Universidad de Navarra

International Law (Doble RRII/Der/His)

Teaching guide 2026-27

PRESENTATION

This course provides a comprehensive study of public international law, its foundations, sources, and role in regulating the international legal system. It examines treaties, international actors, jurisdiction, immunities, diplomatic protection, and State responsibility. The course also explores key substantive areas, including the law of the sea, human rights, dispute settlement, the use of force, armed conflict, and international criminal law. Through the study of legal principles, institutions, and case law, students will learn how international law governs relations among States and other actors, addresses global challenges, and contributes to the maintenance of international order.

- Degree: Double degree RRII/Der/His
- ECTS: 6
- Course and Semester: 2nd year, 1st semester
- Character: Compulsory
- Teaching staff: Prof. Dr. Andrea Cocchini (acocchini@unav.es)
- Language: English
- Timetable and Venue:
  - Mondays, 12-13.45, aula S02 Amigos (formerly aula B2 Amigos)
  - Fridays, 12-13.45, aula 001 Amigos (formerly aula 01 Amigos)
- Mid-term exam: Friday, 23 October
- Final exam: 16 December

SYLLABUS

Lesson 1. Foundations and structure of International law

Lesson 2. Sources of International law

Lesson 3. The law of treaties

Lesson 4. The actors in the international legal system

Lesson 5. Jurisdiction

Lesson 6. Immunity from national jurisdiction

Lesson 7. State responsibility

Lesson 8. The International law of the sea

Lesson 9. International human rights law

Lesson 10. The peaceful settlement of disputes

Lesson 11. The international regulation of the use of force

Lesson 12. The law of armed conflict

Lesson 13. International criminal law

FORMATIVE ACTIVITIES

I. CLASSROOM TEACHING ACTIVITIES

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1. Lectures

Lectures are theoretical sessions designed to explain the meaning, foundations, and core concepts of each syllabus topic.

Device Policy: The use of any electronic devices is strictly **prohibited** during lecture sessions.

2. Seminars

Seminars are interactive, practical sessions focused on discussing assigned readings and analyzing case studies in teams.

Required materials: You must bring **printed copies** of the assigned documents to every class; they are required for in-class discussions.

Device policy: The use of any electronic devices is strictly prohibited during seminar sessions.

3. One-to-one tutorials

Each student may have personal interviews with the professor to help them with personal study and learning.

4. Evaluation

Course assessment consists of active seminar participation (20%), a mid-term multiple-choice exam (30%), and a cumulative final multiple-choice exam (50%) covering all textbook materials, class notes, and required readings.

The final exam covers the entire syllabus without exempting any midterm topics.

II. PERSONAL WORK

Before Lectures: Read the assigned textbook chapters.

Before Seminars: Complete the reading tasks found in the "Contents" folder on this platform.

Independent Study: You are expected to regularly review your lecture notes, textbook, and assigned readings to deepen your understanding.

III. DISTRIBUTION OF ACTIVITIES (credit/hours)

1. Lectures 1.6 ECTS 40 h (26.7 %)

2. Seminars 0.6 ECTS 15 h (10.0 %)

3. Evaluation 0.16 ECTS 4 h (2.6 %)

Total classroom activities 2.4 ECTS 59 h (40 %)

4. On-to-one tutorials 0.04 ECTS 1 h (0.7 %)

5. Personal work 3.6 ECTS 90 h (60 %)

Total 6 ECTS 150 h (110 %)

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ASSESSMENT

ORDINARY SESSION

- Active participation: 20% (2 points out of 10)
- Mid-term multiple choice test: 30% (3 points out of 10)
- Final multiple choice test: 50% (5 points out of 10). To pass this course, every student must get a score of at least 5 points out of 10 in the final exam.
- Students whose final total grade is below 5 points will not pass the course and will be graded as *suspenso*.
- Students who do not take the final exam will not pass the course and will be graded as *no presentado*.
- Students with special educational needs must first contact the Studies Coordination Office of the School to obtain authorisation for the necessary adjustments (e.g. extra time for exams). This authorisation must be sent by the student to the professor. It is recommended that this be done at the beginning of the trimester.
- Please note that any attempt at fraud, copying, plagiarism or other irregular behaviour constitutes a serious offence as set out in Title IV 'Academic Disciplinary Rules for Students' within the University of Navarra's Code of Conduct.

Assessment Rubric for Active Participation

Oral participation during practical seminars will be assessed cumulatively across the entire course. The final score depends on both the quality and regularity of the student's contributions. To receive 1 or 2 points, the student must have participated meaningfully in the majority of practical classes. A single intervention, even if excellent, is not sufficient to obtain either score.

Score	Assessment criteria
0 points	The student does not participate, participates only occasionally, or makes isolated contributions without demonstrating sustained engagement throughout the course. Contributions may also be irrelevant, substantially incorrect, or unsupported by legal reasoning.
1 point	The student participates meaningfully in the majority of classes and demonstrates a basic understanding of the relevant topics. Contributions are generally relevant but may be brief, descriptive, imprecise, or only partially supported by legal arguments.
2 points	The student participates regularly and constructively in the majority of classes. Contributions demonstrate sound knowledge of public international law, clear and precise legal reasoning, and an ability to support arguments with relevant rules, concepts, cases, or course materials. The student also engages respectfully with the contributions of others and makes a valuable contribution to classroom discussion.

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Important: The score reflects the student's overall participation throughout the seminars. Participation must be sustained and meaningful. Speaking once or on only a few occasions does not entitle the student to the score corresponding to the quality of those isolated interventions.

EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

- The exam will be 100% of the final mark and will be made up of multiple-choice questions.

OFFICE HOURS

Prof. Dr. Andrea Cocchini (acocchini@unav.es)

- Office 2721. Biblioteca Central. 2nd floor
- **Office hours: Fridays, 15-16h**
- Meetings can also be arranged by appointment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Textbook

- Henriksen, Anders. *International Law*, Oxford University Press (**4th or 5th edition**). Localízalo en la biblioteca. You can also buy an E-book version here.

Further readings

- You can find the documents or the links to the reading assignments on this platform (folder "Contents")

LEARNING OUTCOMES

General and Basic Competences

CG01 - To analyse, assess, and reason about different international situations in light of the knowledge acquired.

CG02 - To negotiate, mediate, persuade, and communicate assertively in the field of international relations.

CG03 - To draft and interpret legal texts, especially in the field of public international law.

CG04 - To use English appropriately, applying the scientific and academic terminology specific to International Relations.

CG05 - To express oneself orally in a correct and appropriate manner on international issues.

CB2 - Students should be able to apply their knowledge to their work or vocation in a professional manner and possess the competences usually demonstrated through the development and defence of arguments and the resolution of problems within their field of study.

CB3 - Students should have the ability to gather and interpret relevant data, usually within their field of study, in order to make judgments that include reflection on relevant social, scientific, or ethical issues.

CB4 - Students should be able to communicate information, ideas, problems, and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.

CB5 - Students should have developed the learning skills necessary to undertake further studies with a high degree of autonomy.

Specific Competences

CE02 - To analyse the nature and characteristics of relations among international actors, particularly among States.

CE03 - To know and understand the main elements that define the foreign policy of States.

CE04 - To relate historical processes and events to the current international order.

CE06 - To distinguish the different competences and functions of the State, international organizations, and non-state actors in the international system.

CE09 - To understand the structure, competences, and functioning of international institutions and organizations.

CE10 - To understand the institutions, rules, decision-making procedures, and policies of the European Union.

CE15 - To know the structure, organization, and functioning of Public Administrations and their public policies with international relevance.

CE16 - To analyse different international conflicts, their causes, development, and effects on countries and international society.

CE17 - To analyse the legal and social problems arising from international relations in all areas, based on adequate knowledge of the principles and rules of international law.