The Master's degree programme has a study load of 60 credits, 1 academic year.

The 2015-2016 academic programme consists of:

-5 compulsory courses (30 EC)
-2 optional courses (12 EC, choose two courses from the list of optional courses)
-Master’s thesis (18EC)

Students can find more information on the Academic and Examination Regulations, the compositions and aim of the degree programme on VUnet by searching on 'schedule' and 'Academic and Examination'.

For applying students please visit: www.vu.nl &gt; Study at VU University &gt; Master’s degree programmes for more information on the programme.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master's programme International Crimes and Criminology - Extracurricular courses</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master's programme International Crimes and Criminology - Compulsory courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master's programme International Crimes and Criminology - Optional courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course: Center for International Criminal Justice Research Lab (Ac. Year (September))</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: Corporations and International Crimes (Period 4)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: Expert Course (Period 2)</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: ICC Moot Court (Period 1+2+3+4)</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: International Crimes (Period 1)</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: International Criminal Courts and Tribunals (Period 2)</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: International Humanitarian Law (Period 2+3)</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: International Law Clinic (Period 1+2+3+4+5)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: Master's Thesis - International Crimes and Criminology (Ac. Year (September))</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Course: Perpetrators and Bystanders (Period 4)</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: Public International Law (Period 1)</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course: Research Methodology for International Crimes (Period 2+3)</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>Course: Research Seminar International Crimes 1 (Period 3)</td>
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<td>Course: Research Seminar International Crimes 2 (Period 5)</td>
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<td>Course: Seminar Human Rights: Restitution of cultural objects in post-conflict contexts. (Period 4)</td>
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Master's programme International Crimes and Criminology - Extracurricular courses

Courses:

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<tr>
<td>ICC Moot Court</td>
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<td>International Law Clinic</td>
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Master's programme International Crimes and Criminology - Compulsory courses

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<td>International Crimes</td>
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<td>9.0</td>
<td>R_Int.Cri-9</td>
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<td>International Criminal Courts and Tribunals</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perpetrators and Bystanders</td>
<td>Period 4</td>
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<td>R_Perp.bysta</td>
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<td>Research Methodology for International Crimes</td>
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Master's programme International Crimes and Criminology - Optional courses

Courses:

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<td>R_CortIC</td>
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Center for International Criminal Justice Research Lab

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<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>J.A.M. Stuifbergen</td>
</tr>
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<td>Examinator</td>
<td>J.A.M. Stuifbergen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level</td>
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</table>

**Course objective**
The objective of CICJ Research Lab is to enable students to participate in ongoing academic research in the field of International Criminal Justice. Depending on the research project, students acquire (advanced) knowledge of selected topics in the fields of international criminal law and criminology of international crimes. By conducting research students can strengthen their analytical and writing skills.

**Course content**
More information about CICJ research projects can be found under www.cicj.org à Research & Publications. Whether ICC-students can participate in any of the projects listed, depends on needs of the researchers and the phase and type of project. At the start of the academic year, students will be informed about the possibilities.

**Type of assessment**
Student are assessed based on several written assignments throughout the year, their team work, and their professional conduct.

**Course reading**
-

**Target group**
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
Students from other universities/faculties
Exchange students

**Remarks**
MORE INFORMATION?
www.cicj.org

**OBJECTIVES**
Being capable of:
- Applying research methods and interpret results;
Show evidence of:
- An investigative, original and creative attitude with regard to existing issues and solutions;
- Critical, analytical and normative reflection on academic research and on research result.

Corporations and International Crimes

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<thead>
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<tbody>
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<td>Study Group, Lecture</td>
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Course objective
The course corporations and international crimes deals with the involvement of corporations in international crimes and other gross human rights violations. While using a criminological approach we also use insights, knowledge and theories from various disciplines including history, social psychology, organizational sciences, business ethics and political science. Moreover, multiple areas of law are relevant including public international law, human rights law and international and national criminal law. Because the participants in the course have various backgrounds (they are lawyers, political scientists, psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists and, obviously, criminologists) and because the subject is interdisciplinary by nature, students are encouraged to critically assess the existing viewpoints as well as to bridge the gaps between disciplines (most notably law and social sciences). Moreover, not a lot of research about this subject exists, encouraging students to develop their own critical and creative ideas regarding the subject, the different approaches, and the available theories. For the final assignment students write an individual research paper on a topic they choose themselves.

Course content
- Corporate crime
- White collar crime
- International crimes (genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes)
- Corporate Social Responsibility,
- Business ethics
- Totalitarian/authoritarian regimes and the role of business
- International conflict and the role of business
- Non-international conflict and the role of business
- Private military/security firms
- The relation between conflict and extractive industries

Type of assessment
Obligatory assignments (pass or fail)
Paper
Course reading
The literature consists of a selection of articles and reports including Wim Huisman's Business as Usual (http://www.bju.nl/juridisch/catalogus/business-as-usual-1).

Recommended background knowledge
Exchange students - Have to have an understanding of either (international) law or criminology/other social science. Most importantly they have to be willing to study during the course to make up for the knowledge they lack (limited of course to the course subject).
In general students from other backgrounds such as social psychology, economics, business, organizational studies, conflict studies, IR etc are welcomed because the add to the interdisciplinary of the course. It is our experience that motivated students from these disciplines can add value to the discussion in class.

Target group
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
Students from other universities/faculties
Exchange students (Master)
Contractor (students who pay for one course)

This course is only available to bachelor exchangestudents who can show they have completed 3 revelant bachelor courses such as criminology, white-collar/organizational crime, international criminal law, human rights, corporate social responsibility/sustainable development or something similar. Please contact the course coordinator.

This is an interdisciplinary course, inviting students from many backgrounds including criminology, (international) law, human rights, psychology, anthropology etc. We especially welcome students of (international) business administration and economics. Students are encouraged to use their existing knowledge but in order to complete the course will also have to be willing to delve into other disciplines.

Expert Course

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<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>J.A.M. Stuifbergen</td>
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<td>Examiner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching staff</td>
<td>J.A.M. Stuifbergen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching method(s)</td>
<td>Lecture, Seminar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level</td>
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</table>

Course objective
The degree programme aims to achieve the following:
- to prepare the student to practice professionally as analysists, researchers and experts in the field of international crimes and other gross human rights violations;
- to teach the student specialized knowledge, skills and understanding in the field of international crimes and other gross human rights violations;
and
- to prepare the student for academic work in the field of international crimes and other gross human rights violations.

2. The degree programme also promotes the academic education of the student, in particular with reference to:
- independent, academic thought processes and performance;
- communicating at an academic level;
- applying specialist academic knowledge in a wider social context.

3. The degree programme focuses attention on the student’s personal development, promotes his or her awareness of social responsibility and develops skills of expression.

Course content
Topics in the field of international crimes.

Type of assessment
Will be announced later.

Course reading
Will be announced later.

Target group
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
Students from other universities/faculties
Contractor (students who pay for one course)

Remarks
An expert in the field of International Crimes and Criminology will teach this course.

OBJECTIVES
Knowledge of and insight into:
-Recent approaches, theories and insights from various disciplines in international crimes;
-Quantitative and qualitative research methodology;
-Legal issues concerning international crimes.

Being capable of:
-Identifying and applying theoretical approaches from various disciplines;
-Applying research methods and interpret results;
-Critical reflection on research results and relating those results to theoretical debates within the selected domain.

Show evidence of:
-An independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge;
-An investigative, original and creative attitude with regard to existing issues and solutions;
-Critical, analytical and normative reflection on academic research and on research result.

ICC Moot Court
Course objective
This course prepares students for the International Criminal Court (ICC) Moot Court Competition. This Competition consists of an extensive six-day program in The Hague during which (teams of) students from universities from all over the world simulate the ICC proceedings by arguing a hypothetical case. Successful participation in the ICC Moot Court Competition requires three main qualities: (i) profound knowledge of international criminal law; (ii) the ability to write clear, well-argued and persuasive memoranda from different legal perspectives (prosecutor, defence counsel and representative of the victims); and (iii) good oral presentation skills. During the course, students will develop each of these qualities.

Course content
During this course, students work together (under the supervision of a coach) on a hypothetical case that brings up several questions of substantive and procedural law. The students address these questions by writing three memoranda, each from a different perspective, i.e. prosecutor, defence counsel and representative of the victims. The students present their memoranda before a panel of moot judges (experts from the field) who will evaluate their argumentation, presentation and persuasiveness. In this way, the students develop their writing and oral skills and learn how to approach a case from different angles.

Form of tuition
Each year, a maximum of 5 students is selected to participate in the ICC Moot Court course. They will represent VU University Amsterdam during the national and international rounds of the ICC Moot Court Competition. The course runs from October to May. During this period, students meet on a regular basis with the coaches, guest speakers, and/or peers to discuss their written assignments and to present their memoranda. The intensity of the program increases as the date of the ICC Moot Court Competition approaches.

Type of assessment
Three written memoranda and three oral presentations.

Course reading
Not applicable.

Entry requirements
Students who wish to apply for the ICC Moot Court must have a LL.B. in law. Furthermore, they should have a profound knowledge of international law and/or criminal law, good analytical, writing and oral skills and be (almost) fluent in English.
Registration procedure
To apply for the ICC Moot Court, students can send their CV, a cover letter and list of grades to the course coordinator (m.cupido@vu.nl).

International Crimes

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<td>dr. J. van Wijk</td>
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<td>Examinator</td>
<td>dr. J. van Wijk</td>
</tr>
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<td>dr. J. van Wijk, mr. B. Hola</td>
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<td>Teaching method(s)</td>
<td>Lecture, Study Group</td>
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Course objective
The aim of this introductory course is to familiarize students with the main (legal) concepts and (criminological) theories in relation to international crimes such as war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide.

In this course the core concepts and definitions of international crimes will be discussed and illustrated. After this course students should know the difference between these types of criminality and 'conventional' crimes and know when, where and why these types of crime occur. They should be able to apply the theories to current and past conflicts and events.

Course content
We will in this course focus on the social context in which these crimes are committed. Furthermore the preconditions and facilitating factors will be pinpointed and the relationship between political conflict and gross human rights violations will be analyzed. Attention will be given to themes such as: the circular logic of political terror, the genocidal process and the role of ideologies. Moreover, the political dynamics of states which use political violence and the possible role of third states and the international community will be analyzed. Finally, it will be discussed how states and/or the international community can deal with a violent past and to what extent the situation of victims from international crimes differs from victims of conventional crimes.

Type of assessment
Assignments and paper

Course reading
- Reader + online texts (provided in coursebook)

Target group
This course is in principle only open to students of the Master International Crimes and Criminology. All other interested students should well in advance direct an email
with motivation and CV to Joris van Wijk (j.van.wijk@vu.nl) to request if participation is possible. They will at the latest on 1 September be informed whether participation is possible.

Remarks
Knowledge of and insight into:
Recent approaches, theories and insights from various disciplines in international crimes;
Quantitative and qualitative research methodology;
Legal issues concerning international crimes.
Being capable of:
Identifying and applying theoretical approaches from various disciplines;
Applying research methods and interpret results;
Critical reflection on research results and relating those results to theoretical debates within the selected domain.
Show evidence of:
An independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge;
An investigative, original and creative attitude with regard to existing issues and solutions;
Critical, analytical and normative reflection on academic research and on research result.

International Criminal Courts and Tribunals

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<td>Lecture, Study Group</td>
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<td>Level</td>
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</table>

Course objective
The objective of this course is to provide students with knowledge and understanding of both the substantive and procedural aspects of international criminal law. At the end of the course students will have learnt about legal issues that lie at the heart of the international criminal justice system. They will also have insights into the (practical) challenges faced by international criminal courts and will be able to critically assess the ways in which the courts have approached these challenges. Moreover, by combining a theoretical, comparative approach with a problem-based method this course also provides students with a better understanding of their own national criminal justice system.

Course content
The topics that will be covered in this course include:

1. History of international criminal justice;
2. Institutional structure of the ad hoc Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and Rwanda (ICTR), the International Criminal Court (ICC), and the “mixed Tribunals”;
3. Nature and sources of international criminal law;
4. Substantive law: elements of crimes, criminal responsibility of (military and civilian) superiors, grounds for excluding liability;
5. International criminal procedure; general features and development; fair trial principles
6. Evidentiary rules, truth-finding and fact-finding impediments;
7. Prosecution of international crimes before national courts;
8. Cooperation between international criminal courts and tribunals and national jurisdictions and the relationship between the tribunals and the UN;
9. Concurrence of jurisdiction between national states and international criminal courts and tribunals (primacy versus complementarity);
10. Victims in international criminal procedure

Form of tuition
This course consists of lectures (hoorcolleges) and interactive tutorials (werkgroepen). Students are expected to participate actively in the discussions and to think critically about the challenges for international criminal justice.

Type of assessment
Written exam

Course reading
R. Cryer et al., An Introduction to International Criminal Law and Procedure (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014)

Target group
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
Students from other universities/faculties
Exchange students
Contractor (students who pay for one course)

International Humanitarian Law

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Course code</th>
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<td>Lecture</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Course objective
On successful completion of the module students will be able:
1. to demonstrate deep and systematic understanding of humanitarian law within the framework of international law;
2. to apply humanitarian law to address the protection of combatants and non-combatants in situations of both internal and international armed
conflicts;
3. to critically analyze key concepts of humanitarian law, including
   prisoners of war, protected persons, war crimes, neutrality, belligerent
   occupation;
4. to define and critically assess the role of the United Nations,
   individual States and non-governmental organizations, particularly the
   International Committee of the Red Cross, in the development and
   implementation of humanitarian norms;
5. to critically assess the role and function of international criminal
   tribunals and domestic courts in applying and developing the relevant
   law.

Course content
The course provides a systematic treatment of the basic rules and
principles of international humanitarian law.
It examines the practice and law related to international humanitarian
law and in particular the qualification of conflicts, the distinction
between combatants and non combatants, the methods and means of warfare,
the protection of civilians and prisoners of war, the law of neutrality
and war crimes.
It also considers current problems in international humanitarian law,
including the challenges posed by new forms of conflicts and violence, the
interplay between international humanitarian law and human rights law,
the regulation of private military companies.

Form of tuition
The module will be delivered through lectures. Students are expected to
read beforehand the required materials beforehand and to actively
participate in the discussion. Students are also invited to make a 10-
minute informal presentation starting with week 2.

Lectures:
1. Nature and scope of IHL;
2. Sources of IHL;
3. Qualification of armed conflicts;
4. Combatants and non-combatants;
5. Persons hors de combat and prisoners of war;
6. Conduct of hostilities I;
7. Conduct of hostilities II;
8. Law of occupation;
9. Implementation of IHL;
10. Private military companies;

The course will be completed by a role play exercise.

Type of assessment
The course will be assessed by:
- A paper.

Course reading
Required materials:
- D. Fleck (ed.), The Handbook of International Humanitarian Law, 2nd
  ed., Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2009; or
- R. Kolb, R. Hyde, An Introduction to the International Law of Armed
- Literature, documents and cases indicated in the reading list for each
  lecture, which will be available on Blackboard.
Recommended materials:

International Law Clinic

<table>
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Course objective
The objective of the International Law Clinic is to enable students to conduct legal and policy research for clients (which are states, opposition or civil society groups) in conflict and post-conflict situations. Students thereby acquire advanced knowledge of international, comparative and human rights law, legal research and writing skills, as well as professional development towards becoming an international lawyer.

Course content
The International Law Clinic provides students the opportunity to conduct legal and policy research for governments and non-state actors’ leaderships in conflict or post-conflict situations. Topics include domestic and international prosecution of international crimes, peace negotiations, rule of law development, the protection of human rights and redress for human rights violations, and transitional justice. As research staff to the Netherlands Office of renowned international organization PILPG, a 2005 Nobel Peace Prize nominee, students are supervised by and work in close cooperation with senior associates in providing legal and policy assistance in real-life conflict situations. In addition to working on a number of different research projects throughout the year, they are allocated with administrative tasks to develop their organizational skills. Furthermore, international law professionals teach professional development sessions every 2 weeks that help students prepare themselves for a successful entry into the career market. For example, they focus on research and writing skills for effective and client-friendly legal memoranda, networking skills, career advice, presentation skills, social media and working in international criminal justice and diplomacy, to name a few. Moreover, students are stimulated to attend events that are relevant to their work, and are provided with business cards and a personal email address to assist...
their opportunities to build a network. The International Law Clinic
moreover provides the opportunity to work in a highly professional and
international climate, with motivated peers and individual supervision.

Form of tuition
Team meetings with clinical staff and participants to discuss new and
progress on assignments, as well as developments in
(conflict-)situations of clients; Individual tutorials.

Students are obliged to attend the meeting with entire clinic staff and
participants that takes place once every two weeks. In addition they are
obliged to meet in between those meetings on an individual basis with
supervisors and/or peers to discuss work progress whenever needed.
Students commit to participate in the International Law Clinic for the
full Academic Year. They commit to an average of approximately 12-16
hours per week throughout this period. All participants of the
International Law Clinic need to sign a Confidentiality Agreement to
maintain attorney-client privilege. Each year, a maximum of 10 students
may be accepted to participate in the International Law Clinic.
Successful applicants become Research Associates of the Netherlands
Office of the Public International Law & Policy Group (PILPG). They are
supervised by the senior associates of PILPG-NL (approximately 10
part-time professionals) and work in cooperation with PILPG Global. The
Clinic continues throughout the academic year. Students that want to
apply for the Clinic need to have a basic understanding of public
international law, good research and writing skills, and an excellent
knowledge of English. To apply, students need to send a CV, cover letter
and list of grades to the course coordinator Marieke de Hoon, via
recruitment.pilpg.nl@pilpg.org.

Type of assessment
Students are assessed based on several written assignments throughout
the year, their team work, and their professional conduct. At the
commencement of the year, students are provided with the detailed
assessment form to make clear on which terms they are assessed.
Moreover, each student will have an individual mid-term assessment
meeting with the Management Team of PILPG-NL. In this mid-term
assessment, the Management Team discusses with the students which skills
are performed well and in which ways the student can improve him or
herself for a better grade as well as the student's further professional
development. Successful students receive 12 ECTS and a grade upon
completion of the course.

Course reading
Depends on the assignment. Students are expected to find appropriate
literature for their research assignments themselves, in cooperation
with the team, and may also be directed to relevant literature by
supervisors.

Registration procedure
To apply, students need to send a CV, cover letter and list of grades to
the course coordinator. When you are not a Master student from the
faculty of Law at the VU, you are required to have a registration for
subsidiary Master courses (bijvakregistratie).
The application period opens in August and closes on Friday 11
September. Applicants will receive further information on the
application procedure and subsequent dates by email.

Master's Thesis - International Crimes and Criminology
Perpetrators and Bystanders

Course objective
This course is mandatory for the students in the International Crimes and Criminology master and an optional course for several other masters (e.g. Criminology, Law and Politics of International Security). The course deals with the perpetrators and bystanders of the most horrendous crimes like genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. It tries to seek explanations for their involvement in, or passiveness when witnessing, these atrocities. In doing so it has an interdisciplinary nature but with an emphasis on socio-psychology.

By the end of the course students should have the following knowledge:
1) Students should be able to describe and explain selected socio-psychological theories and evaluate their relevance in a situation of international crimes or other gross human rights violations.
2) Students should be able to apply the theories to various situations and case studies involving international crimes and other gross human rights violations.
3) Students should be able to analyse the aetiology of international crimes by examining its perpetrators and bystanders through a sound academic argumentation.

Course content
The course will address questions such as who the perpetrators and bystanders of international crimes are and why they commit international crimes or passively stand by. We will discuss and debate the thesis that the perpetrators are merely ordinary people who commit their crimes because they find themselves in extraordinary circumstances. We will delve into various socio-psychological mechanisms and assess their importance in situations when international crimes are committed. Students will get
acquainted with various classic socio-psychological experiments such as the Milgram obedience experiment, the Stanford prison experiment and the Asch’s conformity experiment and discuss their implications. Since international crimes are often perpetrated by militarized units we will also touch upon military culture, training and its effects on individuals. The ordinary military education and training will be contrasted to much more brutal and demanding torture training and ! the example of Greek Torture School will be discussed. We will discuss whether situational factors (extraordinary circumstances) can turn ordinary people into perpetrators of international crimes and why it is so difficult to keep hold of your own moral values within a repressive and powerful environment. We will conclude with discussing the relevance of the collective character of international crimes and question how to prevent or react to such crimes. Is the currently prevalent criminal law reaction ideal?

**Type of assessment**

Paper

**Course reading**


Online articles and texts

**Target group**

Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:

Students from other universities/faculties

Exchange students

Contractor (students who pay for one course)

The extracurricular and exchange students should send a cv to [b.hola@vu.nl](mailto:b.hola@vu.nl) and get approval for their participation.

**Remarks**

MAXIMUM OF PARTICIPANTS

A maximum of 50 students may attend this course.

Master degree students ICC have priority.

**OBJECTIVES**

Knowledge of and insight into:

- Recent approaches, theories and insights from various disciplines in international crimes;

Being capable of:

-Identifying and applying theoretical approaches from various disciplines;

Show evidence of:

-An independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge;

-Critical, analytical and normative reflection on academic research and on research result.

**Public International Law**
Course objective
The course provides students with an overview of the foundational doctrines of international law. Students are required to reflect on these foundations, identify incompatibilities and to see how law and politics interact. Moreover, students will be familiarized with the basic legal regime covering ius ad bellum and be required to critically apply these frameworks to existing armed conflicts.

Course content
- Nature, sources and subjects of international law
- Law of responsibility, with a focus on states and individuals
- Jurisdiction and immunities
- Peaceful settlement of disputes
- Law on the use of force, including collective security, self-defense and humanitarian intervention

Type of assessment
Take home examination

Course reading
Jan Klabbers, International law, Cambridge University Press 2013
Syllabus
Additional materials available on Blackboard

Target group
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
- Students from other universities/faculties
- Exchange students
- Contractor (students who pay for one course)

Remarks
OBJECTIVES
Degree programme objectives Law and Politics of International Security

Final Attainment Levels
The student graduating with a Master’s degree will have the following knowledge and understanding:
- International conflict and security law, including jus ad bellum, jus in bello and jus post bellum;
- The difficulties involved in the application of ‘traditional’ legal and political science concepts to contemporary armed conflicts.

Being capable of:
- The student graduating with a Master’s degree will have a capability to:
- Identify and apply theoretical approaches from international law and political science;
- Identify the differences and overlaps between the various methodologies used in law and political science;
- Independently set up a legal and political arguments in the area of international conflict and security law;
- Independently apply research methods and interpret results;

Show evidence of:
- The student graduating with a Master’s degree will have a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to:
  - The way in which problems in the area of international conflict and security are framed in academic, legal and policy debates;
  - The existing legal framework in the field of international conflict and security;
  - Existing policy solutions in the field of international conflict and security;

Degree programme objectives International Crimes and Criminology
Final Attainment Levels
Knowledge of and insight into:
- Recent approaches, theories and insights from various disciplines in international crimes;
- Legal issues concerning international crimes.

Show evidence of:
- An independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge;
- An investigative, original and creative attitude with regard to existing issues and solutions;
- Critical, analytical and normative reflection on academic research and on research result.

Research Methodology for International Crimes

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<td>Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordinator</td>
<td>mr. B. Hola</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examiner</td>
<td>mr. B. Hola</td>
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<td>Teaching method(s)</td>
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Course objective
OBJECTIVES
Knowledge of and insight into:
- Quantitative and qualitative research methodology;

Being capable of:
- Applying research methods and interpret results;

Show evidence of:
- Critical, analytical and normative reflection on academic research and
on research result.

Course objective

We will achieve the objectives in two ways:

- field exercises
- lectures

Course content
Research Methods: Sampling, instrument design, interviewing, data analysis, statistical testing, for ordinary social research, as well as specific methods for international crimes.

Type of assessment
Written exam and bonus points

Course reading

Target group
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
Students from other universities/faculties
Exchange students
Contractor (students who pay for one course)

Research Seminar International Crimes 1

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Course objective
OBJECTIVES
Knowledge of and insight into:
-Recent approaches, theories and insights from various disciplines in international crimes;
-Legal issues concerning international crimes.

Being capable of:
-Identifying and applying theoretical approaches from various disciplines;
-Critical reflection on research results and relating those results to theoretical debates within the selected domain.

Course content
To be announced via Blackboard
Type of assessment
Paper

Target group
Apart from students which follow the Master International Crimes and Criminology and the Master Law and Politics of International Security, the course is also available for a limited number of other students

Remarks
The course is open to a limited amount of students (20-25). Preference is given to students of the Master International Crimes and Criminology or the Master Law and Politics of International Security.

Research Seminar International Crimes 2

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Course objective
The purpose of the research seminar is to discuss and explore in depth a particular topic related to international crimes or international criminal justice together with a renowned academic expert or a practitioner.

Course content
In order to provide a stimulating forum for further academic development of our students, several times a year the CICJ invites a distinguished scholar or practitioner to share with us his/her expertise during the so-called ‘research seminar’. The research seminar is an intensive two-day course on a specific topic related to international crimes. During the research seminar students will have the possibility to explore the particular topic in depth and discuss their opinions with the renowned expert in the field.

Remarks
The research seminar is organized twice a year and the details of this year’s research seminar concerning a topic, a speaker and further information will be distributed among students during the academic year.

Seminar Human Rights: Restitution of cultural objects in post-conflict contexts.

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<th>Course code</th>
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Course objective
How will this objective be achieved? How does this course contribute to the end terms of the Degree Programme? These end terms can be found in the Academic and Examination Regulations of the Study Programme(s) – to be found online http://www.rechten.vu.nl/en/students/regulations/index.asp Upon completion of this course, students will understand:

- the basic concepts underlying international human rights law;
- the theoretical foundations of and challenges within international human rights;
- international human rights institutions and enforcement mechanisms;
- the scope and content of human rights; including debates surrounding their justiciability;
- the ability to restrict the application of rights in certain circumstances subject to certain requirements, including derogation, qualifications and limitations

These objectives will be achieved through the teaching and learning in this subject

Course content
War and conflict are intrinsically linked to the looting of cultural objects. During World War II hundreds of thousands of cultural objects had been looted by the Nazis. Systemic destruction of cultural heritage, looting and trafficking of cultural objects are currently manifest in Syria and Iraq as part of a process of ethnic and cultural cleansing of religious minorities, whereas the proceeds may be used to fund war and terrorist activities.

The past decades have seen a growing number of disputes concerning the restitution of looted or illegally taken art and other cultural objects. Almost invariably, these cases are international in nature. Since the 1950s, a growing number of international conventions have been developed in this field, most notably under the auspices of UNESCO. These instruments may provide a legal basis for claims regarding present-day looting. However, because of the principle of non-retroactivity of legal norms, these instruments can be of little direct use to cover so-called historical restitution claims, claims that find their base in contentious appropriations longer ago.

One clear category is Nazi-looted art. One can think of the heated international debate and claims surrounding the 2014 'Gurlitt' case on works of art that were kept by the son of a Nazi-dealer in Munich. Another example is the ongoing Goudstikker case in the Netherlands and the United States. Another category consists of claims related to colonial injustices, such as the long-standing claim by Greece on the Parthenon Marbles, claims by indigenous peoples regarding artefacts with a ritual or spiritual meaning, or the category of human remains.

One can notice a growing awareness that cultural objects, being intrinsically different from other 'goods', should be treated...
differently under the law. In the realm of most restitution claims
emotional aspects linked with major historical injustices or cultural
identity may be at stake. These are obviously no ordinary ownership
issues.

This course will discuss how these aspects influence the choice of legal
proceedings and solutions found in this area. It aims to address the
(international) legal context in which restitution claims on cultural
objects occur. To this end, relevant case-law and positive
(international) law will be discussed, as well as instruments of 'soft
law' - like ethical codes of conduct for museums and declarations of
intent.

This course information is added dd.February 8, 2015

Form of tuition
Interactive seminars will introduce students to the materials, and
facilitate discussion of it.

Course reading
To be confirmed. (See Blackboard).

Registration procedure
Only 20 students are able to participate in this course.

The Politics of International Criminal Justice

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<th>Course code</th>
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Course objective
PLEASE TAKE NOTE: This is study guide information of the 2013-2014
academic year. Parts of the information may therefore be outdated.

• Developing a substantive knowledge of which international criminal
justice institutions there are, how they have come about, and how they
function;
• Developing a deep understanding, based on particular strands of theory
including globalization theories, international ethics, political theory
and legal sociology, of the normative and empirical questions raised by
the recent emergence of international criminal justice institutions;
• Developing an understanding of the different methodologies available
to study the politics of international criminal justice, including
observation, in-depth interviews, surveys, discourse analysis, document
analysis, and theoretical analysis;
• Ability to collaborate in changing interdisciplinary configurations on
in-class assignments and on the group presentation;
• Ability to communicate what has been learned a) orally in a presentation based on independent group research that goes beyond the required literature, and b) in written form in a court observation report, a discourse analysis, and an essay formulating a structured argument informed by theory and primary or secondary empirical sources, based on reading that goes beyond the required literature;
• Development of informed personal views on the goals, the functioning and the impacts of international criminal justice institutions in their wider local and global political contexts.

Course content
The course will start off by situating international criminal justice in the wider context of the emergence of the idea and practices of transitional justice, and considering the manner of establishment and characteristics of different international criminal courts. It will then consider their political setting and the different aims of, or justifications for, international criminal justice, with particular attention to the relation to donors, victims, and witnesses. In the second half the course will zoom in on particular courts, and then even further in, on particular cases, by means of presentations. In the third part, you will actually be doing some original empirical research, by means of an observation report and discourse analysis on a particular case. The course will be ended with a critical reflection on what the politics of international criminal justice are, and how one can study them, to what purpose.

Form of tuition
The consultation hours will contribute to the essay-writing skills. The 'practical' will be a visit to an international criminal court session, resulting in an observation report. The seminars will contribute to all other learning objectives.

A maximum of 25 students can participate in the course. Participation in the seminars is compulsory.

Type of assessment
The course will be assessed by the following components:

- Paper(s).
- Presentation(s).
- Assignment(s).

Course reading
The literature will consist of book chapters, journal articles and other works tbc.

Remarks
This course will not be taught this academic year (2014-2015) due to circumstances.

The Politics of International Law

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Course objective
After completion of the course, students should:
- Have a broad understanding of insights from international relations, legal and political theory into the core interrelationship of politics and law in international relations.
- Have thorough knowledge of the principles used and problems raised in distinguishing political from legal issues in international adjudication.
- Understand the political dimensions of legal decision-making in actual international legal practice.
- Understand the challenges of institutional solutions to international problems of a mixed political and legal character.
Be able to reflect critically on the articulation and separation of political and juridical claims in practice.

Course content
Classical & structural realism
Institutionalism & liberal theory
Constructivism
Critical legal theory & counterdisciplinarity
Post-Marxist and post-colonial theories of international law

Type of assessment
Paper, assignments, attendance

Course reading
Literature is subject to change. Reading will be drawn from materials such as the following:
- Hans Morgenthau, Positivism, Functionalism, and International Law, American Journal of International Law, v. 34, pp. 260-284 (1940)
• Susan Marks, International Judicial Activism and the Commodity-Form Theory of International Law, European Journal of International Law, v. 18, pp. 199-211 (2007)
• Susan Marks, Big Brother is Bleeping Us—With the Message that Ideology Doesn’t Matter, European Journal of International Law, v. 12, pp. 109-123 (2001)
• Arnulf Becker Lorca, International Law in Latin America or Latin American International Law? Rise, Fall, and Retrieval of a Tradition of Legal Thinking and Political Imagination,


Target group
Apart from regular students, the course is also available for:
Exchange students
5 maximum exchange students; must already have taken public international law

Remarks
This course is intended for LPIS students. Any other students who wish to take the course should contact me.
The student graduating with a Master’s degree will have the following knowledge and understanding:
-International conflict and security law, including jus ad bellum, jus in bello and jus post bellum;
-The nature and development of contemporary armed conflicts;
-Contemporary theories of international security, as developed in political science (especially IR theory);
-The overlaps and differences between the legal and political science approaches to international security;
-The interrelationship between international law and international politics in the area of international security;
-The difficulties involved in the application of ‘traditional’ legal and political science concepts to contemporary armed conflicts.
Being capable of:
-The student graduating with a Master’s degree will have a capability to: Identify and apply theoretical approaches from international law and political science;
-Identify the differences and overlaps between the various methodologies used in law and political science;
-Independently set up a legal and political arguments in the area of international conflict and security law;
-Independently apply research methods and interpret results;
-Independently set up, carry out and report the result of research projects;
-Critically reflect on research results and relating those results to theoretical debates within the selected domains.
Show evidence of:
-The student graduating with a Master’s degree will have a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to:
The way in which problems in the area of international conflict and security are framed in academic, legal and policy debates;
-The existing legal framework in the field of international conflict and security;
-Existing policy solutions in the field of international conflict and security;
-Existing scientific theories in the area of international security;
-Academic research as well as research results.