

## SELF PROGRAM 2022/2023

# International Trade Law: Comparative Business Law and the Law of Free Trade

M. Trevor J. Kallimani

### Course information

**Number of credits:** 6 credits

**Contact hours:** 30 hours

**Hours taught per week:** 2,5 hours

**Teaching period:** spring 2023

### Course description:

Free-trade agreements compose one of the most important and least understood bodies of law in operation in the world today. Literally no aspect of our lives are untouched by them, and yet still today the absence of political debate about the mechanics of free-trade is notable mostly by its absence. When the subject does come up the debate only goes to highlight the public's almost complete lack of knowledge about the subject.

The purpose of this course is to give the students an understanding of the effects of international laws and institutions on the 21<sup>st</sup> century nation-state, the citizens of those states, and businesses operating on both the international and the national levels. We will also explore the potential legal risks involved for businesses operating in foreign markets with different national legal systems, as well as looking at the strategies used to limit those risks. The course will be taught through periodical lectures, group work, outside research projects, role plays, and presentations of important international cases.

### Prerequisites

None

## Course objectives

- Develop legal research skills.
- Apply legal concepts and research skills to real life situations students may face in their future careers.
- Understand the legal, social, and political ramifications of free-trade agreements.
- Think critically about the concept of free-trade; is it a positive or negative force in our lives, what are those positive and negative effects, and how might it be reformed in order to accentuate positive effects and reduce negative effects?

## Assessment:

10% presentation  
45% active participation in class  
45% final exam

## 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:

International Business Law and its Environment, 9<sup>th</sup> edition, SCHAFFER, AGUSTI, DHOOGHE  
Other in-class material provided by teacher