



UNIVERSITÀ
CATTOLICA
del Sacro Cuore

International and European Union Law

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Course aims and intended learning outcomes

The aim of this course is to provide students with a basic understanding of International and European union law.

Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, students will be aware of the peculiar features of the main subjects of the international legal order, i.e. States, and assess how their sovereign nature exerts an impact on the whole system, with reference to the legislative function, the executive function, and the settlement of disputes alike. Moreover, students will be able to understand the peculiar nature of the European Union (which is the international organization that provides the greatest degree of integration among its Member States) its institutional framework and functioning as well as the dynamics of integration and the political challenges it currently faces.

Applying knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, students will get acquainted with proper legal vocabulary and acquire the tools to understand and critically evaluate international and EU legal texts and case-law.

Course content

The structure of the course is twofold, the first part of it being devoted to Public International Law and the second part being specifically focused on EU Law. Accordingly, during the first part of the course many institutional issues such as the subjects of the international community, the sources of the international legal order and the implementation of state responsibility will be described. Subsequently, the EU and its specific legal order will be addressed thoroughly during the second part of the course, to be delivered during the second semester.

International Law (40 hours)

The first part of the course will provide the students with an introduction to Public International law, focusing on:

1. The Subjects of International Law.
2. The Sources of International Law.
3. The Law of State Responsibility.
4. The Use or Threat of Force by States.
5. Selected issues.

EU Law (20 hours)

The second part of the course will offer the students an insight into the Law of the European Union, covering the following topics:

1. The origin and the evolution of the European integration process.
2. The institutional framework.
3. The EU legal system.
4. EU law and domestic law.



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Reading list

International Law

Attending students will be required to prepare on their notes as well as on the reading materials which will be uploaded on the Blackboard page of the course (presentations, case-law, book chapters, papers...).

Non-attending students will be required to prepare the following textbook:

J. KLABBERS, *International Law*, Cambridge, CUP, latest edition available.

EU Law

Attending students will be required to prepare for the exam revising their own notes and the slides of the lectures, as well as studying the materials which will be made available through the Blackboard page of the course.

Non attending students will be required to prepare for the exam on

N. FOSTER, *EU Law Directions*, 6th ed., Oxford University Press, 2018 (for further details on the chapters to be prepared, please refer to the Blackboard page of the course).

Students are strongly encouraged to consult the essential sources of EU Law, available at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/collection/eu-law/treaties/treaties-force.html?locale=en>.

Teaching method

Classes will be held traditionally, with the help of powerpoint presentations. The active participation of students will be encouraged through discussions and case-studies.

Assessment method and criteria

The final exam will be oral (in English). Students will also be offered the opportunity to sit a written mid-term examination, composed of three open-ended questions at the end of each part of the course. A differentiated mid-term examination will be provided for non-attending students.

To pass the exam the students must score at least 18/30 in each part. The course being made up of two parts, the final outcome will be represented by a ponderate average of both, whereby the first part of the exam will be considered for 2/3 of the final mark.

Notes and prerequisites

Place and time of consultation hours

Prof. La Manna: see Faculty Personal Page.

Prof. Marengi: see Faculty Personal Page.