Digital Economy and Society 37010-E

Professor Petri Mäntysaari

About the course

On this course, we will study very large things and very specific things about digital economy through the lens of commercial law.

Contents

We will first set the scene and study the nature of digital economy as well as its business models.

After that, we will focus on e-commerce in the broad sense, big tech, the Internet of Things, fintech services, blockchain and some other cool topics ranging from AI and robots to information wars and the future of democracy. We will cover a lot of ground.

How does it work?

All materials will be in Moodle.

I will write a short or long lecture as an introduction to each large topic.

There are neither physical nor digital lectures. Just a lot of text. But this area is legally really complicated and abstract stuff and it is impossible to understand it in any meaningful way without actually reading text and thinking a bit.

There could be about three lectures per week and ten lectures in all.

In each lecture, you will also find some questions and links to legal and other materials.

You learn by reading my introduction, having a look at the linked materials you find interesting, trying to answer questions on the basis of the materials and finally writing a term paper.

You don't really need to read the linked materials but feel free to read the ones you find interesting. The questions are just for yourself to increase understanding. Feel free to discuss them in your own mind or with your fellow students.

While the chronological order of issues is designed to make sense, you do not necessarily need to study the issues in any particular order.

Having said this, the lectures are intended to form a whole, meaning that all lectures are relevant.

Think!

This course is not a mechanical exercise. What I would like you to do is <u>think</u> about these very complex issues after you have seen the different kinds contexts and materials, and hopefully <u>understand</u> these very complex phenomena and how they affect your business and society as a whole.

Term paper

Since the start of Covid-19, I have used term papers or assignments rather than exams on my courses. Term papers and assignments actually seem to work a lot better than traditional exams when the substance of the course is abstract and tricky.

On this course, there will be a term paper. I will tell you more about the term paper in Moodle after all lectures are in place. There will be plenty of time for the term paper!