

# *Master in* **INTERNATIONAL LAW, SPACES AND SOVEREIGNTY**

Two year master's degree awarded by  
Université Paris Cité

The Master in International Law, Spaces and Sovereignty equips students with the legal, diplomatic, and strategic skills needed to navigate complex global challenges. Through a multidisciplinary approach, the programme prepares future leaders for careers in international law, diplomacy, security, and global governance.



# *Master of International Law, Spaces and Sovereignty*

**Programme Code:**

**Level:** Postgraduate

**Credits and Duration:** 120 credits taken over 4 semesters

**Delivery Language:** English

## Table of Contents

Learning Outcomes

Summary

Programme Structure Master 1 Semester 1 ILSS

Semester 1 - Courses

Programme Structure Master 1 Semester 2 ILSS

Semester 2 - Courses

Programme Structure Master 2 Semester 3 – International Law International Relations and Diplomacy – Security and Defense

Semester 3 - Courses

Master 2 Semester 4 - International Law International Relations and Diplomacy – Security and Defense

Semester 4 - Courses

Useful Contacts and Permanent Academic Staff

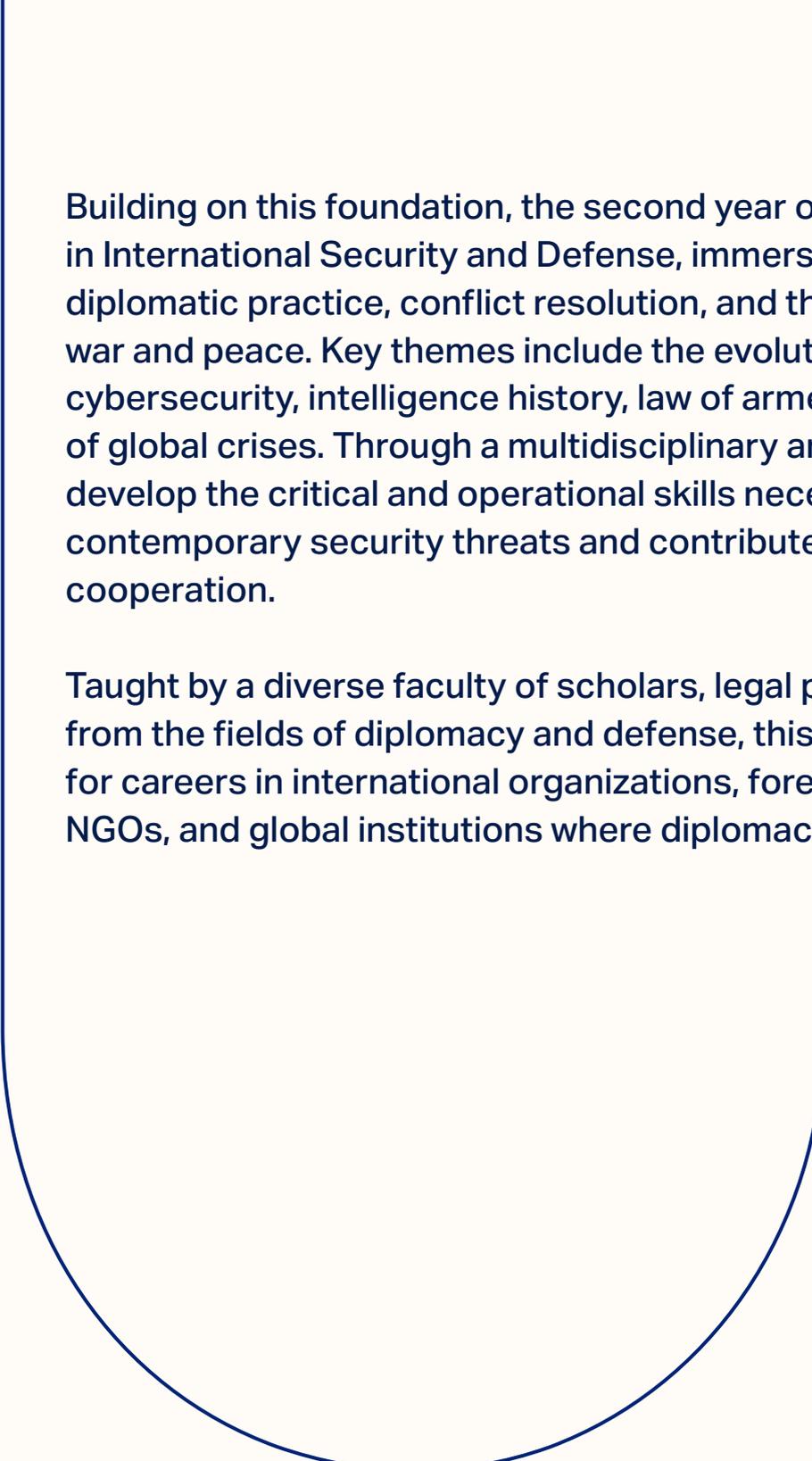
## Learning Outcomes. / Objectifs de la formation

<b>PLO 1</b>	<b>Students should construct a critical understanding of foundational histories of world powers in pre-modern and modern history, as pillars of the disciplines of international law and international relations, getting familiar with applicable bibliographical sources; observe the changing role of the State in the context of globalization and regional integration and the implications for international peace and security.</b>
<b>PLO 2</b>	<b>Students will assess advanced knowledge and proficiency in the practice of international relations, diplomacy, international politics and economics, social theory, and research methods; they will examine and interpret current challenges of global issues, identity, social formations, co-operation, and international order, considering potential strategies to address those challenges.</b>
<b>PLO 3</b>	<b>Students will examine the knowledge of International Law, International Relations and Diplomacy theory to a wide range of situations where relevant practical or theoretical issues and interpretations of political issues and events are under consideration.</b>
<b>PLO 4</b>	<b>Students will distinguish, organize and present evidence, data and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources; identify, investigate, analyze, formulate and advocate solutions.</b>
<b>PLO 5</b>	<b>Students will setup an independent research project and write in a scholarly manner, demonstrate familiarity with academic conventions, deal with complex issues both methodically and creatively, produce rigorous judgements and communicate conclusions clearly.</b>

<p><b>PLO 4</b></p>	<p><b>Students will distinguish, organize and present evidence, data and information from a variety of primary and secondary sources; identify, investigate, analyze, formulate and advocate solutions.</b></p>
<p><b>PLO 5</b></p>	<p><b>Students will setup an independent research project and write in a scholarly manner, demonstrate familiarity with academic conventions, deal with complex issues both methodically and creatively, produce rigorous judgements and communicate conclusions clearly.</b></p>
<p><b>PLO 6</b></p>	<p><b>Students will construct research management skills, developing appropriate means of estimating and monitoring resources and use of time; the ability to communicate effectively and fluently in speech and writing; organize information clearly and coherently; process information using databases, produce written documents; working in groups, understand how groups function, collaborate with others and contribute effectively to the achievement of common goals.</b></p>

In an era marked by the reconfiguration of global power, ecological transformation, and renewed tensions around state sovereignty, international law and diplomacy have become essential tools to understand and shape the world order. As new challenges emerge at the intersection of law, politics, environment, and security, there is an urgent need for professionals capable of interpreting complex global dynamics with both legal expertise and geopolitical insight.

This two-year programme combines legal analysis, political reflection, and strategic thinking. The first year, focused on International Law, Spaces and Sovereignty, offers students a foundational understanding of how international law structures relationships between states, regulates global commons, and responds to environmental and economic tensions. With a strong emphasis on legal systems, international institutions, and global governance, students are trained to analyze how sovereignty is negotiated and reshaped in the face of growing interdependence.



Building on this foundation, the second year of the programme, specializing in International Security and Defense, immerses students in the study of diplomatic practice, conflict resolution, and the legal frameworks that govern war and peace. Key themes include the evolution of diplomatic structures, cybersecurity, intelligence history, law of armed conflict, and the geopolitics of global crises. Through a multidisciplinary and applied approach, students develop the critical and operational skills necessary to address contemporary security threats and contribute to peaceful international cooperation.

Taught by a diverse faculty of scholars, legal professionals, and practitioners from the fields of diplomacy and defense, this programme prepares students for careers in international organizations, foreign ministries, legal advisory, NGOs, and global institutions where diplomacy, law, and security intersect.

**Programme Structure:** The Master in International Law, Spaces and Sovereignty requires the successful completion of 120 ECTS comprising:

**Programme Structure / Structure de la formation**

<b>Master 1 Semester 1 ILSS</b>			
<b>UE</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Date</b>
UE 1	History of Legal and Political Systems	6	15 Sept-19 Sept/ 03 Nov-07 Nov
UE 2	International Environmental Law	6	06 Oct-17 <sup>th</sup> Oct
UE 3	Advanced Public Law	6	29 Sept-03rd Oct/ 10 Nov -14 Nov
UE 4	International Affairs	6	20 Oct-31 <sup>st</sup> Oct
UE 5	Comparative law and Political Issues	6	17 Nov-28 Nov

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 1

LAW560

## *History of Legal and Political Systems*

**Instructor:** Dr Pascal Griset

**Date:** From 15 Sept to 19 Sept / 03 Nov to 07 Nov

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** This course broadly covers the history of legal and political systems beyond that of the sovereign state, from the city-states of Oriental Antiquity through to the contemporary state. The idea of a homogeneous and uniform State is misleading and goes against historical reality, as the State is a historical creation that has taken on varied forms over time. The State is both a legal concept and a political organization, but it is also a form of social representation that influences and is influenced by the society that constitutes it. Traditionally, the emergence of the State is placed in the 13th century, with the evolution of the notion of sovereignty, shifting from personal defense of power to the defense of an autonomous legal order.

However, this interpretation overlooks the historical dimension of the State as a process. The lecture proposes to study this dimension through four periods dedicated to the history of legal and political systems: the city model of a State (Antiquity) ; New empires (from the Frank period to the State's renaissance in the XIIIth century) ; The creation of nations-states from the XIIIth century to the Peace of Westphalia (1648) ; The affirmation of the constitutional State (XVII-XIXth century).

**Evaluation:** Two written examinations in class – 50% each

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 1

LAW720

## *International Environmental Law*

**Instructor:** Dr. Beatrice Garcia

**Date:** From 06 Oct to 17 Oct

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** This course looks at the principles and rules of international law which have as their primary objective the protection of the environment.

The course addresses how the international community has recognized and sought to deal with the interdependence of the global environment, from early bilateral arrangements dealing principally with local transboundary pollution to more recent regional and international agreements.

It outlines the international legal processes through which international environmental issues are addressed, the principles which underlie or guide the action taken, the substance of the principles and rules relating to environmental problems generally.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 1

LAW564

## *Advanced Public Law*

**Instructor:** Dr. Derek El Zein

**Date:** From 29 Sept to 03 Oct

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** This course covers the fundamental principles of Public Law, consisting of constitutional, administrative, criminal and international law, concerned with the organization of the state, the relations between the state and the people who compose it, the responsibilities of public officers to the state, to each other, and to private persons, and the relations of states to one other.

This course also deals with the main themes and topics of the emerging field of Global Administrative Law: the growth of global administrations, their interactions within global networks, the emergence of a global administrative process, and the development of the rule of law and democratic principles at a global level.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 1

## ECON515

### *International Affairs*

**Instructor:** Dr. Derek El Zein and Dr. Renaud Bellais

**Date:** From 20 Oct to 31 Oct

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** Created by States and developed to meet their needs, the arms industries operate on a specific market whose characteristics it is necessary to understand in order to identify possible developments and possible modes of regulation.

Arms industries are faced with a changing environment: fluctuations in defense budgets, technological changes, concentration of the industrial base... and their future is largely determined by exogenous factors: state industrial policies, export rules , etc.

The objective of this course is to identify the determining parameters in the evolution of the arms industries based on the defense economics literature and, beyond that, to analyze the structural transformations that it is possible to detect or anticipate based on empirical examples. to inform industrial defense policy for public authorities.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 1

LAW719

## *Comparative Law and Political Issues*

**Instructor:** Pr. Marie Elisabeth Baudouin

**Date:** From 17 Nov to 28 Nov

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** This course covers concepts and theories related to the methodology of comparative law. This methodology is an epistemology: it attempts to provide notions that allow access to knowledge of the legal systems of different cultures and traditions. It seeks to recognize their differences, to recognize our own legal culture in this legal otherness, and for these legal cultures to recognize each other.

This methodology appears to be particularly relevant for discussing the effects of globalization on the law. Can we characterize the current process of globalization of law as a standardization that inevitably leads to the acculturation of national or local legal traditions, or, by observing the circulation and reception of legal models throughout the world, are we witnessing a growing diversification of law, or even both phenomena at the same time?— Between legal diversity and legal identity, between local law and global law, between convergences and divergences, the course sheds some light on the evolution of legal cultures in the era of globalization.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

## Programme Structure / Structure de la formation

<b>Master 1 Semester 2 ILSS</b>			
<b>UE</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>UE 1</b>	<b>International Public Law</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>05 Jan -16 Jan</b>
<b>UE 2</b>	<b>History of International Relations</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19 Jan - 30 Jan</b>
<b>UE 3</b>	<b>International Trade Law</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>02 Feb - 13 Feb</b>
<b>UE 4</b>	<b>Public Business Law</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>07 Apr -17 Apr</b>
<b>UE 5</b>	<b>International Organizations</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>20 Apr - 01<sup>st</sup> May</b>

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 2

LAW587

## *International Public Law*

**Instructor:** Dr. Maia Hamrouni

**Date:** From 05 Jan to 16 Jan

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** This course is intended to introduce students to concepts and problems of public international law and of the international legal system.

The course will address a wide range of topics such as the sources and subjects of international law, international law and use of force...and will explore a number of the most pressing current issues in greater depth. It will review and discuss a number of international law cases decided by national and international tribunals, as well as certain treaties, resolutions and other international legal instruments of importance..

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 2

DIPL504

## *History of International Relations*

**Instructor:** Dr. Derek El Zein

**Date:** From 19 Jan to 30 Jan

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course intends to offer the students an overview of international relations and politics since the seventeenth century. The extra-European worlds will also be given a special focus, from the collapse of the Western colonial empires to the apparition of new international or regional centers of power, notably in Asia and Africa.

Finally, the course will end by a reflexion on how to make the history of international relations, emphasizing the international institutions.

**Evaluation:** Class assignment - 50% / Project - 50%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 2

LAW553

## *International Trade Law*

**Instructor:** Dr. Julia Motte-Baumvol

**Date:** From 02 Feb to 13 Feb

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** International commercial law is composed of the rules that govern the international relations that are established between the actors of international trade.

The course covers the concept and theories related to the sources (national and international sources, public and private sources) and the methods of international commercial law.

The course will focus on WTO legislation and study the 5 pillars of the GATT. Specific attention will be paid to the principle of non-discrimination, to the prohibition of quantitative restrictions on imports and export, and to the regulation of dumping and of subsidies.

International trade contracts will be studied. The notion of "lex mercatoria" will be defined, and the Vienna Convention on the sales of goods will be presented, as well as the INCOTERMS.

**Evaluation:** MCQ test (2 hours) – end of first week - 50%

Questions / practical cases (3 hours)– end of second week – 50%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 2

## LAW568

### *Public Business Law*

**Instructor:** Pr. Thomas Pez

**Date:** From 07 Apr to 17 Apr

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** Studying Public Business Law helps to understand the legal framework set by public authorities to economic activities. Business law is enriched by public law. Public law principles, particularly constitutional principles, are foundational to understanding any economic activity and provide the ground on which businesses may thrive. The course deals with State interventions in the business sector. Comparisons are drawn between the legal system of France and the European Union and the regulations of the United Arab Emirates, specially of Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

The course will include study of the following topics:

- Right to Property
- Freedom of Enterprise
- Freedom of Trade and Industry
- Principle of Equality and Economic Activities
- Principle of Legal Certainty and Economic Activities
- Public Regulations of the Economy, Sectoral Regulatory Authorities
- Public Sector, Public Operators, Nationalizations, Privatizations
- State Aids

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 1 SEMESTRE 2

LAW512

## *International Organizations*

**Instructor:** Pr. Philippe Achilleas

**Date:** From 20 Apr to 01<sup>st</sup> May

**Course Format:** 2 weeks

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 1

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 36

**Course Description:** This course covers the concepts and theories related to the structure and dynamics of international organizations. The course includes a discussion of their political context and environment, their legal framework and their geopolitical impact.

The course includes a study of:

- The shift in the 20th century from bilateral diplomacy to multilateral diplomacy and provides the framework for this
- The creation, the organogram and the evolution of the United Nations system
- The economic international organizations and their influence on states
- The international organizations with military purposes with an emphasis on NATO
- The way the geopolitical context is influencing the evolution of the regional organizations
- The specific case of Africa and the way this continent was framed by a combination of regional and sub-regional organizations.
- The specific case of the former Soviet area restructured around new regional organizations.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

**Programme Structure / Structure de la formation****Master 2 Semester 3 – International Law International Relations and Diplomacy – Security and Defense**

<b>UE</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>UE 1</b>	<b>Evolution of Diplomatic Structures</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15 Sept - 25 Sept</b>
<b>UE 2</b>	<b>Cybersecurity</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>27 Oct - 31 Oct</b>
<b>UE 3</b>	<b>Diplomatic and Consular Law</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>06 Oct - 10 Oct</b>
<b>UE 4</b>	<b>Advanced International Law</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>13 Oct - 23 Oct</b>
<b>UE 5</b>	<b>Research methodology</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>24 Oct and 14 Nov/ 06 Feb, 17 Apr, 08 May</b>
<b>UE 6</b>	<b>Politics and Economics of Energy Transition</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>03 Nov-13 Nov</b>
<b>UE 7</b>	<b>History of International Intelligence and Security</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17 Nov-27 Nov</b>

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

DIPL500

## *Evolution of Diplomatic Structures*

**Instructor:** Pr. Joseph Maila

**Date:** From 15 Sept to 25 Sept

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master 2

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course provides the students with the opportunity to have a better knowledge on the diplomatic "complex" understood as a set of decision-making structures – especially in foreign policy – and as a dynamic of interactive relations between nations.

The study of foreign policies and of their interaction in the international scene enables the student to have an in-depth knowledge on the different types of diplomacy (official or track two – soft or hard power – economic or cultural diplomacy – etc.) in addition to the different tools used in a diplomatic dynamic – for instance the diplomacy of development assistance.

Moreover, a more analytic approach to the link between diplomacy and conflict resolution is presented through an interaction between the theoretical framework and the empirical cases. Nevertheless, the study of the norms of diplomatic law defined by the Vienna conventions in addition to the protocol are taught in other courses during this semester, and this course does not duplicate the latter ones.

**Evaluation:** Class presentation – 70%

Class participation – 30%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

## LAW578

### *Cybersecurity*

**Instructor:** Dr. Nicolas Catelan

**Date:** From 27 Oct to 31<sup>st</sup> Oct

**Course Format:** 1-week mission

**Credits:** 3 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 15h

**Course Description:** This graduate-level course provides an in-depth examination of the legal frameworks governing cybersecurity and cyber defense. Students will analyze current laws, policies, and regulations related to digital security, privacy, and cyber warfare. The course emphasizes critical thinking, legal analysis, and the application of legal principles to complex cybersecurity scenarios.

To do so this course aims to describe the main principles of cybersecurity regulations in the UAE and Europe and to understand what the World Bank calls "good practices".

Thus, by designating critical entities for a country, authorities tend to drive compliance rules, controls and compel mandatory reports.

This course also covers the concepts and theories of cybercrime, including its geostrategic aspects through the concept of cyber defense. Cybercrime remains a very broad concept and covers many different issues. It must be understood that cybercrime is a highly complex and multidimensional subject. In this regard, we will study the three essential dimensions of cybercrime: the geostrategic dimension (involving states and state organizations), the economic dimension (search for competitive advantage for companies and economic espionage by digital means) and finally, the dimension threat to individuals. Cybercrime, far from being limited to targeted attacks against online retail sites, is now a formidable vehicle for attacking or destabilizing public or private organizations.

The course includes many discussions on all aspects related to cybersecurity and cybercrime, in order to assess the degree of sensitivity of students to this issue, as well as to induce a personal reflection on their part to open their minds to the importance of modern means of communication and, above all, the implications of compromising these IT systems.

The course will include the study of many perfectly real examples of piracy of IT systems, whether from a state, a private company or groups of hackers. These examples are intended to demonstrate to students that, far from remaining virtual potentialities, computer attacks occur every second and that they can be extremely serious and destabilize a group of individuals, or even whole countries.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

LAW595

## *Diplomatic and Consular Law*

**Instructor:** Pr. Frederic Charillon

**Date:** From 06 Oct to 10 Oct

**Course Format:** 1-week mission

**Credits:** 3 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master 2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 12

**Course Description:** This course aims at introducing Diplomacy and consular activities a major tenet of States' s external action. What is the mission? What are the conditions of the mission ? What are the texts of international law that govern diplomatic activity? And above all: what is the value of this diplomatic and consular law, in the global balance of power?

The teaching will first give an overview of the difficulties encountered by diplomacy in adapting to and carrying out its mission on an ever-changing world stage. It will then present diplomacy in its public policy dimension, and also in its sociology. Finally, the mission of diplomats and diplomatic and consular law will be discussed in the light of this context.

**Evaluation:** A 4-page paper (max 20.000 signs) on a proposed topic, with a prospective dimension and A selected bibliography – 100%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

## LAW580

### *Advanced International Law*

**Instructor:** Dr. Maia Hamrouni

**Date:** From 13 Oct to 23 Oct

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master 2

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course will provide students a comprehensive understanding of the advanced public law within the context of international legal systems, examining the intricacies of governance, accountability mechanisms, and the interactions of sovereign entities on the global stage.

Throughout the course, students will explore fundamental concepts such as principles of separation of powers, checks and balances, the dynamics of sovereign entities, and the application of constitutional principles in international governance.

**Evaluation:** -Daily exercises – 50% and Essay Question– 50%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

## RSCH525

### *Research methodology*

**Instructor:** Dr. Yann Rodier

**Date:** Semester 1: 24 Oct and 14 Nov / Semester 2: 06 Feb, 17 April, 08 May

**Course Format:** Weekly

**Credits:** 2 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master 2

**Semester offered:** 1 & 2

**Contact Hours:** 15

**Course Description:** The research methodology course is aimed at promoting creative and critical thinking in students leading to the production of a well written dissertation. This course covers every range of technics and methods used in academic research from the subject definition to the independent academic research project. It includes study of the academic formal (bibliographic records, independent research project, formatting...) and intellectual (information and documentation gathering, problematization, writing process...) requirements. This course prepares to the final independent research project. Each student will be helped by one supervisor specialized in the filed of the Master dissertation. Students are expected to choose an appropriate research topic and produce a thesis that deals with an academic problem related to International Relations, Diplomacy and/or International Law.

The focus of the course is on developing students' skills for understanding the role of research in international relations, understanding the research process and an overview of issues related to research design, developing a research proposal for either a basic or applied research project, analysing and formulating research questions, analysing and interpreting research data in appropriate ways and critically reviewing previous research works. The academic mentors shall help the student in identifying and crafting a research topic, formulating the main research

question, placing the study into context, formulating the research problem, identifying the purpose of the study, communicating the significance of the study, conducting literature review, presenting, analyzing, interpreting and discussing research findings as well as drawing conclusions and making recommendations. Students conduct every step of a research and perform its various kinds of presentation (oral presentation, article review, independent research project).

**Evaluation:** Identifying and crafting a research topic (25%)

- Formulating the main research question and placing the study into context (Background to the study)(25%)

Detailed structure and introduction of the topic (50%)

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

LAW718

## *Politics and Economics of Energy Transition*

**Instructor:** Pr. Yannick Perez

**Date:** From 03 Nov to 13 Nov

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 6 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master2

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course covers the concepts, theories and substantive issues related to international armed conflicts. The course begins with an analysis of the problem of war in the international system and the nature and primary characteristics of contemporary conflicts. This is followed by an examination of norms, mechanisms and institutional arrangements developed and used to prevent, manage and resolved armed conflicts within and between states. It also looks at a wide range of major and emerging threats to regional and international peace and security, including nuclear weapons, drones, terrorism, global health... The general theoretical overview of the various themes introduced in class will be accompanied by regular examples and case studies.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 3

LAW582

## *History of International Intelligence and Security*

**Instructor:** Pr. Frederic Charillon

**Date:** From 17 Nov to 27 Nov

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 5 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course covers History of international intelligence and security and existing modus operandi. It includes lectures, studies and discussions on concepts and theories related to intelligence and security. Through lectures students will discover the best way to use them, relying on fundamentals at individual and organizational levels. Main part of the world is more and more using intelligence technology to improve its efficiency in the framework of international relations, and we face the arrival of big private groups able to finance such activities. The course will cover the outcome of this evolution. It will include also study of successful operations and failures to highlight core rules and new technical capacities used by intelligence services to get a competitive advantage for their decisionmakers.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

**Programme Structure / Structure de la formation**

**Master 2 Semester 4 - International Law International  
Relations and Diplomacy – Security and Defense**

<b>UE</b>	<b>Course Name</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>UE 1</b>	<b>History of War and Security</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>19 Jan - 30 Jan</b>
<b>UE 2</b>	<b>Contemporary diplomatic problems</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>02 Feb - 13 Feb</b>
<b>UE 3</b>	<b>Law of the Sea</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>07 Apr - 16 Apr</b>
<b>UE 4</b>	<b>Geopolitics of conflicts</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>20 Apr -30Apr</b>
<b>UE 5</b>	<b>Master Thesis</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>September 2026</b>

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 4

LAW583

## *History of War and Security*

**Instructor:** Admiral Christophe Prazuck and Dr. Yann Rodier

**Date:** From 19 Jan to 30 Jan

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 5 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** The History of War and Security course offers a comprehensive exploration of warfare and security practices from ancient civilizations to modern geopolitical considerations, with a specific focus on maritime perspectives and the law of the sea. Led by Admiral Christophe Prazuck (2S), the former Chief of Naval Staff of the French Navy with extensive experience in maritime affairs and strategic thinking, this course provides students with a deep understanding of the evolution of conflict, security strategies, and the legal frameworks governing maritime territories. The second part of the course is delivered by Dr. Yann Rodier, Head of History department at SUAD.

The course examines the roots of warfare in ancient civilizations, analyzing the military tactics, technological innovations, and geopolitical dynamics that shaped early conflicts. Students will explore the rise and fall of empires, the development of naval powers, and the impact of maritime trade routes on global security.

Moving through history, the course delves into key periods such as the Middle Ages, the Renaissance, and the Age of Exploration, highlighting the pivotal role of maritime endeavors in shaping international relations and security paradigms. Topics include the emergence of naval warfare, the rise of colonial powers, and the interplay between trade, diplomacy, and military strategy.

As the course progresses into the modern era, students examine the transformation of warfare and security challenges in the context of industrialization, globalization, and technological advancements. Special attention is given to the role of navies in contemporary security architectures, the evolution of maritime law and governance, and the complexities of maritime disputes in the 21st century.

Through a combination of lectures, discussions and case studies, students will gain insight into the multifaceted nature of maritime security, exploring topics such as asymmetric warfare, maritime terrorism, and the protection of sea lines of communication. The course will also address contemporary issues such as piracy, environmental security, and the geopolitics of resource extraction in maritime zones.

By the end of the course, students will have developed a nuanced understanding of the history of war and security, with a particular emphasis on maritime perspectives and the legal frameworks governing the world's oceans. They will be equipped with analytical tools and critical thinking skills to assess complex security challenges and contribute to informed discussions on contemporary maritime affairs.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 4

DIPL506

## *Contemporary diplomatic problems*

**Instructor:** Dr. Fouad Nohra

**Date:** From 02 Feb to 13 Feb

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 5 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course covers the concepts and theories related to contemporary foreign policy, with a special focus on the diplomatic issues (goals, methods, means...). A large spectrum of themes is proposed to the students, allowing to describe, characterize, understand and evaluate the main foreign policies in the world, insisting on great powers, among them the USA and the new diplomatic tools favored by President Trump and reevaluated by the Biden election. Practice by different actors of unilateralism, if not isolationism, and multilateralism, is studied in its purpose, its finality and its success or failures. A focus is made on recent or ongoing diplomatic crisis or armed conflicts (such as the Ukraine war).

The course includes a discussion on key geopolitical areas (Europe, Middle East, China...) or themes (energy, international trade, economic sanctions, debates on hard power and soft power...), to compare the different diplomatic technique and the cultural factors by which foreign policy is nowadays implemented.

The course includes a discussion of the new trends of the international diplomacy, the integration of notions as « civil society », informal actors, public opinions, rumors... Numerous recent examples are examined, chosen in different parts of the world or in different problematics. New areas of competition are studied (Eastern Mediterranean, Sub-Saharan Africa...)

ADuring each course, a slideshow is used, with charts, maps, memos, graphs, to organize the themes of the course and to ease the discussions, allowing interactivity and contradictory debates(eventually in subgroups). After each of the 8 lectures, dispatched on seven sessions, all the slideshows will be at the disposal of the students through the Intranet site of the university, so that it may represent a useful, updated and rich database.

The last session is dedicated to the evaluation of the students.

**Evaluation:** Class participation – 30% / Oral presentation – last class session – 70%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 4

LAW598

## *Law of the Sea*

**Instructor:** Pr. Erik Franckx

**Date:** From 07 Apr to 16 Apr

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 4 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate - Master 2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course covers the legal regime applicable to two-thirds of our planet. Starting point is the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, which entered into force in 1994, as well as its implementing agreements of 1994 and 1995. The objective of this course is to familiarize the student with this conventional framework and the delicate interaction it has with the actual practice of states.

Starting from the principle of the freedom of the high seas, this one-week course will include the study of some of the maritime zones existing today, which all possess a distinct legal regime, namely the internal waters, the territorial sea, the contiguous zone and the high seas. The notions of exclusive economic zone, continental shelf and the Area will be clarified, but not studied in any detail. Since all these maritime zones, in one way or another, fall back on the baseline for their measurement and often need to be delimited in case of adjacent or opposite states, introductory chapters on both issues are provided.

**Evaluation:** Class assessment by Admiral Alain de Dainville – 50%  
Written evaluation given by Pr. Erik Franckx – 50%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 4

LAW597

## *Geopolitics of conflicts*

**Instructor:** Pr. Eric Ramel

**Date:** From 20 Apr to 30 Apr

**Course Format:** 2-week mission

**Credits:** 5 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master2

**Semester offered:** 1

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** This course covers the concepts, theories and substantive issues related to international armed conflicts. The course begins with an analysis of the problem of war in the international system and the nature and primary characteristics of contemporary conflicts. This is followed by an examination of norms, mechanisms and institutional arrangements developed and used to prevent, manage and resolved armed conflicts within and between states. It also looks at a wide range of major and emerging threats to regional and international peace and security, including nuclear weapons, drones, terrorism, global health... The general theoretical overview of the various themes introduced in class will be accompanied by regular examples and case studies.

**Evaluation:** Continuous assessment – 100%

# MASTER 2 SEMESTRE 4

## LAW585

### *Master Thesis*

**Instructor:** Dr. Derek ElZein

**Date:** September 2026

**Course Format:**

**Credits:**10 ECTS

**Level:** Graduate- Master 2

**Semester offered:** 2

**Contact Hours:** 30

**Course Description:** Final project of the master programme.

**Evaluation:** Master Thesis defense in front of the panel (including the evaluation of writing from the student adviser) – 100%

The thesis course provides students with the opportunity to engage in independent, in-depth research under the guidance of a faculty supervisor. Students will identify a research topic, formulate research questions, and apply appropriate methodologies to develop original contributions to their field of study. This course emphasizes academic rigor, critical thinking, and effective communication of research findings.

# USEFUL CONTACTS

## *Permanent Academic Staff*

Head of Department: Dr. Nicolas Catelan

Head of Programme: Dr. Derek El Zein

Permanent Faculty: Dr. Maia Hamrouni

Academic Coordinator: Séverine Munoz

Name	Position	Extention	E-mail
Dr. Nicolas Catelan	Head of Department	9293	nicolas.catelan@sorbonne.ae
Ms. Séverine Munoz	Academic Cordinator	9288	severine.munoz@sorbonne.ae
Helen Amhani	Student Affairs - Section Head	9353	helen.amhani@sorbonne.ae
Mrs. Ellenita Merle	Sports - Head of Department	9356	ellenita.merle@sorbonne.ae

### Other services

Female student residence Ext. 9395

Male student residence Ext. 9394

Medical clinic Ext. 9621

Useful Contacts:

Head of Department - [nicolas.catelan@sorbonne.ae](mailto:nicolas.catelan@sorbonne.ae)

Academic Coordinator - [severine.munoz@sorbonne.ae](mailto:severine.munoz@sorbonne.ae)

