



**RIGA
GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF
LAW**

Course Outline

Course number	RBC504				
Course title	International Environmental Law				
Credit points	3 ECTS (2 LV)				
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

Name	Academic degree	Academic position
Prof. Chiara Feliziani	LLM, Ph.d Associate Professor of Administrative and Environmental Law	Visiting Professor in International Environmental Law
Dr. Cristiana Lauri	LLM, Ph.d Assistant Professor of Administrative and Environmental Law	Visiting Professor in International Environmental Law

COURSE TEACHERS

Name	Academic degree	Academic position
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Prof. Chiara Feliziani	LLM, Ph.d Associate Professor of Administrative and Environmental Law	Visiting Professor in International Environmental Law
Dr. Cristiana Lauri	LLM, Ph.d Assistant Professor of Administrative and Environmental Law	Visiting Professor in International Environmental Law

COURSE ABSTRACT

The course offers a broad introduction to international environmental law, a complex and rapidly evolving area of law.

First of all, the course will examine the notion of the environment as well as the rise and historical development of international environmental law.

In doing so, the course will dedicate a broad space to the study of sources and general principles of international environmental law, including – for example – the precautionary and prevention principles as well as the polluter pays principle.

In addition, the course will examine the regimes which address specific environmental problems such as urban challenges, climate change, water resources, conservation of biodiversity, human rights, environmental migration, energy and circular economy.

GRADING CRITERIA

<i>Criteria</i>	<i>Weighting</i>
Class Participation	20%
Group Presentation	30%
Final Exam	50%

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class participation:

- Regular course attendance.
- In the special part of the course (sessions 8-15) students will be required to complete the tasks that the instructor will assign before each lesson.
- Take active part to workshops and debating activities.
- Respect for the team.

Group Presentation:

- Students will work in group on a specific topic approved by the teacher. They will be asked to do a research activity and prepare a PPT presentation.
- Session 16 will be dedicated to group presentations.
- Use of appropriate and accurate legal language; capacity to identify specific problems and propose concrete solutions, and critical thinking will be positively assessed.

Final exam:

- The final exam is a written closed book exam and will take place during the exam week. It will consist of a test whereby students will have to provide answers to four questions without using any materials.
- Questions will be closely related to the topics covered in class. Two questions will focus on the general part of the course (sessions 1-7) and two questions on the special part of the course (sessions 8-15).
- Use of appropriate and accurate legal language; capacity to define problems and propose solutions, and critical thinking will be positively assessed.

COURSE PLAN – MAIN SUBJECTS

	<i>Main subjects</i>	<i>Planned hours</i>
1	Introduction to the Course	1,5
2	Environment and Environmental Law	1,5
3	From the very beginning to the Stockholm Conference	1,5
4	From the 1972 to the Brundtland Report	1,5
5	Rio and the Kyoto Protocol	1,5
6	After Kyoto	1,5
7	The Aarhus Convention and the ECHR	1,5
8	Environment and Urban Challenges	1,5
9	Atmospheric Harm and Climate Change	1,5
10	Conservation of Biological Diversity	1,5

11	Protection of Marine Living Resources and Sustainable Use of Fresh Water Resources	1,5
12	Environment and Human Rights	1,5
13	Environmental Migration	1,5
14	Environmental Impact Assessment	1,5
15	Environment and Market: the Circular Economy Strategy	1,5
16	Final class debate: Contemporary Legal Challenges, Governance and the Future	1,5