

International Winter University in International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law 2024/25 - Environmental Protection, 2. – 11. January 2025
Draft Programm

Part I: Introduction

Thursday 2 January, 2025

Time Berlin (B) Wisconsin (W)	Lecture
3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8:00 – 9:30 am (W)	Opening Ceremony
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Introduction to Public International Law (PIL)
7 – 8.30 pm (B) 12 – 1.30 pm (W)	International Environmental Law and Other Branches of PIL

Friday 3 January, 2025

3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	The Sources of International Humanitarian Law: Treaties and Beyond
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	The Sources of International Human Rights Law: Treaties and Beyond

Saturday 4 January, 2025

3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Introduction to International Humanitarian Law: Conflict Classification
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Introducing Civil and Political Rights, and Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Monday 6 January, 2025

3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Conduct of Hostilities
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Environmental Protection: Role of Regional Human Rights Courts and International Courts

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Part II: Protection of Enviroment: Contemporary Challenges	
Tuesday 7 January, 2025	
3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Environmental Protection in Armed Conflict
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Protection of the Enviroment: Specific Weapons
Wednesday 8 January, 2025	
3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Right to a Healthy Enviroment
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Environmental Justice for Future Generations
Thursday 9 January, 2025	
3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Strategic Litigation and Environmental Protection
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Climate Change and Forced Migration
Friday 10 January, 2025	
3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Biodiversity Conservation and Wildlife Protection
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Animal Rights and Protection of Animals in Armed Conflict
Saturday 11 January, 2025	
3 – 4.30 pm (B) 8 – 9.30 am (W)	Common Heritage of Mankind
5 – 6.30 pm (B) 10 – 11.30 am (W)	Introduction to Space Law
7 – 8.30 pm (B) 12 – 1.30 pm (W)	<i>Closing Ceremony</i>

The lecture titles are subject to change.

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The Course offers an in-depth approach to current challenges faced in International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law with a special focus on the protection of the environment. The first part of the program offers students a foundation in public international law including International Human Rights Law and International Humanitarian Law. The second part focuses on a more specialized overview of the specific challenges and topics relevant to environmental protection. The tailored courses of the program allow students to gain a comprehensive understanding of a wide range of discussions relevant to International Humanitarian Law, International Human Rights Law, and general Public International Law. The program empowers the student's ability to consider interactions between various fields of law and their response to environmental protection. The selected lectures will offer expertise and analysis of approaches, developments, and current challenges present within these fields.

Aims

The course aims to help you to:

- learn about the history, sources and basic foundations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law
- develop an understanding of the current debates in international humanitarian law and international human rights law, especially on the protection of the environment in armed conflicts, fragile situations and peacetime
- gain a critical understanding of the difference between international humanitarian law and international human rights law by examining current challenges and issues from both perspectives
- strengthen critical thinking and inquiring capabilities of presenting theory-based arguments with coherent evidence about international human rights law and international humanitarian law; and
- enhance research skills and use of a wide range of primary and secondary materials, national and international law, soft law, and academic sources.

Objectives

By the end of this course, you should be able to demonstrate:

- critical knowledge and understanding of the fundamental doctrines, theories, key elements, general principles, and institutions that underpin discussions in international humanitarian law and international human rights law
- critical knowledge and understanding of legal concepts, values, general principles, rules, and terminology relevant to international humanitarian law and international human rights law
- a critical knowledge and understanding of key debates and challenges in the current discussions on international humanitarian law and

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international human rights law regarding the protection of the environment

- the critical ability to apply knowledge, principles, and doctrine to construct arguments about complex legal problems based upon appropriate humanitarian law and human rights theories and accurate research
- high-level use of primary and secondary sources to evidence legal doctrine and support legal arguments; and
- an ability to provide a critical and supported answer to humanitarian law and human rights-related questions in an assessment environment, in a suitable academic form, and to a high standard of English.

Reading & Preparation

All of the materials cited in this course will be available in digital form. Links will be included in each citation where available. Students are expected to actively participate in the lectures, and therefore students must prepare for the lectures by reading the provided materials.

Assessment

The final examination will be a take-home exam taking place after the program, preliminary on Saturday 11th of January, and Sunday 12th of January. After the exam questions have been published, the students are allowed to use as much time as needed for the exam and need to submit their answers by the set deadline. To pass the exam, the students need to show their comprehension of the taught material by answering questions in essay form. Further details will be issued during the course. Due to the nature of the program, all exam results are final, and no possibility to retake the exam will be offered.

Attendance Policy

Students are required to participate in all lectures, with absences generally not being allowed. Exceptions to this rule can be made due to exceptional circumstances. If the students do not excuse an absence beforehand, they are not allowed to write the final exam and will therefore be unable to receive academic credits. The organizers may also introduce other measures to ensure students' active participation in the lectures.

Credits and Grading Scale

Upon successful completion, 6 ECTS will be awarded for the class. According to the rules of ECTS, one credit is equivalent to 25-30 hours of student workload.

The exams will be graded within three weeks after the end of the program and in addition to the ECTS, the students will receive a certificate of participation. The certificates and transcripts of records will be issued within two weeks after the end of the grading period.

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GRADING SCALE

Percentage	Grade	Description
85-100%	18	Very good: an outstanding achievement
	17	
	16	
	15	
	14	
75-85%	13	Good: an achievement substantially above average requirement
	12	
	11	
	10	
65-75%	9	Satisfactory: an achievement which corresponds to average requirements
	8	
	7	
	6	
60-65%	5	Sufficient: an achievement which barely meets the requirements
	4	
0-60%	<4	Not sufficient / failed: an achievement which does not meet the requirements

If there are further questions about the program, you may contact the organizers in English by sending an email to: winterlaw @ recht.uni-giessen.de