



Course Outline

Course number	RBB404					
Course title	Advanced Public International Law					
Credit points	3 ECTS (2 LV CP)					
Total hours	80					
Contact hours	32					
Independent studies	48					
Course level	Bachelor					
Prerequisites	RBA314: Introduction to Public International Law					
Category	Mandatory	X	Restricted elective		Free elective	

COURSE RESPONSIBLE

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
León Castellanos-Jankiewicz	PhD	Visiting Docent

COURSE TEACHERS

<i>Name</i>	<i>Academic degree</i>	<i>Academic position</i>
León Castellanos-Jankiewicz	PhD	Visiting Docent

COURSE ABSTRACT

This course provides an in-depth understanding of global challenges through the lens of public international law. We will discuss the increasing complexity of multilateral cooperation of international legal frameworks that address armed conflict, environmental degradation, migration flows, and other collective challenges. Recent years have seen a populist backlash against multilateral norms and institutions, and nationalist responses in the areas of trade, human rights, and the COVID-19 pandemic, to name but a few. This tension compels us to think about the authority and legitimacy of international law, and we use these concepts as a framework to examine the resilience of the international legal system across different areas. Subjects covered will include the rise of non-state actors, the work of international courts and tribunals, migration and refugee flows, the system of collective security, environmental protection and strategic litigation.

TEACHING METHODS

- The course is divided into lectures and seminars. Each course subject will be discussed in a lecture and its corresponding seminar.

- Whereas the lecturers are responsible for delivering the lectures and leading the discussions therein, students are expected to lead the discussion during the seminars.
- Students will be divided into working groups at the outset of the course. These working groups will be maintained throughout the entire course for the purposes of seminar discussion.
- Lecturers will encourage peer-to-peer learning through discussion-led lectures and seminars.
- Students will have the opportunity to conduct research on a subject of their choice with the guidance of the lecturers in completing the mid-term assignment.

GRADING CRITERIA

Criteria	Weighting
In-class participation	25%
Mid-term research assignment	25%
Final exam	50%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance

Attendance is mandatory. Unjustified non-attendance is permitted for 2 sessions out of 16. Bear in mind that unjustified non-attendance may affect your in-class participation grade. When a student is absent from three sessions or more, they must justify their non-attendance to the Study Department in writing. These absences will only be justified if the Study Department deems them so. Unjustified absences from three or more sessions may result in the loss of the in-class participation grade (25%) or, in extreme cases, in failing the entire course.

Participation

To fully benefit from this course, students are expected to participate actively in all sessions, which will be discussion-led. Students are expected to review the materials assigned by the lecturers before the relevant class. When possible, assigned materials will include a variety of sources and may include academic articles, judgments, documents, newspaper pieces and multimedia such as videos and podcasts.

Whereas input for the lecture sessions is mainly delivered by the course coordinators, students are expected to lead the discussions in the seminars. Seminar sessions will rely heavily in class discussion and peer-to-peer learning, with the course coordinators acting as moderators. It is especially important to read the assigned materials before attending seminars.

Camera policy

This course has a “camera on” policy given the high level of personal interaction required to accomplish the learning outcomes. Students who are unable to use their camera must request an exception from the Study Department in writing.

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

No.	<i>Main subjects</i>	<i>Planned hours</i>
1	Sovereignty, Statehood and Non-state Actors	4
2	International Human Rights Law	5
3	International Law and Collective Security	5
4	International Environmental Law	4
5	International Law and Migration	4
6	The International Law of Arms Control	5
7	Academic research and writing in Public International Law	5