé*, 9th ed., LGDJ, 2022
- P. J. Borchers, *Conflicts in a nutshell*, 5th ed., West Publishers, 2020
- A. Briggs, *The Conflict of laws,* 5th ed., Oxford University Press, 2024
- A. Briggs, *Private International Law in English Courts,* 2nd ed., Oxford University Press, 2023
- D. Bureau & H. Muir Watt, *Droit international privé*, 5th ed., PUF, 2021
- L. Collins (ed.), *Dicey, Morris and Collins on the Conflict of Laws*, 16th ed., Sweet & Maxwell, 2022
- B. Haftel, *Droit international privé*, 3rd ed., Dalloz, 2023
- M.-L. Niboyet, G. de Geouffre de la Pradelle & S. Fulli-Lemaire, *Droit international privé*, 8th ed., LGDJ, 2023
- P. de Vareilles-Sommières & S. Laval, *Droit international privé*, 11th ed., Dalloz, 2023