



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
Public International Law	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: lect. dr. Julius Zaleskis Other(s):	Department of Public Law, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University Saulėtekio av. 9, Building 1, Room 405, LT-10222, Vilnius tel. (8 5) 2366175, e-mail: vtkatedra@tf.vu.lt

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
First, Second	Optional

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Face-to-face	Autumn and Spring semesters	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: -	Additional requirements (if any): -

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	125	32	93

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
<p>To develop the understanding of public international law, its main principles, branches and institutes, relation with national and EU law systems. The course aims at training of application of theoretical knowledge in practice, developing of analytical thinking. Students should be able to demonstrate knowledge about the system of international public law and the trends of its development, explain and apply the norms of public international law, analyse the practice of International Court of Justice and national courts.</p>		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Ability to demonstrate deep and systematic knowledge and understanding of the nature and functioning of Public International Law; ability to apply theoretical knowledge of public international law in practice.	<p>An interactive method of teaching during lectures, comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms, case studies, brainstorming, discussions during seminars, individual studies.</p>	<p>Participation in discussions, examination in written (open-ended questions).</p>
Ability to understand and interpret the sources of Public International Law and apply the norms and principles determined in sources in order to support the decisions and opinions of courts or other international institutions.		
An improved ability to evaluate the actions and activities of countries, its institutions and representatives in the context of international relations.		
An improved ability to analytically analyse, comprehend and evaluate case-law of Public International Law.		
Ability to comment on different military force-related situations from a legal viewpoint and implement main principles of Public International Law in other cases.		
An improved ability to identify, retrieve and use the full range of library-based and electronic resources efficiently and autonomously.		

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours	Self-study work: time and assignments

	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Exercises	Laboratory work	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Introductory lecture. Introduction to the lecturer and fellow students. Explanation of the course assignments.	2						2		Reading of scholarly literature
2. The concept, subjects, system and specifics of international law.	4						4	10	Reading of scholarly literature
3. Sources of international law	4		2				6	15	Reading of scholarly literature, presentation and discussion
4. The principle of prohibition on the use of force	2						2	10	Reading of scholarly literature
5. The principle of peaceful settlement of disputes	2		2				4	8	Reading of scholarly literature, presentation and discussion
6. The principle of self-determination of nations	2						2	10	Reading of scholarly literature
7. The principle of non-intervention	2		2				4	10	Reading of scholarly literature, presentation and discussion
8. The principle of state responsibility	2						2	10	Reading of scholarly literature
9. The principle of pacta sunt servanda	2		2				4	10	Reading of scholarly literature, presentation and discussion
10. The principle of protection of human rights	2						2	10	Reading of scholarly literature
Total	24		8				32	93	

Assessment strategy	Weight, %	Deadline	Assessment criteria
Participation in the class discussions and presentation, writing paper	40	During semester	Active participation in the discussions. Maximum evaluation: 4 points . The evaluation will be based on the following: the fact that the intervention of the student is to the point, the relevance of the arguments raised, and the fact that the arguments presented are logic, coherent and persuasive.
Written examination	60	January	Written essay-type answers to 2 questions. The questions will involve both theoretical and practical aspects discussed during the course. Maximum exam evaluation – 6 points (each question will be evaluated separately with maximum 3 points each). The evaluation system is the following: 3 points: excellent knowledge and abilities. The answers to the questions raise interesting and, possibly, original points, the student develops own thoughts on the relevant issues, the arguments are presented in a complete, clear, coherent and logic manner. The answers are well-structured and the arguments are easy to follow. 2 points: from good to average knowledge and abilities. The arguments provided in the answers show a good level of knowledge of the student, but the arguments are not fully clear and persuasive. 1 point: knowledge and abilities are below average, but they still meet minimum requirements. The answers to the questions consist of basic ideas, the arguments are mentioned, but not developed, major mistakes as regards the legal assessment are

			present. 0 points: failure to meet minimum requirements. The answers to the questions miss the point or are completely underdeveloped.
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Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
SHAW, M. N.	2008	International Law		Cambridge University Press
PAYANDEH, M.	2010	The Concept of International Law in the Jurisprudence of H. L. A. Hart.	European Journal of International Law, Vol. 21, No. 4, p. 967-995	http://www.ejil.org/pdfs/21/4/2121.pdf
BROWNIE, I	2003	Principles of Public International Law		Oxford: Clarendon Press
EVANS, M. D.	2003	International Law		Oxford: Oxford University Press
CASSESE, A.	2001	International Law		Oxford: Oxford University Press
CANCADO TRINDADE, A.A.	2008 (2013)	International Law for Humankind: Towards a New Ius Gentium		The Hague: Martinus Nijhoff Publishers
ALSTON, P., MACDONALD, E. (eds.).	2008	Human Rights, Intervention and the Use of Force		Oxford: Oxford University Press
GRAY, C.	2008	International Law and the Use of Force		Oxford: Oxford University Press
The Charter of the United Nations and other international treaties, resolutions of the UN Security Council.				http://www.un.org/en/documents/index.html
The works (draft articles) of the UN International Law Commission				http://legal.un.org/ilc/
Case law of the International Court of Justice				http://www.icj-cij.org/homepage/index.php
Optional reading				
DUPUY, P.-M.	1993	Droit international public		Paris: Dalloz