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

The 2016-2017 academic programme consists of:

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

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>Master's degree programmes for more information on the programme.
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| Master's programme Law and Politics of International Security- Extracurricular | 1 |
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| Vak: International Criminal Courts and Tribunals (Periode 2) | 4 |
| Vak: International Humanitarian Law (Periode 2+3) | 5 |
| Vak: International Law Clinic (Periode 1+2+3+4+5) | 6 |
| Vak: Perpetrators and Bystanders (Periode 4) | 8 |
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Master's programme Law and Politics of International Security - Compulsory courses

Vakken:

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Master's programme Law and Politics of International Security - Extracurricular

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Master's programme Law and Politics of International Security - Optional courses

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Capita Selecta Law and Politics of International Security

**Vakcode**  
R. CSLPIS3 ()

**Periode**  
Ac. Jaar (september)

**Credits**  
6.0

**Voertaal**  
Engels

**Faculteit**  
Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid

**Coördinator**  
dr. T.E. Aalberts

**Examinator**  
dr. T.E. Aalberts

**Niveau**  
400

**Doel vak**  
This course is a special research module offered on an occasional, as-available basis in conjunction with current projects of faculty members. Please contact the coördinator for availability and details.

**Inhoud vak**  
As available, research will be conducted in conjunction with current projects of faculty members.

**Overige informatie**  
For more information contact the coördinator of the course.

Corporations and International Crimes

**Vakcode**  
R. CorIC ()

**Periode**  
Periode 4

**Credits**  
6.0

**Voertaal**  
Engels

**Faculteit**  
Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid

**Coördinator**  
prof. dr. mr. W. Huisman

**Examinator**  
prof. dr. mr. W. Huisman

**Lesmethode(n)**  
Werkgroep, Hoorcollege

**Niveau**  
500

**Doel vak**  
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.

Inhoud vak
- 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

Toetsvorm
Obligatory assignments (pass or fail)
Paper

Literatuur
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).

Aanbevolen voorkennis
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.

Doelgroep
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 exchange students 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.

**International Criminal Courts and Tribunals**

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<td>M. Cupido LLM</td>
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<td>M. Cupido LLM</td>
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<td>Hoorcollege, Werkgroep</td>
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**Doel vak**
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.

**Inhoud vak**
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

**Onderwijsvorm**
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.

**Toetsvorm**
Written exam

**Literatuur**

**Doelgroep**
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**

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<td>prof. dr. W.G. Werner</td>
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**Doel vak**
The course conveys
- knowledge and understanding of international conflict and security law, including jus ad bellum, jus in bello and jus post bellum;
- the capability to identify and apply theoretical approaches from international law and political science;
- 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;
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to the existing legal framework in the field of international conflict and security;
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to academic research as well as research results.

**Inhoud vak**
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 pose by new form of conflicts and violence, the interplay between international humanitarian law and human rights law, the regulation of private military companies.
**Onderwijsvorm**  
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.

**Toetsvorm**  
The course will be assessed by:  
- A paper.

**Literatuur**

**Required materials:**
- 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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<td>dr. mr. A.M. de Hoon</td>
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<td>Docent(en)</td>
<td>dr. mr. A.M. de Hoon</td>
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</table>
**Doel vak**
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.

**Inhoud vak**
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.

**Onderwijsvorm**
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.

**Toetsvorm**
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.

**Literatuur**
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.

**Intekenprocedure**
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 - Law and Politics of International Security**

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<td>dr. T.E. Aalberts</td>
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**Doel vak**
The final thesis conveys
- 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;
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to the existing legal framework in the field of international conflict and security;
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to academic research as well as research results

**Perpetrators and Bystanders**
**Doel vak**

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 the student:

A. Has knowledge of and insight into:
   1. Recent approaches, theories, methods and insights from various disciplines in relation to perpetrators and bystanders of international crimes;
   2. Quantitative and qualitative research methodology in relation to international crimes and their perpetrators;
   3. Legal issues concerning prosecution of perpetrators of international crimes.

B. Is capable of:
   4. Identifying and applying theoretical approaches from various disciplines;
   5. Applying research methods and interpret results;
   6. Independently setting up, carrying out and reporting the results of an interdisciplinary research project;
   7. Critical reflection on research results and reflection on the theoretical debates concerning the aetiology of international crimes by examining their perpetrators and bystanders.

C. Shows evidence of:
   8. An independent, critical attitude with regard to existing theories and knowledge concerning the perpetrators and bystanders of international crimes.

**Inhoud vak**

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?

Toetsvorm
Paper

Literatuur

Online articles and texts

Doelgroep
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 Barbora Hola (b.hola@vu.nl) and get approval for their participation.

Intekenprocedure
A maximum of 50 students may attend this course.

Overige informatie
MAXIMUM OF PARTICIPANTS
A maximum of 50 students may attend this course.
Master degree students ICC have priority.

Philosophy of International Law

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<td>dr. mr. L.D.A. Corrias, L.M. Henderson</td>
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<td>Lesmethode(n)</td>
<td>Hoorcollege</td>
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**Doel vak**
After completion of this course students will:
- have acquired knowledge of various philosophical approaches to international law;
- have gained experience in close reading and analysis of philosophical texts;
- be able to critically reflect on various philosophical theories of international law;
- be able to assess the implications of these theories for current practices of international law.

The course also promotes the academic education of the student, in particular with reference to:
- independent, academic thought processes and performance;
- communicating and discussing at an academic level;
- reflecting on specialist academic knowledge in a wider philosophical context.

**Inhoud vak**
This course will approach the broad subject of the philosophy of international law through the specific theme of 'humanity and the boundaries of law'. It will thus take such notions as human rights and crimes against humanity as the starting point for philosophical reflection.

There is a close link between this course and the research programme Boundaries of Law.

**Toetsvorm**
Paper and/or written exam (to be announced).

**Literatuur**
To be announced. Reading will mostly consist of philosophical texts (e.g. Hannah Arendt, Jacques Derrida). Students who have any questions about the literature may contact the course coordinator at l.d.a.corrias@vu.nl

**Aanbevolen voorkennis**
No specific knowledge of international law and/or philosophy is required for this course.

**Doelgroep**
This course is open to students of the Faculty of Law, regardless of what Master they have chosen. It is open to exchange students and contract students (students who pay for one course).

Philosophy of International Law does not require specific knowledge of international law and/or philosophy. A basic knowledge of international law and a keen interest in philosophical questions concerning international law are a plus.

As a subsidiary subject ('bijvak'), Philosophy of International Law is also open to enrolment by students from other faculties or universities. Given the content, the course might also be of interest to students in Political Studies, International Relationships, Political Theory, History, Criminology, Philosophy, Theology, etc.
For more information on how to register for a subsidiary subject, please visit:

http://www.rechten.vu.nl/en/education/subsidiary-subjects-minors/Applica

You are advised to start the application procedure at least six weeks before the start of the course (i.e. in February), so you have enough time to follow the application procedure and register in time. The registration deadline for courses is four weeks before the start of the period. After the deadline, enrolling or de-enrolling is not possible anymore.

**Overige informatie**
The following course objectives are only available in Dutch:

Eindtermen master Rechtsgeleerdheid
De afgestudeerde master beschikt over een academisch werk- en denkniveau;
heeft diepgaande en specialistische kennis van en inzicht in minimaal één deelgebied van het recht
heeft inzicht in de samenhang tussen verschillende onderdelen van het recht, met inbegrip van het nationale en internationale recht
De afgestudeerde master beschikt over de volgende (juridische) vaardigheden:
Analytische vaardigheden:
de juridische en maatschappelijke aspecten van een vraagstuk in hun onderlinge samenhang beoordelen en daarover kritisch nadenken/oordelen literatuur en juridische bronnen diepgaand analyseren en interpreteren en kritisch beschouwen (waar relevant ook in de Engelse taal, waar relevant ook op nieuwe rechtsgebieden)
Onderzoeks- en presentatievaardigheden:
schriftelijk verslag doen van een rechtswetenschappelijk onderzoek met argumenten onderbouwde mening formuleren over een complex juridisch probleem of een nieuwe ontwikkeling actief deelnemen aan een wetenschappelijk debat op het deelgebied dat het masterprogramma beslaat.

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;
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;
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 scientific theories in the area of international security;
Academic research as well as research results.

Public International Law
Doel vak
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.

Inhoud vak
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

Toetsvorm
Take home examination

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

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

Overige informatie
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 Seminar International Crimes 1

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Doel vak
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.

**Inhoud vak**
To be announced via Blackboard

**Toetsvorm**
Paper

**Doelgroep**
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

**Overige informatie**
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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**Doel vak**
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.

**Inhoud vak**
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.

**Overige informatie**
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.

**Security Studies**
Doel vak

Changed: 23-09-2016

The courses conveys

• knowledge and understanding of contemporary theories of international security, as developed in political science (especially IR theory);
• the capability to identify and apply theoretical approaches from international law and political science;
• the capability to independently set up legal and political arguments in the area of international conflict and security law;
• the capability to independently apply research methods and interpret results;
• the capability to independently set up, carry out and report the result of research projects;
• the capability to critically reflect on research results and relating those results to theoretical debates within the selected domains.
• a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to existing policy solutions in the field of international conflict and security;
• critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to existing scientific theories in the area of international security;
• a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to academic research as well as research results.

Inhoud vak

Changed: 23-09-2016

The course is composed of two main parts. The first part focuses on the prospects and limits of security institutions. Whereas neorealist authors point to anarchy and the security dilemma as obstacles to cooperation, institutionalists have aimed at demonstrating how institutions help to establish norms of appropriate behavior, increase transparency and build trust among participants. The second part on domestic politics and international conflict focuses on the distinct impact of democratic politics on conflict behavior.

Onderwijsvorm

Added: 12-10-2016

Teaching format

The course will be taught in a series of interactive seminars. Students are expected to come to class having prepared the required readings in order to allow for meaningful discussions. In class, students will be randomly hand-picked to shortly (about 5 min., not more!) introduce the substance of the texts. The following rules apply:

• Students who have been unable to prepare the readings are to inform the teacher ahead of class so that no time is wasted by picking them;
these students will have to hand in a written short critique (see below) of the texts of that day instead. First opportunity: next lecture; second opportunity: 23 December, 2016.

• Students who are found unable to summarize the text adequately without such notification will have to hand in a short critique as explained under the previous bullet and make a an additional compensatory assignment as well.

Class presence
Students are expected to attend and actively participate in class. Of the twelve classes that you are expected to attend, you may miss – for whatever reason – at most four classes: 4 out of 12. For all classes that you miss you will have to hand in a short critique of the assigned readings either for the next class or on December 23 for the second opportunity (if you then miss this deadline or the submitted material is of insufficient quality there is of course no third opportunity and you will have failed the course). If you miss more than six classes you cannot under any circumstances pass the course. Class participation means actively contributing to the class discussion but not dominating them or just giving your opinion about anything for the sake of it (that is, it is important that you also give others the chance to participate).

Short Critique

Note that this assignment only applies if you miss a class or have been unable to adequately prepare the readings (see above). Students who miss class or have not adequately prepared for it should in compensation write an integrated short review / critique – min. 600, max. 800 words! – of all articles / readings for that session (that is, you have to write one piece on all readings that we read for that session, not per reading). You can find the readings in the overview of the lectures (Timetable). The review should compare the readings – pointing out the common questions / themes / research problems / debates they assess as well as pointing out some differences regarding their approach / arguments relating to these questions, and critically assess the arguments made. Here a few points of criticism should be raised. For example: How convincing / plausible are the (meta-) theoretical assumptions?; how well is the argument made?; are the methods employed appropriate, and is the analysis carried out in the appropriate manner (in as far as applicable)?; how valid / convincing are the conclusions / findings?; what do you make of the scientific and / or societal relevance of the research / argument? (or any other question or point you think is relevant to make). Do not try to answer all of the above questions (which is impossible given the word limit), just focus on one or two points in relation to all of the readings (again in an integrated and comparative way).

Toetsvorm

Changed: 12-10-2016

Grades are based on in-class presentation and participation (35%) and a final paper (65%). Both parts need to be passed (obtain a passing grade of 5.5.).

The final paper is around 4,000 words, deadline at the end of the semester. The grade for the assignment will be composed as follows:

• Language: written in good English and good to read and understand (10%).

• Literature: selection of pertinent scholarly literature (at a minimum
10 to 12 articles, chapters or books) (20%).
- Theory: understanding of the theoretical concepts applied to the case (30%).
- Case study: understanding of the case under study with a good selection of examples and illustrations (30%).
- Form: title page with all important information, clear structure and a consistent system of referencing and formatting literature in the bibliography (10%).

Literatuur
Changed: 23-09-2016
Selection of articles (available via VUA library homepage)

Selected Issues: International Security

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Doel vak
- Familiarise students with topical research in international security and to get a practical sense of the insights and challenges involved;
- Increase students' understanding of the structures, actors and processes regarding contemporary international and global security;
- Enhance students' critical understanding of the potential and limits of competing approaches to international security;
- Stimulate active class participation;
- Enhance students' academic writing skills.

Inhoud vak
International Security is a core and still evolving sub-field of International Relations. While traditionally focused on the security of states and on the concern with national security as a source of international conflict, recently, and in the context of globalization, the field has moved beyond this state-centric focus. On the one hand non-state actors and transnational (economic, social and environmental) processes can be seen as affecting national security. On the other hand, it is argued that the concept of security itself must broadened beyond that of states to include for example human, societal, environmental and energy security. However, also in ‘global security’ as a more encompassing term, states and their strategies, continue to play a critical role. From this perspective we will critically evaluate both more traditional and newer approaches to international security and examine how they are applied to various contemporary issues. Special attention will be paid to so-called critical approaches, in particular
those who seek to relate issues and dynamics of international security to the unequal power structures of the global political economy. From this perspective we may ‘deconstruct’ national and other actors’ strategies for security by analysing the social forces involved in shaping these strategies and hence the social purpose (beyond the official justifications given) that they may serve. From this perspective we will amongst others review the politics of America’s national security discourse and related foreign policy; the rise of East Asia and possible security implications; the geopolitics of the growing competition for energy sources and the relationship between security and development.

Onderwijsvorm
Seminar

Toetsvorm
Class Participation and written assignment(s). All parts must be passed.

Literatuur
To be announced on blackboard.

Doelgroep
Students of Master Political Science

The Politics of International Law

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Doel vak
The course conveys
- knowledge and understanding of contemporary theories of international security, as developed in political science (especially IR theory);
- knowledge and understanding of the overlaps and differences between the legal and political science approaches to international security;
- knowledge and understanding of the interrelationship between international law and international politics in the area of international security;
- the capability to identify and apply theoretical approaches from international law and political science;
- the capability to independently set up legal and political arguments in the area of international conflict and security law;
- the capability to independently apply research methods and interpret results;
- the capability to independently set up, carry out and report the result of research projects;
- the capability to critically reflect on research results and relating those results to theoretical debates within the selected domains.
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to academic research as well as research results

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

**Toetsvorm**
Paper, assignments, attendance

**Literatuur**
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, 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,


Doelgroep

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

Exchange students

5 maximum exchange students; must already have taken public international law

Overige informatie

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.

Theories and Approaches in International Relations

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Doel vak
Objectives and learning goals:
- To provide students with an overview of the theoretical foundations of IR, thus enabling them to analyse concrete historical developments from various theoretical perspectives;
- To teach students to critically reflect upon the meta-theoretical foundations – and their methodological and normative implications – of (social science) theory (increasing their reflexive knowledge of both
the main traditions and of paradigmatic change);
- To familiarize students with the critical assessment of political science literature, in particular by placing it within a historical context and by reflecting upon both the social constitution of theory as well as its socially constitutive effects.

Inhoud vak
Whereas IR traditionally (and narrowly) defined deals almost exclusively with relations between states, the 'discipline' has moved much beyond such a narrow state-centrism in order to embrace a much broader conception of world politics in which there is attention to both state and non-state actors and both interstate and other global social structures. This broader conception of world politics is point of departure for this introductory course and is in fact taken one step further by departing from the notion that contemporary world politics is of a fundamentally transnational nature. Thus, politics is not just between states but also the political struggle between various transnational interest groups, movements and social forces. Although there is no world polity, there is a European polity, and internationally there are numerous international organizations that constitute institutionalized structures of global governance. Policy, finally, is not just produced by states as foreign policy, but also by the aforementioned international organizations and by the EU. A second characteristic is that although we consider IR as a mature sub-discipline of political science which is grounded in various approaches and methods of general political science (and therefore clearly linked to the other stream of the MSc in Political Science), we also recognize the contributions from other disciplines (including philosophy, economics, sociology, anthropology, and law) to the field and stress the importance of interdisciplinary research. This course is structured as a historical overview of the development of the discipline, placed in a wider historical context of 'real-world' developments in the global system - stressing the obvious links between those developments and the development of theory - as well as in a wider social science context, trying to see how IR theory developed in relation to other disciplines and to wider debates within the social sciences. Next to the historical context considerable attention is given to the meta-theoretical assumptions (and methodological implications thereof) underlying various approaches and theories as we believe that these are key to understanding the major debates, and that - for their own research - it is important that students critically reflect upon those assumptions.

Onderwijsvorm
Seminar. Building on prior knowledge of students (i.e., students from our Bachelor's programme are assumed to have basic knowledge of the IR and European integration literature used in the bachelor, and students coming from outside to have an equivalent knowledge), students will work through the literature in tutorial form. The total amount of reading will be about 80 pages per session.

Toetsvorm
Participation, including three pieces of homework (30%) and one final essay (70%).

Literatuur
The course is based on Scott Burchill et al (2013). Theories of International Relations, 5th ed. London: Palgrave (to be bought). A reader will be made available.
MSc Political Science students.

**Theories and Approaches to War and Collective Security**

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**Doel vak**
The course conveys
- knowledge and understanding of international conflict and security law, including jus ad bellum, jus in bello and jus post bellum;
- knowledge and understanding of the nature and development of contemporary armed conflicts;
- knowledge and understanding of the overlaps and differences between the legal and political science approaches to international security;
- knowledge and understanding of the interrelationship between international law and international politics in the area of international security;
- knowledge and understanding of the difficulties involved in the application of ‘traditional’ legal and political science concepts to contemporary armed conflicts.
- Capability of independently set up legal and political arguments in the area of international conflict and security law;
- 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;
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to the existing legal framework in the field of international conflict and security;
- a critical, creative and innovative attitude with regard to academic research as well as research results.

**Inhoud vak**
History of war, collective security, law and politics, balance of power, regionalism.

**Onderwijsvorm**
- All students are required to give at least one presentation during class. More information on the presentations will be provided in the syllabus.
- Class discussion, students are supposed to actively contribute to class discussion.
- Simulations
- Lecturing
Toetsvorm
Two papers each for 50%

Literatuur
- Additional literature (either available electronically via VU library or to be handed out and/or posted on blackboard).

Overige informatie
The course is open for students enrolled in the Master programme Law and Politics of International Security.