International Law

Prof. Monica Spatti

***COURSE AIMS AND INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES***

The course aims to provide students with a basic knowledge of institutional aspects and fundamental elements of international law.

*Intended learning outcomes*

KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

At the end of the course, students will be able to understand the structure and the mechanisms at the basis of the international legal order. In addition, they will become familiar with the content of some of the most relevant topics regulated by international law.

ABILITY TO APPLY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING

At the end of the course, students will be able to recognise the different types of international acts, and carry out a critical analysis of their content. Furthermore, they will be able to assess if the States behaviour is in compliance with the international law.

***COURSE CONTENT***

The course will cover the following items:

* The international legal system. Features and structure of the international community.
* The subjects of international law. States, international organisations and other actors of the international community.
* The sources of international law. Customs and their codification. Treaties and sources coming from agreements.
* The incorporation of international law in the domestic legal systems.
* The international responsibility of States. International tort and its consequences.
* Litigation between States. Peaceful means of settlement and international jurisdictions, in particular the International Court of Justice.
* The use of force in international relations. Prohibition of the use of force in the system of the UN. The rights of armed conflicts.
* Immunity of States and of their organs.
* The individuals in international law. Diplomatic protection, international protection of human rights and repression of international crimes.

***READING LIST***

For students who have the opportunity to attend the course, exam preparation will be based on lecture notes integrated by the study of some parts of the following volume:

U. Villani, *Lezioni di diritto internazionale*, Cacucci Editore, Bari, 2021.

The outlines of lectures and any supplementary readings will be made available on Blackboard.

For students who do not have the opportunity to attend the course, exam preparation will be based on the following volume:

B. Conforti, M. Iovane, *Diritto internazionale,* Editoriale scientifica, Milan, 2021, 12th ed. (except par. 17 and par. 41).

For students not attending lectures, we also recommend consulting the following source:

R. Luzzatto-F. Pocar, *Codice di diritto internazionale pubblico,* Giappichelli Editore, Turin (latest edition available).

***TEACHING METHOD***

The course is taught through lectures. Active student participation on case studies is encouraged when possible.

***ASSESSMENT METHOD AND CRITERIA***

Attending students may take the exam in two sessions, respectively at the end of the first and the second part of the course (that is to say, at the end of semester 1 and 2). In both cases the final exam will consist in an oral test.

Students not attending classes will have to take a single oral exam.

Students are assessed on their knowledge and understanding of course content and specialised law vocabulary.

***NOTES AND PREREQUISITES***

For an effective attendance of the course, a background knowledge of Institutions of Public Law is required.

Any changes in schedules and information on exams will be published on the *Blackboard* platform. Therefore, all students are invited to register on the *Blackboard* page of the course.

To be assigned a thesis, students are expected to have an adequate knowledge of English. The lecturer is also available to supervise thesis drawn up in English or French.

Further information can be found on the lecturer's webpage at http://docenti.unicatt.it/web/searchByName.do?language=ENG or on the Faculty notice board.