Legal and Political Aspects of Current Challenges: Scientific and Technological Developments in the Context of Sustainability

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Field of study Joint Bachelor in Sustainability	**Education cycle** 2025/26
Speciality Law & Politics of Sustainability	**Subject code** UJ.WPAJBSLPSS.8100.16396.25
Organizational unit Faculty of Law and Administration	**Lecture languages** english
Study level first cycle (joint degree programme)	**Subject related to scientific research** Yes
Study form full-time degree programme	**Disciplines** Legal science, Political science and administration, Earth sciences and the environment
Education profile General academic	**ISCED classification** 0488 Interdisciplinary programmes involving broad field 04
Mandatory obligatory	**USOS code**

Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo
Lecturer	Konrad Marciniak, Ignacio Herrera Anchustegui

Period Semester 5	**Examination** exam **Activities and hours** Discussion class: 30	**Number of ECTS points** 4.0

Goals

C1	The aim is to interactively familiarise students with the law of the sea and maritime governance, utilizing the expertise of specialists from several academic institutions and disciplines. Students will learn to develop and present their own opinions.

Subject's learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Effects	Examination methods
Knowledge – Student knows and understands:			
W1	the key functions, institutions, development trends, values, and norms related to law of the sea and maritime governance, and is able to refer to them in the context of contemporary sustainability challenges.	JBS_K1_W03, JBS_K1_W06	written exam
W2	the most important processes related to law of the sea and the marine environment, being able to provide an explanation of the axiological and political background of the differences in approaches.	JBS_K1_W01, JBS_K1_W02, JBS_K1_W05, JBS_K1_W06	written exam
Skills – Student can:			
U1	develop and present a clear, concise, and logical solution to a typical problem related to law of the sea and maritime governance.	JBS_K1_U01, JBS_K1_U02	written exam
Social competences – Student is ready for:			
K1	to critically approach their knowledge and its sources, while noticing the importance of interdisciplinary knowledge and expert opinions for solving problems linked to law of the sea and the marine environment.	JBS_K1_K04, JBS_K1_K05	written exam
K2	to take a position in relation to the development trends of the law of the sea and the marine environment and logically justify it.	JBS_K1_K03	written exam

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Discussion class	30
preparation for classes	35
preparation for the exam	45

Student workload	Hours	ECTS
	110	4.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	Introduction: History & Sources of the Law of the Sea. UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS): Areas within National Jurisdiction	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
2.	UNCLOS: Areas beyond National Jurisdiction. Maritime Delimitation. The law of fisheries.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
3.	Safety & Security at Sea. The regime for the protection of marine environment & marine scientific research under UNCLOS	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
4.	The BBNJ Agreement (Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction)	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
5.	Dispute settlement under UNCLOS. ITLOS competence and jurisdiction.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
6.	Maritime and marine environmental governance in a global perspective: ecosystem-based approaches	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
7.	The role of maritime spatial plans in ensuring efficient and sustainable uses of sea spaces	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
8.	Maritime transport and sustainability: integrating the EU ETS system at sea	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
9.	Offshore energy – the last renewable frontier?	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
10.	Deep-sea bed mining in a climate change and energy transition context	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2

Course advanced

Teaching methods :

text analysis, brainstorming, conversation lecture, lecture with multimedia presentation, discussion, case study, gamification

Activities	Examination methods	Credit conditions
Discussion class	written exam	Active participation, written exam based on open questions

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

1. Case law, video materials and documents distributed in class.

Effects

Code	Content
JBS_K1_K03	The graduate can consider different visions of the future and develop own evidence-based opinions in reference to the balance of values linked to economic development, social welfare, and environmental protection.
JBS_K1_K04	The graduate can critically assess and verbalize own competencies and skills related to different aspects of sustainability as well as their need for development.
JBS_K1_K05	The graduate can defend the importance of scientific data and methods as a basis for decision-making.
JBS_K1_U01	The graduate can critically analyse academic literature, formulate research questions and conduct research under supervision.
JBS_K1_U02	The graduate can present and report knowledge, methodologies, ideas, problems and solutions, clearly and comprehensively, in different forms destined for different audiences – including discussions and debates which require defending a substantiated opinion, as well as conversations in a foreign language at the CEFR B2 level.
JBS_K1_W01	The graduate can describe the concept of sustainability and recognize the differences in relevant definitions, models and approaches.
JBS_K1_W02	The graduate can explain the axiological background of sustainability and summarize key stages of development of the concept.
JBS_K1_W03	The graduate can give examples of sustainability-related dilemmas and hypothesize on the optimal course of action.
JBS_K1_W05	The graduate can identify essential international instruments and institutions related to sustainability and explain their potential role in resolution of a given problem.
JBS_K1_W06	The graduate can describe interconnections between various aspects of sustainability and identify their significance in the context of natural and social sciences, with a special focus on disciplines included in the selected specialisation track (law and politics; chemistry and physics; chemistry and biology; economics and geography; economics, management and engineering; humanities).