

Course Outline

Course number	RBE258					
Course title	The Legal Problems of International Economic Relations					
Credit points	3 ECTS					
Total hours	30					
Lecture hours	18					
Seminar and other hours	12					
Course level	Bachelor					
Prerequisites	None					
Category	Mandatory		Restricted elective	X	Free elective	

COURSE TEACHERS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
Csongor István Nagy	LLM, PhD, SJD, habilitation	professor of law

COURSE ABSTRACT

The course deals with the legal problems of the four channels of international economic relations: trade in goods, services, technology (knowledge) and investments. It examines the rules, principles and case-law of the GATT, GATS and TRIPS agreements and those of investment protection (bilateral investment treaties, ICSID etc.). The course will cover the creation of the WTO and the core topics of the WTO's complex set of rules on international trade in goods, services and intellectual property.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The course aims at providing the students with a broad overview on the economic and legal issues of international economic relations and at equipping them with the basic conceptual tools that are necessary for identifying and analyzing the problems of international economic matters. At the end of the course, students will be able to recognize those state acts (measures, actions etc.) that fall foul of the rules and principles of WTO or of investment protection law and to identify relevant legal issues. Students will be familiar with the theory and practice of international economic law and be able to analyze the problems of international economic relations.

GRADING CRITERIA

Criteria	Weighting
Exam	70%
Course paper	0%
Case presentations	30%

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

No.	Main subjects	Planned hours
1	Legal framework of international economic relations	2
2	WTO: history, main principles, dispute settlement	2
3	Trade in goods (GATT)	14
4	Trade in services (GATT)	4
5	International investment protection	8

COURSE PLAN – SESSIONS

Session	Session subjects and readings	Lecture/seminar
1	International trade theory	lecture
2	Legal Structure of WTO/GATT; Dispute Settlement	lecture
3	Tariffs & Quantitative Restrictions; National Treatment (NT)	lecture
4	Most-Favored Nation (MFN); Free Trade Agreements	seminar
5	The General Exceptions	seminar
6	Technical Barriers to Trade: the SPS and TBT Agreements	seminar
7	Dumping; Subsidies and Countervailing Duties	lecture
8	GATS (1)	lecture
9	GATS (2)	lecture
10	TRIPS	lecture
11	The global framework of international investment law	lecture
12	Bilateral Investment Treaties (1)	seminar
13	Bilateral Investment Treaties (2)	seminar
14	Bilateral Investment Treaties (3)	seminar
15	The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)	lecture

COURSE LITERATURE

No.	Author, title, publisher
1	Andrew T. Guzman & Alan O. Sykes (eds), Research Handbook in International Economic Law (Edward Elgar 2007), chapters 1 (pp 1-61), 2 (pp 62-112) & 3 (pp 211-235).
2	Materials distributed in class