



International Trade Law 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.840.14465.25	
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, Economics and finance	
Education profile General academic		ISCED classification 0488 Interdisciplinary programmes involving broad field 04	
Mandatory obligatory		USOS code	
Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo		
Lecturer	Piotr Szwedo		
Period Semester 3	Examination exam	Number of ECTS points 4.0	
	Activities and hours Discussion class: 30		

Goals

C1	The aim is to interactively familiarise students with the premises and challenges of international trade law - a branch of increasing importance in the context of sustainability. Students will learn to correctly analyse jurisprudence and present their own opinions. The course is a part of the 9 ECTS module "International Economic Law & Politics."
----	--

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 of international trade law, 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 the creation and application of international trade law, in particular in the context of dispute resolution.	JBS_K1_W05, JBS_K1_W06	written exam
Skills - Student can:			
U1	develop and present a clear, concise, and logical solution to a problem in the field of international trade law, referring to the relevant interdisciplinary aspects of sustainability and using the correct English-language terminology.	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 international trade law and sustainability.	JBS_K1_K04, JBS_K1_K05	written exam
K2	to take a position in relation to the development trends of international trade law and logically justify it.	JBS_K1_K03	written exam

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Discussion class	30
problem analysis	30
preparation for the exam	35
preparation for classes	20
Student workload	Hours 115
	ECTS 4.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	An outline of the history of international trade law and the reasons for the creation of the most important modern treaties. The importance of the negotiation rounds and the beginnings of the World Trade Organization (WTO).	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
2.	WTO structure and trade dispute resolution mechanisms. Causes and consequences of the stalemate in the WTO dispute settlement procedures.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
3.	Areas of regulation and key principles of international trade law. Tariff and nontariff barriers to trade.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
4.	The place of international trade law in the system of public international law. WTO law as a subsystem. Relationship of WTO law with European Union law and regional trade agreements.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
5.	International trade law and Sustainable Development Goals No. 1, No. 2 and No. 10. Protection of developing countries, development of agricultural regulations.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
6.	International trade law and Sustainable Development Goals No. 6, No. 7, No. 13, No. 14 and No. 15. Issues related to water, energy, and environmental protection.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
7.	International trade law and Sustainable Development Goals No. 8 and No. 9. Issues of intellectual property, e-commerce and labour law.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
8.	Where should international trade law be heading? Conclusions from crises and postulates of sustainable development. The impact of factors such as a pandemic or armed conflicts.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2

Course advanced

Teaching methods :

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

Activities	Examination methods	Credit conditions
Discussion class	written exam	Written exam based on open questions (graded).

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

1. WTO agreements, video materials and documents distributed in class.
2. UN General Assembly, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 21 October 2015, A/RES/70/1, available at: <https://www.refworld.org/docid/57b6e3e44.html>

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_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).