

FACULTY OF LAW

**UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE COURSES TAUGHT IN ENGLISH**

***List in progress***

**2014-2015**

**International Business Law**

*Level: Bachelor*

**Semester: 1**

**3 ECTS – 21 hours**

*The purpose of the course is to convey to the student an understanding of the importance of international business in a global environment. This course will assist the student in understanding the potential risks inherent in entering foreign markets and to provide a foundation for the management of risk in international transactions. Particular attention will be given to international commercial transactions. The course will explore the legal problems that a business may face when engaged in international trade, in the international licensing of intellectual property, and in foreign investment. This course will also explore the operation of international institutions involved in the regulation of international business.*

**European Union: Foundations, Institutions & Perspectives**

***Level: Bachelor***

**Semester: 1 or 2**

**5 ECTS – 21 hours**

*Why was the European Union created? What purpose does it serve? How does it work? What are the legal and financial institutions that operate to serve the community? How does the European Union measure up to other international bodies? And what are the future challenges for the EU, are among the questions that will be explored in the class. As part of the course requirements students will write a 20 page term paper in addition to presentations and examinations in this course.*

**International Business Strategy**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1 or 2**

**5 ECTS – 25 hours**

*The main emphasis of this module is to focus on why and how company managers have to develop and maintain a competitive advantage for their business and what to do in strategic terms to sustain or boost high performance.*

*The objectives will be to highlight conceptual frameworks as well as techniques that will help students to better analyze and apprehend the rationale for a company to set up a competitive strategy.*

*The course pays attention to the decision making process prior to the implementation of a strategy notably in an uncertain and highly competitive environment*

*It helps students to have a better understanding of the nature of business strategy and strategic decisions, strategic management, bases of strategic choice, strategic options, strategy implementation and strategy changes, management competitive advantage, pricing, strategic positioning, business modeling, vertical versus horizontal integration etc*

**International Business Transactions**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Module objectives: To acquire the legal foundations of the trade relations at an international stage.*

*Module content: The internationalization of domestic economies has been in constant evolution for several decades. The pace of the development of exchanges between countries is now intense and leads to the drafting of legal rules to be enforced by different trade actors. This legislative corpus which is taking shape nowadays plays a major role. Without being exhaustive, the proposed courses aim at enabling students in Master 1 to discover the major principles of law which rule International Trade Law through an updated summary.*

*Several points will be presented: the originality of this law which lies mainly in the right choice of applicable rules but also in the existence of a special legislation as to litigation.*

*Besides, the institutional actors of International Trade will be studied, the WTO being at the forefront.*

*Finally, the legal rules as to international trade operations will be essentially taken into account thanks to the Vienna Convention considered as the reference in this domain.*

**International Trade Organizations**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module content: This course describes how the WTO works, as a legal subject.*

*A first part will be dedicated to an exhaustive description of the essential rules and principles contained in the different WTO agreements. A thorough analysis of the case law jurisprudence concerning the GATT and the WTO special bodies will be made along with the analysis of the Appellate Body recently set within the WTO.*

*Even though this source of law (case law) cannot be viewed as a primary source of International Trade Law granting States rights and obligations, it is essential as to the interpretation of provisions mentioned in agreements.*

*A second part will focus on the description of how to deal with litigation thanks to the experience of the WTO special bodies and Appellate Body. The political aspect within the WTO councils and committees will also be analyzed.*

*A third part will emphasize a few current problems in our society. They will highlight, among others, the way by which international trade rules influence political decisions pursuing non commercial objectives.*

**International Contract Law**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1 or 2**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Module objectives: To develop student’s ability to draft and analyze international contracts, in a transnational and international perspective.*

*Module content: Fewer margins, indirect damage, judicial appeals... For small and medium-sized companies, the consequences of a business contract not properly clinched can be disastrous. In order to avoid such litigation, to manage the risks and not to go to court, a well drafted business contract is indispensable, in France and on an international level. This course puts the focus on the essential aspects of International Contract Law and proposes rules enabling to draft and negotiate contracts. Numerous contract terms and examples of contracts are analyzed. This teaching is thus very practical so that students may identify and assess the risks for business operations.*

*Many contracts are presented such as the sale contract, the retailer contract, the sales rep contract, consultancy, technical support and the know-how license.*

**International Intellectual Property Rights**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module objectives: To develop knowledge especially about international industrial property rights (patents, brands etc.)*

*Module content: This course aims at allowing students to discover the notion of intellectual property rights on an international level. They will study copyright, on the one hand, and industrial design, on the other hand. That will be done through a conventional approach. They will analyze the international intellectual property rights along with author's copyright, industrial design, patent rights and brand name.*

**Taxation of International Trade Transactions**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module objectives: To expose the general views around investments made by foreign companies in France.*

*Module content: Nowadays legal advisers from international companies have to work at the same level as business persons whose goals are to invest in foreign countries. Financial, legal, social, economic aspects of the investment have to be discussed in a globalized perspective. The course has therefore the objective to get the students acquainted to a number of tools always at stake in this kind of situation. This subject is taught with a close focus on investments in France and its particularities.*

**Business skills**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 1**

**2 ECTS – 10 hours**

*Module objectives: To develop personal skills in order to enter properly the professional world.*

*Module content: This module is rather practical and focused on student’s ability to define a realistic professional project which will be discussed, also in group. All the sessions are run by a placement’s specialist in the field of international business law.*

**Survey of International Trade Law**

**Level: Master**

**Semester: 1**

**5 ECTS - 30 hours**

*Module objectives: Make the students understand the various types of trade relationship, their sources, their objectives and the outputs.*

*Module content: Presentation of the legal framework governing the trade relations between States, and States and Regional Organizations like the European Union. Analysis of the various types of trade relationships (unilateral measures, bilateral and multilateral agreements...), how they are negotiated, the policy agenda lying behind them and their traditional content.*

*The role of trade in the allocation of wealth and in the global economy will be analyzed, as well as the most critical issues affecting trade relations. The global framework of the WTO will also be addressed, though another specific and detailed course is dedicated to the organization.*

**Trade in Services (20 hours – 5 ECTS).**

**Level: Master**

**Semester 1**

**5 ECTS - 20 hours**

*Module objectives: Understand how services are related to other trade areas (e.g. goods), their role in global trade as well as the existing and, particularly, the forthcoming legal framework applicable to their trade.*

*Module content:*

*Study of the inclusion of services in the WTO rounds of trade negotiations and of the General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS). The future opportunities in this area, especially taking into account the content of some regional trade agreements, will be an important part of the course as well as the negotiations about an updating of the GATS. From the EU perspective, the role or EU companies will be assessed, especially in the light of the foreign investment from the EU to other parts of the world.*

*A particular focus will be put on the specific legal issues relating to the trade in services, especially the need of legal security. Also, the growth potential linked with the trade liberalization and the removal of barriers to the global trade in services will be discussed.*

**Trade and Intellectual Property Rights**

**Level: Master**

**Semester ~~1~~ 2**

**5 ECTS - 30 hours**

*Module objectives: Make the students aware of the objectives of intellectual property protection, in a global perspective, and the limitations and exceptions applicable to reach the said objectives. Understand the various international legal rules in this area.*

*Module content: Presentation of the various Intellectual Property rights: patents, trademarks, designs, copyrights or geographical indications). Discussion about the role of Intellectual property rights in stimulating innovation and economic growth. Study of the protection and enforcement of intellectual property internationally and especially of the TRIPS’ legal framework. The inclusion of Intellectual Property rights within the external trade policy competences of the EU will also be discussed. Besides, a focus will be put on particular economic sectors and the particular legal issues in the said sectors*

**EU Customs Law**

**Level: Master**

**Semester 1**

**5 ECTS - 20 hours**

*Module objectives: Give the students a clear picture of the Customs Union among the 28 Member States and of the EU common customs tariff. Make the students aware of the EU customs’ procedures (classification, declaration, representatives, warehousing, incoterms, temporary admission...).*

*Module content: Relation between customs and trade. Role of the Customs Union within the Single Market. Coordination of the 28 Member States’ administrations. Functioning of the Customs Union in relation with the European external trade policy and in the light of the WTO legal framework and of the preferential trade agreements. Role of the Customs Union as a protective tool in international trade. Study of the EU Customs Code.*

**International Investment Agreements**

**Level: Master**

**Semester 1**

**5 ECTS - 30 hours**

*Module objectives: Provide an analysis on key legal issues relating to the international investment regime and the main bilateral investment treaties. Discuss the impact of international investment policies on countries worldwide and the attempts to formulate a more balanced policy. Study of the EU approach and competences in this area.*

*Module content: International legal rules and guidelines applicable to international investment agreements. Importance of the free movement of capitals, market access, and the need for legal certainty. Role of various international organizations (e.g. the OECD, the UNCTAD, the WTO, the G8, the IMF…). Analysis of some Bilateral Investment Treaties. Inclusion of investment issues in the EU’s common commercial policy, interrelation with the free movement of capitals and study of the EU forthcoming investment agreements with third countries (e.g. with Canada).*

**EU Free Trade Agreements**

**Level: Master**

**Semester 1**

**5 ECTS - 30 hours**

*Module objectives: Give the students a picture of the legal framework of the EU External Trade Policy and study some of the major free trade agreements concluded or being negotiated by the EU.*

*Module content: Barriers to free trade are still present in international trade, even if the traditional tariff barriers tend to elapse. The EU is looking for deeper commercial relations, especially with emerging economies, particularly in Asia. A new generation of bilateral free trade agreements is being developed, on a consistent basis with the general WTO framework. The EU free trade agreements generally address questions which are not ready for multilateral discussion within the WTO and also go beyond the WTO market opening approach.*

*The module will introduce the students to the EU external trade policy and to the specific EU competence in this field. The place of external trade agreements within the EU legal order will also be addressed. Then, a quite detailed analysis will cover the major existing trade agreements, their scope, content and application. The students will also have an overview of the current trade negotiations, especially those relating to the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership.*

**Global Law**

***Level: Bachelor***

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Description in progress*

**European Business Law - The single markets: goods, services**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Module content:*

*European Business Law encompasses two main topics of European Law: the Law of the Internal Market and Competition Law. The four freedoms of the internal market (i.e. free movement of people, goods, services and capital) form the basis, in the European treaties, of the internal market and make business across borders much easier and cheaper. Further legal rules are contained in European directives aimed at harmonizing domestic legal provisions in order to improve the functioning of the internal market. This course will focus on the internal (i.e. European) and external (i.e. international) dimensions of the European internal market: how to import and export goods within and to the European Union, how to provide services and establish in the European Union. Some of the major external agreements between the EU and third countries will also be addressed.*

*Competition Law is the other major part of European Business Law and deals with antitrust, mergers, state aid, etc. The international dimension of EU Competition Law will form a significant part of this course, taking into account the growing number of merger transactions having an international dimension and the global dimension of anti-competitive practices.*

**European Tax Law**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module content: Direct and indirect taxation is of course a fundamental element in daily international business and cross-border transactions. It is also becoming a growing preoccupation for European Member States.*

*Taxation in Europe remains in a large part a national area of competence. However, the European Union and other international organizations, like the OECD, pay particular attention to the public spending, especially within the Eurozone, and to company taxation because of risks of unfair competition among Member States. This course will address direct (corporate tax, income tax, etc.) and indirect (VAT) taxation, especially the European legal framework relating to tax law, the fight against cross-border tax evasion but also, more broadly, the political issues still strongly influencing the European debate in this area.*

**Arbitration Law**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Module content: Many organizations like the ICC, the London Court of International Arbitration, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the American Arbitration Association, etc. provide companies with very detailed arbitration rules and offer efficient arbitration services (appointing authority, court of arbitration…). This phenomenon illustrates the traditional reluctance of business persons to refer their legal disputes to official jurisdictions. The said phenomenon is particularly stringent in international transactions, where arbitration is very often used instead of difficult choices of applicable law and jurisdiction.*

*The course will deal with the rationale of arbitration law and will focus on some of the major arbitration institutions and their arbitration rules.*

**Dispute Resolution**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module content: The Dispute resolution course focus on the other major alternative dispute resolution schemes: mediation, negotiation, conciliation, especially in cross-border commercial issues (among others,*

*what are the major international frameworks for dispute resolution?). As future lawyers, the students should be aware of the lawyer’s role towards dispute resolution: how to draft contract clauses relating to dispute resolution; how to advise clients (assess the initial position, the bargaining power ; how to prepare negotiation ; how to define the expected outcome…).*

**Corporate Governance**

***Level: Master***

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module content: Corporate governance is essential in improving efficiency and competitiveness of business. Best practices in corporate governance is a global trend and international principles serve as benchmarks for standard setting and indentifying best practices. Within the European Union, harmonization of the rules relating to corporate governance is considered as essential for creating a single market for financial services and products. This course aims to present the major International and European rules and principles in the field of corporate governance and their impact on major European and International companies.*

**Introduction to the Common Law system**

***Level: Bachelor***

**Semester: 2**

**3 ECTS – 21 hours**

*For continental lawyers (i.e. from the Civil Law legal tradition), Common Law is often difficult to be acquainted with, considering the many differences between these two major legal traditions. The historical origins in England are the necessary starting point of the study of the Common Law legal tradition that spread well beyond the British Isles. From the founding moment of the Norman Conquest to the present time, English Common Law has been in continuous development but at the same time perpetuating its early structure. The course will therefore cover this continuous development distinguishing the early steps of the English Common Law from its actual shape. Even though the Common Law is at the basis of many other legal systems in the world, the distinctive developments of the Common Law in the United States of America justify a detailed treatment. The study of the American legal system is indeed even more challenging for continental lawyers than English Law. The third part of the course will therefore describe the distinctive features of this major model and source of influence of the Common Law.*

**Trade Remedies (Anti-Dumping, Countervailing Duties and Safeguards): EU and US Practice**

**Level: Master**

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Module objectives: Understand the functioning and objectives of the various trade remedies, especially under the WTO rules.*

*Module content: The course will be dedicated to the WTO Anti-Dumping Agreement, go the WTO Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Agreement and to the WTO Safeguards Committee. The specific situation of trade remedies under preferential trade agreements will be examined. Students will first address the different trade policy tools used to face imports which are hurting domestic industries: anti-dumping action, countervailing duties and safeguards. The situations in which the various remedies can be triggered and the role of companies will also be covered. The effects of the trade remedies will be covered as well.*

**EU Public Procurements and International Trade Rules**

**Level: Master**

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module objectives: Survey of the content of public procurement law. Understand the role of public procurement in international trade and the impact of the international and European legal framework.*

*Module content: Study of the various trends in opening public procurement markets and their objectives. Overview of the EU procurement liberalized market. The students will also focus on the bilateral and multilateral international agreements being negotiated by the EU in order to gain access to foreign public procurement markets. The articulation with the WTO Government Procurement Agreement will be discussed. Indeed, the said agreement has entered into force on 6 April 2014 and is the only legally binding WTO agreement in the field of government procurement. Among others, the EU, Canada, Switzerland and the United States are part of the agreement.*

**Resolution of Trade Disputes -- WTO and FTAs**

**Level: Master**

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 30 hours**

*Module objectives: Knowledge about the various situations of trade disputes and understanding of the WTO’s procedure and some Free Trade Agreements disputes settlement mechanisms for resolving the said disputes.*

*Module content: Presentation of the importance of dispute settlement mechanism for ensuring a smooth trade flow and for providing legal certainty in the global economy. Study of the sources of disputes (violation of trade agreements). The Dispute Settlement Body of the WTO and the procedure applicable (including appeals) will be the major part of the course. The dispute settlement mechanisms of major regional/preferential trade agreements will also be addressed. Their impact on enforcement of trade rules and agreements will be examined as well.*

**Resolution of International Investment Disputes**

**Level: Master**

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module objectives: Knowledge of the international institutions and regulations used to deal with investors-States disputes about investment operations.*

*Module content: International investments and economic development are intrinsically linked. Protection of investments is of paramount importance for companies making foreign investments. Various international institutions and groups play different roles in the field of international investment (e.g. ICSID, UN Compensation Commission…). The International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes and the ICSID convention will be presented as well as their role in arbitration proceedings covering investment disputes. The usual arbitration procedure followed in these cases will also be studied. Alternatives to arbitration and their development will be equally addressed.*

**Taxation of International Trade Transactions**

**Level: Master**

**Semester: 2**

**5 ECTS – 20 hours**

*Module objectives: Survey of the content of public procurement law. Understand the role of public procurement in international trade and the impact of the international and European legal framework.*

*Module content:*

*Study of the various trends in opening public procurement markets and their objectives. Overview of the EU procurement liberalized market. The students will also focus on the bilateral and multilateral international agreements being negotiated by the EU in order to gain access to foreign public procurement markets. The articulation with the WTO Government Procurement Agreement will be discussed. Indeed, the said agreement has entered into force on 6 April 2014 and is the only legally binding WTO agreement in the field of government procurement. Among others, the EU, Canada, Switzerland and the United States are part of the agreement.*

**French Language**

**Semester: 1 & 2**

**6 ECTS – 50 hours**

*A level assessment test is organized at the beginning of each semester in order to determine your command of French language.*

**Group 1 & 2**

Level A1.1/A1 of the European Common Framework for Languages:

Understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Introduce him/herself and others and ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help.

**Group 3**

To build on existing language skills and to proceed to more advanced aspects of the language having reached Level A1+/A2 of the European Common Framework for Languages, corresponding to an intermediate level.

It is expected to develop communicative skills and extend understanding of both written and spoken French in order to bring the learner to a progressive autonomy in the use of the language in everyday situations.

**Group 4**

Level B1 of the European Common Framework for Languages.

The student will be able to accomplish tasks in various social domains, due to the acquisition of basic knowledge and communicative, linguistic and cultural know-how and from the implementation of realistic learning strategies.

The students will be able to discuss the news and their opinions, their emotions and sentiments, activities and actions, organize their thoughts, and will be able to interact appropriately in social situations.

**Group 5**

Level B2 C1 (Proficient User) of the European Common Framework for Languages:

Understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognize implicit meaning. Express fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organizational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices.