
Course: Law

Degree: Bachelor

Branch: Core curriculum

Study plan: Aviso n.º 9088/2019, de 23 de maio

Teaching staff:

Professor in charge of the curricular unit

Prof. Doutor Afonso Seixas-Nunes

Other Professors of the curricular unit

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Language of instruction:

English

Functioning:

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Intended learning outcomes:

The course intends to familiarize students with the rules of Prohibition of Use of Force, according to the United Nations Charter, and to introduce students to most recent challenges to International Law of the Use of Force (Jus ad Bellum) and Laws of Armed Conflict (Jus in Bello) with the introduction of new technologies of warfare, namely autonomous weapon systems and cyber technology.

Syllabus:

1. Introduction to the Norms of the Prohibition of Use of Force
2. Jurisprudence of the ICJ in the Nicaragua Case (1986)
3. International value of the sources of Jus ad Bellum
4. The Notion of Self-Defense (Article 51) and the new approaches to Self-defense.
5. State Responsibility
6. Different agents on the battlefield: the role of non-state actors
7. Introduction of Jus in Bello and classification of conflicts
8. Fundamental Principles of Jus Bellum: Distinction and Proportionality
9. The Notions of Indiscriminate Attacks
10. The challenges of AWS
11. Cyber Technology and State Responsibility.

Evidence of the syllabus coherence with the curricular units intended learning outcomes:

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Recommended prior learning (or curricular units whose prior attendance is recommended):

International Public Law

Teaching and assessment methods:

Final Exam

Evidence of the teaching methods and the intended learning outcomes:

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Bibliography:

Russell Buchan, Nicholas Tsagourias, *Regulating the Use of Force in International Law*, Elgar, 2021

Tobias Vestner, Altea Rossi, 'Legal Review of War Algorithms', in *International Law Studies*, vol 97, 2021 (available online)

Kevin Jon Heller, 'In Defense of Pure Sovereignty in Cyberspace', in *International Law Studies*, vol 97, 2021 (available online)

Legislation:

United Nations Charter and the Statute of the International Court of Justice

Resolution 3314 (XXIX) of 1974 (definition of Aggression)

1949 Geneva Conventions

1977 Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions.