



STUDY PROGRAMME

(1) European Legal Studies Programme

ACADEMIC YEAR

2018-2019

SEMESTER

Second

(2) Transatlantic Affairs

COURSE TITLE

European Environmental Law and Policy

COURSE PROFESSOR

Dr. N. Notaro

COURSE ASSISTANT

L. Larripa

NATURE OF COURSE (COMPULSORY, OPTIONAL)

Optional seminar

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION

English

ECTS CREDITS

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1. COURSE OBJECTIVES

The focus of this seminar is on the rationale for the development of European and International environmental law, its origins, objectives, principles, legal basis, instruments and actors. Relevant links with other EU policy areas, such as the internal market, will also be addressed. The course will cover, inter alia, flagship EU Regulations and Directives in the fields of nature protection, water, air, chemicals, climate change, waste, industrial installations, as well as major case law of the European Court of Justice.

Upon completion of the course, students will be expected to have a good understanding of the functioning of EU environment law and policy, its links with international as well as national law and basic knowledge in its main areas. They should also have improved their analytical and presentational skills.

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme European Legal Studies:

- 1.1. Possess advanced knowledge of the European Union (EU), its institutions, competences, substantive principles and legal doctrines.
- 1.2. Possess general knowledge on the main elements of the EU's law and policy at large.
- 1.3. Possess in-depth, scientific knowledge on specific areas of EU law.
- 2.1. Be able to think analytically, correctly analysing complex legal problems in a multi-level legal order, the various sources of law, legal instruments and actors, and to formulate a scientifically sound position on the basis of logical reasoning.





- 2.2 Be able to think dynamically, to understand the constantly changing and evolving nature of the European integration process and to provide constructive commentary on its possible future development.
- 2.3. Be able to think critically, formulating an independent opinion and interpretation of complex legal problems, contextualising findings and weighing a multitude of different factors, including findings from other disciplines.
- 2.4. Be able to process a large amount of information within a short amount of time and to deliver accurate and reflective outcomes.
- 2.5. Be able to work with primary sources of law, such as judgments and legislation, and to reflect independently on their significance and interpretation.
- 2.6. Be able to work in a multi-cultural context, understanding and mediating different legal systems, legal traditions and normative frameworks in a constructive way.
- 2.7. Be able to develop, research, discuss and critically answer questions regarding a scientific research question of EU law in a scientifically responsible way.
- 2.8. Have a pro-active attitude towards self-development, through self-study, lifelong learning and professional growth, particularly through preparatory reading for group discussion in the courses.
- 2.9. Draft a clear legal scientific text in the area of EU law.
- 2.10. Present and defend orally an issue relating to EU law on the basis of legal argumentation or a personal position.
- 2.11. Be able to study and work in the area of EU law in English and French, including through interaction with native speakers.

The course objectives tie in with the following learning outcomes of the programme Transatlantic Affairs :

- 1.1 The graduate masters the most important theoretical approaches and concepts of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, Economics, International Relations and Diplomacy Studies, Legal Studies and/or Political Science relevant for the analysis of transatlantic affairs.
- 1.2 The graduate can describe, explain and illustrate the current state of scientific research in the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense and, is, in line with his or her disciplinary focus, able to critically assess the results of this research.
- 1.3 The graduate has good knowledge of, depending on his or her disciplinary focus, the political and/or legal systems, the decision-making processes, the economic structures and the main internal and external policies of the European Union and the United States.
- 1.4 The graduate has insights into historical, political, legal and economic aspects of transatlantic affairs as well as into those policy areas that are of essential importance to transatlantic affairs. He or she can use these insights to contextualize and interpret new developments.
- 1.5 The graduate is able to incorporate knowledge and understanding of various fields of transatlantic affairs and of different related disciplines (such as Economics, International Relations, Legal Studies, Political Science) as well as to adopt both a European and a US perspective on transatlantic affairs.
- 2.1 The graduate can approach the field of transatlantic affairs in a broad sense analytically by assessing the challenges in this domain with an open mind for diversity and for complex situations.
- 2.2 The graduate has the ability to critically reflect upon problems regarding an extensive range of transatlantic affairs, to adopt well-informed points of view and to communicate them effectively orally and in writing, whether working independently or in a team.
- 2.4 The graduate is capable of processing a large amount of information and appropriately analyse relevant sources depending on his or her disciplinary focus within a short period of time and of suggesting possible actions that contribute to problem-solving in a creative way.
- 2.5 The graduate has the intellectual maturity and skills to take responsibilities and function autonomously in a professional environment at national or international level, and especially in a transatlantic context, and to work efficiently and effectively through planning, organizing, setting priorities, meeting deadlines, cooperating across cultural boundaries and networking.



Block 1: The legal and policy framework
Block 2: Climate change and air quality
Block 3: Biodiversity,
Block 4: Water and marine
Block 5: Chemicals and waste
Block 6: Industrial emissions and impact assessment
Block 7: Environmental liability and access to information/justice

4. TEACHING METHOD

The seminar will combine ex cathedra lectures with class discussion of case studies .

5. FURTHER DETAILS ON THE TEACHING METHOD

Students will receive in advance of each class a case study and questions to analyse with a view to present their replies to the the class. They will also receive a reading assignment before each class.

6. COURSE MATERIAL

Reference book for the course: J. Jans & H. Vedder, European Environmental Law after Lisbon, 2012

For more specific readings, see the detailed course outlines.

7. EVALUATION

Oral exams will be held at the end of the seminar. The exam is a 'closed book' exam. Students are expected to give a short presentation on a topic of their choice followed by questions on that topic and on the rest of the course content.

The evaluation will be divided as follow: 20% class participation, 80% exam.

Exams organised in the second session period are 100% written exams.

