



Course Code LAW-350	Course Title Environmental Law	ECTS Credits 6
Department Law	Semester Fall / Spring	Prerequisites Two from LAW-202, LAW-212, LAW-242 and LAW-252/6
Type of Course Law Elective	Field Law	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 3 rd / 4 th	Lecturer(s) None assigned
Mode of Delivery Face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The last three decades has seen a transformation in our concern for the environment. Beginning with fears over transboundary pollution and the need to address its consequences, attention has now shifted towards the effects of climate change. Much of importance, however, in the field of environmental law does not touch these matters. The 1982 Law of the Sea Convention devotes much space to the protection of the marine environment; international watercourses (such as the Danube) require regulation for the benefit of communities downstream; and, increasing reliance on nuclear energy remains a concern post-Chernobyl.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. Evaluate the extent to which environmental law is made up of many different, and somewhat unrelated, elements of global concern.
2. Discuss the international environmental regulatory framework.
3. Assess the effectiveness of cooperation between states as regards the protection of international watercourses.
4. Evaluate the level of importance demonstrated by the international community towards the protection of the marine environment, as compared with other matters settled in the 1982 LOSC.
5. Appraise the international legal framework established for the monitoring and regulation of the nuclear industry.
6. Assess whether media attention regarding the matter of 'climate change' has benefitted wider environmental needs or been detrimental to them.
7. Explain the meaning of 'biodiversity' and its importance to the subject.
8. Demonstrate the ever greater blurring between municipal and international law.

Course Content:

During the course, the student will cover the following:

1. International law and the environment.
2. International governance and the formulation of environmental law and policy.
3. The structure of international environmental law (I): rights and obligations of states.
4. The structure of international environmental law (II): regulation, compliance, enforcement, and dispute settlement.
5. The structure of international environmental law (III): environmental rights and crimes.
6. Environmental protection and sustainable use of international watercourses.
7. The law of the sea and the protection of the marine environment.
8. The international control of hazardous waste.
9. Nuclear energy and the environment.
10. Protecting the atmosphere and outer space.
11. Conservation of nature, ecosystems, and biodiversity: principles and problems.
12. Conservation of migratory and land-based species and biodiversity.
13. Conservation of marine living resources and biodiversity.
14. International trade and environmental protection.

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Interactive lectures, tutorials, written examinations and assignments

Assessment Methods:

One written assignment, mid-term exam, final exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Patrica Birnie, Alan Boyle and Catherine Redgwell	International Law & The Environment, third edition	Oxford	2009

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year
Daniel Bodansky, Jutta Brunnée and Ellen Hey	The Oxford Handbook of International Environmental Law	Oxford	2008
Stuart Bell and Donald McGillivray	Environmental Law, seventh edition	Oxford	2008