Environmental and Energy Law & Politics

Educational subject description sheet

Basic information

Field of study Joint Bachelor in Sustainability **Speciality** Law & Politics of Sustainability **Organizational unit** Faculty of Law and Administration **Study level** first cycle (joint degree programme) **Study form** full-time degree programme **Education profile** General academic **Mandatory** obligatory	**Education cycle** 2025/26 **Subject code** UJ.WPAJBSLPSS.840.16388.25 **Lecture languages** english **Subject related to scientific research** Yes **Disciplines** Legal science, Political science and administration, Earth sciences and the environment **ISCED classification** 0488 Interdisciplinary programmes involving broad field 04 **USOS code**

Subject coordinator	Piotr Szwedo
Lecturer	Xira Ruiz-Campillo, Kattya Cascante, Enara Echart, Yann Kerbrat, Judith Rochfeld, Marta Torre Schaub, Lena Helińska

Period Semester 3	**Examination** exam **Activities and hours** Discussion class: 60 Workshop: 10	**Number of ECTS points** 9.0

Goals

C1	The aim is to interactively familiarise students with key challenges of environmental and energy law and policy, utilizing the expertise of specialists from several academic institutions and disciplines. Students will learn to correctly analyse jurisprudence and present their own opinion.

Subject's learning outcomes

Code	Outcomes in terms of	Effects	Examination methods
Knowledge – Student knows and understands:			
W1	both the background and significance of the most important notions related to environmental and energy law and politics, demonstrating awareness of the interlinks between those aspects and other dimensions of sustainability.	JBS_K1_W01, JBS_K1_W02, JBS_K1_W06	written exam, credit
W2	the relevant frameworks and instruments, and can use them while providing legally sound and scientifically informed suggestions of solutions to problems linked to environmental protection and energy management, both in the global context and in a regional context.	JBS_K1_W03, JBS_K1_W04, JBS_K1_W05	written exam, credit
Skills – Student can:			
U1	use available tools to perform simple research tasks from the field of environmental and energy law and politics, summarize their findings, and present them in a comprehensive, methodologically correct manner.	JBS_K1_U01, JBS_K1_U02, JBS_K1_U03, JBS_K1_U04	written exam, credit
Social competences – Student is ready for:			
K1	to reflect on optimal scenarios in the context of environmental and energy law and policy, both on a micro and a macro scale, demonstrating support for science-based solutions.	JBS_K1_K01, JBS_K1_K03, JBS_K1_K05	written exam, credit
K2	to show considerable initiative in the development of own knowledge and sustainability practices related to environmental and energy law and policy, correctly diagnosing the most important gaps.	JBS_K1_K02, JBS_K1_K04	credit

Calculation of ECTS points

Activity form	Activity hours*
Discussion class	60
Workshop	10
problem analysis	35
preparation for classes	50
preparation for the exam	85

Student workload	Hours	ECTS
	240	9.0

* hour means 45 minutes

Study content

No.	Course content	Subject's learning outcomes
1.	Sustainability and environmental challenges: climate change, biodiversity, desertification, SDGS. Can we grow endlessly?	W1, U1, K1, K2
2.	Main treaties for the environment: how do they affect Northern and Southern countries?	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
3.	Do international regimes work? Decision-making and challenges in the implementation of international treaties.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
4.	International consensus on sustainable development	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
5.	Development and the environment: the same origin and destination.	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
6.	Introduction, definitions, law and science	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
7.	International law of climate change (past, present, future perspectives)	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
8.	EU law of climate change	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
9.	International law of biodiversity	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
10.	EU law of biodiversity	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
11.	The concept and goals of strategic litigation	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
12.	Strategic litigation before domestic courts – European cases	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
13.	Strategic litigation before domestic courts – North and South American cases	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
14.	Strategic litigation before regional courts — ECHR, CJEU, Inter-American CHR, African CHR...	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
15.	Strategic litigation before international court and organs — ICJ, ITLOS, Human Rights Committees...	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
16.	Introduction to EU energy law (objectives, competences, legal bases)	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
17.	EU energy market regulation	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
18.	EU net-zero target and energy regulation	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
19.	EU circular economy objective and energy	W1, W2, U1, K1, K2
20.	Future regulatory measures and exercise	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	Active participation, written exam based on open questions (graded)
Workshop	credit	Pass/fail on the basis of active participation" należy dopisać: including presentation of conclusions from texts and cases analysed by the students, preparing and sharing own opinions in brainstorming sessions, taking part in games and quizzes verifying the knowledge of the source materials.

Entry requirements

None

Literature

Obligatory

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

Effects

Code	Content
JBS_K1_K01	The graduate can encourage sustainability-driven practices in the workplace and appraise sustainability of own values, perceptions, roles, and actions, with a special focus on environmental wellbeing.
JBS_K1_K02	The graduate can demonstrate considerable entrepreneurial initiative, autonomy, and readiness to act in complex and changing environments, especially in the context of supporting, undertaking, and co-organising activities beneficial for a sustainable society.
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_U03	The graduate can apply adequate methods and tools, including selected IT tools, to solve problems related to data collection, analysis, and management in the context of sustainability.
JBS_K1_U04	The graduate can plan and effectuate simple sustainability-related projects under supervision and in the context of personal lifelong learning, both individually and in a team, using appropriate transversal skills and taking shared responsibility for the outcome.
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_W04	The graduate can identify sustainability-related problems specific to selected cultural, geographical, and political contexts.
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).