



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### International Law For Economics

1920-3-E3301M209

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#### Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

At the end of the course, students will have acquired good knowledge and understanding of the main facets of international trade and

investment law.

Ability to apply knowledge and understanding

In class analysis and discussion of cases will develop students ability in applying the knowledge acquired in the course.

Ability to inform judgments and communication skills

Students, also through discussion with their teacher, team work and in class presentations, shall acquire correct legal terminology and shall

reach communicative skills in assessing and discussing situations related to international trade and investment law.

Learning ability

The teaching method, through in class analysis of legal texts and readings, shall enhance students' ability to learn the rules governing

economic global relations, allowing them to autonomously update the notions acquired.

#### Contents

The course aims at providing students with the knowledge needed to fully understand recent trends of international economic

relations. This requires, first of all, the knowledge of the legal structure of the international economic community, which shall be described in its

historic development, so as to allow a deeper understanding of the present situation and future prospects. The subject shall be expounded through

the discussion of the most relevant issues that international economic law is facing nowadays, such as the need to reform international financial

institutions to reflect the rising role of emerging countries; the new forms of aids to development; the control of international financial stability; the

law of international investments; the multilateral framework of international trade; the relationship between trade liberalization and the

protection of human rights and of the environment.

## **Detailed program**

The following topics shall be dealt with and discussed in class:

- The subjects and normative sources of international economic law in the present stage of international economic relations.

- The structure of the international economic order in the aftermath of the Second World War and its evolution. International monetary

relations: from the IMF through the G20.

- The attempt to establish a "New International Economic Order" and the present forms of participation of developing countries to international

economic relations (UN General Assembly's resolutions on the NIEO, the issue of developing countries' debt, the aid to development in the

World Bank's Group through BIRS and IDA, regional development banks).

- The law of international investments: the notion of "investment" and the main international sources in the subject. ICSID and MIGA. New

generation trade and investment treaties; the TTIP negotiation; the CETA.

- International monetary and financial cooperation. In particular: the Bank of International Settlements.

- The protection of fundamental human rights and the environment through social corporate responsibility. OCSE's Guidelines and

UN's Principles on Business and Human Rights.

- Support to firms' internationalization in Italy.

- International trade: a) from ITO through the WTO. The fundamental principles of the multilateral trading system.
- b) The extension of the liberalization from goods to services and the circulation of intellectual property rights.
- c) The disputes resolution mechanism of the WTO.

## **Prerequisites**

## **Teaching methods**

Lectures, class discussion, team work, presentations.

## **Assessment methods**

Oral exam. Class participation will be valued. Class attendance and presentations/tests during classes could be an alternative to the oral exam.

## **Textbooks and Reading Materials**

ELENA SCISO, Appunti di diritto internazionale dell'economia, 3rd edition, Giappichelli, Torino, 2017.

## **Semester**

First semester

## **Teaching language**

Italian

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