

Geographical and Legal Area

“Geography is the study of the Earth as the home of the people”

Yi-Fu Tuan

Geographical studies related to the marine and coastal environments embrace the study of cultural, political, and social aspects throughout the world and how people relate to spaces and places. As such, it encompasses a large range of topics, such as environmental conflicts, social resilience, population and gender issues, tourism, and geographical representations of the sea

Coastal and Marine Hazard and Resilience: The course explores the complexity of the relationships between culture, risk and disaster in marine and coastal areas. The aim of the course is to improve the knowledge and understanding of the risks associated with coastal and marine environments in order to better manage them and analyse people's resilience to risk, exploring the cultural dimension of disaster in marine areas

Environmental Justice and Geopolitics of the Sea: the course focuses first on the historical representation of the ocean as a "political and social space" and on how the sea can be framed by international geopolitical discourse, in relation to the processes of territorialisation, geo-power and extra-territoriality of marine spaces

Human Geography of Small Islands Systems: Mainly referring to the general framework of the Island Studies, the course aims to provide a set of tools useful to the analysis of socio-spatial dynamics within island systems. Furthermore the course aims to provide tools and interpretative models useful to understand how, at local scale, human communities (privately, socially and politically) cope with socio-environmental changes, crises, conflicts and transitions by producing a set of resilient practices, knowledge and adjustments

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*“The sea has always been lashed by two major contrary winds: the wind from the high seas towards the land is the wind of **freedom**; the wind from the land towards the high seas is the bearer of **sovereignities**. The law of the sea has always been in the middle between these conflicting forces”*

René-Jean Dupuy

Legal studies related to the oceans in the mandatory course “**INTERNATIONAL LAW OF THE SEA**” embrace the dynamics of the spatial distribution of jurisdiction among States and the legal regime of the different maritime spaces, international straits, and international waters. They aim at leading to a sound understanding of the legal aspects concerning marine environment protection, navigation and overflight, fishing, the conduct of marine scientific research and hydrographic surveys, the uses of the seabed and subsoil (laying of cables and pipelines, including “smart” cables and fiber sensing, construction of installations), deep-seabed mining, naval exercises, naval blockades, conservation and sustainable use of marine genetic resources within and beyond areas of national jurisdiction.

The course “**OCEAN AFFAIRS LAW AND POLICY**” addresses the legal intricacies linked to specific regions (i.e., the Arctic Ocean, the Mediterranean Sea, the Black Sea, compared to the greater ocean spaces), the law of maritime delimitations, and the legal rules for the settlement of maritime disputes before international courts and tribunals, with a focus on specific issues deriving from the current geopolitical dynamics.

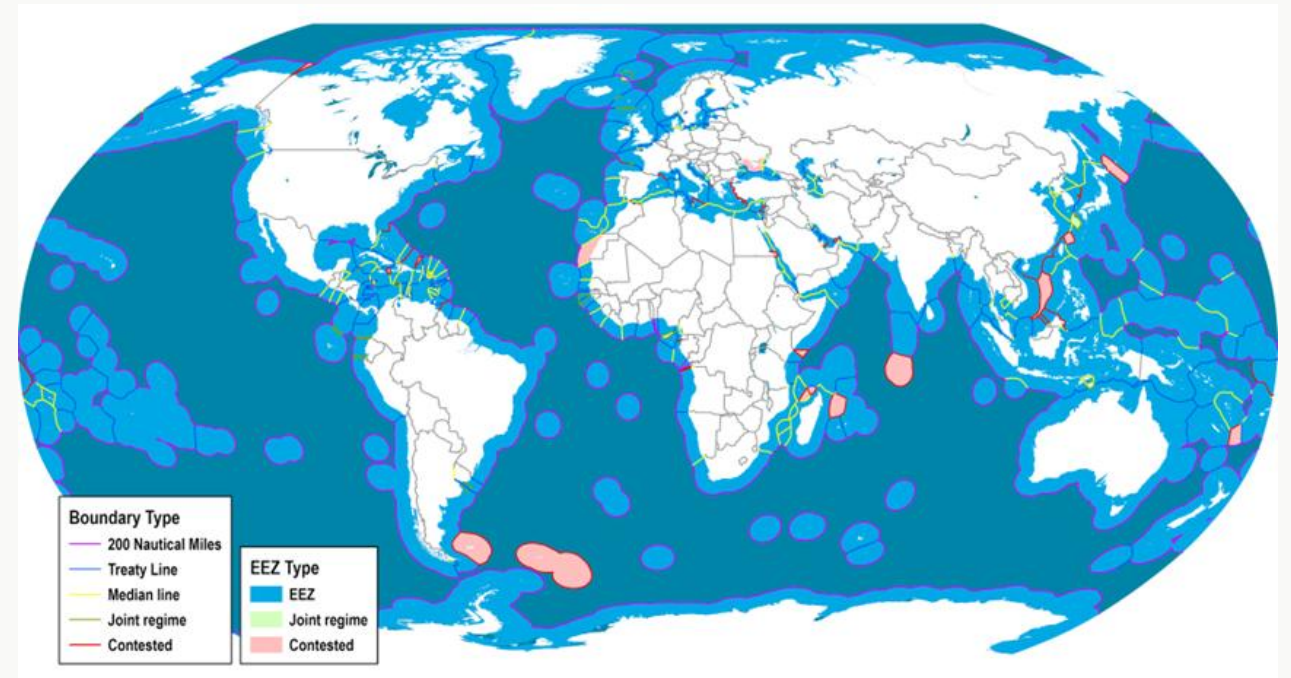
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Legal studies:

- International law of the sea (1st year)
- Ocean affairs law and policy

Geographical studies:

- Coastal & marine hazard & resilience
- Environmental justice & geopolitics of the sea
- Human geography of small island systems
- Coastal and maritime tourism
- Communication skills and interpersonal relation management



Mandatory courses in red