



COURSE UNIT (MODULE) DESCRIPTION

Course unit (module) title	Code
DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR LAW	

Lecturer(s)	Department(s) where the course unit (module) is delivered
Coordinator: assist. dr. Nika Bruskina Other:	Department of Public Law, Faculty of Law, Vilnius University Saulėtekio av. 9, Building 1, LT-10222, Vilnius, Room 405 tel. (85)2366175; e-mail: vtkatedra@tf.vu.lt

Study cycle	Type of the course unit (module)
Second	Elective

Mode of delivery	Period when the course unit (module) is delivered	Language(s) of instruction
Face-to-face	9 (autumn) semester	English

Requirements for students	
Prerequisites: no	Additional requirements (if any): no

Course (module) volume in credits	Total student's workload	Contact hours	Self-study hours
5	133	32	101

Purpose of the course unit (module): programme competences to be developed		
The purpose of the course is to provide systemic understanding of the diplomatic and consular law. It aims to develop competencies to analyse and evaluate the current issues of diplomatic law, including special missions and diplomatic law of international organizations, and consular law; to interpret the sources of diplomatic and consular law; to apply appropriately these sources in practical situations; as well as to develop analytical and critical thinking, interpersonal and communication skills.		
Learning outcomes of the course unit (module)	Teaching and learning methods	Assessment methods
Students will be able to compare, systemically explicate and interpret the sources of diplomatic and consular law.	Lectures (problem-based teaching), practical sessions (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms, group discussion, the analysis of problematic issues, case studies), individual work (search of information, analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Discussion questions and quizzes, case study, multiple choice tests, exam (multiple choice test and simulation case).
Students will be able to appropriately apply their knowledge to current practical situations arising in different countries, analyse hypothetical cases and base their arguments on the relevant sources of diplomatic and consular law.	Lectures (problem-based teaching), practical sessions (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms, group discussion, the analysis of problematic issues, case studies), individual work (search of information, analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Discussion questions and quizzes, case study, multiple choice tests, exam (multiple choice test and simulation case).
Students will be able to identify and formulate problematic legal issues in the field of diplomatic and consular law and	Lectures (problem-based teaching), practical sessions (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal	Discussion questions and quizzes, case study, exam.

to single out a more appropriate, effective solution to the current problems arising in this sphere.	norms, group discussion, the analysis of problematic issues, case studies), individual work (search of information, analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	(multiple choice test and simulation case).
Students will be able to professionally communicate orally and in writing, unambiguously and reasonably convey own well-grounded ideas, arguments and conclusions based on theoretical and practical knowledge and will be able to trigger or to contribute to the discussion with specialists and non-specialists providing their own insights in an international context.	Practical sessions (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms, group discussion, the analysis of problematic issues, case studies), individual work (search of information, analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Discussion questions, case study, exam (simulation case).
Students will learn to work individually and use legal information databases as well as other sources necessary to deepen their knowledge in the field of diplomatic and consular law.	Practical sessions (comparative assessment and systemic analysis of legal norms, group discussion, the analysis of problematic issues, case studies), individual work (search of information, analysis of the relevant legal framework, policy and case-law, reading of academic literature).	Discussion questions, case study.

Content: breakdown of the topics	Contact hours							Self-study work: time and assignments	
	Lectures	Tutorials	Seminars	Practical sessions	Laboratory work	Internship/work placement	Contact hours	Self-study hours	Assignments
1. Diplomatic and consular law: introduction	2						2	8	Scientific analysis of literature.
2. Establishment and breach of diplomatic relations	3						3	10	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study.
3. Diplomatic missions: establishment and functioning	3			1			4	10	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study.
4. Diplomatic privileges and immunities	4			3			7	16	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study.
5. Special missions	2						2	10	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study. Preparation for the 1st multiple choice test.
6. International organizations and diplomatic law. Privileges and immunities of international organizations	2			2			4	10	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study.
7. Consular posts: establishment and functioning	3						3	10	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study.

8. Consular functions	3			1			4	12	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study.
9. Consular privileges and immunities	2			1			3	15	Scientific analysis of literature. Preparation for discussions and case study. Preparation for the 2 nd multiple choice test.
Total	24			8			32	101	

Assessment strategy	Weight percentage	Period or date of assessment	Assessment criteria
Tests	30	During semester	<i>Two Multiple choice tests</i> (each test – 15 questions) on the topics discussed during the lectures and practical sessions before. Questions in multiple choice part will have the same weight for the exam grade (1 point x 15 questions x 2 tests=30). The students will be asked to select a correct answer from the three choices offered as a list and/or the students will be asked to insert a necessary word/phrase in the sentence.
Participation in class activities	10	During semester	<i>Discussion questions and case-study:</i> The assessment will also be based on the capability to prepare for debate and to effectively orally present and discuss the jurisprudence of the international institutions, orally provide answers to the quiz questions, to raise important questions, to provide own legal insights and arguments in a logical and structured manner, to critically assess the discussed legal issues, to provide clear arguments in support of the points made, to provide other critical remarks and to contribute to other participants' ideas.
Written examination	60	During exam session	Assessment of written exam consists of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 40 % - Students will provide answers to 20 Multiple Choice test questions. Questions in multiple choice part will have the same weight for the exam grade (2 points x 20 questions=40). The students will be asked to select a correct answer from the three choices offered as a list and/or the students will be asked to insert a necessary word/phrase in the sentence. The assessment of multiple choice questions will be aimed at the student's capability to assess his/her higher order cognition, i.e. synthesis, creative thinking and problem solving, based on the knowledge of the subject and abilities acquired during the course. - 20 % - Students will answer to one simulation case in writing (two batches of questions will be posed in the simulation case). The assessment of simulation case will be based on the student's capability to provide arguments in a clear, structured, logical manner, to base his/her arguments on relevant legal provisions and case-law, to explain possibly different opinions of the academic debate, to provide his/her own insights and to base them on his/her own reasonable and convincing argumentation (the students are not allowed to use any materials).

Author	Year of publication	Title	Issue of a periodical or volume of a publication	Publishing place and house or web link
Compulsory reading				
Denza E.	2016	Diplomatic Law: A Commentary on the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations	4nd ed.	Oxford: Oxford University Press
Luke T. Lee J.D. and Quigley J.	2008	Consular Law and Practice	3rd ed.	Oxford: Oxford University Press

Milanovic M.	2020	The Murder of Jamal Khashoggi: Immunities, Inviolability and the Human Right to Life. <i>Human Rights Law Review</i> . P. 1-49.	Vol.20(1)	
Stewart D. P.	2020	The emergent human right to consular notification, access and assistance. In <i>The Cambridge Handbook of New Human Rights: Recognition, Novelty, Rhetoric</i> . P. 439-452.		Cambridge: Cambridge University Press
Russo D.	2016	The injured individual's right to compensation in the law on diplomatic protection, <i>Rivista di diritto internazionale</i> . P. 725-748.	Vol. 99(3)	
Värk R.	2014	Diplomatic and Consular Privileges and Immunities in Case of Unfriendly Cyber Activities, <i>Baltic Yearbook of International Law</i> . P. 125-136.	Vol. 14(1)	
Fakhoury A.	2017	Persona Non Grata: The Obligation of Diplomats to Respect the Laws and Regulations of the Hosting State, <i>Journal of Law, Policy and Globalization</i> . P. 110-121.	Vol. 57	
		The case-law of the International Court of Justice, the European Court of Human Rights as indicated during the lectures		
Optional reading				
Roberts I. (ed.)	2009, 2017	Satow's Diplomatic Practice	6 th ed., 7 th ed.	Oxford: Oxford University Press