

Code: IUS/13

Credits: 8

Matter: International Law

Main language of instruction: Italian

Other language of instruction: English

Teaching Staff

Head instructor

Prof. Nicola Colacino - nicola.colacino@unicusano.it

Introduction

Objective of the course: The objective of the course of International Law is the study of the legal relationships among the members of the international community (primarily the States and international organizations), through the analysis of both the main theories related to their foundation, classical and contemporary, and the most representative cases of diplomatic and judicial practice. In addition to examine the traditional elements that characterize the discipline of the aforementioned relationships (legal subjectivity, sources, law of treaties, rules of implementation, immunity, dispute resolution and responsibility for wrongful acts), particular attention is paid to the evolutionary dynamics of the contemporary international legal system and its openness to new forms of representation of relevant interests (such as human rights, environment, development, trade, economics, information technology) by individuals and organized groups (cd. non-State actors).

Objectives

Course Structure: The course of International Law, divided into eight modules corresponding to the related training credits, is taught through both pre-recorded audio-video lessons and classroom lectures. It pursues the following formative objectives: 1) to define the structure of today's international community; 2) to outline the current structure and the model of development of international legal relations; 3) to illustrate and interpret the rules governing international legal relations; 4) to describe the legal theories that contributed to the evolution of the International Law discipline; 5) to examine the most important cases of international practice

Competencies

The course of International Law is aimed at developing the following competencies:

- the acquisition of the basic notions concerning the current structure of international legal relations, in order to understand the relative development processes;
- the progressive improvement of a capacity for analysis and critical judgment on the norms and principles of a substantial nature and on the procedural rules that characterize the International law discipline;
- the capacity of distinguishing, in the context of the relevant practice, behaviors that comply with International law and those which, on the contrary, infringe its rules;
- the development of a specific capacity for synthesis with regard to the understanding of the dynamics of international relations;
- the use of the necessary terminology to argue the theoretical and practical knowledge acquired by learning.

Syllabus

Programme of the course:

Subject 1. The law of the international community and the legal subjectivity

Subject 2. The sources of International Law

Subject 3. The law of treaties

Subject 4. The rules of implementation of International Law

Subject 5. The jurisdictional immunity of State and its organs

Subject 6. The dispute resolutions procedures and the International courts

Subject 7. The responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts

Subject 8. The protection of human rights

Evaluation system and criteria

The assessment of the achieved learning outcomes is carried out, alternatively, in oral or written form. The oral exam consists of an interview focused on the topics of the course and aimed at ascertaining both the knowledge, the ability to understand, learn and draw conclusions, and finally, the communication skills held by the student. The written test consists of 30 multiple choice questions (4 alternatives, of which only 1 correct), concerning the topics of the course and aimed at ascertaining the knowledge and ability to understand, learn and draw conclusions from the

student. In both methods of verification (oral examination or written test) the student's ability to apply the acquired knowledge to situations drawn from international practice is also assessed.

Bibliography and resources

Materials to consult: The teaching materials available in the e-learning platform and/or one handbook of International Law, chosen among those more recently published.

Recommended bibliography:

M. N. Shaw, *International Law*, C.U.P., 2018

A. Aust, *Handbook of International Law*, C.U.P., 2012