



SELF PROGRAM 2024/2025

International Criminal Law

Professor Margarita YORDANOVA, LL.M.

Course information

Number of credits: 6 credits

Contact hours: 30 hours

Hours taught per week: 3 hours

Teaching period: spring semester 2025

Course description:

International criminal law is a body of public international law designed to deal with the criminal responsibility of individuals for international crimes. This course will first introduce international criminal law and procedure and the core international crimes – war crimes, crimes against humanity, genocide, the crime of aggression as well as terrorism. Then it will focus on the jurisdiction of different governing bodies to prosecute those crimes. In particular, it will discuss international tribunals, including military and ad hoc criminal tribunals and the International Criminal Court. In addition, it will present the new evolving mechanisms such as the mechanism for Syria and the mechanism for Myanmar established to collect, consolidate, analyze and share information and evidence of international humanitarian and human rights

violations. The interim assessment will constitute a moot court on a real case scenario. Students will be divided in groups each representing the defense, the prosecution or a chamber of judges.

Prerequisites:

A legal background is preferred for this course. Students should have a strong interest in criminal law, humanitarian law, human rights and international relations.

Course objectives:

The objective of this course is to provide students with overall understanding of the history, evolution and challenges of international criminal law.

Assessment: [at least 2 marks, one for the final written exam in class and one for a mid-term/oral presentation ...]

30% interim assessment (moot court)

10% participation in class (homework and live discussions)

60% final written exam (in class)

Attendance:

In order to participate, students must be present. Nevertheless, a maximum of 2 (two) unexcused absences will be allowed; otherwise no mark will be given. An unexcused absence at a test (final test or continuous assessment) means no credits for the course.

Bibliography:

R. Cryer, D. Robinson, S. Vasilev, *An Introduction to International Criminal Law and Procedure*, Fourth Edition. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019.