



STUDY PROGRAMME

European Interdisciplinary Studies, Natolin campus (Advanced Academic Master)

YEAR

2023-2024

COURSE TITLE

Public International Law

SEMESTER

1

COURSE PROFESSOR(S)

ÇALI Başak

ACADEMIC ASSISTANT(S)

KOLASINSKI Tadeusz

COURSE TYPE

Preparatory Course

MAJOR(S)

Not applicable

ECTS CREDITS

no ECTS

TEACHING HOURS

10

INDIVIDUAL & GROUP STUDY TIME

TUTORIAL(S)

COEFFICIENT

not applicable

LANGUAGE(S)

EN

COURSE OBJECTIVE

This course aims to provide a foundational basis in international law for graduate students. The course covers the structure, sources and institutions of international law, and the operation of international law in selected issue areas.

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. A clear grasp of certain key concepts in international law;
2. Knowledge of the sources of international law, how international law is made and interpreted and the interplay between different sources of international law;
3. An understanding of the different roles international law and legal analysis play in international affairs;
4. An ability to construct and appraise international legal arguments;
5. An ability to critically engage with primary international law texts and material

RECOMMENDED PREPARATION

Students are expected to read the course material before attending the seminar.

TEACHING METHOD(S)

The course will blend a series of teaching methods including interactive lectures, small group work, class discussions and structured debates.

ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA

The course will be assessed based on a 'pass/fail' basis through:

- An online multiple-choice closed-book test (80% of the mark) at the end of the final course session - 15 minutes to answer 7 questions, and

- Overall attendance (20% of the mark).

The weighted average of both assessment elements needs to be equal or greater than 50% for a student to pass the compact seminar.

Each student is entitled to re-take the test once. The re-take test would account for 80% of the mark whilst overall attendance would account for the remaining 20%.

Since preparatory courses carry no ECTS credits, the final result will be present on the transcript, but will have no impact on students' final average, nor on overall grade, nor on attaining the diploma.

COURSE CONTENTS

The course will be taught over four sessions consisting of two and a half hours each.

Session 1: What is international law? An introduction to key issues, branches, subjects and institutions.

In this introductory session will offer an overview of international law with a focus on key and contemporary debates about international law, different branches of international law as well as subjects of international law and the institutional architecture of international law.

Session 2: Theories and Sources of International law

This session will focus on sources of international law. It will cover international treaties, customary international law and general principles of law and the interrelationship between them as sources. The session will also cover what is framed as 'soft law'. The discussions on the sources of international law will be situated against the backdrop of theoretical approaches to international law.

Session 4: State responsibility in international law

The aim of this session is to survey how states can be held responsible for violating international law. We will review two paradigms, direct responsibility and responsibility through complicity. We will also inquire into the doctrine of 'jurisdiction', as a trigger of direct state responsibility. We will do so through the case study of European state responsibility arising out of assistance to the 'Libyan CoastGuard'.

Session 4: International law, conflict and accountability

This session will focus on the regulation of conflict in international law through the UN, laws of war, human rights law and international crimes. It will also consider the accountability mechanisms in the context of conflict-related violations in international law.

COURSE MATERIALS (readings and other learning resources/tools)

The course will use academic books and articles and blog posts.