

I. SUBJECT DETAILS

Data on the subject	
Subject	Public International Law
Degree	Law Degree
Year	1 st year
Semester	1 st semester / 2 nd semester (Annual course)
ECTS Credits	7,5
Department	Public Law
Area	Public International Law and International Relations
Professor/s	Raquel Regueiro Dubra, Ph.D

Teaching staff	
Professor	Raquel Regueiro Dubra, Ph.D
Group	International Students Group
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Contribution of the course to the professional profile
<p>Public International Law course is part of the subjects taught in the area of Public International Law and International Relations. The main objective of the course is to help the student understand the basic concepts of International law and its importance in the international society nowadays.</p> <p>At the end of the course, the student will be able to use a practical as well as a scientific approach to identify the current issues concerning the international legal framework ruling the relations between the actors of the international society.</p>

II. COMPETENCES TO BE IMPROVED

General Competences
Instrumental
<p>To improve oral and written communication skills in a second language.</p> <p>The acquisition of this competence includes the ability to work in a foreign language – English - to the extent that such skill is considered essential for the exercise of the profession in an international and globalized environment.</p> <p>Learning outcomes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To improve ability on comprehensive reading in a foreign language.2. To increase written skills, including grammar and syntax.3. To develop abilities in oral expression and the use of the suitable vocabulary in oral presentations.
Interpersonal skills
<p>Teamwork level 1.</p> <p>The student must acquire basic skills in order to be able to work with others in order to solve case-studies as well as to work on a project. This competence requires to be able to collaborate actively within the group as well as to respect and value the work and the opinions of others in order to achieve the common goal of the group.</p>
Specific Competences
Conceptual (Knowledge)
<p>Learn and understand the basic legal international concepts</p> <p><u>Learning outcomes:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To understand the international legal framework as a legal system.2. To learn and to analyse the main rules and practical implementation of Public International Law3. To identify the main subjects of International Law.4. To study the international responsibility of the subjects of International Law and the system for the peaceful settlement of disputes.
Procedural (Do)
<p>To identify the role of the International Legal Framework as an instrument for social relations.</p> <p>The student must understand the relevance of this legal framework in the international society (nowadays but also in the History of international relations) and which are the principles that underpin the relations between the international actors.</p> <p>To identify the legal sources and to apply them to specific situations</p> <p>The student must know the different sources of International Law and be able to apply them correctly to</p>

specific situations in order to extract the legal consequences of each case.

Professional (Know-how)

Discursive and argumentative skill.

Learning outcomes.

1. Writing skills: fluent, clear and organized structuring of ideas; command of specific vocabulary.
2. Oral skills: ability to speak fluently and confidently; organized structuring of ideas; persuasion in the presentation of arguments; using the appropriate register and specific terminology.

III. CONTENT / SYLLABUS

Module I: The International Society and its Legal Framework

Lesson 1. International Society and Public International Law

Module II : Sources of Public International Law

Lesson 2. Introduction. Article 38 of the Statute of the International Court of Justice. General Principles of Law and other sources.

Lesson 3. International Custom

Lesson 4. International Treaties (I)

Lesson 5. International Treaties (II)

Lesson 6. Unilateral acts of the States

Lesson 7. Relations between National Law and International Law

Module III: The State: territorial and personal competences

Lesson 8. Material competences of the State: land, air and sea

Lesson 9: Personal competences of the State: nationality, aliens and Human Rights

Module IV: Others subjects of International Law

Lesson 10. International Organizations

Lesson 11. Other subjects

Module V. Peaceful settlement of disputes

Lesson 12. International responsibility and international claim

Lesson 13. Prohibition of the use of force and mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes

IV. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required readings

International Law. A Critical Introduction, Wade Mansell/Karen Openshaw, Hart Publishing, 2013

Recommended readings

International Law, Malcolm N. Shaw, Cambridge University Press, 2014

International Law, Jan Klabbers, Cambridge University Press, 2013

The professor will give instructions with regard to further required and recommended readings during the course.

V. METHODOLOGY

Classroom activities or face-to-face methodology

- Lectures will provide an introduction and an overview of the topic studied.
- Presentation of case studies and other activities by the students. Corrections provided by the professor as well as guidance and comments.
- The active participation of the students and in-depth discussions are expected. Therefore, the previous study of the topic analysed in class is also expected.

Please note that the professor can decide to evaluate the knowledge of the students through *one minute paper* tests without prior notice.

Independent study methodology

- The students must read and study the required reading before each lecture and shall be prepared to discuss the topic in class.
- Meeting with classmates in order to work on the group assignments.
- Resolution of case studies
- Writing essays or reports on specific issues related to International Law.

VI. STUDENT WORKING HOURS

STUDENT WORKING HOURS			
Activities	Number of classroom hours	Number of non-classroom hours	Total
Lectures	63,5	63,5	127
Presentation of group assignments	1	2,5	3,5
Attendance to the presentations of other classmates	9	4,5	13,5
Group assignments	1	5	6
Assessment: one minute paper	0,5	0	0,5
Assessment: : exam	(+6)	37	37 (+6)

Evaluation: review	(+2)	0	(+2)
Attendance and presentation of reports related to activities organized by the Department	(+5)	(+2)	+(7)
ECTS Credits:	75 (+13)	112,5 (+2)	187,5 (+15)

VII. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation criteria	General and specific competences	Evaluation percentage
Group presentations (including assignments)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of a Second Language. Fluency of the speech, dynamism. • Structure of the presentation, precision and accuracy of the information provided • Knowledge of the topic • Ability to answer the questions of the audience (including the professor's) • Capacity to adjust the speech to the time assigned • Quality of the reasoning and ability to convince the audience with regard to the ideas expressed 	30%
Assessment: Exam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge of a Second Language (writing) • Knowledge of the theoretical concepts • Ability to apply correctly the theory and the sources of International Law to a specific situation • Quality of the reasoning and rigor/strength/accuracy/completeness of the arguments used • Ability to reach a legal conclusion and to extract the legal consequences of a specific situation 	60%
Attendance and presentation of reports related to activities organized by the Department	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to apply theoretical concepts to specialized areas of International Law • Capacity to make a critical assessment 	10%

EVALUATION

Ordinary session:

- **Exam (70%):** the exam will consist on a situation the student has to analyse applying the theoretical knowledge acquired as well as the sources of International.
- **Group presentations (including assignments) (30%):** The subject of the presentations will be assigned by the professor at the beginning of the semester. Guidelines will be available in Moodle. The students will be free to form the groups as they wish. The professor will set a deadline to do so. After the deadline, the professor will form groups in order to include every student in one group. At least one judgment/advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice (worth 20% of the final mark) will be done per group. The presentations of assignments will be worth 10%.

Extraordinary session / Third session and onwards:

The exam will represent 70% of the overall grading and the group presentations 30%. If the student passed one block of activities (exam, assignments or presentation), the mark can be maintained for the extraordinary session.

Please note that the student is always required to pass the exam (at least, 5/10) to allow the professor to take into account the marks obtained in other activities (group presentation and assignments).