



Course and Examination Fact Sheet: Spring Semester 2021

8,492: Foreign Relations Law

ECTS credits: 4

Overview examination/s

(binding regulations see below)

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (100%)

Examination time: term time

Attached courses

Timetable -- Language -- Lecturer

[8,492,1.00 Foreign Relations Law](#) -- Englisch -- [Portmann Roland](#)

Course information

Course prerequisites

Interest in current foreign affairs issues; basic knowledge of international law and constitutional law (introductory course level is sufficient).

Learning objectives

- Students gain an understanding of the large variety of a lawyer's (and diplomat's) instruments from the international and domestic sphere when dealing with current transnational issues.
- Students get a grip on how this variety of instruments is put to use when dealing with practical issues affecting states, private corporations and individuals in the international realm.
- Students understand how dispute settlement and litigation work on international issues.
- Students learn how to frame and express international legal arguments in a practical sense.

Course content

This course looks at current international issues from the perspective of law: what role does law play when faced with digital data and artificial intelligence, the COVID-19 pandemic or climate change? To what extent are the traditional sources of international law able to address such current issues and what role do domestic legal principles play when addressing them? How can internationally protected rights be enforced through litigation and/or through diplomatic instruments? In order to discuss and answer these questions, the course is structured into 1 half-day seminar concerned with the theoretical framework and 3 half-day seminars dedicated to putting this framework into practice:

1. Theory Seminar: What is Foreign Relations Law? The intersection between international law and domestic law.
2. Practice Seminar 1: The emerging international legal framework for digital data and artificial intelligence.
3. Practice Seminar 2: The enforcement of international law through international and domestic litigation as well as diplomatic instruments.
4. Practice Seminar 3: The Covid-19 pandemic and climate change: the role of law in addressing global threats.

Course structure

The course is taught as a seminar (either in presence or online).

Course literature



Required reading will consist of selected chapters from textbooks as well as from relevant parts of case-law and legal opinions by governments. All required reading will be made available electronically to students via StudyNet.

Additional course information

In the case of the President's Board having to implement new directives due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic in SpS2021, the course information listed above will be changed as follows:

- The course is conducted online via the platform Zoom;
- The lecturer informs via StudyNet on the changed implementation modalities of the course;

The examination information listed below would be changed as follows:

- There are no changes necessary to the examination information.

Examination information

Examination sub part/s

1. Examination sub part (1/1)

Examination time and form

Decentral - examination paper written at home (individual) (100%)

Examination time: term time

Remark

10-pages to be submitted by the end of the term

Examination-aid rule

Term papers

Term papers must be written without anyone else's help and in accordance with the known quotation standards, and they must contain a declaration of authorship which is a published template in StudentWeb.

The documentation of sources (quotations, bibliography) has to be done throughout and consistently in accordance with the chosen citation standard such as APA or MLA.

For papers in law, the legal standard is recommended (by way of example, cf. FORSTMOSER, P., OGOREK R. et SCHINDLER B., Juristisches Arbeiten: Eine Anleitung für Studierende, newest edition respectively, or according to the recommendations of the Law School).

The indications of the sources of information taken over verbatim or in paraphrase (quotations) must be integrated into texts in accordance with the precepts of the applicable quotation standard, while informative and bibliographical notes must be added as footnotes (recommendations and standards can be found, for example, in METZGER, C., Lern- und Arbeitsstrategien, newest edition respectively).

For any work written at the HSG, the indication of the page numbers is mandatory independent of the chosen citation standard. Where there are no page numbers in sources, precise references must be provided in a different way: titles of chapters or sections, section numbers, acts, scenes, verses, etc.

Supplementary aids

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Examination languages

Question language: English

Answer language: English



Examination content

Students will write a 10-page paper on one particular practical issue of foreign relations law by the end of the term. Topics will be assigned at the first seminar.

Examination relevant literature

Literature for the written examination paper consists of the overall reading list and additional sources as appropriate for dealing with the assigned topic.

Please note

Please note that only this fact sheet and the examination schedule published at the time of bidding are binding and takes precedence over other information, such as information on StudyNet (Canvas), on lecturers' websites and information in lectures etc.

Any references and links to third-party content within the fact sheet are only of a supplementary, informative nature and lie outside the area of responsibility of the University of St.Gallen.

Documents and materials are only relevant for central examinations if they are available by the end of the lecture period (CW21) at the latest. In the case of centrally organised mid-term examinations, the documents and materials up to CW 12 are relevant for testing.

Binding nature of the fact sheets:

- Course information as well as examination date (organised centrally/decentrally) and form of examination: from bidding start in CW 04 (Thursday, 28 January 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for decentralised examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 22 March 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised mid-term examinations: in CW 12 (Monday, 22 March 2021);
- Examination information (regulations on aids, examination contents, examination literature) for centrally organised examinations: two weeks before the end of the registration period in CW 14 (Thursday, 8 April 2021).