



**RIGA
GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF
LAW**

Course Outline

Course number	RBA313				
Course title	Contract Law				
Credit points	6 ECTS (4 LV)				
Total hours	170				
Lecture hours	56				
Seminar and other hours	14				
Course level	Bachelor				
Prerequisites	Introduction to Civil Law				
Category	Mandatory	X	Restricted elective		Free elective

COURSE RESPONSIBLE

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Aleksandrs Fillers	PhD	Associate Professor

COURSE TEACHERS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Aleksandrs Fillers	PhD	Associate Professor
Krista Paula Petere	Mag. Jur.	Legal Research Adviser

Allocation of classes between the teachers may be subject to further adjustments.

COURSE ABSTRACT

Contract law is one of the key areas of private law. In fact, modern economy primarily functions through the web of contracts ensuring transfer of goods and services. As a result, most legal systems employ a large number of typical contracts, to mention just a few: contracts on sale of movable and immovable goods, contracts on provision of services, loan agreements, lease, distribution and many others. Anyone,

conducting research on private law or practicing it, needs to have a good knowledge of the core concepts and rules of contract law. The purpose of this course is to provide such core knowledge, teaching students to identify the main types of contracts, principal stages in the “life of a contract” and rights and obligations arising out of them. Students will also learn to apply contract law concepts to practical cases thus transforming the acquired knowledge into a competence.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The objective of the course is for the students to: 1) gain proper knowledge and understanding of the system of contract law; 2) understand difference between key institutes of contract law; 3) gain skills of critical thinking allowing to analyse fact patterns involving contract law questions and finding and applying proper legal rules to resolve them.

The learning outcomes of the course can be summarized as follows:

Knowledge:

1. Students will study the key institutes and concepts of contract law.
2. Students will learn to differentiate among the key types of contracts (“sale”, “lease”, “loan”, “mandate”, “provision of services” etc.) and understand their role and function in the legal system and economy.
3. Students study all the main stages of the “life of a contract”: its formation, interpretation, performance and termination. Students will likewise learn the principal rules that apply in case the contract is not adequately performed (e.g., rules on damages and other remedies) as well as other rules that supplement the core of the contract law (securitisation, agency, assignment, etc.). By the end of the course, students will have comprehensive understanding of the principal rules of contract law.

Skills:

4. Student will develop skills of critical and comparative legal analysis.
5. Students will develop skills of writing academic work and participating in small class discussion during the seminars.
6. Students will learn to apply the obtained acquired to practical case studies.

Competences:

7. Students will effectively identify key contract law institutes, their purpose and economic function.
8. Students will be able to critically analyse contract law issues and give reasoned opinions about those issues.
9. Students will improve their abilities of participating in classroom environment.

GRADING CRITERIA

Criteria	Weighting
Course Assignment I	20%
Course Assignment II	20%
Course Assignment III	20%
Final Exam	40%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Missed seminars.

Students must be present in seminars. A student who manifestly does not participate in a seminar is considered to be absent. In case a student is unable to participate in the seminar due to an objective reason, he/she must immediately inform the teacher of the respective seminar group (Aleksandrs.Fillers@rgsl.edu.lv; Krista-Paula.Petere@rgsl.edu.lv). If the student has missed a seminar due to an objective obstacle, he/she will be requested to submit a homework assignment. However, in any event, a student will not be allowed to finish the course if the student has not been present in at least 4 seminars (subject to exceptional approval by the seminar teacher).

2. Failed assignments. If a student has failed his/her assignment(s) (either due to a non-submission or an unsatisfactory grade), he/she will not be able to re-take the failed assignment. However, the student preserves the right to sit in the final exam. The grade (from 0 to 3) of the failed assignment will be used to calculate the overall grade. If the overall grade is below 4, the student must retake the whole course.

3. Failed final exam. If a student has failed his/her sit in the final exam (either due to an absence or an unsatisfactory grade), he/she has a right to re-take the exam. If the student does not take the re-take exam or receives an unsatisfactory grade in the re-take exam, he/she must retake the whole course. If after the re-take exam, the overall grade is below 4, the student must retake the whole course.

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

No.	Main subjects	Planned hours
1	General Part of Contract Law	40
2	Special Part of Contract Law	24

